

Napoleon – The Man of the Hour

Pouring out the wrath of God

France

Napoleon Bonaparte
Josephine Bonaparte
Elias Bonaparte
Pauline Bonaparte
Caroline Murat
Victor (French Soldier 1)
Maxime (French Soldier 2)
Paul (French Servant)
Admiral Villeneuve
French Sniper
Jean (Director)
Paul (Director)
Robert (Director)
Lazare (Director)
Louis (Director)

Britain

John Thomas
Ellen Thomas
Admiral Horatio Nelson
Oliver (British Sailor 1)
Jack (British Sailor 2)
Paperboy 1
Paperboy 2

Austria

King Francis II
Karl (Austrian Soldier 1)
Felix (Austrian Soldier 2)

Russian

Tsar Alexander
Ivan (Russian Soldier 1)
Sergei (Russian Soldier 2)
Maria, Grand Duchess of Russia

Papal

Pope Pius VII
Bishop 1

Scene 1:

(All peasants, (JACQUES, ANDREW, ETC.) at base of front of stage. ROBE at front-center stage, pacing as he speaks)

ROBE: My beloved Republic. Man needs to reach for something higher than himself. I have never waivered in my belief that there is some great power watching over us – protecting the innocent, blessing the virtuous, condemning the wicked. People of France, what could we offer as a more worthy gift to our God than the vision of Paris this day?

JACQUES: *(mockingly)* He thinks he's the pope!

ANDREW: *(joining in)* ...or God!

ODETTE: *(sobbing)* Your religion is murder! *(FEMALE PEASANTS consoles her)*

ROBERT: *You've* executed more people in the last 2 months than in the last 2 years!

ROBE: Me?!?!

LAURENT: *(strongly)* Yes, YOU! *Your* justice. *Your* law. *Your* "reason!"

LUC: *(angrily)* We would rather *die* than be under the leash of a tyrant!

ALL PEASANTS: Death to the tyrant! DEATH TO THE TYRANT!!!

(LAURENT & ROBERT run to him, grab him, and take him off stage left.)

(ROBESPIERRE executed)

(PEASANTS clear front of stage while their shouting continues. Fades out slowly as Scene 2 begins immediately...)

Scene 2:

(John Thomas sitting at desk with head in his hands, having fallen asleep at his desk)

ELLEN: *(calling to wake him up as she enters):* John...John! *(compassionately)* John Thomas, there you are falling asleep at your desk again. You were up too late working last night. I know you're keen to keep writing your book but you will never finish this third volume of Eureka if you don't start taking better care of yourself.

JOHN: My dear Ellen; you have always shown such care for me, and supported me in the labours of the Truth. I was actually working on it right before I fell asleep. I have finished up to Revelation Chapter 16, which if you remember begins with the French Revolution.

ELLEN: *(nodding)* Well, I will let you get back to your work. I was just coming to see if you would like a cup of tea.

JOHN: Thank-you, that sounds lovely. *(going back to his work)*

(Ellen leaves, John begins writing)
(Pre-recorded voice while John writes at desk)

Revelation Ch. 16:1-2 “And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a painful and sore ulcer upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.”

The 7 vials represent seven different judgements that God would pour out on the earth – that is the Catholic earth, what we might call, (pause) Catholic Europe.

Ecclesiastes 8:11 says “Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.” For almost 2000 years the Catholic Church has persecuted true believers and led many men and women astray. God will now begin a gradual harassing and punishing of all those connected with this institution. The Lord Almighty never forgets the day of recompense.

God used the revolution in France as the starting place for this judgement because she was the priest-ridden, pope-worshipping, heretic slaying country of Europe. France’s papal title was “the First-born son of the Church.”

When the revolution came they dethroned and murdered the king, beheaded his sympathizers, abolished titles, dissolved the church, pulled down monasteries and sold the lands of the nobility and clergy – they even melted down church bells to make cannon balls!

Revelation refers to this as a “painful and sore ulcer.” When the leaders of the most powerful European countries tried to stop the revolution, the armies of France swept like a tornado over the countries of Europe, spreading this ulcer and causing intense irritation and suffering.

(John Thomas stops writing and gets out history book to read)

Scene 3:

(Each head of state sitting on their throne in front of stage. 2 soldiers standing behind each of them)
(NELSON begins talking right as John Thomas finishes thought)

NELSON: On behalf of my beloved country Britain, I thank you, kings of Austria and Russia, for coming together to form this new alliance. We must tranquilize the situation in France, and since talking is not working, we must join forces and use military might.

FRANCIS: Austria agrees entirely! Never mind the horrors committed against the nobility of France, I have an obligation as the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire to sweep away the Revolution and not only re-establish the monarchy, but also the Catholic church.

