



ARMAGEDDON,
OIL
AND
TERROR

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT THE FUTURE

JOHN F. WALVOORD
WITH MARK HITCHCOCK

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Armageddon, Oil, and Terror: What the Bible Says about the Future

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Preface

DR. JOHN F. WALVOORD WAS NOT A PROPHET. But most would agree that he knew more about the prophecies of the Bible than any man who lived in the last century. During his long life he dedicated himself to the study of biblical prophecy in the original languages and the cultural context of the day in which the prophets spoke.

Dr. Walvoord was widely recognized as the “dean” of Bible prophecy scholars and teachers in the twentieth century. He taught thousands of seminary students at Dallas Theological Seminary, wrote and contributed to more than thirty books, traveled extensively, and spoke to audiences around the world. His contribution to the church’s understanding of what the Bible says will happen in the end times is inestimable.

In the late 1930s Dr. Walvoord declared that the Jews would return to their ancient homeland and Israel would become a new and powerful Jewish state. In the mid-1940s he repeatedly wrote that the Jews would be restored to Israel.¹ His interpretation of prophecy led him to believe that Israel had to become a state amid its enemies—no matter what the odds. He insisted Israel had to be established and survive or end-time prophecies could not be fulfilled. His literal interpretation proved to be correct. The state of Israel was established in 1948. And Israel has miraculously survived one attack after another.

Over a period of five decades, Dr. Walvoord wrote numerous books and articles on topics related to the end times. Time and time again, he sketched out lists of end-time events that became headlines years after he put them in writing. While all of his works are important and valuable, in terms of popular impact, one of his books stands alone: *Armageddon, Oil and the Middle East Crisis*.

This classic book on end-time prophecy was originally published in 1974. The outline of events he had taught throughout the previous decades came alive in the wake of the 1973 Yom Kippur War in Israel and the subsequent Arab oil embargo against the United States. Dr. Walvoord seized upon the interest in world events at that time as a unique opportunity to show how these events pointed toward the Bible's scenario for the end times.

The book, with very minor revision, was rereleased sixteen years later in 1990 in light of the Persian Gulf War. Dr. Walvoord often commented how even after sixteen years the prophetic interpretations in the book remained rock solid and required no major changes. The revised book hit the *New York Times* best-seller list and sold millions of copies. It has been translated into ten languages and is still studied throughout the world.

Dr. Walvoord was perhaps less shocked by the events that occurred on September 11, 2001, than many of his contemporaries. He had predicted the rise of Islamic terrorism. He had predicted that terrorism and access to oil would be at the center of end-time events that would rock the world.

Before his death on December 20, 2002, Dr. Walvoord told many of his students that he believed the rise of militant Islam and the war on terror might be the final piece to the prophetic puzzle. It does seem that a kind of prophetic "shift of gears" occurred on 9/11 when world attention was riveted on the Middle East.

Our post-9/11 world seems to be on a downhill collision course. Terrorism has made the world increasingly dangerous. Some say we are already in World War III. Security, safety, and peace are the top priorities on everyone's agenda. There is an almost desperate yearning for peace and safety. Israel's struggle with Hamas and Hezbollah is now a centerpiece in the war on terror, which could lead to a nuclear

confrontation between Israel and Iran. Add to all this the fact that the world's thirst for Middle Eastern oil shows no signs of diminishing.

The providential presence of crude oil in the Middle East and record prices for this resource have riveted world attention on the Middle East. The security and continued prosperity of the United States and Western Europe are vitally linked to the uninterrupted flow of Middle Eastern oil.

Much has transpired in the sixteen-plus years since the release of the second version of Dr. Walvoord's classic best seller. That is why the two of us—one his son, the other his student—have collaborated to revise and update this Bible prophecy classic for another generation. It reveals once again the timeless echo of Bible prophecy as history appears to move rapidly to the last events predicted to occur before the end of the age. Once again, it points another generation of readers to the relationship between prophecies in the Bible and the headlines and events we see around us.

