

**War in the Middle East**  
**A Biblical Perspective Pt. 2**  
Zechariah 12:1–3; 14:1-2

Zechariah 12:1–3 (NKJV)

**12** The burden of the word of the Lord against Israel. Thus says the Lord, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him: <sup>2</sup>“Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.

**14: 1-2**

Behold, the day of the Lord is coming,  
And your spoil will be divided in your midst.  
<sup>2</sup> For I will gather all the nations to battle against  
Jerusalem;  
The city shall be taken,  
The houses rifled,  
And the women ravished.  
Half of the city shall go into captivity,

But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

## **Introduction:**

In the last couple of weeks Anti Israeli and pro Hamas protest have saturated the news. Just yesterday, in London, there was a pro-Palestinian, pro-Hamas demonstration of nearly a half million. This has been the reaction to Israel's attempt at self defense from a brutal attack on Oct 7th. Hamas is a known terrorist group to that area and is a self proclaimed enemy of Israel and has had and continues to express a desire to kill all the Jews and permanently eliminate the Jews from the land. They believe that the goal is the destruction and obliteration of all Jews and the liberation of the land for the establishment of a Caliphate

They don't try to hide there hatred of the Jews but regularly parade it and teach their youngest children to commit Jihad.

Their Antisemitism is empowered by Satan and his desire to destroy the Jews. But sadly, the last few weeks has made it abundantly clear that this is not isolated to Hamas. This Antisemitism is a cancer that has spread throughout the world,

It is clearly more than just the run of the meal hatred of a people of ethnic reasons alone.

Andrew T. Walker

“ I'm amillennial in my eschatology and I will still tell you this: I don't know how to account for consistent and resurgent antisemitism apart from demonic hatred of Jesus's bloodline. Y'all can think I'm foolish or whatever, but what we're seeing is not reducible to earthly geopolitical dynamics alone.”

According to recent polling,  
60 percent of Islamic people in America support  
 Hamas

51 percent of Americans ages 18–24 believe Hamas was justified in its brutal terrorist attacks on innocent Israeli citizens on October 7.

This is just another way of recognizing the depraved nature of our culture. We have become grossly immoral and are a steep decline that has been greased by our removal of moral absolutes and a denial of the God of the Bible.

D. James Kennedy wrote  
Tolerance is the last virtue of a depraved society.  
When you have an immoral society that has  
blatantly, proudly, violated all of the commandments  
of God, there is one last virtue they insist upon:  
tolerance for their immorality.

And I would add, tolerance of religion. That's right,  
tolerance of religion, at least certain kinds of  
religion. There is no tolerance for Biblical  
Christianity but there is great tolerance for religions  
that can flourish on the blood of its conquest.

“Islamic Jihad is the greatest immediate, mortal  
threat to the world. No other "god" asks a believer to  
forcibly convert or kill another person in order to be  
proven faithful/devout.

NONE.”

History is a sad reminder of what religion can  
bring.

Millions have died under the banner of religion, and  
before it is over millions more will die.

Revelation 13:2–9 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup> Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his  
feet were like *the feet of a bear*, and his mouth like  
the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power,

his throne, and great authority. <sup>3</sup> And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. <sup>4</sup> So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who *is* like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?”

<sup>5</sup> And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. <sup>6</sup> Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. <sup>7</sup> It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. <sup>8</sup> All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

<sup>9</sup> If anyone has an ear, let him hear.

### Revelation 13:11–15 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. <sup>12</sup> And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth

and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. <sup>13</sup> He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. <sup>14</sup> And he deceives those who dwell on the earth—by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. <sup>15</sup> He was granted *power* to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

History is replete with examples of people slaughtered in the name of a god, and the future will be no different.

And what we are seeing in the Middle East is a representation of when a religion is used to sanction the destruction of another people.

There is much, much more going on in this area of the world than most realize and much more that will happen in this part of the world that most want to accept.

So what should we as Christians think about this. There is a lot of information and misinformation circulating online with some telling us that this is it,

saying “Get your rapture wear on and get on your roof, Jesus is imminent” to others saying Israel and the things that occur in Middle East are of no significance what so ever.

Well, as I told you last week, I do not know if this is that and if even this is a precursor to the things that will lead to the second coming of Christ. It is important to realize that we have been here before with the nations coming against Israel and Antisemitism leading to the killing of millions of Jews in the Holocaust. So I would advise caution when approaching any prophetic passage.

