

# **Introduction to the End Time Scenario and Islamic Antichrist described in *God's War on Terror* by Walid Shoebat**

**by Jeremy James**

The information set out in Walid Shoebat's book, which he co-wrote with Joel Richardson, is so important, and of such burning relevance to our current world situation, that all born-again Christians ought to be familiar with it.

The full title of the book is *God's War on Terror: Islam, Prophecy and the Bible* (published by Top Executive Media, 2008).

This paper attempts to summarise the highly comprehensive and impressively detailed case made by Mr Shoebat and to encourage readers to check it out for themselves.

His arguments, which are set out in detail in a number of public presentations that he gave in the US, may also be found on YouTube.

## **Walid Shoebat's background**

Walid Shoebat was raised a Muslim in Israel by his Muslim Arabic father and his Christian American mother. Radicalised by the PLO and the Muslim Brotherhood, he participated in violent acts against Jews while still in his teens. As a sworn enemy of Israel, he sought further ways to undermine Judaism. While studying the Old Testament and trying to demonstrate its inferiority to the Koran, he was shocked to find that prophecy after prophecy in the Bible had come to pass exactly as the God of Israel said it would. This led him to study the Word of God in greater depth and, in due course, to convert to Christianity.

From his intimate knowledge of the Koran and the Hadith (the reliable sayings and acts of Muhammad), and the culture generally of Islam, he could see that many western commentators had failed to recognise just how much of Biblical prophecy was connected to the nations of Islam and their ancient animosity towards the Jewish people. Working on the basis that the Bible was much more literal than commonly supposed, he identified countless specific references to Islam in Biblical End Time prophecy. This in turn led him to propose an End Time scenario which comprised, in essence, a massive confrontation between Islam and Israel. While the central role of Islam in the End Time had been identified by several outstanding Christian scholars of the past – such as John Wesley, John Calvin, Martin Luther, Jonathan Edwards and Robert Anderson – it has been neglected or largely under-rated by modern scholars.

Mr Shoebat has appeared on numerous television programmes in America and elsewhere promoting his views, including CNN, Fox News and the BBC.

## **Short Summary of the Islamic End-Time Scenario**

From its foundation in 622 AD, Islam has been trying to establish itself as the only religion in the world. Its dramatic early successes were due to the brutal choice it gave to the nations it conquered – convert to Islam or die. The Koran contains many verses which call for the destruction of unbelievers, and is very specific about its contempt for both Judaism and Christianity.

Today Islam comprises around 57 nations and a total world population of some 1.3 billion. The principle of Jihad, aggressive expansion, is enshrined in the Koran. Many Muslims are returning to the fundamental principles of Islam and embracing Jihad. The ongoing radicalisation of millions of young Muslim men across the Middle East, Africa and Asia, and even in Europe and America, will ensure that global Jihad will only get worse. These radicals interpret the Koran to require the destruction of the state of Israel and then the overthrow of all western powers which oppose the introduction of Sharia law (the strict code of Islam, which has no regard to western principles of justice or the operation of democracy). The availability of modern weaponry, including nuclear devices, will ensure that the death toll, when the big clash comes, will exceed that of any war fought to date.

The Bible stated in numerous prophecies that the countries engaged in the massive End Time attack on Israel are those which currently surround Israel, all of which are Muslim. For example Psalm 83 alone, which deals with the dramatic events of the End Time, lists a number of geographical regions which will participate directly in the co-ordinated attack on Israel. According to the Psalm, these nations will say, “Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent; they are confederate against thee.” The geographical regions include Edom, Moab, Ammon, Gebal, Tyre, Philistia, Assyria, and the land of the Ishmaelites, the Hagarites and the children of Lot. The modern countries which correspond to these regions are all Muslim – Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Syria, Iran, Iraq, Gaza, and Turkey.

Biblical prophecy contains countless references to the End Time war that will precede the Second Coming of Christ. These may be found, in particular, in Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Daniel, Zechariah and the Book of Revelation.

The god of the Koran is the moon god, Allah, which the Bible identifies with Baal or Satan. Thus the Koran is a key element in Satan’s long-term plan to destroy both Judaism and Christianity. This is why it has so many passages and prophetic ideas which run parallel with, but counter to, those of the Bible. Satan cannot foretell the future, so he took the End Time prophecies of the Bible and wove them into the Koran and the Hadith, but he did so in such a way that he, and not Christ, would ultimately emerge victorious. The Koran has been so crafted that, when the events of the End Time begin to unfold, the majority of Muslims will see them as confirmation of the ‘prophecies’ made by Muhammad.

Many Muslims, especially the Shi'a, expect the imminent return of a great prophet whom they call the Mahdi. Though not referred to in the Koran, he is mentioned in six reliable collections of Hadith. The Mahdi is the return of the 12<sup>th</sup> and last Imam, who was born in 869 AD but who disappeared at the age of five. As the great world Redeemer, he will spearhead the global triumph of Islam. His coming will be opposed by a very powerful and very evil individual known as the Ad-Dajjal, whom the Mahdi will destroy in one final apocalyptic battle.

Walid Shoebat proposes that the Antichrist of Christianity will be the Mahdi of Islam, and that Islam will try to portray Christ (in his Second Coming) as the Ad-Dajjal.

The arrival of the Mahdi will be facilitated by the reintroduction of the Caliphate. The office of Caliph was continuously in existence from the foundation of Islam until 1924, when it was abolished following the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. The Caliph combines the religious and temporal leadership of Islam in one individual. If the leading Islamic countries succeed in setting aside their differences and agree the basis on which the Caliphate could be introduced, it would instantly become the most powerful political structure on the planet. It is precisely the kind of official position that the Mahdi could be expected to occupy on his return.

Based on his analysis of Biblical prophecy, Mr Shoebat sees a major role for Turkey in establishing the Caliphate and in uniting Islam under a single banner. The way would then be open for the creation of the pan-Islamic alliance referred to in Psalm 83 and the invasion of the tiny state of Israel with overwhelming military force.

We will now proceed to examine the evidence presented by Mr Shoebat and how the various pieces fit together to complete the End Time Islamic jigsaw.

### **The Mahdi as the Antichrist**

One of the main components of Mr Shoebat's thesis is that the Mahdi of Islam will be the Antichrist of Christianity. He argues this, not on the basis of historical speculation, but on the remarkable correspondence between the description of the Mahdi given in Islamic doctrine and the description of the Antichrist given in the Bible.

The Table on the next page gives a summary of these similarities. Mr Shoebat gives detailed information in his book to substantiate each of them. This doctrinal information about Islam, and in particular its prophetic significance, may not have been fully understood by Christian scholars. Some of the similarities relate to the actual persons of the Mahdi and the Antichrist, while others relate to the dark supernatural entity that will empower them.

Mr Shoebat emphasizes again and again that all the geographical areas which the Bible states will participate in the End Time attack on Israel are today part of Islam. He completely rejects the thesis that the Antichrist will arise from a European confederacy. In his view the revived 'Roman Empire' prophesied in the Bible will be that part of the Roman empire which lay in the Middle East, not the part which had its focus in Rome. The European Union will not play a central role.

