

June 17, 2010

## Chapter 11 From Her Own Cup

**Introduction.** *Can you imagine waking up to the following headline . . .*

**Dubai City, Saudi Arabia — Explosion Levels Much of Riyadh. Royal Family Feared Dead.** *An explosion ripped through the dark of night in central Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia, last evening. The thunderous explosion leveled the ground as skyscrapers and high rises yielded to the enormous blast. What was not leveled was destroyed by fire as flames leapt from building to building and structure to structure. The eery glow from flames cast shadows of bright red glare into the night canopy as images reflected from the glass exteriors of skyscrapers located in the world's most opulent financial center. Heat from the explosion was so intense that the famed Kingdom Center, the 1,000 foot skyscraper of Riyadh, literally crumbled into the earth during the night. Estimates of casualties are in the 10,000's and are likely to include many from the Saudi royal family. Aid workers are awaiting an all-clear before coming near the city as nuclear or radiologic fall out is expected. No word has been received as to the safety of King Abdullah, the reigning monarch of Saudi Arabia, nor Crown Prince Sultan bin Aziz, next in line to succeed King Abudullah.*

*The impact on the world financial markets is expected to be devastating. London's crude oil futures for January delivery opened this morning from its former high of \$98.62 per barrel to \$395. 62 per barrel and rising. No one has claimed responsibility for the blast, but the timing of the explosion to coincide with the convening of the important 22 member, Council of Ministers, in Riyadh, brings suspicion on many within the Islamic community, including Osama bin Ladin, who has long declared King Abudullah an apostate to be removed from leadership of Saudi Arabia. Meetings of world leaders will undoubtedly convene today as the economic survival of the present world powers is at stake. . . .*

One day the above headline will not be a figment of one's imagination.

We have identified the 8<sup>th</sup> head of the scarlet beast as the Mahdi, the coming Antichrist/false prophet; the scarlet beast as the seventh caliphate to be revived in the seventh caliphate period of Islam, led by al-Mahdi; and, the harlot who rides the scarlet beast as Saudi Arabia, the prostitute of Islam. In this chapter, we will discover the hidden deceit of the 8<sup>th</sup> head of the scarlet beast and its ten horns, who, in "one hour," destroy the harlot bringing "her own cup" upon her head.

Here is how the Bible describes the Harlot's destruction. I know it's long; but it's worth the read!

*Revelation 18:6, "Pay her back even as she has paid, and give back to her double according to her deeds; in the cup which she has mixed, mix twice as much for her."<sup>7</sup> "To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; . . ."<sup>8</sup> "For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her is strong."<sup>9</sup> "And the kings of the earth, . . ., will weep and lament over her when they see the smoke of her burning,"<sup>10</sup> standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment*

*has come.' . . . <sup>15</sup> "The merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand at a distance because of the fear of her torment, weeping and mourning, <sup>16</sup> . . . ; <sup>17</sup> for in one hour such great wealth has been laid waste!" And every shipmaster . . . , stood at a distance, <sup>18</sup> and were crying out as they saw the smoke of her burning, . . . , saying, "Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in one hour she has been laid waste!" <sup>20</sup> "Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her."<sup>21</sup> And a strong angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus will Babylon, the great city, be thrown down with violence, and will not be found any longer." (Emphasis added).*

Here is a quick summary of the Bible's description of the harlot's judgement:

1. It will be quick – in one hour<sup>1</sup> (18:13, 17, 19);
2. No one will come near her for fear of being impacted by what torments her (18:10, 15, 17);
3. Her destruction will be accompanied by "pestilence" (18:8)
4. Her destruction will include a "fiery annihilation" (18:8, 9, 15, 18)
5. Her destruction will be accompanied by great amounts of smoke (18:9, 18, 19:3)
6. Her kingdom will suffer a complete destruction (18:6, 7, 14, 19, 20, 21).
7. Her destruction will somehow involve the "cup which she has mixed" for others (18:6).

**The Harlot, the Scarlet Beast, and its Heads and Horns are all Islamic.** Islam is the common denominator for the heads, the horns, the scarlet beast, and the harlot. We can reach this interpretation by the one factor that continually appears in Last Days' texts: a *holy war waged against the woman, her offspring, or the Lamb*. Revelation 17:6 describes the aftertaste of this "holy war." The text states, "And I saw the woman [the harlot] drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus." This factor has been the one thread continuously woven in the texts of the Last Days, all of which reveal the presence of satan (through Islam) in his holy war against God. There are always two "sides" to this war. Satan and God; and, each side is represented by an opposing group of humanity. We have already looked at the texts that support this conclusion, and will not do so again. The harlot (Revelation 17:6), the scarlet beast (Revelation 17:3, 14) and its seven heads and ten horns (Revelation 17:14) are all tainted with the taste of holy war against the Lamb and His followers. Satan is still hiding under the cloak of his human agents, especially in the Tribulation period! This factor by itself is not sufficient to conclude that Islam is identified; but this is not the only factor. It is the one factor that is always present to support many, many others.

