

# CHAPTER 1

## AMERICA AT WAR

*“We will bring our enemies to justice or bring justice to our enemies.”*

*–George W. Bush, President of USA*

America is at war! The world, indirectly also is at war as a big, dreadful evil has entered the twenty-first century civilization. On September 11, 2001, New York City, the most freedom loving city in the world, which welcomes everyone to its doors, had its famous two towers viciously attacked in an unprovoked act of violence never before experienced. The Pentagon in Washington was also attacked! Hijacked planes acting like bombs killed innocent men, women and children of every race, religion and nationality. This attack on Americans in American cities was the deadliest, catastrophic act of terrorism in American history. The World Trade Center has been soaked with American blood. It was more than an attack on people, buildings and facilities. It was an attack on the American value system and its cultural practices. Additionally, biochemical terror surfaced in the Northeast where a baby-like-lethal-powder was found in letters sent to people in New York, New Jersey, Washington and Connecticut. This baby-like-powder is a harmful, infectious bacterium called anthrax. If it is inhaled, or touched it could be lethal to an individual. Bioterrorism has invaded America. More than 20,000 professional Americans were focused on the identification, the analysis and the therapy needed to halt this disease from spreading. The problem of hunting for the killers and stopping the spread of deadly bacteria depends on important clues that are collected at the expense of more lives. Since only a few people died from anthrax, even though many became sick, this assault is not

labeled a bioterrorist attack. It is simply thought of as a vital clue to a future possibility.

People watching television when the World Trade Centers collapsed saw the face of evil.

### **APPALLING STATISTICS OF THE TERRORIST ATTACK**

Here are some reality facts that give insight into the unprovoked and devastating attack:

- First time Americans were attacked on American soil in history.
- More than 4,000 people were killed.
- 344 firefighters lost their lives at the Trade Towers. (See Figure 1)
- People from 50 different nations of the world lost their lives.
- Over 25,000 people were helped or saved by firemen, policemen and rescue workers.
- Ten cellular towers were disrupted or destroyed along with 300,000 voice lines and 3.6 million data circuits affecting 14,000 businesses and 20,000 residential customers.
- The rescue workers committed extraordinary acts of heroism, even giving their lives.
- Nineteen or possibly twenty hijackers were involved in the September 11th atrocities.
- More than 20,000 professionals were enlisted in the antibiotics activity to control and eliminate the anthrax bacteria. Over 1000 FBI agents worked on the infected individuals and the equipment to bring closure and therapy.
  - Approximately 20 properties and over 200 million square feet of office, retail and hotel space were damaged or destroyed. Of this, 13 million square feet are gone permanently.
  - Perpetrators of this crime were instigated by Osama bin Laden's holy war against the United States.
  - Out of approximately 20,000 Saudi clerics in worldwide Islam, no more than 40-50 clerics called for a war on America.
  - Terrorists in the Al-Qaeda organization number in the thousands in more than 60 countries. They live in these countries to plan and plot evil and destruction within these countries.
- The early phases of the war cost the United States approximately 1.2 billion monthly. The impact on the economy was a loss of incalculable billions on a U.S. economy of ten trillion dollars.
  - Congress allocated 40 billion in emergency relief - half for the war



**Figure 1 – Trade Towers in New York City**

and the other half for relief and recovery.

- Job losses from September 11th bombings reached close to 100,000.
- Tourism in New York fell to 20 percent and has gradually increased.
- Palestinians were dancing in the street when they heard of Americans dying by the thousands in New York and Washington. These were the same groups and individuals who applauded the bombing of American embassies in 1998 and the attack on the USS Cole.

• The Postal Service processed 30 billion pieces of mail to find 3 different letters that contained anthrax. Four Americans died from anthrax out of a total of 17 people infected.

• Annual deficits in the New York City budgets will run in the billions of dollars in the next 5 years.

• The buildings' lease owners will collect 7 billion in damage from owners insurance.

- 900 thousand tons of debris has been removed at Ground Zero.

The insurance claims are in the billions with scores of years to process and complete. It is the most costly disaster in the history of the insurance industry.

These follow in the next two pages. (Courtesy of the Reuters News Service.) Included is a photo of 4,000 Taliban soldiers in prison in Afghanistan.

### **WAS AMERICA SLEEPING WHEN ATTACK OCCURRED?**

It is a matter of vital importance to note the carefully synchronized plans for wreaking havoc in the United States. Weather changes could have caused a delay, but it didn't. The air could have been muggy and hot, but it wasn't. It was cool and clear. The sky could have been cloudy and obscure, but it wasn't. It was cloudless and an azure blue. It was an environment that pilots love to fly in. The sun was brilliant and golden, almost as if nature was cooperating. It was the perfect morning for what anyone wanted to do. Here was the time schedule.

7:45 am – American Airlines Flight 11 left Boston for Los Angeles.

7:58 am – United Airlines Flight 175 left Boston for Los Angeles.

8:01 am – United Airlines Flight 83 left Newark for San Francisco.

8:10 am – American Airlines Flight 77 left Washington Dulles for Los Angeles.

8:45 am – American Flight 11 with heavy fuel slammed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center setting off a giant fireball inside the building.

9:05 am – United Flight 175 like a massive flying bomb crashed into the South Tower. Within an hour and a half both towers collapsed.

9:39 am – American Flight 77 plowed into the side of the Pentagon. The heart of the American defense system was bombed.

10:10 am – United Flight 83 went down southeast of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania killing all on board. There was much evidence that a fight and a struggle occurred on board. This thwarted the mission of the terrorists.

The FBI has evidence to believe another hijacked plane was to synchronize its attack along with the others. This would bring the number of hijackers to 20. The FBI believes the would-be hijacker to be a Yemen citizen. The fourth



Figure 2 – Photomontage of terrorist assaults on the Trade Towers that appeared in national newspapers throughout the United States.

# BASTARDS! ATTACK



**ACTS OF WAR**  
 TERROR AT HOME  
 ATTACKS ON WORLD TRADE CENTER, PENTAGON STUN WORLD; DEATHS EXPECTED TO BE IN THE THOUSANDS

Hijacked airplanes destroy towers at Trade Center  
 Pentagon hit by small plane, heavily damaged  
 Airports closed across U.S.; flights aborted  
 Markets plummet; security tightened after attacks



**The attacks**

**10:28 A.M. NY**  
 Two hijacked Boeing 767s struck the World Trade Center's Twin Towers, causing a massive explosion and fire. The towers were hit at the 110th and 103rd floors, respectively.

**9:03 A.M. NY**  
 A hijacked Boeing 757 struck the Pentagon, causing a massive explosion and fire. The plane hit the building at the 7th floor.

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**NEW YORK** — In a horrific sequence of destruction, terrorists hijacked two airlines and crashed them into the World Trade Center in a coordinated series of attacks Tuesday morning that brought down the twin 110-story towers. An aircraft also crashed at the Pentagon, raising fears that the seat of U.S. government was under attack.

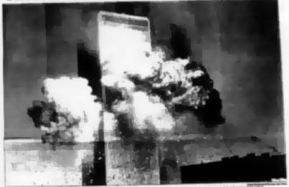
It was not immediately known how many people were killed. Authorities had been trying to evacuate those who work in the twin towers, but many were thought to be trapped.

**U.S. Naval Submarine Bases in War**  
 Impact Of Disaster Hit With Deaths Of Local  
 Experts Fear Attack Could May Spur A Global



## HORROR!

Thousands feared dead in terrorist attack



**Nation stunned, on alert**

**WASHINGTON** — The nation was stunned Tuesday by a series of coordinated terrorist attacks that brought down the World Trade Center's Twin Towers and struck the Pentagon.

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attack failed since the Yemen failed to get into the United States. The man, Ramzi Omar, also known as Ramsi Binalshibh, is now the subject of a worldwide manhunt. Evidence showed Omar tried three times to get into the United States.

The hijackers were organized into 4 teams with five members each. FBI indicated that planning of the attacks started at least two years before the actual September 11th event. The suspected ringleader of all 4 teams was Mohamed Atta.

The irony of the surprised attack was that U.S. officials knew a great deal about bin Laden and even worked with him. However, they knew little of the impending event. It was a complete surprise attack. It was as if America was sleeping. And yet, the war with the terrorists had actually begun a decade earlier.

Terrorists bombed World Trade Center in United States.

Terrorists bombed hotel in Lebanon where Marines were living.

Terrorists bombed hotel in Saudi Arabia where Marines were living.

Terrorists bombed Ben Yehuda shopping mall in Jerusalem.

Terrorists bombed two U.S. Embassies in Africa – Tanzania and Kenya.

Terrorists bombed the American warship U.S.S. Cole in Yemen.

Although there were many signs of the emerging war with terrorists, it was not until the bombings of the Twin Towers and the Pentagon, that America awakened from its sleep.

September 11, 2001 is a day that will live in the memories of all Americans as well as others in the world. It is a moment embedded in the American psyche. See Figure 3.

Here are some of the reactions of Americans who were watching TV.

Firefighter – “We knew our brother firefighters were in for a terrible day.”

Mother – “It brought back my memory of J. F. Kennedy’s assassination.”

Teacher – “I knew I had to keep things as normal as I could for the students.”

Writer – “I could do nothing other than watch with my mouth open.”

Father – “The only thing I could say to my son was that there are bad people out there who are jealous of the way we live.”



**Figure 3 – A day and time to be remembered**

Computer Engineer – “When I was told the U.S. was hit, I thought it was with a computer virus, since computer viruses were the worse thing I had experienced as a hit. How naive I was.”

Woman exercising – “When I saw, I thought instantly, this is war. I felt sick, hot and worrisome. I felt the bomb shelters in the past would not help.”

A survivor – “I survived the attacks at the Trade Center, but the pain of those who were lost will be forever with me, especially the rescue personnel who gave their lives. I will never forget the faces of the firefighters who were on their way up the emergency stairwell as I made it down to safety. The tragedies have affected my life in some ways for the better:

I value life more, not taking a day for granted.

I got out of a bad relationship.

I've joined a church to better find my purpose in life.

I pray to God everyday. I now understand the power of prayer.

“I'm determined to get on with my life. It will take time, but I, like many Americans, will rise again.”

Photographer – “I was looking at the newspaper to see what was going on in the world. I stopped breathing when I saw the TV pic-



ture of the two towers ablaze.”

Mariner – “The light from the top of the two towers was the first glimpse we saw as we entered New York Harbor. Now they are gone.”

Student – “It felt like a big movie or a dream that we haven’t come out of yet. It makes me sick to think we will never see the Trade Towers again.”

TV viewer – “My emotions ran the gamut from very sad to very angry. I am ready to exact payback.”

If one looks at photographs of Ground Zero in New York City, it is enough to create sadness and downheartedness. See Figures 4 and 5.

### **THE BUSH DOCTRINE ON TERRORISM**

George W. Bush, President of the United States, delivered to the nation in three separate speeches; a declaration of war on terrorism and the doctrine, of who the enemy is and the targets of the battle. Here are some excerpts from his remarks.

“We are at war against terrorism.”

“We will make no distinction between the terrorists who committed these acts and those who harbor them.”

“I have given Taliban leaders a series of clear and specific demands: close terrorist training camps; hand over leaders of the Al-Qaeda network; and return all foreign nationals, including American citizens unjustly detained in your country. None of these demands were met. And now the Taliban will pay a price.”

“We are the targets of enemies who boast they want to kill – kill all Americans, kill all Jews and kill all Christians. We’ve seen that type of hatred before and the only response is to confront it and to defeat it.”

“We wage a war to save civilization, itself. We did not seek it, but we must fight it. And we will prevail.”

“We will bring our enemies to justice or bring justice to our enemies.”

Other world leaders echoed what Bush announced in his

doctrine. These world leaders revealed an unprecedented unity with what George W. Bush was trying to do. They too had terrorist activities in their countries.

President Jacques Chirac said the attack on the Trade Towers was a monstrous bombing and the French are entirely with the American people.

Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed his support for the retaliation against those responsible. He said such an inhuman act must not go unpunished.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair expressed his disgust by saying that mass terrorism is the new evil in our world today.

Chancellor Gerhard Schroder of Germany called the



**Figure 4 – View of Ground Zero from above. (Courtesy of Reuters News Service)**

attacks a declaration of war against the entire civilized world.

NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson said the attacks constitute intolerable aggression against democracy and the international community must unite their forces in fighting



**Figure 5 – The two Trade Towers completely gone. (Courtesy of Reuters News Service)**

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the scourge of terrorism.

Peter Bergen in his book, “Holy War, Inc.” identifies 80 Jihad throughout the world. The Al-Qaeda’s scope of operations stretches across three continents and a dozen or so countries. Mr. Bergen has even identified sites where terrorist acts have already been committed. See Figure 6.

Do 80 declared holy wars mean Al-Qaeda has a plan ready to attack 80 different sites, globally with terrorist activities? This would mean the declared war on terrorism is far greater, larger and more extensive than thought. Does the war against terrorists mean a war against 80 declared sites in Al-Qaeda’s network? Here are some of the countries identified in the Al-Qaeda’s network: Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Somalia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bosnia, Croatia, Albania, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Philippines, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Kenya, Tanzania, Kashmir and Chechnya; in short, Islamic countries. Also in the U.S.: Boston, Texas, Florida, Virginia and California. The bin Laden organization is really a bin Laden alliance. This means the associates of bin Laden are independent of him, act in isolation and can continue holy

wars without bin Laden. It appears the unifying network is more the Islamic religion than bin Laden. It is unusual to find Palestinians, Yemenites, Sudanese, East Asians and Somalians in the same alliance. Islam is the glue to hold the 80 countries with Jihad.

President Bush declared war against terrorism calling it a great evil that must be defeated. The defeat must be more than the terrorists themselves. It includes those countries that help, support, harbor and hide the terrorists. He said there would be no distinction made between the terrorists who commit evil acts and those who harbor them.

### **TERRORISM ON MANY BATTLE FRONTS**

Terrorism will be fought on a variety of battlefronts using a diversity of means and methods. The Al-Qaeda network has planned or is planning to activate many battlefronts in the coming years. These frontal targets look and operate differently from the battles of the past. Every means of diplomacy, intelligence, law enforcement and even financial sources will be used to prevent and stop the terrorists or bring them to justice. Nevertheless, there is some intelligence reports which have caused intense concern that terrorists will circumvent this justice to complete their mission of mass killing. Bush has identified that the number of terrorists throughout the world may exceed 100,000. Twelve battlefronts have been identified, which define the direction and character of these. See Figure 7. Any one or combination of these fronts can engage terrorist activity for months or even years. Any one of these fronts can cause a disaster of great proportion. In Figure 7, many of those fronts have already transpired. Others are on the "back burner." What has been recently revealed is that an Osama bin Laden is not needed to direct these fronts. New Al-Qaeda leaders will emerge to conduct the battles as alliance partners in the Al-Qaeda mission.

The U.S. is exploring ways to convince other non-Islamic countries, as well as Islamic countries, to join in on the war



**Figure 6 – Sites of Terrorist Acts**

on terrorism. The need for foreign support for the war is critical since many other countries are targets of Al-Qaeda. The specter of nuclear terror is most frightening. It is unknown whether Osama bin Laden has nuclear weapons, although he claims he has. It has been known he wanted to identify a willing source for purchase of these weapons. Russia has been seen as a likely source since it has a nuclear arsenal. Terrorists have considered making nuclear weapons themselves, although it is more difficult. Bin Laden has declared that if America uses chemical or nuclear weapons against Al-Qaeda, he and his alliance will do the same. Military analysts have long speculated that Al-Qaeda could easily obtain enough radioactive materials to construct a “dirty bomb.” This bomb may not have the power of a nuclear bomb, but it would have enough material to cause widespread radioactive contamination.

Germ warfare is another concern. There is a germ weapon treaty. The U.S. has publicly accused 5 countries of violating this treaty. North Korea, Iraq, Iran, Libya and Syria have been cited for violating the treaty. It was agreed that such bombs should be banned. Bin Laden has been trying to acquire germ weapons. It seems that his long-range plan for Jihad probably includes them. It is unclear at this writing who is behind the anthrax bacteria mailings in the United States. The treaty approach for controlling germ weapons is not working. Any bio-defense program is giving a false sense of security by failing to prevent cheating and dishonesty.

Training manuals that have been confiscated from Al-Qaeda have, in considerable detail, the best ways to kill thousands of people. The instructions they give are simple, but chilling. The manuals say attack sites with high human intensity like skyscrapers, nuclear plants, baseball and football stadiums. They also say to pick targets of “sentimental value” or “symbolic value” such as the Statue of Liberty in New York, Big Ben in London or the Eiffel Tower in Paris. The manuals also guide the terrorists to attack large gatherings of Jews to cause as many deaths as possible. The manuals even specify assassinations of prominent figures in Islamic as well as non-Islamic countries.

### **SUICIDE BOMBERS WANT TO BE MARTYRS FOR PARADISE**

Suicide is defined as the killing of one self with malicious forethought while in the possession of a sound mind. It is now, generally considered a symptom of some form of insanity, permanently or temporarily in which the emotions and passions of an individual are excited or perverted. Statistics with respect to suicide are:

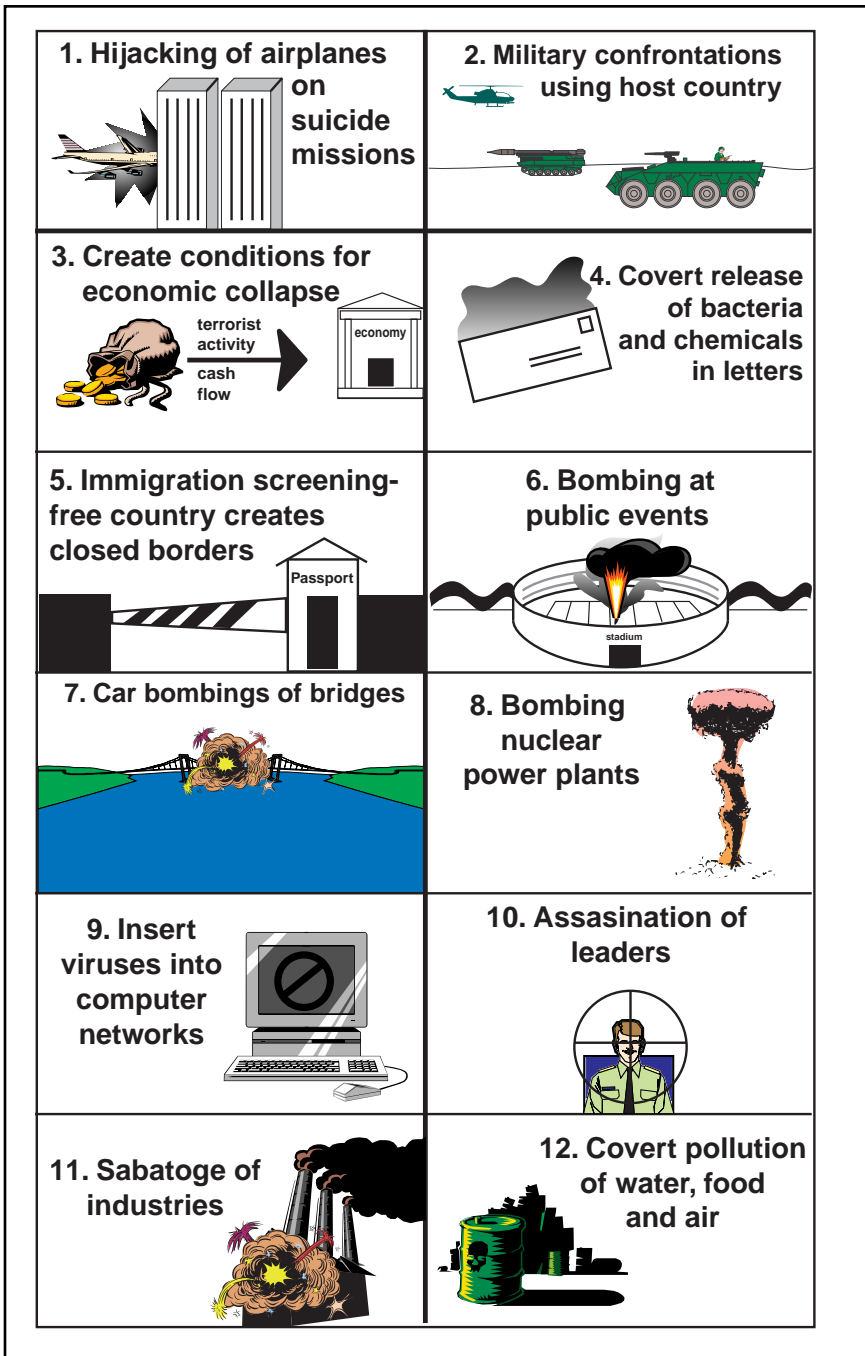
Sweden – 1 in 45,000

Russia – 1 in 35,000

St. Petersburg – 1 in 21,000

United States – 1 in 15,000

Paris – 1 in 2700



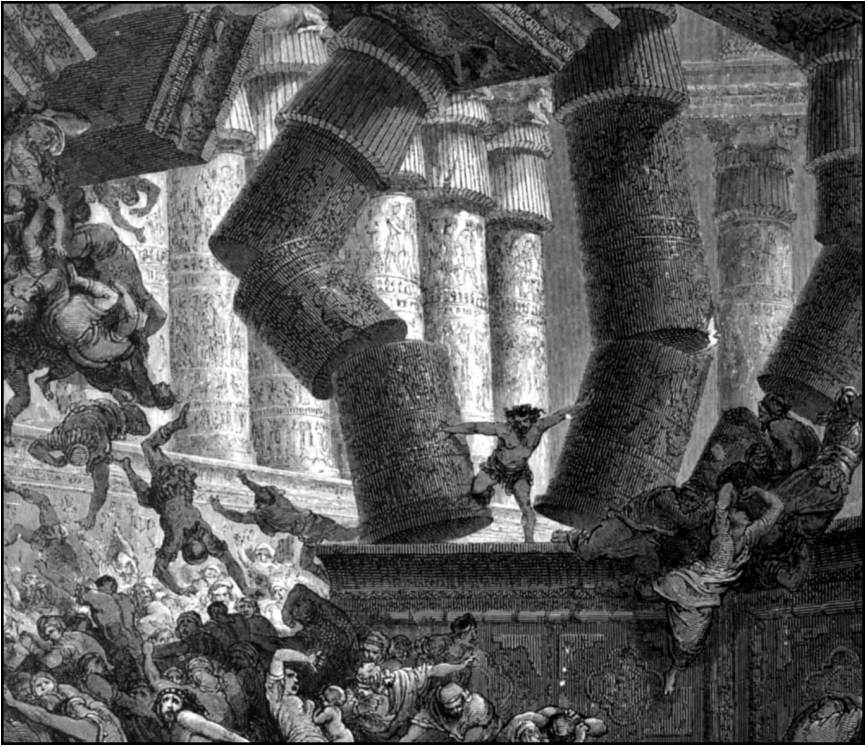
**Figure 7 – Battlefronts of Terrorist Attacks: past, present and future possibilities**

People's emotions and passions vary from city to city and country to country. Muslims are in contradiction with each other over Allah's allowance of suicide. There are those who argue (Shiites) that Islam could never, under any circumstance, justify the practice known as suicide bombing. On the other hand, there are those who do practice suicide bombing claiming the bombing will bring them to a paradise for eternity. This group is the Orthodox extremists. Islamic law forbids suicide, but the radical extremists interpret the Koran to sanction both suicide missions to gain martyrdom as well as to kill infidels. Even bin Laden sought and received an edict from the clergy close to him permitting him to take his life if he faces capture or death. Suicide practices started during the Iran-Iraq war when Iranian teenagers were sent out by the thousands to be human minefield sweepers. They equated suicide "mine-bombing" as latter-day martyrs. These martyrs through suicide bombing would be given keys to wear around their necks that would open the doors of paradise. In some cases they would be given a harem in heaven. Each harem would be composed of 72 virgins. The suicide bombers would drive vehicles laden with explosives into the enemy facilities. This is how the Sunni Muslims in the Palestine area and the Arabian Peninsula adopted suicide bombing as a weapon.

Self-annihilation has gone from being a tactic of spreading havoc on a local scale to a weapon of mass destruction on a global scale. The individual dies, but he takes thousands of innocent people with him. On the religious level, Islam is revenged for an infidel's incursions. On the personal level, the individual is martyred for a heavenly paradise with 72 virgins. Suicide martyrs also annihilate part of culture and civilization. See Figure 8.

In the Israeli conflict with the Palestinians, it was found that 78 percent of the Palestinian population approve of the suicide bombing attacks. In fact, in Israel, this has become a cultural norm for Palestinians. They hardly ever refer to suicide bombings, but rather activities of the martyrs who oblit-





**Figure 8 – Suicides kill themselves along with a piece of civilization** (Engraving courtesy of Dover Publications)

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erate their earthly existence for the Islamic cause. Osama bin Laden urged the entire Muslim world to view the 19 hijackers who extinguished their lives on American soil along with the many intifadas and nearly five-dozen suicide bombings in Israel as the work of Allah and the transformation of his people to paradise. There is much contradiction in this matter, as many Muslims would agree according to Islam that killing civilians is wrong. This is the Sunni's controversy with the Shiites. There is also wide agreement that suicide bombings, which kill civilians, are wrong. But, Muslims would quickly agree that suicide bombers who kill Israelis are indeed martyrs. The principle being that suicide bombing is justified for the killing of unbelieving infidels for the occupancy and theft of their land. True martyrs were not desper-

ate people with psychological problems. Giving their lives is proof of their selflessness and bravery. Muslims must offer the most valuable possession they have which is their lives for the Islamic cause. Since those who give their lives on behalf of Islam are called martyrs, they do not die, but go directly to heaven. Therefore, they cannot be considered suicides. The death of a martyr is not an obituary, but a wedding. This is their view.

The bombers themselves are the weapons. They are available to skillful and persuasive recruiters. These recruiters know how to interpret history, culture, religion and present injustices into a tactical imperative. Suicide bombings are a key weapon of terrorists. These terrorists have 20 to 40 suicide bombers in waiting for an assignment to become a martyr. They are trained for many years and await the assignment call. The terrorists do not have any problem in recruiting suiciders. For every suicide bomber needed, they have 6-10 volunteers. It seems the supply of suicide bombers is never ending since becoming a martyr is a fast way to get to heaven.

There are still many puzzling and mystifying questions that need to be answered. How can a martyr who sacrifices his life in a show of devotion to a belief justify the murder of innocent people in the process? If their hatred and grievance is with governments, why not attack the governments rather than the uninvolved innocent? Their belief and expectation would still remain intact. Do they find killing the innocent, the helpless and the weak the "easier way" to get to heaven as opposed to the killing of the guilty, the strong and the skilled? The innocent group could be killed easier, quicker and more efficiently and the bomber could still make the criteria for martyrdom. Also the question arises to why parents are so willing to give their young sons to martyrdom through suicide. Why don't parents blow themselves up for the cause rather than their impressionable and obedient children? A war on terrorism cannot follow the principle of believing that terrorists are crazy, religious fanatics. Nor

should we consider suicide bombers as criminals with tendencies to commit a crime. If there is a culprit, it is convincing people how easy it is to get to heaven. This is a lie, a deception and a falsehood. There are few religions, if any, where killing is rewarded with a heavenly payment.

It is interesting to note that as the war in Afghanistan rolls down to a military ending, the change of martyrdom as a fighting motivator rolls down as well. At the beginning of the war, the Islamic clerics praised martyrdom as an opportunity to get to heaven. But near the end of the hostilities in Afghanistan, the clerical leaders chose to surrender rather than face death as suicide martyrs. They switched their preferences from a heavenly reward to an earthly existence. Mullah Omar wanted his people to fight to the death and receive the martyr's reward. But for himself, he attempted to negotiate terms to save his own life rather than receive an Islamic heavenly reward. The clerics urged their followers to die for the cause, but refused to do the same. This is what has been termed hypocrisy. See Figure 9. This is also true of bin Laden. He chose to hide in the mountains rather than face death like the martyrs he encouraged others to be. Each chose to switch sides rather than fight to the end.

The clerics have messed up the Afghan economy, siphoned off industrial earnings and assumed all political power, which is their strongest failure. The younger generation is so fed up with Taliban rule that they want the clerics ousted from the country or undergo severe reform even if violence is necessary.

### **SUICIDE BOMBERS HAVE BECOME HOMICIDAL BOMBERS**

In the early phases of the terrorist war, suicidal bombers were regarded as martyrs giving their lives to a religious cause. They saw themselves defending their faith from an outside threat. Their reward was heaven and a harem. As of this writing, the concept of suicide bombing has expanded to include political purposes in its mandate. This is especial-



**Figure 9 – Hypocrisy is a double-minded person**

ly true with Palestinians. They kill themselves to gain land borders, statehood, a government, sympathy from the world, revenge for past injustices, and the extradition of Israel from the West Bank. The young Palestinians who volunteer for the “bomber army” are in great despair over the never-ending and ceaseless inability to obtain these goals. There is a long waiting line of Palestinians that want to join the bomber army. The bomber concept has been declared by George Bush to be more accurately described as homicidal bombers, since it includes the murdering of innocent people. It is no longer the martyrdom for a religious cause. In one recent incident, a mother indicated that her responsibility as a bomber was more important than her responsibility as a mother to her young child. The latest tally (Time Magazine 4/15/02) is 105 bombings which have taken 339 lives. In the Gaza Strip, Palestinians celebrate both the suicide volunteers and the killing of Israelis as they attended wedding activities. This includes dancing and singing over the deaths.

Bribery, payola and monetary incentives have now entered the equation of the bomber army. Saddam Hussein of Iraq has offered money for the relatives of suicide bombers. \$25,000 a piece, has already been given to three families of suicide bombers. The monetary incentive is to motivate families who are very poor to give their young in human sacrifice for political aims. Palestinians say their thirst for revenge, religious zeal and a Palestinian state are the

basic motivators. Monetary gain has been shrouded. Poor families find \$25,000 a welcome gift to sacrifice a family member. This is bribery and payola. Al-Qaeda and their Taliban supporters have offered rewards of up to \$100,000 for capturing a live American soldier or \$50,000 for a dead one. All of this is to inspire young males to take up the fight with Israelis and Americans. The payments are moving the war on terrorism toward a culture of hate, violence and murder.

There are reasons why Islamics are trying to create a bomber army. It is a test of a whole new form of warfare. Strapping dynamite to a willing volunteer, getting \$25,000 for the family who are in dire need and terrifying the enemy in the process, has given a tactical alternative to a smaller country at war with a larger and better equipped army. Palestinians have now developed a strategic weapon system that creates a balance of power between weaker and stronger countries at war. The bomber army concept even inspires the Palestinians to the hope that they can defeat Israel.

Palestinians must be shown and convinced that suicide or homicide bombing is not the way for victory. Here are some reasons:

Bombings and the killing of people will eventually generate a military reaction that will be far more disastrous than a few dozen killed in a pizza parlor.

Suicide or homicidal bombers that kill women, children and the innocent are not praised for their effort outside of their group. They are seen as cowards creating a dastardly act. There are no heroes in suicide activities. Homicide bombers are murderers.

Suicide bombers may get the enemy to the negotiating table, but later the guarantee to terms of the agreement, such as new borders cannot be done by a new series of bombings.

Homicide bombers are so blinded by their sacred rage

and intent that they lose sight of an important truth that civilization or even a nation can only be built on. This is the sacredness of human life. This starts by stopping the killing of one's own people. When an 18 year old Palestinian girl is induced to blow herself up, while next to a 17 year old Israeli girl, one must say the future is bleak and even dying.

The devil is dancing in the Middle East and few see it or even know it. Removal of life, no matter which side it is, is generating a great evil. The bomber army will lose more than their statehood. They will lose the wonderful gift of life itself.

### **THE TERRORIST WAR HAS PRODUCED FIREMEN AS HEROES**

There is one group that is seen as heroes in the September 11th attacks. They are the firemen. One out of eight people who died in the catastrophe were firemen. While everyone was running away from the fire, running fast away, past the falling debris of the collapsing buildings and running to save their lives, the firemen were running toward the fire to put it out, running through the debris toward the towers, while building parts were falling on top of them. They were running toward the fire to save lives! See Figure 10. Firemen sacrificed their lives to save others. We should be reminded of John 15:13 which states, "Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends." A fireman's prayer gives insight into their mission and attitude about their lives and hopes.

#### **Fireman's Prayer**

"When I am called to duty, God wherever flames may rage, give me strength to save some life, whatever be its age. Help me embrace a little child before it is too late, or save an older person from the horror of that fate. Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout, and quickly and efficiently to put the fire out. I want to fill my calling, and to give the best in me to guard my every neighbor and protect his property. And if, according to my fate, I am to lose my life, please bless with your protecting hand my family, friends and wife." Amen



**Figure 10—Fireman running up the stairs while people exit one of the World Trade Towers.**

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**Figure 11 – September 11th firemen, heroes symbolic of courage and recovery (Raising of the American Flag on top of the tower debris was a reminder of Iwo Jima in WWII)**

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## CHAPTER 2

### **TERRORISM IS A RELIGIOUS WAR!**

*“Jihad is a Holy War sanctioned by Allah for the killing of Americans, Jews and Christians.”*

*–Osama bin Laden*

Terrorists declare Muslims must strive, fight and kill in the name of God. Terrorists refer to their activities, such as condemnations, bombings and battlefronts, as a jihad. A jihad is a declaration of a holy war. Allah justifies, in this type of war, the killing of Islamic infidels. When they declare a jihad against a government, it means that government has committed acts which are extremely unjust, hideous and criminal against the commandments of Allah and his arrangements. The word Taliban refers to religious students. It is the plural of Talib, referring to a group of intensely committed students from Islamic schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan. It is these students that have taken government control of Afghanistan. The Taliban have protected bin Laden and have followed his teachings and advice. They have revered him for the successful role he played in helping Afghanistan dislodge and remove the Soviets from their country.

But what makes a war holy or unholy? War, by definition is defined as a struggle, conflict, battle or fight between hostile and antagonistic principles or ideologies. It is also an attempt to resolve conflicts between and among individuals who have ambitions to dominate or strive to get their way. Hitler’s ambition was to purify the human race. This would mean ridding the world of Jews, blacks, Arabs and other non-Aryan types! War is also a revenge act of a perceived injustice that was enacted sometime in the past.