But also, we don't want to forget that one day, this will be that and it will be that season of his return, and that with the way things are going, we could or your children could be those that see the Return of Christ in all His Glory.

But for now, How shall we think about these things?

And why do we see these things continue to escalate and permeate that region of the world ?

# Lesson

The Roots of the Conflict

The Religion of the Conflict

The Resolution to the Conflict

## I. The Roots of the Conflict

We could definitely say that the main root of this conflict is found in the fall of man in the Garden of Eden.

The Fall of man radically changed the nature of man in such a way that he needed no education or encouragement to hate and murder. He would be born with a natural inclination toward this. Given the right environment with no restraints and positive motivation to hate, man in his sinful condition would not disappoint, but would go on to kill millions.

Genesis 3:15 (NKJV)

<sup>15</sup>And I will put enmity

Between you and the woman,

And between your seed and her Seed;

He shall bruise your head,



And you shall bruise His heel.”

This prophetic announcement by God would set in motion a murderous attempt on the part of Satan to destroy the Seed of the Woman. Satan would employ every attempt to kill the people through whom the messiah would come. i.e. The JEWS  
From the very beginning there has been an attempt to wipe out the Jews so the Messiah could not come. He has already died and resurrected and is building his church. Why would he care if the Jews survived at all.

Well, there is one little problem, one promise that God has given to them that must be fulfilled in a permanent way. That promise is the Land.

This piece of real-estate has been and is the most hotly disputed and debated and fought over land in all the world. It is one of the primary reasons why there is war in the Middle East right now. The Palestinians believe that this land is theirs and Hamas is determined to run the occupiers out.

But the land matters for more reasons than just that God had promised that it would be theirs forever.

It matters because this is the plot of land that Jesus is coming back to. He is NOT coming to

New York, or London or Moscow. He won't be coming to Washington DC or Madrid Spain, or Istabul Turkey. He won't be showing up in Egypt or mainland China.

NO, The Bible is very clear, He is coming back to Jerusalem and will set His feet on the Mount of Olives. The same mount on which He prayed the night before his crucifixion, "Not my will but your will be done".

And he is not coming to a land that has no Jews. NO, He is coming to a nation of unbelieving Jews, called Israel, who will see Him coming and will weep and mourn for the one whom they have pierced and will be saved.

There's a huge reason why this land is fought over more than any other piece of land on the planet. There's a reason why that Satan does not want Israel, to occupy the land that was promised of them through the Abraham at covenant. If Satan can keep the land from Israel, then God is a liar, and he does not keep his promises. Satan knows that this is pitiful and critical to the future fulfillment for the people of Israel.

And also, Abraham would go on to have 2 sons, Ishmael and Isaac and Isaac would have 2

sons Jacob and Esau, but the sons of the covenant would be Isaac and Jacob, but Ishmael and Esau would be enemies of the sons of the Promise/

So from Genesis 11 and the descendants of Shem that occupied much of the Greater Mesopotamian area to the the peoples from Ishmael and Esau, the populations grew into nations of Arabic peoples, that were not inheritors of the land of participants in the Covenants and would grow in hostility toward Israel for the land. The nations once separated by culture and idols would eventually be crystalized into one large monolith of people under the religion of Islam. The Arabic world would become an empire under leadership of Muhammad who would worship a false god named Allah Muhammad was born to a tribe in Mecca, that claimed to be a descendant of Ishmael.

“Muhammad, which means in Arabic “highly praised.” He was born in the Middle East in 570 A.D., almost five hundred years after Christ. He was born to a tribe in Mecca. **He claimed to be a descendant of Ishmael – that fits.** This Muhammad became the source of the Quran, which is the holy book of Islam. In 622 he made his home in Medina, and it became that date, the sort of an official date as the start of the Muslim era.”

Today radical Muslims call Israel “the small Satan” and America “the great Satan.”

## **I. The Roots of the Conflict**

## **II. The Religion of the Conflict**

The predominant religion of the Middle East is Islam. There are six basic articles of faith in Islam.

1. Allah is the one true God.. He is not a trinity, and he is not the God of the Old Testament, and he’s not the God of Christians. He is Allah, the one true God.
- 2.The Koran is the most holy book. There are other holy books, holy to some degree, but the Koran is the most holy book.
3. Muhammad is his greatest prophet. Allah sent, according to Islamic literature, a hundred and twenty-four thousand prophets, Jesus being one; but Muhammad is the greatest prophet.
4. There are many angels, there are many demons, and there is a Satan called Iblis or Shaytan.

