

# Preface

**I**t is my hope that this will not be taken as a hysterical shout from the rooftops that “the world is coming to an end!” I am not suggesting that anyone sell all that they own, or start hoarding food and move to a cave in the hills. To be frank, this book was written with full awareness that most people regard the topic of the *end times*—as well as those who profess interest—with a sense of wariness often reserved for the odd individual who is talking to himself on the street corner or, perhaps, the stray dog that appears to be foaming at the mouth.

Nonetheless, the implications of the realities addressed here are of such magnitude that I could not sleep soundly without having made an attempt to share them with those who would not normally delve into such topics.

In the following pages, some assertions will be made—namely that we are living in the days referred to by students of prophecy as the “end times.” Indeed, the very premise of this book is based on the notion. Still, no attempt is made to forecast a date for the Second Coming of Christ. My intention is simply to point the way toward some signs and raise some questions for the reader to consider.

Thus, what follows is essentially a crash course in Islamic history, Bible prophecy, and current events, as they relate to eschatology, or the “study of the end times.” It is a distillation of facts and data gleaned from the Bible, as well as dozens of current books and articles that explore the topics of end-times prophecy and the religion of Islam.

This book was written for the “non-Bible scholar” who desires to know the truth concerning the end times but who has been disc-

ouraged by the host of contradictory teachings that flood the bookshelves and airwaves today.

The observations made herein are based on sound, verifiable data. Where Scripture is referenced, it is done so with respect to its proper context within the Bible. Moreover, there has been no attempt to twist or distort the meaning of any passage in order to force conformity to the ideas presented.

Even so, I ask that the reader not take anything suggested here for granted but to test everything for themselves by reading the referenced verses within the full framework of the Bible and also by verifying the historical data that is cited.

The Islamic role in the end times is a broad topic; therefore, we will approach it much like one might undertake the assembly of a large puzzle: methodically laying out the individual pieces and then proceeding to fit them together, until an overall picture begins to emerge. It is in many ways a startling picture, but it is also one which reminds us that God is in control, as the ancient Bible prophecies begin to unfold before our eyes.

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# Introduction

**I**t has been said that “*For those who want to believe, no facts are necessary, but for those who do not, no amount of evidence will ever be enough.*” This statement highlights what is, perhaps, one of life’s most simple truths: There are some who require little or no proof in order to accept something as fact, while others cannot see beyond their own preconceived notions and are consequently *blinded* by what they already *know* to be the true.

Fortunately, many of us fall somewhere in-between these two extremes, relying on good old-fashioned common sense, as well as a reasonable amount of data from which to draw upon, as we solve life’s puzzles.

Our legal system is, of course, grounded in this same reasoning. For instance, in a civil case, a “preponderance of evidence” is considered sufficient to enable the rendering of a sound judgment on any given matter.

It is with this in mind that I invite the reader to consider some very compelling evidence: It involves a phenomenon that many students of the Bible have only begun to awaken to and is radically changing the way in which many view the religion of Islam.

As recently as a century ago, the region that we generally refer to as the “Middle East” was dominated by an Islamic Empire, which, at the time, was united under a series of monocratic leaders known as “Caliphs.” Spanning much of Southeastern Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa, this empire was extraordinarily immense and, many would add, equally as oppressive.

At the end of World War One, after more than six centuries of conquest, the Ottoman Empire collapsed, reducing this once great kingdom to a scattering of feuding Muslim states. The Islamic

world has since been one without unity, as well as the authority and prestige that accompany it. However, in light of what the Bible forecasts, it appears that this may not be the case forever.

Many, today, would be surprised to learn that the demise of the Islamic Empire, as well as its ultimate regeneration into a malevolent superpower, is chronicled in the pages of the Bible. In fact, Islam itself is referenced throughout the Scriptures; though not mentioned by name, the parallels are indisputable. The Bible characterizes a worldwide “*worship*” movement that attempts to impose its rule, its laws, and its god, onto the inhabitants of the earth. According to the Scriptures, this satanically inspired governing system will persecute Christians and Jews—forcing all to submit to “*the beast*,” while eliminating those who will not.

Most people do not realize that we are currently witnessing a phenomenon that is unparalleled throughout all of history. Due, in large part, to the vast sums of oil money that have been coursing into the Middle East for decades—as well as a religion that requires its adherents to dominate the world for Allah—the once apparently lifeless Islamic Empire is slowly being brought back from the brink of extinction and is preparing to be reborn.

The world will one day marvel, as a coalition of Islamic nations takes shape, reuniting the Muslim world and giving rise to a *new* Islamic Empire. Shortly after the emergence of this new kingdom, it will fall under the rule of a highly venerated Muslim leader; though, most in those days will not grasp the significance of this.

Today, many Muslims are convinced that Islam’s destiny of world domination is drawing ever closer, and they are correct. Islam is certain to become a predominating force in the years ahead, and will bring about a time of chaos and destruction the likes of which mankind has yet to see.

The horrific events of those days will be recognized by many Christians as the “great tribulation.” The Bible tells us that these things must take place in the years immediately preceding the glorious return of Jesus Christ and the end of history as we know it.