<b>Similarities between the Mahdi and the Antichrist</b>	
1.	Both deny the Trinity and the Cross
2.	Both deny the Father and the Son
3.	Both deny Jesus as the Christ
4.	Both are called the greatest of all deceivers
5.	Both claim to be the Messiah
6.	Both lost and regained a kingdom
7.	Both have the power to work false miracles
8.	Both come riding on a white horse
9.	Both will change the law and the calendar
10.	Both deny women's rights
11.	Both rule over a kingdom with 10 regions
12.	Both claim the power of death in their title
13.	Both command colossal armies and military force
14.	Both honour their god with silver and gold
15.	Both advance the glory of their god through war
16.	Both condone the mass rape of enemy captives
17.	Both usher in a 7-year peace treaty with Israel
18.	Both use peace as a means to achieve military objectives
19.	Both break treaties
20.	Both use war to garner booty and increase their wealth
21.	Both desire world domination
22.	Both lead a Turkish-Iranian invasion of Israel
23.	Both claim to embody divine qualities
24.	Both ascended to heaven (as Muhammad and Lucifer)
25.	Both are associated with Angels of Light
26.	Both perceive themselves as Beings of Light
27.	Both are filled with extraordinary pride and self-regard
28.	Both have authority over demons
29.	Both are called 'Son of the Dawn'
30.	Both boast of their power to afflict
31.	Both came down from heaven
32.	Both are possessed by a supernatural entity
33.	Both use beheading to execute their victims
34.	Both seek the destruction of Israel
35.	Both occupy the Temple Mount in Jerusalem

## **Prophecy shows that Christ is coming in Person to crush Islam**

The Lord Jesus is coming in person to destroy the armies of the Antichrist. Mr Shoebat shows that even where born-again Christians accept this fact, they fail to recognise that the Bible actually gives a number of details about the way his campaign will be conducted. He does not destroy all the armies of the Antichrist in a single instant – though he could – but leads his heavenly host against different wings of the Antichrist coalition. This means also that his army, which will comprise the Elect Angels, the Raptured and the Risen Dead, will not merely observe but will have an active role in the End Time battles.

Taking just one short prophetic book, Habakkuk, Mr Shoebat shows how a very specific End Time campaign is being described:

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. (Habakkuk 2:3)

Then shall his mind change, and he shall pass over, and offend, imputing this his power unto his god. (Habakkuk 1:11)

Yea also, because he transgresseth by wine, he is a proud man, neither keepeth at home, who enlargeth his desire as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all people: God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise. (Habakkuk 3:3)

I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction: and the curtains of the land of Midian did tremble. (Habakkuk 3:7)

This is a definite End Time prophecy, which “will surely come.” The Antichrist will embark on one course of action, then change his mind and adopt another course. He will ascribe all his power to his god (Satan). His appetite for gore and bloodshed is immense. The term “by wine” is a reference to the important role that oil plays, and will continue to play, in the world economy and to the control that the Antichrist coalition exercises through this valuable commodity. He will enlarge his powerful military confederacy but the Lord Jesus will oppose him in Teman and Paran – Saudi Arabia. This part of the great End Time conflict will also extend to the land of Cushan and Midian – Cushan includes modern Sudan and Somalia.

Lest Christians think this End Time scenario is revealed only in the later prophets, Mr Shoebat cites the extraordinary prophecy given in the Book of Numbers:

I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth. And Edom shall be a possession, Seir also shall be a possession for his enemies; and Israel shall do valiantly. Out of Jacob shall come he that shall have dominion, and shall destroy him that remaineth of the city. (Numbers 24:17-19)

This prophecy was given by Balaam to Balak in the early years of the Exodus, around 1400 BC. Thus we can see that as early as the Pentateuch, the LORD was telling his people what the Messiah would do on their behalf when he came as King. The geographical regions cited – Moab, Edom and Seir – are all south east of Israel and embrace much of today’s Saudi Arabia. In short, part of Christ’s campaign against the Antichrist will be conducted in that region.

This is confirmed in very stark and dramatic terms by Ezekiel in chapter 35:

Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O mount Seir, I am against thee, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate. I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I am the LORD. Because **thou hast had a perpetual hatred**, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword... (Ezekiel 35:3-5)

Thus will I make mount Seir most desolate, and cut off from it him that passeth out and him that returneth. And **I will fill his mountains with his slain men: in thy hills, and in thy valleys, and in all thy rivers, shall they fall that are slain with the sword.** I will make thee perpetual desolations, and thy cities shall not return: and ye shall know that I am the LORD. Because **thou hast said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas the LORD was there:** (Ezekiel 35:7-10)

And thou shalt know that I am the LORD, and that **I have heard all thy blasphemies** which thou hast spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, They are laid desolate, they are given us to consume. **Thus with your mouth ye have boasted against me, and have multiplied your words against me: I have heard them.** Thus saith the Lord GOD; When the whole earth rejoiceth, I will make thee desolate. As thou didst rejoice at the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so will I do unto thee: thou shalt be desolate, O mount Seir, **and all Idumea, even all of it:** and they shall know that I am the LORD. (Ezekiel 35:12-15)

References to Mount Seir and the land of Seir (or Idumea) are references to the land where Esau and his descendants, the Edomites, made their home. This would embrace a great part of Saudi Arabia. Ezekiel stresses that the whole of Idumea (“all Idumea, even all of it”) will be caught up in this massive conflict.

The Saudi Arabian connection is confirmed in an earlier chapter of Ezekiel, where the land that will be made desolate by the Messiah will stretch from Teman, in today’s Yemen, to Dedan, an ancient city in central Saudi Arabia:

Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because that Edom hath dealt against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and hath greatly offended, and revenged himself upon them; Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also stretch out mine hand upon Edom, and will cut off man and beast from it; and I will make it desolate from Teman; and they of Dedan shall fall by the sword. (Ezekiel 25:12-13)

Note that Ezekiel 35 mentions their “perpetual hatred” against Israel. This hatred of the Jewish people, which is so characteristic of Islam, extends back to the earliest times – a truly perpetual hatred. The Messiah will slaughter vast numbers of the army of the Antichrist in this region because they tried to take “these two nations” or “these two countries” which belonged to the LORD, a reference to Israel (northern kingdom) and Judah (southern kingdom).

Ezekiel says also that the LORD heard all the blasphemies that the people of Idumea had directed against Him, how they had “multiplied” their blasphemies and their boasts against the LORD. Mr Shoebat later shows how this endless stream of blasphemies came in particular from one city in Saudi Arabia – Mecca, the city where the moon god is worshipped by millions of Muslims from around the world and from which endless invective is poured out upon Israel.

Isaiah takes up this theme, the total destruction of part of the army of the Antichrist in Saudi Arabia, in a remarkable passage in chapter 63:

Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah?  
this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his  
strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore art thou  
red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the  
winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was  
none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my  
fury; and **their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments**, and I will  
stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the  
year of my redeemed is come. (Isaiah 63:1-4)

Bozrah is south east of the Dead Sea, a town one would normally pass through when travelling from Saudi Arabia into Judea. Isaiah depicts the Messiah coming north out of Saudi Arabia, his clothes drenched with the blood of his victims, whom he has trodden down in his “anger” and “fury.” Remember, Saudi Arabia had just been a major protagonist in the genocidal attack against Israel in which hundreds of thousands of Jews were murdered.

A recurring theme in Mr Shoebat’s thesis is that modern born-again Christians have focused so much on God’s love that they have largely forgotten that it is bound up with his judgment and righteousness. The LORD has stated categorically that he will come and defend his people, the children of Israel, when as a nation they call upon Christ as their Messiah. In doing so he will avenge the appalling crimes committed against them.

Many modern Christians try to allegorise the End Time prophecies because they are uncomfortable with the Messiah in his role as King and Conqueror. They confuse the meekness of Christ in his First Coming with the judgment of Christ in his Second Coming. They find it hard to accept that the Lamb will dispense bloody judgment on a truly grand scale. As a result they fail to see what ought to be obvious, that the intense anti-semitism and hatred of the Islamic nations, the descendants of Ishmael and Esau, will ultimately culminate in the appalling destruction of Israel which they have long promised to carry out.

Christ himself stated that, as soon as the fig tree blooms, the time is close at hand, “even at the door” (Matthew 24:32). The fig tree is a well recognised Biblical symbol for Israel. This tree bloomed on 14 May 1948 with the foundation of the modern state of Israel and, as prophesied by Zechariah and others, the scattered children of Israel began to return in large numbers to the land promised to Jacob and his descendants.