5. Allah has predetermined all things by unchangeable decree. Allah is absolutely sovereign, and everyone's destiny is predetermined by Allah.

6. There will be a day of judgment when all will find out whether they go to heaven or to hell. And the criteria for that is the absolute decision of Allah, which may or may not be influenced at all by human beings; but you ought to do good works because they might help. No guarantee, absolutely none.

Then there are five duties; they are called the pillars of Islam. These are required religious practices.

1. Reciting the creed many times a day. And the creed is this: "There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet," and you recite that many times a day.

2. Prayer five times a day; and these are prescribed prayers, written prayers, memorized prayers. And the five times a day are identified.

3. give to the poor. And all Muslims are taxed 2.5 percent of their income and their property, one-fortieth of what they have for the poor.

4. a month of fasting called Ramadan. The fast is you eat at night, you can't eat in daylight. And Ramadan commemorates the first revelation that came to Muhammad in the year 610 A.D. When Muhammad was forty years old he received his first supposed revelation from god that is commemorated by Ramadan; eating is allowed only at night and in the morning before dawn.

5. Every Muslim must once in his life, unless it is utterly impossible by some restraint, make a pilgrimage to Mecca.

That's essentially the practice and the theology. A little more clarification is needed.....

The Quran says Christians who believe in the Trinity are infidels.

Also, Allah only loves good people, he does not love sinners.

They teach that Jesus

Christ was a man, He was not God the Son, and anyone who says, “Jesus is God,” according to the Quran, is an infidel.

A quote: “Any Muslim who believes that Jesus Christ is God has committed the one unforgivable sin called shirk, a sin that will send him to hell forever.”

Further, their theology teaches Jesus didn't die on the cross because Jesus was a prophet of Allah, and Allah would never let that happen to one of his prophets. He didn't die on the cross, therefore He didn't rise from the dead, and nor is He ever coming back. They further teach that no one can have salvation but a Muslim. God's going to send some to heaven, but no one who is not a Muslim is going to heaven.

And this is so heartbreaking. Islam has no savior, no savior. They die not knowing where they're going. There is in the Muslim theology no atonement for sin, no sacrifice for sin, no propitiatory basis for forgiveness.

For Islam, the world is divided into two parts: Dar al-Salaam, house of peace, where Allah rules; and Dar

al-Harb, house of war, where infidels live. It's either peace, you succumb to Allah; or it's war.

In 1948, Israel, that infidel people, invaded the house of peace and turned it into a house of war. That's why Arafat the former leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, said, quote: "Peace for us means the destruction of Israel." That is the only condition of peace in the thinking of these extreme Islamic leaders.

When Israel won its first battle with the Muslim-Arabs, they started to take back the land, it was a defeat for Allah. And Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian Ayatollah, said that, "Israel's presence in the Arab land, "is due to the backslidden condition of Muslims; and Allah is greatly displeased. The defeat of Israel, therefore," said the Ayatollah, "will become the sign of Allah's pleasure with Muslims. So if you want Allah's pleasure, you have to defeat Israel." That turns everything into a holy war, a jihad.

For those committed to Jihad who are willing to be martyrs of Allah, The Chief Mufti of the Palestinian police Sheik Abd Al-Salam Skheidm specified the rewards according to Islamic tradition, and I quote:



“From the moment his first drop of blood spills, the martyr feels no pain. He is absolved of all his sins. He sees his seat in heaven, and he is spared the tortures of the grave. He is spared the horrors of judgment day. He is married to the black-eyed virgins. The Quran describes these women, quote: “Beautiful like rubies, with complexions like diamonds and pearls. and “he can vouch for seventy of his family members to also enter paradise.”

One Mufti Sheikh Ikrima said: “The Muslim loves death and martyrdom, just as you Jews love life. There’s a great difference between he who loves the afterlife and he who loves this world. The Muslim loves death and seeks martyrdom.”

Palestinian Sesame Street teaches children the virtues of killing the occupiers of Jerusalem with guns and stones.