**Judgment Day has arrived for the Harlot.** A most revealing statement is found in Revelation 17:16-17.

Revelation 17:16 "*And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire. <sup>17</sup> For God has put it in their hearts to execute His purpose by having a common purpose, and by giving their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God should be fulfilled."*

Revelation 18:20 "*Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her."*

Amazing thing. As we will see, the "harlot," Saudi Arabia, the birthplace of Islam, will be

destroyed by those from the very religion birthed in her desert. An alliance of ten Muslim leaders/nations/groups, led by the Antichrist/false prophet, al-Mahdi, will destroy the harlot. Yet, the *hand behind the destruction of the harlot is actually the hand of God*. God accomplishes His divine judgment against this one who is “drunk with the blood of the saints.” The “saints” belong to God, and His response is only a matter of time:

Revelation 6:10 *“and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, “How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?”*  
11 *And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.”*

It should not surprise us that the Arabs have been at enmity with God since well before the time of Islam. The “Ishmaelites,” i.e., the descendants of Ishmael, Abraham’s son by Hagar, have “conspired” against the Israelites for centuries. Here is an Old Testament prophecy of God’s coming judgment against this people group:

Psalm 83:1 *O God, do not remain quiet; Do not be silent and, O God, do not be still. 2 For, behold, Thine enemies make an uproar; And those who hate Thee have exalted themselves. 3 They make shrewd plans against Thy people, And conspire together against Thy treasured ones. 4 They have said, “Come, and let us wipe them out as a nation, That the name of Israel be remembered no more.” For they have conspired together with one mind; Against Thee do they make a covenant: 6 The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites; Moab, and the Hagrites. . . , 15 So pursue them with Thy tempest, And terrify them with Thy storm. 16 Fill their faces with dishonor, That they may seek Thy name, O LORD. 17 Let them be ashamed and dismayed forever; And let them be humiliated and perish, 18 That they may know that Thou alone, whose name is the LORD, Art the Most High over all the earth.”* (Emphasis added)

**God will judge the harlot using a punishment defined by the Harlot’s sin against others.**  
While the harlot rides her scarlet beast she holds a cup filled with her “abominations.”

Revelation 17:4 *“And the woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality,”* (Emphasis added)

In the book of Ezekiel, the prophet warns of a coming destruction upon the people of Israel who had sinned against God in multiple ways. The consequence of the people’s sins was unthinkable: Jerusalem, the city of Solomon’s Temple, long thought by Israel to be beyond destruction because of the Temple’s presence, was about to be besieged and completely desolated by the mighty Babylonians. Through three separate exiles, 605 BC, 597 BC, and 586 BC, the Babylonians either killed the people or took them into captivity. The people of Israel had fallen so far from God that their sins bore fruit through more sins and a greater depth of “darkness.” Here is one of many texts describing the spiritual state of the people and the city they lived in:

Ezekiel 7:3 *‘Now the end is upon you, and I shall send My anger against you; I shall judge you according to your ways, and I shall bring all your abominations upon you.* 4 *‘For My eye*

*will have no pity on you, nor shall I spare you, but I shall bring your ways upon you, and your abominations will be among you; then you will know that I am the LORD!* (Emphasis added)

God judged the city by “bringing your ways upon you.” He brought the people’s sin upon their own heads. The point? God often *judges sin by using a punishment that is defined by the very sin that necessitates the judgment.*

**The Harlot’s Sin Becomes her Abomination.** Here is how this applies to Islam, and specifically, to Arab Islam (Sunni Islam). Islam was born in the desert of Arabia by revelation to Muhammad. It is from the bowels of the Arabian Peninsula that the calls for jihad were first issued by Muhammad, eventually extending beyond Arabia to all of the Middle East, to Asia Minor, Spain, Africa and Europe. Islam advanced its jihad outside Arabia, but it also advanced an “internal” jihad against its own. Sunni Islam has persecuted the Shi`ah minority since 680 AD, the battle of Karbala, where 100 or so Shi`ahs were not just defeated, but utterly butchered. As has been stated in prior chapters, this persecution has continued for almost 1400 years even to the modern day as many Sunnis consider Shi`ahs to be unbelievers. Thus, Islam, particularly the Sunnis of Arabia, are indiscriminate murderers whose victims are quite frequently other Muslims.

