

#698 The Defeat of the Spanish Armada – The Spanish Netherlands sets the stage for an invasion of England

The Spanish Netherlands. Originally, the countries known today as the Netherlands and Belgium (in addition to Luxembourg and parts of northern France) used to be called the Spanish Netherlands because they were controlled by Spain. Before the time of the Battle of the Spanish Armada in 1588, the Dutch rebelled against the Spanish and declared their independence, leaving the Spanish Netherlands to consist mostly of what is modern day Belgium.

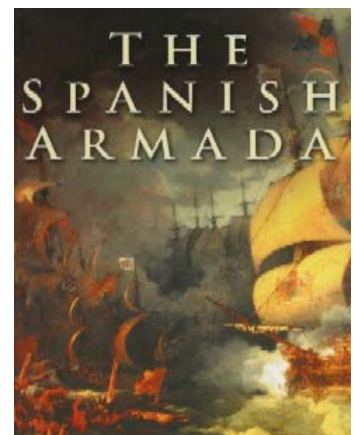
To the *right* (and also *below*) is a map that shows the Spanish Netherlands. Do you see why Spain made the decision that an invasion of England would be easier by including the help from troops stationed just across the Strait of Dover in the Spanish Netherlands? [Note: The map has the date of 1600 attached to it. The map shows the Spanish Netherlands as including what is known as the Netherlands today, though the Dutch had actually officially declared their independence from Spain in 1581. However, Spain did not recognize Dutch independence until 1648.]



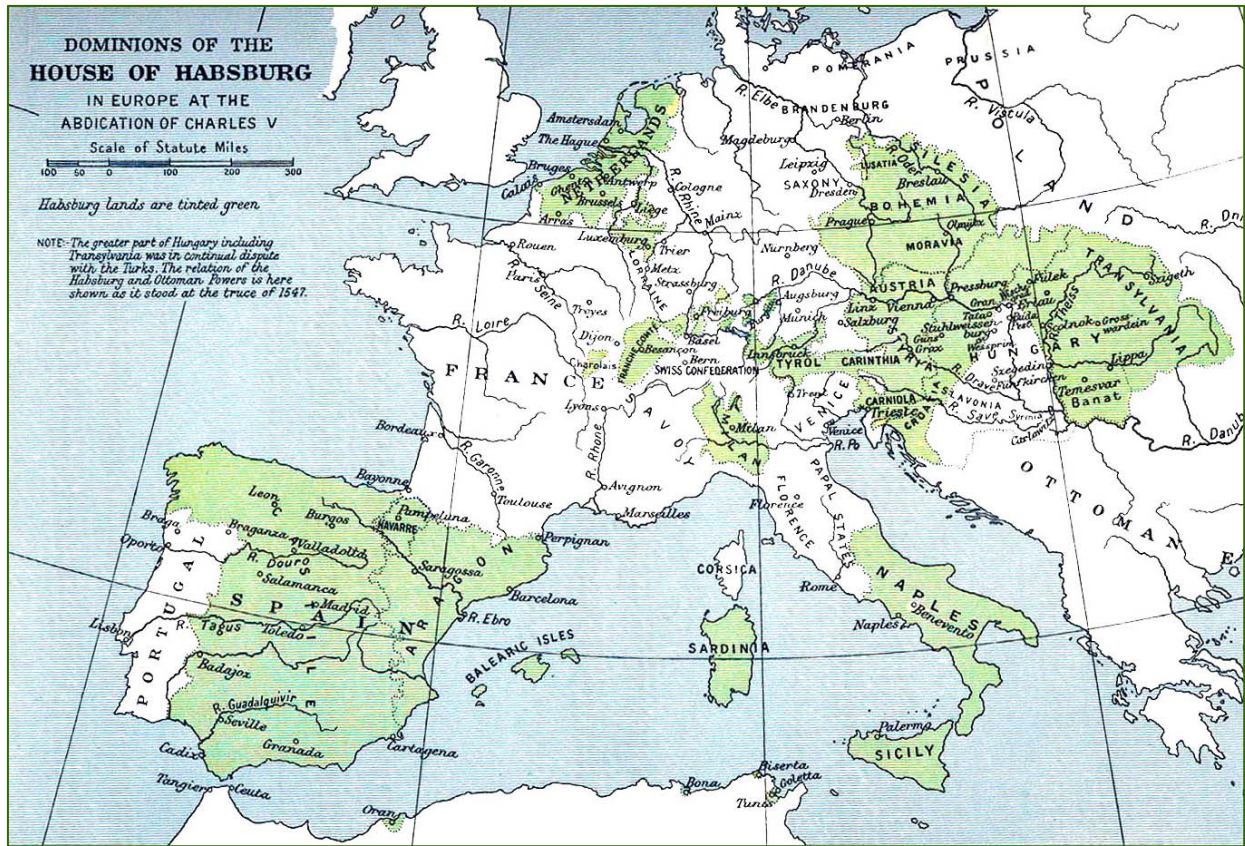
Key Understanding: *The fact that Spain controlled the Spanish Netherlands helped in its invasion plans of England. The Spanish Netherlands (which consisted of modern day Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and parts of northern France) was located just across the Strait of Dover from England. What is important to understand at this time is that Spain had control of the Spanish Netherlands, which encouraged the Spaniards to plan an invasion of England from there.*

These events set the stage for the Protestant Beast of America to rise out of the Protestant England-Netherlands Pit. [Reference Unsealings [#266](#)–[#269](#).]

Revelation 17:08 (KJV) THE BEAST that thou sawest was, and is not; and SHALL ASCEND OUT OF THE [England-Netherlands] PIT, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.



Below is a map of the empire of Charles V in the mid-1500's.



Here is #698–Doc 1, which shows **the configuration of Europe in 1704**. Spain finally recognized Dutch independence in 1648. At that time, Spain still controlled what would become the present day Belgium part of the Spanish Netherlands.

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