USA Today, Jack Kelly, the writer, July 5th of this year, just a couple of months ago, wrote, “In Hamas-run kindergartens there are signs on the walls in the

Palestinian area.” Here are the signs: “The children of the kindergarten are the shaheeds, the holy martyrs of tomorrow.” They start with kindergartners.

Another sign: The classroom signs at Al-Najjar University in the West Bank in Gaza’s Islamic university say, quote: “Israel has nuclear bombs, we have human bombs.” At an Islamic school in Gaza City run by Hamas, eleven-year-old Palestinian student’s Ahmad’s small frame and boyish smile are deceiving. They mask a determination to kill at any cost. Quote he says – Ahmad says, “I will make my body a bomb that will blast the flesh of Zionists, the sons of pigs and monkeys.” The reason he says that, in the Quran it says that Allah turned Jews into pigs one time; another time he turned them into monkeys.

Little eleven-year-old Ahmad said, quote: “I will tear their bodies into little pieces and cause them more pain than they will ever know.” Eleven years old. His classmates all responded, shouting in response, “Allah hu Akbar, God is great.” The teacher yelled back, “May the virgins give you pleasure.” And so it goes. *John MacArthur. Terrorism and the Middle East.*

(Washington, D.C., September 24, 2010) — [Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad](#) made an inflammatory speech to the U.N. General Assembly . He began by praying, "O God, hasten the arrival of Imam al-Mahdi and grant him good health and victory and make us his followers and those who attest to his righteousness."

With this prayer, reporters were running about trying to find out what this "Mahdi" was all about.

Since 9/11 we have become more acquainted with the Islamic religion than most of us would desire. Perhaps it has been a good thing for the evangelical church to become aware of the real treat Islam gives to the life and ministry of the church. Some would say, that Islam is a false religion, on the other side of the globe, what do we have to worry about. They are no treat to the church...

Consider a few things with me

1. If things don't change dramatically, Islam will become the largest religion in the world very shortly

2. Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world, 4 times faster than Christianity.
3. “If present trends continue, half of all global births will be to Islamic families by 2055”
4. Islam is also the fastest growing religion in the United States, Canada and Europe at an average of 8 percent per year
5. This amounts to 25,000 converts per year in the United States alone.
6. Since 9/11 the number of converts in America have quadrupled
7. 80 percent of converts in America were raised in Christian Churches

### **III. His Religion**

Most people think of Islam as an utterly distinct religion from Christianity, with no connection to Christianity. We would think if someone is a Muslim,

they have absolutely no connection to Christianity.

And there are many religions that have no connection to Christianity, Hinduism has no connection to Christianity, Buddhism has no connection to Christianity, many others have no connection. It's amazing how many do connect because Satan wants to counterfeit and deceive and get as close to the truth as he can.

There are actually confessed evangelical people who think that. Muslims not only believe in God because they are monotheist, believing in one God, but who think that Muslims are okay because they actually believe in Jesus. And by the way, they do. Brian McClaren an Emerging Church heretic writer in his book *The Secret Message of Jesus* says, and I quote, "All Muslims regard Jesus as a great prophet. A shared reappraisal of Jesus' message could provide a common ground for urgently needed religious dialogue. This reappraisal of Jesus may be our own way of saving a number of religions, including Christianity," end quote.

So if we want to save Christianity and save other religions, we need to all get together and that should be easy for us to do because we can start with the Muslims because they already believe in Jesus. A

popular speaker and author, Tony Campolo, says, quote: “When we listen to the Muslim mystics as they talk about Jesus and their love for Jesus, I must say it’s a lot closer to New Testament Christianity than a lot of Christians.” Really! So you think that the Muslim Jesus is the same Jesus?

I can help you with that because they describe Jesus. The Muslim Jesus plays a crucial role in Islamic eschatology. Now you do know that the Muslims have an eschatology. In other words they have a theology of the end. They know where they’re going, according to their writings. They know where they’re going.

Let me describe the Muslim Jesus to you. This is out of their own writings, the Koran and the Sunnah. The Koran is supposedly the word of Allah, actually the word of Satan, but they think it’s the word of Allah. The Sunnah...the Sunnah are the words of and the works of Mohammed. The Koran then constitutes their holy Scripture and the Sunnah, sometimes called the Hadith constitutes their holy tradition. Their theology comes out of the Koran and the Sunnah, just as Roman Catholic theology comes out of the Bible and Tradition, or Judaism comes out of

the Old Testament and rabbinic tradition...the Muslims have two sources of authoritative truth.

