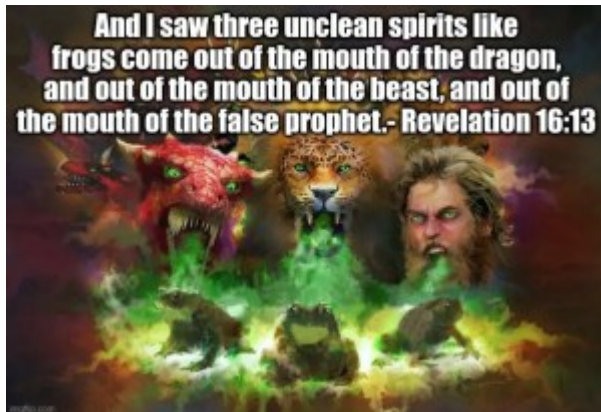


The Seventh Vial Chapter XXIV. The Kings Of The East–The Three Frogs



Ours is pre-eminently the age of *great secret societies*; and these societies are of three classes, corresponding in character, as they do in number, to the “three frogs” which were seen to go forth on their mission when the sixth vial was poured out. **Among these societies that of the Jesuits holds a first place.** Instituted about a quarter of a century after the Reformation, with the view of checking (hindering) the progress of the gospel, its numbers have prodigiously increased, and now they swarm in all the countries of Europe. Wider still, **there is not a land on earth where they are not busy, intriguing, and conspiring.**