In most cases, wars end up in violence and destruction. This means war is an evil process. Evil, as a moral issue, eventually infuses itself into the spiritual realm, ending up as



a spiritual war. A spiritual war does involve God, His commandments and His will. The Apostle Paul gives a general description of this warfare in Eph 6:12. "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world – forces of darkness with spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places." Spiritual warfare is a battle between and among spiritual principles. If there is anything that is spiritual, it is principles.

Terrorists practice a form of Islamic extremism that is rejected by a vast majority of Muslim clerics and Muslim scholars. The terrorists have a mission and set of directives to kill Christians, Jews, and Americans and make no distinction between military and civilians, men and women, or children and adults. The Al-Qaeda organization is a network of many terrorist groups who have declared 80 jihads throughout the world. Osama bin Laden heads up one of the groups, which recently operated from Afghanistan. The Islamic extremists see doing God's will as a practice of holiness even if it means mass destruction or the killing of many people. Fundamentalists who are extreme in Islam and other religions will see doing God's will as preempted a practice of holiness even if it means violence or killing of human life. The Osama bin Ladens of the world – just as the leaders of the Crusades, the Inquisition, the indulgencies and others before and after them – demand that all embrace the absolute faith they emulate.

### **WHY AL-QAEDA HATES AMERICANS**

Americans are asking why does the Al-Qaeda organization hate Americans so much? Here are some answers.

Al-Qaeda hates the U.S. for its continued presence in the Holy Lands of Islam, which includes Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Palestine and other countries. For bin Laden, the U.S. presence is the greatest insult to him and the Muslims. The Al-Qaeda even dislikes American leaders meeting with the Saudi royal family. Americans are regarded as infidels, therefore they must leave Islamic life alone.

Al-Qaeda hates the U.S. for supporting and helping Israel occupy sacred land that belongs to Islam. The third most important sacred object is the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Americans are hated for allowing Jewish women to go anywhere on the sacred site.

Al-Qaeda hates freedom. It wants to revert to the time of Muhammad in the Seventh Century when life was restricted and regulated. Al-Qaeda hates freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom to vote and freedom to disagree with each other. The clerics are the ruling sovereigns.

Al-Qaeda hates democratically elected governments. It prefers appointed clerics who know the Koran. There is a class distinction among Muslim clerics, Muslim believers and infidels, who are non-believers.

Al-Qaeda hates Christians and Jews living in the vast regions of Islamic Asia and Africa. Christians believe in proselytizing and converting Islamics to Christianity. They have had a good measure of success. Muslim clerics want this stopped. Al-Qaeda's aim is for Islam to convert the entire world. Only in Islam is there the one true faith. There is no possibility of salvation outside of Islam.

Al-Qaeda hates the liberation of women in dress, education and behavior. They see women's role different from the Koran's expectations. Women are greatly restricted. More will be said in a coming section on this subject.

Al-Qaeda hates any Islamic believer who would not fight for Allah. Bin Laden has said, anyone not fighting for God will be deeply punished. In many camps, one can hear loud chanting in Arabic – "fight evil."

Al-Qaeda hates a global civilization, unless it is characteristic of an Islamic society modeled after the Muhammadan society of the 7th Century. Terrorists see the attack on America as Allah's punishment to America for the wrongs it is doing in other countries.

Al-Qaeda hates Americans and Jews. The hate is born out

of conflict between Christianity and Islam. The beliefs between the two are different. Israel is caught in between with their refusal to accept Muhammad as the prophet of God. Statehood living between Jews and Palestinians side by side in Israel with different lifestyles adds to the conflict.

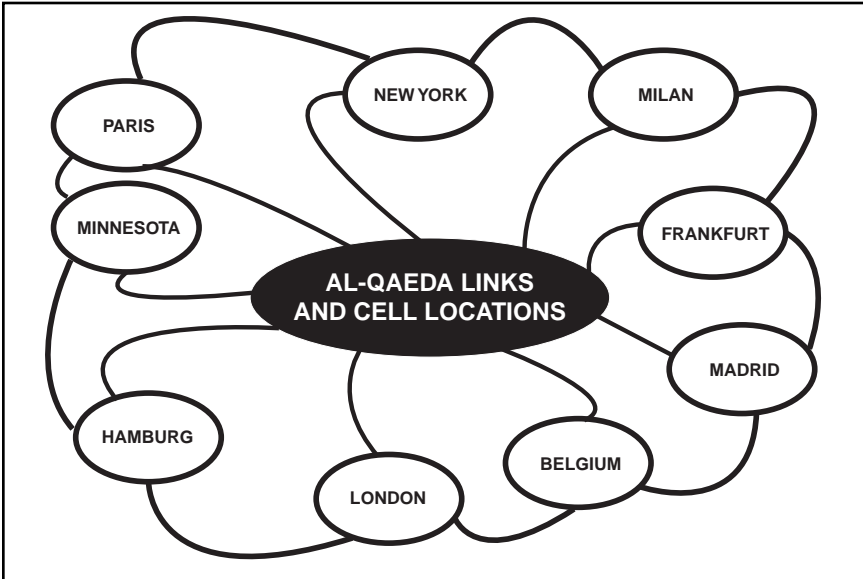
The Al-Qaeda network is a cult of evil. Osama bin Laden and others similar to him are the manipulative “gurus.” They would like to destroy the world to liberate and save it, just as Hitler who wanted to destroy the races to save the world. Many cults have turned inward and covert, becoming secretive and aloof in order to survive and thrive. But the cults’ methods explain the condemnation they have for those outside their thinking. Cultism is apocalyptic. See Figure 12.

Since September 11th, a great deal of information has been learned about the Al-Qaeda organization. The terrorist network is far more organized than originally thought.



**Figure 12 – Terrorist Cultism is Apocalyptic**

Information derived from many arrests in Europe and the United States are now revealing a clearer picture as to who is Al-Qaeda. The organization itself is a lot more sophisticated, disciplined than previously thought and thoroughly aligned with cooperative cells in other areas. See Figure 13.



**Figure 13 – Al-Qaeda network alliance in Europe and the United States**

Thousands of Muslims who completed training in training camps have returned to their homes around the world with a mission and a commitment to engage in terrorism. Many stand ready to act if called upon. Terrorist cells may be called upon to help other members of the network in a coordinated way. Most of the time, relationships and activities are kept silent and invisible. The first bombing of the Trade Towers revealed amateur work. The two-year planning for the second Trade Tower bombing revealed a more professional and effective process. The Al-Qaeda network is well funded. Unused funds are formally returned to the same sources that sponsored them. Some projects are not well funded in which case individuals are encouraged to thievery. In several cases, terrorist

activities were funded through credit card fraud.

Al-Qaeda works on multiple levels of planning and decision-making. Sometimes it operates from the top down with direction well defined. Sometimes it operates as an entrepreneurial activity from the bottom up. The training manuals show good, comprehensive and detailed “how to” instructions on “how to do.” Since many of the terrorist cells are secretive and covert, terrorist cells are easily organized. Figure 13 illustrates some of the cell locations. Sleeper cells are still intact in Europe and the United States. No one knows where the operations will strike next. That is the scheme of a terrorist.

The loose informal structure of Al-Qaeda does not follow the tight, formal structure of a corporation with organizational charts and five year plans. Deputies usually take over for fallen leaders. At this writing, there have been three bin Laden deputies identified as successors to bin Laden if he were to be captured or killed. Since each cell in Al-Qaeda is independent and isolated from others, each is free to follow any one of the battlefronts listed in Chapter 1.

### **WHO IS OSAMA BIN LADEN AND WHAT DOES HE WANT?**

Here are some significant salient points about bin Laden.

Bin Laden is the most important financial sponsor and supporter of extremist activities in the world today. He, along with other terrorists issued the many terrorist attacks against the U.S. Military targets. Bin Laden’s wealth was inherited from his father and family. He also was an entrepreneur in construction and building.

Bin Laden makes every attempt to look like the prophet Muhammad. This means an ancient bushy beard, floor length white robe, and red and white headdress. He has four wives like Muhammad. He was born on March 10, 1957 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Osama is the seventeenth generation son of Muhammad.

Bin Laden sees himself as an Islamic reformer of the Saudi regime. He does not see himself as a revolutionary,

Osama bin Laden	George W. Bush
<p>“America is a great evil” American soldiers are stationed in sacred soil. they must be removed.” “America must have their influence stopped from spreading.”</p>	<p>“Terrorism is a great evil.” “Terrorist bombing of Americans must be stopped.” “Terrorists will be brought to justice or justice will be brought to them.”</p>

**Figure 14 – Dialogue between George W. Bush and bin Laden**

although to depose the king of Saudi Arabia would be to his liking. He would move in and give leadership to Saudi Arabia like Muhammad in the 7th Century. What Osama wants is reformation in Islamic countries, reformation of Islamic people, and reformation of non-believers. He wants to bring Islam back to where it was during the days of the prophet Muhammad of the 7th Century. Osama wants to reform Islam similar to the Protestant, Christian reformers who wanted to correct the abuses of the Medieval Catholic Church and to return Christianity to its founding principles. Bin Laden believes the Saudi family to be apostates of Islam.

Bin Laden is seen as a hero among his followers because he raised his voice against the infidels outside Islam and Russia, specifically those who had Afghanistan in their empire. He is seen as a man sacrificing his all for Islam. With this perception, his followers have given him the title of Iber – terrorist hero who carries the banner of the great prophet.

Bin Laden is a member of the Al-Qaeda organization and its affiliated alliances. These organization constantly plan

new terrorist acts as part of their global mission. The success of the September 11th attack embodies the confidence bin Laden has with what he is doing. He sees the September 11th successful attack as a sign of Allah's favor.

Bin Laden and his top lieutenant are the most wanted individuals in the world by the United States. Financial rewards are offered by the United States up to \$25,000,000 for information leading to the capture of these two. They are wanted dead or alive. See Figure 16. Bin Laden wants to cleanse sacred ground of all infidels. Infidels are non-believers in Islam. The areas to be cleansed are Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem. These three sites in rank order are regarded as holy spots in Islamic history. The call to wage war against America was made because bin Laden sees America as spearheading a crusade against Islamic nations. Bin Laden wants no other religion in Islamic countries other than Islam. Bin Laden has made clear his position on weapons of mass destruction. If necessary, he sees the right to have and use nuclear and biological weapons. As he has said so often, he has the right to defend Islam.

Bin Laden is a product of the last half of the 20th Century, where he and other terrorists learned that fanaticism and the fear component of terroristic management can stall or moot a larger, superior military technology. The "fear" weapon of killing masses of people can bring a large nation to its knees. Terrorists have learned this from Vietnam fanaticism and the dissolution of the Soviet Union into 14 independent republics. They see and have learned that money and people, not missiles and warships won the U.S. Cold War. It was U.S. money supporting bin Laden that won against the Russians. Technology, warships and missiles brought about the U.S. defeat in Vietnam. Terrorists and Al-Qaeda sees American capitalism as the real time religious infidels rather than Christians following their leader Jesus Christ.

Bin Laden wants all people to be Islamic. Therefore, con-



**Figure 15 – Looking like Muhammad**

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version to the Islamic faith is central to abolish the gap between non-believers and believers. He wants this to happen throughout the world.

Bin Laden's effort to get Islamics to fight for Allah has created an inducing set of motivators.

Become a martyr and reap an eternal paradise with 72 virgins.

Cleanse sacred soil and perpetuate Islam into eternity.

Attacks on America are acts of worship that pleases Allah.

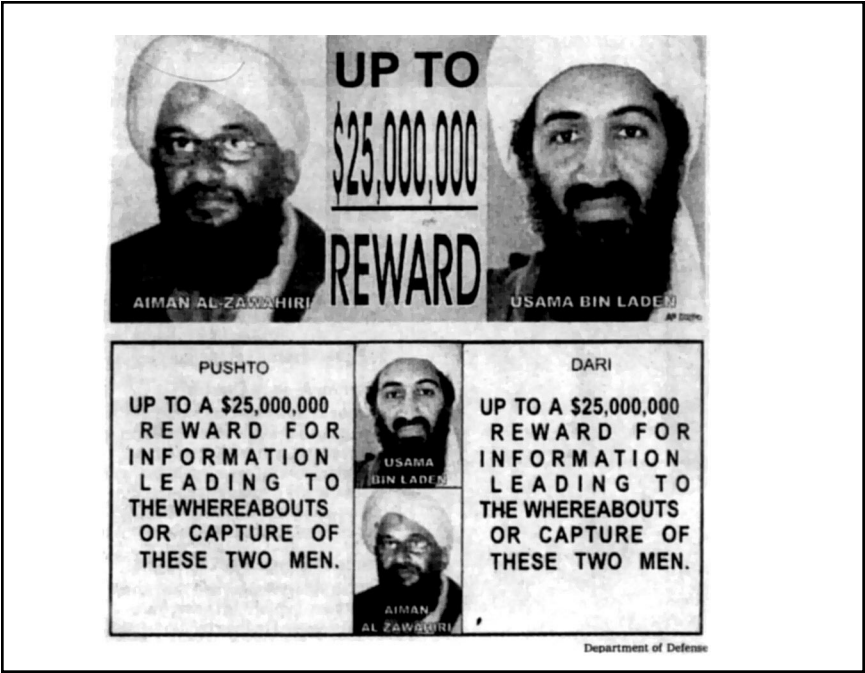
Removing Israelis and Americans out of Jerusalem is the greatest conformance to the Koran and its teachings.

Follow bin Laden as he is credited with ridding the Russians from Afghanistan, waking up Washington to the Palestinian cause and moving negotiations outside the Palestinian area. These are signs that Allah is with bin Laden.

Believe in Islam and see terrorist acts as spiritual scenarios. Islam gives moral justification for killing. Allah is pleased to see the defense of Islam.

Bin Laden wants to reform Islam. He is blaming American influence on preventing his reformation. The true battle bin





**Figure 16 – Wanted: Dead or Alive**

Laden has is meeting modernity with Muslim traditions. Modernity collides with religious tradition in such areas as women’s participation in Islamic life; Muslim participation in governmental issues; compulsive demands of the clerics; and a lifestyle with many freedoms. His practice of Islam is absolutely incompatible with the character of modern states of the 21st Century.

The capture or death of Osama bin Laden would not be the end of terrorism or the jihad. He is the symptom and not the cause. There are many more in the Al-Qaeda network behind him. Taliban losses in Afghanistan could lead Al-Qaeda to strike back with other attacks as depicted in the many battlefronts of Figure 7. If military, economic, political and cultural pressure is put on an enemy in one avenue or venue, it is reasonable to assume the enemy will act in a separate area, in a different venue. This adds to the terrorist war additional concerns requiring a higher degree of alert-

ness, readiness and wariness. These concerns currently are as high as they have ever been. It is well known that bin Laden wants to obtain nuclear weapons. It is also known that nuclear weapons would not be used just as a threat, but with the intent of actual deployment. Those fighting a terrorist war must be prepared for all eventualities including a nuclear threat. This seems to suggest the types of wars of the past have become obsolete. Readiness to conduct terrorist attacks represents wars of the future. The Al-Qaeda network with its many deviant followers is symbolic of death. See Figure 17.



**Figure 17 – Al-Qaeda is a leadership of death**

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The hate for America can be seen even amongst Americans. Here are some quotations.

“Oh Washington, D.C., government of America, you shall pay well for your evil. There is a God on the scene – He’s anxious to destroy you. Rush to your death.” –Louis Farrakhan

“God will not give Japan or Europe the honor of bringing down the United States. This is an honor God will bestow upon Muslims.” –Louis Farrakhan

Farrakhan, like other fanatical extremists, has read the Koran, which commands Muslims to fight for their faith, to Muslimize the entire world. Muslims are within the U.S., but are a part of the Islamic conspiracy to destroy the American culture and replace it with the Islamic society of the 7th Century.

Al-Qaeda is planning another attack on an American target in a place no one expects. The hate for the American government and the American people who support the government is so intense and widespread that even several attacks may be planned. No one knows except a small group of men huddled together who have a burning desire to avenge themselves against America for its various perceived insults to Islam.

An interesting survey on public opinion of the most hated individuals was taken in Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Jordan, Samoa and the Gaza Strip and was reported in the Okaz newspaper. Here are the results of the most hated individual in the world as given by those in the Arab world. It appears the war with terrorists also involves intense hatred that exists in the Arab world. The problem is not limited to a handful of extremists. The problem is that millions of Arabs hate Americans for all kinds of good reasons and bad reasons, legitimate reasons and illegitimate reasons.

Name	Title	% Most Hated	Approximate # of People
1. Ariel Sharron	Prime Minister of Israel	58	500 million
2. George Bush	President USA	29	300 million
3. Bin Laden	Terrorist	11	110 million
4. Mullah Omar	Terrorist	3	30 million

## **TERRORISM IS A RELIGIOUS WAR!**

Most people feel that religion should provide tranquility and peace, not terror. Yet, in terrorist cases, religion has supplied not only the ideology, but also the motivation behind the organizational structure for the perpetrators of war. There are many who prefer to avoid calling terroristic conflicts and activities a religious war. But a careful look will notice that the religious conflict central to the terrorist mission, direction and motivation. Here are the reasons why terrorism is a religious war.

The words depicting terrorist concepts are saturated with religious arguments, spiritual meaning and theological language. The Koran is quoted often as the guiding document. Bin Laden speaks about cleansing sacred ground of all infidels. This is couched in religious language, threats and the condemnation of Allah.

The Taliban network in Islamic countries is fanatically religious. Their conformance to the Koran is literal, fundamental and exacting. The modern cultural influences of the United States is seen by Islamics as the great Satan. Especially in regard to women's dress, voice, education, appearance, visibility and behavior.

Muslims generally are silent over the acts of terrorists. Islamic countries have not condemned the acts of individual extremists. These countries have distanced themselves from the militants and bin Laden, but they have not excluded these violent ones from their countries. In fact, they have harbored and protected them.

Motivation for the suicide bomber, which is a central weapon, is the promise of a heavenly reward. Terrorists use the term suicide martyrs. Martyrdom is desirable to the terrorists. They want to give up their lives. This ensures a heavenly reward in eternal life with a personal harem of 72 virgins. This is the Islamic clerical offer for devotion to Islam.

Pluralistic thinking does not see Islam versus Judaism versus Christianity. But there are conflicts, contradictions and

disagreements among the central documents of the three faiths as seen in the next section. The conflicts have ancient roots: Judaism was born with Abraham and Moses, Christianity was born with Jesus and the Apostles and Islam was born with Muhammad. These three religions were born in different periods of time. Fundamentalists want their followers to relive and revert to the period of their inception.

“Jihad” does mean holy war or war against infidel enemies. But the literal understanding means “effort” or “struggle” against one’s own morality. So the word often signifies the battle against one’s own moral shortcomings. Muhammad himself recognized the dual meaning of jihad. This is then a fight against one’s own struggle to conform to the Koran. For many Islamic clerics, the American war is a war of religions. They call it a battle of infidels versus Islam. They have said often, “It is the duty of every Muslim to stand up with the Afghan people and fight against America.” They have also said, “Everyone who supports America is an infidel – someone who has strayed from the path of Islam.” The expression “infidel” is a religious term since it means an Islamic non-believer. This would refer to Jews, Christians, Hindus and many from other religious faiths, which are considered non-believers.

The holy war of jihad does not tolerate or allow different religions in Islamic countries. There is to be no pluralism. Jihad wants to impose, even with violence, the Islamic lifestyle on the rest of the world. Islamic extremists see jihad as a war between good and evil. Terrorists are not seen as criminals. They are not immoral or unlawful. They are seen as defending their faith from non-believers. The Islamic extremists are better defined as reformers of religion even in their own ranks.

The holy war of jihad does not condemn soldiers for raping women and often-young girls (8-15 years old). Thousands of these victims just suffer in silence as they have no hope or protection from their government. Soldiers cause

homelessness by throwing out owners and taking over their homes. The government does little or nothing to protect the rights of homeowners against soldiers. Soldiers want war since it is a source of income and benefits. No war means no livelihood.

The holy war of jihad is almost exclusively symbolic and is manifested in so many ways that an Islamic believer selects and adopts the way that gives him strength and fortitude. After all, to sacrifice a life is to give Allah the ultimate possession one has.

Bin Laden's true enemy is the 21st Century's cultural state of modernity. He has attested to this many times and its destruction is a major mission of the Al-Qaeda organization. He wants the world to return to the 7th Century to live like Muhammad lived. The world's nations of infidels are more than people and countries. They are also upholders of values and culture. Bin Laden divides the world into two parts: believers in Islam and non-believers or infidels.



**Figure 18 – How to make terrorists (Courtesy of the Gannett News)**

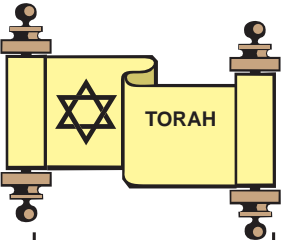


## **COMPARING THREE RELIGIOUS DOCUMENTS – THE TORAH, THE BIBLE AND THE KORAN**

Neither space nor mission allows for a complete and comprehensive comparison of the Torah, the Bible and the Koran. Some comparisons in selected areas are made here. In this comparison one can see similarities as well as differences. The problem is not with Islam, but rather the extreme interpretation made of Koran standards. It is as if the extremists hijacked the Koran. The Muslim religion definitely incorporates violence and killing of non-Muslims. The practice has diminished during the past 50 years. Nonetheless, fanatical elements within Islam have taken advantage in writings of the Koran to justify their diabolical deeds; namely mass murdering and committing suicide.

Fundamentalists in every religion, and especially Islam have attracted millions of adherents for many decades. In some cases the attraction goes back to the originators of the religion. Here are some reasons why fundamentalism attracts so many. This can be true with other religions.

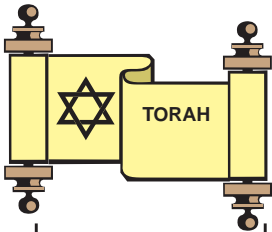


Living the life similar to the religious originator gives substance, support and validation for receiving the same benefits of the originator. The Christian knows and believes that Jesus went to heaven. If they follow what Jesus did, the way he lived and the practice of his beliefs, the expectation would be that the Christian would also go to heaven. Similarly, the Islamic knows and believes that Muhammad went to heaven. If, then, the Islamic practices Muhammad's beliefs, what he did and the way he lived, the expectation would be that the Islamic would go to heaven. But to live life as the originator requires deviations and adjustments in lifestyle of a more modern world, which causes a clashing of civilizations.

Fundamentalists are dedicated students of their religious documents such as the Torah, the Bible and the Koran. The closer the conformity to the spoken word of the originator, the more satisfied the acceptance of the belief of the origina-

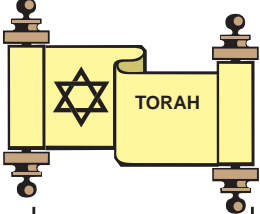
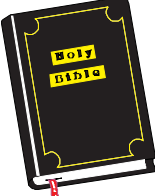

	<p>MOSES 1450 BC</p> 	<p>JESUS 33 AD</p> 	<p>MUHAMMAD 620 AD</p> 
<b>GOLDEN RULE</b>	Lev 19:18 "love your neighbor as yourself"	Matt 7:12 "Therefore, all things whatever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."	"Not one of you is a believer until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself." Surah 40:13
<b>LYING AND DECEIT</b>	Prov 12:22 "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord."	I Tim 4:2 "Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron."	Surah 61:2-3 "Very hateful is it to Allah that you say what you do not do."
<b>WARFARE</b>	Prov 20:18 "Every purpose is established by counsel; and with good advice make war."	Matt 26:52 "Put up again thy sword into its place; for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword."	Surah 2:216 "Warfare is ordained for you, though it is hateful unto you but it may happen that ye hate a thing which is good for you and it may happen that ye love a thing which is bad for you. Allah knoweth, ye know not."
<b>SLAYING UNJUSTLY</b>	Numbers 35:27 "And if the avenger of blood kills the slayer, he shall not be guilty of blood."	John 16:2 "They shall put you out of the synagogues; yea the time cometh that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service."	Surah 17:33 "Slay not the life which Allah hath forbidden, save with right. Whoso is slain wrongfully, we have given power to his heir."
<b>ENEMIES</b>	Babu Metzera 2:26 "Aid an enemy before you and a friend, to subdue hatred."	Matt 5:43-44 "Love your enemies"	Surah 60:7 "It maybe that Allah will ordain love between you and those whom you hold as enemies."

tor. It gives a sense of meaning and direction to a variable and disorientated world. There is little stretch of the imagina-



	<p>MOSES 1450 BC</p> 	<p>JESUS 33 AD</p> 	<p>MUHAMMAD 620 AD</p> 
KILLING	Exod 20:13 "Thou shall not kill."	Luke 18:20 "Thou knowest the commandments; do not commit adultery, do not kill, do not steal."	Surah 5:99 "Whosoever killeth a human being for other than manslaughter it shall be as if he had killed all mankind. He that saves one 's life is like he who saved the life of all mankind."
REVENGE	Lev 24:20 "Breach for breach, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; as he hath caused a blemish in a man, so shall it be done to him."	Matt 5:39 "But I say unto you that ye resist not evil, but whosoever shall smite thee on in thy right cheek turn to him the other also."	Surah 2:190 "Fight in the way of Allah against those who fight against you but begin not hostilities. Allah loveth not aggression."
MURDER	Talmud 729 "If a man comes to kill you, forestall it by killing him."	Matt 26:51-52 "All who draw the sword will die by the sword."	Surah 4:92 "Anyone who kills a believer intentionally will have his reward in hell."
WIFE RIGHTS	Talmud 100b "A man is forbidden to compel his wife to her marital duty."	1 Peter 3:5 "Wives be in subjection unto their own husbands."	Surah: Hadith "Your wife has rights over you."
KINDNESS	Psm 119:76 "Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be my comfort."	1 Peter 4:8 "Love shall cover the multitude of sins."	Surah 39:10 "Those who act kindly in this world will have kindness."

tion or conviction to conform to the originator's words. You also will encourage, if necessary that others do the same. Since error and interpretation can lead to a blockage of

	MOSES 1450 BC	JESUS 33 AD	MUHAMMAD 620 AD
			
TOLERANCE FOR DIFFERENT FAITHS	Deut 6:4 "Hear O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord."	Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other for there is no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved."	Surah 2:25 "There is no compulsion in religion."
ONE GOD	Lev 24:20 "Breach for breach, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; as he hath caused a blemish in a man, so shall it be done to him."	1 John 5:7 "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, the Holy Spirit and these three are one." (mistranslated text)	Surah 9:112 "He is God, the one God, the eternally besought of all. He neither begets nor was begotten and there is no comparison to him."

heavenly rewards, fundamentalists prefer to rely on the literal interpretation of their sacred writings. This is why Catholics insist on the absolute church authority and interpretation of the Bible. Fundamentalists follow literal interpretations of their sacred writings.

Fundamentalists also see that faith cannot exist alone within a single person. Faith needs a community of worship. The more in the community, the more validation does one receive that they have the correct interpretation. No one wants a faith that they have alone without any others agreeing with them. Fundamentalists will seek out this agreed upon community and hang on to membership in this community as it reinforces one's beliefs. Yet, even fundamentalists will make some adjustments since they realize there is a futility to fighting to the death over something beyond human understanding in the invisible world of spirituality.

Fundamentalists have always kept their distance from Governmental powers since government prefers liberality, allowance for diverse thinking backed by legislation and enforcement. It usually works against the practice of fundamentalist ideology. Jesus said, "Render therefore unto Caesar

the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's." This is separation between church and state. The U.S. guarantees freedom of religion. Hence, religious tolerance, even to a point of pluralism, is widely practiced. The Taliban, as a fundamental ideology in Islam, is intolerant, dogmatic, one-sided, prejudiced, fanatical, bigoted, unreasonable, self-righteous and parochial over many points.

## **CHAPTER 3**

# **UNDERSTANDING ISLAM**

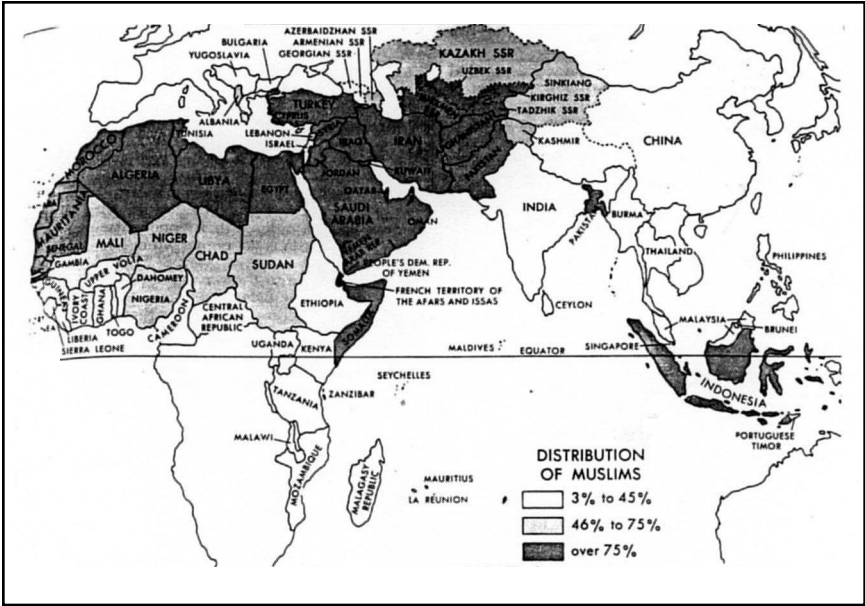
*“I heard a language that I understood not.”*

*—Psalms 81:5*

Islam is a religion of people who follow the prophet Muhammad, who lived from 570-632 AD. Islam is both political as well as a religious process. These combine to form a way of life - a discipline based on looking at the world through the eyes of faith. But a careful and honest analysis sees both a political and religious way of life is part of Islam. The word “Muhammad” means “submission” or “commitment.” Muhammad called his fellow Arabs to do the will of their God, Allah. The religion started in the Middle East with the Arabs, but now has spread out in many countries around the world as seen in Figure 19. It is one of the three monotheistic faiths in the world. There are an estimated 1.4 billion Muslims worldwide.

There are two major divisions in the Islamic religion; the Sunnis and the Shiites. The Sunnis are orthodox seeped in the traditions of the past. In fact, they want to return to the culture and practices of Muhammad in the 7th Century AD. Terrorist extremists tend to be Sunnis. Iraq is predominately Sunni. The Shiites are the other division of Islam. They believe succession of leadership comes from blood relations with Muhammad and Ali, a cousin and son-in-law of Muhammad. They do not follow the guidance of traditions, but rather the guidance of one whom Allah has chosen in current times. Iran is predominately Shiite. This issue of leadership succession is so intense that a 7-year war was conducted between Iran and Iraq.

Muhammad claims to have received a call from Allah. The records indicate he was in a cave above Mecca for religious meditation. There he had a vision of an angel com-



**Figure 19 – Distribution of Muslims throughout the Eastern Hemisphere of the world**

manding him to recite the “word of Allah.” The record indicates the angel compelled him to document the word of Allah. His teachings and usual success centered on the idea of one God (monotheism) in a world of many gods. Muhammad called for the recognition of this single divine power. Monotheism was already embraced by Judaism through Abraham and by Christianity through Jesus. The prophet played an important role in Muslim religious life. The Koran is filled with life practices. The Koran then became the seal of the prophets. The revelation to Muhammad was a renewal of the messages of the prophets before him. Islam claims Muhammad was the last of the prophetic traditions. Muhammad expected to be received favorably by Jews and Christians alike. Even today his rejection is a great source of strife.

Muslims had a tendency to quickly fabricate a tradition to support the causes in which they are interested. Sometimes the fabrication is created by rulers, who compel learned men

to vouch for the authenticity of the fabricated tradition. This is done often to justify a struggle and battle between tribes. Pious reasons are often given for the real reasons. Islamics believe they understand the mentality and intentions of Muhammad so well that they can speak for him. Sometimes they attribute sayings they think the prophet would have said if he were still alive. The result is to create a vast body of documents about the prophet with no basis in historical fact. This gives insight into Osama bin Laden's interpretations of the Koran and his insertions of traditions of preference rather than traditions of history. This is seen in his rejection by so many Islamic countries and Muslim intellectuals.

### **ISLAMIC PRIMER AND BELIEFS**

Here is a brief summary of Islamic practices and beliefs.

Muslims are followers of Islam. This means they accept unequivocally the will and commandments of Allah. Allah is the sustainer and creator of the universe. The Koran gives 99 names for Allah, but his essence is unknowable.

Muhammad founded Islam in 610 AD with headquarters in Mecca. There are two groups in Islam: Shiites, those who are direct blood descendants of Muhammad and Sunni, those who are not.

The Koran is the fundamental scripture for all Muslims. This book contains Muhammad's words and deeds. The Torah law of Moses and the Gospel message of Jesus are accepted by the Koran.

Allah is a one God. He revealed the Koran to Muhammad through the angel Gabriel. Allah is a severe judge and not depicted as loving. He is, however, merciful.

Jesus is one of many prophets sent by God to various cultures. Jesus is not the son of God. He was not crucified. He did ascend to heaven without dying. The Koran refers to Jesus as a spirit of God.

Humans are basically good, but fall often and need guidance. Sin is failure to do Allah's will. This failure is not prac-

ting the five pillars of Islam needed for salvation.

The five pillars that lead to salvation are:

Confess that Allah is the one true God and Muhammad is his prophet.

Pray five times daily facing Mecca at dawn, midday, mid-afternoon, sunset and at nightfall.

Give alms (money). Payment of the Zakat is the most important external sign of adherence to Islam.

Fast during the month of Ramadan. This includes abstaining from all food and drink during daylight hours and reciting the Koran and praying.

Make a pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in a lifetime. This is seen as the lifetime climax of being a Muslim.

As a result of a pilgrimage to Mecca, it is not unusual to see as many as two million Muslims prostrated at the Grand Mosque each year in Saudi Arabia. Everyone wears white garments and there is no difference between rich or poor, black and white. See Figure 20.

There is a supreme spiritual being called Satan. Satan can be any organization, government, group, individual, ideology



**Figure 20 – View of two million Muslims prostrated in prayer at the Grand Mosque in Mecca. The visitors are a microcosm of the Islamic world.**

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or culture, which does not do the will of Allah.

The balance between good and bad deeds determines the eternal destiny of an individual in paradise or hell. Allah's mercy may tip the balances, but it is uncertain and arbitrary.