Mr Shoebat challenges his readers time and again to ask themselves whether a single thing he describes is inconsistent in any way with what we know is happening in the Middle East, with the rapid rise of militant Islam, with the huge increase in military power amongst Islamic nations, and with the claim constantly repeated by numerous Islamic leaders that they will utterly destroy Israel and slaughter every Jewish inhabitant.

### **The Messiah in Egypt**

Another part of Christ’s campaign against the confederacy of the Antichrist will be conducted in Egypt.

The burden of Egypt. Behold, the LORD rideth upon a swift cloud, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it. And I will set the Egyptians against the Egyptians: and they shall fight every one against his brother, and every one against his neighbour; city against city, and kingdom against kingdom. (Isaiah 19:1-2)

But they [Judah and Ephraim] shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them. And the LORD shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod. (Isaiah 11:14-15)

These passages from Isaiah suggest that the Israeli airforce, led by the Messiah, will fly over Gaza (“the shoulders of the Philistines”) and attack Egypt, where they will wreak devastation. The chaos will be so great that the Egyptians will even turn upon themselves. Isaiah also includes in his description a reference to the Nile delta.

### **The Messiah in Lebanon**

The following passages from Isaiah show that the Antichrist will invade Lebanon and deal savagely with the Christian population of that country. The references to “after the manner of Egypt” and the slaughter of Midan would suggest that the attack upon Lebanon takes place after the above-mentioned events in Saudi Arabia and Egypt:

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD of hosts, O my people that dwellest in Zion, be not afraid of the Assyrian [i.e the Antichrist]: he shall smite thee with a rod, and shall lift up his staff against thee, **after the manner of Egypt**. For yet a very little while, and the indignation shall cease, and mine anger in their destruction. And the LORD of hosts shall stir up a scourge for him according to the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb: and as his rod was upon the sea, so shall he lift it up **after the manner of Egypt**. (Isaiah 10:24-26)



Behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, shall lop the bough with terror: and the high ones of stature shall be hewn down, and the haughty shall be humbled. And he shall cut down the thickets of the forest with iron, and **Lebanon** shall fall by a mighty one. (Isaiah 10:33-34)

The reference to “a mighty one” in verse 34 is a reference to the Messiah as King, vanquishing the enemies of Israel. Similar references may be found elsewhere in Isaiah:

Therefore saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts, **the mighty One of Israel**, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies: (Isaiah 24:1)

And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I the LORD am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, **the mighty One of Jacob**. (Isaiah 49:26)

It should be remembered that the slaughter that the Messiah will visit upon these various Muslim nations is in recompense for the awful crimes which they will have committed against the Jews of Israel and the Christians of Egypt and Lebanon. For example, Joel says:

And they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for an harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink. Yea, and what have ye to do with me, O Tyre, and Zidon, and all the coasts of Palestine? will ye render me a recompence? and if ye recompence me, swiftly and speedily will I return your recompence upon your own head (Joel 3:3-4)

Note that Tyre, Zidon and Palestine are the very places where Hezbollah and Hamas are based today.

### **The Messiah in Syria and Gaza**

At some stage during his campaign of liberation and judgment, the Messiah will turn his attention to Syria and Gaza. He may not actually enter these regions, however, since Scripture says they will be delivered up to Edom (Saudi Arabia), which presumably means the armies of the Antichrist. This would suggest that the Antichrist may have difficulty holding his coalition together and that internecine tensions may cause some of his factions to turn on each other:

And he said, The LORD will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither. Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of **Damascus**, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron: But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael, which shall devour the palaces of Ben-hadad. I will break also the bar of Damascus, and cut off the inhabitant from the plain of Aven, and him that holdeth the sceptre from the house of Eden: and the people of **Syria** shall go into captivity unto Kir, saith the LORD. Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of **Gaza**,

and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they carried away captive the whole captivity, to deliver them up to Edom: But I will send a fire on the wall of Gaza, which shall devour the palaces thereof: And I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod, and him that holdeth the sceptre from Ashkelon, and I will turn mine hand against Ekron: and the remnant of the Philistines shall perish, saith the Lord GOD. Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of **Tyrus [Lebanon]**, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom, and remembered not the brotherly covenant: But I will send a fire on the wall of Tyrus, which shall devour the palaces thereof. (Amos 1:2-10)

## **The Nations of Islam**

Jeremiah gives a chilling inventory of the nations which the Messiah, in person, will either destroy or subjugate in these cataclysmic End Time events:

*13:* And I will bring upon that land all my words which I have pronounced against it, even all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah hath prophesied against all the nations.

*14:* For many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of them also: and I will recompense them according to their deeds, and according to the works of their own hands.

*15:* For thus saith the LORD God of Israel unto me; Take the wine cup of this fury at my hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send thee, to drink it.

*16:* And they shall drink, and be moved, and be mad, because of the sword [the Messiah] that I will send among them.

*17:* Then took I [the Messiah] the cup at the LORD's hand, and made all the nations to drink, unto whom the LORD had sent me: [Note that the nations concerned are about to be specified.]

*18:* To wit, Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, and the kings thereof, and the princes thereof, to make them a desolation, an astonishment, an hissing, and a curse; as it is this day [This is a reference to the trials, both past and future, suffered by the children of Israel];

*19:* Pharaoh king of **Egypt**, and his servants, and his princes, and all his people; [this wide definition draws in **Sudan** and **Somalia**]

*20:* And all the mingled people, and all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines, and Ashkelon, and Azzah, and Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod [all are references to **Gaza**],

*21:* Edom, and Moab, and the children of Ammon, [**Saudi Arabia** and **Jordan**]

*22:* And all the kings of Tyrus, and all the kings of Zidon, and the kings of the isles which are beyond the sea, [**Lebanon** and **Turkey**]

*23:* Dedan, and Tema, and Buz, and all that are in the utmost corners, [**Yemen** and the **Gulf States**]

*24:* And all the kings of Arabia, and all the kings of the mingled people that dwell in the desert, [Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States again]

*25:* And all the kings of Zimri, and all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes, [**Syria**, **Iraq** and **Iran**]

26: And all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another, and all the kingdoms of the world, which are upon the face of the earth: and the king of Sheshach shall drink after them.

27: Therefore thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Drink ye, and be drunken, and spue, and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you.

28: And it shall be, if they refuse to take the cup at thine hand to drink, then shalt thou say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Ye shall certainly drink.

29: For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city which is called by my name, and should ye be utterly unpunished? Ye shall not be unpunished: for I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, saith the LORD of hosts. (Jeremiah 25:13-29)

The original word for “earth” in the phrase, “all the inhabitants of the earth” (verse 29), is *erets* (Strong’s H776). This is not a reference to the world or the planet as a whole, but to land or territory, often the land surrounding Canaan. The word *erets* appears about 2500 times in the Old Testament and is translated ‘land’ no fewer than 1500 times in the King James Bible. Thus we can see that, as Mr Shoebat points out, the interpretation of End Time prophecies must have particular regard to the way words like *erets* are translated. Serious misunderstandings can ensue if they depart too far from the perspective of a prophet writing in Biblical times.