Great care has been taken not to change any of the core material or views of Dr. Walvoord, and some additional material has been drawn from his other works and conversations during the last two years of his life. As you can see, the original title has been changed to reflect Dr. Walvoord's belief that terrorism is an essential element that is setting the stage for the end-time scenario presented in Scripture. In chapter 1 we discuss a biblical view of prophecy. In each of the next twelve chapters, we examine a specific event—either occurring now or that will unfold in the months and years ahead—that points to the end times. In chapters 14 and 15, we explain why believers in Christ can have hope, even during today's tumultuous times.

Whether you have read Dr. Walvoord's original work and are anxious to read this update or are totally new to this material, we invite you to examine for yourself the incredible correspondence between events in our world today and God's prophetic outline found in Scripture.

—JOHN E. WALVOORD

—MARK HITCHCOCK

C H A P T E R 1

WHY PROPHECY?

It's very difficult to prophesy, especially about the future.

CHINESE PROVERB

**My interest is in the future, because I'm going
to spend the rest of my life there.**

CHARLES F. KETTERING

HAVE YOU EVER DRIVEN DOWN a strange dark road in a blinding rainstorm? Every minute you wish you could see beyond the edge of the headlights to see what's ahead. If only you could know what was coming next—could intuitively know what's out there or predict what you'll find at the next bend in the road. We long to see ahead, to know, perhaps to avert disaster.

Can someone see what's ahead by intuition or a special gift? Can a prophet know the future because the path of our lives is part of a larger drama scripted ahead of time? This is what the prophets of the Bible

claim. Can we know where we are in that pattern of events foretold by prophets, written in Scripture, or seen in apocalyptic visions of the future? That is what we'll explore in this book.

In the uncertain storm of the days in which we live, all of us yearn to see beyond the headlights—but can we?

THE TIME BOMB IN OUR POCKET

The terrorist bomb on a bus in Israel has jumped into everyman's life—the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, a subway in London, a train in Madrid, a hotel in paradise. No one is safe anywhere.

Four planes are hijacked. The World Trade Center is destroyed and the Pentagon attacked. The entire United States economy is thrown into a recession.

Hurricane Katrina hits the coast. Refineries stop. Ports are blocked. The price of gas soars. Oil companies report record profits. The economic cement of our lives is not cement at all.

These recent events have underscored a reality most Americans would rather ignore: We have vulnerabilities. One of the greatest is our dependence on foreign oil. The wheels of transportation that make capitalism possible depend on this oil—gas, diesel fuel, high-octane jet fuel. If the wheels stop, the economy will shatter. The supply line stretches across the world to Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran, and the Middle East.

New industrial nations are exploding. The rocket of economic growth in China and throughout Asia demands more and more oil. The world barely has enough to supply present demand. The clash of economic engines demands more oil when supplies are nearing the breaking point. In this decade, economic growth alone will cause an “oil break point.”

In 2001, Osama bin Laden plotted to overthrow the monarchy in Saudi Arabia and take over the oil the West needs so desperately. Then he could demand any price. Demand anything.¹ In 2006, terrorists attempted to attack the heart of the Saudi Arabian oil and gas industry, the Abqaiq processing facility. Al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for the

failed attack. The *New York Times* called it the first attack on Saudi Arabia's oil infrastructure.² In one day the story disappeared from the news.

Do these events signal what the future holds? What will happen when Islamic terrorists are willing to ignite chaos in the Middle East to destroy the Great Satan of the West? Is it possible to protect every wellhead, pipeline, processing facility, and tanker? Who will stop the sabotage, the trucks laden with explosives, the handheld rockets, the dirty bombs?

Terrorism exposes another vulnerability. The terrorist arsenal has been building for decades. Iran has purchased and supplied Russian and Chinese weaponry, which has passed through Syria into Lebanon. Before the Thirty-Four-Day War between Israel and Hezbollah in the summer of 2006, the militant organization's arsenal included approximately 13,000 rockets and medium-range missiles. Israel was surprised at the state-of-the-art weapons used by the terrorist organization. During that one clash, Hezbollah fired approximately 4,000 short- and medium-range missiles into northern Israel.

