

DAY 71: ISLAMIC ESCHATOLOGY & THE BOOK OF REVELATION

“Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to wage war against the rider on the horse and his army.” (Revelation 19:19)

I. A TIME OF DECEPTION

- A. Yahweh, God Almighty, in the form of Jesus Christ comes from heaven, leading an army (Revelation 19:11-18)
- B. The Great Tribulation is a time marked by deception
 - 1. The beast and the false prophet will deceive and amass followers
 - 2. They don't know the Father (John 16:2-3)
 - 3. People will bow down to the religion that the Beast presents
 - 4. Somehow people will believe that they can defeat Jesus and His armies

II. ISLAMIC ESCHATOLOGY

- A. Just as Christian believers are interested in understanding the End Times, Islamic believers are also interested in understanding Islamic prophecy about the End Times
- B. Many similarities between the Biblical and Islamic narratives of End Times events
- C. Islamic prophecy flips Biblical prophecy on its head
 - 1. The Biblical “good guys” are the Islamic “bad guys”
 - 2. The Biblical “bad guys” are the Islamic “good guys” (ie. the Antichrist)
- D. The Mahdi is Islam's awaited Messiah
 - 1. Shia and Sunni believers have some different views on End Times, but all of Islam teaches Muslim believers to await the arrival of the Mahdi
- E. Islamic signs of the Hour are divided into “lesser” and “greater”
 - 1. Lesser signs would compare to Biblical “birth pangs”
 - 2. The arrival of the Mahdi falls into the category of greater signs
- F. The Mahdi is considered the Khalifa of Allah
 - 1. The Khalif is the ruler of the Caliphate (the Islamic government)
 - 2. Holds a seat of religious, political, and military power
 - a) Like the Pope, President, and General all wrapped up in one
 - 3. The Mahdi is expected to be the final Khalif
 - a) There has not been a Khalif since 1923 when the office was abolished
 - b) ISIS tried to reinstate the Caliphate, but failed
 - 4. The “ummah” of Islam is like referring to the global church of Christianity
- G. The Mahdi is believed to be the one who will be victorious over the enemies of Islam

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- H. According to Islamic tradition, the Mahdi will gather a coalition of Middle Eastern nations that will attack and invade Israel (ISIS, Al-Qaeda, the Taliban view themselves as this army)
- I. It is believed that the Mahdi will rule the world from the Temple Mount in Jerusalem
 - 1. The Antichrist will exalt himself and set himself up on the Temple Mount ([2 Thessalonians 2:4](#))
 - a) The abomination that causes desolation
 - 2. It would seem that the same person is being described in both religions
- J. The Mahdi is the messianic savior figure of Islam
 - 1. Leading some Muslim believers to believe that the Mahdi will come, set up the Caliphate, bring an end to the Jews, and be supreme throughout the Earth
- K. It is believed that the Mahdi will rule for 7 years
 - 1. This is also mentioned in Biblical prophecy ([Daniel 9:27](#))
 - 2. A peace treaty, made with a priest from the tribe of Levi, will be upheld for 7 years
 - 3. This is what the Bible prophesies about the Antichrist
- L. When the Mahdi returns, Christians or Jews will only have two choices: to convert to Islam or be killed

III. THE FALSE JEWISH KING

- A. When Jesus returns from heaven on a white horse, Muslims are expecting Him to ride on a great white donkey across the sky, as the Antichrist, as the Dajjal, the Great Deceiver, the one who Muslims will defeat
- B. While it is speculation, it makes sense that those who are willing to fight against the armies of Jesus in [Revelation 19:19](#) are those who follow Islam
 - 1. The primary religion for those who live in the nations surrounding Israel
- C. According to Muslims, the Antichrist is the Jewish King
- D. Islamic prophecy has set Muslims up to believe that the Antichrist is their Messiah and that when the true Jesus returns, the He is leading Satan's armies