### **The Role of Christians before and after the Rapture**

The End Time will witness both the Resurrection of the dead and the Rapture of the living. Here is how Daniel describes the former:

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. (Daniel 12:1-2)

Mr Shoebat suggests that Christians should spend less time debating the *timing* of the Rapture (*harpazo*) and more time discussing the *role* that Christians will play in assisting Christ after the Rapture. He points out that the great End Time war and the Rapture are mentioned *together* in no fewer than 6 places in the Bible:

Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people. Gather **my saints** together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice. (Psalm 50:3-5)

I have commanded **my sanctified ones**, I have also called my mighty ones for mine anger, even them that rejoice in my highness. The noise of a multitude in the mountains, like as of a great people; a tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together: the LORD of hosts mustereth the host of the battle. They come from a far country, from the end of heaven, even the LORD, and the weapons of his indignation, to destroy the whole land. (Isaiah 13:3-5)

I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: **thousand thousands** ministered unto him, and **ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him**: the **judgment** was set, and the **books were opened**...But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever...Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the **saints** of the most High; and the time came that the **saints** possessed the kingdom. (Daniel 7:9-10,18, 22)

Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and **all the saints** with thee. (Zechariah 14:3-5)

And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall **gather together his elect** from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. (Matthew 24:30-31)

The second chapter of Joel gives a remarkable description of the army of the Messiah and the role it will play, even down to street level battles and hand-to-hand combat:

Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: **a great people and a strong**; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. **A fire devoureth before them**; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and **nothing shall escape them**. The appearance of them is as **the appearance of horses**; and as **horsemen, so shall they run**. Like the

noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, **as a strong people set in battle array**. Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. **They shall run like mighty men**; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and **they shall not break their ranks**: Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and **when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded**. They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: **And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great**: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it? (Joel 2:1-11)

The words, “A fire devoureth before them” correlates exactly with Psalm 50:3 (already cited), which reads, “a fire shall devour before him.” This is the army of the saints fighting alongside the Messiah and destroying the forces of the Antichrist.

The army is fighting in glorified physical bodies. They cannot be killed. As the prophet says, when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. They are therefore the saints, the believers, who have been lifted unto the LORD at the Resurrection of the Dead and the Rapture of born-again Christians.

The Apostle Paul confirmed the truth of the Rapture and the immortality of the saints. He went even further and revealed “a mystery,” that is a truth not hitherto revealed in the Old Testament. This would appear to be the fact that *all* believers would be taken in the Rapture during the End Time, that it would occur “in a twinkling” (an instant), and that it would be preceded by the resurrection of *all* dead believers:

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. (1 Corinthians 15:51-53)

For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 4:15-17)

If you are a born-again Christian, then, dear reader, this is all about YOU. During the Rapture you will receive a glorified body and join the ranks of the army of the Messiah as he sets out on his campaign to destroy the Antichrist and rescue Israel from the millions of fanatics who are bent on her destruction.

Thus it is incumbent on all born-again Christians to consider their role in defending Israel, not just after the Rapture – as set out in the above passages from Scripture – but **before** it as well. Scripture is telling us, loud and clear, that this really matters to the LORD. And if it matters to Him, it should matter to us:

Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save...I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, and the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the **house of Israel**, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses. For he said, **Surely they are my people**, children that will not lie: so he was their Saviour. **In all their affliction he was afflicted**, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old. (Isaiah 63:1, 7-9)

This passage tells us that Christ shared in the afflictions suffered by the children of Israel and that he bore and carried them “all the days of old,” that is right up to the End Time. In the parable in Matthew 25 he refers to them as “my brethren” (verse 40). He intends to judge all nations in accordance with their treatment of the children of Israel.

This important message did not emerge only after it became clear that the Jews would be scattered among the nations but was emphasized right from the start:

And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee  
(Genesis 12:3)

## **The Book of Revelation**

The reader may have noticed that it has been possible to establish a great deal of information about the End Time without once quoting from the Book of Revelation. Mr Shoebat notes that many students of the End Time begin with Revelation and miss all that can be learned from the Old Testament prophets. The Second Coming of Christ is so important that it is mentioned repeatedly throughout the Bible. Thus the Book of Revelation should be seen, not as a separate prophetic statement about the End Time, but as a restatement, consolidation and expansion of earlier End Time prophecies.

All of these prophecies have the very same author – the LORD. Therefore they are completely consistent and, like all Scripture, shed considerable light on one another. Thus it is hardly ever necessary, according to Mr Shoebat, to seek an allegorical interpretation when the Bible’s own internal dictionary can be used to determine the meaning of the more difficult prophetic passages. He says that many End Time Bible scholars have made the mistake of taking what seemed to be the ‘obvious’ meaning behind apparently allegorical passages and are then obliged to overlook or downplay other passages which didn’t quite square with this ‘obvious’ interpretation. They have also relied too much on the Book of Revelation as their starting point or key text and failed to give equal weight to other End Time prophecies, especially those of lesser known prophets like Micah, Amos, Obadiah and Habakkuk.

This had led to an emphasis on the role of the European Union and Russia in End Time prophecy which, in his view, is not warranted.

### **Gog and Magog**

Mr Shoebat does not agree with those modern Bible scholars who treat the word *Rosh* in Ezekiel 38:2-3 as a proper noun and interpret it as a reference to “Russia.” In every other case where the word *Rosh* appears in the Bible – nearly 600 times – it is always translated as “chief of,” as in Rosh Hashana, the chief or first day in the Jewish calendar. For example, the King James Bible translates *Rosh* in Ezekiel 38:2-3 as “chief prince” -

Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince  
[*Rosh*] of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, And say, Thus  
saith the Lord GOD; Behold I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince  
[*Rosh*] of Meshech and Tubal: (Ezekiel 38:2-3)

He agrees with Tim Lahaye, author of the *Left Behind* series, that the land of Magog is part of, or contiguous, with the steppes of central Asia, sometimes known as Scythia, which runs along the rim of southern Russia. But he stresses that the Biblical focus is on Scythia itself and not on the sprawling land mass of Russia proper. Ancient Scythia was a ribbon of land stretching from Turkey through several central Asian states – Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan – all of which are Muslim today. And while Scythia may well have been included within the former USSR for a time, it would be a major error to conclude that this temporary annexation drew Russia proper into the mainstream of End Time prophecy.

Mr Shoebat’s view is reinforced by the fact that most Bible scholars today would accept that Magog, Meshach and Tubal are all in Turkey, along with two other locations mentioned in Ezekiel 38, namely Gomer and Beth Togarmah.

He attributes the ‘Russian’ interpretation to an error in the very popular Scofield Study Bible of 1909 and 1917, which made a somewhat bizarre association between the words Meshech and Tubal and the modern Russian cities, Moscow and Tobolsk, respectively. Modern Bible scholars would reject this – see, for example, map #21 in *The Moody Atlas of Bible Lands* (1985) which locates both Meshech and Tubal in modern Turkey, along with Magog, Gomer and Togarmah.

The word Gog itself derives from the name of an actual tyrant in ancient Turkey known as Gyges (which may be a royal title, like Csar or Khan). This link with Turkey is consistent with the five Turkish locations mentioned by Ezekiel. Gog is one of many names used in the Bible to designate the Antichrist, where a known historical figure or leadership position is used to designate the Antichrist or Satan’s emissary on earth. Other examples are the King of Babylon, the Prince of Tyre and the Pharaoh.

## Armageddon

Mr Shoebat states that many western scholars make the mistake of treating the military campaign in Ezekiel 38 and 39 as a separate one from that conducted by the Antichrist. They see it as a major crisis in world affairs which they believe is needed to bring the Antichrist to power in the first instance. Mr Shoebat believes that no such crisis is needed, that militant Islam and the planned reintroduction of the Caliphate will provide more than sufficient basis for the emergence of a figure with the power, authority and military objectives of the Biblical Antichrist.

There are several passages in Ezekiel 38 and 39 which show that the prophet is referring exclusively to Armageddon and the End Time, that is the same events described in the Book of Revelation:

So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and **I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.** Behold, it is come, and it is done, saith the Lord GOD; this is the day whereof I have spoken. (Ezekiel 39:7-8)

Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, **and they shall know that I am the LORD.** (Ezekiel 38:23)

These verses proclaim the final end to the profanation of the LORD's name and to the long-awaited commencement of the age in which all nations "shall know that I am the LORD." In accordance with other End Time prophecies, this must be Armageddon.