ALEX: Russia too will put aside our differences, and join you in this. France has become nothing more than a slaughterhouse of the nobility, and must put a stop to this before the infectious disease of the Revolution spreads to all of our countries.

FRANCIS: The French people have elected 5 Directors to lead them in place of Robespierre. Even now France has become one vast arsenal, with all work being directed towards making weapons or food.

NELSON: We will start the attack at sea if Austria with the support of Russia (*beckoning*) can muster their forces against the French army now in Italy.

ALEX & FRANCIS: Agreed!

(They all leave from in front of stage)
(5 Directors enter stage left)

JEAN: My fellow Directors, we must make a decision about appointing a new general to lead our French forces against Austria. Our army has been in Italy fighting now for 3 years, and we have not made any advances.

PAUL 1: I know just the man for the job. He's a nobody from Corsica. He's not really even very French. Bonaparte is his name. But with a whiff of grapeshot he cleared the streets and defended Toulon (two-LAWN) last year during the royalist uprising, and removed any threat to our Directory.

ROBERT: Bonaparte?? Do you mean Napoleon Bonaparte? He's young isn't he!? Only 26 – will the men even follow him?!

LAZARE: Oh I know the boy, he's bold and calculated and I'm confident he can push back the Austrian threat. He may be a nobody now, but man should be honored through ability and intelligence rather than birthright; and Napoleon has both.

LOUIS: But will he be a threat to us?

PAUL 1: We'll give him fame and fortune and he'll be eating out of his hand.

LAZARE: All in favour?

ALL: Oui!!

(All exit stage left)

Scene 4:

(John Thomas stops reading book and starts writing on desk again.)
Pre-recorded voice of John Thomas)

Eureka Volume 3, chapter 16 page 87...

While the first angel was pouring out a painful ulcer in France, the other six angels were not idle spectators of the malignant ulcer. If they had not done anything, France would have perished of its ulcer. No, the second vial began being poured out around the same time as the first, but in a different part of the Catholic world. The same goes for the 3, 4 & 5 vials.

The French Revolution had filled France with a new sense of liberty. Napoleon seized this opportunity and by courage and attention to his men, the French army pushed back the Austrian threat. King Francis II of Austria requested for peace for the first time since the Revolution began.

(Francis II is on throne, standing waving white flag of surrender sadly and then sits)

Napoleon returned to Paris, the man of the hour, with cargos of treasure from Italy. The Directory was so pleased with Napoleon's work, that they then sent him down into Egypt to take on the British army.

(Napoleon passes through audience waving to imaginary cheering crowds, walks on stage to director and shakes hand/pats back. The Directors point towards the British ship giving silent orders)

Since the outbreak of the revolution, Britain had been harassing France at sea, and had already won many notable battles. The Directors hoped Napoleon would be just as successful against the British as he was against the Austrians. This leads us to our next vial.

Revelation 16:3 "The second angel poured out his bowl into the sea, and it became blood like that of a dead man; and every living thing in the sea died."

In the whole history of the world there has not been a period of naval war with destruction and bloodshed like this. The sea really had become blood like a corpse. Just like the blood of a dead man is stagnant with no circulation in his veins, to stop sea trade meant there would be intense suffering for those living on land.

Through dozens of small and large battles Britain became "Queen of the Sea" when she cleared the ocean of all rival fleets.

(British Sailors imitate battle silently, loading cannon, using eye glass, shooting guns etc and then act victorious!)

However, even though the French *navy* in Egypt was destroyed by the British during the battle of the Nile, Napoleon had some great victories on *land*, fighting the Egyptian people. He was so brilliant at fighting with cannons and guns that the Egyptians actually called him "The King of Fire."

(Maxime pull cannon, shooting at imaginary targets on Napoleon's command. Napoleon acts victorious. Victor brings him letter, which Napoleon reads and then gives silent orders for Maxime & Victor to bring cannon back to side of stage left, while he marches onto stage by himself, waves to audience and then exits stage left)

Napoleon received communication while he was in Egypt that informed him that he had fallen out of favor with the directors, so he secretly left Egypt and developed a plot to overthrow the Directors of France. Through a series of events, Napoleon became the first Consular of France, for all intents and purposes – a dictator.

(ELLEN enters with tea cup)

ELLEN: *(giving John tea cup)* John, just a reminder about the lecture you are giving tonight. I believe we will need to leave here in about an hour.

JOHN: *(standing up)* Yes, we should go get ready.

(JOHN & ELLEN depart down stairs)

Scene 5:

(Napoleon enters and stands over desk reviewing scrolled map)

VICTOR: *(entering)* General Bonaparte, I bring some disturbing news. We have reports that say that King Francis of Austria plans to break the peace treaty with France and is preparing his troops for war in Italy.

