

## **#718 The Defeat of the Spanish Armada – The Protestant Wind of 1688**

**Key Understanding: *The two Protestant Winds.* The two notable “Protestant Winds” in history occurred with (i) the attempted invasion of England in 1588 by Philip II’s Spanish Armada, and (ii) the invasion of England in 1688 by William III’s Dutch Armada.**

The weather again played a dramatic part in the invasion of England in 1688 by William III’s Dutch Armada. The Protestant Prince of Orange launched an armada even bigger than the Spanish Armada, consisting of more than 500 ships, 40,000 men (sailors and soldiers), and 5,000 horses. William gambled in launching a November invasion. A series of changes in the weather favored the Protestant invader, unlike in 1588 when disfavor fell upon the Roman Catholic invader. The Dutch fleet originally sailed north, but the elements took control. The wind at first drove the Dutch fleet back to its ports, but the wind also bottled up James II’s fleet in the Thames estuary. The wind then became the “Protestant Wind” that took William III to Torbay on the southern coast of England. At the same time, the wind held the English navy at bay to the north, allowing the Dutch to land their troops unmolested. The Protestant Wind of 1688 assured Dutch success.



**Departure of William III from Hellevoetsluis, 19 October 1688**

Artist style of Abraham Storck  
Date unknown  
Repro ID BHC0325  
Materials oil on canvas

Measurements Painting: 889 x 1168.4 mm  
Credit line National Maritime Museum, London  
On display? No

<http://www.nmm.ac.uk/mag/pages/mnuExplore/PaintingDetail.cfm?ID=BHC0325>

Here is #718–Doc 1, which is about **William III’s invasion of England in 1688**. We are handling it differently this time. The “Original Source” is a Flash Player movie presentation. Hopefully it is still working by the time you get to it.

[Click here](#) for the Original Source of #718–Doc 1

*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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