We know also that Christ the Messiah is actually present during the Gog Magog campaign since Ezekiel says:

So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, **shall shake at my presence**, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground. (Ezekiel 38:20)

And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that **my fury shall come up in my face.** (Ezekiel 38:18)

He confirms this in the following chapter:

So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, **the Holy One in Israel.** (Ezekiel 39:7)

The prophet is saying that the Holy One is **in** Israel.



Ezekiel also refers to the great shaking of the earth which will occur at this time. This is clearly a traumatic event, almost without precedent. And yet the Book of Revelation describes a similar cataclysmic geophysical upheaval when the Messiah returns. Why postulate two separate events of this magnitude, only years apart, when it would be more logical to conclude that the prophets, Ezekiel and John, are speaking about the same event? Zechariah also speaks of an enormous earthquake that will occur when the Messiah descends to the earth and his feet touch the Mount of Olives.

We also know for certain that Gog is the Antichrist since Ezekiel states:

Thus saith the Lord GOD; Art thou [Gog] he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years that I would bring thee against them? (Ezekiel 38:17)

This individual, of whom the prophets of Israel had long spoken, can only be the Antichrist.

Even Ezekiel's description of the battle of Armageddon is strikingly similar to that of Revelation. For example, both refer to the massive field of carnage on which the birds of the air will feast:

And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto **every feathered fowl**, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood. Ye shall eat **the flesh of the mighty**, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan. And ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken, of my sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you. Thus ye shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord GOD.  
(Ezekiel 39:17-20)

And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to **all the fowls that fly** in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and **the flesh of mighty men**, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great...And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.  
(Revelation 19:17, 18, 21)

It would seem unusually obtuse to argue that these descriptions refer to two separate events, only years apart. Ezekiel and John even refer to the role that heavy hailstones will play in this great battle:

And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and **great hailstones**, fire, and brimstone. (Ezekiel 38:22)

And there fell upon men a **great hail** out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great. (Revelation 16:21)

## Unlocking Biblical Symbolism

Mr Shoebat takes very seriously the injunction in 2 Peter:

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. (2 Peter 1:20-21)

He says, “The purpose of studying the Bible is to properly understand the meaning of any passage as the author intended it to be understood.” All Biblical prophecy has a specific meaning, as those prophecies which have already been fulfilled clearly demonstrate. It is the task of a dedicated Bible student to find the intended meaning in those prophecies which have not yet been fulfilled, not by treating prophecy merely as allegory – with many possible, usually abstract, meanings – but as a specific message with a very clear meaning which God intends man to understand.

To do this one must study the Bible’s own language, which is always internally consistent. Mr Shoebat cites several examples of symbols which have been misunderstood in the past, even though their meaning can be readily established by examining the various instances in which they are used. These include:

- Mountain:** When used symbolically *mountain* almost invariably means a kingdom or an empire. When *head* is used as a symbol, it too is very likely a reference to a kingdom, or a king (head) with his kingdom.
- Waters:** When used symbolically, *waters* (or *rivers* or *seas*) usually mean a nation or a people.
- Beast:** When used allegorically, a beast is an empire that follows a false religion, while the beast’s horn represents the empire’s leader.
- Name:** When it is not used to designate a proper noun, a name points to a person’s attributes. Thus it can also designate his beliefs or his creed.
- Fish:** When used symbolically, fish are followers.

- Stone/Rock:** When used symbolically, a stone or a rock means the Messiah.
- Tree:** When used allegorically, a tree (except the olive tree and the fig tree) usually means a fallen angel. A bird can have this meaning also.
- Stars:** When used allegorically, stars are angels. Stars that are cast down to earth are fallen angels.
- Woman:** When used allegorically, a woman is a spiritual entity (either good or evil).

### ***The Seven Heads are Seven Mountains***

Mr Shoebat argues that great confusion has arisen, not just from a failure to identify the allegorical meaning of the words just given, but by conclusions founded on poor hermeneutics (formal principles of interpretation). He refers in particular to Revelation 17:9 –

And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

This has often been taken to be a reference to the city of Rome since it sits on seven hills. But if mountains represent nations or empires, then this cannot be a reference to Rome.

Consider the verses which follow 17:9:

And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.

The woman is a spiritual entity associated with seven empires. Five of these empires had fallen by 96 AD; one was still in existence; and the seventh would come along, cease after a time, and reappear as the eighth. This seventh, or resurrected eighth, is described as a “beast,” that is an empire founded on a false religion.

So, in order to put the passage in an historical perspective, one must identify the eight empires that are referred to. If the Book of Revelation by itself does not supply the key, then End Time prophetic passages in other parts of the Bible must do so.

Mr Shoebat points consistently to the centrality of the Middle East – specifically Israel and the surrounding nations – as the focus of the Bible and its prophets. The empires must therefore be intimately linked to the history of Israel and the children of Israel. The empires which fit this description are:

1. The Egyptian Empire
2. The Assyrian Empire
3. The Babylonian Empire
4. The Persian Empire
5. The Greek Empire
6. The Roman Empire
7. The Ottoman Empire

These seven empires flowed one into the other, and in all cases they ruled or subdued Israel at some time or other. What is more, they progressively absorbed the entire Middle East. Even the Roman Empire, which comprised territory in both Europe and Asia, as well as North Africa, survived for far longer in the Middle East – as the Byzantine Empire – than it did in the west. (Mr Shoebat provides a number of maps which show the extent of these empires and the various nations involved – all of which are Muslim today.)

The eighth empire mentioned in Revelation 17 is therefore a revival of the seventh – the Ottoman Empire. This ceased to exist after World War I when the allies dismembered the Middle East and abolished the Caliphate in 1924. The resurgence of Islam in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century and its massive increase in both population and military power is, Mr Shoebat argues, compelling proof that a new Islamic (or revived Ottoman) Empire is in formation – just as the Bible predicted.

This revival of the Ottoman Empire is a fulfilment of the prophecy in Revelation which states that the beast would revive after receiving a deadly wound:

And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.  
(Revelation 13:3)

The Ottoman Empire lost its head, the Caliph, in 1924 – an office that that been filled almost continuously since the foundation of Islam in 622 AD. Thus it appeared that the beast (the Islamic empire) was dead and would never revive. But it has and is growing stronger by the day.

The power of this beast and the threat it poses to Christianity simply cannot be ignored. Christianity has been threatened with destruction on only two occasions in the last 1500 years. The first was when the armies of Islam invaded Spain and France and threatened to over-run the whole of Europe. Had they not been stopped (providentially) by the army of Charles Martel at Tours in 732 AD, the Christians of Europe would have been faced with the Satanic Islamic ‘choice’ – convert or die.

The second occasion was after the fall of Constantinople in 1453, when the armies of expanding Islam had taken a huge chunk of eastern Europe (Greece, Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary and the Balkans) and were threatening to capture Vienna. Had this key city fallen in 1529, when it was besieged by a powerful Muslim army, or had its army been defeated by the Muslims at the Battle of Vienna in 1683, Europe would have collapsed and Christians would have been persecuted and butchered on a grand scale.

The survival of Christian Europe during this period (1453-1683) was in doubt right till the end, when the Hapsburgs finally prevailed. Thus we can readily see why the Book of Revelation describes Islam as the beast, both under its old (seventh empire) guise and under its emerging (eighth empire) guise.

It should be noted also that the emergence of Islam in the first place was a disaster for Christianity. Within a hundred years of its foundation in 622 AD the forces of Islam had overrun the whole of the Middle East and north Africa – both of which were predominantly Christian. Thus more than half of Christianity was wiped out by Islam even *before* Europe itself came under threat.