Many still believe that weapons and high explosives stored in Iraq were carried out by the truckload before American troops arrived in March 2003—and that much of these are returning in the hands of terrorists. Tons of sophisticated explosives from a wide variety of sources are now in the hands of terrorists around the globe.

Missiles, nuclear warheads, and enriched uranium from the former Soviet Union have been bought and sold around the world to the highest bidder. In the late 1980s Abdul Qadeer Khan, the renegade Pakistani nuclear engineer, sold uranium enrichment technology to Libya, North Korea, and Iran. Although Libya has given up its nuclear program, it is now clear that both Iran and North Korea have used these designs to further their nuclear programs. North Korea has the bomb and is working to perfect the means to deliver a nuclear warhead as far as the United States.³ Public statements by Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad have led intelligence sources to believe that Iran will be able to construct powerful atomic bombs in the very near future.

Iran is hotly pursuing its nuclear program and has publicly declared its intent to obliterate Israel. Iran is fully aware that Israel might launch a preemptive strike on its nuclear production facilities, and it has financed and provided training for Hezbollah to amass thousands of rockets and build a terrorist army. In the summer of 2006 Hezbollah proved it could mount a sizeable threat to Israel's security.

By arming a proxy army in Lebanon, Iran is adding another dangerous card to the game. If Israel orders an air strike against Iran, Iran can immediately order Hezbollah to strike northern Israel from the ground and with rockets from the air. Many believe it will be difficult for Israel to launch a sustained air war in both Iran and Lebanon at the same time. As Hezbollah continues to grow in Lebanon, how can Israel threaten Iran with air strikes when its northern cities are not secure?

What's the next move? Will the United States or Israel launch a preemptive strike against Iran? Will the Israeli-Arab conflict go nuclear? Will Iran unleash nuclear jihad?

While Iraq's program to develop chemical and biological weapons under Saddam Hussein was not as sophisticated or successful as early intelligence estimates indicated, much of what was started there is now in the hands of terrorist organizations. Chemical and biological weapons are being developed in every corner of the world. Terrorists around the world download the knowledge necessary to create biological agents every day from Web sites that supply the critical information. Chemical and bacteriological warfare may be as big a threat to large populations as nuclear devices or even conventional nuclear warheads.

THE IMPENDING CRISIS

The rapidly increasing tempo of change in modern life has given the entire world a sense of impending crisis. Oil and terror, the two greatest issues facing the world today, are both centralized in the same part of the world—the Middle East. Since the oil and the terrorists are in the same location, it's easy to envision terrorist attacks that could damage or interrupt world oil production. The world crises at the

top of almost everyone's list are the war on terror and maintaining an uninterrupted flow of oil.

The Middle East became the center of attention during the Gulf War in 1990–1991 and made many wonder whether that conflict was to be the final war of prophetic fulfillment. Although it soon became clear that it was not Armageddon, the entire world focused on the tense situation in the Middle East. The invasions of Afghanistan in 2001 and Iraq in 2003 seem only to have added fuel to the terrorist fire. The Middle East is a powder keg that could explode at any time.

How long can world tensions be kept in check? How long can the struggle between the West and Islamic terrorism be kept from becoming a global bloodbath? The ingenuity of man has devised means of human destruction that would have seemed incredible to a previous generation. With terrorist tactics ranging from dirty bombs and suitcase-sized nuclear devices to anthrax and smallpox used as weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), the world appears to be moving toward a gigantic crisis. Can it be that the prophets of doom are right? Is the world racing toward Armageddon, the end of Western civilization?