There is paradise (heaven) and darkness (hell). Hell is a place of torture and punishment. Allah will be the judge. Allah sends one to a heaven of sensual pleasure or hell to be rejected eternally.

There is no special calling or class within a class. Only those faithful who practice the five pillars of the faith will be rewarded. Those faithful will be caught up to paradise to live eternally.

Jesus will return in the future to live or die. He is referred to as Messiah and Ayatollah. There are signs of God dealing directly with Jesus.

There is a resurrection of people's bodies. This is on the final day of reckoning and reward giving eternal paradise for those who believe in Islam, eternal Hell for those who reject Islam. Individuals will receive their book of deeds. If given in the right hand – paradise. If given in the left hand – hell.

There is no original sin, but Satan attempts to seduce human beings from the straight path. Salvation lies in keeping on the straight and right path.

Marriage is a legal agreement, not a sacrament and either partner may include conditions. (This practice is in dispute with other sections of Islam.)

Muhammad was both a political and religious leader, inferring there is no separation of religion and state.

Pluralism is a challenging issue with Islam. Religious minorities are threatened in some countries and not allowed in other countries.

The angels of Allah play an active part in human life. They are involved with human life and affairs. This is why prayer is required five times in one day.



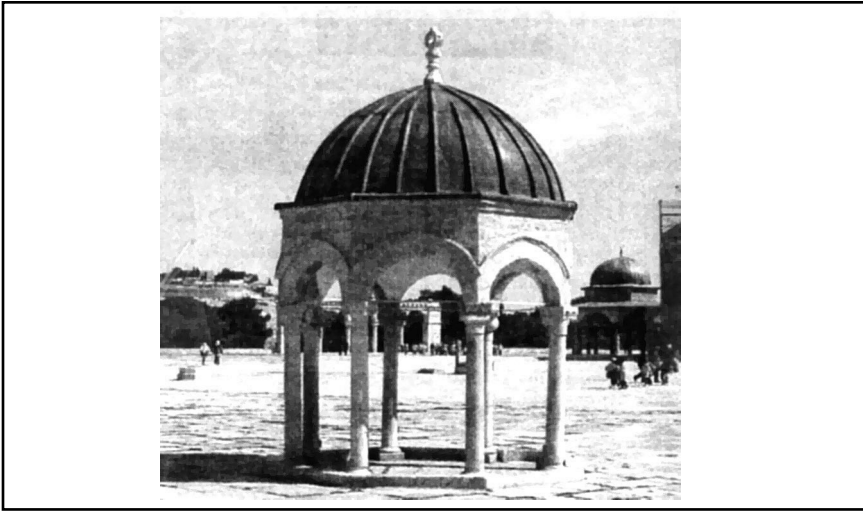
Muslims believe in predestination. Man cannot change what Allah has willed. Nevertheless, men are free to accept or reject Islam. Submission to Islam implies living in harmony with Allah. Man's rejection of Allah is the reason for the chaos and confusion that exists in the world today.

Islam teaches that violence is not only justified, but obligatory in the defense of the faith. Islamic clerics are tolerant of those who use killing and violence against Islamic foes to keep society on the right spiritual path. Although, several Islamic clerics have decried the bombings of September 11th, many have been silent. Crown Prince leaders have warned against exaggeration and violence in religion. Yet, there is little comprehensive rebuttal or open discussion of the radical theology put forth by bin Laden. Nor has there been a public repudiation of his violent and aggressive activity.

What has made Islam so militant a faith? The explanation is clearly to be seen in the life and career of Muhammad as well as in the Koran. Back in the 7th Century, Muhammad's preaching failed to convert Mecca. The hostility he aroused was the signal for an armed conflict between two rival towns – Mecca and Medina. Muhammad was spurred on to fight in the cause of Allah against those who fight to reject. Mecca was won by the sword. Thus, the sword was symbolic of Muhammad's victory over idolatry. Muhammad's military engagement has perpetuated the militant faith that still exists even until today.

### **ISLAMIC RADICALS**

Islam has globally declared they are out to convert the world. Islam is a fast growing religion that is penetrating the Middle East, Middle Asia and the Far East. These are the areas where population numbers and densities are the highest. The greatest motivator to the poor, the illiterate, and the unstructured is the offer of a heavenly paradise by just following five simple and easy rules. (5 pillars of Islam) They are: 1) confess Allah is God; 2) pray five times a day; 3) give alms; 4) fast in the month of Ramadan; 5) a once in a life-



**Figure 21 – The Cupola on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem; Professor Kaufman of Hebrew University claims Cupola is over the most holy of Israel’s Temple.**

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time pilgrimage to Mecca. These are painless, light, comfortable, lenient and reachable rules to gain a heavenly eternal life in heaven. It is no wonder people are easily converted. It is no wonder Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world. In Christianity, the idea of a heavenly reward requires faith, which is evident by a challenging transformation of character, personality and dedication, not found anywhere. Additionally, it is manifested by works, deeds and accomplishments defined as extraordinary.

Unfortunately, there are those within Islam that have made the religion political in their mission to convert the world. Christianity places a separation between church and state. In Islam there are extremists and fundamentalists who give the Koran a literal interpretation, even in regard to Muhammad’s words on defending the faith. The extremists interpret defending the faith even to the point of killing. The radical fundamentalists are fanatics and dangerous since they believe that by killing for Allah they receive a heavenly eternal reward. They believe in holy wars or wars endorsed by God. What is dangerous about radical fundamentalism is that

they believe if they die, such as in suicide bombings, in the service of Allah, at the point of death, they immediately go to paradise and have eternal life with their own harem. This gives the terrorists a fanaticism not found anywhere, any-time. This is an especially tempting offer to young men.

The Islamic radicals are changing the power balance in the world. Ten years ago there were 150 mosques in England. Today, there are more than 1200 mosques. Ten years ago in the United States, Farrakhan was only a name. Today, he has billions of dollars to convert Americans to Islam. The ones targeted are black people. This adds fuel to the fire since there are already tensions between blacks and whites.

Violent confrontations exist between Muslims and their governments in Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Pakistan and Turkey, which they are mostly the oil rich states of the Middle East. In England, there are more Muslims than Christians Methodists and Evangelical Christians. With Arab money, English churches are being purchased and converted into mosques. The radical fundamentalists are out to gain control of the oil wealth in Arabian hands. If they succeed they will control the energy and technology of the world. The radical Islamics believe in freeing Jerusalem and exterminating Jews in the process. They believe Allah has mandated it. As they pursue this mission, they move the world down the pathways toward Armageddon.

China is emerging in world affairs and is getting involved with the Islamic mission. In fact, the growth of Islam is a distinctive trend in China. China may even join the Syrian/Iranian/Russian/Iraqi axis. If Turkey joins this axis, the confederation will bring about Jacob's Trouble (Ezekiel 38 & 39). This configuration will cause a conflagration against Israel and will involve most of the nations of the world.

### **ISLAMIC WOMEN**

In the start of this section are quotations from the Koran.

I'm sure the reader is able to interpret what Muhammad was requiring of men and women on the subject of women.

Surah 4:34 – “Men are in charge of women, because Allah hath made the one of them to excel the other and because they spend of their property (for the support of women). So good women are the obedient, guarding in secret that which Allah hath guarded. As for those from whom ye fear rebellion, admonish them and banish them to beds apart and scourge them.”

Surah 48:2 – “Such of you as put away your wives by saying, they are as their mothers. They are not their mothers. None are their mothers except those who gave them birth. They indeed utter an ill word and a lie. And Allah is forgiving, merciful.”

Surah 68:1 – “And if any of your wives have gone from you unto the disbelievers and afterward you have your turn, then give unto those whose wives have gone the like of that which they have spend and keep your duty to Allah in whom ye are believers.”

Surah 4:15 – “As for those of your women who are guilty of lewdness, call to witness four of you against them. And if they testify (to the truth of the allegation) then confine them to the houses until death take them.”

Surah 4:20 – “And if ye wish to exchange one wife for another and ye have given unto one a sum of money (however great), take nothing from it.”

Surah 24:31 – “And tell the believing women to lower their gaze and be modest and to display of their adornment only that which is apparent and to draw their veil over their bosoms and not to reveal their adornment save to their own husbands or fathers or husbands fathers or their sons of their husbands sons. And let them not stamp their feet so as to reveal what they hide of their adornment.”

Surah 24:60 – “And when women past childbearing who have no hope of marriage, it is no sin for them if they dis-

card their outer clothing in such a way as not to show adornment. But to refrain is better for them.”

Surah 4:34 – “Good women are obedient, they guard their unseen parts because God has guarded them. As for those from whom you fear disobedience, admonish them, forsake them in beds apart and beat them. Then if they obey you, take no further action against them.”

Surah 4:32 – “If you fear that you cannot treat orphans with fairness, then you may marry other women who seem good to you; two, three or four of them. But if you fear that you cannot maintain equality among them, marry one only or any slave girls you may own.”

Suppression of women is fostered and enforced by Islamic extremists as well as Afghanistan’s Taliban. Their policies are a perversion of Islam. The change in Afghanistan is not just a revolution, but also emancipation. The change is occurring not only in Afghanistan, but in other Islamic countries as well. There are a list of forbiddens in Islamic countries. The degree of extremity varies with each country, but here are some practices.

Women are forbidden to uncover publicly, their face, body, arms and legs. An all-encompassing burqua must be worn. A blue burqua means they can talk to western men. The coverings are to protect women from men’s lusts or from the threat of rape. (See Figure 22)

Women are punished for trivial things such as their shoes squeak too loudly or they make loud tapping sounds. Neither can they laugh out loud. They are also prevented from dancing or listening to music. The Taliban threatens to pull out women’s fingernails for wearing nail polish.

Women must stay at home. They cannot step out of their residence unless accompanied by a man. If they step out, they should not expect to go to heaven. They can stay out, but only with their burqua on.

Women are not to go to work unless it is at home. They



**Figure 22 – Afghan women in burquas. One would have been punished for baring her face in public.**

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should not be educated. Girls 8 years and older are prohibited from going to school. A women's voice should not be heard on the radio or TV. Women are not to have the freedom to make decisions for themselves.

Women can marry and have one husband, but husbands may have several wives. Bin Laden has four wives. When a young girl turns 15 or 16, a marriage is arranged between parents of the couple to be married. The girl is expected to spend all her time in the home taking care of her children, praying and reading the Koran. Women have lived a cruel and joyless existence and in some countries still do. It is as if women are a central goal of punishment from terrorists, fundamentalists or extremists. This punishment is carried out in a variety of Islamic countries.

Those young girls who attend school are taught Islamic fundamentalism. This includes reading and reciting the Koran many hours a day, learning Arabic grammar and pronunciation. After all, the Koran, is written in Arabic.

As of this writing, the new government of Afghanistan is urging women to shed the burqua and accept the high priority placed on their rights. This is a dramatic reversal of

Taliban policy. The new government is encouraging female workers at the national ministries not to wear burquas on the job. The urging of the removal of the burqua for women at work is to allow them to see and move about on the job more efficiently and effectively. The new government has placed a priority on establishing equal rights to women. This policy is to be implemented in tourism, education, communications and women's affairs. The slow response to this new policy is due to both the reluctance to integrate women into the mainstream of Islamic life and the fear of the return of the Taliban and reinstatement of prohibitions.

A word about Islam as an empire. Islam was once one of the greatest and most powerful civilizations in the world. (700 AD to 1914 AD) Indeed, it seemed as if the whole world would fall under Islamic rule. The Muslims established an empire greater than that of Rome at its zenith. Islam made deep inroads into Africa, South East Asia and Southern Europe. The Christian crusades were launched to repeal the forces of Islam, but the crusades ended in failure. At one point, there were as many as six Islamic empires. The last of these, was the Ottoman Empire. In the early and mid eighteenth century, Islam began a slow but steady decline. The Ottoman Empire collapsed completely after World War I. With this glorious history, which lasted nearly 1000 years, it is understandable why Osama bin Laden wants reform, restoration and a return to a worldwide position. He wants Islam to return to its former glory.

## CHAPTER 4

### ISRAEL'S INVOLVEMENT

*“And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel and I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them saith the Lord, thy God.”*

*—Amos 9:14-15*

This is what Osama bin Laden has said, “We declare Jihad against the U.S. Government because the U.S. Government Ö has committed acts that are extremely unjust, hideous and criminal whether directly or through its support of the Israeli occupation of Palestine. We believe the USA is directly responsible for those who were killed in Palestine, Lebanon and Iraq. Due to USA subordination to Jews, the arrogance and haughtiness of the U.S. regime has reached to the extent that they occupy Arabia. We declare Jihad against the USA because in our religion it is our duty to make Jihad so that we drive the Americans away from all Muslim countries.” In Chapter 2, a summary was given as to what bin Laden wants in his declared Jihad with the U.S. This summary is briefly repeated here.

Bin Laden wants to reform Islam to return to the lifestyle of Muhammad in the 7th Century.

Bin Laden wants to convert the world to Islamic beliefs.

Bin Laden wants to cleanse (get rid of) all non-believers, regarding as infidels, in Muslim countries.

Bin Laden wants all non-believers to remove themselves from the three most sacred spots in all Islam: Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem. Their sacredness is in that order: Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem.

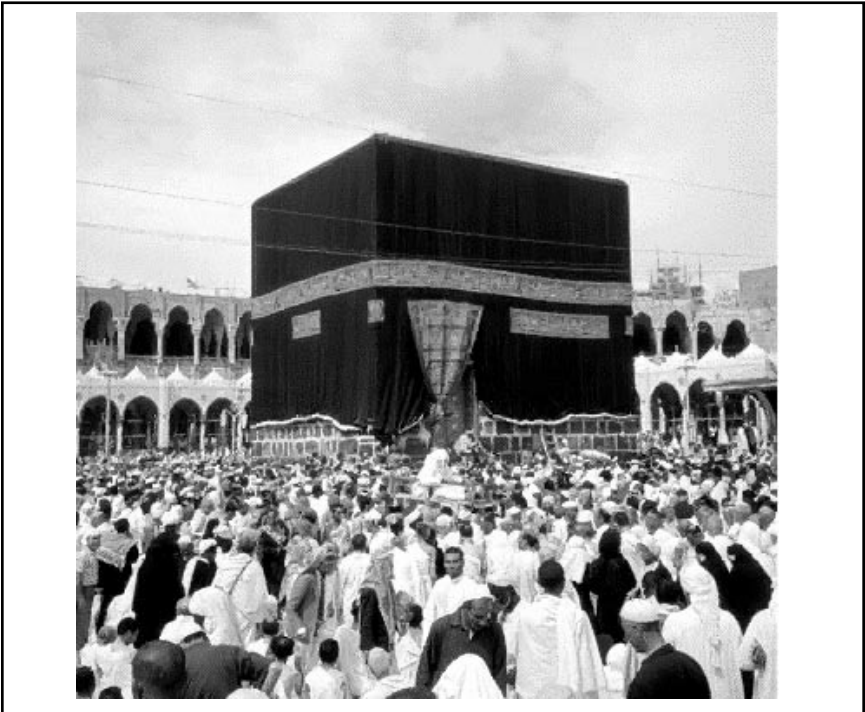
Bin Laden wants to remove Israel and America from Jerusalem. To do this is the greatest conformance to the Koran and its teachings. He wants U.S. support of Israel to stop. They also want to stop the Jewish women from going anywhere in the Holy Land.



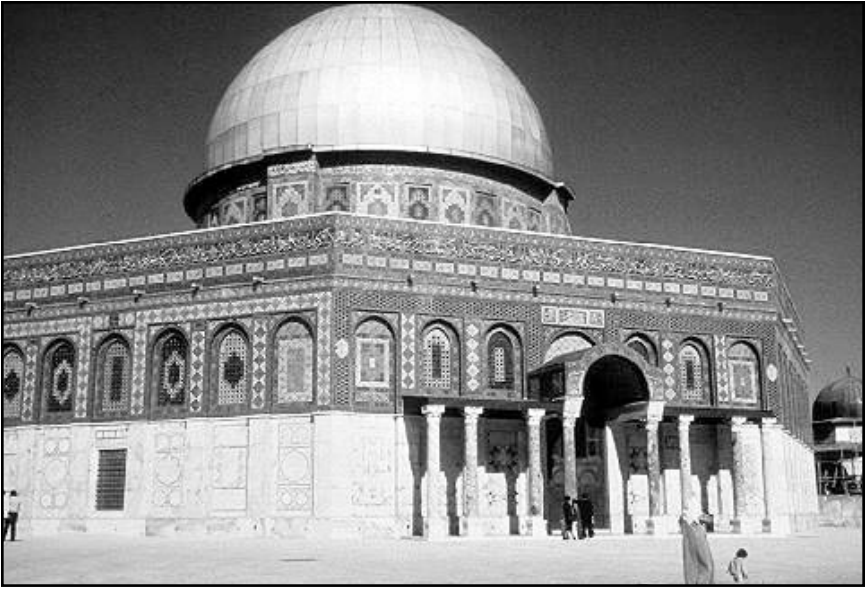
## **THE BATTLE FOR JERUSALEM HAS STARTED**

Israel's involvement in terrorism represents a specific target to terrorists to extricate Jews from Islamic sacred soil. Since US policies support, supply and protect Jews, the US is similarly involved as a target of terrorists. The central issue of why Jerusalem is so important involves a "stone" located on the Temple Mount in the old city of Jerusalem. Islamics believe this stone was the means by which Muhammad was taken up to heaven by Gabriel. Muhammad sent the stone back to earth as a symbol of his heavenly ascension. Also Jews believe the same stone on the Temple Mount was the exact place Abraham was to sacrifice his son Isaac to God. Therefore, it represents the location of the rebuilding of the Temple as prophesied. The stone is located in the Dome of the Rock. See Figure 23 and 24.

"Second Return" Christians believe that Jesus will not



**Figure 23 – The Kaaba in the courtyard of the great mosque at Mecca is the most sacred structure of Islam**



**Figure 24 – The Stone in the Dome of the Rock is sacred to both Jews and Islamics**

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return to earth until the Temple is rebuilt. Other Christian groups are interested in the Temple Mount as a symbol of an international city for all religious people. Thus we see several groups striving to own Jerusalem. The name Jerusalem means the City of Peace. Yet Jerusalem has never seen peace. It has been conquered 37 times and destroyed 18 times. Surprisingly, it manages to rise with uncanny vitality. No other city in the world has gone through such cycles of life and death. Jerusalem is truly an eternal city. To walk the streets of Jerusalem is literally to walk on top of the world's largest battlefield considering the millions of people who left their lives there either attacking or defending it. Today, the Temple Mount on Mount Moriah is likely to trigger the next world war or even Jacob's Trouble. Jerusalem is a holy city for Jews, Muslims, Christians and Orthodoxy. In her streets walked men, who claimed they were sent by God. They even claimed they talked to God. The prophecies are clear about the future role of Jerusalem. It has an exciting as well as a superlative role. Here are some scriptures on this topic.

Jer 3:17 – “At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord and all the nations shall be gathered unto it.”

Isa 56:6-7 – “For mine house (Jerusalem) shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”

Isa 2:2-4 – “For out of Zion shall go forth the law and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.”

But there are other scriptures that refer to the future of Jerusalem frightening and difficult!

Zech 12:3 – “I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all the nations.”

Zech 12:2 – “I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all people.”

Zech 14:2 – “I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle.”

Joel 3:1 – “For, behold, in those days, I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem.”

There you have it, two sets of scriptures. On the one hand, Jerusalem will be a house of prayer and peace and on the other hand Jerusalem will be a cup of trembling to all people. On the one hand, Jerusalem will gather all nations to it before the throne of God and on the other, Jerusalem will be a burdensome stone on the neck of the world. On the one hand, Jerusalem will be the source of world law and on the other, Jerusalem will be a frightening city of destruction.

### **ISRAEL IS INVOLVED BUT WILL THEY SURVIVE?**

The battle for Jerusalem will intensify. Imposing a peace between Israel and the PLO does not seem workable. Israel's survival hangs by the slenderest of threads. Hostile neighbors, who have sworn her destruction and annihilation, surround Israel. Israel lives from day to day not knowing whether a nuclear rocket will fall on them or a terrorist bomb explosion in a mall or invaders will cross her borders starting a full-scale war. External wars conducted to hold Jerusalem were:

War of Independence – 1948

Sinai Campaign – 1956

6 Day War – 1967

Yom Kippur War – 1973

Lebanese War – 1982

Scud Missile Attack – 1991

Intifada – 1990-1997

The problem for Israel is not only external, but internal as well. Israel's infrastructure is shaking. Recently, a battle for identity has arisen. 1000 US Rabbis have declared that the two largest segments of Judaism are not Jewish. These are the liberals and the conservatives. This is because they do not observe complete Jewish laws. The point these rabbis are making is that 65-85 percent of the world's Jews are not Jews. If we add the secularist Jew to the liberals and conservatives, then Jews are having a crisis of identity!

Can Israel survive in a hostile world with both an external and internal point of view? Central to Israel's survival is the battle for Jerusalem. Why Jerusalem and the Jews have become front-page news to the world surely needs an explanation.

Biblical scriptures offer this explanation. The Jews feel, and the scriptures support it, that they are a chosen people. Deuteronomy 7:6 – “For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God, (who) hath chosen thee to be a special people above all people who are upon the face of the earth.” Also the time to favor Israel has come. Jeremiah 16:14-15 – “I will cause them to return to the land which I have given unto their fathers.” It appears that God in choosing Israel has also become Israel's protector.

The hostile nations, which fight against Israel do not realize they are going against Israel's God. Genesis 12:3 – “I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.” Also in Zechariah 14:3 – “Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.”

But what is making Jerusalem the spark or ignition for the start of a great conflagration? The answer is two countries want Jerusalem as their capital. Both countries are expecting it. Both countries will fight to the bitter end for it.

Both countries are willing to die with the last man to have Jerusalem. There has been some exchange of land. Israel has given up land in Gaza, Shechem, Hebron and Bethlehem - as much as 10 percent.

But the Palestinians continue to press for the prize they seek – Jerusalem. Yasser Arafat has had a dream of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as the capital. At one time Israel's Prime Minister Peres gave Arafat the assurance the Palestinians would have a foothold in Jerusalem. In fact, Peres gave Arafat control and responsibility for all Christian and Islamic holy places. Arafat has a letter to that effect. On the other hand, Netanyahu was firm, that even at the cost of losing all the friendly nations including the U.S. Jerusalem belongs to the Jews!

The Bible gives clear statements as to who owns the land referred to as Palestine. In Deuteronomy 1:6-8, God said, "Behold I have set the land before you; go in and possess the land which the Lord gives to you and to your seed." And in Genesis 15:18-21, "The Lord made a covenant with Abram, I will give you the land from the river of Egypt unto the great river Euphrates."

And in Zechariah 2:11-12, "Many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day – and the Lord shall inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land and shall choose Jerusalem." And finally, Isaiah 2:3-4, "– For our of Zion shall go forth the law and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem Ö"

Jerusalem, now the capital of Israel is being challenged by the PLO to be the capital of Palestine, but the scriptures state that it will be the capital of the world when the Biblical civilization will be operating on the earth. This is cited in Jeremiah 3:17, "And at that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord and all the nations shall be gathered unto it." It is no wonder the battle for Jerusalem is escalating! Right after World War I, the League of Nations considered locating themselves in Jerusalem. Right after 1948, when Israel became a state, the United Nations wanted to make

Jerusalem an international city. During this time the Catholic Pope asked and continues to press that Jerusalem be made an international city. But why is there so much pressure to be aligned with Jerusalem? It appears the nations want to be in league and aligned with God. The nations want a connection with God. This implies the battle for Jerusalem might very well be a religious battle.

Zechariah 12:2-3 implies this, “I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people – I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people.” Jerusalem will weigh heavy as a stone on the lifestyles of the nations of the world.

### **CONTROVERSIAL STONE OF BURDEN FOR ALL NATIONS**

Many have raised the question, what is this stone that Zechariah speaks of? May I suggest two possibilities:

First, that the stone is literal in meaning. It is the Stone in the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount in the heart of the old city of Jerusalem. It is a stone, a rock. That is all it is. I’ve seen it and touched it. I have walked around it and I have walked under it. (There is a cave under it.) Then why all this fuss over a stone? It is because the Muslims venerate this stone as a holy relic. The Muslims say Muhammad ascended to heaven from this stone. But the Jews also venerate this stone because Abraham, the father of Jews, was to sacrifice his son Isaac on this rock.

Additionally, Jewish Orthodoxy locates the Holy of Holies of Solomon’s temple right over this stone. Also the many Jews are looking forward to building the third temple on the same site in preparation for the coming of the Messiah. The stone is also venerated by Christians along with Muslims and Jews. Many Christian believe that the second coming of Christ will not take place until the temple is built in Jerusalem.

There you have it. Three major religions of the world, which involves over 3 billion people, are tied to the stone. The Muslims involve all Arab nations, India, Southeast Asia, some Russian republics and Africa. The Jews involve Israel,

Russia, the U.S. and world scattered Jewry. The Christians involve Europe, the U.S., South America and a scattering of other places around the world. Discussions over the stone in Jerusalem generate interest and headlines throughout the world. Disputes over the stone create religious sensitivities worldwide.

Digging and excavating around or near the stone produces vibrations throughout the world so that stress is laid upon prime ministers, presidents and diplomats. The struggle over the ownership of the stone will signal the movement of armies, navies and war machines in a holy war. It is truly a burdensome stone.

There is a second possible meaning to Zechariah's stone. The burdensome stone could be symbolic of the religious spirit that prevails in Jerusalem. The three major religions are represented and headquartered in Jerusalem.

What we are saying is that a religious spirit has invaded Jerusalem that has produced chaos, confusion and a Babylonian atmosphere. Consequently, in many ways Jerusalem has become a microcosm of the religions of the world, since most religions are represented in the city. Here are the groups that want Jerusalem.

The Jews want Jerusalem to build their third temple.

The Muslims want Jerusalem to maintain the Dome of the Rock.

The Catholics want Jerusalem as an international city.

The Evangelical Protestants want Jerusalem as a prelude to the Second Coming.

The Russian Orthodox want Jerusalem along with the Greek and Armenian Orthodox because their relics and holy sites are there.

This is a new development to have a role in the control of Jerusalem. Here we see all sides jockeying for a coming battle. Broadly speaking, three-fourths of the world wants Jerusalem. The United Nations is involved in coordinating

the predators going after the prey.

But the battle for Jerusalem is only symbolic of the battle with anti-Semitism. Hate for the Jews has been historic and still continues. It is worldwide. Nobody is stopping it. It is even escalating. Jesus predicted this anti-Semitism when he said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children." (Luke 23:28) But now with a homeland and a territorial state, anti-Semitism is changing to a national anti-Semitism. In the past, anti-Semitism was on an individual basis. The trend is that soon nations will be against the Semitic Israel. It is interesting to note the causes that started the hatred for Jews.

One cause is the Jewish refusal to worship multiple Gods. Jews insist on the one God! (Deut 6:4) Outside this view, there is the worship of multiple Gods or multiple persons. This disparity causes a hate reaction.

Another reason is the Jewish refusal to be assimilated into a host country where they live. This is the reason Jewish communities and ghettos sprang up. Jews kept themselves separated from the culture in which they lived.

Still another reason is the Jewish conflict with Christendom. Christendom sees the Jews rejecting the Messiah of Jesus, even the divinity of Jesus as a man. Christendom sees the words of Jesus condemning the Jews. They see the Jews as God killers since most religious groups in Christendom see Jesus as God.

Still another cause of anti-Semitism is the open cultured conflicts in diet, marriage and living practices. These conflicts often result in separation, such as ghettos and special communities.

Finally, the greatest cause of anti-Semitism is the conflict with Islam. Islam's anti-Semitism is deeply rooted. The Jews refuse to accept Muhammad as the Messiah sent by God. This refusal infuriates the hatred for Jews.

Islam is violently opposed to Israel's occupation of



Jerusalem. Islam continues to call for a holy war against Israel's control of the Temple Mount. Islam continues to call for the extermination of the Jews and their right to exist. They want genocide! Islam's hatred of Israel is not for its policies or its borders, but for its national existence. The anti-Semitism of people has always been religious, but now it has become political and infecting and affecting many countries of the world.

The battle for Jerusalem is also a battle for world leadership. Everyone knows and senses that in Jerusalem there is a gathering storm. Intelligence sources have noted Egypt and Syria are planning one final war against Israel by 2003 at the latest.

Iran will back the Arab attack on Israel. Certain Islamic terror groups have threatened the U.S. with nuclear terrorism if the U.S. attempts to help Israel. Intelligence sources have gathered information that nuclear terrorist groups are already in the U.S. with their threat to use nuclear bombs to keep the U.S. away from helping the Israelis. This could bring about a fulfillment of the scripture text that all Israel's lovers will leave her. (Jer 30:14)

As this is going on, a new game is developing in Muslim central Asia over oil. It is Russia versus the United States all over again with oil nations between them. The vast oil wealth of the Arabian Peninsula could fall into the hands of radicals. With the world's supply controlled by the radicals, a new terror of world conflict will emerge. The near-future conflicts in this area are sensed by world leaders, who are anxious to help stabilize and bring solutions to the Middle East situation.

This is a leadership challenge. There are world leaders who think their strategies to bring about a solution to the Middle East scenarios are worthy. After all, these leaders want to go down in history as problem solvers. They don't want to be just heads of their states, but leaders in world issues. Their leadership test is seen in the activities of the

United Nations.

The one group that will spark the gathering storm over Jerusalem will be the Islamic Radicals. These radicals are changing the power balance in the world with their terrorist activities. They are causing serious problems for France and other west European states. They are attempting to gain control of the oil wealth in Arabian lands. If they do they will have the world by the tail. They are struggling internally with Arab secularists and may win the battle.

Islamic radicals are planning nuclear terror and even nuclear attacks throughout the world. They believe to free Jerusalem and exterminate Jews is a heavenly mission. The Islamic clerics are assuring men that anyone dying in the execution of their mission against Israel will immediately go to heaven and be given a harem.

Because of the radical groups, Russia and China are paying protection money to Iran in the form of modern weapons. Russia right now is building a 1.5 billion dollar nuclear power plant in Iran. Whoever said that Russia has lost its superpower status?

Don't be surprised to see an emerging China in world affairs. China may even join the Syrian/Iranian/Iraqi axis. The only thing that could make matters worse in terms of Biblical prophecy is to see secular Turkey joining the confederation.

These countries, in alignment confirm the confederation of Ezekiel 38 and 39, which has often been connected with Jacob's Trouble. This is Gog's invasion of Israel from the north led by Russia in coordination and collaboration with its allies of Islamic Iran, Libya, Ethiopia, Gomer (the Balkans) and Turkey. According to the book of Ezekiel, chapters 38 and 39, this invasion will precipitate a major conflagration in the Middle East, involving most of the nations of the world. It will be an invasion in which Jerusalem will be the spoil.

Zechariah 14:2-3 states all the nations will go against Jerusalem, suggesting that a United Nations voted resolution

will go against Israel. The city will fall, houses rifled and women ravished. The city will be temporarily taken.

### **JERUSALEM: THE CENTER OF WORLD DESTINY**

How will the battle for Jerusalem affect the world?

First, the battle for Jerusalem will mean other nations will be drawn into the conflict. There will be United Nations involvement as well as other distant nations. The radical discontents will spark this involvement. Religion will be the coordinator. The battle will take place in symbolic Armageddon.

Second, the battle for Jerusalem will mean a religious war and few, if any, world religions will survive. Radical discontents will be active throughout the world. They will be a serious threat to government, religion and culture. The main thrust of radical discontents is anti-westernism. Already in the United States, a group has been formed called the "Army of God." They are radical and violent. They are targeting gay bars, abortion clinics, federal buildings and government policies.

Third, the battle for Jerusalem will mean the emergence of new world leaders. These new leaders will still have the old ideas. Russia's emerging leaders are communists with 21st Century clothing. General Lebed of Russia has said, "no one will push Russia in the corner." Vladimir Zhirinovskiy has said a war will be raging for ten to fifteen years in the Middle East with nothing to stop it. Zhirinovskiy has been compared to Adolph Hitler.

American leadership style continues to be disarm and dismantle the defense strategy. Russia is gearing up for the big battle. Russia will play a key role in the final chapter of the history of the old civilization. Russia will light the fuse in the final World War. Russia eventually will fail. Ezekiel 39:6, "I will rain fire on Magog."

Fourth, the battle for Jerusalem will mean national anti-Semitism will escalate into world anti-Semitism. The growing tension between Jew and Arab will continue, but a tension

between Jews and the world will develop. Anti-Semitism will involve and permeate civilization.

Fifth and lastly, the battle for Jerusalem will mean the world economy and trade processes will shake and collapse. A discernible trend is the rise of foreign investments by many financial centers in the world. Foreign investors in other countries have already been hampered by terrorist threats. Investors prefer not to deal with the secretive and unexpected activities of terrorists. These terrorists frighten world banks, investors, tourists and trade negotiations.

There are many governments, including the United States, who give lip service to balancing the budget and controlling the rocketing growth of government spending. As these expenditures escalate, balance and control will be formidable.

The battle for Jerusalem has already begun and is in its early stages. Many groups want it for their own purposes. (See Figure 25)

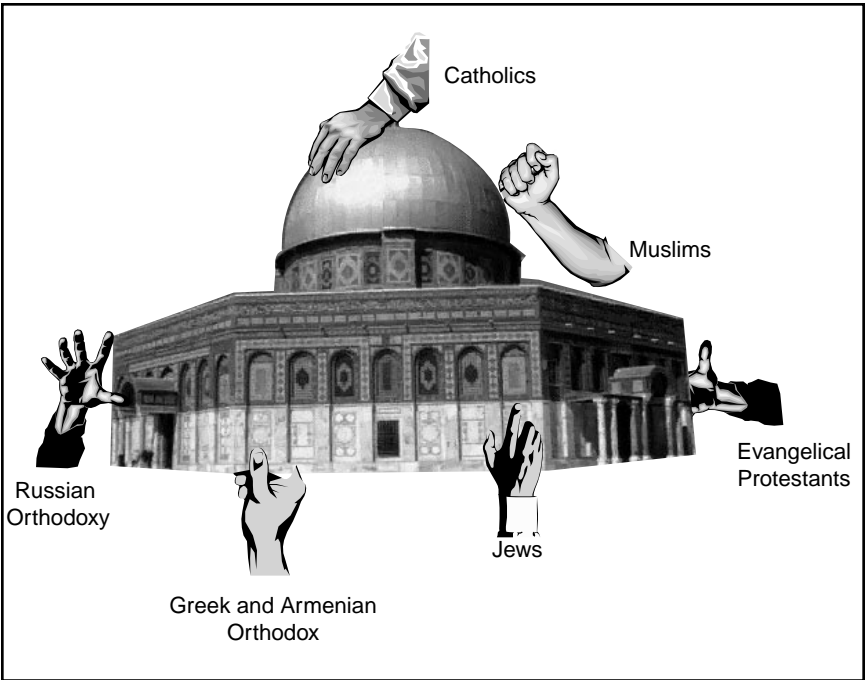
The Jews want Jerusalem as their historic and contemporary capital.