In their system they have Jesus. Jesus was a man, he was not God. He did not die, he went to heaven like Elijah. He did not die, therefore he did not rise. He did not rise, therefore he did not provide an atonement for anyone because no one can provide an atonement for anyone else. He is a man. He is a prophet. He is nothing more. He went to heaven like Elijah. And he's in heaven right now, standing alongside Allah, waiting for Allah to send him back. In their system, this man, this prophet Jesus who is now in heaven, never having died, plays a key role in the end times because he will return from heaven without dying, he will come back when Allah sends him back.

Now the question to ask, is why would Allah want to send Jesus back? He has a lot of prophets to pick from, why does he send Jesus back?

Answer...so that when he shows up he can correct all the Christians who have misunderstood who he is. The sources for this, again, are the Koran and the Sunnah. The great event of the coming of Christ, or coming of Jesus, is so that this prophet, this man who comes back can straighten out the misdirected,

misguided, misconceiving Christians who think He was God who died and rose again and provided atonement...he'll come back and straighten it out. And by the way, after he gets here, he'll get married, have children and die and be buried next to Mohammed. That's the Muslim Jesus.

a. ***The Mahdi - Their Savior***

In Islamic eschatology, there are three great signs of the end of history...three great signs. There are some lesser signs, or some minor signs, or some major signs. In their eschatology, again quoting their sources exclusively, there are three great signs of the end of history. And each of them is a man. Let me tell you about those three men.

First of all, the first man that will come in the end of history is the Mahdi...M-a-h-d-i. Sometimes he's called the Twelfth Imam. Every time Ahmajinedad over in Iran gives a speech, he gives glory to the Mahdi, glory to the Twelfth Imam, every time. He's waiting for the coming of the Mahdi.

What is he coming to do? He's coming, listen carefully, to slaughter all who will not worship Allah,



convert to Islam. They are identified in their writings as pigs and dogs. And to establish the everlasting world dominating kingdom of Islam. That's what he will do.

The Mahdi, or the Twelfth Imam, that means the guided one, is the long-awaited savior. He is the establisher of the final Caliphate. The world must follow him as he takes over or he will destroy all enemies of Islam. He will come and he will carry on holy war and either you convert or you're killed by the Mahdi. He will have an army. His army will be a massive army and his army will go from nation to nation to punish the unbelievers. The holy writings of Islam say that this army will carry black flags. And on those black flags there will be one word and that one word will be the word Punishment. By the way, the Iranian army today carries black flags. They want to be ready for the coming of the Mahdi.

He will lead the army of black flags first to Israel, slaughter all the Jews, and then he will establish his rule in Jerusalem on the temple mount. That's what their literature says. Slaughter the Jews, establish his rule on the temple mount.

According to their holy writings, the Mahdi will bring rain and wind and crops and wealth and happiness

so that all will love him and no one will speak of anyone but him. Their writings say the Mahdi will come and make, at first, a peace agreement with the Jews and the west for seven years. The reign of Mahdi will last seven years in which he establishes Islam on the earth.

Their holy writings say this, the Mahdi will come riding on a white horse, and it even says in their writings, “As it says in [Revelation 6:1](#) and [2](#). Saddam Hussein, by the way, painted murals of this Mahdi on a white horse all over Baghdad. And he comes carrying a sword to kill the infidels.

When the Mahdi arrives, he will discover hidden scriptures, he will discover them, interestingly enough, somewhere near the Sea of Galilee and there will be there hidden scriptures, hidden gospels and a hidden Torah and they will be the true scriptures which will be used by the Mahdi to show the Jews and the Christians they were wrong, that their scriptures were the false scriptures.

Let me summarize. The Mahdi will be a messianic figure. He will be a descendant of Mohammed. He will be an unparalleled, unequaled leader. He will come out of a crisis of turmoil. He will take control of the world. He will establish a new world order. He

will destroy all who resist him. He will invade many nations. He will make a seven-year peace treaty with the Jews. He will conquer Israel and massacre the Jews. He will establish Islamic world headquarters at Jerusalem. He will rule for seven years, establish Islam as the only religion. He will come on a white horse with supernatural power. He will be loved by all people on earth.