*It should not surprise us, then, that the harlot, Saudi Arabia (Sunni Islam), will perish by the hand of Islam!* Her sin of indiscriminate murder will be turned upon her just as the “bloody city” Jerusalem became a city of blood at the hands of the Babylonians in 586 BC. Even more specifically, this abomination will be so specific that it will be initiated by the sect within Islam that the Sunnis have persecuted for 1,400 years, the Shi`ahs. *According to the will of God, the sin is turned upon the sinner:* Notice the text below which prophesies of this event:

Revelation 17:13 *"These have one purpose and they give their power and authority to the beast. . . . 16 "And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire. 17 "For God has put it in their hearts to execute His purpose by having a common purpose, and by giving their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God should be fulfilled."* (Emphasis added)

*Shi`ah Islam will be led by al-Mahdi against Sunni Arabia.* Here is how we come to this conclusion.

1. The ten horns are ten kings who have “not yet received a kingdom” (17:12). That is, they are all future “kings.” This requirement parallels Revelation 17:10 which describes the time for the eighth head of the scarlet beast and the seventh caliphate to be a *future event*. All of these “kings” will be leaders of individual groups of Muslims and/or Muslim countries. The text gives us no information by which to further identify them so to even try to name them would be pure speculation.
2. The ten horns are ten kings who are all Muslim. The ten horns are all heads of the scarlet beast. That is, they gain their “life” through the beast, and they find fulfillment through the beast. In each of our previous metaphors of beasts, we interpreted the heads and horns to be of the same “nature” as the beast; that is, they have protruded from the beast and were not separable from the beast. In Daniel 7, four separate empires are represented

figuratively by four separate beasts. Each of the four separate beasts had separate characteristics to distinguish the separate beasts from the others as well as the period of dominion. At no time did a characteristic from one beast have meaning to a beast other than the one from whom the characteristic was identified with. Thus, the scarlet beast has ten horns. These ten horns are all Islamic since the beast, the harlot, and the heads are all Islamic.

3. The power and authority of the ten kings is apparently short in duration. The text tells us the ten kings receive authority as kings for only “one hour” (17:12). It is doubtful that the “one hour” is literal, and taking it as a metaphor, it simply means a short time period. It could be literal – nuclear or similar devastation actually would take less time! The eighth head of the seventh caliphate period will reign only for a little while. It is as if the text is telling us that “kingship” is specific and relevant to these ten leaders only for the common purpose of destroying the harlot. Actually, as we will see, the 8<sup>th</sup> head destroys three of the ten nations that are part of the Alliance to destroy the Saudis. No wonder the Alliance is only together for an “hour”!
4. The relationship of the beast and the ten kings is only to accomplish a purpose greater in importance than any other reason that might divide them (17:13, 16). *Notice: division of the group is implied in the text* – specific mention is made of their “giving their power and authority” over to the eighth head of the scarlet beast to accomplish one thing – to destroy the harlot who rides the scarlet beast; *for they all “hate the harlot” (17:16).* Thus, the ten horns are not normally in a relationship of submission to the eighth head. This is something that happens only for this purpose. Islam is, and has always been, divided; but in the end, an alliance of ten (plus their leader) will come together to destroy the harlot. Their hatred of the harlot will unite the alliance! They will be led by al-Mahdi. He is the eighth head, and he will receive the power and authority “for one hour” from ten Muslim groups or nations for the purpose of destroying the harlot. *The harlot’s sin will turn upon the harlot.*

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Beast of Daniel 7 and his ten horns and “other horn.”** Remember the “other horn” of Daniel 7’s 4<sup>th</sup> beast? In the days before the Ancient of Days takes his seat for judgment (7:26-27), “another horn” from the 4<sup>th</sup> beast will “come up” along with ten horns of the beast. We have already interpreted this “other horn” to be the Antichrist/false prophet, Islam’s al-Mahdi. Looking at both Revelation 17 and Daniel 7, we find the same ten horns. Both prophesy of ten nations or groups that will come together (7:24) in the Tribulation period of the Last Days. At the same time, a leader “different” from the ten will arise. This leader will “come up” (7:20). This is al-Mahdi who “emerges” as Antichrist/false prophet. *The prophecy of Daniel 7:20f is a mirror image of Revelation 17, with a few additional details.* Three of the ten horns are “subdued.” The identity of the three will be discussed in a later chapter.