The Muslims want Jerusalem as their holy site.

The Catholics want Jerusalem as an international city with no restricted visits.

The Protestants want Jerusalem for bringing about the Second Coming of Christ.

The Orthodox want Jerusalem because their relics and holy sites are there.



**Figure 25 – The battle for Jerusalem is engaged in by many groups who want to control Jerusalem**

# CHAPTER 5

## EVIL AND SUFFERINGS

*“For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”*

*–Romans 8:18*

Did God see what the world saw on September 11, 2001? Did God grieve like the Americans grieved? Did God suffer like the Americans suffered? Does God get emotional like the Americans do? Let me give you a list of Godly emotions. God laughs (Psm 2:4); God gets angry (Psm 7:11); God hates iniquity (Psm 5:5); God gets jealous (Ex 34:14); God gets impatient (Ro 8:31); God can become sad (Gen 6:6). We may be tempted to say God is like humans. This would be incorrect. Humans are like God. Isn't that what God said in Genesis 1:26, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” America was taken back, horrified and saddened by the bombings. But God was sad too. There are many scriptures that indicate God reacts sadly in moments of great disasters and the loss of life. Here are some of these scriptures.

Isa 63:9 (NIV) – “In all their distress, he (God) too was distressed.”

Ex 3:7 (NIV) – “The Lord said, ‘I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers and I am concerned about their suffering.’”

Psm 103:13 (NIV) – “As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him.”

Gen 6:5-7 (NIV) – “The Lord saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. The Lord was grieved that He had made man on the earth

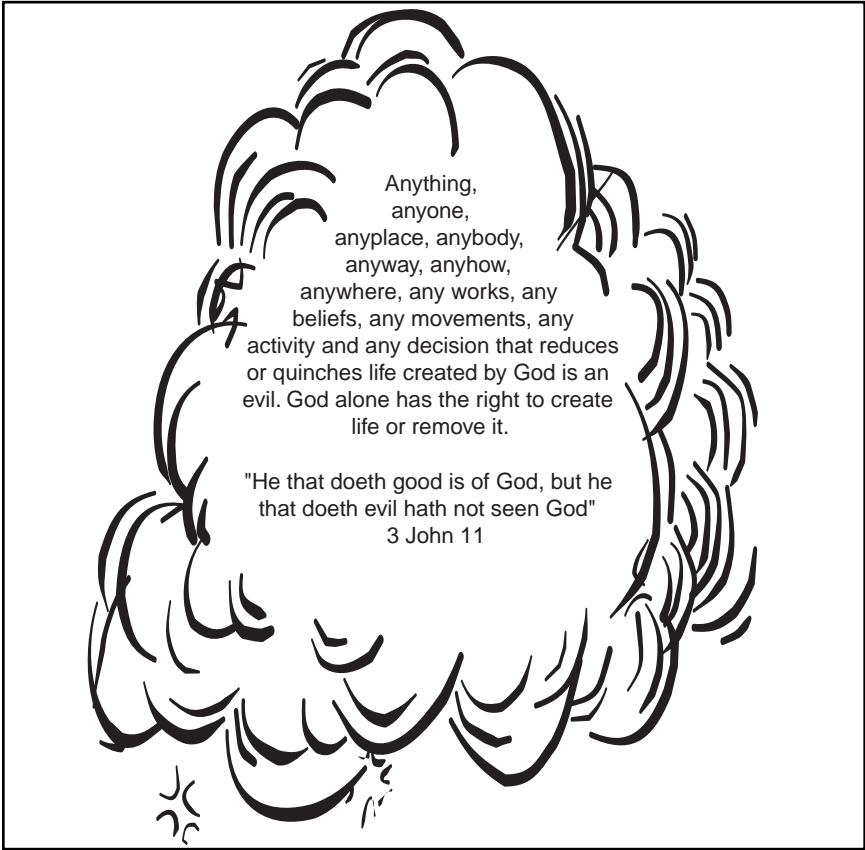
and His heart was filled with pain – for I am grieved that I have made them.”

Jer 9:10 (NIV) – “I will weep and wail for the mountains and take up a lament concerning the desert pastures. They are desolate and untraveled –”

These scriptures state that afflictions to God’s people as well as destroyed mountains, burned up wilderness, destroyed animals, fowl and even plants, saddens God and He grieves for all His creation afflicted with evil. The fact that God allows this devastation to happen forces one to look for the reason for its permission. This is the historic and burning question of our time. Why did God allow this to happen?

Evil is discord or disturbance in the order of the universe. It is that which produces unhappiness and suffering. Many times, evil is the elimination of a good or another evil. That is, a stronger evil may be needed to eliminate another lesser evil. A man who runs over a child, who requires hospitalization, produced an evil. He may have to go to jail or forfeit his life as a result, which is another evil. To eliminate a good is to be wicked, wrong and harmful. The process itself produces suffering and pain to those who are experiencing the evil. Evil inflicts pain on people. Pain, then is the measure or evidence an evil is being experienced. Pain and suffering can be a useful reminder that something is wrong or a wrong has been produced. Pain may indicate an action should be taken to correct it. Pain is the teacher that tells us that something is wrong. Pain tells us we are in non-conformity with the laws of the universe as well as the internal biological laws of our nature. Evils, such as death, disease, tempests, enemies and fires are not necessarily the work of God, nor of Satan, but can be from other sources. The human and environmental phenomena of uncontrolled activities, bad judgments of those in decision making, inherited weaknesses of our natures and the changes we see all around us, may bring about more pain and suffering than

from God or Satan. For an eternal definition of evil, see Figure 26.



**Figure 26 – Eternal Definition of Evil**

### **WHY IS THERE EVIL?**

Why is there suffering and pain in the world? Why is it no one is exempt? Will it always be this way? How does sin fit in? Human life is filled with shortcomings, errors, mistakes, misunderstandings, misconceptions and evils. But these are symptomatic of an imperfect life. The sources of these imperfections may be ignorance, poor development, lack of education or training and even genetic defects. Many of these sources may be laid at the door of society, culture,



parents, teachers, friends and heredity. But sins are different. Sins are serious. Sins are encroachments of Biblical laws and principles. Sins always imply a certain degree of willfulness or deliberation. Sinners commit sins knowingly with self-will. Mistakes or shortcomings are not intentional. The intentional sinner goes against God inadvertently. As it were, the sinner opposes God. The faultier, on the other hand, does not intentionally sin, therefore, does not oppose God. This is the reason why people who unintentionally sin, pray for forgiveness of mistakes and shortcomings. In spite of this difference between shortcomings and sins, evil or misfortunes can emerge from the intentional or unintentional sinners. The Bible describes the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden. The effects of the fall were to introduce a legacy of imperfections for all of the human progeny. Aging and death is a part of this legacy. Since both sins and shortcomings are non-conformance to Biblical laws and principles, they both result in unwanted evils. Conforming to godly principles or moral laws is a definition of perfection. The entire universe as well as the earth operates under laws. This is how the enormous complexities of creation work in harmony and running like the precision of a clock. The earth circles the sun at a speed of 67,000 miles per hour for 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 45.51 seconds. The 6.5 sextillion ton earth maintains this accurate and consistent time schedule year in and year out with strict and rigid conformity. The earth conforms to this law. Suppose anyone is allowed to set the speed of the earth to suit his or her personal wishes. If one wants to delay time, 450 days could be selected for the calendar year. Or if one wishes to accelerate time, 200 days could be selected. If six billion humans that live on this earth were allowed this prerogative, the earth would be in chaos. Order would be disrupted. By setting one speed law for the earth's migration, and requiring all humans to adjust to this law, order is maintained. Let's take another example. In the world, a red stop-light for autos means to stop the vehicle. Green means to go. This is true in any country, culture or language. The red

stoplight is a human invention, which has become a human law of behavior throughout the world. This produces harmony. Suppose it were different. In the United States stop was red. In England it was yellow. In France it was blue. In Israel it was orange, etc. There would be confusion and disorder. When everyone follows and conforms to common laws, there is order and harmony, balance and compatibility. When Adam and Eve decided to be in non-conformity with moral laws, it introduced disorder into the universe. The tree of knowledge was really a choice of a pair of alternatives, good or evil. That's why it was called the tree of knowledge. Humans have and continue to learn choice, which leads to great blessings or dreadful evils. When the Bible demands perfection from its adherents, it is demanding conformity to principle or moral law.

Suffering has been permitted as a human experience to give people lasting and valuable lessons, which result from non-conformity to principles and moral laws. Learning through experience has always been the best way to learn. Unfortunately it teaches slowly and at the cost of mistakes. This learning will be useful to the human family in the future life since built in memories will give decision makers the consequences of breaking laws. Such natural laws as gravity, changing seasons, digestion and exposure to the sun are inflexible. One must conform to them. Humans must, therefore, adjust to these inflexible laws. If there is failure in this adjustment, evil consequences will result. Similarly such moral laws, which involve flexible choices such as violence, adultery, prevarication, strife, hatred, drunkenness and murder can result in evil if the wrong choice is made. Humans must learn from poor choices to avoid the harvest of evil. Humans are now collecting a magnificent body of instructional information and experimental knowledge to develop and maintain a moral sense of knowing right from wrong. The pain and suffering to gain this knowledge is necessary to prepare humankind as moral personalities for the life of the future. Pain and suffering can be seen in a positive way

when related to a promising future. As the Bible states, “to be made perfect through sufferings.” (Hebrews 2:10) Life here on earth is God’s workshop for making perfect humans. The search for meaning is the search for the ability to make righteous choices.

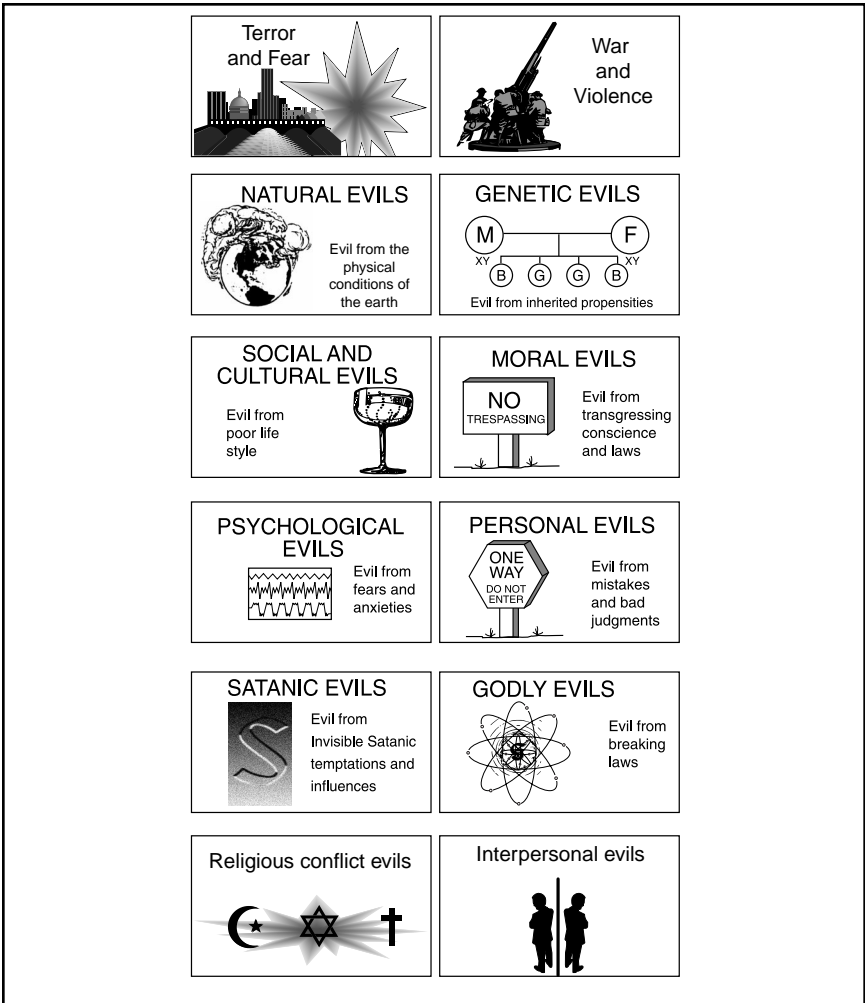
### **SOURCES OF EVIL AND SUFFERING**

Evil is anything that diminishes, retards or brings life to an end. Evil will produce both unhappiness and suffering. There are at least twelve sources of evil and suffering. See Figure 27.

If there is a major point to be made in this section, it is that God is not the source of all evil. God does not cause bad things to happen to good people. He may permit it, but not cause it. Bad things can happen to good people and can come and have come from any one of the twelve sources. This means all suffering do not come from God. He may allow evil to reach people, but does not cause it. There are important reasons why God allows evil. This is taken up in Chapter 6. Below are each of the twelve evils described in brief.

#### **1. TERROR AND FEAR**

Terrorism is practiced in many countries. Terrorism is random violence directed at innocent victims. Terrorism is not directed to the military or to armed soldiers. It targets innocent women and children! That is its nature. The methods used by terrorists are to create fear. Fear is an arousing and distressful emotion. Once fear is created, terrorists who created the fear can demand or coerce by intimidation and threats. There have been at least five widely publicized groups of terrorists that have had some degree of success: Arab Terrorists; Jewish Terrorists; Irish Terrorists; American Terrorists; and Islamic Terrorists. It starts with the psychology of emotions and ends up with military combative forces. It is a form of warfare in which one or a few individuals may control and defeat thousands and thousands of trained military armed troops. It has become a successful way for a small group to conquer or control a large government. Here



**Figure 27 – Twelve sources of evil that create suffering**

are some motives of terrorists.

Political motives – terrorism starts when one country occupies another or is in control of another. Palestinians want to rid Israel's occupation. The Irish want to rid British occupation. The Islamics want to rid and stop the USA for exporting democracy.

Vendetta motives – terrorists want to get an injustice revenged for family, friends or countrymen who have been

killed. The retaliation is like a mission legacy. They expect the 2nd generation or 3rd generation to pay back the evil.

Government upheaval motives – terrorists want to change or get rid of existing governments. In the bombing in Oklahoma, Timothy McVeigh wanted to get revenge on the U.S. government. He didn't like the government. He is what might be called an anarchist.

Religious motives – terrorists, at least some Islamic terrorists, want to get rid of a country's religion in favor of Islam. One can make a good argument that bin Laden's brand of Islam is a war against Christianity, Judaism and any other religion. The fanatical Islamics divide the world into two parts: the world of Allah and the world of Satan. Clearly the fanatics have put the United States in the world of Satan. In fact, they call the United States the great Satan. For example, they don't want women to show their faces. They don't want democracy. They want the religious clerics to run the government. They believe that killing is the will of Allah.

Ambitious clerics – bin Laden is considered a god in Afghanistan. The Taliban government is at war with the United States because Allah is on their side. God will protect and help them in spite of the overwhelming military odds. The followers of bin Laden are mesmerized when listening to their clerics. See Figure 28.

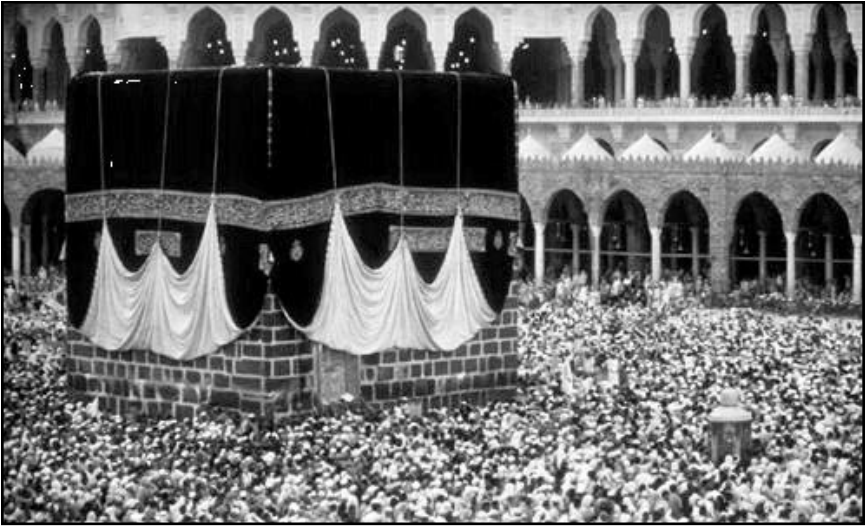
## **2. WAR AND VIOLENCE**

Wars are fought, historically between groups of hostile people or within a hostile group. It is an activity to engage in armed conflict to accomplish some motive. Here are some of the motives for engaging in warfare.

Land border disputes. Land expansion is needed to satisfy growing population.

Ambitious leaders. The passion to conquer other countries is motivation for aspiring chiefs or military commanders.

Revenge. Warfare is engaged in to avenge for a past injustice.



**Figure 28 – Islamic followers are mesmerized over clerical sayings**

Resources. A conflict is initiated to acquire a resource sorely needed, but unavailable in ones own country.

Women. They are needed to bear children for an existing army or for a future army.

Ruling class. Wars have been conducted to maintain a ruling class in power.

Religious struggle. Conflicts about religious beliefs and religious crusades often generate wars.

Labor markets. Countries who have started projects requiring huge labor will invade another country to acquire slaves for completion of their projects. This has happened especially when the internal market of a country has been exhausted.

### **3. NATURAL EVILS**

Natural evils result from physical conditions or circumstances generated by changes in the operation of natural laws. The world's water supply has been estimated at 9.0 million cubic miles of water. Rivers and streams account for 300 cubic miles. Inland seas and lakes account for 55,000

cubic miles and underground aquifers some 200,000 cubic miles. Most of the water is in the oceans. The water cycle processes water through evaporation and condensation. When quantities of evaporation and condensation are in excess or the cycle process is disrupted, floods result. One of the world's worst calamities of the 20th Century was a cyclone, which hit East Pakistan in November 1970. It killed over 200,000 people, mostly are from flooding waters. Effects of the water cycle disruptions cause disasters and sufferings. But the same natural laws cause water flow to be useful, harmless and needed for life's processes. But natural laws can go out of control. So in one instance natural laws can be useful, but in another they cause pain and suffering. For the sake of man's free will and the unfinished earth, this type of evil has been man's legacy.

#### **4. GENETIC EVILS**

Genetic evils result from inherited weaknesses and propensities for diseases and bodily and mental deficiencies. Everyone gets sick, suffers and dies. Man's most fundamental problem is that his life must terminate and he can't stop it. We call this the inheritance of Adamic sin. Diabetes, arthritis, heart attacks, cancer and vitality loss from the aging process result from the Adamic inheritance. Five percent of all fetuses in human conception inherit deviant chromosome numbers. Thirty-four percent of all fetuses have chromosomal abnormalities. "The fathers have eaten sour grapes and the children's teeth are set on edge." (Ezekiel 18:2) Adam, because he was a free moral sentient being lost for himself and his posterity an original paradise for continued life.

#### **5. SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EVILS**

These evils result from the inept cultural and national policies, inferior family practices, low-quality lifestyles and poor living values. Some live a lifestyle that promotes evil. Unemployment results from an economy that functions inefficiently. Political upheavals with government dislocations affect family values and stability. Mismatched spouses pro-

duce broken homes, poor parenting and uncontrolled behavior. The divorce rate has increased over the centuries. In 1940, one divorce occurred for every 6 marriages. In 1990, one divorce occurred for every 2 marriages. The projection for 2000 AD anticipates that there will be more divorces than marriages, or putting it differently, there will be more second, third, etc. marriages than first marriages. Drugs, alcoholism and crime can be traced to poor socio-economic conditions with shoddy parenting leading the charge. Ann Landers, famous columnist, reported in a survey conducted with mothers, concluded that seventy-five percent would not have had their children if they knew the misery their children would bring into their lives. What was not reported was these same mothers could have been the cause of poor upbringing. Family burdens and cultural disorders have been non-choice sources of sufferings. Wars, strife, conflicts, battles and attacks are also examples of social and cultural evils. These have been major sources in the infliction of suffering on other people. Paul Lee Tan's estimate of the number of people killed in wars since 3600 BC is 3.64 billion. Those injured and wounded must be a figure at least double those killed. Evil is generated from social and cultural practices and lifestyle.

## **6. MORAL EVILS**

Moral evils are the result of the transgressions of conscience and God's laws. It is commonly known as sin. Sin is the antagonism of the natural laws of human nature and the divine will. Homosexuality is against the natural nature endowed by the Creator. The practice of it surely will lead to serious consequences in which a person will suffer bitterly. Slander and destructive gossiping will eventually have a negative effect in a person's life. The research firm of Daniel Yankelovick, in a study showed 69 percent consider premarital sex morally right. Add to this statistic, 55 percent consider abortion morally right. Only 52 percent considered living a clean, moral life as an important value in their lifestyle. God does not punish a person for these and other immoralities.



Rather natural laws and principles of leading healthy lives are broken and reactions to these transgressions will produce suffering. Bad things come from misuse and misapplying free will. We must learn to use the free will endowment morally and righteously.

## **7. PERSONAL EVILS**

Personal evils are the result of an individual not knowing what is right from wrong. These are errors or mistakes that are made from bad judgment in everyday life. People lack wisdom and guiding principles from experience to avoid the consequences of making mistakes. For example, a man who made the obvious mistake while driving a car, he turned left down an opposing one-way street. He was relegated to a wheel chair the rest of his life from a head-on collision. Eight percent of all fatalities are due to wrong way driving. Normal people in the course of normal activities will make a minimum of 20 percent errors or mistakes without knowing it. The list is long of the suffering that results in the lives of people who make mistakes. To cite a few others - inaccurate recording of information, eating the wrong foods or eating in excess, inappropriate ambition, ignoring environmental forces such as the hot sun and failure to control the temptations that enter into a person's life.

## **8. PSYCHOLOGICAL EVILS**

Psychological evils result from fears, anxieties and mental deficiencies that emerge in a situation or from a deteriorating relationship with other people. Ninety percent of the chronic patients who see today's physicians have one common symptom: fear. A nationwide survey showed two-thirds of children are scared that something bad is skulking in the neighborhood primed for an attack on the home. Psychological problems of people generate pain and suffering as much as defects of the body. There has been unprecedented progress in control and reduction of these sources of suffering. But much needs to be done. The list of psychological evils is long. To cite a few: inferiority complex;

addictive behaviors; anxiety reactions; depressive reactions; paranoid reactions; suicidal behaviors; and psychotic disorders. Many of these conditions are not genetic, but acquired after birth through the inability to cope with society and the environment. All of these psychological evils stem from a faulty and imperfect brain.

## **9. SATANIC EVILS**

This results from Satanic influences and direct attacks on people, nations and cultures. Job did not receive evil from God. He received evil and suffering from Satan. Interesting to note in the Job epic that no blame was assigned to Satan. All of Job's visitors (or comforters) as well as Job himself centered all issues on God while Satan escaped any consideration. Perhaps few knew of Satan's hidden tactics behind the scenes. That may very well be the reason for the written record of Job's life. Job's experience revealed many things, but central was the hidden role of Satan. This is one of Satan's strategies - even to the point where some people feel he doesn't exist. We often forget Satan's role in the Garden temptation. This and others not known or recorded are major sources of evil.

## **10. GODLY EVILS**

This results from God's intervention into the affairs of mankind. Isaiah 45:7 and Amos 3:6 reminded Israel of their covenant commitments made as a nation. If they would obey Him they would be blessed. However, if they forsook Him he would bring calamities (evils) upon them as chastisements. The Isaiah text infers that "God creates evil" in circumstances that are needed to combat or eliminate another evil. To cite two examples, God created a flood to destroy a hybrid species developing in the existing civilization. God also destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah to prevent the increase in homosexuality and possibly the spread of aids. God created evil does not mean He creates sin. Sin is the transgression of law. God is not a transgressor of law and therefore, sinless.

All of the sources of evil are upon humankind in a continual way. They produce prolonged and cruel suffering. Bad things happening to good people can come from any one of the above sources. We should not conclude that all sufferings come from God. God abhors wickedness and evil. (Psalms 5:4) The evil mentioned in many scriptures refers to a righteous judgment against unrighteousness or wickedness. The “righteous evil” causes or produces distress and sorrow in the spirit or conscience of a person. Its interest is correction and change. It underscores an evil and can produce a good. (Exodus 32:12,14; Deuteronomy 7:15; I Chronicles 21:15; 2 Chronicles 7:22; Isaiah 31:2 and Psalms 34:21)

To combat evil, one must know about evil.

The nature of evil is anything that removes life.

The origin of evil is free will that made the wrong choice.

The persistence of evil is when it becomes a means to reach goals.

The purpose of allowing evil is to learn the consequence of bad decisions.

The unavoidability of evil is practicing unrighteousness.

### **THE EVIL EXPERIENCE**

In a moral sense, evil is contrasted with good. As principles, good and evil have existed as long as there was God. An orderly, harmonious universe would imply a good universe has been the history. Evil disrupts the harmony and results in disorder and disharmony. In a more serious sense, evil creates sorrow, distress and calamity. Fallen human nature can be defined as a fundamental predisposition and feelings to behave in certain ways misaligned with God. These feelings and predispositions can be programmed or formed into habits that give humans both good and bad characters. If a culture is evil or violent, its effects on its citizenry, is to be evil and violent. The Circus Maximus in Rome, after it's rebuilding by Julius Caesar, could hold

150,000 people. It was enlarged again in the early empire to admit an additional 100,000 for a total of 250,000 in an empire whose population was in excess of 200 million. In 80 AD, during one year alone at the Circus Maximus more than 5,000 animals were killed. They included elephants, tigers, lions, elks, hyenas, hippopotamuses and giraffes. The Roman appetite for blood was not satisfied with animals when it was carried to the gladiators and later to the Christians. Rome had its evil activities, but some in today's world are not exempt from evil activities. Here is a listing of some of the evil activities of today: computer crimes, tax cheating, shoplifting, tobacco, drug trafficking, warfare, organized crime, white collar crimes, fraud, arms marketeers, gambling, stealing, killing, pornography, kidnapping, slandering, divorce, abuse, harassment, dishonoring, alcoholism and fornicating. An estimate of the cost of these crimes by the editors of the Almanac of the Christian World is 3.2 trillion dollars per annum.

Has human nature changed in the course of history? Historically, not much. But in the past 125 years, changes have been made and are noted. The poor do not starve as before with the availability of welfare programs. Many leaders in government are voted out when their behavior is illicit or illegal. Large countries that invade smaller countries find themselves stopped when confronted with a syndicate of countries. Morals are the rules and laws by which a society seeks to compel its members. Biblical morals are those principles by which its devotees follow in order to align themselves with God's expectations. For over 2000 years, Jesus and his Christian disciples have maintained their Biblical moral codes and principles without help from state governments and their laws. When governments get into the "moral business" there is variability, negligence and often contradiction.

History reminds us that sin has flourished in every civilization known to humans. Even later civilizations have not revealed the sins of early civilizations. The sins before the

flood with the Nephilims have never been surpassed. The homosexuality in ancient Rome and the Renaissance has never been revealed. The killing of people in the ancient empires of Babylon, Medio-Persia and Greece have been historic uniques. Prostitution is a continuing sin found in every country of the world. Even dice for gambling was found in the excavations of the ancient city of Ninevah. Humans have experienced good as well as evil over the centuries. There have been recordings of devoted marriages, orderly homes, happy children, good government and even noble people. But the proportions have been small compared to the evil experience. The big sins of ancient civilizations have flourished enormously even with government controls. When government controls, policies and regulations are improved upon, sins of the fallen human nature have been checked and controlled. Today it can be seen where countries have policies to guide and police to enforce, the fallen human nature is kept under cover. The moral propensity of today is more a transition between the code of the past to a moral code ahead.

After 6000 years of evil experience, we have learned that God, as the Creator and humans as His creatures can with a unity of purpose drive out evil to a point where it only exists as a principle. It can happen with God and His guidance of righteousness and humans with their faith and will to do good. When humans expect God to do everything, humans will fail. God refuses to do everything since humans have been given the free-will capability and the endowments of independence, reasoning and creativity.

God in His wisdom has permitted humans to have an experience with sin and evil so that humans can enter eternity with a full knowledge and education of the consequences and unprofitability of sinful practices. The lessons will motivate humans to forever avoid sin and to forever practice good. This is worth repeating since it is a major lesson of learning from the ruins of civilization. The sufferings caused by evils have been endless: injustices, hatreds, jeal-

ousies, murders, wars, feuds, massacres, conflagrations, floods, earthquakes, tidal waves, tornadoes, famine, pestilence and diseases. The experience with evil will become a future benefit for humans as an eternal lesson. The two principles of good and evil will always exist, but evil will remain forever inactive because experience proves its practice is unprofitable. In the ages of eternity, there would be nothing profitable if all were forgotten. It would be as if humans were to relive 6000 years of experience all over again. Learning from the human experience will be the basis of disrupting and dissolving the cyclic nature of human history. We will have learned from history to cooperate with God to get rid of sin and evil in the world.

### **THE WAR EXPERIENCE**

A major lesson has been learned that war among the nations is a poor alternative for solving problems. No one country has a victory in war. If one perceives that there is a victory, it is only temporary. Everyone loses in war. Soldiers, civilians, property and resources are lost. The costs are high. Throughout 6000 years of human experience there has been a war fought every 30 years. A computer record reveals the world has known only 292 years of peace from 3600 BC to the present time. During this period, there have been 14,531 large and small wars in which 4 billion people have been killed. Since 606 BC, there have been 1,656 arms races in which only 16 have not ended in war. From the year 1500 BC to 1860 AD, more than 8000 treaties of peace were signed, which were meant to remain in force forever. The average time they remained in force was 2 years. By far, the most deadly war in history in terms of human life lost was World War II (1939 - 1945) in which the total number of fatalities both battle deaths and civilian casualties, is estimated as 55 million. The Allies mobilized 62 million men and women against 30 million for the Axis countries. There is a need to reexamine the legacies inherited by war. There is a need to learn from this poor alternative to solving problems.

Wars get started when there are conflicts or disagree-

ments over land borders, resource needs such as water, uncontrolled leadership ambitions, need for women and reproduction, revenge from a past injustice, desire for freedom and independence from a conquered people or a religious dispute over authority or understanding. These basic reasons create strife, contention and war. History teaches that countries in which we live, their institutions, even their laws, have come to us through conflicts, civil strife and struggles, which often have been of the most bloodthirsty sort. Once the winner of the war has left the occupation, the culture that was inaugurated still continues with the conquered. The Balkans are a good example. It was originally Christian from the time of Constantine and his son. When the Ottoman Empire conquered the Balkans, Islam was instituted and forced on the people. Today the Ottomans are gone, but Islam remains. It is a common observation in the Balkans to see Christian churches and Islamic temples side by side in the same country.

War, then, is the continuation of unresolved political, economic and cultural argumentations. Unsettled problems are brought to the violent stage for resolution. There are those who think humans are doomed to make war since the nature of the unresolved conflict must be settled by violence. The first stage of this violence is preparation. The second stage is a demonstration of the powers of destruction. The final stage is inflicting the greatest destruction possible within the shortest period of time available. The essence of war making is, therefore, the inability to resolve and settle unresolvable and unsettled conflicts.

The first war on record in the Bible was with Nimrod who went forth into Assyria. This constituted an act of aggression and violence. Then Nimrod built cities. In Abraham's day, Abraham mustered 318 trained servants and together with these confederates pursued and defeated King Chedorlaomer. Israel conducted aggression and war when they entered the promised land. This was as a result of God's commitment to go and seize the promised land.

Conscription of able-bodied males was enacted to protect Israel from foreign invasion. In New Testament times, Jesus foretells of war and introduces a new concept that rewards the peacemaker. "They that take the sword shall perish with the sword." (Matthew 26:52) He declared to Pilot, had his kingdom been of this world, his disciples would have fought. The Christian warfare up to this time is a war against wicked spirits, against sin's law, against demons. It is a spiritual fight. (Eph 6:12) A fight waged within the Christian between sin's law and God's law. The war is against false teachers. This is not intended to mean false people, but rather false ideas or doctrines. The Christian's battle is against false ideas as their false teachers.

War is not inevitable, nor peace impossible. Nor is the human race genetically designed to be warlike. It's the inability to handle differences that leads to conflicts. The basis for avoiding physical and psychological wars is to develop the ability and willingness to solve problems well before the violence stage. The violence stage is the final stage in conflict resolution. Since most of the history of civilizations has been to arrive at the final stage, more effort should be made to center on the forestages. This effort will require a willingness to shift traditional borders of thought and land to accommodate neighbors and their concerns. This requires a willingness to change traditional legacies to favor modern day situations. Forgetting the past must be a strong attitude. (Philippians 3:13) A willingness is needed to share limited resources and avoid greed. (I Timothy 3:3) A willingness must be instituted to cooperate in helping the plight of the weak. (I Thessalonians 5:14) A willingness must be developed to acknowledge God as the ultimate landlord. All we have makes us stewards of his resources and nothing more. After 6000 years of the war experience, the truth and value of I John 3:14, speaks loud and clear, "he that loveth not his brother remaineth in death." With these approaches, we have learned war can become obsolete as a method of resolving conflicts. Future peacekeepers and peacemakers



have much to learn from the history of civilizations not only of the present time, but also of medieval and ancient times. There is wisdom in the principle of intellectual restraint. There is greater wisdom in rejecting the notion that governing and war belong together. We have learned from history that war to resolve conflicts must be removed as a viable alternative.

