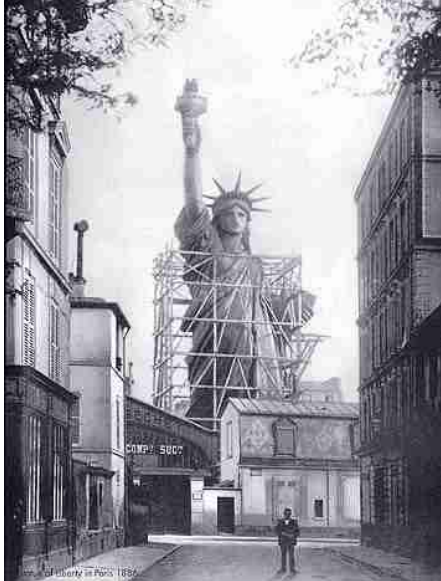


## #105 The French Connection – The French-American Union for the Statue of Liberty

**Key Understanding: *Solidifying the French Connection.*** An organization named the French-American Union was formed to raise the funds for the project officially known as *Liberty Enlightening the World*, but commonly known as the Statue of Liberty. The Lord's purpose through the name of the French-American Union is to illustrate that America and France were joined together – a French-American Union – in the role of the *western* part of the *Charlemagne Split*.



The 151-foot-high statue was prefabricated in Paris by molding sheets of copper over a stainless-steel framework. The picture (*left*) shows Liberty towering over the buildings in Paris. The builders had to be sure all the pieces fit so they completely assembled the statue, then took it down and shipped the pieces to the United States in 214 crates in 1885.

**The French-American Union for the Statue of Liberty.** In 1865, Edourd de Laboulaye of France developed the idea of creating a giant statue to honor the friendship and the commitment to liberty between France and the United States. He formed the French-American Union to raise money for this project. Joseph Pulitzer used the editorial pages of his newspaper to raise support in the United States for the fund. French sculptor Auguste Bartholdi and structural engineer Gustave Eiffel finished the project in Paris. On July 4, 1884,

the 151-foot-tall, 225-ton Statue of Liberty was delivered to the American Ambassador in Paris, representing the French people bestowing it to the American people. The statue was then shipped across the Atlantic in 214 crates broken into 350 individual separate pieces. The Statue of Liberty was dedicated on October 28, 1886. President Grover Cleveland accepted the statue on behalf of the American people.

The head portion alone of the Statue of Liberty when it was displayed at the Paris Exposition of 1878 was large enough to hold 40 people. The workshop of Bartholdi had over 300,000 visitors over the course of work on the Statue.



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