**A Complete Destruction Must Take Place.** The prophecy of the harlot’s coming annihilation is described with great detail. The text tells us: it will be *complete* (18:6, 7, 14, 19, 20, 21); *quick* - in “one hour” (18:13, 17, 19); accompanied by *fire* (18:8, 9, 15, 18) and *great amounts of smoke* (18:9, 18, 19:3). The after-effects of the destruction will be so great that *no one will come near* the harlot out of fear of being affected by the destruction (18:10, 15, 17). Finally, the after-effects will include “*pestilence*” (18:8).

I suppose that at some point, metaphor must give way to the literal. Seems like that has just happened. Amazing, we have a prophecy written in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD using words more relevant to the 21<sup>st</sup> century than the 1<sup>st</sup>!

**Remember the Oil.** How will this destruction take place? Remember the oil. It allowed the harlot to commit “immorality” with the kings of the earth. It made the merchants of the world rich and great, and those who had ships at sea, wealthy. The oil made the peoples and nations of the world drunk. So then, according to the Biblical principle we identified earlier, the *oil will somehow be used* in the harlot’s judgment. Here is the text:

Revelation 18:6 *"Pay her back even as she has paid, and give back to her double according to her deeds; in the cup which she has mixed, mix twice as much for her."*

This verse is very important. It gives us a clue of the instrument to be used in the harlot’s destruction. Verse 18:6 says, *“in the cup which she mixed, mix twice as much for her.”* It is from this cup that *“all the nations have drunk”,. . .*; and, from which, *“the merchants of the earth have become rich. . .”* (18:3, 15); and, from this cup the harlot’s wealth has clothed her *“in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls”* (18:16); and from this cup the harlot made all who *“had ships at sea . . . rich by her wealth”* (18:19).

The text is telling us that the harlot’s judgment will somehow involve the oil that brought her wealth. The “unclean things of her immorality” are her oil; the “abominations” are the harlot’s sins, one of which is how she has used her oil to enslave others and magnify herself. God is telling us that the sin will be turned against her. It will somehow be used against her, for *“in the cup which she has mixed, mix twice as much for her.”* Therefore, the justice of God will include the use of the harlot’s “wine” as the means whereby the harlot will be judged, and ultimately destroyed! She has used her “wine” to sin against others. The consequences of her sin will become the “abomination” that God brings down upon her own head.

But why does the judgment of the harlot’s sin turn upon the one generation (future?) of Saudis? The generation judged for the harlot’s sin was not even alive when Islam was born nor when the Sunnis exacted their crimes on the Shi`ahs. In the same way that the generation living at the latter half of the seven year Tribulation period will experience the “wrath of God” (last chapter), on behalf of humanity, so will the generation of Saudis experience the judgment of the harlot sin. It is as if the wrath of God is “stored up” until God decides that it is time for it to be unleashed (Hosea 13:12; James 5:3).

Here is how the Saudi’s will be destroyed.

**Shi`ah Islam’s “Dhu al-Fiqar.”** Shi`ah Islam believes the Mahdi will rise with the “sword” of Muhammad, the *dhu al-fiqar*.<sup>2</sup> In today’s modern world, the *dhu al-fiqar* of Muhammad is certainly not a literal sword. Humanity stopped using metal swords long time ago. No, the sword of Muhammad is meant to be understood metaphorically. We quote from Shi`ah scholar, Ayatollah Ibrahim Amini, in regard to the *dhu al-fiqar*, the sword of Muhammad:

*“The Mahdi resembles his forefather, the Prophet, in that he too will rise with a sword. . . However, the rise with the “sword” is a metaphor for warfare. It indicates that war and bloodshed are part of the official task of the Mahdi. He is commanded by God to make Islam a universal faith and to confront injustice and tyranny, even by force and by means of a sword. His circumstance is contrary to his forefathers’ careers, which did not require them to face the situation in that forceful manner, as their charge was limited to admonition and counsel. Consequently, “to rise with a sword” does not mean that his weapons of defense*

*are limited to a sword, and that he is to restrain himself from using any other kind of weapons. To be sure, he too might employ the weapons of the day or even create new weapons to overpower all the known weaponry of his time.*<sup>3</sup> (Emphasis added)

The *dhu al-fiqar* of al-Mahdi, i.e, the “sword of Muhammad,” will be the oil of Saudi Arabia. The Mahdi’s plan will be to remove it from the hands of the Saudis and from the world’s petroleum markets. In so doing, two things will occur: the Saudis will be destroyed and/or completely removed from power; and, 2) the free economies of the world will be brought to ruin.