# CHAPTER 6

## WHY GOD PERMITS EVIL

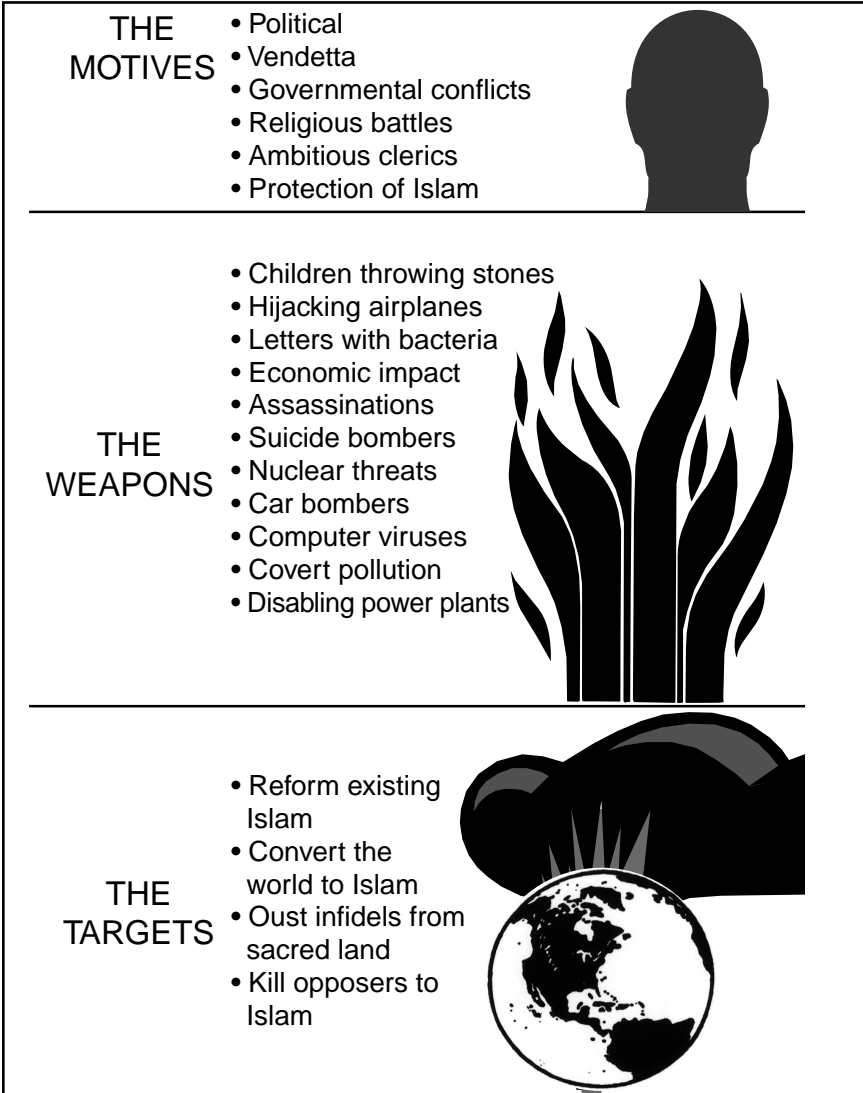
*“Everything is permissible – but not everything is beneficial”*

*–1 Cor 10:23 (NIV)*

Evil is anything that diminishes life. See Figure 26. This applies to past life, present life, and even future life. There is a great lesson learned or to be learned by all of God’s creatures. We know of evil because it produces unhappiness and suffering. We know it personally. Righteousness is that which enhances or sustains life. Many people over many years have struggled over the issue of why God permits evil or permits circumstances to affect life so painfully. The fact that God allows or permits evil should convince us there must be a reason for its allowance. Generally, its present allowance is designed ultimately to work out to a greater good. We must know what is God’s plan. A satisfactory answer to this global issue is a historic answer of great proportions.

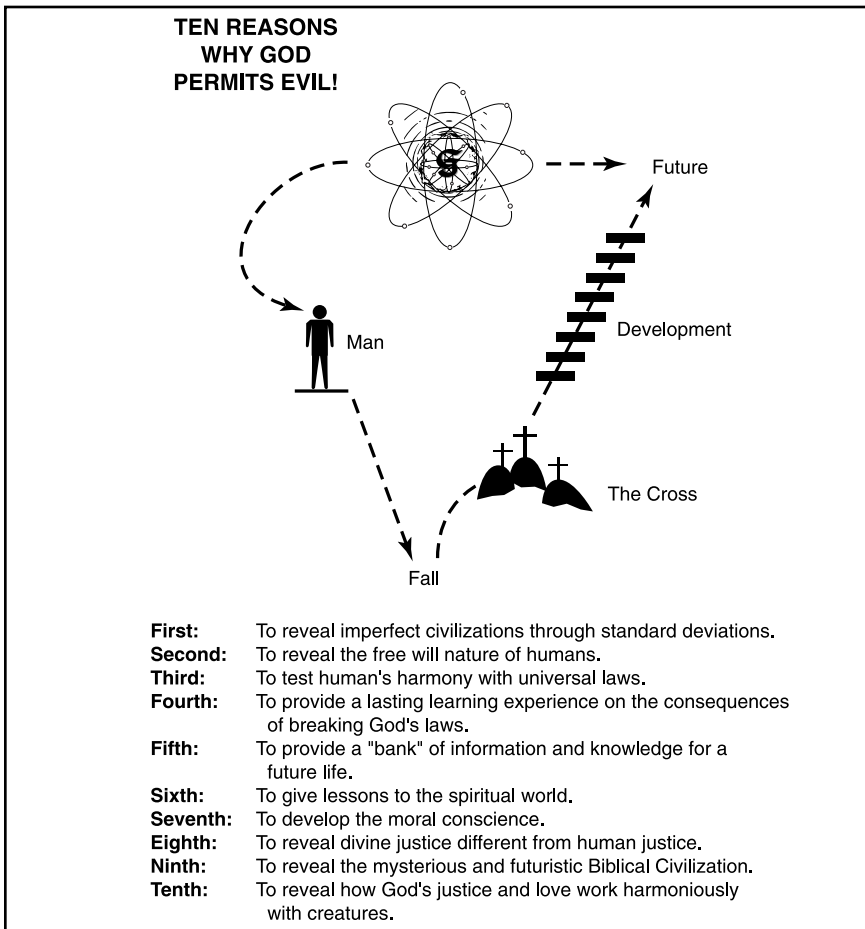
This chapter will suggest at least ten reasons why God allows evil to enter society and even the lives of good people. A brief answer is given in Heb 2:10, “– to be made perfect through sufferings.” Whatever specific reason the reader finally adopts, one important insight cannot be forgotten. Suffering, pain and evil do not come from God. That which causes evil is sin. It is sin that develops the corruption in the human heart. Remove the sin, and the corruption is removed, which in turn, removes the evil. The Bible assures us the suffering we see all around us including the bombings and terror that has entered America in a significant way, was not caused by God. The Apostle James confirms this in James 1:13. “Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God; for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man.” God is a lover of justice. (Psm 37:28; Isa 61:8) In fact God is love. (1 John 4:8) But permit-

ting evil does not mean approving of evil. God sees that permitting evil is a way to give lasting and valuable lessons. Mankind is learning through experience that experience is the best way to learn. Mankind sees what it means when you break a law. God foresaw that an actual experience with evil would be the surest and the most effective and lasting



**Figure 29 – Terrorist’s motives, weapons and targets in the terrorist war**

lesson to save the human race eternally. GOD THEN PERMITS BAD THINGS TO HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE SO THAT THE HUMAN FAMILY IN THE FUTURE LIFE TO COME WILL HAVE BUILT IN MEMORIES, BUILT IN LESSONS LEARNED, BUILT IN EXPERIENCES FOR AVOIDING A REPEAT OF SIN AND TRANSGRESSION OF PERFECT LAW AND STANDARDS. This is what the scriptures mean in Hebrews 2:10, “to make – perfect through sufferings.” Specifically, there are ten reasons why God permits evil. See Figure 30.



**Figure 30 – Ten Reasons why God permits Evil**

1. *To reveal imperfect civilizations on planet earth.* “God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.” (Genesis 6:5) The history of humans is a history of suffering. This gives evidence that all civilizations have failed to lift humans up to levels of perfection. People make mistakes. These mistakes introduce evil into society. Too often people suffer without knowing they are imperfect - without knowing they are in non-conformity to universal laws. Suffering is a sign that something is radically wrong with civilization. It is a sign that we live in an imperfect and non-conforming civilization.

Rome, a long lasting civilization, with exceptional controls and wealth fell because of its inability to raise its people consistently to high levels of morality. Edward Gibbon listed many reasons for the decline and fall of Rome. Here are a few:

- a. Rapid increase in divorce and breakdown of the family and the home.
- b. Higher and higher taxes for public spending for free bread and circuses for the populace.
- c. The craze for pleasure and brutality in sports and entertainment.
- d. Religious values discarded leaving the people without guidance.
- e. High military buildup for political enemies when the real enemy was within.

These behaviors revealed an imperfect civilization, which eventually collapsed. Sufferings that exist reveal that sin and evil are around us and even in us. In history, no civilization has been pure. In history, no civilization has been perfect. They are all gone. The 34 Toynbee civilizations are gone because they were imperfect. The astute observer of civilizations is most receptive to accept the civilization that is right for the people and harmonious with the laws of the universe.

2. *To emphasize the free will nature of humans.* God wishes to reveal to man a natural endowment that is not

often remembered, that man has free choice and free will. Remember Genesis 2:16,17 (NIV), “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.” Man can do what he wants; what he pleases; when he pleases; and how he pleases. Man is not a robot that performs in an ignorant, mechanical way. Nor does man have to do what God wants. Man can defy God. Man can reject God. Man can challenge God. He is a free will sentient person. This is how God created him. Man is an intelligent creature with a free will, similar to God, which allows him to make a choice or a decision or a selection or a determination without coercion, force or compulsion. In fact, man’s most noble quality is his freedom of will or choice. It is his likeness to his creator. God wanted man to have this free will choice, not instinctively or mechanically, but intelligently, freely, logically and independently. God foresaw that by giving man freedom of choice he would, through lack of appreciation of sin and evil, would fall and become sick and die. God then designed a remedy for rescuing man from his fallen condition. In other words, God had a plan for man’s salvation and restoration toward eternal life before man took the plunge into sin and death. God does see the suffering and pain in the world today, but He has planned a future for everyone where suffering and pain will be eliminated.

The free will endowment will be better once people know the consequences of their decisions. Humans are free to express their doubts concerning the way God handles the universe because they are free will sentient beings. They may raise questions about circumstances and even debate with their Creator. Humans may even challenge their Creator as to why certain things are done in the way they are done. God Himself, not only permits this special privilege of humans, but severely censures those who try to stop it. For this reason, God answered Job’s visitors. Being permitted to ask questions is tantamount to receiving answers. God in most cases does not involve Himself with arguments for and

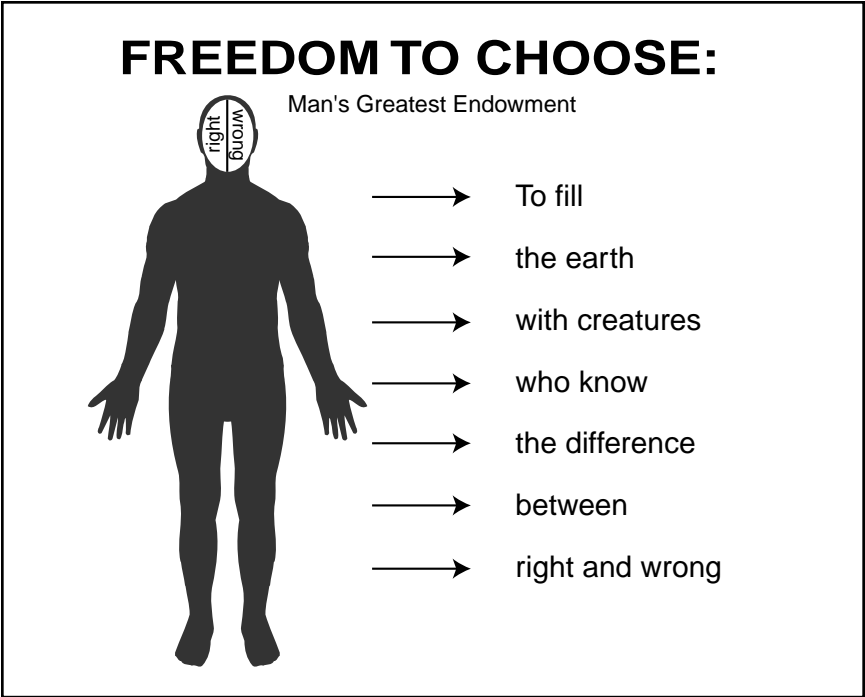
against His subjects and His dominion. He made an exception in Job's case. God protects this free will endowment of humans since His mission is to reflect Himself within humans. If God were to shield humans from bad decisions or direct the free will nature of humans, He would be creating robots with mechanical mentality for doing right only. This would not replicate the free will nature of God Himself. The free will nature of humans is important for both God and humankind. Surveys are showing that half the world does not have freedom. 66 countries with 42 percent of the world's population are not termed "free." The trend today seems to be to remove freedom. The endowment of free will in humans is a marvelous gift of God in the human design. See Figure 31. God has said man has become like us. We are learning from the experiences of life that there are consequences to choices in decision-making. Good choices result in good consequences. Bad choices result in bad consequences. When and where evil exists is because bad choices have been made. We are learning a self-evident truth that for every right principle there is a corresponding wrong principle, just as truth and error, love and hate, right and wrong, justice and injustice. How we handle these principles will result in good or evil.

3. *To test human's harmony with universal laws.* "Fear not; for God is come to prove you." (Exodus 20:20) The test of Job was to examine if Job loved God for himself or for the good things he had received from Him. God does not need to test human imperfection for He knows already that humans are imperfect. God needs to test their faithfulness. The test may be an ultimatum, as God wants to know how much can a human take before they rebel against God. Job was victorious in his test. His life is a testimony and evidence to his contemporaries and to all humankind down through the ages that faithfulness to God is not connected with prosperity. Nor is it a reward by God for good behavior. Rather, a righteous human does righteously for its own sake. It is a natural outcome of a person's character and

development. God's testing of Job may be the forerunner of the use of tests today. Appraisals and evaluations permeate most of civilization. Students are tested as to their degree of learning. Workers are tested as to their productivity. Businessmen are tested as to their profitability. Government staff workers are tested as to their performance. Politicians are tested as to their service contributions. Tests, appraisals and evaluations are intended to find out how well people meet expectations. We are doing today what God did to Job 4,000 years ago. Humans must comply with the laws of the universe. With this compliance, God is able to rule a universe of trillions of creatures.

4. *To provide a lasting learning experience of the consequences of breaking God's laws.* To be made "perfect through sufferings." (Hebrews 2:10) Modern humans, in reflecting on the human experiences of many millennia, have learned a great deal. They have accumulated lessons, insights and understandings that will serve them in the future ages to come. The learning experience is a lasting experience on the consequences of being out of harmony with universal laws. Humans are learning through the best way to learn - experience. There are many ways to learn - school classrooms, books and literature, observations and inspections, computers and programs - but experience is the most permanent way to learn and store into memory the value of the lessons learned. God permits bad things to happen to good people to reveal the consequences of breaking His laws. Humans have laws all around and even within, such as natural laws, physical laws, functional laws, biological laws and living laws. When humans break these laws, they suffer. For example the laws of the body illustrate this principle. When a person over-eats, over-lifts, over-runs and over-talks, they will experience discomfort and even pain. Breaking laws is painful. God could shield humans from these conditions. He could stop every abuse they intend to follow, but in doing this, free will goes out the window and humans would become robots. Robots do not think. This is how God is

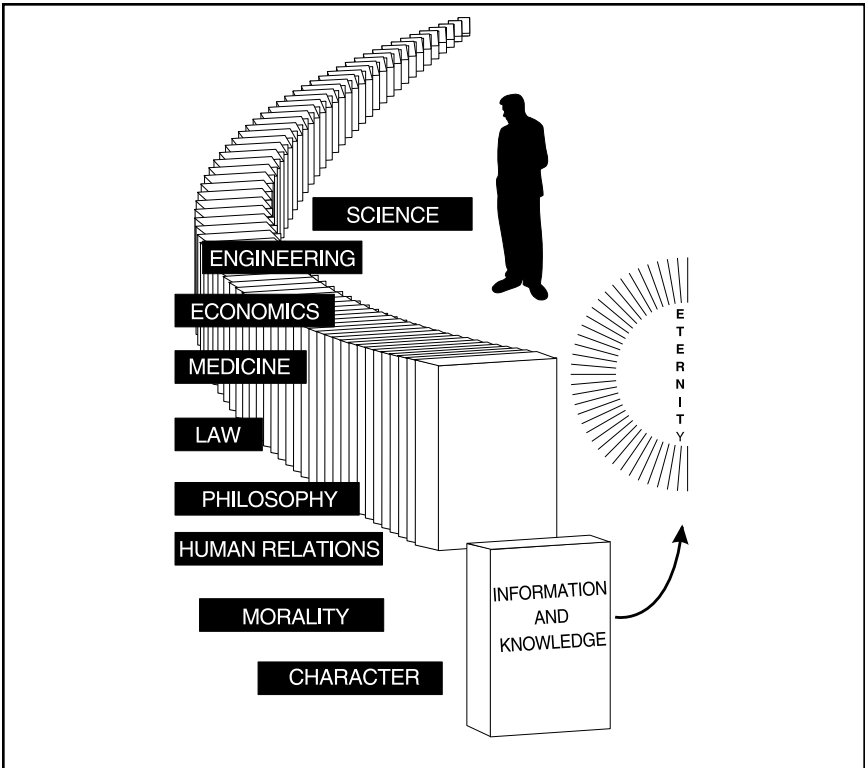




**Figure 31 – Human’s greatest endowment is freedom of choice**

preparing mankind for eternity. God is allowing humans to experience both good and evil. This will guide humans through eternity. The current 75 years of human life is only a small deposit of suffering for the helpful guidelines, which will be used for trillions and trillions of years living through eternity.

*5.To provide a “bank” of information and knowledge for a future life.* In many ways God is preparing us for the future. See Figure 32. “Where shall wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding?” (Job 28:12) The one resource that Adam lacked in his original make up was information and knowledge to guide him in decision-making. Since there was no history to rely on, he failed in his most decisive test. By information and knowledge, we mean directional information, control information, learning information, sympathetic information, character building information, law-



**Figure 32 – God is preparing us for a future life**

ful information, conflict information, social information, cultural information and even civilization information. Adam was deficient in knowledge experience, governmental experience, disappointment experience. The list is never ending. Adam was lacking in information and experience, but God has been remedying this deficiency for the past 6,000 years to Adam's children. God has allowed the human race to go through the fire, but it is an enriching fire, which produces a magnificent collection of information and experiences that will serve as guidance for the human race in the Biblical Civilization. The greatest treasure humankind is now developing is the human experiences, which are documented in books, reports, libraries, computers and information retrieval systems. The libraries have been the key means for information storage and retrieval. Worldwide production of new

book titles in one year can be from 500,000 to 1,000,000. With the introduction of personal computers, these figures can increase immensely. If we add up all the information generated and stored during mankind's history, the number of books alone would be estimated at three hundred million titles.

6. *To give lessons to the spiritual world.* Humans are spectacles to spiritual creatures. (1 Corinthians 4:9) God's ways are hidden from humans. They are often mysterious. The human experience seems to be a theater for those in the future who will study the past and for living creatures outside planet earth. This would suggest mysteries have meaning even though people cannot understand them. The human mystery is giving lessons to spiritual beings in a spiritual world. These are the angels, seraphims and cherubims that dwell in heaven. The number of these spiritual beings is without count. We can only estimate. Daniel 7:10 identified 100 million. Paul writes you can't count them they are innumerable. (Hebrews 12:22) If this is so, there could be untold millions of these spirit beings. They are learning along with humankind. They have learned the death concept, the consequences of breaking God's laws, the sufferings, the painful experiences and the aging process. The human family has been through an experience to actually see these lessons and learn from them. People are now learning that death is also a possibility to spiritual mortals (angels can die) when they break God's laws as well as human mortals. Angels are also learning this lesson. See Figure 33.

7. *To develop the moral conscience.* "I exercise myself to have always a conscience void of offense toward God and toward men." (Acts 24:16) God wants humankind to develop the ability to decide between right and wrong. One can't know what's right, unless one knows what's wrong. God is really known and appreciated when evil is known and experienced. The moral sense is Adam and Eve failed since they did not know good and evil. It is this moral sense that tells people "stealing is wrong" and "anger is wrong." It is this



**Figure 33 – Angels are learning from the human experience**

same moral sense that tells humans “love is right,” “kindness is right,” “helpfulness is right,” and “peace is right.” With built in principles of right and wrong, freedom of choice can be guided in making moral conscience choices. Humans are developing godlike qualities. “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” (Genesis 1:26) To live in God’s eternity, one must know what is right wrong, and choose to do right. This is basically the faculty of righteousness. This is God’s global solution to a global problem. Change the heart of man and you will rid him of evil. Change the heart of man and you will rid the world of terrorism.

The moral conscience, or judgment, of right and wrong and the freedom to use it, is an important feature of the mental endowment all humans possess. This feature is what makes humans in the image and likeness of God. But this faculty has been distorted and corrupted. Erroneous beliefs contributed in a large measure to the improper use of this faculty. Terrorists have been deceived with their beliefs. The

encouragement and justification of killing those who disagree with them will ultimately bring about their own demise. Of the traditional four ways to learn – intuition, observation, information and experience – experience is the best and lasting way to know. Terrorists, as well as all humans in general, are acquiring practical experience.

8. *To reveal divine justice is different from human justice.* “They are of those that rebel against the light; they know not its ways, nor abide in its paths.” (Job 24:13) “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” (Isaiah 55:9) Divine and human justice is not congruent. Often, they cannot be mutually rationalized. If you evaluate divine justice in the short run, you will miss the big picture that God is creating in the long run. A big lesson from the book of Job is to “see” that the universe, the cosmos, the solar system and planet earth cannot be explained in human terms since these are non-human constituents. As human beings we cannot apply short term human concerns and expectations to the long-term concerns of the cosmos. There is an enormous picture in which God is governing and we are only an insignificant tiny part. Divine justice, which sees the big picture in the long run, is not the same as human justice, which sees only the individual picture in the short run. Human justice is momentary - immediately after an act of injustice. Divine justice is long term lasting years and years after the act of injustice. An example is the wicked ones seeming prosperity. They may have short-lived evil moments of prosperity, admiration, pleasure and even honor. They may even be happy. But these moments defeat and cause the demise of the individual. These moments cause the individual to move further and further away from the status of a complete person. Because the individuals are already imperfect, their evil moments make them more and more imperfect hastening them on the road to destruction. The wicked may have prosperity, but the righteous have God. The iniquities of life are short lived, but in the ultimate

analysis the righteous will overcome. God's permission of evil is to show His conflict with Satan and the existing civilizations.

*9. To reveal the mysterious and futuristic Biblical Civilization.* Job's experience reveals the present struggles of life. It also suggests everyone has a "Job" within himself. Job is a model of a person who practices righteousness and avoids evil. The questions and dialogue that Job has with God can be similar to other people's questions and dialogue with God. This is to suggest the real purpose for the writing of the Book of Job. God allowed Satan to initiate and impose such a terrible suffering upon a godly man as a picture and type for His allowing evil to befall humankind. Job's sufferings show the steepest plunge from fortune to misery. But Job's experience shows his victory and subsequent meteoric rise to greater levels of prosperity. There's a parallel between Job and the human family. Job was cited as a man of great learning, influence and wealth. This is typical of Adam and the human family who feared, talked and had communion with God. Adam also had great wealth and health. Adam lost his right to life and the results were sickness and death. Job sought earnestly for an explanation as to why would God permit such evils to befall him. Humankind asks why - if thou be God, why is there evil in the world? Why must we suffer? Job had comforters and analysts who told him to curse God and die. They told him that God does not hear you nor does He care. Humankind has comforters in their intellectual leaders, social analysts and great statesmen. They say God is a myth. God is an illusion. There is no God. Enjoy life it's later than you think. Job cries out for answers because he wants an explanation. Humankind asks the same questions and God answers with the Bible. The Bible contains mysteries, but these mysteries have answers. The big answer is the movement of the Biblical Civilization. Finally, Job's great disaster comes to an end. Personal suffering ceases. His wealth doubles, his family is restored, but there is more. Job becomes a valuable human being from all

his experiences. Humankind's disaster will come to an end. Suffering, evil, sickness and despair will end. Humankind, like Job will become more valuable as a result of their experiences. Job's record is an important testimony representative of the world of humankind in general.

Harold S. Kushner, a Boston Rabbi, gives Job a modern perspective. His thesis is that God is all loving, but not all powerful. He is all good, but not all sovereign. So, when bad things happen to good people, it is simply because events are out of God's control. He can't do anything about it. He is helpless! Kushner advises his readers to learn to love God and forgive Him despite His limitations to help. Since God has these limitations, there is something more powerful than Him.

To react to Kushner's thesis, consider the heavenly scene between God and Satan in the 1st 2 chapters of the book of Job. Note Satan had to have permission before he attacked Job. For Satan to ask permission of God is to recognize His sovereignty. Job's suffering was not because of an injustice or a justice. Job was blameless. God was allowing the test as a projected picture for humans. Humans too, are not to be blamed. They do not deserve the suffering experience. But like Job, one day their suffering will be eliminated. God does not need forgiveness. God has a plan. God is still in control. In the long run, His power is seen moving humankind to a glorious future. To be a part of and in harmony with the cosmos and the angelic host is a major objective in the future arrangements.

*10. To reveal how God's justice and love work harmoniously.* Justice and love as values and behaviors are often in conflict. There are those who favor an act of justice while disregarding the mercy and compassion of love. Similarly, there are those who favor the mercy and compassion of love while ignoring the righteousness and truth of justice. God is often confronted with this dilemma of two values equally desirable, but equally conflicting. To allow both demands of

these values to act simultaneously is to compromise them. To act on one while ignoring the other is to neglect or not care for the other. God handles this challenge by permitting in a sequence one followed by the other so that in the bigger and long-range picture both are satisfied. God's ways are different from human ways. In the case of Adam, justice came first. Adam sinned and death resulted. Love came second in retrieving Adam from death through the redemptive power of the resurrection. The demands of both these two values were met, but it is taking a long period of time for the resolution. With humankind, truth and justice has brought them to their predicament, but eventually mercy and love will release and allay their predicament.



# CHAPTER 7

## GOD'S GLOBAL SOLUTION TO A GLOBAL PROBLEM



*“For I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me.”*

*—Isa 46:9*

How will God solve the problem of terrorism along with war, violence, sickness, aging and death? The current solutions proposed by many nations today is to kill the terrorists, kill their supporters, kill their countries and kill their sympathizers. The Islamics number 1.5 billion throughout the world. Does one kill this entire population to root out terrorism? There are also other large groups of terrorists: Irish terrorists, Arab terrorists, Israeli terrorists, American terrorists, Pakistani terrorists, Chinese terrorists, etc. Does one kill them all as well? There are roughly 6 billion humans on planet earth. Is killing the answer to this global problem?

Human intellect and compassion have been applied to the problem of achieving peace. Both the Israeli people and the Palestinian people are tired and weary of war, even before 1948. Both sides want a home, safe and peaceful. Leaders and statesmen have attempted to develop peace plans for which both sides can agree. Intense diplomacy has shuttled directly and indirectly between Israel and the Palestinians with the United States, United Nations and other nations participating. A summary of this historic participation from the Oslo Agreement to Secretary Powell's effort can be seen in the following matrix. This should give the reader an insight into the thinking and development of these plans. Even at this writing, no agreement is complete. The search for permanent peace is still in the making. When will we learn that there will never be a peace without first a peace between world religions. There can be no peace unless there is an agreed upon system of truth that yields beliefs, attitudes and behaviors conducive to brotherhood.

## MATRIX – PROPOSED PEACE PLANS FOR MIDDLE EAST

Twelve Comparative Factors	Oslo Accord	Natanyahu Plan	Barak Plan	Clinton Plan	Hamas & Others Plan	Saudi Arabia Plan	God's Plan	
1. Warfare	Military redeployed police redeployed		External Security only	U.S. Guarantees	Active bomber army with Al-Qaeda	Arab guarantee Hamas & others uncontrollable	God fights for Israel (Isa 31:4)	
2. Terrorism eliminated	Legal measures for offenses		Islam tolerated	Oslo Accord	Bomber army to control	Arab security agreement	Islam beliefs must be changed (Psm 119:65)	
3. Israel's right to exist	PLO Council to enforce		Regathered 7 million Jews	Oslo Accord	Israel must be ousted	22 Arab nations give full recognition	God's law out of Zion (Mic 4:2)	
4. Living in peaceful co-existence	Israel & PLO to enforce		Low	Oslo Accord	Oslo Accord	Israel must be ousted	Normalize economics & trade	Acceptance of God's laws (Isa 32:17)
5. Ultimate authority	Israel Knesset PLO Parliament		Confidence	Knesset Parliament United Nations	Oslo Accord	Islamic Clerics	Arab Nations security guarantee	Messianic Authority (Ez 37:25)
6. Free elections	Self government and democracy		In	Support free elections	Oslo Accord	Islamic Law	Islamic Law	God gives choice in Messianic Era (Ro 8:2)
7. Land ownership	Forced borders		The	Forced borders	Forced borders	Islamic sacred land	Withdraw to 67 borders	God gives Israel the land (Ez 11:17)
8. Palestinian refugees (millions)	?		Oslo	Limited return	No return to Israel	Full return to Israeli homes	Full return to Israeli homes	Return under Messianic control (Ez 37:25)
9. Jerusalem control	Divided East West		Agreement	Divided East (Abudis) West	Oslo Accord	Islamic control for entire city	Withdraw to 67 boundaries and sharing	Undivided city to Israel (Zech 14:12)
10. Religious sites	?			PLO given control	?	cleanse all religions from the land	PLO control	Messianic authority with Third Temple (Ez 12,16)
11. Temple Mount ownership	?			?	?	Islam	PLO control	Messianic authority (Jer 30:3)
12. Changing hatred & beliefs	?			?	?	Islam to convert world	Islamic laws apply	God's spirit poured (Acts 2:17)

The following comments are relative to the matrix of proposed peace plans for the Middle East:

Very little or nothing is included in any of the peace plans, which deals with the hatred that exists between Arab and Jew. Nothing is addressed with regard to the role of belief and value conflicts, which appears to be fundamental in causing the conflict. God's plan does address this issue.

Temple Mount ownership and control is another serious omission. This religious site is part and parcel of severe conflict between Judaism and Islam. The Messianic Administration will deal with this issue directly and completely.

The control of Jerusalem is another point of little agreement. Barak came the closest to an agreement in proposing a divided Jerusalem shared by Islam and Judaism. Arafat and Barak both agreed to use Jerusalem as their capital. Abudis in East Jerusalem would be Islamic. The remaining Jerusalem would be Judaic. God's proposal would be an undivided city given to Israel.

The Palestinian refugees who are in the millions, all anxious to return to their homes in Israel have been seriously overlooked by the proposals.

Most proposals are political and administrative in nature. Little or nothing is done with the religious issues. It is not surprising that peace does not prevail in the Middle East.

God's solution to a global problem is to change the hearts of men. (Ro 12:2) That is His approach. Remove the evil out of the hearts of men. That sounds impossible, but there is a scripture that indicates how God will extract the evil from the hearts of men. "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh." (Acts 2:17) God's spirit in humans allows learning on how evil starts in the hearts of humans and knowing how to commit to God's peace plan for eternal living. Mankind will also see the solution to this huge global problem. Here is a general outline of God's peace plan for the Middle East.

**First** – A clash of civilizations is a clash of attitudes, beliefs and values. These must be compatible with God's values and beliefs. There cannot be two sets of beliefs and values.

**Second** – Middle East awareness must be perceived in a world context. God has a larger framework of reasoning, which incorporates the entire world. Israel is a microcosm of the world.

**Third** – Human plans center on 75 years of living. God's plan centers on eternity. God allows lessons to be learned in the 75 years as guidance for living in eternity.

**Fourth** – Beliefs can be changed! Beliefs, are changed by removing the influential sources, which generated the original erroneous beliefs.

**Fifth** – God's peace plan must be known. By learning it, we will see what God sees and intends to do

Here, in greater detail, is God's Peace Plan.

### **1. A CLASH OF CIVILIZATIONS IS A CLASH OF BELIEFS**

Some people who have given in depth thought about the times we are in and the direction we are heading, have concluded we have entered the Global Civilization. This refers to the cultural coming together of humanity and the increasing acceptance of common values, beliefs, orientations, attitudes, institutions and behaviors of people throughout the world. This will integrate the world into one society. The boundaries of language usage, religious beliefs, economic practices, social institutions, technological undertakings, and value commitments are merging into an "oneness" and "unity," which has never been seen before in history. In fact, many countries including the UN as well are concerned with skirmishes, disruptions and violence that may occur 4,000 miles away. It is as if the nations have become brethren. We are moving into a global civilization where the rights of humans are determined more from a global standpoint than from a nationalistic, regional, local or religious point of view. The rights of humans are superceding the nations to which they belong. The most important and dangerous conflicts will not be between social classes, rich and poor or other economically defined groups, but between people belonging to different ideologies and cultural entities. A global civiliza-

tion will emerge when these conflicts are resolved. There is a cause-effect relationship among beliefs, attitudes, values, commitments and civilization. The relationship can be seen in Figure 34.

America has been under attack as never before from both terrorists and non-terrorists. Many declare America as the Great Satan. Many object to America's globalistic spread as seen with McDonalds, air travel and Hollywood movies. There are even those who blame America for every ill in the world. A brief look at world issues does find America with faults and weaknesses. No country is exempt. However, America is a huge champion in significance and critical world issues

America is a melting pot of values collected from traditions as well as governments and religions. Here are some values, seen today, which may change tomorrow. The changes come from new learning, adjusting technology, conflict resolution and desire to improve.

**A. CLASSICAL VALUES (ACCEPTED BY MOST)**

Life has purpose.

Man can reason.

A human is more important than the state.

Do to others what you wish them to do to you.

Man does not live by bread alone.

A world of peace is a world free of war and conflict.

Nature is beautiful.

Children should be raised within a family.

Free choice is everyone's endowment.

Happiness is everyone's right.

Experience is more valuable than knowledge.

The Bible is a spiritual book.

Morality is mind control.

**B. MODERN VALUES (ACCEPTED BY MOST)**

Success is defined by what one wants to accomplish.

Wisdom is practical knowledge.