THE VOICE OF THE PROPHETS

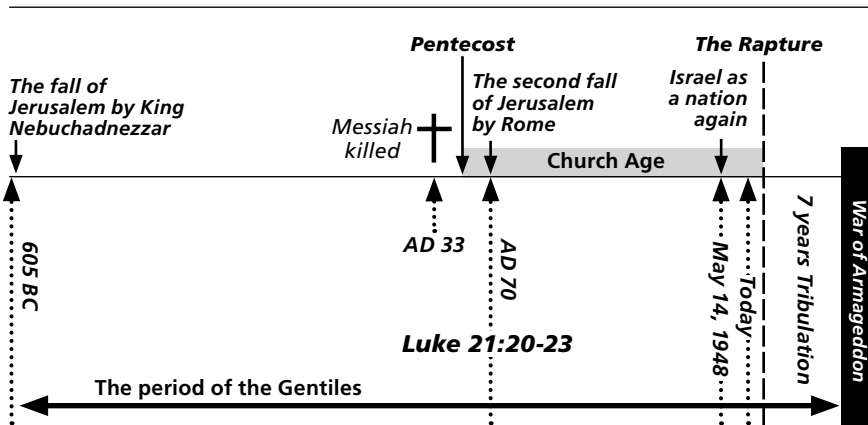
As alarming as these events are, they really are not surprising in light of the Bible's end-time prophecies. For centuries, people of religious faith have considered the message of true prophets to be God's revelation of His plan for human history. The Old Testament books record the lives and works of many great prophets—Moses, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Micah, and others. These men predicted future events in vivid detail, including the rise and fall of every major world empire that left its mark on the Middle East. Some of their predictions came true within their lifetimes. Now it appears that many of their astounding prophecies could be fulfilled at any time.

Jesus Himself claimed to be a prophet and quoted from Moses, Isaiah, Daniel, and Jeremiah—many times adding interpretive comments and

detailed predictions of His own. His words have been confirmed by the test of time. Jesus' prediction of the fall of Jerusalem (Luke 21:20-24) was so vivid that the early church in Jerusalem was able to escape almost certain destruction by fleeing the city before Titus destroyed it in AD 70. As then, so now, crucial predictions about Jerusalem and the nation of Israel are, in fact, the key to understanding a carefully predicted chain of events that will mark the last days of our civilization.

Jesus predicted the persecution of the church, the fall of Jerusalem with the destruction of the Temple, the scattering of the Jews into all nations, and the amazing survival and growth of the church. Along with the Old Testament prophets, He saw a time when Israel would be reestablished as a nation (see Matthew 19:28; Matthew 24:15-20; and Acts 1:6-7). All this has been realized in history. But He also warned those who understood the Old Testament prophets to watch Jerusalem and the Middle East for signs of the approaching end of world civilization, the end of the "period of the Gentiles," also referred to in some

The Period of the Gentiles



They will be killed by the sword or sent away as captives to all the nations of the world. And Jerusalem will be trampled down by the Gentiles until the period of the Gentiles comes to an end. (Luke 21:24)

translations as the times of the Gentiles. The Jews, He said, “will be killed by the sword or sent away as captives to all the nations of the world. And Jerusalem will be trampled down by the Gentiles until the period of the Gentiles comes to an end” (Luke 21:24).

Over five million Jews are now back in the land, the largest movement of Jews in history—far more than the two million who left Egypt for the Promised Land under Moses. Jerusalem, the city of dispute and negotiation, was won in 1967, only to become the object of a diplomatic tug-of-war. What is the future of the Holy City? If the period of the Gentiles is, in fact, nearing an end, what will happen next? What are the final events of world history as “the period of the Gentiles comes to an end”? Is there a sure word about tomorrow? Is this a word of hope or a warning of doom?

THE SEARCH FOR ANSWERS

Modern man is asking questions about the future as never before. They are solemn questions; they are searching questions. The Bible is certainly the best place to look for answers. Many of the biblical prophecies cited in this book are coming true before our very eyes. Even the most skeptical person can put these prophecies to the test by noting the literal, precise fulfillment of past prophecies.

For this reason, biblical prophecy is being discussed more than ever before. In these prophecies it is possible to probe for clues to find where we are in God’s program and the predicted events that may occur in our lifetime. Prophecies, which in the past were sometimes brushed aside as incredible, are now being studied again.