**Oil as an Instrument of Jihad.** Mordecai Abir of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, reports the following statement by Osama bin Ladin. This message from bin Ladin was posted on al-Qaeda’s Arabian Peninsula website to all mujahidin (jihadists) in Arabia:

*“ . . . bin Laden stated that “oil prices should be at least \$100 a barrel,” and called upon Persian Gulf militants to exert themselves to prevent the West from getting Arab oil by attacking oil facilities all over the region. Bin Laden also encouraged all mujahidin “to stop the biggest theft in history as the West has been buying oil at a cheap price.” This was the first time that al-Qaeda’s leadership had openly divulged its strategy of hitting the Western economy by disrupting oil supplies and causing prices to skyrocket. . . . Bin Laden’s call for an “oil jihad” was followed by a web site message from the Arabian Peninsula al-Qaeda to all the mujahidin in Arabia, wherever they are, to focus on oil targets in their struggle against the infidels and their Saudi allies.”<sup>4</sup> (Emphasis added)*

But don’t think for a moment that Osama’s declaration of an oil jihad was Islam’s first “unsheathing of its sword.” We need return to the 1973 Oil Embargo to find the first occurrence. In 1973, President Nixon announced his intention to rearm Israel against further attacks from Egypt and Syria. King Faisal of Saudi Arabia responded by gathering ten oil ministers from Arab oil producing states for a meeting in Kuwait. The “Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries” (OAPEC, consisting of the Arab members of OPEC plus Egypt and Syria) was formed.<sup>5</sup> The collective oil production of the ten nations was immediately reduced by 5%, per month, until the Middle East conflict was resolved. Saudi Arabia announced an immediate 10% reduction in its oil production and a complete ban on all petroleum shipments to the US and the Netherlands.<sup>6</sup> Matthew Simmons describes the impact of the Saudi led Embargo as follows:

*“Though the amount of oil OPEC withheld was small, its impact on the price of oil was enormous and more violent than most Arab oil ministers had expected. For the better part of the prior four decades, oil prices had stayed in the \$1 to \$2 per barrel range. In the year preceding the embargo, oil prices had occasionally drifted towards and at times even exceeded three dollars a barrel; but three dollar oil was deemed a spike that would soon settle back to more normal levels. . . . Within days after the 1973 oil embargo was announced, oil prices began to soar. By the end of 1973, oil prices had risen almost fourfold, finishing the year at \$11.65 per barrel, The embargo was soon lifted, but long after it faded into distant history, the price of oil climbed steadily. By mid 1978, oil was selling in a stable price band of \$16 to \$17 per barrel.”<sup>7</sup>*

One final quote from Osama:

*“So the struggle is both financial and physical. Even if the distance between us and the American military base is very great, and our weapons do not match up to their planes, we are able to soak up the pressure of these strikes with our broad defense lines. And in another way it is possible to strike the economic base that is the foundation of the military base, so when their economy is depleted they will be too busy with each other to be able to enslave poor peoples. So I say that it is very important to focus on attacking the American economy by any means available.”<sup>8</sup>*

What is my point? The “Achilles heel” of the free world is that our economies are dependent upon petroleum. It is in this weakness that our vulnerability is most revealed. If one attacks us at our most vulnerable point. . .

**The Achilles Heel of the West.** Islam is not able, militarily, to defeat the West. They know that and so do we. Our military is far superior to that of any Muslim country. Our technology more advanced. Yet, there is one significant weakness that the West does have; particularly, when one compares that weakness with the strength of Islam. This weakness is the level of petroleum reserves the West possesses, combined with the addiction of Americans to the comforts and privileges of being United States citizens. No matter how strong our military, *without petroleum to fuel our equipment . . . .* Combine that with a *weak will* on the part of the American people as a whole. . . *and, we have just identified our Achilles heel!*

*Consider these facts.* The United States is the world’s #1 importer of crude oil, importing 11,666, mb/d according to OPEC’s 2006 Annual Statistical Bulletin.<sup>9</sup> *The United States alone imports 24% of the world’s supply of crude oil.* According to the “BP Statistical Review of World Energy,” Saudi Arabia, as of 2006, held 21.9% of the world’s proven oil reserves.<sup>10</sup> The Middle East, as a group, which includes in addition to Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Syria, and Yemen, accounts for 61.5% of the world’s proven oil reserves (the percentage of OPEC nations compared to the world is 77.2%<sup>11</sup>). Of the Middle East group, Saudi Arabia possesses just under twice the reserves of its closest rival, Iran.<sup>12</sup> The United States leads the world in imports and trails miserably in oil and gas reserves. *Does that look like an Achilles heel to you?*