A company is in business to make a profit.

All people should be given equal employment opportunities.

The government protects person and property.

All people should have the opportunity to reach their highest possible educational level.

An active life leads to much satisfaction.

Productivity belongs to those who pursue it intensely.

Quality of work life brings satisfaction to employees.

**C. OBSOLETE VALUES (REJECTED BY MOST)**

The earth is flat.

The white race is superior to the black race.

When the poor work hard, they will not be poor.

Money is the root of all evil.

Slavery is an efficient way to get work done.

It's whom you know and not what you know that counts.

Needs of employees are food, shelter and security.

Working hard is the way to earn eternal life.

More is learned by using hands than using minds.

To feel is more important than to think.

**D. RECENT VALUES (CONTROVERSIAL WORLDWIDE)**

Freedom without limits brings anarchy.

Competition results in gain for the consumer.

Hard work produces great rewards.

Conflicts can be resolved at the conference table.

Corporations should assume social responsibilities.

A prosperous life will lead to a comfortable life.

Everyone must have an education.

Mathematical training develops a logical mind.

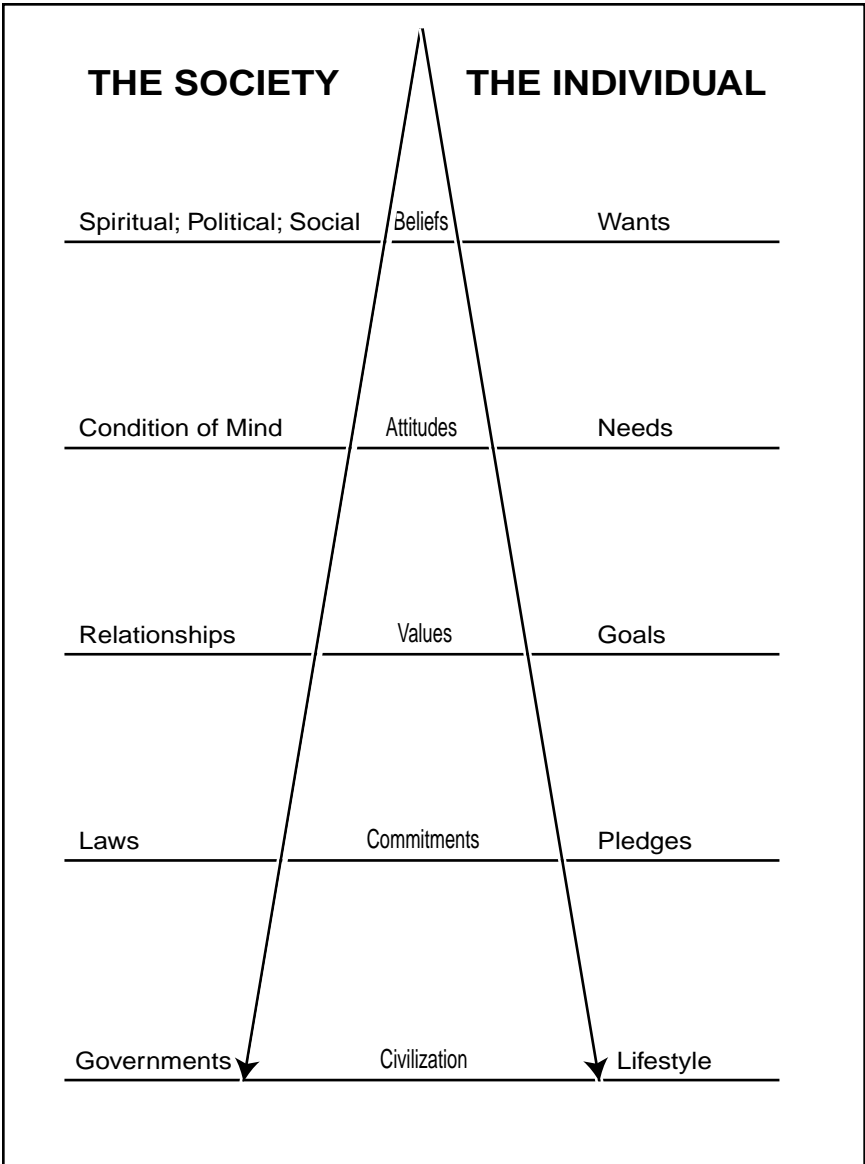
A job should not be denied on the basis of religion, nationality, race, sex or age.

The process of learning is more important than the knowledge learned.

Traditional religion should be only a private matter with no public face.

The church, the synagogue or the temple are repositories of wisdom.

Equality is more important than excellence.



**Figure 34 – Cause-effect sources influencing civilizations**

**E. NEW VALUES (BEING TESTED)**

The world should have one government for all people.  
 There should be one language throughout the world.  
 Every employee should be a manager.

People should be paid for what they do and not for the time they put in.

Everything is beautiful in its own way.

Leaders can be developed.

Corporations doing business in world markets will prosper.

Corporate cultures and subcultures are value centers and greatly affect what the corporation can become.

Story is more important than information.

Emotions trump logic.

What we do is more important than who we are.

My religion is only to do good.

My country is the world rather than where I was born.

## **F. RECENT ISLAMIC VALUES (CONTROVERSIAL WITHIN ISLAM)**

The world must eventually become Islamic.

Governing Islamics requires combining religion, politics, society and finances.

Sacred land prohibits infidels from entrance and residence.

Killing is necessary to defend Islamic laws and credence.

Men are superior to women.

Women have been created to serve man.

The Koran is a book written by Allah and given to Muhammad.

All Islamics must fight and even kill to defend their faith.

Killing of humans to defend Islam is a direct service to Allah.

Scientific knowledge must be rejected when it conflicts with Islam.

There is no separation of religion and state in Islamic countries.

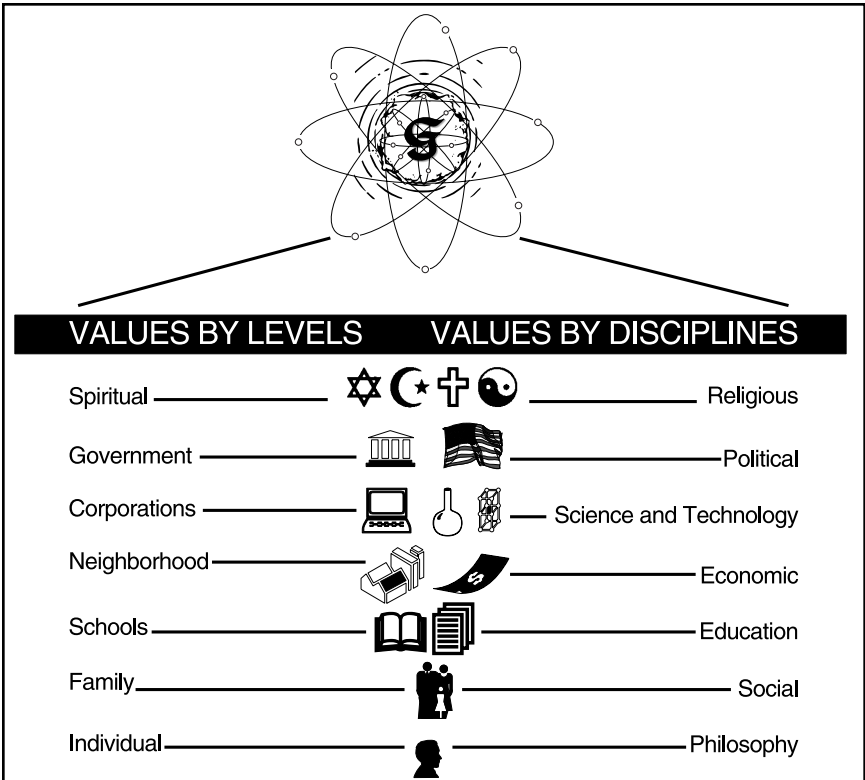
Values in one way or another have an effect on culture and civilization. With some, there is an enormous effect. Values could hold a civilization in check or they could bring about its demise. They can give civilization its growth and expansion. These values were originally developed by individuals who held them as beliefs. When the values become beliefs by all the societies, a global civilization can emerge. These values have at least helped us enormously with the definition of good and evil. Good is anything you believe and do that is proven to enhance and preserve life. Evil is



anything you believe or do that is proven to diminish or destroy life. Values from many sources are eventually synthesized.

Many historians see civilizations existing in the singular. Toynbee identified 34 in human history. Most existed in the singular. Durant identified in the hundreds the number of civilizations that have existed in human history. Toynbee would see Islam as a part of the Middle Ages in the Mideast development of a non-Christian culture, whereas Durant would see Islam as a singular civilization. In fact, he might see Shiites and Sunnis and possibly others as separate ideologies. The view may not be settled. My own view is that several civilizations may exist simultaneously. Some ascending to a peak, some at the peak, and some declining to a long state of non-existence. When several civilizations exist, the influencing effect of one on the other may be one of the factors for ascending and descending. Television that has now entered the Afghanistan society will bring a powerful influence and subsequent change in Islamic values. Norms, institutions and modes of thinking will also change to give support to a value change while resisting or rejecting a traditional value. Civilizations have no clear-cut boundaries, no precise beginnings and no clear endings. Seldom do they follow nationalistic boundaries or political conclaves. Empires rise, fall and interact. Governments come, go and interact. People believe, disbelieve and interact so that the change may not be known until the upheavals have settled.

Samuel Huntington, in his book, "Clash of Civilizations" predicted there would be an enormous clash of civilization values to occur in the near future. Clash of values means clash of civilizations. Christians based on the book of Revelation make the same prediction as Huntington, but they call this clash Armageddon. The civilization clash would result from the conflicts of global politics, religious ideologies and social values. Human history is the history of civilizations. Huntington sees the ideology of Christianity in a head-on clash with the ideology of Islam. Hinduism would

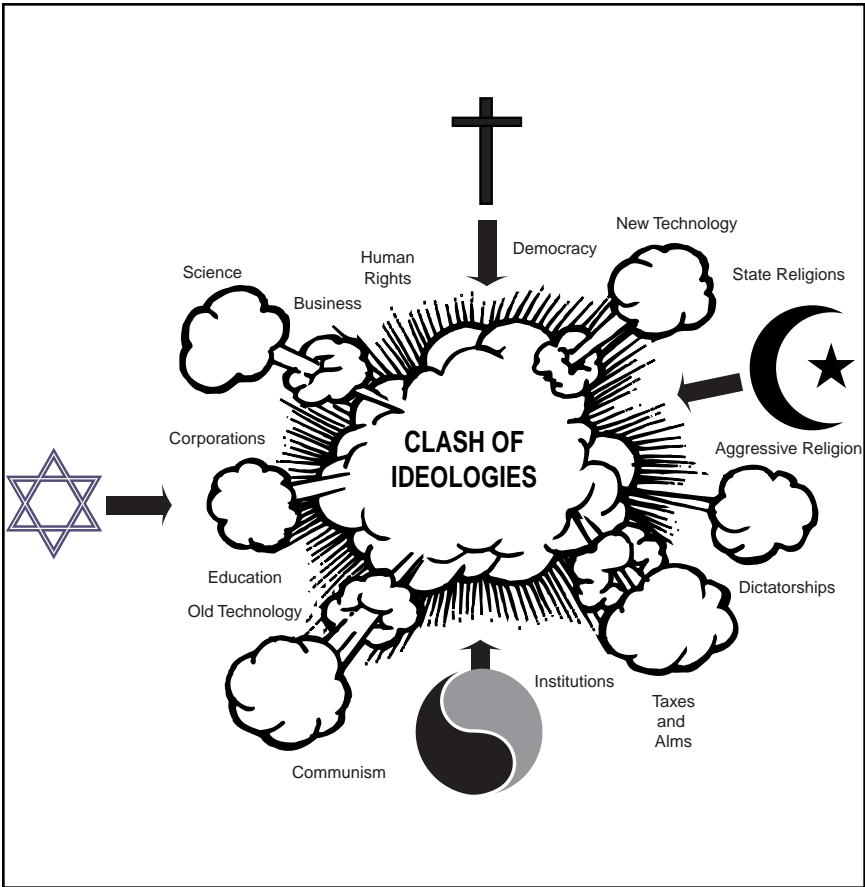


**Figure 35 – Values are well defined by categories**

be in a head-on clash with Catholicism. Protestantism would be in a head-on clash with Pantheism. Huntington singles out Islam itself as the dark force in tomorrow's world. The Muslim propensity toward violent conflict is supported with the militarization of Muslim countries along with the motivational concept of the Jihad. Bin Laden fits the clash of civilizations concept since his hate for America is intense as well as his love for his birthplace and the holiest of Islamic countries, Saudi Arabia. Clash of values when allowed to cross borders can cause a clash of civilizations. See Figure 36.

**COMPARING DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS WITH ISLAMIC PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES**

There is an incompatibility in beliefs, attitudes and values between political and religious Islam and with U.S. democracy

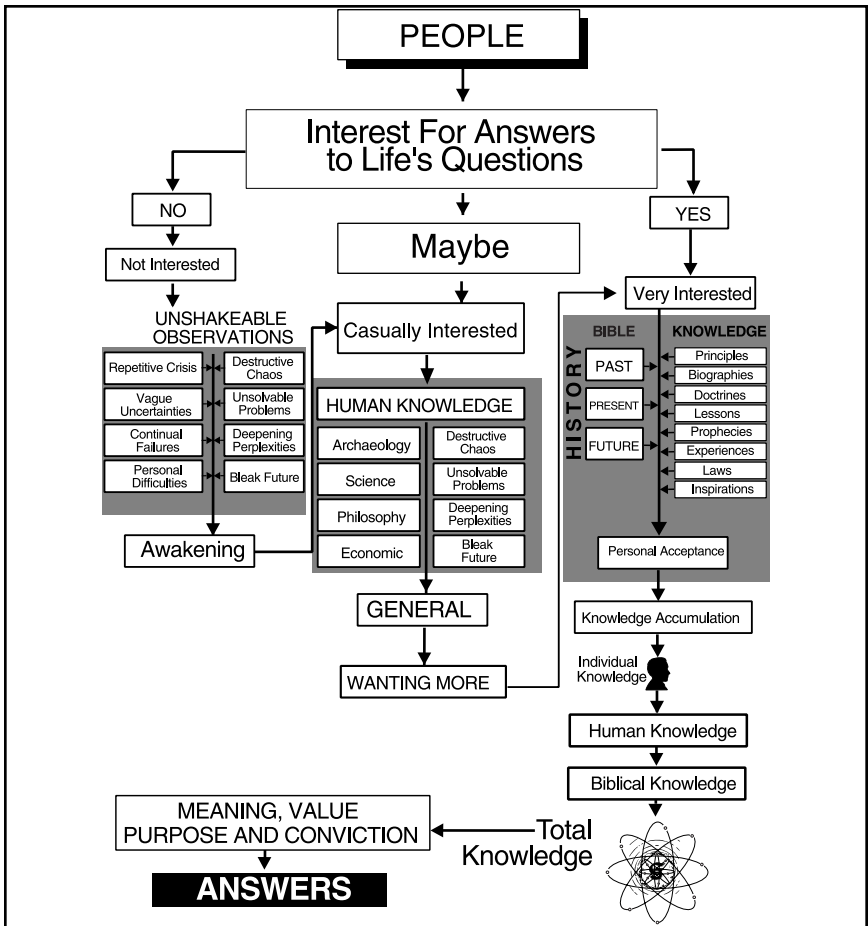


**Figure 36 – Clash of civilizations starts with a clash of attitudes and beliefs. Islam is clashing with many attitudes and beliefs.**

and human rights. Here is a brief listing and comparison.

## **2. SEE LIFE AS GOD SEES IT**

If we can picture God's larger framework of planning and reasoning, we will then see that the global problem of terrorism is only temporary. The terrorists may be ahead in the short run like quick-growing grass, but the righteous will catch-up like the long living palm tree. (Psm 92) God does call on His creatures to reason with Him. Reasoning with God first means raising lots of questions of God. The Bible claims to have the best answer to life's questions. See Figure 37.



**Figure 37 – Answers to Life’s Questions is a Quest**

**Democracy and Human Rights**

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They should act toward one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Everyone is entitled to rights and freedoms without distinction of race, color, sex, language, religion, politics, ideology, age or social origin. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude.

**Islam Principles and Practices**

Women are inferior under Islamic law. Non-Muslims living in Muslim countries have inferior status under Islamic law. They may not testify against a Muslim.

Two religions cannot exist together in Saudi Arabia.

Non-believers do not have the right to life in Muslim countries. They must be killed.

Slavery is recognized in the Koran.

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment

Everyone has the right to be recognized everywhere as a person before the law.

An accused person has the right to a fair trial.

Marriage of men and women are of equal rights in selection, terms and divorce. They are equal under the law.

Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This includes changes in religion, beliefs and organizations.

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression to seek, receive and impart information.

Everyone has the right to work, to choose their employment and be protected of unemployment.

Everyone has the right to education.

Muslims are allowed to cohabit with female slaves.

Transgressors of holy Islamic law are inflicted with punishments, such as amputations, crucifixions, stonings and floggings.

In Islam, a person is not recognized if there is a violation of the precepts of the Koran.

Revenge for killing is officially and legally sanctioned. Monetary compensation is also possible. Consideration of good faith, fairness, justice and truth play only a subordinate role.

The legal procedure under Islam is partial and unfair in the matter of witnesses. A non-Muslim may not testify against a Muslim. Muslim women are rarely allowed to testify against Muslim men. If admitted twice as many women are required to testify over the number of men. Women do not have equal rights under Islamic law. They are not free to marry whom they wish and the rights of divorce are not equal.

No one has the right to change from Islam to another religion. Muslims are happy to accept converts to their religion, but a Muslim may not convert to another religion. This is apostasy and punishable by death. (Statistics reveal there have been converts of Muslims to other religions.)

The right of free speech is limited. Christians in Muslim countries cannot speak publicly about Christianity. They are often punished for doing this.

Women are not free to choose their work. Certain jobs are forbidden to them.

Non-Muslims are not free to choose their work. Non-Muslims cannot wield authority over Muslims.

Education for women is denied outside the home.

Certain fields of learning are denied to women.

Children are restricted in learning in and out of the home.

Questions do awaken the human spirit out of its stupor of every day living. Questions help us see life with all its many riddles. Questions, when answered are like puzzle pieces put together, which give us the meaning of life. Questions make us suddenly realize that our existence is grounded in fearful mysteries.

We must have answers to the question, “why God allows evil in the world.”

We must have answers to the question “where is God when these cataclysmic events occur.”

1 John 4:8 – God is love. Then how do we harmonize the experience with evil if God is love? Rabbi Kushner says God hasn’t got the power to stop evil.

Psm 5:4 – God hates wickedness. The fact that God does not stop it means there is a reason for it. Atheists say God is dead. There is no God.

1 Thess 5:17 – God encourages prayer. But prayer does not always relieve the pain. Our Pantheist friends say prayer is only self-talk.

Isa 33:22 – God is lawful. God wants harmony in the universe. This is why He wants His creatures to conform to universal laws. The evolutionists say the universe is in a state of constant change.

The search for truth must compare the Bible’s claim with other sources. Certainly the Bible’s huge list of devotees is a form of indirect verification giving satisfaction to the puzzling questions of life. The reason there are those who do not see insightful and complete answers is due primarily to the failure of grasping the “big picture.” It is the overall plan that makes the best sense out of the many conflicting mysteries of life. This broad and complete view explains the past and how it produced the present. It gives a view of the future and how the past and the present are leading in that direction.

Faith in the Bible and knowledge of its claims have given

millions of people a better life and an easier death. There is no other source that can compare with the Bible.

God does have a global solution to this terrorist global problem. The solution will change the evil in human hearts. Humans must collect a perspective of how God sees things. Thus far, humans have been limited in their perspective. They possess self-centered knowledge, which is partial, self-governing and with many unknowns. See Figure 38.

### **75 YEARS OF LIFE VERSUS ETERNITY**

Humans see life as a span of 75-80 years of existence. God sees the potential of human life with a span of millions and millions of years. This is a much larger framework of what God has planned for humanity. God is giving humankind 75 years of opportunity to learn and prepare for that eternal existence. Too often we give up on life based on our own narrow and limited understanding. Experience often tells us not to try and figure out details or even understand it, but to suffer them and rejoice in them as they are. We should keep in mind this powerful principle:

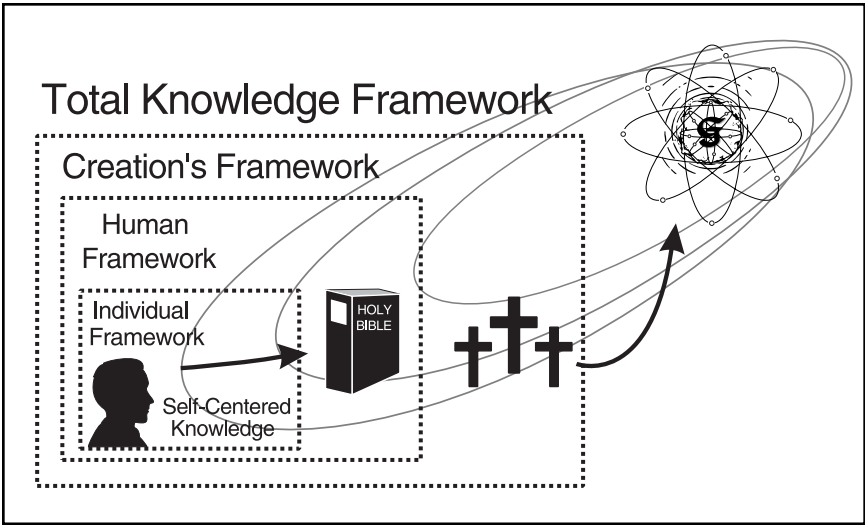
### **PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT**

### **OFTEN HAPPENS WITH SUBTRACTION**

### **ADDITION DOESN'T ALWAYS WORK**

Pain and suffering is a subtracted process. But our assurance and faith tell us that pain and suffering will be worth the struggle in the age of eternity. Our choice is 75 years of life with pain and suffering versus eternity with no pain and suffering. We are satisfied knowing someday we will understand.

God's allowance of evil to the human family does not mean He causes it or approves of it. God sees allowance of evil as a special way of giving lasting and valuable lessons. Humans are learning eternal and permanent lessons. Learning through experience is the best way to learn. For example, we as free willed individuals with choice, know what it means to



**Figure 38 – Total knowledge is outside the individual framework**

break a law. We are learning well that we bear the responsibility for the consequences of our choices. This is one of the great lessons that God wants us to learn in the 75 years of test and trial. Individuals bear the responsibility of making wrong choices. God has not created humans to be robots. God has created humans to voluntarily serve Him and voluntarily choose good over evil. To protect humans from their own wrong choices or breakage of laws would be to remove the free will endowment that humans have. This would be to create human robots. God created humans capable of choosing good or evil, permitting them to be tested in their choice of one or the other and lets them suffer the consequences of a choice of evil, if that is their preference. He then will arrange for a just method of releasing them from the sentence handed down and will provide them with an educational process whereby they might experience a period of living with the consequences of good before again submitting them to a new choice. We believe that the process that God is using is the best alternative for humanity. God foresaw that actual experience and the allowance of evil would be the surest, and the most effective and the most lasting lesson to



guide the human race eternally. This is a major insight we learn from God's plan for eternity.

Here are attitudes that impatient people have about God:

People want God here and now.

People want God to protect them in the 75-year period of present existence.

People want God in times of distress and difficulty to act.

People want God to reserve a place for them in eternity.

People want God to take care of them without test and trial now, especially if sick.

This is the attitude of mind individuals have when they are self-centered and short-timed in their thinking. See Figure 38. The long-range expectation beyond 75 years of age is not likely to exist. Moving up to God's reasoning framework helps:

God is preparing a life for humans in the ages of eternity.

God is setting up a kingdom for all humankind.

God refuses to deal with the current ups and downs of civilization.

God refuses to deal with the tragic misuse of free will.

The free will of all humans – the Afghanis, the Iraqis and other groups of people who harbor terrorists is getting them into trouble with more than Americans, but with God!

### **3. CHANGING BELIEFS CAN CHANGE A PERSON!**

This book has taken the position that the war on terrorism is a religious war. All sides employ the rhetoric of religion – evil, morality, Allah's will, God, the Koran, the Bible, Christians, Jews, etc., etc. One side even calls it Jihad or holy war. The other side pleads it is not about religion, but about extremists in a religion who have religious motives. But how can you root out the terrorist plague on a permanent basis unless you address yourself to the religious motives along with religious practices. Everyone will agree that religion is involved muddying up the waters of terrorist activities. The suicide bombers on September 11th had religious motives and the desire for religious rewards in executing the destruction of the Trade Towers. Even the atheist Alliance

International released a statement citing a 2,000-year history of distrust, persecution and bloodbath among Christians, Jews and Muslims. The war cry has often been God is on our side. Kill the infidel or non-believer and die for the cause. We must raise questions about religious beliefs, which is the source of attitudes, missions, commitments and lifestyles. Beliefs are deterministic. They are the engines of behavior. Beliefs have perpetuated behaviors from generation to generation. They have done this since the early eons of human history.

Beliefs can come from a combination of sources. These sources are 1) “Hand-me-downs” from parents; 2) “Influences” from family, religion and society; 3) “Passed-along” by friends and neighbors; 4) “Creeds and dogmas” from denominational organizations; 5) “Written word” from the printed media; 6) “Captivating convictions” from charismatic religious leaders; and 7) “Personal reflections and experiences.” These seven methods are powerful ways to reach people. Historically, they have. See Figure 39. The influential teaching of the Koran has been a powerful book in the Arabian countries for the past 14 centuries. The influence is powerful because of the perceived easy process that exists in getting to heaven. Changing this belief will change many or most of the Islamic commitments to quality for heaven to a personal, difficult challenge.

This author encourages a “go-back-to-the-Bible” approach. Study, analyze and develop beliefs from the Bible itself. (2 Tim 2:15) There is a good deal of significance in the word “study.” The Bible reflects the mind of God. This means it has depth on a much higher level than we do ordinarily experience. This depth makes the Bible difficult to understand. Much more intensive application of oneself is required. There are several reasons why study and application of the Bible is necessary.

First, the Bible is difficult because it cannot be read as any other book is read. It is not the same as any other book.

It is a special book. It must be approached differently. Study of the Bible requires careful examination of words, sentences, expressions, texts and contexts. It requires raising self-questions for the understanding of its concepts. It will require a commitment to search and research. (Prov 2:1-9)

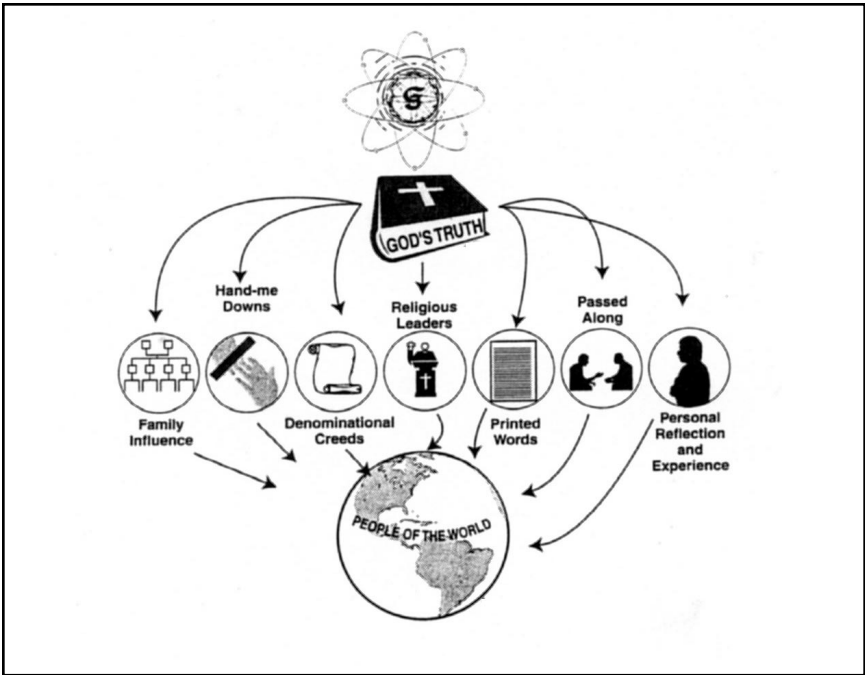
Second, God is a spirit and anyone who wishes to understand Him or even pray to Him must do so in the spirit. Trying to understand the Bible is trying to understand God. God reveals His secrets and unfolds the mysteries to those who have been spiritually begotten. The natural, the physical, the earthly cannot see Him or understand Him since humans are natural, physical and fleshly. (1 Cor 2:10-16)

Third, God does not reveal His truths to all. God's truths are not plainly seen, but covered. The Bible is a closed book, open only to those who seek the truth. The truths of God must be sought after, pursued since they are like treasure, hidden and buried in a field. There are many scriptures that speak of hidden truths as mysteries. (Matt 13:13; Ro 11:25; 1 Cor 15:51,52; Eph 3:1-12; Gal 2:20; Eph 5:32; 1 Tim 3:16; 2 Thess 2:7; Rev 1:20; Rev 17:5,7)

Fourth, God's thinking is far above humans. This is difficult. God's thinking, analysis, logic, methods and rational is so far above humans that it is simply not possible for us to understand clearly and plainly His activities and His works. For a few is means total daily dedication.

Fifth, God uncovers His secrets to those who revere and reverence Him. (Ps 25:14) Reverence for God means communion and prayer to Him. It means a deep desire to do His will and conform to His principles of righteousness. Reverence for God for most people is once a week for a few hours. For a few, it means total daily dedication.

Sixth, God is testing and evaluating the faith of believers. "Thou hast hidden these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes." (Matt 11:25) Many will be confused. It is for this reason the Bible is filled with parables, allegories, metaphors, similes, types and symbols. Unto



**Figure 39 – Seven methods on how beliefs are acquired (combinations too!)**

the humble and faithful are given understanding. These are in God's family. Too often we presume, hastily, that everyone who believes in God also believes in God's word – the Bible. This is not true. Many believe in God, but do not believe in God's Bible. The faith of believers is being tested.

Seventh, God reveals truths in due time. There is a time schedule in which certain truths are uncovered and made known. Truths long hidden in the Bible become providentially revealed. Dispensational truths are revealed from time to time to God's believers. (Dan 12:4)

Eighth, and finally, God does not intend to convert the world at this time. The work for the conversion of the world requires a plan from God and many people to help implement the plan. God's plan includes when and how this will be accomplished. Nothing will happen before that time.

#### **4. LEARNING GOD'S PLAN IS A MUST**

Because God's Plan is not understood, people question why God permits evil. They fail to understand God's purposes and His plan for future living. God does have a global solution to all of the global issues and problems. It is to change the hearts of men everywhere. God's plan is a vision for eternity. It is God's perspective of the vision that is described in Hab 2:2,3. "And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tablets, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie; through it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry." The vision spoken of is seen in Figure 40.

The Plan of God incorporates the idea of progress. History is not one meaningless event after another. It has a theme line that began with the Fall of Adam and Eve and will end in triumph with the Second Advent of Christ and his church. Human history confirms the continual advance of knowledge and understanding and its application to the betterment of the human condition. The Plan of God is a plan of progress. This is the meaning of history. The historic pattern is onward and upward. The cumulative effects are human betterment. The future is certain to be better than the past. Even though the present may be a step back, the time will come when mankind will take two steps forward. It is Christianity and the Bible that introduced the idea of a divine plan for man and the world. The idea of progress (Figure 40), like the idea of reason is a doctrine that cannot be proven like scientific test tube proof, but must be taken on faith. The Greeks admitted that things can get better, but they believed that they could just as easily get worse. To the Greeks, human destiny was a matter of chance or fate. Hindus, Buddhists and Confucianism also subscribe to the destiny of fate. The Muslim version is in the "enchanted universe" governed by Allah. Allah intervenes at every single moment to make things happen in the way they do. The Muslim plan waits for Allah's move and intervention. The

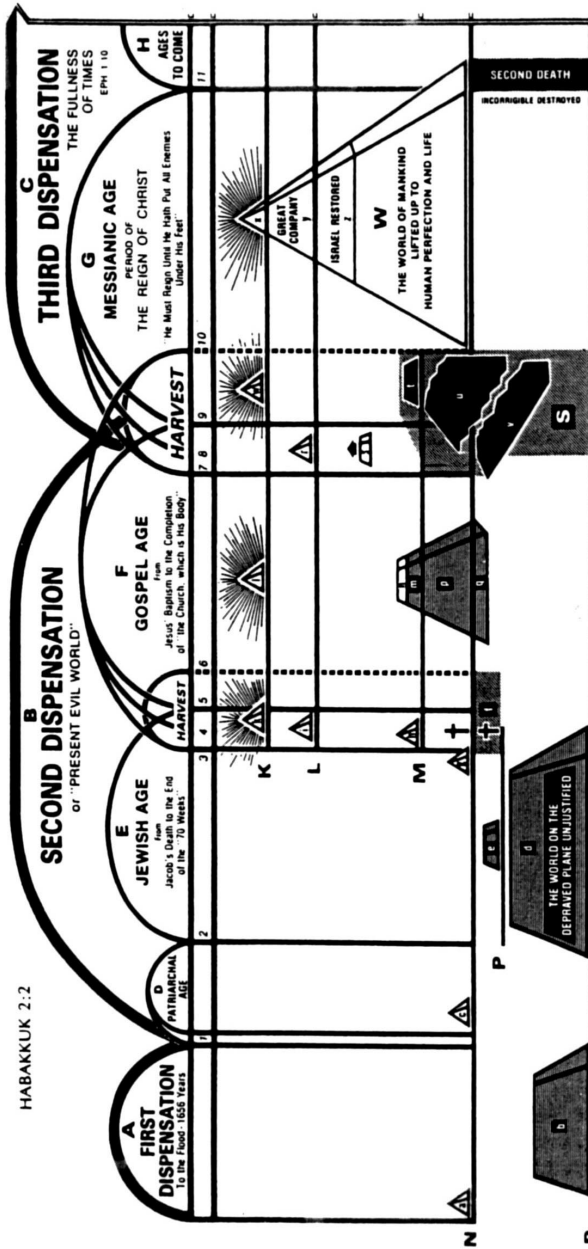
Biblical plan is a vision that all can see. (Figure 40) It has a negative beginning, but through progressive steps it ends with a positive conclusion.