If Mr Shoebat's thesis is correct, then it must account for the description of the empires given in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, which Daniel interpreted. The dream concerned a large statue of a man:

This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth. (Daniel 2:32-35)

Daniel explained to the Babylonian king that each layer represents an empire that will succeed his. These are:

1. Babylonian Empire [then existing]
2. Persian Empire
3. Greek (or Graeco-Roman) Empire
4. Islamic Empire.

The Roman Empire never extended so far east that it established control over ancient Persia or modern-day Iran and had little influence beyond the Euphrates. Thus it cannot be an empire which falls within the ambit of Nebuchadnezzar's dream. If it does figure, then it is only to the extent that it came from the same cultural and religious source as the Greek empire and absorbed it largely through its western rather than its eastern conquests. From a Babylonian perspective, Greece and Rome were much alike.

There is a very clear progression from one empire to another. The Babylonian Empire was crushed by the Persian Empire which in turn was crushed by the Greeks. This in turn was overrun by the forces of Islam. The reference in Nebuchadnezzar's dream to feet which were "part of iron and part of clay" is interpreted by Mr Shoebat to be a reference to the original Ottoman Empire (iron) and the newly emerging Ottoman (Islamic) empire (a mix of iron and clay). While the former was as strong as iron, the latter will be far more brittle and of much shorter duration.

## Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts

Later in his career, Daniel had a vision of four beasts which “came up from the sea,” that is from the multitude of nations:

The first was like a **lion**, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. And behold another beast, a second, like to a **bear**, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. After this I beheld, and lo another, like a **leopard**, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it. After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth **beast**, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had **ten horns**.

(Daniel 7:4-7)

Mr Shoebat notes, and most scholars agree, that these four beasts (or empires) correlate precisely with the four empires in Nebuchadnezzar's dream. This in turn provides valuable clues for interpreting certain details in the Book of Revelation. For example the beast with ten horns in Daniel 7 is the same as the beast with ten horns in Revelation 12, 13 and 17. (We noted earlier that “horn,” when used allegorically, means the leader of a nation or empire.)

Daniel's vision included two references to a “little horn”:

I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another **little horn**, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things. (Daniel 7:8)

And out of one of them came forth a **little horn**, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. (Daniel 8:9)

Scholars agree that this little horn represents the Antichrist, that is a leader of such power and influence that he manages to bring the other ten under his command.

This interpretation is fully consistent with the Book of Revelation. It should be noted that this Book was written by John the Apostle on the island of Patmos, off the coast of Turkey. Thus he could refer to the Roman Empire as a distinct political entity, while Daniel, who lived in Babylon, could not.

Here is how Mr Shoebat accounts for the ten horns in Revelation and the emergence of the “little horn” described by Daniel:

1. The Egyptian Empire	1 horn	
2. The Assyrian Empire	1 horn	
3. The Babylonian Empire	1 horn	
4. The Persian Empire	1 horn	
5. The Greek Empire	4 horns*	
6. The Roman Empire	1 horn	
7. The Ottoman Empire	1 horn	= 10 horns
8. Islamic Empire	1 horn	“little horn”

The Greek Empire under Alexander the Great famously broke into \*four separate kingdoms after his death, each ruled by one of his generals – Seleucus, Ptolemy, Cassander and Lysimachus. These correspond with Daniel’s vision of the **four-headed** Leopard (the Grecian empire).

### ***The People of the Prince that Shall Come***

The Book of Daniel contains the famous 70 week prophecy, the full meaning of which was explained so convincingly by Robert Anderson in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This referred to the time that would elapse between the signing of the royal edict to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem and the triumphant entry of the Messiah into Jerusalem. In the course of his prophecy, Daniel makes a reference to “the prince that shall come,” namely the Antichrist:

And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and **the people of the prince that shall come** shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. (Daniel 9:26)

Many Biblical scholars took the reference to “the *people* of the prince that shall come” as a clear reference to the Romans (and the Roman Empire), since Jerusalem was sacked by the Roman general, Titus, in 70 AD. Mr Shoebat challenges this assumption on the grounds that the majority of the *people* who *actually* destroyed Jerusalem were *not* Roman at all. Titus led the *eastern* legions of the Roman empire, not the western legions. Specifically, the four legions under Titus were Legion XV Apollinaris, Legion V Macedonica, Legion XII Fulminata, and Legion X Fretensis.

Most Roman soldiers were normally recruited from the regions in which the garrisons were located. Thus most of the soldiers in these four legions were not Italian (or European) at all, but Turks, Syrians and Arabs. For example, he quotes Josephus: “The greatest part of the Roman garrison was raised out of Syria; and thus being related to the Syrian part, they were ready to assist it.” With typical Roman expediency, Titus (like Vespasian before him) recruited and employed soldiers who, as natural enemies of the Jews, would have no reservation about committing genocide against them. It is estimated that over a million Jews died in the siege and destruction of Jerusalem.

Mr Shoebat concludes, therefore, that the people of the Antichrist will be the *same* people who sacked Jerusalem, namely Turks, Syrians and Arabs, and that the Antichrist will be a Muslim.

What is more, the Book of Revelation states that his empire will be located in the same broad geographical area:

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. (Revelation 13:1-2)

According to John, the empire (“beast”) of the Antichrist will comprise elements of each of the four empires identified by Daniel. These are Iraq (Babylonian/lion), Iran (Persian/bear) and Turkey/Syria (Greek/leopard). Thus the two prophets are describing the same region in slightly different ways. This region is entirely Muslim today and, with the apparent exception of Turkey, radically opposed to the existence of the state of Israel.

Mr Shoebat points to the rapidly evolving political situation in Turkey, the election of an Islamist party (the AKP) in late 2002, and the ongoing attempts to weaken the control which the secularists currently exercise over the Turkish military. Once this secularist element is neutralised, the Islamists will draw Turkey within the broad umbrella of radical Islam, thereby setting the stage for the emergence of the Antichrist.

### **The Mark of the Beast**

The meaning of the “mark of the beast” (Revelation 13) has long been a source of heated debate among Bible prophecy scholars. One of the great strengths of Mr Shoebat’s thesis is that it gives a very clear and consistent explanation of the meaning of this mark.

The relevant passages in the Book of Revelation are as follows:

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the **name** of blasphemy. (Revelation 13:1)

And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a **mark** in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the **mark**, or the **name** of the beast, or the **number** of his **name**. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the **number** of the beast: for it is the **number** of a man; and his **number** is Six hundred threescore and six (Revelation 13:16-18)



And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his **mark** in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the **mark** of his **name**.  
(Revelation 14:9-11)

And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his **mark**, and over the **number** of his **name**, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. (Revelation 15:2)

And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the **mark** of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image. (Revelation 16:2)

And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the **mark** of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.  
(Revelation 19:19-20)

And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his **mark** upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.  
(Revelation 20:4)

As we have already noted, “name” does not always designate a literal name, a proper noun, but may mean the attributes, nature or character of an individual. Many Biblical names are themselves an expression of the attributes, character or circumstances of the person concerned – for example, *Abraham* (father of a multitude), *Israel* (having power with God or God’s fighter), *Isaac* (laughter), *Esau* (hairy), or *Ichabod* (the glory is departed).

The Book of Revelation states specifically what the “name” of the beast means – “the name of blasphemy” (13:1). And as the beast is the Antichrist, one must expect his blasphemies to be of the worst kind: to claim to be God, to claim to be the Messiah, to deny the person of the Holy Spirit, to deny the Holy Trinity, to deny the cross – all of which are characteristics of Islam and the Mahdi. Thus the name of the beast designates, not just a form of blasphemy, but the highest and most Biblical form of blasphemy, the complete and utter rejection of Christ. As such the name of the beast is a creed or belief system which opposes Yahweh in the most forceful and deliberate way imaginable.

Mr Shoebat draws a parallel between this and two recurring proclamations in Islam which express its creed or “name” in a well understood and crystallized form. The first is the Shahadatan, which is such a potent creed or declaration of faith that to state it in public is to announce that one is and will always be a Muslim. In Arabic, the language of the Koran, the Shahadatan reads: “La ilaha il Allah, Muhammadan Rasul-Allah.” In English this means, “There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet.”

