

The Return of Jesus (part 3 of 5)

Description: The context of Jesus' second coming, the trials and tribulations before it, the rise of the *Mahdi* and the advent of *Maseeh ad-Dajjal* (the False Messiah), and Jesus' role killing him.

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The Rise of the *Mahdi*, and Advent of the False Messiah

The circumstances of the second coming will involve two other people from the end times, the *Mahdi*^[1] and the *Maseeh ad-Dajjal*, Arabic for the False Messiah, and the trials and tribulations associated with them. The primary task of Jesus on his return will be to save the world from the False Messiah and unite it once more under the Rule of God.

The advent of the False Messiah, however, will be preceded by a man who unites all Muslims under his leadership. Of this man, the Prophet, may the mercy and blessings of God be upon him, said that before the world ends, a person from his family with his name (Muhammad ibn Abdullah) will rule the Arabs, filling the earth with equity and justice where before there had been oppression and injustice, for 7 years.^[2] He further said that he will be supported by the Muslim nation, of whom it was said:

"A group of my people will not cease fighting for the Truth and will prevail till the Day of Resurrection. And Jesus son of Mary will descend and their (the Muslims') leader will say, 'Come and lead us in Prayer.'" (*Saheeh Muslim*)

Thus, before the coming of Jesus, the Muslim nation will defend the religion under a man directly descended from the prophet, who will invite Jesus to lead the prayer interrupted by his coming. How long he will have been leading the Muslim Nation will be less than 7 years, but how much less is not known exactly. What is known is that he will be a reluctant commander whom people will flock to, only after an army attacking Mecca is swallowed up by the earth.

The Prophet said:

"Disagreement will occur at the death of a caliph and a man of the people of Medina will flee to Mecca. Some of the people of Mecca will come to him, bring him out against his will and swear allegiance to him between the Corner^[3] and the *Maqam*.^[4] An expeditionary force will then be sent against him from Syria, but it will be swallowed up in the desert between Mecca and Medina. When the people witness this, the most pious men of Syria and the best people of Iraq will come to him and swear allegiance to him between the Corner and the *Maqam*." (*Abu Dawood*)

"There will also be several campaigns, the first against internal elements^[5], and then against external elements. An army consisting of the best Muslim soldiers in the world will come from

Medina to counteract the western invasion of Ash-Sham[6]."

"When they arrange themselves in ranks, the Romans will say: 'Do not stand between us and those who took prisoners from amongst us. Let us fight with them.' The Muslims will say: 'No, by God, we will never stand aside for you or our brethren so that you can fight them.'" (*Saheeh Muslim*)

The fight would last three days with great slaughter on all sides until, on the fourth day, the remnants of the Muslim Army will defeat the Western forces and go on to conquer Istanbul. While the soldiers are looting the city a false rumor that the False Messiah had arrived will reach them, so they will make for Syria again. By the time they reach Damascus, where the *Mahdi* will prepare them for war against the False Messiah's coming, the False Messiah will truly appear.



His stay on earth will be 40 days. However, these 40 days will have something special about them. The first day and night will last a full year, the second a full month, and the third a full week, and the remaining 37 days would be normal.[7] It is in these final 37 days that Jesus will probably come, since he will kill the False Messiah shortly after his arrival.

The False Messiah will appear out of the east, on the way between Syria and Iraq[8], and his coming will spread great troubles and injustice right and left. He will range far and wide, like a wind driven cloud, coming to first one people and then another. He will invite people to follow him, rewarding the ones who respond and affirm their faith in him by commanding the sky to rain, which will cause the land and domestic animals to flourish and produce. Those who refuse him will suffer drought, famine, and loss of wealth. Wherever he goes, he will call forth the land's treasures, which will gather before him like swarming bees, and he will even kill a man, cutting him in half and then bring him back to life.

The Coming of Jesus and Death of the False Messiah

As can be seen, the False Messiah will have been given miracles to convince people to stray from the path, and many will follow him. Some *hadeeths* mention that many people, especially the Jews