European leaders will meet this weekend to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, which founded the European Economic Community and began what we have come to know today as the European Union. The Treaty of Rome was signed by France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg on March 25th, 1957, and resulted in the formation of a common market between the nations, allowing the free movement of goods and services, capital and people. The celebrations are to be held in Berlin, Germany on Sunday, and will see EU President Angela Merkel, European Commission President José Manuel Barroso and European Parliament President Hans-Gert Pöttering sign a political declaration promising to implement the European Constitution by 2009. The European Constitution will of course see the creation of the post of EU Foreign Minister, which Javier Solana, the High Representative for the European Common, Foreign and Security Policy, is slated to fill.

Quote: *"Supporting the idea of a common EU foreign minister, the Germans have also granted Javier Solana, the EU's top foreign-policy chief, the chair in no less than 11 of 21 EU meetings. 'We thought Solana would get to chair one or two meetings for symbolic reasons,' Maurer said. 'But 11, that's more than just a symbol.'*

And as the world marks the 50th birthday of the Daniel's fourth beast, the Revived Roman Empire, another prophecy relating to the end times is also coming to pass. On March 31st, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will receive hundreds of submissions from across the globe in a new competition which intends to help create a " Just Jerusalem ". Organizations have been asked by the MIT to think of ideas which will help solve the ongoing conflict between the world's "three monotheistic religions", and end thousands of years of enmity between the seed of promise and the seed of the bondwoman. The participants will have to decide how Jerusalem can become "just, peaceful, and sustainable" by 2050, and whether it should be the divided capital of Israel and Palestine, or the capital of one state.

Quote: *"Israel captured Arab East Jerusalem from Jordan with the rest of the West Bank in 1967 and annexed it, declaring it part of what it calls its "united and eternal capital". The world does not recognise the annexation, while Palestinians want East Jerusalem as the capital of a future state.*

In actual fact, the West Bank never belonged to Jordan in the first place. It was originally intended to be given to the Jewish people as part of the Balfour Declaration, but after Western leaders succumbed to Islamic pressure, the land was divided and the UN decided to give most of the area west of the Jordan river to the Palestinians. But when Israel declared independence in 1948, and the surrounding Arab nations launched a war intending to destroy the newly created Jewish state, Jordan captured the areas of Judea and Samaria which is now called the West Bank. Jordan again lost control of this land during the Six Day War in 1967. And that is why Israel sees no problem with "occupying" the West Bank and Gaza, they are the legitimate spoils of war and they did not belong to any country before hand. So as you can see, with the Revived Roman Empire increasing its influence in the region, and the issue of Jerusalem at the very heart of the world's political problems, it won't be long before the events spoken of concerning the end times in the Bible come to pass.

Joel 3:2

I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and [for] my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

Daniel 7:7-8

After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it [was] diverse from all the beasts that [were] before it; and it had ten horns. I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn (Antichrist), before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn [were] eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

Source People's Daily , Monsters and Critics , Reuters