The second is the well-known “Bismillah,” a proclamation which means literally “In the Name of Allah.” It is a shortened, and universally recognised, version of the Arabic phrase, “In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful.” This phrase is without doubt the most frequently used religious slogan in Islam. It constitutes the opening words of 113 of the 114 chapters of the Koran and is written or recited ad nauseum by Muslims the world over, at the beginning of every letter, every ceremony, every speech, every sacred recitation, every meal, every task, and on many other occasions. In the course of his lifetime, every Muslim could be expected to repeat this phrase thousands, if not millions of times.

From a purely Biblical viewpoint, both the Shahadatan and the Bismillah are profoundly blasphemous, not simply because they put another god in the place of Yahweh, but because, uniquely, they embody a belief system which deliberately opposes Yahweh. They are anti-Yahweh or Antichrist in the fullest sense.

Mr Shoebat points out that the Book of Revelation is a statement of what John was shown in his vision of the End Time and the events leading up to battle of Armageddon. When he saw the armies of the Antichrist he saw a mark or sign which was common to every member of that army but absent from the armies of Christ. What was this mark?

The letters for the “mark” or the “number” of the Beast in the original Greek manuscript of the Book of Revelation were Chi, Xi and Stigma – χξϚ

Or at least that is how it appeared to the copyists. Since letters were used to designate numerals, these were taken to represent the number 666. However some early copyists took the three letters to designate the number 616. This disparity was an indication that the original three symbols in Greek may not have been the letters Chi Xi Stigma, but something very similar.

Mr Shoebat reasons that the word “number” could as easily be translated “multitude” and that the word “name,” as already noted, could designate a “creed.” In which case ‘the number of his name’ could actually mean ‘the multitude of his creed’ – that is the vast number of people who follow the Antichrist religion. If that is the case, then it is reasonable to assume that each of these warriors, when arrayed in battle, was proclaiming his affiliation with this creed by wearing a religious armband or headband with an appropriate, universally recognised slogan or mark – John specifically notes that the warriors wore the “mark of the beast” on either their head or their arm. This mark could be one of the two credal slogans of Islam, the Shahadatan or the Bismillah. Mr Shoebat offers convincing evidence that it is in fact the Bismillah, or specifically the first two words thereof (*Bism* and *Illah*), preceded by the crossed swords of Islam.

When John had his vision he saw the Bismillah slogan on all the Antichrist warriors. It was the one thing that absolutely set them apart from everyone else. So, when he recorded the Bismillah image in his manuscript, the early copyists assumed the three symbols – the crossed swords followed by two Arabic words – were actually Greek letters (since the entire manuscript was otherwise in Greek).

### **The Whore of Babylon or the Woman in the Desert**

Many scholars have identified the whore of Babylon with the Roman Catholic Church. There are many parallels between the whore or decadent woman described in the Book of Revelation and the pageantry, militancy and apostasy of the Roman Catholic Church down through the ages. However, Mr Shoebat states that such an interpretation is simply not consistent with the rest of Biblical prophecy and that an interpretation should be sought which *completely* fits with the entire End Time scenario. (In saying this he does not appear to dismiss the possibility that the savage persecution of born-again Christians by the Catholic Church may have been a type, that is an instance where a Biblical prophecy is partly fulfilled by an intermediate entity or agency which happens to shed even greater light on the main subject of the prophecy. For example, Antiochus Epiphanes, who carried out an abomination in the Temple in Jerusalem in 167 BC, is generally taken to be a type of the Antichrist prophesied by Daniel, who will carry out a similar abomination.)

In fact, Mr Shoebat himself uses the type-based approach when he proposes that Babylon of old is actually a type of the “Mystery Babylon” mentioned in the Book of Revelation.

Both Isaiah and Revelation use the highly prophetic phrase, “Babylon [the great] is fallen, is fallen”:

And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, with a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, **Babylon is fallen, is fallen**; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground. (Isaiah 21:9)

And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, **Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen**, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. (Revelation 18:1-2)

This connection is extremely important since it links Isaiah’s prophecy, in all its details, with John’s vision. We know that Isaiah’s prophecy has not yet been fulfilled since the ancient city of Babylon was never actually destroyed. The Persians took it from the Babylonians by stealth, entering the city by night after diverting the river from the city walls. It was virtually a bloodless conquest which left the city completely intact. In the centuries that followed, as Babylon waned in political and commercial importance, it was never subjected to a destructive assault – certainly nothing of the kind envisaged by Isaiah – but simply faded away.

If one examines Isaiah's prophecy regarding the future destruction of Babylon, one will find several references to specific locations, but none of them are in ancient Babylon or the surrounding plain of Shinar. In fact, they are all in Arabia:

The burden of **Dumah**. He calleth to me out of **Seir**, Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will inquire, inquire ye: return, come. The burden upon **Arabia**. In the forest in **Arabia** shall ye lodge, O ye travelling companies of **Dedanim**. The inhabitants of the land of **Tema** brought water to him that was thirsty, they prevented with their bread him that fled. For they fled from the swords, from the drawn sword, and from the bent bow, and from the grievousness of war. For thus hath the Lord said unto me, Within a year, according to the years of an hireling, and all the glory of **Kedar** shall fail: And the residue of the number of archers, the mighty men of the children of **Kedar**, shall be diminished: for the LORD God of Israel hath spoken it.  
(Isaiah 21:11-17)

Arabia is actually referred to twice by name, while all of the regions or locations mentioned are in Arabia – Dumah, Seir, Dedan, Tema (or Teman) and Kedar. We have already made reference to Seir, Dedan and Teman. Kedar is a reference to the tribe of the Kedarites, descendants of Kedar, son of Ishmael, who lived in Arabia. Dumah was yet another of Ishmael's twelve sons, also based in Arabia.

If Isaiah had actually been referring to ancient Babylon in his prophecy, and not Arabia, he would surely have cited locations or regions found in the plain of Shinar (Sumer) – such as Ur, Susa, Der, Akkad, Sippar, Tekrit, Assur, Nippur, Eshnunna or Nineveh (See maps #60 and #64 in *The Moody Atlas of Bible Lands* (1985)). However, he made no reference to any of these.

Mr Shoebat cites several other prophetic references which identify Babylon with Saudi Arabia. He notes, for example, that Isaiah opens his prophecy about Babylon by referring to it as, “The burden [or oracle] of the **desert** of [or by] the sea” (Isaiah 21:1), while John in the Book of Revelation makes a special point of stating that the angel took him in spirit into the **desert** to see the harlot – “So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness [desert, *eremos*]: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.” (Revelation 17:3).

Isaiah's reference to “the desert by the sea” is very telling since the Arabian peninsula is a vast desert surrounded on three sides by the sea – the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, the Arabian Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea. No other desert region in the Middle East comes remotely close to fitting this description.

The angel said to John:

And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth. (Revelation 17:18)

Here he is referring, not just to Arabia, but to a particular city within Arabia. There are a few strong candidates – Riyadh, Jedda, Medina, Mecca, and Damman. However, the city must possess certain characteristics, notably it must have reigned over the kings of the earth and exercised significant spiritual control over them. Only one city fits this description perfectly – Mecca. Countless Muslim “kings” – leaders, monarchs, eminent magnates and religious dignitaries – from dozens of countries around the world have bowed to Mecca from time immemorial and submitted to its authority. This authority comes from its pre-eminent role in Islam, the holiest of holy cities and home of the sacred Ka’aba. The Koran stipulates in one of the five injunctions that are binding on all Muslims that they visit this holy city at least once in their lifetime. This pilgrimage, known as the *hajji*, is considered sacred by Muslims and is an acknowledgment by them that Mecca is the centre of world – not just the world of Islam, but of the world in every sense, as viewed by Allah.