If that sounds familiar, that is a precise description of the biblical Antichrist...absolutely step-by-step-by-step-by-step. The Bible's Antichrist is their Mahdi. We know that the rider on the white horse in Revelation 6 is the Antichrist. They use that verse to describe their Mahdi.

Why am I giving you all this? Because the description of the Mahdi is exactly the description of the biblical Antichrist, the beast of Revelation 13, and you go into any kind of a study of that and you will find that all the details match up perfectly. The Bible's Antichrist is Islam's Savior and world conqueror who establishes a universal Islamic kingdom.

b. ***The Prophet.*** -

And there's a second sign, a second person, and it is Jesus. The Mahdi is not Jesus. The Mahdi is greater than Jesus, and that's important to their system because if you have somebody greater than Jesus then the Christians were wrong. So Jesus will return. Yes, Muslims believe that Jesus will come again. They believe in the return of Jesus, not the true Jesus, the Jesus of Islam, not God, didn't die, didn't rise, didn't provide a sacrifice for sin, but he does return. He's a prophet and he comes back and he has one purpose when he comes back and that is to assist and aid the Mahdi. He returns, listen to this, as a radical Muslim. He comes back as a radical Muslim. He will arrive, by the way, at a minaret near Damascus. And he will come back holding the wings of two angels who flew him down to meet the gathering army of the Mahdi in the east, the army of the black flags.

Jesus when he comes back will pray to the Mahdi who is greater than he. He will acknowledge the Mahdi as his lord. He will make a pilgrimage to Mecca. He will worship Allah and thus he will lead all Christians who will follow him to reject their notion of Jesus and accept the real Jesus who is nothing but a prophet and a man. He will establish worldwide Sharia law. He will become the greatest Muslim

evangelist and he will be the final witness on the day of judgment against non-Muslims. Christians everywhere will affirm that they were wrong, that the gospel is wrong, the New Testament is wrong, He didn't die, He didn't rise, He isn't God, He isn't the Son of God. He Himself will come back and point out how wrong we've been. He will correct all misinterpretations and all misrepresentations.

Let me quote what their literature says. "He will shatter crosses." That's metaphoric for the destruction of the church, a symbol of Christianity being placed in the church. He will kill pigs. He will abolish the tax on non-Muslims because there won't be any living non-Muslims, can't tax dead people. And then he will do one more thing. He will kill the Islamic Antichrist. He will kill the Islamic Antichrist. Then he will die and be buried by Mohammed, but not until he has destroyed Christianity by revealing who he really is.

Who is this? You compare what he does to the false prophet in the book of Revelation, chapter 13, 16, 19, 20 refer to the beast coming out of the earth, the false prophet, who aids and abets the Antichrist. He is as the Mahdi is the exact replica of the Antichrist, the Jesus prophet in Islam is the exact parallel to the

false prophet who aids and abets the Antichrist. One of their writings says he espouses the cause of the Mahdi. He is the Mahdi's executioner. He is the Mahdi's enforcer. He is the Mahdi's prophet. And it is he who kills the Antichrist.

### c. ***The Antichrist***

That leads me to the third person. The Antichrist will show up. The Muslims call him Dajjal, he is the great deceiver. He comes to earth on a mule and he's blind in one eye. He is an infidel. He is a false miracle worker, this Antichrist, this Islamic Antichrist. But you know who he claims to be? He claims to be Jesus, the son of God. He claims to be deity. He will attempt to stop the Mahdi and the true Jesus but the true Jesus will slaughter him.

This is their view of the true Christ. Our Jesus is their Antichrist. Our Antichrist is their redeemer. It is a satanic counterfeit that is in complete reverse. The army...this is a quote... "The army of Satan will be led by a person who will claim to be Jesus Christ." There will be a battle. The Muslim Jesus will fight the false Jesus and kill him and establish Islam forever. The truth is, the true Jesus will destroy the Antichrist and the false prophet and establish His Kingdom

forever. This is Satan's complete counterfeit, Muslim world domination. *John MacArthur. Grim Reality of the Last Days. Joel Richardson, Islamic Antichrist.*

Now in the end, will Islam win the jihad? With all their hate and desire to murder and banish Israel from the land. Will they be able to do so in a final way where Islam will occupy the land for the remainder of time..... No.

Unlike most nations - Israel has a clear prophetic future.

Neither Hamas nor Hezbollah or even Iran can change it!