NAPOLEON: Oh that foolish man. The countries of Europe stand like a brotherhood of old trees, decayed at heart and root but still making some show of branches and leaves; but we will break them down as a whirlwind.

VICTOR: Sir, what are our orders?

NAPOLEON: With great secrecy, I want you to prepare 60,000 men to leave at once. We will cross the Alps and surprise the Austrian army.

VICTOR: Cross the Alps?! Is that even possible? How will we bring a whole army through the snow-covered mountains?

NAPOLEON: Nothing is impossible. I know more in my little finger than all of our enemies combined. You have your orders.

(VICTOR leaves stage left. Walks around and VICTOR & MAXIME come in front of stage with packs on, pulling cannons. Napoleon at top of stairs.)

NAPOLEON: Soldiers, you are hungry and ill-clothed! The Republic owes you much! But she has not the means to pay you! I have come to lead you into the most fertile lands that the sun beholds! Rich provinces and opulent towns will be at your disposal! Soldiers! With such a prospect before you, how can you fail in courage and constancy! Viva la France!!

(Napoleon leads them into battle as they go around the side of stage right)

Scene 6:

(entering from stage left, as if he has been speaking for a while)

JOHN: Now as we come to the third vial of Revelation 16, I will call up Bro. Jim to read Revelation 16:4-7.

(BRO. JIM reads)

JOHN: We have 2 clues in determining the location where this vial is poured out. The 1st one, by asking what part of the European earth is most distinguished for shedding the blood of the saints and prophets. The 2nd clue is this – which area of Europe is best known for rivers and fountains of waters?

Friends, where was Peter crucified?! Where was Paul beheaded?! Whose hands are stained with the blood of God's faithful down through the ages? Who slaughtered the Waldenses and Albigenses? All these questions lead us to the Italian peninsula, leading up to the mountains! Napoleon in this very region conducted several wars against the Austrian and Italian supporters of the papacy. The work of Napoleon at this time was an act of God-manifestation! Yahweh used him to bring judgments on the papal system and the worshippers thereof. Like Nebuchadnezzar, Cyrus, Alexander the Great and Titus, Napoleon had a work to perform. Nations cannot do as they please. The great manager of the world's theatre is the Lord Jesus Christ, whose dramatic program is the Revelation given to him by the Father. The nations and powers are mere performers playing against one another for the divinely conceived plot.

(pause)

I know it's been a long evening, so we are going to have a short break now and when we reconvene we will talk about the response of the nations to the because of Napoleon's accomplishments in the 3rd vial.

(exits stage left)

Scene 7:

(FRANCIS, NELSON, ALEX and soldiers get into position during JOHN's lecture)

FRANCIS: *(extreme frustration)* Napoleon Bonaparte must be caged!! Losing this Italian campaign to him has cost Austria an enormous amount of land and money. He's like a rabid animal wreaking havoc throughout Europe.

ALEX: *(mildly sarcastic)* Mostly wreaking havoc through your lands. I had my doubts on whether or not you would be able to put enough of a fight to withstand him. I should never have entered this alliance with you in the first place. I'm just glad that we were able to negotiate a peace treaty with Napoleon.

NELSON: Now that's not fair. Napoleon fights by all new rules. He pays no heed to proper conduct in war. He marches at night; he fights in the rain and on Sundays. He doesn't fight like a gentleman! Our generals just aren't prepared for this type of warfare. Let's just be thankful for that peace treaty.

FRANCIS: You know that this peace treaty means nothing to Napoleon. It's just an opportunity for him to consolidate his power in France and regroup his army. As we speak, the Roman Catholic pope is on his way to France to re-establish a relationship with France, and attend Napoleon's coronation.

ALEX: Napoleon's coronation is disgraceful. He reaches to be like Europe's nobility, and he thinks that having the Pope there will validate his position in the eyes of the rest of us.

NELSON: He is a very clever man, that Napoleon. He knows that we will never give up trying to put a descendant of French nobility back on the throne; so he will force himself onto the throne in the name of the revolution.

SCENE 8:

NAPOLEON: *(sitting reading; looks at his watch)* Prepare my horse and hounds! I would like to go hunting.

PAUL: *(startled and nervous)* If I may be so bold, your majesty...the Pope is due to arrive within the next few hours.

NAPOLEON: What, do you think I don't know? Do you think I will stay here to wait for him? I do not plan to cower in fear or humiliation like all the other kings of Europe do before him. Prepare my horse. Perhaps we shall run into the Pope on our ride.

(They leave stage left and walk around front of stage. Pope comes in from in front of stage right and they meet in front of stage.)

NAPOLEON: *(nods his head)* Your grace. What an unexpected surprise to meet you on my hunt. I trust your travels here have gone well?