The book, **The Divine Plan of the Ages** authored by C.T. Russell contains God's Peace Plan for the Middle East. Of course it delineates a world context as well. Peace has always been a human goal, ever so illusive. A computer analysis of recorded history of approximately 6,000 years has found only eight percent of the time the world was entirely at peace. For roughly 500 years, planet Earth has been warless. War and violence have been a human legacy. The world hungers for peace. People are born in periods of violence and die either with the same violence or a new cycle of violence. A violence full society is so overwhelming that careful thinkers wonder if peace is even attainable. Violence is a global problem as well as the conflict in the Middle East. There is no question the devil is dancing with glee in the Middle East! Few see him or even know he is behind it. In fact, the devil is singing with elation as evil is roaming amongst the conflict in the Middle East. The singing is loud and clear, although few hear it. Additionally, the devil struts, pompously, as the god of an old world urges women, children and the innocent to be killed between and among the Israelis and the Palestinians. Suicide bombing by young people, even girls barely 12 years old, invigorates the devil with jubilant joy when they blow each other up. Alfred Nobel, with his patent for dynamite, became a fabulously wealthy man. The death count from his patent reaches approximately 3,640,000,000. This is the number of people killed in 14,530 identifiable wars.

We are at the juncture of the last two semi-circles in the diagram. We see one age is dying and another is being born. The 2nd dispensation of human history is coming to an end and the 3rd is beginning. We are the in-between generation. We have one foot in the world that is going and one foot in the world that is coming. The plan you see before you is not known to the average man. This plan is mysterious. The

*“Write Down the Vision and Make it Plain Upon Tables, That Everyone May Read it Fluently.”*

HABAKKUK 2:2



## CHART OF THE AGES

ILLUSTRATING THE PLAN OF GOD FOR BRINGING MANY SONS TO GLORY, AND HIS PURPOSE —

... In Regard to an Administration of the Fullness of the Appointed Times, to Re-unite All Things Under One Head, Even Under the Anointed One, the Things in Heaven and the Things on Earth — Under Him ... Eph. 1:10 (august)

Figure 40 – God’s Plan of the Ages

plan is found in the Scriptures and it answers all of the important questions of life.

As we look at the chart we see an unusual series of diagrams and semi-circles. It is the Bible's view of human history outlined into 3 worlds:

the world that was  
the present world  
and the future world

It is a blueprint of: where we've been, where we are now, and where we are going

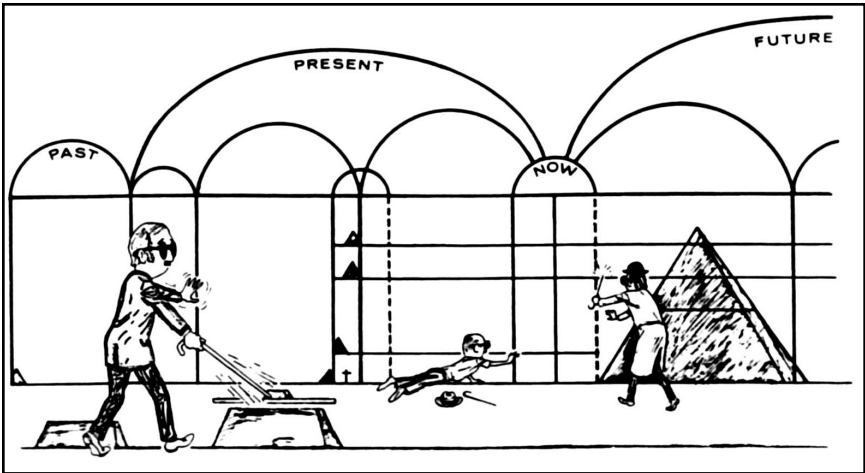
A thorough explanation of the chart with many significant details can be found in the book, **The Divine Plan of the Ages** by C. T. Russell.

Only with knowledge of the plan of God will we understand what God is doing. God allows simple evils to produce many complex goods. The plan of God can be summarized in one text in the Bible, 1 Corinthians 15:22, "As all in Adam die, even so all in Christ shall be made alive." This insight into the plan of God is crucial and we must exert a tremendous effort to find out more about this complex plan. The plan is not easily comprehended, because there are many, many features to it. It is broad. It is complicated. But it is logical and reasonable. As blind men, we are trying to describe what it is like.

Most of Christendom has tried to identify and understand God's plan. The fact that in America there is such great diversities of religion is open evidence there is little or no agreement as to what this plan is. See Figure 41. Christian groups tend to seize some aspect of God's plan and build their religion around this aspect. These groups are like blind men groping, feeling and touching different aspects of the plan.

To understand what God's plan is all about, one must stand back and get an overview, to see the end and the beginning along with all the important milestones in





**Figure 41 – Religions focus on certain parts of God’s plan**

between. When one says suffering and pain is here, God doesn’t love us, one sees only a moment in time. When one says events are drifting aimlessly, God doesn’t care, one sees only events around us and one misses the big picture. When one says there is no purpose and meaning to life, God doesn’t exist, one sees self-centeredness with myopic self-knowledge. When one says that the severity of the penalty of sin is too harsh by God, one only sees the benefits of 75 years of a lifetime and ignores the benefits of eternity. God is a planner. Goals for His plan are as follows:

Fill the earth – population must grow until it meets the figure of the earth’s capacity

Subdue the earth – earth is unfinished and needs to be finished as a paradise

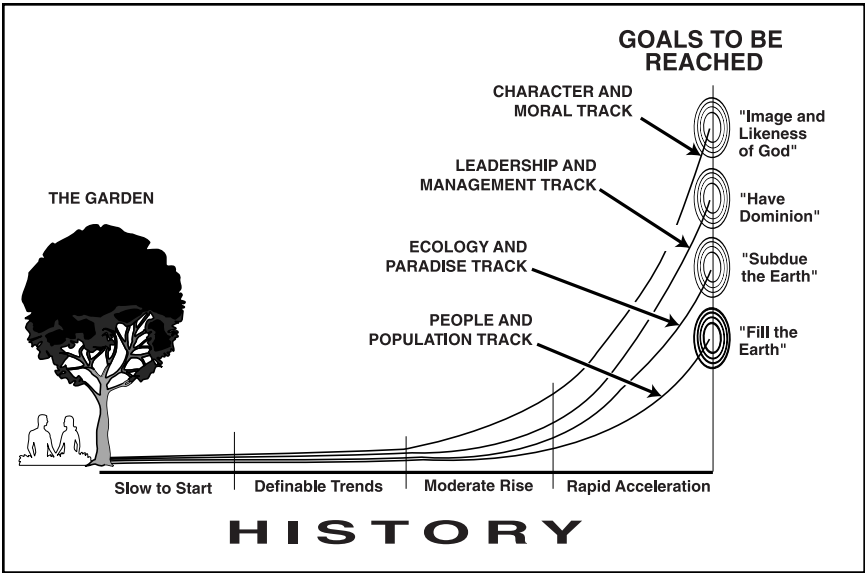
Have dominion – humans must take charge of caring and maintaining the earth and all of its contents – organic and inorganic

Be in the image and likeness of God – the character and moral likeness must be like God

These goals are illustrated in Figure 42.

Here is a list of suggested items that may be part of God’s cosmic plan.

Finishing an unfinished universe



**Figure 42 – History and human experiences are directed toward four goals**

- Inhabiting new planets in other solar systems
- Creating new creatures
- Giving humans dominion
- Creating a new world for the divine family
- Creating new laws
- Teaching the human experience

Nothing with God is accidental. He executes plans whose results are assured according to His purpose and will.

At the present time, the Middle East can be seen in five significant stages: 1) End times; 2) Israeli regathering and statehood; 3) Reactions to regathered Israel; 4) God helps Israel; and 5) Israel, the Middle East and the world at peace. Here are these five significant stages with supporting prophetic scriptures.

End Times – This refers to the last days of an old world. But End Times is not in the future. It is now. A great transition is in the making!

Luke 21:9 – “But when ye shall hear of wars and commo-

tions, be not terrified; for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not by and by.”

Matt 24:14 – “And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.”

Matt 24:3 – “– what shall be the sign of thy coming and the end of the world.”

Matt 13:40 – “As, therefore, the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so shall it be in the end of this world.”

2 Tim 3:1 – “This know, also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.”

Luke 21:24 – “– Jerusalem shall be trodden down by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.”

Matt 24:22 – “And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved –but for the elects’ sake those days shall be shortened.”

1 Peter 4:7 – “But the end of all things is at hand; be ye, therefore, sober and watch unto prayer.”

Israeli regathering and statehood – The Jewish Diaspora is coming to an end. Many Jews are returning to Israel.

Jer 30:3 – “For, lo, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will bring again the captivity of my people, Israel and Judah, saith the Lord, and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.”

Ezek 11:17 – “Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord God: I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.”

Jer 31:8 – “Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the coasts of the earth –”

Zeph 3:19 – “– And gather her that was driven out; and get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame.”

Micah 5:8 – “And the remnant of Jacob shall be among

the Gentiles in the midst of many people as a lion among the beasts of the forest –”

Ezek 36:24 – “For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.”

Reactions to regathered Israel.

Zech 14:2 – “For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle and the city shall be taken –”

Zech 12:3 – “And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all peoples; all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.”

Zech 12:2 – “Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the peoples round about –”

Jer 30:7 – “Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; It is even the time of Jacob’s trouble, but he shall be saved out of it.”

Ezek 20:38 – “And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me; I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel –”

Ezek 38:3-4 – “And say, thus saith the Lord God: Behold I am against thee O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, And I will turn thee back, and put hooks in to thy jaws –”

Ezek 39:1 – “Therefore, thou son of man, prophecy against Gog, and say, thus saith the Lord God: Behold I am against thee, O Gog – and I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee –”

Ezek 21:14 – “Thou, therefore, son of man, prophecy, and smite thine hands together, and let the sword be doubled the third time, the sword of the slain, it is the sword of the great men that are slain –”

Ezek 38:10-11 – “Thus saith the Lord God: It shall also

come to pass that at the same time shall things come unto thy mind and thou shalt think an evil thought, and thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to those that are at rest, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls and having neither bars nor gates, to take a spoil and to take a prey –”

God helps Israel.

Isa 31:4 –“– so shall the Lord of host come down to fight for Mount Zion and for the hill thereof.”

Ezek 39:1-2 – “– thus saith the Lord God: Behold, I am against thee, O Gog – and I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee –”

Jer 30:16 – “Therefore, all they that devour thee shall be devoured; and all thine adversaries, every one of them, shall go into captivity; and they that spoil thee shall be spoil, and all that prey upon thee will I give for a prey.”

Israel, the Middle East and the world at peace – The Kingdom of God, often referred to as the Messianic Age, will create a new civilization never before seen on planet earth. This new civilization is not by human arrangements, nor by their achievements. It is established by God through His sovereign grace. It includes blessings to all as a gift. The Messiah will be in full charge of this civilization. God’s Plan is a vision of this new civilization. Here is what life will be like in the new civilization.

1. A civilization in which God will bless all people. (Psalms 67:7)
2. A civilization without wars. All wars shall cease. (Isaiah 2:4)
3. A civilization without hunger. Famine will no longer exist. (Psalms 67:6)
4. A civilization with high productivity. Earth shall yield her increase. (Psalms 72:16)
5. A civilization without sickness. Diseases are gone. (Isaiah 33:24)
6. A civilization with satisfying work. No one will avoid work. (Isaiah 65:21-23)
7. A civilization of unequaled prosperity. (Isaiah 35:1-2)
8. A civilization with resurrected saints reigning with Christ.

(Revelation 20:4-6)

9. A civilization in which there will be justice for all. (Isaiah 42:1)
10. A civilization in which people will not grow old. (Isaiah 65:20)
11. A civilization without prejudice and persecution. (Isaiah 54:13)
12. A civilization with leisure to enjoy all things. (Exodus 20:8-11)
13. A civilization with moral qualities of love, unselfishness and loyalty. (Psalms 85:10-11)
14. A civilization without crime or violence. (Proverbs 2:22)
15. A civilization with plenty of good things to eat. (Psalms 72:16)
16. A civilization where peace will be between people and animals. (Isaiah 11:6)
17. A civilization with fine homes and full occupancy. (Isaiah 65:21-22)
18. A civilization in which no one will die. (Revelation 21:4)
19. A civilization in which all those who died in history will be resurrected. (John 5:28-29)
20. A civilization in which any evil doer will be cut off from the people. (Isaiah 65:20)
21. A civilization with no housing shortages, homelessness or unemployment. (Isaiah 65:21-22)
22. A civilization with health and life for all. (Revelation 21:4)
23. A civilization in which the entire earth will be a paradise. (II Corinthians 12:4)
24. A civilization which will have times of refreshing. (Acts 3:19-21)
25. A civilization without fears. (Micah 4:4)
26. A civilization in which truth shall triumph on the earth. (Psalms 85:11)
27. A civilization in which God will pour his spirit upon all flesh. (Joel 2:28)
28. A civilization in which the desert shall bud and blossom as a rose. (Isaiah 35:1)
29. A civilization in which sorrow and sighing shall flee away. (Jeremiah 31:12)
30. A civilization in which nothing will hurt nor destroy. (Isaiah 11:9)
31. A civilization in which the knowledge of God will fill the earth. (Isaiah 11:9)
32. A civilization in which the eyes of the blind shall be opened.

(Isaiah 29:18)

33. A civilization in which the deaf shall be unstopped. (Isaiah 29:18)

34. A civilization in which death shall no longer exist.

(I Corinthians 15:54)

35. A civilization in which God will wipe away all tears. (Isaiah 25:8)

36. A civilization in which the lame man shall leap as a hart.

(Isaiah 35:6)

37. A civilization in which streams of water shall flow in the deserts.

(Isaiah 51:3)

38. A civilization in which crooked places shall be made straight.

(Isaiah 45:2)

39. A civilization in which there will be no more sorrow.

(Isaiah 35:10)

40. A civilization where there shall be no more pain.

(Revelation 21:4)

41. A civilization where evil will be suppressed. (Psalms 37:9)

42. A civilization where all unrighteousness shall cease. (Isaiah 10:1)

43. A civilization where there shall be showers of blessing.

(Ezek 34:26)

44. A civilization where God will write his law in the hearts of men.

(Jer 31:33)

45. A civilization where all shall know God from the least to the greatest. (Hebrews 8:11)

46. A civilization where all iniquity shall be pardoned. (Isaiah 40:2)

47. A civilization where all nations will come and worship God.

(Revelation 15:4)

48. A civilization where God will execute judgment and righteousness on earth. (Jude 15)

49. A civilization where the whole earth shall become a garden like Eden. (Isa 51:3)

# CHAPTER 8

## BIBLICAL PROPHECIES

### ON TERRORISM

*“I have heard what the prophets said ”*

*–Jer 23:25*

We live in perilous and dangerous times. Many use the term “end times of an age.” The expression, “these are the last days,” are intended to mean a serious change will occur in earth’s global civilization. The events of September 11th and the war on evil certainly attest to this serious change. There was life before September 11th and surely there will be life thereafter. But it will be a changed life. War, violence, hatred, suffering, pain and discouragement are not new. They have been with the world in the past and are certainly here with us now. Most features and signs of the last days involve distressing situations. There is a list of many features of the last days found from Biblical scripture. Some features are listed in this chapter. Some have happened in the past, some are emerging and some have yet to start. End times means the end of an old civilization in which useless, ineffective, selfish, worthless, fruitless, egocentric, violent and destructive leaders will no longer be in charge. There are scriptures that predict terrorism in earth’s affairs. There are six scriptural areas that directly connect with Biblical prophecies of terrorism in our times. These are:

Luke 21:11 – Germ and anthrax bacteria warfare predicted.

Luke 21:11 – Terror and fear predicted for masses of people.

Isa 30:25 – The towers fall.

Isa 21:13-17 – Al-Qaeda’s army defeated.

Isa 21:11-12 – The morning cometh and also the night.

Ezek 38 & 39 – Islamic alliance in Jacob’s Trouble defeated.

Here are brief descriptions of each of these prophecies.



Germ and anthrax warfare predicted (Luke 21:11) “There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven.” (NIV) The word pestilence from Strong’s Concordance Greek 3061 “lormius” should be translated as plague, as a form of disease. It is the same Greek word in the Hebrew. In Strong’s 1698, “dober” is also defined as a plague. This is the same word used in outbursts of disease as in Egypt, the 10th plague that gained Israel’s release from Egyptian captivity. (Exodus 13:17) Plagues are generally death incurring. The tenth plague was the death of the Egyptians first born. (Ex 11:1, 12:30) It was a massive slaughter. Plague is an acute infection spread easily by touch or by breathing in air. Anthrax is a form of bacterial warfare in which an enemy can spread the disease through many venues bringing about fever, chills, severe prostration and swelling of parts of the body. Plague has been one of the great pestilential diseases that bring death and terror to thousands. The great prophecy of Jesus in Matthew, chapter 24 was a prophecy to predict conditions and features in the time of the end. Biological warfare has been threatened by different terrorist groups. But anthrax is only one of the many lethal bacteria in biological warfare. Others are tularemia, Q fever, smallpox, brucellosis, VEE, lassa fever, ebola, and botulism to name a few. Some of these diseases are transmitted by touch, others by inhalation. Special bacteria screening masks are needed to control air inhalation. See Figure 43.

To get an idea of how potent anthrax is would be to compare it with the bubonic plague of the Middle Ages, which killed between one quarter and one half of the total population living at that time. It could take weeks for the bubonic plague to bring about death to a victim. It would take one to six days for an infected anthrax victim to succumb completely. One hundred kilograms of anthrax spores under optimal atmospheric conditions would kill up to three million people in any densely populated metropolitan area.

Biological warfare in the hands of someone who would



**Figure 43 – Gas masks to control air inhalation**

be willing to use it is a new kind of weapon of mass destruction. It was used in the September 11th onslaught. It is an invisible weapon that would strike in silence and its source could not be traced. The actual and technical capabilities of biological weapons for mass destruction are clearly unknown. Especially for those who do survive a massive bio attack, the quality of the sickness, length of sickness, side effects, and long-term after effects are unknown. Obviously initiatives have been taken to develop a stockpile of vaccines and antibiotics to protect Americans if such an attack occurred. Since terrorists are now seeking new tools of mass destruction, biological warfare is now integrated into the national security and public health system. America has done

more than any other nation to protect civilians from biological weapons. But it is not clear for all its efforts that citizens are any safer. Jesus predicted (Luke 21:11) that great plagues would be used in the last days of the dissolution of an old civilization. The specter of germ warfare has moved into a prominent position in the public's mind, as well as government and military thinking.

Terror and fear predicted for masses of people. (Luke 21:11) "And pestilences in various places and fearful events." (NIV). The word "fearful" from Strong's Concordance Greek 5401 means terror or intense, sharp and overwhelming fear that creates frantic behavior. The term is brought about by threats of violence or death threats. The terror attempts to induce coercion. Horror and evil is anticipated with an oncoming terror. Terrorism is the act of violence and threat to intimidate or coerce for political, religious or social purposes.

Fear is natural and in it is a feeling arising from the presence or anticipation of danger. To move quickly when the danger arrives is to help avoid the danger. In many ways, fear can be a source of religion, since humans fear where they will go when they die. The fear of God or the fear of the Lord is synonymous with religion itself. The Al-Qaeda is fearful if they do not destroy the enemies of Islam. Those who are victims are fearful knowing they are targets of those who are commanded by Allah to kill.

Since September 11th, Americans have been jittery and uneasy in almost everything they do. Terror is ever present daily when passengers board an airplane, or when people receive letters that look unusual, or read newspaper headlines describing bombings of all sort or when newscasters continually remind the listener of the hazards of living. Pharmacists report an increase demand for anti-anxiety drugs while HMO's have seen a 25 percent increase in calls. There is a sudden loss of security for the typical American. Even sleep has been affected. Many Americans harbor a small and

disquieting fear – a fear of attack by unseen agents at unexpected times using unthinkable weapons.

Although the reaction to fear is perfectly natural, it can be unpleasant. Here are some of the body's reactions to fear.

Adrenal glands in the kidneys begin pumping.

Heart's pulse rate is increased.

Breathing quickens, pupils widen and saliva dries up.

Blood pressure goes up.

Ability to concentrate is lost.

Emotions leave a person unstable.

Here are some strategies for dealing with terrorist generated fears.

Rest, exercise, eat well and work on anything that is important.

Get into a normal behavior pattern that usually inspires interest.

Focus on high priority demands.

Keep a balance among such factors as a job, family and responsibilities.

Find positives within the negatives.

Trust that the Creator of the universe is in control.

Study the Bible to understand God's plan better.

Within time, out of the ordinary fears can be put to constructive use. We must remind ourselves that what happened on September 11th was a horrendous attack that few, if any have experienced in life.

The "towers fall" predicted. (Isa 30:25-26) In Biblical times, a tower was a high structure used for purposes of watching, protection or defense. The term is used figuratively of the Lord as a tower of refuge. (Psalm 61:3) Towers located at defense points in city walls were often given names. Towers also had symbolic meaning as when Jesus said in the parable of the man who was building a tower to count the cost. (Luke 14:28-30) The point of the parable is that man must know he is able to finish before he builds. Here is this author's interpretation of the prophecy of Isa 30:25-26. My comments are within the parenthesis as an

explanation of the prophecy. “And there shall be upon every high mountain (nations), and upon every high hill (cities), rivers, and streams of waters (truth and good principles) in the day of the great slaughter (time of the end even Armageddon); when the towers fall (symbolic of a down turn in economic, political and social prosperity found in cities and in countries. The towers of New York were symbolic of American economic prosperity as few countries in the world have similar towers. The towers falling means the economic prosperity of the United States is falling as seen with the period of recession, major layoffs of people, bankruptcy of businesses, airline industry at a point of collapse and other economic downturns. Moreover, the light of the moon (represents Israel, the law and the promises to Abraham’s legacy) shall be as the light of the sun, (Israel’s influence will rise as the influence of the Gospel light of Christianity), and the light of the sun shall be seven-fold, as the light of seven days (the truth and activities of God’s kingdom will increase enormously. Seven-fold means the increase will rise to a point of perfect expectation in the day that the Lord bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound. (God will restore and reconcile all people to himself.)

There are two significant parts of the prophecy, the light of the moon shall be like the light of the sun and the light of the sun shall be seven-fold like the seven days. Here are some suggestions for each of the two parts: “Light of the moon will be like the light of the sun.” This represents the advancement and achievement globally that the law covenant people, Israel, will make after the fall of the towers. Below are some of the progressions and achievements Israel has made before the towers fell. But the prediction is that Jewish advancement will accelerate after the towers fall.

*A. Jewish Survival* – There has never been a racial group that has gone out of existence, politically, socially, economically and even geographically and returned to be a new people again. The Nazis targeted the extinction of the Jews.

4.5 million were killed in the Holocaust. But the Jews survived. Hitler's anti-Semitism was fierce and lethal, but the surviving Jews bounced back. Here is a short history of their chartings of survival.

Egyptians enslaved them for 200 years (they were in Egypt 430 years, but for 200 years as slaves.)

Assyrians assimilated 10 tribes - 200,000 taken captive.

Babylonians exiled them, especially the intellectuals. (Daniel was an intellectual)

Greeks hellenized them – they endured an imposed paganism.

Romans scattered them – it was a 2000-year Diaspora. Today, the Diaspora reversing.

Medieval Church forced them into ghettos, but they survived. The Ghettos made them strong.

Spaniards persecuted them – Spain got its reward. Spain, today has little or no political influence in the world.

Nazis Holocaust – the survivors regathering to Israel. Because of the Nazis, the Israeli state was born.

Russians pogrommed them – but the Jews became stronger.

Arabs engineered worldwide hatred against them – but their nationalism increased.

The Jews have been killed, burned, raped, pillaged, tortured, whipped, shot, machine gunned, drowned, stoned, robbed, axed, hanged, insulted, beaten, banished and slaughtered. How is it possible for thus people to continue? What keeps them going? We are now witnessing a restoration process for the Jews.

In 1878, The Berlin Congress of Nations encourages settlement in Palestine. Herzl took the lead, promoting Zionism.

In 1917, The Balfour Declaration favored Palestine for the Jews.

In 1948, Israel became a nation.

In 1967, Jerusalem was reunited and made its capital.

In 1994, a peace process was started and at this writing still continues.

Jewish survival is a great accomplishment. God must be a protectorate.

*B. Global Regathering.* Jews who have the right to pur-

chase land and colonize in Palestine, returned from 70 different countries speaking 70 different languages. God had promised Israel land in Palestine. (Ez 11:16-17) The experiences of Israel throughout history have been unparalleled. These experiences are a showcase for the world. I like to think that Israel is a microcosm of the world. They bring with them values, skills and abilities of the cultures of the world into one small nation. See Figure 44.

The regathering of the Jews is a miracle – a second exodus. The first exodus was from Egypt to Palestine. The second exodus was the regathering from 70 countries.

*C. Israel becomes a nation.* Statehood of Israel was next. Against unbelievable odds, Israel became a nation in 1948. It took eight wars to start and defend their statehood. 1) War of Independence 1948; 2) Sinai Campaign, 1956; 3) 6 Day War, 1967; 4) Yom Kippur War, 1973; 5) Lebanese War, 1982; 6) Scud Missile Attack, 1991; 7) Intifada War, 1993; and 8) Terrorism War, 2002. The eyes of the world are fixed on Israel. Everyday headlines are major stories. Here are the different kinds of wars Israel has fought in addition to the military ones.

Economic wars. The Arabs have put Israel under an economic blockade.

War of reciprocations. Revenge reactions are cyclical.

Psychological wars. Diplomatic processes are war of nerves.

Racial wars. 7 million Jews versus 22 Islamic countries, 1.2 billion Muslims.

War of Jerusalem. The great struggle for the Dome of the Rock.

Infrastructure war. Jew versus Jew. A form of self-hate. 1000 American Rabbis have announced that most Jews are not Jews.

War in which no terms are possible. Palestinians want Israel out of Palestine.

The latest Arab weapon is the suicide bomber. The Hamas have said, "Suicide bombers are in Israel's future." It is the Islamic youth that are used as bombers. As of now, but the figures keep changing, 190 people were killed with



**Figure 44 – World regathering of Jews**

28 suicide bombings. Arabs start youth bombers at the kindergarten level. At this writing, Hamas has 20 bombers, ages 18-23 waiting for orders to execute their suicide missions.

*D. The Jewish mind.* Ernest Van Haag, world famous sociologist in his book on the Jewish Mystique answers the question, “Are Jews smarter than other people?” Van Haag’s research revealed that four men’s ideas have influenced the world more than any other people in 6000 years of recorded history. The four he identified were: Charles Darwin, Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud and Albert Einstein. Is it an accident that three out of the four are Jews? The Jews are over-represented in the professional fields, such as psychiatry, medicine, law and business. They are less than three percent of the population, but have delivered more Noble Prize winners than any other racial group.

No matter where the world turns it encounters a Jew. If you take an aspirin, Bayer, a Jew, gave it to you. If you go to a dentist, Trabo, a Jew, gave you Novocain. If you have heart trouble, Striker, a Jew, gave you digitalis. If you get



married, Wasserman, a Jew, gave you a blood test. If you get a polio shot, Salk, a Jew, provided it for you. If you are a Communist, Karl Marx, a Jew, paved the way. Lenin and Stalin were partial Jews. The fifty men who seized control of Russia in the Bolshevik revolution were Jews. If you are a Catholic, the first thirty-three popes of the Christian Church were Jews. The early Christian Church consisted mostly of Jews. If you are a Christian, Jesus, a Jew, opened the way for you. Judaism and Christianity are interlinked and interwoven.

But why? Why do the Jews seem to have an intellectual edge? There are four answers to the question.

Learning the law and the prophets. God dealt with the Jews almost exclusively. He guided the Jews with the Torah, the festivals, the prohibitions and the law. God was their trainer.

Survival skills well developed. Tenacious skills developed to survive a culture and a world that discriminated against them in opportunities and advancements.

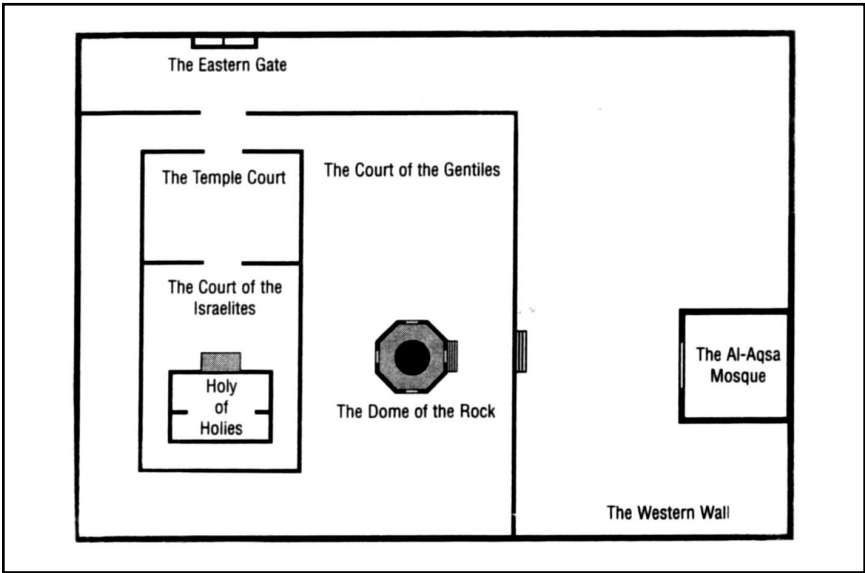
Motivation to learn. Parents had an incredible focus on learning and education for their children. Parents make sure offspring go to college. Jews are three percent of world population, yet 27 percent of Noble Prize recipients are Jews. Jews compose about 33 percent of Phi Beta Kappa based on population expectation.

Breeding is special. Genetic improvements occur when two with superior genetic endowments marry. In the period of slavery, big strong blacks were matched with big strong female blacks. The results were stronger offspring. Rabbis were selected because of superior mentality. They married females with the same superior mentality. This results in superior offspring. Smart superior priests under celibacy break the genetic chain.

*E. Acquisition of Jerusalem's Temple Mount.* To get to the heart and core of the issue between Israel and the 22 Islamic nations opposing her, one only needs to look at the Temple

Mount. Ownership of Jerusalem is causing the real enormous problem between Jews and Islamics. Of course there are many who want Jerusalem.

Jews want to build their third temple (See Figure 45).



**Figure 45 – A proposal to locate and build the third temple of Israel. Note the conflicts with the Dome of the Rock and the Al-Aqsa Mosque.**

Muslims want complete control of the Dome of the Rock.

Catholics want Jerusalem to be an international city.

Evangelical Christians want Jerusalem in preparation for the Second Coming of Jesus.

Orthodoxy wants Jerusalem as a place to maintain their relics.

Russia wants Jerusalem for its Arabian oil in order to reestablish herself as a superpower.

The battle for Jerusalem and the Dome of the Rock is serious and critical. Jerusalem is the most explosive piece of real estate in the world. The Jews won't let Jerusalem go,

nor will the Palestinians. Two countries desperately want Jerusalem. Each side will die to the last person before it gives up Jerusalem. The broad implications over the battle for Jerusalem are as follows:

The battle will draw other nations into the conflict. This may very well become World War III. (Ezek 21:14)

The battle will be a religious world war. People will fight for God rather than country.

The battle will be executed by new leaders. A new Russian leader will emerge.

The battle will escalate anti-Semitism from a national level to a world level.

The battle will shake world economies, (especially concerning oil) and affect the entire world.

The battle will turn leaders on their own people. Arafat has already said, he wants Jerusalem so badly he will kill his own people for it.

The second part of the towers falling (Isa 30:25-26) states, to “the light of the sun shall be seven-fold as the light of seven days.” This refers to the increase of spirituality, truth activities and the globalization of mankind as a prelude to the inauguration of the Kingdom of God. A great deal has already been accomplished in this preparation for God’s Kingdom. Here is a list.

Elimination of the ruling aristocracy and oppressiveness of the “blue bloods” of mankind.

Elimination of the divine rights of kings, in favor of democratically selected leaders and rulers.

Elimination of education only for the rich few in favor of compulsory education for all.

Elimination of legalized slavery, replaced with recognition of individual civil rights.

Elimination of colonialism and the domination of empires.

Elimination of age-old diseases such as diphtheria, typhoid, polio, etc.

Elimination of man’s hard toil workweek, reduced from 72 hours to 40 hours.

Elimination of an age-old curse that the black man shall be servants to his brethren.

Elimination of minority oppression, replaced by liberation and protection from governments.

Elimination of the notion that wars solve problems; war will become obsolete.

Elimination of Israel's period of disfavor, replaced by the emergence of her nationalism.

Introduction of environmental cleanup. The earth needs to be made perfect.

Introduction of communication to talk to anyone on earth in a matter of seconds.

Introduction of gigantic educational systems to give people knowledge and understanding.

Introduction of travel by jet and super highways to distribute living and avoid crowding.

Introduction of automation for food production and feeding a global society.

Introduction of Biblical understanding for one religion and one God.

Introduction of labor saving devices to reduce hard work and smaller work week.

Introduction of welfare and unemployment programs to help the weak get on their feet.

Introduction of principles of equality among gender, races and cultures.

Introduction of behavioral relationships to promote love as life's fundamental law of living.

Great things are happening at the junction of an old civilization that is passing away and a new civilization coming in. It is a world transforming vitality. It is God's plan that gives us the logic to interpret how the jigsaw puzzle pieces are being put together into a meaningful overall picture of what is happening today.