The study of prophecy has been plagued by two extremes. The one extreme is to disregard prophecy or to interpret it in a nonliteral sense. About half of the prophecies in the Bible have been fulfilled. Studying these passages makes it clear that when prophecy in the Bible was fulfilled, it was fulfilled literally. The demonstrated pattern of fulfillment to date contradicts the skeptics’ theories that prophecy should be considered metaphorically.

Another extreme, however, is to take prophecies out of context and interpret them to fit every headline. One prophecy isolated and out of context should not be used to interpret headlines or set dates for future events. The careful student of prophecy attempts to put all unfulfilled prophecies together into a chronology of events that is true to their literal meaning. Careful interpretation of prophecy reveals a chronology of events the Bible predicts will set the stage for the final act of world history.

As students of the Bible observe proper interpretation principles, they are becoming increasingly aware of a remarkable correspondence between the obvious trend of world events and what the Bible predicted millennia ago. In fact, 28 percent of the Bible was prophetic at the time it was written. Not surprisingly, then, people in all walks of life and of all religious faiths are asking the question—what does the Bible say the future holds?

NO VAGUE AND GENERAL PREDICTIONS

Unlike the self-proclaimed prophets of today, Jesus and the biblical prophets did not peddle vague and general predictions that could be adjusted to any situation. The prophecies recorded in the Bible are detailed and intricately interwoven. Although interpretation of minor points may vary, the overall picture is frighteningly clear.

The Bible does not simply speak of a final destructive world war but of a whole series of carefully timed events that are like signposts on the road to Armageddon.

Armageddon has come to describe anyone's worst fear of the end of the world. The prophets have described it more specifically as the final suicidal war of a desperate world struggle centered in the Middle East. It will be the final act in a terrifying series of events that are very much related to today's headlines. This final, history-shattering war will occur (1) on schedule, (2) at a specific time, and (3) in its predicted location.

The name *Armageddon* actually comes from a Hebrew word mean-

ing “the Mount of Megiddo,” a small mountain located in northern Israel at the end of a broad valley. This valley has been the scene of many military conflicts in the past and will be the focal point of this great future conflict.

The Bible clearly spells out the key events that will precede this last great conflict. The final countdown will involve years rather than days. Even before the countdown, the Bible predicts a number of preliminary moves, which will shape the political, economic, and religious climate necessary for end-time events. These preparatory steps are now falling into place in rapid succession. As these moves are completed, a more specific timetable of events can begin. The final countdown involves a brief period of preparation with the last seven years clearly delineated. The last half of these seven years will be three and a half years of unparalleled disaster and war, climaxing at Armageddon. Though we’ll examine each of these events in greater detail later in the book, they are summarized below:

1. Revival of the Roman Empire. Prior to these last seven years, a group of ten leaders, or what we might call the “Group of Ten,” will rise from Europe, as indicated by the ten horns of Daniel 7:7-8 and the similar description of the end-time government in Revelation 13:1. This alliance or confederacy of ten leaders and the nations they represent constitutes a revival of the Roman Empire and the beginning of the final stage of the fourth beast in Daniel 7.

These countries will include European countries and possibly nations in western Asia and northern Africa. This Group of Ten will control the nations and geographic areas from the ancient Roman Empire. The Group of Ten will rise to power because the West will desperately need to guarantee the peace and security of the Middle East. This will temporarily be accomplished in a seven-year covenant of peace and protection with Israel. Without a forced peace, disruption of the West’s oil supply and an

escalation in terrorism will threaten to bring Western civilization to its knees.

2. Israel's survival is threatened. The reestablishment of the nation of Israel in the Middle East was necessary to start the Armageddon calendar. Almost since its birth, however, Israel has been threatened with extinction. Nonetheless, prophecy seems to indicate that Israel will not be destroyed by war. Instead, Israel will eventually be betrayed and forced to accept an outside settlement at the peace table. The Middle East oil blackmail and new economic and political alignments in the Middle East will eventually rob both the United States and Russia of a determining voice in the final settlement.

