

## **Last Day Counterfeit**

John Witcombe

You've probably not heard of the New York Times bestselling author, Joel Richardson. He has a new book out called *Mideast Beast*. I have been in conversation with him and he sent to me an autographed copy of his latest book. Let me tell you what I think of this book.

Satan has studied the prophecies and he is well aware of what will be taking place. He has inspired men to promote teachings on end-time events that have points of similarity with the truth.

If he could couple a false teaching with a true prophetic event that will be taking place according to a true interpretation of God's Word, he would have a masterpiece of deception.

For a prophetic deception to be most powerful it would need to actually come to pass as predicted but the teaching of what has actually taken place in that predicted event would be false.

“As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Saviour's advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. Revelation 1:13-15. The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. The shout of triumph rings out upon the air: "Christ has come! Christ has come!" {GC 624.2}

If I was Satan and was planning for my crowning act of deception I would introduce an understanding of a Bible prophecy that predicted my coming in just the manner that I was planning to come. I would use an actual Biblical prophetic event that I knew would be taking place and develop a false theory around that event.

If Uriah Smith's understanding of Daniel 11:45 was correct and if Satan knew that it was correct, he could introduce an understanding of that event that would prepare the world to receive him as Jesus.

So if Turkey actually goes into Palestine and if the Christian world believed that this event was the setting up of the antichrist and thus would start the last seven year period that they think prophecy speaks of and that three and a half years later Christ would appear to overthrow the antichrist, that would set up the world for accepting his crowning act of deception.

“Satan's angels are wise to do evil, and they will create that which some will claim to be advanced light, and will proclaim it as new and wonderful. . .” {Ev 590.1}

I believe that Richardson's book is a masterpiece of error channeled from fallen angels through Joel Richardson.

Take a look at this short interview: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2HSZHTs4Nw>

SID: My next guest was hand-chosen by God and given unique insight into End Time Bible prophecy. For the very first time many of you will connect the dots and you're going to be shocked as these mysteries are explained in a different way than today's popular teachings, on this edition of It's Supernatural.

Can ancient secrets of the supernatural be rediscovered? Do angels exist? Is there life after death? Are healing miracles real? Can you get supernatural help from another dimension? Has the future been written in advance? Sid Roth has spent 30 years researching the strange world of the supernatural. Join Sid on this edition of It's Supernatural.

SID: Hello. Sid Roth here with Joel Richardson and I love prophecy. I love God predicting what's going to happen. And I used to be a stockbroker, and I'm almost ashamed to say I knew about things like inside information at that time, before I was a believer. Well we Bible believers are supposed to be dealing with inside information. And my guest, Joel Richardson, I believe was hand-picked to understand End Time Bible prophecy revelation. As a matter of fact, Joel, your wife had a prophetic word before you were even married. Tell me about that.

JOEL: She had a woman that was praying over her with a significant prophetic gifting, and one of the things that she said was that you'll marry someone that will release significant new understanding into the End Times to the body of Christ. Now when she said that to, shortly after we got married, I thought, how can I release information about something that I have no understanding. This is not something that I can make happen, so if that's gonna take place it's gonna be something that the Lord is gonna have to release.

SID: Okay. So then you go to a meeting with 7000 people, and with 7000 people a prophet is speaking, and guess who he picks out to prophecy over? Joel. Did you know he was going to pick you? I mean, 7,000 people.

JOEL: Sitting the shadows of the back row of this massive auditorium, he called my wife and I out by name.

SID: By name. Did he know you?

JOEL: No.

SID: Okay.

JOEL: Called us out by name and spoke about several different issues into our lives that no one, that no man could know in the natural. Obviously the Lord was speaking to us. And then among the things that he said was that the Lord was releasing me into a season of Divine revelation, specifically because of years of waiting on the Lord and developing, and cultivating an intimate relationship.

SID: And you knew that Divine revelation, what was exploding within you when he said that?

JOEL: The moment he said I immediately, my mind was immediately moved to the prophecy that my wife had and I knew that it had to do with this revelation concerning

the End Times. And still at that time I thought, you know, it's gonna have to be the Lord. But it was shortly after that I guess I'll call it the Divine downloads began to take place. And you know it when it happens. You wake up. You read the Word. He opens up the Word and there's just energy. There's energy on your Bible study. There's energy and enlightenment on your mind, so to speak, as you consider world events. Really, I've sort of been in that buzz, it seems as though now for the past several years.

SID: Okay. He spends almost a year in the Middle East. He studies and applies himself, as he should. But it's not a normal study. It's with revelation. And in your studies you found some fascinating things out about Islam. Tell me some of the things you found out. [http://www.sidroth.org/site/DocServer/IS569Transcript\\_Richardson.pdf?docID=2901](http://www.sidroth.org/site/DocServer/IS569Transcript_Richardson.pdf?docID=2901)

These "divine downloads" that came to Joel came from the enemy of all truth whose power to deceive is 10 fold today as compared to the days of the apostles. Satan has studied the prophecies and he is aware of what will soon be taking place.