POPE: Emperor *(nodding his head)*. The trip was awful actually. Now I know why every other European king comes to *me* in Rome to be crowned.

NAPOLEON: well, speaking of my coronation...I have a few things to discuss with you.

POPE: Before we get to the coronation – there are a number of details we need to agree on with regard to the Catholic Church's position in France.

NAPOLEON: Yes I agree. Reconciliation with the Church is essential to my plan of peace here in France.

POPE: Excellent. So you can agree to give back the Church's lands that were confiscated during the French Revolution?

NAPOLEON: Oh no. Those lands have been given to the local peasants and they have been farming them for the last 10 years. No I'm afraid *those* can't be given back.

POPE: Well, more importantly then – exiled bishops who fled for their lives during the revolution need to be reinstated to their positions.

NAPOLEON: Oh absolutely not. In our new order of things, a bishop is not only to be a religious leader, but an official of the state. And how could traitors of the revolution ever be trusted?

POPE: *(angrily)* Bonaparte! You take all and give none!

NAPOLEON: *(offended)* Oh don't say that. I will allow you to dispose of bishops that I have chosen if you don't like them. And since they will be officials of the state, I will pay their salaries if they swear an oath of allegiance to France.

POPE: Do you think you can bribe me into being used as an instrument to validate your claim to the throne? The RCC will not be used like that!

NAPOLEON: *(bored)* Fine...take it or leave it. If you don't want to accept my terms and make Catholicism the state religion of France, then so be it. I will make my own national religion.

POPE: *(sighs)* Now let's not be too hasty. The RC religion is the religion of the majority of the French people. France is, after all, the "firstborn son" of the Church. And what father would abandon his children. *(approaching Napoleon and putting his arm around him)*. Now, let's discuss your coronation ceremony. I hear it's going to be unlike any I've ever seen.

(they walk off stage left together)

SCENE 9:

MUSIC

(POPE enters, followed by BISHOPS. NAPOLEON enters, followed by 2 FRENCH SOLDIERS. JOSEPHINE enters, followed by 3 LADIES IN WAITING – CAROLINE, PAULINE & ELIAS.)

POPE: May God confirm you on this throne, and may Christ give you to rule with him in his eternal kingdom.

(POPE sits)

(NAPOLEON takes his wreath off his head, picks up crown, and says grandly:)

NAPOLEON: I have not succeeded Louis XVI, but Charlemagne!

(puts laurel wreath back on his head, walks over to JOSEPHINE who kneels, and says):

NAPOLEON: I crown you Josephine, Empress of France, as my wife, and not by your own right.

(puts crown on her head then puts it back on its pillow)

(holds JOSEPHINE'S hand as they stand side-by-side. POPE stands up and says):

POPE: May the emperor live forever!

(MUSIC: Zadok the Priest)

(All exit stage right and walk in front of stage in a regal show)

Scene 10:

(Napoleon and Josephine sitting on their thrones holding hands, looking confident)

(MAXIME enters stage left)

MAXIME: Your majesties. Pardon the intrusion – I have an urgent message for the emperor.

(Hands envelope to the emperor)

(Napoleon reads it, stands up in anger, stamps on it furiously.)

JOSEPHINE: My darling, what's the matter?

NAPOLEON: *(angrily)* Britain, Austria and Russia have formed a new alliance and are preparing to attack on all sides! I KNEW that peace treaty would not hold!

JOSEPHINE: What will you do? *(hesitantly)* To war again?

NAPOLEON: This is all Britain's fault – a vile nation of shopkeepers! They are enticing Russia and Austria to attack our backs! We must deal swiftly with them first. Call Admiral Villeneuve (VIE-ya-noove) to me at once!

(MAXIME leaves to get Admiral Villeneuve)

(NAPOLEON gets out his map/scroll and rolls it out, pouring over it in a fury as he plans)

(VILLENEUVE enters)

VILLENEUVE: Sire.

NAPOLEON: The English are preparing a fleet to attack. We must put all our strength on the sea. We must destroy England, and Europe will be at our feet. Your orders – make me master of the English channel for 6 hours and I will be master of the world.

VILLENEUVE: Yes your majesty.

(NAPOLEON and JOSEPHINE leave)

VILLENEUVE: *(mimicking NAPOLEON, in a huff)* Just make me master of the English channel? He will NEVER beat the British at sea, because he doesn't understand naval warfare! He gives orders and doesn't accept reasons like "there is NO wind" or "the tides are not in our favor." He's unreasonable with his expectations. He thinks that just because our men are more rested than the British, that this will ensure victory. An exhausted British seaman actually know how to sail a boat – most of our navy is made up of uneducated commoners who know nothing about naval warfare. All of our best seamen were either killed or fled during the Revolution – and most of them to Britain! No, I will *wait* here and see what Britain's next move is.