The ultimate goal of Islam is to turn every person on earth into a *hajji*, someone who has visited Mecca and submitted unconditionally to the will of Allah. Thus no city of earth can compare in any way with Mecca in its profession of contempt for Yahweh and the Jewish religion. It is the complete inverse of Jerusalem or Zion, the City of David.

While there are several cities on earth today which are filled with corruption, vice, black magic and every type of perversion, their blasphemous – as distinct from sinful – nature is not remotely comparable with that of Mecca whose whole existence has been predicated on its outspoken and total rejection of Yahweh since 632 AD (and even before that time).

Mecca is the centre from which the darkest anti-semitic and anti-Christian rhetoric has been broadcast from the earliest times. It even contains a shrine to the moon god, Allah, known as the Ka’aba, which houses a fragment of a meteorite which fell to earth before Muhammad was born and which has been worshipped continuously ever since. The 1.3 billion Muslims in the world today consider it a privilege of the highest order to be allowed to kiss this shrine. On the other hand, if a Christian or a Jew were found in the city he would be executed.

The End Time destruction of Mecca will put an end to all of this. As Jeremiah says:

And I will punish Bel [the moon god] in Babylon, and I will bring forth out of his mouth that which he hath swallowed up: and the nations shall not flow together any more unto him: yea, the wall of Babylon shall fall. (Jeremiah 51:44)

Interestingly, the Book of Revelation states that when this city – the Whore of Babylon – is utterly destroyed, with pillars of smoke rising to the sky (Joel 2:30), the devastation will be so spectacular that it will be visible to passing ships – even though Mecca is located 45 miles from the Red Sea:

For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! (Revelation 18:17-18)

The suddenness of its destruction, plus the huge pillars of smoke, would suggest that it will succumb to a nuclear missile attack. The Book of Revelation says that this will be carried out by the Antichrist himself. A number of other Arabian cities will also come under attack, thus completing the annihilation of the “whore” and all of her satellites.

Mr Shoebat also shows how the Bible even refers to the role that oil has played in the rise of Saudi Arabia and its consequential impact on, and influence over, the entire world economy. For example, he cites the prophecy by Isaiah that the “streams” (*nachal*, underground springs) of Babylon will be turned into pitch and will burn forever:

For it is the day of the LORD's vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion. And the streams thereof shall be turned into **pitch**, and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof shall become **burning pitch**. It shall not be quenched night nor day; the smoke thereof shall go up for ever: from generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it **for ever and ever**. (Isaiah 34:8-10)

Pitch, of course, is bitumen, or oil in its unrefined state. Jochebed, the mother of Moses, sealed his little basket of bulrushes with pitch, but no one at that time would have imagined that pitch could be used in the manner foreseen by Isaiah. The fires he describes are very similar to the great oil fires of Kuwait after the first Gulf War.

Oil is also referred to in the Book of Revelation (17:2) as the “wine of her fornication,” that is the source of her vast wealth which she has used to finance every conceivable form of depravity.

### **Turkey as the Antichrist Power Base**

Mr Shoebat goes further than most Bible scholars in identifying the country from which the Antichrist will emerge. From his examination of Scripture, and given the central role that Islam plays in the End Time catastrophe, he has concluded that the Antichrist will come out of Turkey. His reasons are as follows:

#### **Ezekiel**

1. Ezekiel linked the Antichrist with eight geographical locations, five of which are definitely in Turkey – Magog, Meshech, Tubal, Gomer and Togarmah.

#### **Ottoman Capital**

2. The most recent Biblical ‘beast’ empire was the Ottoman empire, whose capital, Constantinople, was in Turkey. This was also the capital of the eastern or Byzantine wing of the Roman Empire. Since the eighth ‘beast’ empire will be a revival of the seventh, it is reasonable to infer that Turkey will play a key role.

### ***The people of the prince to come***

3. As we have already seen, over 80 per cent of the troops which destroyed the holy city of Jerusalem in 70 AD were Turkish, Assyrian and Arabic. Since these are “the people of the prince to come,” according to Daniel, this is further evidence that the Antichrist will be a Turk or come from the region of modern Turkey/Syria.

### **Antiochus Epiphanes**

4. We have also noted that Antiochus Epiphanes was the main historical ‘type’ of the Antichrist, whom Daniel described as “the king of the north.” The Seleucid Empire, which Antiochus ruled, was located north of both Jerusalem and Babylon and included the territory of modern Turkey.

### **The Assyrian**

5. Isaiah referred repeatedly to the Antichrist as “the Assyrian.” Both Micah and Hosea also refer to him as “the Assyrian.” Since the Assyrian Empire embraced a large portion of modern Turkey, it is further Biblical evidence that the Antichrist will come from that region.

### **Ionia**

6. Zechariah speaks of the End Time conflict in the following terms:

When I have bent Judah for me, filled the bow with Ephraim, and raised up thy sons, O Zion, against thy sons, O Greece, and made thee as the sword of a mighty man.  
(Zechariah 9:13)

Ephraim and Judah are the combined houses of Israel, while Zion represents the essential unity of the Jewish people. These are confronted by “the mighty man,” the Antichrist – whom Zechariah connects with Greece. The word translated “Greece” is *Yavan* (Strong’s reference H3120). *Yavan* was a son of Japheth who settled in Asia Minor, defined by Strong as Greece and Ionia. The latter corresponds with the western part of modern Turkey.

### **Pergamum**

7. The Book of Revelation also points to Turkey:

And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges; I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: (Revelation 2:12-13)

Pergamum or Pergamos is on the west coast of modern Turkey. This is a very significant reference since it is the only time that the Bible tells us the actual location of Satan’s throne or seat of power (*thronos*). We know from Isaiah 14 that he wants to exalt it above the stars (the angels), but we are not otherwise told its location. (Note that Pergamum is in Ionia.)

The Pergamum Altar was built about three hundred years before John penned the Book of Revelation. Today it is housed in the Pergamum Museum in Berlin, having been reconstructed from thousands of frieze fragments. This great monument to Zeus (Satan), which is about 36 metres wide and 33 metres deep, is revered by practitioners of witchcraft and the occult the world over and many make a pilgrimage to Berlin to connect with its perceived supernatural power.

### **Supposed Neutrality**

8. Turkey has possibly been the most impartial Muslim state in its attitude to Israel. It has long housed an American military base in its territory and is a member of NATO. It has also been trying to join the EU. Since the Antichrist will make a seven year peace treaty with Israel, we know he must be trusted by the Jewish people. At present, Turkey is the Islamic country most trusted by Israel, so it is the one most likely to produce the Antichrist.

### **Military Might**

9. Turkey has an enormous military capability. Among the 26 members of NATO, only the US has a larger army. The military has always played a major role in Turkish politics and has removed the civil government in no fewer than three coups d'états since 1950. Traditionally, Turkey has always been the most militarised and belligerent of the Islamic states, even to the extent of siding formally with the Axis Powers in World War I.

### **Historically Anti-semitic and Anti-Christian**

10. Historically, Turkey has always been deeply anti-semitic and anti-Christian, though they make every effort to conceal this. For example, Turkey was responsible for the 1915-1917 genocide against the Armenians – virtually all of whom were Christian – in which 1.5 million people lost their lives, yet it continues to this day to deny this appalling crime.

### **Closing Comments**

I have tried to present Mr Shoebat's case as clearly and accurately as possible. Any slips or inaccuracies that may have crept in are unintentional. I would strongly encourage all born-again Christians, and all non-Muslims generally, to read Mr Shoebat's book and wake up to the dreadful threat that militant Islam poses to both Christianity and Judaism.

I would also encourage moderate, peace-loving Muslims in all countries to weigh these matters very carefully and to do whatever they can to protect themselves and their families from the bitter philosophy that infects many of their fellow Muslims.

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**Jeremy James**

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