Al-Qaeda's Army defeated in Afghanistan (Isa 21:13-17)  
This prophecy describes a woe or burden upon Arabia. This might very well apply to the Arabian Islamics in Afghanistan and the burden they created for all Islam. (Isa 21:13-17) The scripture is interpreted and summarized as follows:

## Scripture

### Comments

#### **a) An oracle concerning Arabia (vs 13)**

*a) This suggests a group of Islamic Arabians (minority) will trouble the larger group of Islamics in 22 countries. A minority burdening a majority. Al-Qaeda is an outcast group of Sunnites.*

#### **b) Bring them water for the thirsty. (vs 14)**

*b) Not be confused with Tema. Tema is a tribe of the ninth son of Ishmael (Gen 25:15) living in a land of little water. Water must be brought in for there are few wells. This lack of water creates poverty, weakness and need.*

#### **c) For they flee from the sword, from the drawn sword, from bent bows, from the press of battle. (vs 15)**

*c) Al-Qaeda army was deluged by US bombers and aircraft so effectively and overwhelmingly, they continue to retreat until defeated.*

#### **d) Kedar (vs 16)**

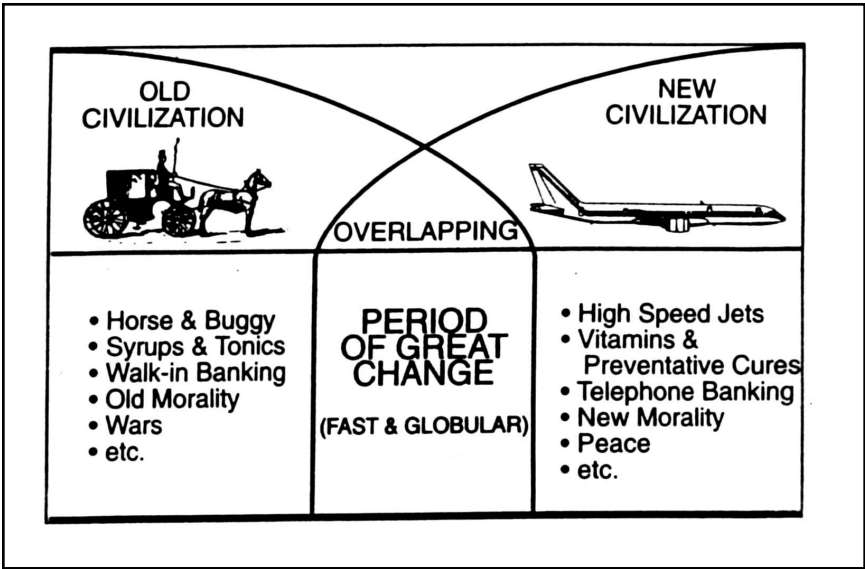
*d) A land of mountains, rocks, sand where little can be cultivated (just patches of sand). This appears to be Afghanistan, controlled and defended by Al-Qaeda.*

#### **e) Within a year, no more, no less shall Kedar's glory be all over and few shall be left of the archers that are Kedar's army, for so the eternal God of Israel decrees.**

*e) The war in Afghanistan lasts no more than one year and the Al-Qaeda army will all be broken up and defeated. The major activities of the war in Afghanistan were from September 11, 2001 to December 2001. But the war still continues*

The morning cometh and also the night. (Isa 21:11-12)

Historians will one day acknowledge September 11, 2001 as a time, which helped an old civilization to go out while a new civilization was coming in. It is a turbulent period because the changes in society are incredible. The world might be termed a temporary society or a society in transition. We are living in a time when night and morning coexist. That is, there are features of darkness from an old world



**Figure 46 – Overlapping is period of great change**

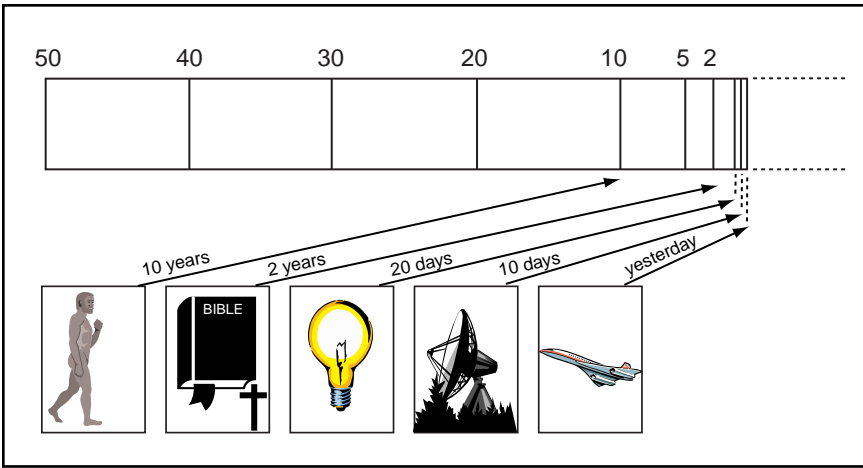
still with us while features of a new day are arriving. At 5:00 am in the morning, it is still dark, yet by 5:00 am a new day has arrived. So also, we are living at the junction of two ages – an old age passing away and a new age emerging. See Figure 46.

It is this changing society that causes man's knees to shake like a piece of bark in a swift stream of water as it is being battered here and battered there. We are washed here and washed there. The cross currents are tossing us to and fro. Life is going so fast, sweeping us along in a torrent that we must ask, "Where are we going?" As we turn to the Bible, we carefully note, that we have entered the third dispensation of human history in God's plan. We see amazing paradoxes – a world with the darkest storm, pain, fear, hatred, anxieties, greed, wars and depravities. Yet, as we turn, we see in the world – the sun is shining brighter than ever before giving comforts, cures, agreements, love, progress and advancements. This is a strange phenomena – the darkest storm when the sun is shining. We see negative

factors existing from past ages that give so much discouragement, but we see positive factors emerging that give humankind a great deal of encouragement. The question is why are we so divided? Why do these two worlds exist on one planet earth? Why are we being pulled, tugged and yanked by these two worlds? Why do we see the darkness while the sun is beginning to shine? The answer is a new day has started, but the night has been extended into the morning. It is an amazing paradox. A new day has started while the old day is disappearing. It is 5:00 am in the morning. A new day has begun, but the darkness lingers on. The present world is in between two generations – the old and the new. We are living through a glorious revolution. It is a revolution because the upheavals are disruptive and destructive. We are experiencing the travails of the birth of the kingdom of God. It cannot come quietly. As the Bible says in 1 Thess 5:3, “And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.” This travailing period is described in another way, by Daniel in Chapter 2 (verses 34, 35, 44 and 45), in terms of the stone “cut out without hands,” which strikes a terrible colossal image, topples it and pulverizes it to pieces. While the stone pulverizes the image, it begins to grow. That is what we see today. The stone of God pulverizes and grows. The pulverizing may be thought of as the removal of the old and outworn civilization.

Removal of this old civilization is during the time of the end or day of preparation of God’s Kingdom. It is a period of great change. The change will be so profound and far-reaching that the mind can hardly grasp its full implication. God will work “all things after counsel of His own will.” (Eph 1:11) The direction and extent of the social, political, economic and technological upheaval is unpredictable other than to say it offers enormous possibilities of health, life, education and achievements beyond the grandest vision of the past. It will cause a shift from one style of life to another. The new Messianic age can be thought of as the global age since it will integrate the waves of change for creating a

new civilization globally, which we call the Kingdom of God. The changes will be sudden, swift, accelerated, and worldwide in scope and will affect all phases of life. These changes will weaken and eventually dissolve the old social fabric and institutions of the old age. To appreciate the sign of the period of great change, condense 50,000 years of history (an approximation) into 50 years of progress (approximating a lifetime). The concentration of progress for the nearness of God's Kingdom could be illustrated as in Figure 47.



**Figure 47 – History condensed to 50 years**

The condensation would mean 10 years ago man stopped primitive living. Two years ago Christianity appeared on the scene. Twenty days ago electricity was born. Ten days ago radio/TV started and yesterday jet aircraft became useful. The world as we know it would be only 2 days old. The analogy indicates the enormous concentration of progress in recent years. But what has caused this huge change? The obvious answer is God has taken the initiative for the preparation of His Kingdom. Figure 48 shows the waves of change that are responsible for the period we are in. It begins with the agrarian era, which freed mankind



from finding and storing food. Secondly, and much later, the industrial era of manufacturing products under automation began. Thirdly, came the scientific era with teams for organized research solving the problems of the world. Fourthly, came high technology with computer applications to make life easier. Fifthly, came globalization by integrating a world in parts to a world operating as a whole. Sixthly, came nuclear energy as an alternative source of fuel replacing gas and oil. Seventh came leisure time to give people the freedom to do whatever and go wherever they wanted to pursue leisure activities. Eighth came spirituality to allow individuals to examine and pursue the basis of salvation with God. Ninth came space travel preparing to explore, colonize and settle on other planets. Tenth came biotechnology and genetic engineering, which is the basis of health and longevity. These ten great innovations have and are now taking place.

Here are some additional signs of this period of great change.

Globalization of technology will make national economics a subset of the global production system.

National debt levels have reached a saturation point requiring a new set of investment undertakings involving the world.

Worldwide overcapacity exists, which will continue to downsize organizations, but encourage entrepreneurship.

Cold war economics throughout the world are now being replaced by peacetime economics.

Real estate overhang built in the 80's is still a long way from being worked off until banks can develop new investment collaborations.

Intellectual thought of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries is now drying up. Marxism has collapsed. Socialism is vanishing. Totalitarianism is discredited except in China and North Korea. Even the French abandoned nationalism. Few people are inspired with liberalism. Traditional nationalism is

on the wane. Democracy has become popular.

Eviction and removal of kings and one-man rulers. (Dan 2:44)

Exposures of evil in all walks of life. (Luke 12:2; 1 Thess 5:1-4; 2 Tim 4:1-2; Rev 16:15) Sexual scandals revealed: Clinton, Baker, Swaggart, and 4000 priests. Family breakdown: divorces up to 60%; single mothers up 75% since 1980.

Great calamities such as earthquakes, floods, fires, El Nino, climate changes.

Great unrest in the classes of society. (Luke 21:25-27) Teenager violence; 1.6 million abortions by teenagers; suicides among teenagers and the third leading killer.

Worldwide crisis emerging. (Luke 21:25-27; Isa 29:14; Psm 82:1-5) In 1981 289,320 cases of aids. In 2000 it is anticipated to be 40 million. Nuclear threat still stockpiled.

Rights of people emerging. In 1870, blacks given constitutional rights. In 1920 women given voting rights. Human rights in 1993 adopted in Vienna; Economic rights emerging; Animal rights are being developed.

Age old curses removed. Sweat of brow (Gen 3:17-19); bearing children with pain (Gen 3:16) women servitude (Gen 3:16); slavery (Gen 9:25-26)

Here are scriptural signs of the last days:

Huge increase in knowledge – Dan 12:4

Wars and distress of nations – Luke 21:25

Great unrest in the classes of society – Luke 21:25-26

Global increase in speedy travel – Dan 12:4

Rebirth of Israel – Jer 32:37

Exploding world population – Matt 22:30

End of the age witness – Matt 24:14

Sign of the son of man in Heaven – Matt 24:30

False Christs emerge – Matt 24:4-5

There will be food shortages – Matt 24:7; Rev 6:5,6,8

Germs and bacteria uncontrolled – Luke 21:11; Rev 6:8  
Increasing lawlessness – Matt 24:10  
Exposures of evil in all walks of life – Luke 12:2  
The great tribulation – Matt 24:21-22  
Ruining of the earth – Rev 11:18  
World wars – Joel 3:9-14  
WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Terrorist War, WWIII predicted – Ez 21:14  
Great calamities (earthquakes, floods, etc.) – Luke 21:11  
Critical times hard to deal with – 2 Tim 3:1  
Inordinate love of money – 2 Tim 3:2  
Disobedience to parents – 2 Tim 3:2  
A lack of natural affection – 2 Tim 3:3  
Loving pleasures rather than God – 2 Tim 3:4  
A lack of self control – 2 Tim 3:3  
Despisers of goodness – 2 Tim 3:3  
Unwatchful of the impending danger – Matt 24:39  
Ridiculers reject proof of the last days – 2 Peter 3:3-4  
Strong egos – 2 Peter 3:3-4  
Global preaching of God's Kingdom – Matt 24:14  
Eviction and removal of monarchies and dictating rulers – Dan 2:24-25

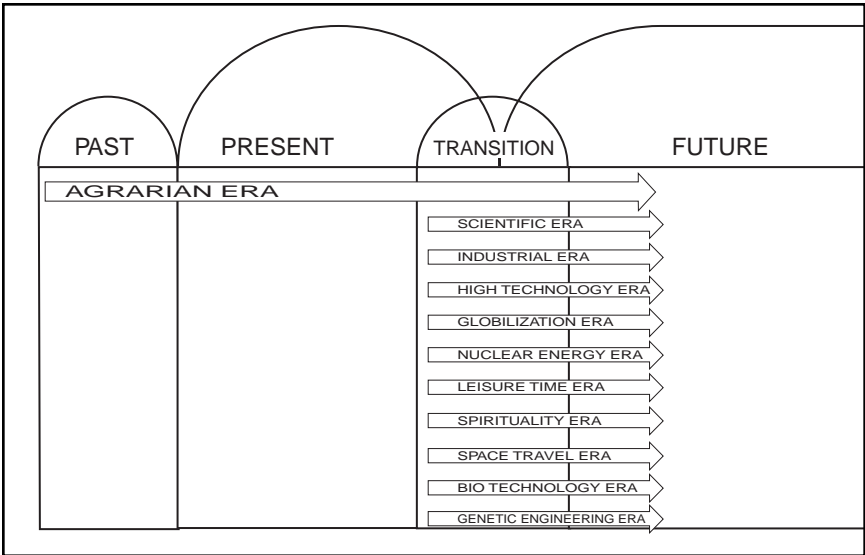
Islamic Alliance in Jacob's Trouble (Ezek 38 & 39) Israel, its statehood, development and survival has a special interest for those probing Biblical prophecy. God's Word has indicated that Israel will be a prophetic example to believers specifically and non-believers, generally. The examples would give both lessons to be learned as well as predictions to be seen. Here are scriptures to support this view.

“For whatever things were written in earlier times were written for our learning.” (Ro 15:4)

“For the law was a shadow of good things to come.” (Heb 10:1)

“Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things.” (Heb 8:5)

Israel is a “shadow of things to come.” (Col 2:17)



**Figure 48 – Period of Great Change**

There is a great deal of interest in Jacob’s Trouble (Jer 30:7) from both lessons to be learned and future events to be seen. This trouble on Israel is a time of special distress on the Israeli people. The distress is due to several reasons:

Israel’s control of the Temple Mount as Islam’s third most sacred facility.

Israel’s occupation of Palestine.

Regathering and immigration of Jews from all over the world are moving into settlements regarded as belonging to Palestinians.

Anti-Semitism is high and increased on a global scale.

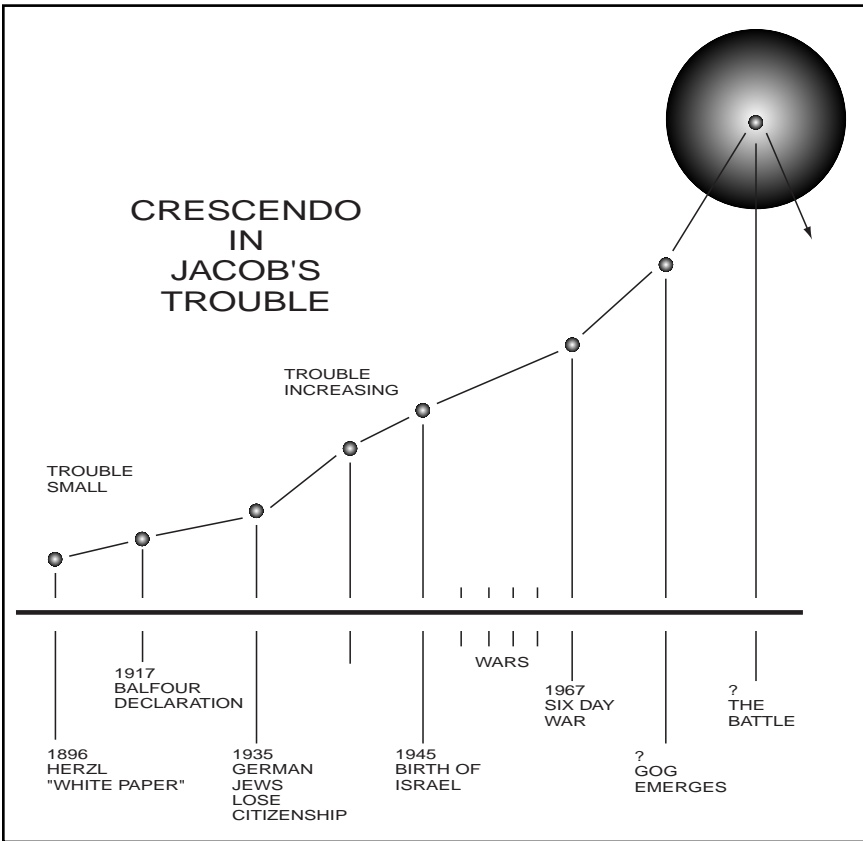
The potential for land expansion and the Israeli plan to rebuild the temple.

There are other reasons for interest in Jacob’s Trouble.

Jacob’s Trouble brings reality to the scriptures. The prophecy fulfilled gives proof of the scriptures. The prophecy fulfilled brings reality to the Scriptures. It makes the scriptures real and authentic. It brings validity to prophecy.

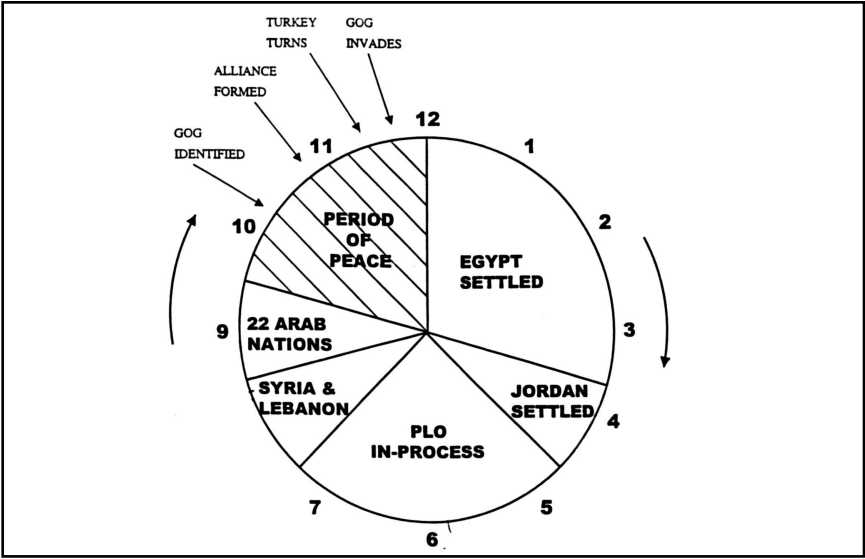
Jacob's Trouble is an index of other prophetic events such as Armageddon, the little flock assembled, the Messianic Era is operational, etc. The index validates these other expected events.

Jacob's Trouble is a major ring in God's time clock. Believers always wonder about God's timetable. Prophetic events fulfilled give milestones to future events. What happens to Israel reveals what God is doing in the world. The events in Israel prophetically are like a crescendo of troubles. See Figure 49.



**Figure 49 – Trouble in Israel keeps increasing**

Israel's time clock is a "peace" meal pie. Peace is happening piecemeal. See Figure 50.



**Figure 50 – Israel's Time Clock is a “peace” meal pie**

By God's providence, Sadat negotiated a peace by recognizing Israel. This really started the peace process. King Hussein of Jordan was next for the same reasons as Sadat. Barak was determined to achieve peace with the PLO. Terrorism got in the way. There are others who will go through the peace process, but the Scriptures are clear, one day Israel will be at peace. One day, Israel will dwell in un-walled villages. (Ezek 38:11) Peace for Israel formalizes Israel's right to exist. They will be recognized and left to dwell in their homeland. Terrorism will be eliminated. Cost of defense will be reduced to allow funds to solve more pressing problems such as a decreasing water supply.

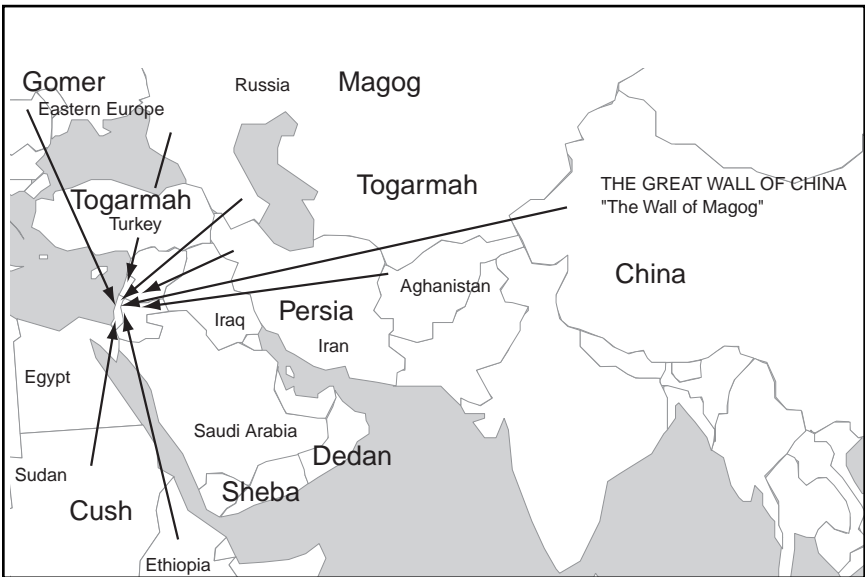
Ezekiel 38:3-6, 13 contain a prophecy against Gog, because of its future invasion from the land of Magog, along with a northern confederacy against Israel. The confederacy is identified by ancient names. They are, with comments, as follows.

- Gog in the land of Magog . . . . .Russia
- Persia . . . . .Islam Iran

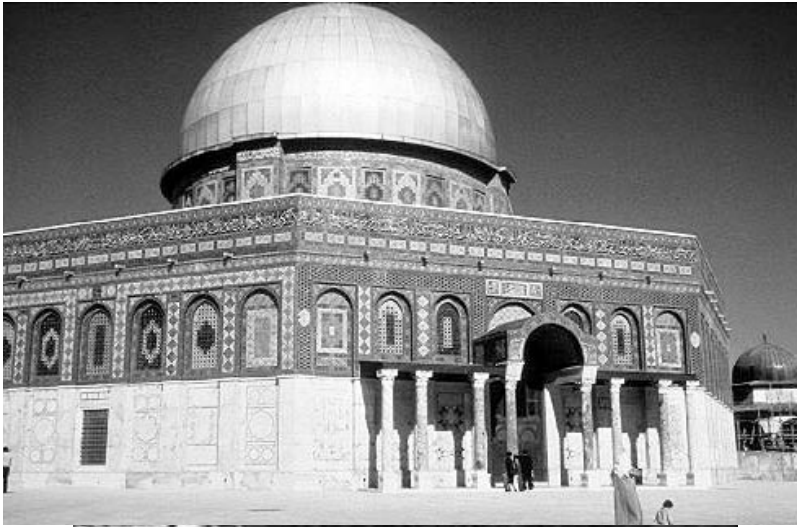
- Cush (or Ethiopia) . . . . .Islam Ethiopia
- Put . . . . .Islam Libya
- Gomer . . . . .Islamic Balkins
- Togarmah . . . . .Islamic Turkey
- Sheba and Dedan . . . . .Islamic Arabs

The possible ideology that unifies the alliance with Russia is Islam. The country missing in this alliance is Iraq. It is possible another war will emerge that will render Iraq neutral just as Afghanistan. China has a fast growing Islamic population. It is possible that China may be a part of the alliance. See Figure 51.

The motivation for the alliance to invade Israel is the prey that exists in Jerusalem. This is the Temple Mount and the Dome of the Rock. The Islamics want the Temple Mount so badly that they are willing to go to war over it. Muhammad with his Koran justifies killing for this, which is perceived as worthy.



**Figure 51 – Gog's Alliance**



**Figure 52 – The Spoil and the Prey**



## EPILOGUE

This book is coming to an end, but the war on terrorism is not ending. A few additional points seem to be in order.

### **THE WAR ON TERRORISM IS FAR FROM OVER**

As of this writing, the military activity in Afghanistan is winding down or even over. The hunt for Taliban leaders still continues. Americans want to declare victory in the war on terrorism and get back to normal life. But President Bush, on several occasions, has dampened expectations for a short and complete victory. He said, "We will face difficult times ahead. The fight we have begun will not be quickly or easily finished." Al-Qaeda is a multi-headed network. Removal of one head does not destroy the mission or the terrorist activities. Again, Bush said, "the war on terror will not end until every terrorist group of global reach has been found, stopped and defeated." Al-Qaeda, which is fundamentally of Islamic character, has now inspired non-Muslims who have grievances with their governments to rise with terrorist activities to achieve their ends. The spread of terrorism will become worldwide. Ten years from now, historians will look back on September 11th as the huge pebble thrown in the lake of civilization, which generated ripples in many waves of new forms or reactivated old forms of terrorism and political fragmentations. Old forms of terrorism have been around for quite awhile. It seems non-Muslim terrorists and anarchists will rise against governments seeking a new ideology or a change in ideology. This will formalize globalization of terrorism. Revelation 19:17-20 relate to government in trouble in the time of the end. My comments are in parenthesis.

Verses 17-18 – "And I saw an angel standing in the sun; (God's message coming from His Word); and he cried with a loud voice, (God's announcement that Armageddon has arrived) saying to all the fowls (terrorists, anarchists, socialists, nihilists, infidels, etc.) that fly in the midst of heaven, (ecclesiastical heaven) Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God, (period of Armageddon

when kings, monarchies and governments will receive the onslaught of terrorists and anarchists, Zeph 1:7-9) 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.” (This is the great trouble transition that governments and their works will receive to make room for the coming Kingdom of God.)

The effects of this great trouble transition will be felt in many areas: economic downturn, the great bubble peaked in the late 1990's; high costs of combating terrorism on many fronts; weaker nations leaning on stronger nations; informal influences becoming formal influences as forms of dictatorships to other nations; and the inability of leaders with their purposes to solve the problems of the world. The clash of civilizations will not occur on conventional battlefields, but in the streets and in the homes of the multi-cultural areas of the world. An evaluation by the experts predicts terrorist fighting can continue for five or six more years.

### **THE WORLD WANTS AMERICA TO LEAD**

Many countries, Britain, France, Italy, Spain, etc. have experienced the effects of terrorism. Many have tried by internal efforts to stop and control these efforts with little or no success. The Bush Doctrine was a bold step forward in going after both the terrorists themselves and countries that sponsor terrorism. There is a surprising surge in expectation around the world for America to become the global leader against terrorism. This expectation includes the United States reviving the global economy, promoting Middle East peace, developing a working relationship with Islam, and fashioning a future for the poor and weak countries. This is not just leadership against terrorism, but leadership in all aspects of global issues. World nations want America to vanquish the scourge of terrorism everywhere. Does this mean they want the United States of America to become the Unites States of the world? Are the nations of the world expecting too much of America? Are there limits to US capabilities? America has

created the concept of home security. Is America to bring home security to all the nations of the world? You have to wonder if world security is too much for America to handle. The future is challenging, but it is also opportunistic.

### **WHO IS NEXT ON THE WAR OF TERRORISM**

Should the US now go after other sponsors of terrorism? There are pros and cons to the question. The Bush Doctrine is stated clearly – war on terrorists as well as those who sponsor terrorist activities. Has terrorism as an enemy replaced communism, which created the Cold War with Russia? Do the nations of the world expect the US to protect itself as well as other nations? Does this make the US the world policeman and protector of those unable to protect themselves? The United Nations has been seen by many nations as the world’s policeman. Will the US replace the United Nations in this role? Additionally, how do we know when the US has won the war on evil? Will new “Osama bin Ladens” emerge to take the place of the one defeated? Has the United States assumed too much of a collateral responsibility?

The questions raised here have an endless complexity. They are big global questions on big global issues. Big global answers are needed to solve these big global problems. The problem of ridding the world of evil can only be solved with God’s approach. That is, to fight evil in the hearts of men. This issue was taken up in Chapter 7 along with suggestions. The next target could be any country on the present scene, such as Somalia, Iraq, Libya or Palestine. If these countries were cleansed will new ones emerge? How does one cleanse the evil that is found in the hearts of men? The lasting and complete global solution will come from God Himself.

Acts 2:17 – “And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh ”

### **WAR IN THE FUTURE WILL BE COVERT**

The second phase of Bush’s war on terrorism has quietly

begun. There has been no new military invasion in another country. This second phase appears to be as follows:

Tracking and finding Al-Qaeda leaders in remote areas as Somalia, Yemen, Sudan, Libya, Indonesia and the Philippines. (See Figure 53) Special forces will be needed to gather intelligence as to who and where the leaders are that will spark a new battlefront. Therefore, special diplomatic pressure will be put on the governments to pry loose these leaders.

Pressing local governments to go after terrorists within their borders and investigate what they will do in their own country as well as what they will do in other countries. This is very sensitive since Islamic countries have little or no laws in dealing with terrorists. This alone will enact a lower profile action and response worldwide. No decisions on new military targets in harboring countries will be made until it is clear which governments are cooperating with the war on



Figure 53 – Now comes the hard part! (Courtesy of Ed Gamble. The Florida Times King Features Syndicate)

terrorism and which are not. Somalia is seen as a likely target since it has no central government, which can control radical Islamic individuals. Somalia is even known to have training camps similar to Afghanistan.

Intelligence gathering will include a formal and special group of spies, data from computers, videotapes, documents and diplomatic sharing. All in an attempt to set up legal data as well as evidence of covert operations in a country. The US government has now in its possession scores of computerized data, videotapes, and training manuals that were seized in abandoned camps in Afghanistan.

### **WHAT'S NEXT?**

The battle against evil isn't just military. It is mental, political, economic and cultural. It involves attitudes and lifestyles. It is caused by beliefs and commitments to these beliefs. It is resisting the temptation to justify or sympathize with evil. We are all caught up in this battle of evil not only with others, but within ourselves.

War is a symptom of corruption in the human heart. This corruption is found on both sides of a conflict. Historically, the basic reasons for the conduct of wars is seen in Figure 54.

A careful look at each of these reasons will see the selfishness and self-centeredness of humans. Reasons for war may be more symptomatic of the condition of the human heart. Has our modern world progressed to the point that war between developed and cultured nations finds war in the historic and traditional sense out of the question? Has war in the traditional sense become obsolete or unthinkable if not impossible? Is it likely for Canada to attack the United States or for the United States to attack Canada? Would France go to war with Italy? We are living at a time where it is nearly impossible for Germany to attack Poland or for France to declare war against Spain. The nations of the world who are democratically oriented are too interdependent economically, socially and culturally for any of these



**Figure 54 – Reasons for conflict and war**

nations to go to war against another. However, not all nations of the world are fully integrated into the family of democratic nations.

### **AFTER ARMAGEDDON – A PARADISE EARTH**

God has determined to set things straight. He wants and expects the human race to live the way He originally designed. The troubled existence in life now is far inferior to what God has in mind. The “designed life” is an everlasting life under perfect conditions. (Titus 1:2) Everlasting life is a gift of God. (Ro 6:23) Immediately after Armageddon, God will remove the wicked and corrupt systems that now exist during Armageddon. The world is rapidly approaching this condition. (Rev 16:14-16) When this period is complete, all forms of sickness and corruption will vanish. (Isa 33:24) Ravages of aging will be reversed. (Isa 65:20) No harm will be allowed in all the earth. “They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountains; for the earth shall be filled of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.” (Isa 11:9) Perfection at last! Christ’s reign will bring about the conditions of perfection by removing the fragmentation of beliefs, attitudes and former commitments. The only thing

that will be remembered about terrorism will be the lessons learned that will be useful for living into eternity. The human heart will be cleansed and purged. See Figure 55.

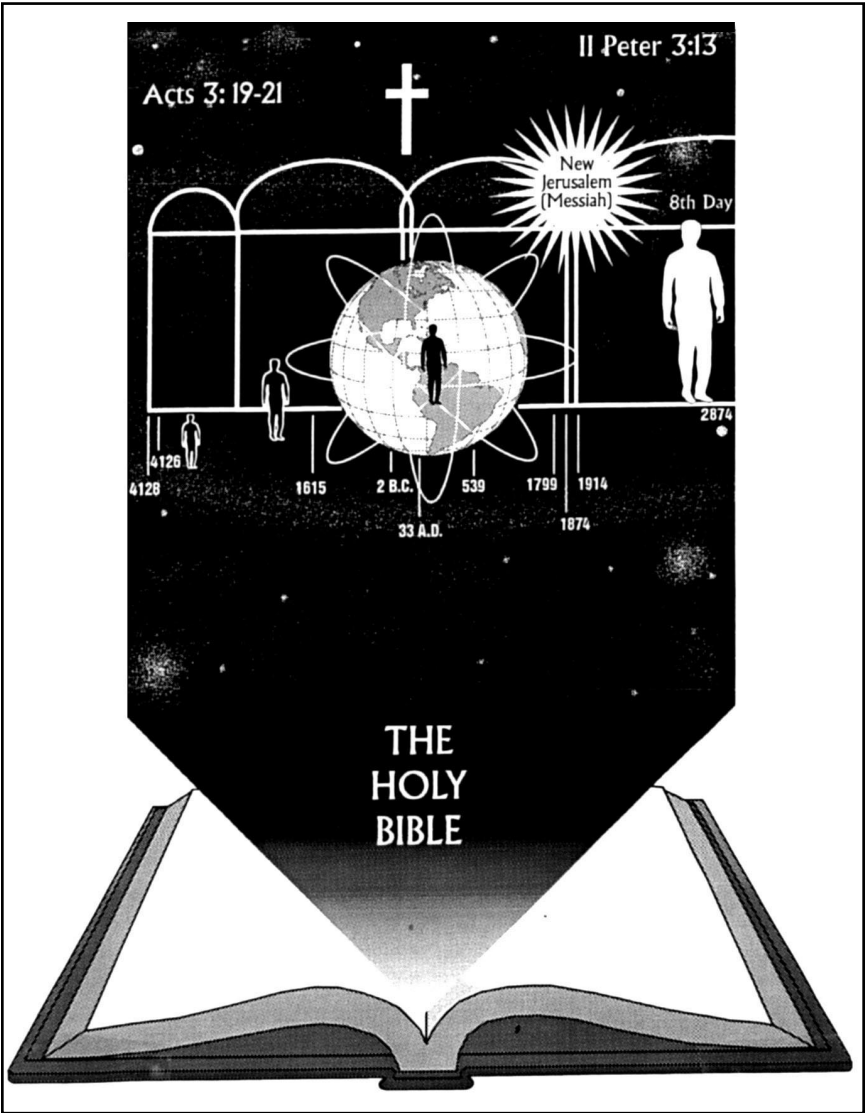


Figure 55 – Every human life is a plan of God

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