The evidence of this weakness is what happened to America during the 1973/74 Oil Embargo. The Strategic Petroleum Reserve, the world’s largest supply of emergency crude oil, was specifically formed in the aftermath of the 1973/74 Oil Embargo as an attempt to minimize the threat to America if OPEC decided, once again, to use oil as its “sword.”<sup>13</sup> The Strategic Petroleum Reserve (STR), according to the Department of Energy website at February 20, 2008, has enough oil reserves for only 56 days of draw down.<sup>14</sup> The last time the STR was drawn down was during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina which resulted in the draw down of 11 million barrels of a then record high 700mill barrels.<sup>15</sup>

**The Strength (and weakness) of Islam.** According to BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2008 (June, 2008), the Middle East Countries possess 755,300 mb of proven oil reserves. Of this group, Saudi Arabia possesses 264,200 mb of proven oil reserves. North America, which includes the United States, possesses 69,300 mb of proven oil reserves. The United States possesses 29,400 mb of proven oil reserves.<sup>16</sup> Do the math. The Middle East possesses 10.9x the amount of proven crude oil reserves that the entire continent of North America owns and 25.7x the amount the US owns. *Does that sound like a strength to you?* Only one problem for

Islam. Saudi Arabia owns 264,200 mb of proven Middle East reserves of 755,300 mb (34.9%); *and, Saudi Arabia is an ally of the United States of America. Therefore, the weakness of America is offset by the strength of the Saudis. We are allies. We provide our military to the Saudis and the Saudis provide their oil to us. We watch her "backside," and she gives us a reason to!*

What would you do if you were a Middle East world leader who believed you had been chosen by Allah to initiate a global campaign for Islamic domination? What if you were also a Shi`ah world leader? Shi`ahs believe in the "rising" of their 12<sup>th</sup> Imam, the Mahdi, who will lead Islam in global domination, beginning with revenge against Sunnis. The weaknesses of the West as well as the Saudis are obvious. The West depends on the Saudis for their oil. The Saudis depend on the West for her defense. What links the two is Saudi petroleum. Remove the petroleum from the control of the Saudis, and you have "*killed two birds with one stone.*" You have disarmed the powerful West because it depends upon Saudi petroleum. You have removed the military protection the House of Saud has prostituted itself to obtain, thereby rendering it an impotent world power. In fact, both powers have been rendered impotent.

*Seems to me that's precisely the objective for Islam and the prophesied fulfillment for Shi`ah's al-Mahdi!*

**The Beginning of the End - Saudi Arabian Oil is Removed from the World Market.** I thought the way this was going to end was Riyadh would be struck by a bomb, nuclear or otherwise, and the royal family would be taken out. Then, Shi`ah Islam (Iran) would acquire the oil resources of the Kingdom. Possessing the oil of the Saudis would put them in the driver's seat to launch their global jihad. But something didn't make sense to me. If that were to take place, the United States would bomb the Iranians and reclaim the oil. The only deterrent to that would be the Soviets. Would they risk WW3 for Saudi oil? Particularly, since they already own around 8% of world oil reserves?<sup>17</sup> Don't think so. What hit me was a passage I hadn't thought through.

*Revelation 18:9 "And the kings of the earth, who committed acts of immorality and lived sensuously with her, will weep and lament over her when they see the smoke of her burning, 10 standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come.'"*

Why would the "kings of the earth" weep over the death of members of the House of Saud? Why would the President of the USA "lament" over their death? I don't suppose that would happen any more than they would weep over the death of Osama bin Ladin. I may be wrong, but my guess is that the American president is going to be too busy trying to figure out the impact on America and the world on the absence of Saudi petroleum! Remember, the Saudis are the world's #1 owner of proven oil and gas reserves, holding approximately 25% of the world's reserves!

If we look closely at Rev 18:9, we see that it is not the death of the harlot that causes the kings of the earth to weep, but the observance of the "*smoke of her burning.*" Where is that smoke coming from? Seems to me the oil wells go up in smoke! But don't we have the technology to put out oil fires these days? I still recall seeing the oil fires of Iraq burning when America launched its attack against Iraq; and, also the oil fields of Kuwait when Saddam attacked Kuwait

many years earlier. But they were all put out. So what's the big deal? Regardless of how the oil fields are bombed, i.e., nuclear or otherwise, the "world" will simply put the fires out and fight over the oil. But notice what the text says about the destruction: she will suffer a complete destruction (17:18, 18:6, 7, 14, 19, 20, 21). That means no oil will be left for anyone doesn't it! And this passage: ". . . and the fruit you long for has gone for you. . ." (18:14). The oil is gone! *Its not even available for the Shi`ahs who destroyed it.*

