

THE GOAL OF WORLD DOMINATION

Series: JESUS vs JIHAD

“What Bible Prophecy says about World Events”

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Intro: The story of Mohamed Bouazizi

**THUS BEGAN A WAVE OF UPRISINGS THAT CAME TO BE KNOWN AS THE
“ARAB SPRING”**

1. The False Hope of the Arab Spring

In the early stages of the Egyptian uprisings, there was cooperation between Egyptian Christians and Muslims. But soon, Muslim extremists and hard-liners infiltrated the Arab Spring movement and turned it into an opportunity to terrorize and kill Christians.

So the hope of the Arab Spring proved to be a mirage.

2. The Global Caliphate

Ever since Islam began---its goal has been the foundation of a world empire.

- ❖ Islam experienced a phenomenal expansion under “Umar in al-Khattab”, the second caliph. Under Umar, Muslim armies swept through present-day Iraq and Iran, and on into central Asia and Pakistan and India, within 100 years after Muhammad’s death.
- ❖ This empire began to decline by the end of the 10th century,
- ❖ But by in the 15th through the 18th century---it saw a resurgence. It formed **three powerful empires---**
 - Mughal in India
 - Safavieh in Iran
 - **Ottoman** Empire in present-day Turkey
 - Islam spread into many regions in Africa, Asia and the Middle East---were millions converted to Muslim either voluntarily or at sword point.
- ❖ By the end of the 16th century---the Ottomans had conquered—
 - Greece, Bulgaria, Turkey, Constantinople--- a long time safeguard of Christendom, fell in 1453 and became **“Istanbul”**, the Ottoman capital.
- ❖ The advance of the Ottoman Empire continued **until 1529**, when the Ottomans were stopped at the gates of Vienna.

That is all ancient History--BUT WHAT IS ANCIENT HISTORY TO US---IS YESTERDAY’S NEWS TO MUSLIMS.

3. How do Militant Muslims View Christianity

Militant Islamists view Christianity as the foremost foe of Islam. Christianity blocks the advancement of Islam on virtually all: Geographic, Historical, Ideological ----fronts.

Islamists resent Christianity **for 4 primary reasons:**

1. Islamic militants see **Christianity as the primary expression of infidel values and practices.**

Because the Islamists mistakenly assumes that Christian values pervade Western civilization in the same way Islamic ideology pervades the Muslim world, they identify all of our culture’s ills with Christianity.

2. Due to number of Christians in the world, and the history of the Crusades, Islamic extremists see Christianity as the most potent ideological threat they face.

Far more than other religions, communism or atheism. If Islam's most potent foe can be subjugated, then all other foes can easily be eliminated.

3. Muslims regard Christianity as an impotent ideology.

- Muslim extremists regard Christians themselves as soft, passive targets.
- Muslims look at our Western tolerance and freedom.
 - They interrupt it as weakness they can exploit to subjugate us.

America, has made a seemingly suicidal decision not to defend its culture from being infiltrated and undermined by Islamists----They are busily taking advantage of our laxness.

4. Islamic extremists see the Christian West, especially the United States, as being responsible for many of the social ills people suffer in the Middle East. like---

- Poverty, Ignorance, Unrest, And Oppression.

ABOVE ALL----

- Islamists blame the US for the establishment and continued existence of the "State of Israel.
- They also resent America for establishing US military bases in Saudi Arabia and other Muslim nations.
- They blame America for corruption Muslim culture with Western entertainment and attire.

5. Islam's "Holy War" against Christianity

As a result of this growing resentment, Christians around the world have been targets of violence perpetrated by Muslim extremists.

Examples:

- Muslims have wage a 20 year old war against Christians in Sudan.
- The departure of US forces from Iraq—has led to intense persecution of Iraqi Christians.
 - Over ½ of the native Iraqi Christians---are gone due Islamic Jihad
- 100's of thousand "Coptic Christians" have fled since the downfall of Hosni Mubarak, rise of Islamic fundamentalists groups.

Moderate Muslims point out that the Koran actually blesses Christians and Jews. (**Koran 2:62**)

At first glance----

It would seem as Islam considers Jews, Christians, Sabaeans---to be blessed by Allah.

But Muslim scholars generally interpret this verse **as a blessing on the Christians and Jews who lived before Muhammad came** and delivered the "complete revelation" of the Koran.

Not a blessing of the Jews and Christians of Today.