I. The Roots of the Conflict

II. The Religion of the Conflict

**III. The Resolution to the Conflict**

The Bible talks of a time of great distress and trouble that is coming for Israel and the world. The hub of this distress will be centered in Israel and Jerusalem

Jeremiah 30 calls it "Jacob's Trouble"

## Daniel 12:1–2 (NKJV)

“At that time Michael shall stand up,  
The great prince who stands *watch* over the  
sons of your people;  
And there shall be a time of trouble,  
Such as never was since there was a nation,  
*Even* to that time.

And at that time your people shall be delivered,  
Every one who is found written in the book.

- <sup>2</sup> And many of those who sleep in the dust of the  
earth shall awake,  
Some to everlasting life,  
Some to shame *and* everlasting contempt.

## Zechariah 12:1–3 (NKJV)

**12** The burden of the word of the Lord against Israel.  
Thus says the Lord, who stretches out the heavens,  
lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit  
of man within him: <sup>2</sup> “Behold, I will make Jerusalem a  
cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples,  
when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> And it shall happen in that day that I will make  
Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all  
who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces,



though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.

#### Zechariah 12:8–9 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup> In that day the Lord will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David *shall be* like God, like the Angel of the Lord before them. <sup>9</sup> It shall be in that day *that* I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

#### Zechariah 12:10–11 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup> “And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for *his* only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn. <sup>11</sup> In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.

#### Zechariah 13:2 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup> “It shall be in that day,” says the Lord of hosts, “*that* I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, and they shall no longer be remembered. I will also cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to depart from the land.

## Zechariah 14:1–16 (NKJV)

- 14** Behold, the day of the Lord is coming,  
And your spoil will be divided in your midst.
- 2** For I will gather all the nations to battle against  
Jerusalem;  
The city shall be taken,  
The houses rifled,  
And the women ravished.  
Half of the city shall go into captivity,  
But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off  
from the city.
- 3** Then the Lord will go forth  
And fight against those nations,  
As He fights in the day of battle.
- 4** And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of  
Olives,  
Which faces Jerusalem on the east.  
And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two,  
From east to west,  
*Making* a very large valley;  
Half of the mountain shall move toward the north  
And half of it toward the south.
- 5** Then you shall flee *through* My mountain valley,  
For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal.

Yes, you shall flee  
As you fled from the earthquake  
In the days of Uzziah king of Judah.

Thus the Lord my God will come,  
*And* all the saints with You.

6 It shall come to pass in that day  
*That* there will be no light;  
The lights will diminish.

7 It shall be one day  
Which is known to the Lord  
Neither day nor night.  
But at evening time it shall happen  
*That* it will be light.

8 And in that day it shall be—  
*That* living waters shall flow from Jerusalem,  
Half of them toward the eastern sea  
And half of them toward the western sea;  
In both summer and winter it shall occur.

9 And the Lord shall be King over all the earth.  
In that day it shall be  
“The Lord *is* one,”  
And His name one.

10 All the land shall be turned into a plain from  
Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. *Jerusalem*  
shall be raised up and inhabited in her place from

Benjamin's Gate to the place of the First Gate and the Corner Gate, and *from* the Tower of Hananel to the king's winepresses.

<sup>11</sup> *The people shall dwell in it;*  
*And no longer shall there be utter destruction,*  
*But Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.*

<sup>12</sup> And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem:

    Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet,  
    Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets,  
    And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

<sup>13</sup> It shall come to pass in that day  
    *That* a great panic from the Lord will be among them.

    Everyone will seize the hand of his neighbor,  
    And raise his hand against his neighbor's hand;

<sup>14</sup> Judah also will fight at Jerusalem.  
    And the wealth of all the surrounding nations  
    Shall be gathered together:  
    Gold, silver, and apparel in great abundance.

<sup>15</sup> Such also shall be the plague  
    On the horse *and* the mule,  
    On the camel and the donkey,

And on all the cattle that will be in those camps.  
So *shall* this plague *be*.

<sup>16</sup> And it shall come to pass *that* everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

#### Revelation 19:11–20:1 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. <sup>13</sup> He *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. <sup>14</sup> And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. <sup>15</sup> Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the

fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. <sup>16</sup> And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written:

## KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS

<sup>17</sup> Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, “Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, <sup>18</sup> that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all *people*, free and slave, both small and great.”

<sup>19</sup> And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.

<sup>20</sup> Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.