(VILLENEUVE sits back and puts hat over his eyes as if to rest until PAUL enters)

PAUL: Admiral Villeneuve! I have heard word that Emperor Napoleon is sending a replacement for your position as we speak! He is furious that you have still not engaged Britain in battle! What will you do?

VILLENEUVE: France has no chance of winning this battle if I attack the British ships now. But if I am replaced then I know the Emperor will show me no mercy. Better to risk defeat at the hands of the British than to face Napoleon as a coward. Prepare the ships for battle – we attack at dawn! *(leaves)*

(On HMS Victory)

OLIVER: Admiral Nelson! We have received word that the French ships have pulled out of the harbor and are preparing for battle!

NELSON: So, the French finally want to play – excellent! We've been waiting for this. Give the orders – we're going to rake the enemy line.

JACK: Rake the enemy line!? Isn't that far too dangerous?

NELSON: Of course it's more dangerous. But if we can do it, it will obliterate their fleet! The British Royal Navy is far more experienced at sailing and naval warfare than those cowardly Frenchmen. Send the signal!

(OLIVER & JACK leave. NELSON puts on his full jacket with all his medals. OLIVER & JACK come back.)

OLIVER: Sir, our ships are all in position, and the captains have all been informed of the plan

JACK: Is there any last message you would like sent to all your men?

NELSON: Yes there is – raise the flag – England expects every man to do his duty.

JACK: Yes sir!

(JACK leaves and goes and raises flag)

OLIVER: Sir if I may be so bold – perhaps you should not be wearing your full admiral uniform. You are an easy target for enemy snipers.

NELSON: Nonsense. *(Pointing to flag)* England expects every man to do his duty, and my duty as admiral of this fleet is to lead my men courageously into battle. And if I die in so doing, God have mercy on my soul.

(Battle ensues)

(French sniper on stage shoots at Nelson. Nelson falls down backwards. OLIVER rushes towards him and holds him in his arms.)

NELSON: I've been shot through! You can do nothing for me.

JACK: Sir, the enemy has surrendered! We have captured 22 French ships and not a single British ship has been lost! The terms of surrender are being worked out as we speak!

NELSON: Thank God I have done my duty. *(He dies)*

(OLIVER & JACK carry him off the boat to side of stage right)

Scene 11:

(Paper boys enter beside stage left & right shouting at audience, FRANCIS enters to sit on chair)

PAPER BOY 1: "Extra, Extra, read all about it – French navy destroyed at Trafalgar! British Admiral Nelson dies in glory!"

PAPER BOY 2: "Breaking news - get your paper here! Napoleon gives up plans to invade Britian – turns Grand Army to face Austro-Russian alliance!"

(Karl enters stage right)

KARL: Emperor Francis, I bring you terrible news. The Austrian army has surrendered to Napoleon's forces in the city of Ulm. The French Army is marching here to Vienna now! Without the protection of your army I must urge you to flee the city. Tsar Alexander and the Russian army are on their way here from Russia as we speak, so if you leave now, you may have an opportunity to join forces with them and fight Napoleon.

FRANCIS: *(Jumping up)* Russians! They promised to be here a month ago. This never would have happened if they could follow through on what they commit to. I have no other choice. Pack whatever artillery and baggage we need and we will go meet up with the Russian army.

(exit stage left and go down in front of stage left to join up with Russian army)
(Napoleon & soldiers enter stage right)

VICTOR: Sir, we have taken the Pratzen Heights, France has the superior fighting position. Austria and Russia have joined forces. We are slightly outnumbered but I am confident we can win if we can engage them in battle.

NAPOLEON: Yes, but that is the problem isn't it – we can't engage them in battle – whenever we try they slip out of our grasp. We can't stay here much longer. Our supply line is stretched too thin. If we don't have a decisive battle soon, we will be FORCED to retreat.

MAXIME: How are we going to make the enemy fight sir?

NAPOLEON: Hmm...*(walking back and forth)* – we must give up the Heights...

MAXIME: give up the heights?! Are you sure sir! They have a larger army, if they have the better position then we might not win.

NAPOLEON: But if we give up the heights, and act as if we are preparing for a fast retreat, then perhaps we can trick the Austro-Russian army into attacking us first. It's a risky move, but if we don't engage in battle soon, we'll have to retreat anyways. Send out the orders to evacuate the Pratzen Heights!

(Soldier leaves)

(Alexander and Francis looking over war plans on ground)

IVAN: Sir, we have received word that Napoleon's army is preparing to make a hasty retreat to France.

FRANCIS: that doesn't make sense - when has Napoleon ever backed down from battle?

ALEXANDER: Well he *is* stretched pretty thin right now, perhaps he is running out of supplies? This could be our chance – if we attack now while he's on the run, we could have a swift victory and then force him to return the Austrian lands he has conquered!

