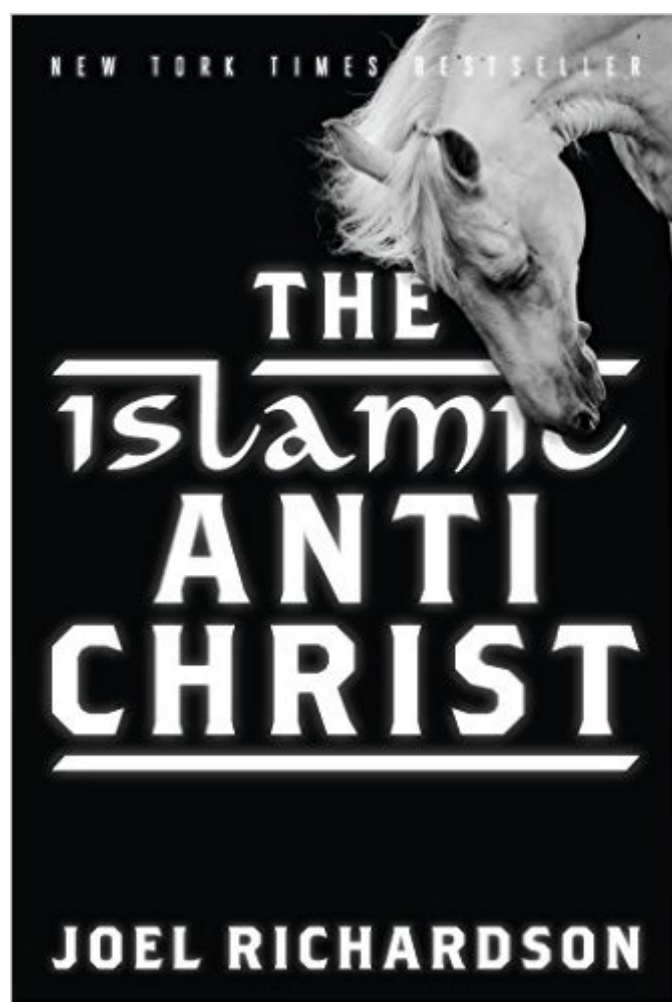


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The Islamic Antichrist



Synopsis

The Bible predicts in the last days a charismatic leader will establish a global following in the name of peace. Islamic prophecy also predicts that a man will rise up to lead the nations, pledging to usher in an era of peace. Islam's savior is called the Mahdi. However, the man in the Bible is the Antichrist. Joel Richardson's stunning research and analysis suggest the Mahdi and the Antichrist may actually be one and the same. In *The Islamic Antichrist*, Richardson exposes Western readers to the traditions of Islam and predicts the end times may not be here. Richardson's revelations will stun readers who are unaware of the similarities between the Antichrist and the Islam's expectations about a returning Jesus. His explanation of the relationship between Christian end-time prophecy and Islamic expectations of world domination has shocked readers and revolutionized eschatological expectations for a generation. *The Islamic Antichrist* is the book to read for insights on the world's fastest-growing religion and the future of the world.

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Customer Reviews

Thanks to my various Christian relatives, friends, books and TV shows, I have been exposed to quite a number of theories about the anti-Christ and the end times. Some were more credible than others. However, after reading Richardson's *The Islamic Anti-Christ*, I'm stunned at how narrowly culture-bound my viewpoint was. As he points out, the Bible isn't a western European/American story; it's a Middle Eastern story. There I was, seeing the anti-Christ striding around the United Nations in a beautifully tailored suit, with European parentage...and totally ignorant of the fact that over a billion Muslims have their own idea of who the anti-Christ is, and that they are ready to follow

him as soon as he appears. Or than Islam has an extensive description of him, and of what he will do, that reads just like the book of Revelation - in reverse. Yes, Muslims believe in Jesus. And that he will return. And that when he does, he will slaughter all the Jews and Christians who fail to convert to Islam! In the Muslim view, Jesus is not the prime player, he is the sidekick of the Mahdi, the new Caliph (or total ruler of the world, uniting the political and religious spheres in a single authority). Richardson isn't speculating here. He quotes from Muslim sources that have been written and accepted as authoritative for many centuries. The Sunni and Shia versions differ only in details; the basic story is the same. Does that mean that the anti-Christ will be Islamic? No.

Most people don't know what the Qur'an says about Jesus. Most people don't know that Muslims base their beliefs not only on the Qur'an, but also on the Sunna. Richardson writes, "The Sunna interprets the Qur'an. Without the Sunna, the Qur'an cannot be properly understood. In fact, many aspects and practices of the Islamic religion are not even mentioned in the Qur'an but are found only in the Sunna." Hadith literature, the sayings of Muhammad, is part of the Sunna. Richardson says that most of Islamic beliefs about the end times are based on hadith literature. Richardson says, "The rising of the Mahdi is to the majority of Muslims what the return of Jesus is to Christians...tradition states that the Mahdi will descend from the family of Muhammad and will bear Muhammad's name." They believe that Jerusalem will serve as the location of the Mahdi's rule over the earth. "Islamic tradition pictures the Mahdi as joining the army of Muslim warriors carrying black flags. The Mahdi will lead this army to Jerusalem and re-conquer it for Islam. The Muslims will slaughter Jews until very few remain." The Mahdi is a man, not a supernatural being. He is predicted to rule for seven years, then die. There are huge differences between the Bible Jesus and the Qur'an Jesus. Muslims do not believe that Jesus died on the cross for the sins of humanity. They believe that Allah miraculously delivered Jesus from death and took Him alive to heaven. Muslims believe that when Jesus returns, He will return as a radical Muslim. They believe He will return by descending from heaven somewhere near Damascus after the Mahdi is already on the scene. Jesus will be inferior in rank to the Mahdi. Jesus will make a pilgrimage to Mecca. He will convert many people to Islam and abolish Christianity.

Joel Richardson (not his real name, as he is well aware of death threats made against anyone critical of Islam, as are many of us) has produced a book which uses extensive (and fully in-context) quotations from both Islamic and Christian eschatology to show the disturbing parallels, and differences, between the two versions of "end-times prophecy" held by these two Abrahamic

religions. The hatred between Jews and Arabs goes back far, far earlier than the rise of Islam, of course, and goes back to the infamous "stolen birthright" story from the Old Testament. The hatred between Muslims and Jews is largely based upon that, along with a "betrayal" which Mohammed felt was visited upon him when he first claimed to be "fulfilling Judaism and Christianity." The study of Mohammed, and the word supposedly given to him by "the Archangel of Light" which makes up the Koran, and the various "sayings and examples" of Mohammed and his chiefs, known as the Hadith, are at the core of this scholarly work. The basic point of this book is to illustrate the remarkable parallels between the various figures in both Christian and Muslim "end times prophecies." Every figure, and every event, is present in both sets of "prophecy," but the "good guys" in Christian prophecy (which predates Muslim prophecy by centuries, remember) are made into the "bad guys" in Muslim prophecy, and vice versa. Muslim prophecy even attempts to claim that "Jesus" is not only unrelated to the figure at the center of Christianity, but will in fact be the person who will see to the beheading of every Christian who refuses to convert to Islam when he returns to serve the Mahdi (the Islamic "Final Caliph" and, effectively, messiah) and to lead the Mahdi's worldwide faith.

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