These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. <sup>21</sup> And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

A few closing thoughts to take with you now and into the future as these things in the Middle East Continue.

1. Be careful not to let the current debates over Eschatology and Israel and its significance and future, and the past reading of history, that this has happened again and again, lull you into complacency regarding the Coming of Christ.

2 Peter 3:3–8 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, <sup>4</sup> and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of creation.” <sup>5</sup> For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, <sup>6</sup> by which the world *that* then existed perished, being flooded with water. <sup>7</sup> But the heavens and the earth *which* are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

<sup>8</sup> But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

2. Regardless of your position on eschatology and the future. If we are following the passion of Christ and the Apostles, we will see the Gospel as to the Jew first, then to the Greek and the lost condition of the Jews as a passion of Paul.

*Romans 9:1–4 (NKJV)*

*9 I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, <sup>2</sup> that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, <sup>4</sup> who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises;*

*3. All orthodox positions on eschatology believe in the literal return of Christ, to resurrect the dead and reward the saints and Judge all the Christ rejectors.*

So let's remind ourselves of what matters most. In the end, all of our errors in eschatology will be corrected, and the eternal place of all sinners will be permanent, so we we need to keep first things first. Jews and Gentiles without Christ will go to Hell  
So



## 1. Pray for Gentiles to be saved. this is clearly a means of hastening the coming of Christ.

### 2 Peter 3:10–12 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. <sup>11</sup> Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, <sup>12</sup> looking for and **hastening** the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

**σπεύδω**<sup>b</sup>: to cause something to happen soon—‘to cause to happen soon, to hurry up.’ σπεύδοντας τὴν παρουσίαν τῆς τοῦ θεοῦ ἡμέρας ‘making the day of God come soon’ or ‘hurrying up the day of God’ 2 Pe 3:12. It is also possible to render this meaning of σπεύδω in 2 Pe 3:12 as ‘doing your best to cause

Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). In [Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains](#) (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 663). United Bible Societies.

Luke 21:24 (NKJV)

<sup>24</sup> And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

Romans 11:25–26 (NKJV)

<sup>25</sup> For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. <sup>26</sup> And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written:

*“The Deliverer will come out of Zion,  
And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;*

**2. Pray for the Jews to be saved, this will lead the coming of Christ, for it will happen at the coming of Christ.**

Romans 11:25–32 (NKJV)

<sup>25</sup> For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles

has come in. <sup>26</sup> And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written:

*“The Deliverer will come out of Zion,  
And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;  
<sup>27</sup> For this is My covenant with them,  
When I take away their sins.”*

<sup>28</sup> Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers. <sup>29</sup> For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup> For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, <sup>31</sup> even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy. <sup>32</sup> For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.

The News is not all bad... It's bad news that gets all the attention, but God is doing some great and miraculous things throughout the earth, specifically among the Islamic nations. God is sovereignly saving muslims. There are testimony's of some

conversions among muslims that would be outside the box for many in the Reformed community of miraculous conversions and others thru the means of the power of the gospel in the midst of the a persecuted church. Take Iran for example, it is the fastest growing church in the world.. they have not church buildings, not steeples, very few Bibles, and in some places intense persecution, yet many are coming to faith in Christ even under threat of loosing their life for Christ. There governments leaders are desirous of the obliteration of Israel from the earth, yet many of their people are being saved by the very Messiah who came through that nation.

## Psalm 8:1–9 (NKJV)

- 1 O Lord, our Lord,  
How excellent *is* Your name in all the earth,  
Who have set Your glory above the heavens!
- 2 Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants  
You have ordained strength,  
Because of Your enemies,  
That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.
- 3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your  
fingers,  
The moon and the stars, which You have ordained,
- 4 What is man that You are mindful of him,  
And the son of man that You visit him?
- 5 For You have made him a little lower than the angels,  
And You have crowned him with glory and honor.
- 6 You have made him to have dominion over the works  
of Your hands;  
You have put all *things* under his feet,
- 7 All sheep and oxen—  
Even the beasts of the field,
- 8 The birds of the air,  
And the fish of the sea  
That pass through the paths of the seas.
- 9 O Lord, our Lord,  
How excellent *is* Your name in all the earth!

Ephesians 6:23–24 (NKJV)

<sup>23</sup> Peace to the brethren, and love with faith,  
from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>24</sup> Grace *be* with all those who love our Lord  
Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.