FRANCIS: I think we should wait a bit longer and see if Napoleon really does withdraw.

FELIX *(entering)*: Sir, we've received word that a large portion of the French army has fled earlier this morning, including the cavalry.

IVAN: Now's our chance to finally get Napoleon – we should attack now while he's outnumbered!

ALEXANDER: *(nodding)* Well, since the majority of our fighting power is coming from my Russian troops- I think we should attack Napoleon now while he is weak.

FRANCIS: I think this is a mistake, you have not fought Napoleon like I have – you underestimate him!

ALEXANDER: nonsense! He has left the heights, no general would do that if they were planning to attack – send our forces to take the hill and attack the French army.

(Russian / Austrian Soldiers start fighting French Army in front of stage.)

(Napoleon and French Soldiers eventually climb stairs back onto stage while Russian army heads beside stage left and Austrian army to beside stage right)

MAXIME: It only took 2 hours, and we've retaken the heights!

NAPOLEON: I knew they would fall for my trap. They didn't even know that I hid part of my army from sight last night. Look, you can see Alexander fleeing with his men back to Russia. We'll take care of them later.

VICTOR: *(looking through eye glass)* Sir! The Austrian army is decimated. The French army has surrounded them. We've captured Emperor Francis - would you like to speak to him?

NAPOLEON: Yes, bring him here.
(VICTOR & MAXIME leaves stage.)

NAPOLEON: I love the smell of victory.
(Francis comes on stage with French Soldiers.)

FRANCIS: Emperor Bonaparte, I must protest the treatment I have received as emperor of the Holy Roman Empire – it's disgraceful!

NAPOLEON: That is actually why I have called you here Francis. You have no allies, your army is destroyed. I don't think you are in a position to call me disgraceful. You have lost the war Francis. There will be no more alliances between you, Britain or Russia – None! As compensation for my army, you will give up all lands pertaining to the Holy Roman Empire, with the exception of Austria, which I will allow you to keep.

FRANCIS: *(Sputtering)* But, but, how can I be emperor of the Holy Roman Empire if I don't have a Holy Roman Empire?

NAPOLEON: Well I think the answer is simple – the Holy Roman Empire must be dissolved! You must acknowledge it immediately. *(Napoleon hands Francis a scroll which Francis begins to read)*

FRANCIS: *(increasingly dejected as he reads)* I – Francis, Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, established by Charlemagne son of Pepin who was crowned by Pope Leo I, do hereby dissolve the Holy Roman Empire which for over a thousand years has ruled Europe with the Roman Catholic Church. My own family has sat on this throne for over three hundred years. *(very dejected now)* I hereby abdicate my claim to the throne, present or future and will hereby be known as Francis, King of Austria.

(Francis rolls up scroll, curtly nods to Napoleon and marches off down stairs to stage right, sulking.)
(Napoleon and servants exit stage right)

Scene 12:

(JT enters stage left while drinking from his tea cup; sits down at desk, picks up pen and begins writing)

JOHN: Eureka, Vol. 3, ch. 16, pg. 114, the 4th vial:

“And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun, and it was given to him to scorch the men with fire. And the men were scorched with great heat and blasphemed the name of the Deity who had power over these plagues. And they repented not to give glory to Him.” (v. 8-9)

From its establishment in 800AD by Charlemagne to its overthrow by Napoleon in 1806, the HRE was the chief political power, and the emperor was the first sovereign in Europe. Just as the sun is chief ruler

in the heavens, so Francis King of Austria ruled all of Catholic Europe as Emperor of the HRE. We are told that the sun is scorched with great heat. This was done through the wonderful papal-destroying exploits of Napoleon. Napoleon was an artillery man, and used that type of weapon to an extent far beyond that which was custom before. The result of this war was so severe that it subjected the population to a great scorching heat of affliction. This did not cause Catholic Europe to repent of their wicked deeds, but rather drove men to vent to their feelings of blasphemy.”

(knock, knock at the door; JT looks up in a start)

ELLEN: John, I’m sorry for interrupting your work, but bro. Coffman has just arrived from Illinois.

JOHN: Excellent! Bring him in, bring him in!

(Bro. Coffman enters stage left)

COFFMAN: John! So wonderful to see you again!

JOHN: Likewise bro. Coffman, and you!

COFFMAN: I bring with me the love and greetings of so many bro/sis back in Illionis! They have asked me to inquire concerning the progress of the 3rd volume of Eureka. So many are waiting eagerly for its publication.

JOHN: Oh, I was actually working on it when you arrived! I’m nearing the end of writing, however I fear that we’re having difficult coming up with the funds to have it published. So I am making plans for a trip to England to try to collect the necessary funds there.