In Fact----Most of the verses in the Koran preach "intolerance"—the Koran tells Muslims to:

- "fight those who believe not in Allah nor the last day" (**Koran 9:29**)
- "kill unbelievers who do not offer you peace—slay them wherever you catch them" (Koran 2:19; 4:91)
- "take not the Jews and Christians for your friends" (Koran 5:51)
- "Jews and Christians believe in superstition and false worship (Koran 4:51)
- "Allah will not forgive those who believe in the Trinity" (Koran 4:48; 28:62-64)
- "Christians (because of the belief that Jesus is God) will burn in the fires of hell (Koran 5:72)
- "Christians are perverted for believing that Jesus is the "Son of God", that belief invokes God's destruction on them (Koran 9:30; 19:35-37)

Muslims who wish to attack and persecute Christians can find support for their actions throughout the Koran.

6. Islam at War with Itself

Why do Muslims kill other Muslims?

This comes from a centuries-long conflict between "**Sunni**" Muslims and "**Shiite**" Muslims—a split that took place in the early years of Islamic history.

- **After Muhammad's death**-----his friend (1st convert of Muhammad's to Islam) "Abu Bakr" was named the first caliph. He was Muhammad's close adviser and father-in-law".
- The choice of Bakr to lead the Islamic community—disappointed "Ali ibn Abi Talib" another of Muhammad's relatives and friend. Ali considered himself to be the true heir and successor of Muhammad, but he did not assume power until two other successor, the 2nd, 3rd, caliphs had died.
- After Ali was named caliph, a power struggle ensued and Ali was assassinated during his prayers by "Abd-al-Rahman ibn Muljam" —who stabbed him with a poison dagger.
- After Ali's death, his oldest son, "Hasan ibn Ali" claimed that, as Muhammad's grandson, he was next in line to lead the caliphate.
- The struggle that followed split the Muslim empire into **two fractions**.
 - **1st—group** "Shiites"---"Shi-at Ali" (the party of Ali"—which supported the descendants of Ali as the rightful rulers of the Islamic world. They became known as the "**Shiites**"
 - **2nd—group** become known as the "**Sunnis**" (the followers of "sunna" or path of the prophet Muhammad).

Hasan ibn Ali—was later poisoned and his brother Hussein ibn Ali was beheaded at the Battle of Karbala"

- **The Shiites** still hold a grudge against the Sunnis, feeling aggrieved over the death of Hussein more than 13 centuries later. Shiites believe that the descendants of Ali are the "Imams" (Leaders). Shiites believe in a continuing revelation of Allah through the imams.—therefore, the imams are the only ones capable of properly interpreting the Koran.
- **The Twelver Shiite** sect teaches that the 12th Imam----(Muhammad ibn Hasan al-Mahdi) went into hiding in the 9th century and will remain hidden until the Last Days, when he will be revealed as the "Mahdi". He will emerge along with "Isa" (Jesus) to establish a global Caliphate and a golden age of peace and righteousness. Twelver Shiites believe that until the 12th Imam returns, every Muslim must place himself under the authority of an "Ayatollah" (holy man). This belief has given rise to a strong clergy and ridged religious hierarchy. Ayatollahs wield enormous power in Shiite culture.
- **In the 16th century**, Twelver Shia Islam became the official religion of Persia (Modern day Iran) The clergy became increasingly powerful and developed a tradition of opposing the political state, claiming that the state owed religious obedience to the clergy.
- **In 1906**, the Shiite clergy in Persia lead a revolution that established a constitution and caused the fall of the 200 year old Qajar dynasty. This gave rise to the Pahlavi Shah, Reza Shad, and the fall of the second, Muhammad Shah.
- **In Iran**, the Ayatollah Khomeini played on the Twelver Shiite's expectation of the return of the Twelfth Imam. Khomeini claimed to be a linear descendant of Ali and took the title of Imam, encouraging his followers to believe that he might be the long-awaited Mahdi.
- After leading the successful ouster of Muhammad Reza Pahlavi, Shah of Iran, Khomeini reshaped Iran to conform to his ideology. Most importantly, he restructured the government so that the clergy would have absolute control.
- Next, Khomeini worked to export his concept of theocratic government to other nations. He declared that Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein was "Muawiyah" (the original antagonist of Ali from 14 centuries ago) returned from the grave to kill Khomeini.