3. True believers disappear. The world will be traumatized by the fulfillment of what theologians call the rapture of the church—the sudden removal of every Christian from the world (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). This will fulfill the promise of Christ to His disciples when He said, “I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am” (John 14:3). At that time, Christians who have died will be resurrected, and every true Christian living in the world will be suddenly removed to heaven without experiencing death.

The disappearance of millions of Christians will deepen the religious confusion, already evident in the current cultural obsession over the supernatural and mystical phenomena. The organized church with every true Christian removed will fall into the hands of political opportunists.

4. Power is centralized in one man. From the many negotiators and leaders involved in the Middle East, one new international leader will emerge from Europe to superimpose a peace settlement on Israel and the more militant Muslims and to assure the West's sup-

ply of oil. This will bring an era of false peace, a move toward disarmament, and a major push for a new world economic system. These first three and a half years will be the calm before the storm as the new leader consolidates his power.

The last three and a half years will include a series of almost inconceivable catastrophes. Just before this period begins, Russia and a group of Islamic allies will attempt a final bid for power in the Middle East, but their armies will be supernaturally destroyed (Ezekiel 38–39). The balance of power will swing decisively to the world's new strongman. As Satan's man of the hour, he will then attempt to destroy Israel, now disarmed and at peace. In the fashion of the Babylonian and Roman emperors, he will deify himself and command the worship of the world.

5. A series of natural disasters shake the world's foundations.

The world will begin to come apart at the seams—worse than any ecologist's nightmare. Acts of man, resulting in thousands of martyrs, and acts of God will combine to cause great disturbances in the world and universe. Stars will fall and planets will run off course, causing chaotic changes in climate (Revelation 6:12-14; 16:8-9). Unnatural heat and cold, flooding, and other disasters will wipe out much of the food production of the world (Revelation 6:6-8). Great famines will cause millions to perish (Matthew 24:7). Strange new epidemics will sweep the world, killing millions. As the period draws to a close, earthquakes will level the great cities of the world, and geological upheavals will cause mountains and islands to disappear in the seas (Revelation 16:17-21). Disaster after disaster will reduce the world population in the course of a few years to a fraction of its present billions.

6. The march to Armageddon. Topping even these disasters will come a world war of unprecedented proportions. Hundreds of millions of men will be involved in a gigantic world power

struggle centered in the Holy Land (Revelation 16:13-16). The area will become the scene of the greatest war of history. Great armies from the south will pour into the battle arena (Daniel 11:40) and other great armies from the north will descend on Israel (Daniel 11:41). Climaxing the struggle will be millions of men from the Orient and China who will cross the Euphrates River and join the fray (Daniel 11:44; Revelation 9:13-16; 16:12). Locked in this deadly struggle, millions will perish in the greatest war of all history. This is what the Bible describes as Armageddon.

Before the war is finally resolved and the victor determined, Jesus Christ will come back in power and glory from heaven. His coming, accompanied by millions of angels and raptured Christians, is described in graphic terms in Revelation 19. Coming as the King of kings and judge of the world, He will destroy the contending armies and bring in His own kingdom of peace and righteousness on earth.

As incredible as these prophecies are, even now the world is moving toward these events. The nations are taking their predicted places. The escalating crisis in the Middle East is a buildup to the start of the Tribulation. Ancient prophecies are being fulfilled. The world is rushing toward Armageddon!

THE FINAL ACT

Sometimes life feels like entering a dark theater and realizing you are coming in near the end of a play with several acts. We didn't write it. We didn't ask to be thrust into the play. We can be certain this drama is nearing the last act. Even though we did not see the beginning we can look back and see the plot and direction of the play. But even then, how can we be sure when the next act will start?