COFFMAN: All the way to England for the funds!? *(warmly)* I know with certainty how appreciative many of the bro/sis back in Illinois are of the work that you did on our behalf. It was only 2 years ago during the American Civil War when the conscription notice arrived, calling many of our brethren into active service; and the letter that you wrote on our behalf to the government officials claiming the right of exemption from military service saved the lives of many of our brethren; that beloved letter in which you established the name for the group of brethren worldwide – the Christadelphians. *(very warmly, sincerely now)* It would be our privilege to minister to the needs of the saints in this way, and we will raise the money for publication, each according to his means. Now you just worry about getting this 3rd volume finished. Whereabouts in Revelation are you up to now?

JOHN: Well I’m just starting the 5th vial of ch. 16 – in v.10:

(reading from his Bible) “And the 5th angel poured out his vial upon the throne of the beast, and it was his kingdom which had been darkened. And they did gnaw their tongues with the anguish, and blasphemed the Deity of the heaven because of their pains, and because of their ulcers. And they repented not of their works.”

COFFMAN: So, this 5th judgment is poured out on the throne of the beast? Am I remembering that the seat of the beast in Revelation is the throne of the papacy? So how was the throne of the papacy “darkened?”

JOHN: Well let’s go talk about this over a cup of tea, and I’ll consider your incredibly generous offer concerning publication of this 3rd volume.

(JT and COFFMAN exit together stage right)

Scene 13

(Napoleon sits on his throne, beckons MAXIME to come to him.)

NAPOLEON: has there been any response from Tsar Alexander to my request to talk with him?

MAXIME: Yes sire, he is on his way as we speak and should be arriving at any moment.

(In front of stage walks Alexander, IVAN, SERGEI and MARIA They come up the stairs and greet one another. The two emperors stiff bow to one another.)

ALEXANDER: Emperor, as always, a pleasure to see your face.

NAPOLEON: Yes, it is nice to see your face too. The last time I saw you I believe it was only your back running away from battle at Austerlitz.

ALEXANDER: Yes, well lesson learned, I never should have entered into an alliance with Austria. Francis is far too weak of a king.

NAPOLEON: Well there will be no more alliances between you, Britain and Austria. Do you understand? Francis has no power. Britain is too far away to help you. It is just you and I Alexander on the continent and we must be of one accord.

ALEXANDER: I agree entirely.

NAPOLEON: So you will also agree with me that in order to have a secure Europe we must keep Britain out. I'm implementing a continental system across Europe. No English ships, goods or products will be allowed to enter Europe – any part of Europe, including Russia. Do you agree Alexander?

ALEXANDER: *(Rubbing hand on chin, pacing a little, shaking his finger at Napoleon mischievously)* This will be very hard on my Russian economy. Very hard Napoleon. But if it means I can be the friend of a man so great as you, then I will agree. Russia will accept no English ships or goods.

NAPOLEON: *(shaking hands with Alexander)* Thank you, I knew we could come to an understanding.

ALEXANDER: Now, you will still have the Pope to contend with in Italy. I'm not sure he will be as amiable to this idea as I am.

NAPOLEON: you leave the Pope to me.

ALEXANDER: *(using both hands to shake Napoleon's hands)* It is an honour to meet a man so great as you.

NAPOLEON: Good day *(tips his hat towards him and exits via stage left)*

(Alexander turns to leave stage right but is stopped by his MARIA.)

MARIA: My son, you are Tsar of Russia. The ruler of the motherland. Why do you honour such a man as that? A nobody! A usurper! You disgust me the way you fawn over him.

ALEXANDER: *(Putting his arm around his mother as he walks off stage right)* Mother, it is all an act, one big act. Russia will rebel when we are ready to rebel. Have no fear...

Scene 14

(Pope sitting on his throne; Napoleon enters)

POPE: Emperor Napoleon, to what do we owe this pleasure?

NAPOLEON: I have heard that you have not been blocking Italian ports to English goods. Why are you helping those heretical Englishman? I am the protector of the church, and all I ask it that you be a friend of my frineds, and an enemy of my enemies.

POPE: I am the father of all faithful – I cannot attach to some to make war on others.

NAPOLEON: But I don't want you to make war with anyone. All I ask is that you shut your ports to England. And if you're not able to defend your ports, then give them to me and I will defend them for you.

POPE: I cannot do as you ask without failing in my duties and compromising my sacred character.

NAPOLEON: *(angry)* I had great plans for you; but if you prefer to be obstinate and miserable, then so be it. Clearly you seem to forget that it is the hand of God Himself that leads my armies!

POPE: I would rather be killed than yield to your demands.

NAPOLEON: Who wants to kill you?! Certainly not. But I will most assuredly take away from you your papal powers. Soldiers – arrest the Pope!

