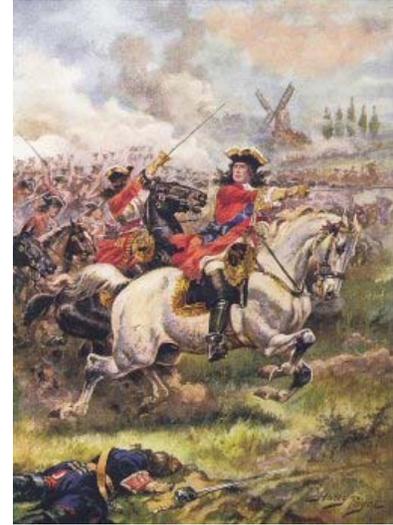
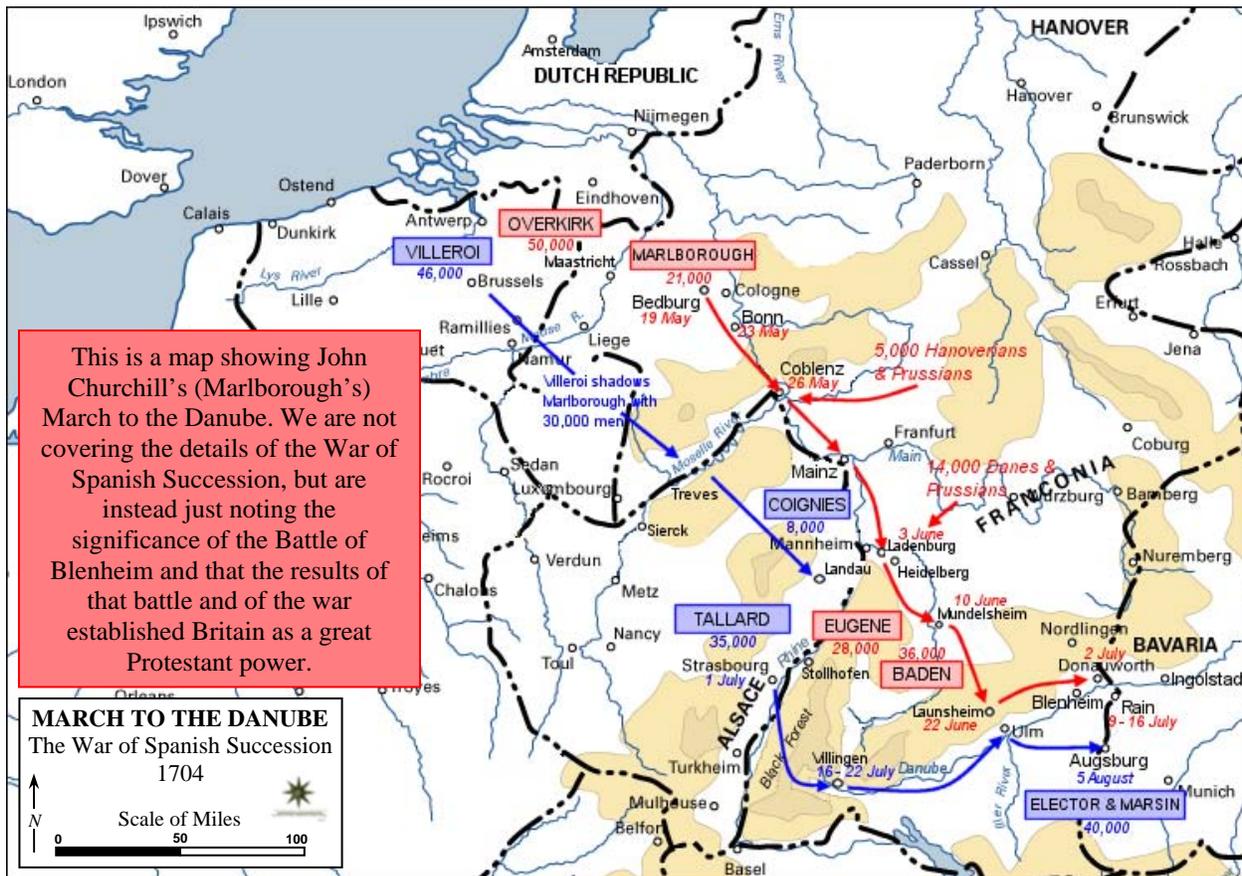


## #690 Dunkirk – John Churchill and the Battle of Blenheim

**The Battle of Blenheim.** To make a long story very short, John Churchill was made famous through the events of the War of Spanish Succession in the early 1700's. As a part of that war, England was squared off against France and its great king, Louis XIV. [Louis XIV, the “Sun King,” had the longest reign of any king in European history, from 1643-1715.] John Churchill’s magnificent victory at the Battle of Blenheim on August 13, 1704, in modern day Germany, was a crucial one which changed the course of European history. It was the first major defeat for France in 40 years. Louis XIV’s army lost 21,000 killed (or drowned in the Danube), 7,000 wounded, and 14,000 taken prisoner. **It ended Louis XIV’s plans to dominate Europe, checked the increase of French power in history, and signaled the rise of the British Empire.** The victory was so significant that John Churchill became the greatest soldier that England had ever known. He was received triumphantly in London. A grateful nation built the 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Marlborough the magnificent Blenheim Palace.



Marlborough Leading the Attack, Battle of Blenheim by Harry Payne



Here is #690–Doc 1, the website of **Blenheim Palace** near Oxford.

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The Battle of Blenheim (scene from the Tapestry at Blenheim Palace)

**Key Understanding:** *Churchill's victory signaled the rise of the British Empire.* John Churchill's famous victory at Blenheim in Bavaria (located in what is modern day southern Germany) ended Louis XIV's (and France's) plans to dominate Europe, established Britain as a great Protestant power, and signaled the rise of the British Empire.

*Matthew 7:26 (KJV) And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto A FOOLISH MAN, WHICH BUILT HIS HOUSE UPON THE SAND:*

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