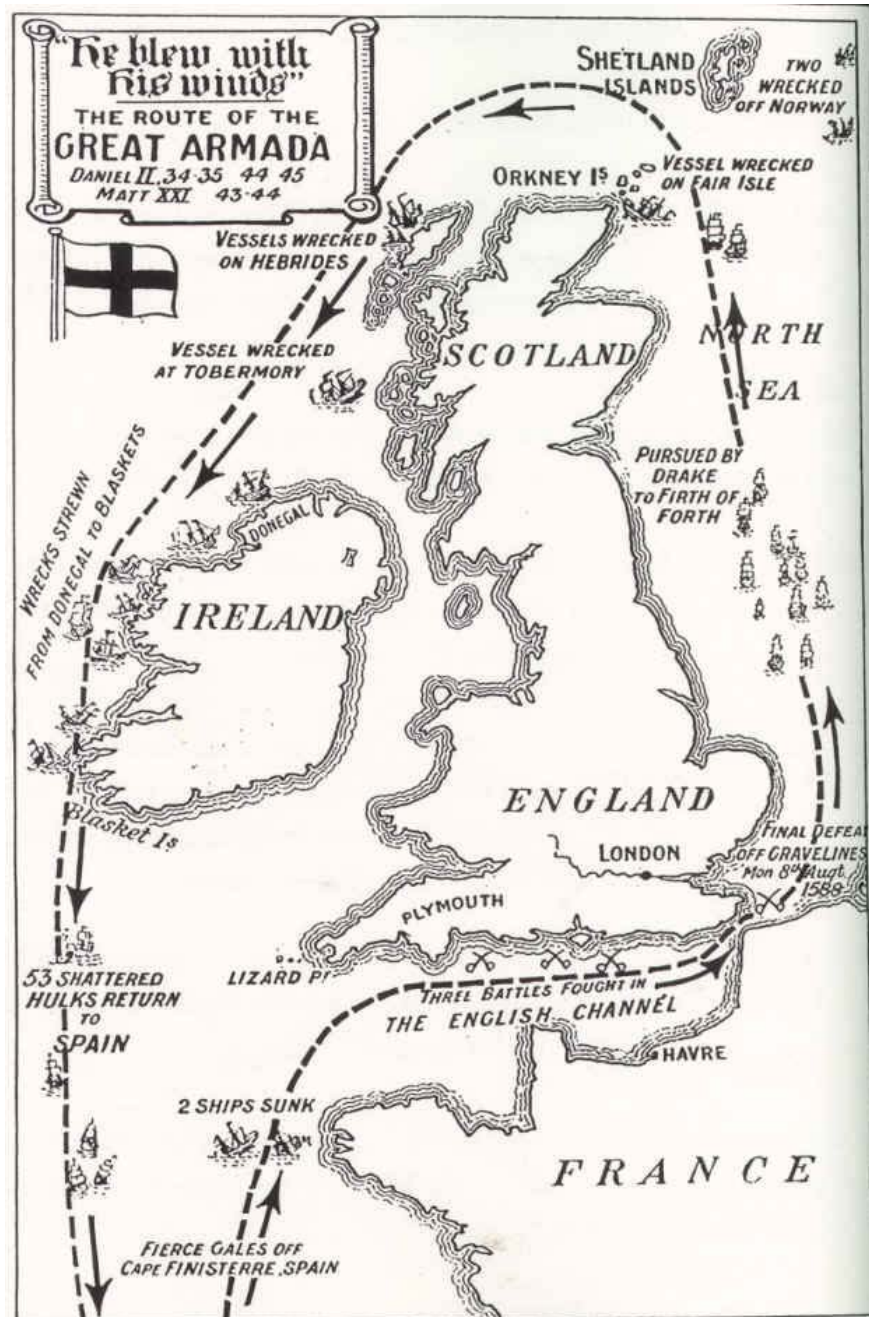


#711 The Defeat of the Spanish Armada – The Protestant Wind, part 1

The Spanish Armada was forced to plow slowly northward, around the British Isles to the Atlantic and back to Spain. It was a journey of some 2,500 miles, with shattered ships, wounded and diseased men, rotting supplies, and slimy drinking water. The seas seemed almost polar to the southern Spaniards. They attempted to skirt the coasts without charts or pilots. Some ships simply foundered at open sea. Their supplies on board were not sufficient for such a journey and many of the crews were reduced to eating rope for survival. Fresh water quickly disappeared.

The Armada rounded the northwestern tip of Scotland in mid-September and fared disastrously, running into merciless gales and tempests. The ships that survived this storm headed for Ireland, but more were wrecked on its treacherous west coast. The Catholic Spanish were hopeful for help from the Catholic Irish. The Irish, however, still viewed the Spanish as invaders. Shipwrecked, starving, half-drowned Spaniards who managed to crawl ashore were butchered by the Irish. Some of the ships found harbor in Galway Bay, south of Galway. Sailors who went ashore were attacked and killed.

Barely half the ships that began the voyage of the Spanish Armada limped home. A total of 20,000 Spanish sailors and soldiers died in the great “Enterprise of England,” as the endeavor had been called by Philip II.



Key Understanding: *The Protestant Wind*. Literal winds that were a part of the story of the defeat and decimation of the Spanish Armada are often collectively referred to in history as the “Protestant Wind.” God himself brought the winds that sealed the fate of the Spanish Armada and its endeavor to make England Roman Catholic.

[Note: The theme of “*the wind blew*” is in the same passage (Matthew 7:26-27) as the theme of “*church on the sand*,” matching up with the fact that the *Protestant Wind* and Dunkirk – representing “*church on the sand*” – were a part of the same event of the defeat of the Spanish Armada. We are beginning to rightly divide the meaning of it all.]

Matthew 7:26-27 (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:

27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, AND THE WINDS BLEW, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.



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