Consider this passage to help us interpret the events:

*Isaiah 34:1 "Draw near, O nations, to hear; and listen, O peoples! . . . 2 For the LORD's indignation is against all the nations, And His wrath against all their armies; . . . 4 And all the host of heaven will wear away, And the sky will be rolled up like a scroll; All their hosts will also wither away . . . . 5 For My sword is satiated in heaven, Behold it shall descend for judgment upon Edom, And upon the people whom I have devoted to destruction. . . . For the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah, And a great slaughter in the land of Edom. . . . . 8 For the LORD has a day of vengeance, A year of recompense for the cause of Zion. 9 And its streams shall be turned into pitch, . . . , And its land shall become burning pitch. . . . 12 Its nobles-- there is no one there whom they may proclaim king-- And all its princes shall be nothing. . . . ."*

Although the "Edomites" have long disappeared as a people group, Edom (v 7) was located on the eastern border of Arabia. Bozrah was its capital.<sup>18</sup> Esau, Jacob's brother, was called "Edom" and the Edomites descended from him (Gen 25:9). Esau married the daughter of Ishmael (Genesis 28:9). *Ishmael is the father of the Arabic peoples* (Genesis 16:12). Verse 9 above states that "*streams shall be turned into pitch.*" Does that sound like oil that has been burnt into ash? The "nobles" in v 12; does that sound like the King of Saudi Arabia and his Councils? The "*princes shall be nothing*" in v 12; does that sound like the sons of ibn Saud, the "princes" of the royal family who share in the oil and gas billions?

*Complete destruction.* The text is telling us the *oil goes up in smoke.* Can you imagine the impact the absence of Saudi oil will have on the world markets?

*You will never believe who pulls the trigger!*

**Who Pulls the Trigger?** The same time I thought about the verses above, I came across an Internet post by noted expert of Islam, Daniel Pipes.

*"Investigative writer Gerald Posner reveals something most extraordinary in "Secrets of the Kingdom: The Inside Story of the Saudi-U.S. Connection," his book to be published by Random House later this month: that the Saudi government may have rigged its oil and gas infrastructure with a self-destruct system that would keep it out of commission for decades. If true, this could undermine the world economy at any time. . . . Posner starts by recalling various hints that Americans dropped back in the 1970s, that the high price and limited production of oil might lead to a U.S. invasion of Saudi Arabia and a seizure of its oil fields. For example, in 1975, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger murkily threatened the Saudis with a triple-negative: "I am not saying that there's no circumstances where we would not use force" against them. In response, Posner shows, the Saudi leadership began to think of ways to prevent such an occurrence. They could not do so the usual way, by building up*

*their military, for that would be futile against the much stronger U.S. forces. So the monarchy – one of the most creative and underestimated political forces in modern history – set out instead to use indirection and deterrence. Rather than mount defenses of its oil installations, it did just the opposite, inserting a clandestine network of explosives designed to render the vast oil and gas infrastructure inoperable – and not just temporarily but for a long period. . . . In response, the Saudis thought of ways to assure their oil would stay off the market. They began exploring the possibility of a single-button self-destruct system, protected with a series of built-in fail-safes. It was evidently their way to ensure that if someone else grabbed the world's largest oil reserves and forced them to flee the country they had founded, the House of Saud could at least make certain that what they left behind was worthless.<sup>19</sup> (Emphasis added)*

Put the pieces together. If Posner's account is correct, the Saudis destroy their own oil. Perhaps they are attacked by Iran? Perhaps this is where the Alliance of ten comes in, led by al-Mahdi? Rather than leave the oil to their conquerors, they destroy it. Posner goes on to state that the self-destruct system of the Saudis is so complete that it is rigged with radiological particles *so that the oil will never be useable again!* It is as if the Saudis have planned for a "complete destruction." The "smoke" is because they "pull the trigger." *The kings of the world are in morning* – not because they are concerned for the House of Saud, but because the oil is gone! The kings of the earth know what is going to happen to their people, their economy, their world, everything – and there is absolutely nothing that can be done about it. *WW3 is about to begin.*

**Islam in the Driver's Seat.** Who pulls the trigger? Looks like the Saudis. Shi'ah Islam may have forced the destruction, but the result to the world is no different. *The world's #1 supply of crude oil will be off the world market.* The only players left will be those who control the rest of the world's reserves. Islam is in the driver's seat. The world chaos that results will be like nothing we have ever experienced. How long must we hang on? According to the Bible, 3 ½ years (Daniel 9:26-27). *It will be during this period that the Antichrist/false prophet will use the resulting economic crisis to press upon world leaders causing them to yield to Islam; in return, the petroleum spigots of the Middle East will be promised to be turned back on. The point? Convert to Islam if you want to survive in the world as we know it:*

*Revelation 13:16 "And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand, or on their forehead, 17 and he provides that no one should be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six."*

666 is the mark of Islam.