- So---Hussein, fearing that the Iranian Revolution would spread to his own country, attacked Iran in late 1980. Thus began an 8 year border war. Where both countries paid a heavy financial and human life toll for the conflict. The war killed or wounded as many as: 1,000,000 Iranians and 300,000 Iraqis, Costing each side an estimated---500 Billion dollars---devastating the economies of both nations.
 - **It is said:** "The economic toll on Iraq may have prompted Saddam Hussein to invade Kuwait in Aug 1990---as an attempt to seize Kuwait's vast oil wealth."
 - A second motive for the invasion of Kuwait was the ancient rivalry between Shiites and Sunnis. As Kuwait has predominantly Shiite population, and the leader of the oil-rich Saudi Arabia is Sunni. Once Kuwait fell, it seemed likely that Iraq might continue on into Saudi Arabia, igniting an open Shiite-Sunni war. That prospect is one of the principle reasons the US defended Kuwait and invaded Iraq.

In this brief survey of Islamic history,----- The facts becomes clear:

- Almost since its inception, Islam has been at war with itself.
- Century after century, caliphs and imam and ayatollahs and warriors have battled and killed one another in order to prove themselves to be the purest, most zealous, most dogmatic Muslims of all.

7. A sect within a Sect: Wahhabism

The particular brand of Islam espoused by Osama ben Laden and his al-Qaeda confederates is "Wahhabism". Though this branch of Islam was instrumental in creating the Saudi monarchy, the Wahhabist sect now seems intent on bringing down the Saudi monarchy.

- Wahhabism fiercely opposes anything viewed as "**bidaa**" (modernity).
- Wahhabis despise any social or technological change that appears to deviate from the fundamental teachings of the Koran.
- Wahhabis also believe their faith should never yield any ground in any land that Islam has conquered.
- The ferocity of Wahhabi fighters is legendary. An Arab historian in the 18th century wrote of the Wahhabs:
 - "I have seen them hurl themselves on their enemies, utterly fearless of death, not caring how many fall, advancing rank after rank with only one desire---to defeat and annihilation of the enemy. They normally give no quarter, sparing neither boys nor old men"
- Wahhabis advocate strict punishments for violators of the Koran:
 - Thieves have their left hand amputated, Adulterer's ae stoned to death, Murders and sexual deviants are beheaded.

Since "King Abdul Aziz ibn Saud" unified Saudi Arabia in 1932, the royal dynasty has had to balance the demands of modernization against the intolerant beliefs of the Wahhabis.

No one knows how many Muslims in Saudi Arabia adhere to Wahhabis.

- Some Estimates range from 10% to as high 70%
- We know that at least 10 of the 911 hijackers came from Saudi Arabia and very likely were Wahhabis.

In recent years, moderate Islamic governments around the Persian Gulf have faced increasing opposition and unrest within their populations. In response, some of these governments have become more radical in order to appease the extremists within their borders.

The growing trend in Muslim countries has been toward Islamic fundamentalist ideology. The Muslims of every sect are becoming radicalized and are infiltrating and challenging Western culture.

Extreme Islam seeks to destroy our culture, our Faith, and the nation of Israel.

The means is-----"Jihad" (Next Week)

DEFINITIONS SHEET

bidaa": anything viewed as modernity. (anything of modernization)

Imams: considered to be sinless and virtually infallible leaders in all spheres of life, including politics in Islam.

JIHAD: *holy battles*

Mahdi—a messianic figure destined to lead the Muslims to victory before the end of the world.

Ottoman Empire, empire created by Turkish tribes in Anatolia (Asia Minor) that grew to be one of the most powerful states in the world during the 15th and 16th centuries. The Ottoman period spanned more than 600 years and came to an end only in 1922, when it was replaced by the Turkish Republic and various successor states in southeastern Europe and the Middle East. At its height the empire encompassed most of southeastern Europe to the gates of Vienna, including present-day Hungary, the Balkan region, Greece, and parts of Ukraine; portions of the Middle East now occupied by Iraq, Syria, Israel, and Egypt; North Africa as far west as Algeria; and large parts of the Arabian Peninsula.

Sabaeans: Idol worshipping people in modern day "Yemen"

Shiite: is a denomination of Islam which holds that the Islamic prophet Muhammad's proper successor as Caliph was his son-in-law and cousin Ali ibn Abi Talib.

Twelver Shiite sect: teaches that the 12th Imam----(Muhammad ibn Hasan al-Mahdi) went into hiding in the 9th century and will remain hidden until the Last Days, when he will be revealed as the "Mahdi"

Sunni: whose adherents believe that Muhammad's father-in-law Abu Bakr, not Ali ibn Abi Talib, was his proper successor.

Wahhabis: are the official form of Sunni Islam in 21st century Saudi Arabia, is a major factor behind the rise of such groups as al-Qaeda, ISIS. Founded by "Abu al-Wahhab" (1703-1787).