The prophets talked a lot about the last act. All we can do is look for the events that set up the last act. If they occur now, we can be fairly

certain the last act is just ahead. When the curtain comes down on this scene, will the next act be the last? To be sure, we need to know what will happen on the world stage to set up the last act. What are the events, the characters, and the plot that will bring the play of world history to its predicted climax? Will we be wise enough to see it coming? Will we be ready? In the coming chapters, we will examine some of the events that are either already unfolding or that we know will occur based on biblical prophecy. We'll examine the first event in chapter 2, which shines the prophetic spotlight squarely on the Middle East.



See how today's headlines relate to this chapter at
<http://www.prophecyhotline.com>.

Endnotes

Preface

1. John F. Walvoord, "Is the Seventieth Week of Daniel Future?" *Bibliotheca Sacra* 101 (January–March 1944), 30–49; "Is the Church the Israel of God?" *Bibliotheca Sacra* 101 (October–December 1944), 403–416; "The Fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 102 (January–March 1945), 27–36; "The Fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 102 (April–June 1945), 153–166; "Israel's Blindness," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 102 (July–September 1945), 280–290; "Israel's Restoration," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 102 (October–December 1945), 405–416.

CHAPTER 1

Why Prophecy?

1. Strategic Issues Research Institute, *Strategic Issues Today*, 18 October 2001.
2. "2 Hurt by Saudi Bomb Die," *New York Times*, 26 February 2006.
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CHAPTER 2

Oil Becomes the Ultimate Weapon

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3. Peter Tertzakian, *A Thousand Barrels a Second* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2006), 3.
4. Appenzeller, "The End of Cheap Oil," 88.
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John F. Walvoord

The Father of Modern Biblical Prophecy

NO SINGLE INTELLECTUAL VOICE CONTRIBUTED more to the development of modern biblical prophecy than Dr. John F. Walvoord. During his six-decade-long career as an author, pastor, teacher, and educator, Dr. Walvoord articulated a comprehensive view of biblical prophecy that was based on his rock-solid belief that all the prophecies in the Bible either have been, or will be, literally fulfilled.

Dr. Walvoord began his teaching career as a professor of theology at Dallas Theological Seminary in 1936. In 1952, after the death of Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer, the seminary's founder and first president, Dr. Walvoord became president and built it into a formidable graduate school of theology. In 1986, after serving Dallas Theological Seminary for fifty years, Dr. Walvoord became chancellor.

From the beginning of his professional career, Dr. Walvoord spoke and wrote about biblical prophecy in light of current world events. Even before the world believed there could be a Jewish return to the Holy Land or a nation of Israel, Dr. Walvoord insisted that a new Jewish state would emerge and that no one, whether it be the British, the Palestinians, or the Arab nations, could stop this inevitable fulfillment of biblical prophecy.

Before the Arab-Israeli wars of the 1960s, Dr. Walvoord maintained that Israel would win more land and power. He saw God's plan for the end times begin to unfold as the Palestinian-Israeli conflict became

the focus of NATO and Western leaders. He taught that soon all the nations of the world would be embroiled in conflict leading to the events prophesied in the books of Daniel and Revelation.

Walvoord's studies led him to author, coauthor, or edit more than fifty books on Bible prophecy. One, *Armageddon, Oil and the Middle East Crisis*, became an international best seller in 1974. This work was later revised and expanded in 1990 during the Gulf War with Iraq. More than two million copies of this work are in print, and it has been translated into ten languages. This work proved the value of biblical prophecy in explaining world events.

Dr. Walvoord believed that the events of September 11, 2001, were the opening salvo to acts of sacred terror in the name of jihad that would push the world to the brink of destruction. In addition, he sensed that weapons of mass destruction would proliferate and force the West into preemptive military strikes. The need for oil would require massive military intervention to protect the oil fields of the Middle East.

Viewing current events through the lens of biblical prophecy, he believed it was evident that soon—very soon—the world would be engulfed in a terror never before imagined. In 2002, he began working on a new book to help make sense out of the confusing events that filled the headlines. From that unfinished work—and his classic *Armageddon, Oil and the Middle East Crisis*—comes *Armageddon, Oil, and Terror*.

John F. Walvoord
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