<b>Summary of Key Points in Chapter 11</b>	
Point 1	There is one “thread” that is always present in Last Days’ Bible prophecies: a holy war against Jews and/or Christians. This same thread is found in the Bible’s prophecies regarding the “harlot.” The birthplace of Islam is Saudi Arabia. Since the 7 <sup>th</sup> century AD, she has made herself “drunk with the blood of the saints.”
Point 2	God’s judgment will use the harlot’s own sin to destroy her. Sunni Islam’s first highwater mark against Shi`ahs occurred in 680 AD at the Battle of Karbala. It has not ended since that day even to the modern times. God’s judgment against the harlot, Saudi Arabia, will be by the hand of Shi`ah Islam. Al-Mahdi will lead this effort.
Point 3	God’s judgment will likewise use the harlot’s “wine” from her own cup, poured out upon her head. Saudi oil has made herself and the merchants of the world wealthy and great. It has been used to possess the economic appetites of the modern world. The oil will likewise be the instrument used by God to return His judgment upon the head of the harlot..
Point 4	The 8 <sup>th</sup> head of the scarlet beast, i.e., the Mahdi, will lead an alliance of ten other Muslim groups or nations to destroy the harlot. Their ultimate purpose will be to destroy Saudi Arabia for the “immoralities” she has committed with the kings of the earth, which, to Islam, is seen as a prostitution of Islam. A secondary reason to the Mahdi’s attack against the woman is that the West has aligned herself with Israel; thus, we are to be destroyed as she is to be destroyed. The weapon of al-Mahdi will be the removal of Saudi oil from the free world markets.
Point 5	Before al-Mahdi can claim Saudi oil, the Saudis will “pull the plug” themselves. They will destroy their oil thereby rendering it unuseable by any one in the world. In the process, the Saudis are also destroyed.

## Chapter 11 - Endnotes

- 1 Revelation 18:8 states, "in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine and she will be burned up with fire." This verse is addressing the after-effects of the judgment to the people surrounding the harlot. Only the judgement to the harlot occurs in one hour.
- 2 Sachedina, p. 21.
- 3 Ayatollah Ibrahim Amini, Al-Imam, al-Mahdi, The Just Leader of Humanity, Chapter 14, page 10, and available at, [www.al-islam.org/mahdi/nont1/chapt-14.htm](http://www.al-islam.org/mahdi/nont1/chapt-14.htm) (accessed February 20, 2008).
- 4 <http://www.jcpa.org/brief/brief004-13.htm> (accessed July 12, 2007).
- 5 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1973\\_oil\\_crisis#Founding\\_of\\_OPEC](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1973_oil_crisis#Founding_of_OPEC) (accessed October 26, 2008).
- 6 Matthew R. Simmons, *Twilight in the Desert, The Coming Saudi Oil Shock and the World Economy*, p. 54.
- 7 Matthew R. Simmons, p. 54-55.
- 8 Bruce Lawrence, editor, *Messages to the World, The Statements of Osama bin Laden*, p. 151.
- 9 Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, *2006 Annual Statistical Bulletin*, p. 94.
- 10 <http://www.bp.com/sectiongenericarticle.do?categoryId=9017902&contentId=7033474> (accessed February 19, 2008).
- 11 Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, *2006 Annual Statistical Bulletin*, p 18.
- 12 <http://www.bp.com/sectiongenericarticle.do?categoryId=9017902&contentId=7033474> (accessed February 19, 2008).
- 13 <http://www.fossil.energy.gov/programs/reserves/spr/index.html> (accessed February 20, 2008).
- 14 <http://www.fossil.energy.gov/programs/reserves/spr/spr-facts.html> (accessed February 20, 2008).
- 15 Available at, <http://www.fossil.energy.gov/programs/reserves/spr/spr-facts.html> (accessed February 20, 2008).
- 16 <http://www.bp.com/productlanding.do?categoryId=6929&contentId=7044622> (accessed October 25, 2008).
- 17 *OPEC 2006 Annual Statistical Report*, p. 18.
- 18 Easton, Matthew George. *Illustrated Bible Dictionary: And Treasury of Biblical History, Biography, Geography, Doctrine, and Literature*. London: T. Nelson and Sons, 1897. WORDsearch CROSS e-book.
- 19 <http://www.danielpipes.org/article/2601> (accessed February 22, 2008).