(VICTOR & MAXIME enter stage left and lead Pope off stage right down the stairs. Pope turns and says...)

POPE: Napoleon – France will always be the firstborn son of the church. But YOU are stubborn, defiant son!

NAPOLEON: *(chuckling dismissively)* Nothing my mother hasn't told me countless times.

Scene 15

(walking in front of stage as if having a stroll)

COFFMAN: I see – it's so clear. The throne of the papacy was "darkened" when Napoleon arrested Pope Pius VII and removed all temporal powers of the papacy. What happens next for Napoleon then?

JOHN: Well you see, once God's use for Napoleon was exhausted he no longer is mentioned AT ALL in the book of Revelation, because the Bible is not history – the Bible is *selective* history. Once God's judgments on Catholic Europe were finished, Napoleon was no longer successful at anything he put his hand to. *(pause)* His demise began when he heard that Russia had stopped their blockade of English goods, and he prepared his Grand Army for an invasion of Russia on a scale unlike he had ever done before...

(They walk around side of stage left)

Scene 16

(Tsar Alexander and Russians are on stage; Napoleon and his army are at back of audience coming down center aisle.)

(Napoleon shouting to his men)

NAPOLEON: With an army of over 600,000 men, all we need is 1 or 2 decisive victories and the Russians will be ours. To Moscow we go!!

SERGEI: Sir, the French army is on the road to Moscow. Do you want us to engage them in battle.

ALEXANDER: No! Absolutely not! That's exactly what Napoleon *wants* us to do. We will give them Moscow, and retreat backwards, pulling them further into Russia. The further they march, the more men and supplies they will lose.

(Russians leave via stage left)

(Napoleon and army climb onto stage)

VICTOR: We've taken Moscow!

NAPOLEON: You can hardly call this "taken." The city was deserted before we even arrived! Why? Why would Alexander desert his capital city?

(Fireworks and explosives sound; MAXIME runs onto stage)

MAXIME: The Russian army has set up explosives! The whole city is being burned to the ground!

NAPOLEON: I was prepared for all but this! Who would have thought a nation would set its own capital city on fire!?

(French Soldiers leave stage left, NAPOLEON paces back and forth, looks at his clock, etc etc to indicate that he is waiting waiting waiting...)

(VICTOR enters)

FRENCH SOLDIER 2: Sir, there has been no word from the Tsar in any of your attempts to negotiate peace.

NAPOLEON: *(to audience)* I want peace. I NEED peace. I MUST HAVE PEACE!

(MAXIME enters)

MAXIME: Sir, we must begin the retreat. The burned city is not habitable for the winter months, and we're already too close to winter.

NAPOLEON: *(dejected)* Sound the retreat.

(NAPOLEON and all soldiers leave stage via stage right)

(Alexander and Russian army are in front of stage left)

ALEXANDER: This is the moment that MY campaign begins. We will attack now while they are sick, cold, and weak! Russians – charge!

(Russian army chases French army around side of stage right)

Scene 17

(John Thomas standing at podium giving lecture)

JOHN: Thank you bro. Chairman, and good evening my dear brothers and sisters in our Lord Jesus Christ. I would first like to share with you that, thanks to the generous donations of our brothers and sisters in the Illinois ecclesia, and organized by our dear brother Coffman, the third volume of Eureka has just been published. I have been asked to come tonight to exhort you all in the importance of remaining steadfast in the work of our Lord Jesus Christ, who we know will soon appear.

We live on the brink of the most exciting time our world has ever seen. We have seen through our study of Revelation 16 that with incredible accuracy our Lord has recorded his judgments on Catholic Europe through the work of Napoleon. Yet although Napoleon was titled “Man of Destiny,” he was not THE man of Destiny, who is indeed yet to appear. And although Napoleon’s accomplishments seem to be great, they will shrink to babe-like proportions at the almightiness of the LJC. Napoleon may have been “the man of the hour” scorching men with fire and great heat, so that they were burned for a time; but when “THE hour of Judgment is come” the LJC will abolish the beast system forever and sink it into an abyss of fire to be found more at all. Napoleon may have suppressed the papacy, but the LJC will soon destroy it completely!

These first five vials were carried out in a period of just 25 years! And here we stand, living during the *sixth* vial – watching as the spirit of human rights and humanism spreads throughout all the world, preparing the world to declare war on our Lord when he returns. And yet right at this pivotal time in history our Lord has put a message specifically before *us*: “Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.” At a time when the Lord is busy at work with the nations of this world – he wants us to know that he remembers us.

He who testifies these things saith, “surely, I come quickly.” Amen. Even so, come Lord Jesus.

To the only wise God our savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

(JOHN THOMAS exits stage right down the stairs)

Closing Hymn: 309