The contents of the geographical section (ff. 1r–8v) and the section on astronomy and geography (ff. 13r–18r) in HM 83 have been detailed above. In the first section, after introductory texts on the three Babylonias and the division of the world among the sons of Noah, there is a list of the provinces of Asia, and the islands that pertain to it; then a list of the islands and provinces of Europe; then a list of the provinces of Africa. Next there is a list of the mountains of the Holy Land, and of the mountains beyond the Holy Land; then of the lands of the Four Kingdoms of the Book of Daniel and of a few others, and of the lands in which the twelve Apostles preached. The section ends with an account of the four different functions or themes that a mappamundi can have. In all of the lists of provinces and islands, brief descriptive details about each entry are supplied, and this section is illustrated with seven maps and one generic bird's-eye view of mountains.

In the second section (ff. 13r–18r) there are diagrams of the spheres and of the course of the sun around the earth, followed by three climatic maps of the earth, the first overlain on a map of the earth's waters, the second on a simple T-O map, and the third on a map showing where the Apostles preached. There follow a summary of world history, tables of Biblical genealogy, and discussion of the Four Kingdoms of the world.

As indicated above, the maps in these sections are of great importance in the history of cartography for being the earliest known sequence of thematic maps clearly conceived as such. The maps will be discussed below, but here we would like to mention that at first blush there would seem to be a connection between the way the text of the first section (ff. 1r–8v) is divided into sections (mainland provinces, islands, mountains) and the thematic maps. The author might have drawn inspiration for his ‘thematic’ divisions of the text from any of a number of different sources. For example, Book 14 of Isidore of Seville’s Etymologiae,1 the first great medieval encyclopedia, has chapters about Asia (14.3), Europe (14.4), and Africa (14.5) (HM 83 follows this same order), and then about islands (14.6), promontories (14.7), mountains (14.8), and caves and the underworld (14.9). Lambert of Saint-Omer in his Liber Floridus, composed

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between 1090 and 1120, has chapters on islands (34) and rivers, springs and lakes (34 and 35). Barholomaeus Anglicus in his *De proprietatibus rerum*, written c. 1240, similarly discusses the physical world by dividing it into categories, and thus has chapters that list the rivers of the world (13.5–13.13) and the mountains of the world (14.3–14.44), as well as chapters on such specific subjects as fish ponds (13.14), whirlpools (13.17), valleys (14.46), deserts (14.51), and caves (14.52). Examples from other medieval encyclopedias might easily be adduced. The point we wish to make is that while the authors of other treatises employed the same ‘thematic’ division of geographical material, none of them used maps to indicate the locations of those elements—none of them chose to interpret those divisions cartographically. That is precisely the original stroke of the author of HM 83.

In the present work we have chosen to focus on the apocalyptic section of HM 83, as it seems more distinctive and original (to our way of thinking at least) than the other parts of the manuscript. Therefore, we will not provide a full transcription and translation of the geographical sections. However, we now supply transcriptions, translations, and commentary on several excerpts from the geographical sections that will give the reader a fuller understanding of the work than the summary above could do, and will also shed light on the author’s outlook and sources.

In transcribing the text of HM 83 we have altered it as little as possible, but have expanded abbreviations, changed ‘u’ to ‘v’ and ‘i’ to ‘j’ where this would help make the word understandable, and added punctuation where necessary for the sense. Triangular brackets < > are used to indicate words that we supplied that were necessary for the sense; to mark word of whose readings we are not entirely sure, thus: <habet?>; and to indicate lacunae, thus for one missing word: <…>, and thus for two missing words: <... >. Parentheses are used to mark our occasional explanatory remarks.

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