I believe that he is giving to the evangelical world, through Joel, an understanding of prophecy that connects with what will actually be taking place but with an interpretation of these events that is completely false.

The main purpose of this deception is to hide the true identity of the antichrist; the true identity of the beast and its image.

What better way then to predict future events that actually will take place but with a false interpretation of those events.

In what Joel is teaching, I see Satan setting up the world to receive him as the Christ when he appears on this earth impersonating Jesus.

Here is the trailer advertising Joel's new book:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZErFbz5NJc>

The teaching that the antichrist will come from Europe and rule from Jerusalem has been taught in the Christian world for decades.

Ezekiel 38 and 39 are used to teach that at the end of time this great army from Russia Gog and Magog will sweep down upon Israel.

This is the only reference Ellen White wrote concerning these terms Gog and Magog:

"And I saw, that as Christ is the vine, and his children the branches: so Satan is the "root", and his children are the "branches;" and at the final destruction of "Gog and Magog," the whole wicked host will be burnt up, "root and branch," and cease to exist. Then will appear the new heaven and the new earth. Then will the saints "build houses," and "plant vineyards." I saw, that all the righteous dead were raised by the voice of the Son of God, at the first resurrection; and all that were raised at the second resurrection, were burnt up, and ceased to exist." {WLF 12.1}

It looks to me like these two chapters may be speaking of the final destruction of the wicked after the 1000 year reign in heaven.

Joel Richardson's new book is teaching that Gog and Magog are not Russia but rather these terms refer to Turkey. He believes that the prophecies teach that the antichrist will be an Islamist from Turkey and setup his seven year reign in Jerusalem. This will be the fulfillment of Ezekiel 38 and 39.

World conditions today seem to favor Joel's views. I anticipate that many evangelicals will accept what he is teaching and that it will soon become a popular understanding.

Three and one half years later, after Turkey's antichrist takes over Israel, Jesus appears and destroys antichrist and takes over the throne of David. He then begins his 1000 year reign - according to Richardson.

Satan could very well be setting up the world for his overmastering delusion. I believe he is introducing a teaching of end-time events that has truth mixed with error.

In the view of our pioneers, what did they teach would take place at the end of time?

What happens after Turkey sets up the Caliphate in Palestine in fulfillment of Daniel 11:45?

Here in the United States of America there will be a ground swell of support for this nation to return to God. Increasing natural disasters, economic distress, civil unrest, the elimination of the state of Israel by Islamic powers; all these calamities will convince Americans that God is unhappy with their country and that they are experiencing His wrath.

People will want to do something to show God that they are returning to Him and the most natural thing to do will be to start going back to church. But too many activities – work, entertainment, shopping – keep people away from church.

The early settlers of this country solved this problem by enacting Sunday laws. The very first such law was enacted in the colony of Virginia in 1610, and read as follows:

"Every man and woman shall repair in the morning to the divine service and sermons preached upon the Sabbath day, and in the afternoon to divine service, and catechizing, upon pain for the first fault to lose their provision and the allowance for the whole week following; for the second, to lose the said allowance and also be whipt; and for the third to suffer death."

Get that? Attend services both morning and afternoon—or face the early-American version of "three strikes and you're out." Strike one: lose your food allowance for a week. Strike two: lose your food allowance for a week and be whipped. Strike three: kiss your life goodbye. And this was not some totalitarian country, some atheistic dictatorship such as China or North Korea or Cuba. Nor was it some theocratic regime such as Iran. It was America.

Other colonies besides Virginia had their own Sunday laws, requiring attendance at services and forbidding everything from working to sports and recreation to swearing and "tippling" at the taverns. Punishments included fines of money and up to 200 pounds of tobacco, being locked in the public stocks, jail time, and again, in "grievous" cases, death.

Captain Kemble of Boston, Massachusetts, was in 1656 locked in the public stocks for two hours for kissing his wife on the Sabbath (Sunday) after spending three years at sea. The charge? "Unseemly behavior."

Even newly elected president George Washington was not exempt from punishment under Sabbath laws. As he traveled from Connecticut to a town in New York to attend worship service one Sunday in 1789, Washington was detained by a tithingman for violating Connecticut's law forbidding unnecessary travel on Sunday. Washington was permitted to continue on his journey only after he promised to go no farther than his destination town. <http://www.libertymagazine.org/index.php?id=1281>

I would not be surprised at all to see the people of this country call for their legislators to enact a Federal Sunday law for the good of families, for the good of the economy and as a way to turn this nation back to its roots – faith in God.

There will be many who will not go along with the violation of first amendment to the Constitution as well as the fourth commandment of the law of God and will refuse to obey these Sunday laws.

Calamities will not abate and it will be thought that God will not be pleased with this nation until all unite in reverencing Him by keeping Sunday and not Saturday as a day of rest and worship. Those who fail to come into line will be punished - perhaps by the forfeiture of the right to buy and sell – economic boycott (Revelation 13:17).

The nations of the world will follow the United States' example. As the issues relating to the keeping of the seventh-day versus the first day as the Sabbath of the Lord come to the forefront, thousands, perhaps millions of people choose to violate the law of the land in order to keep holy God's Seventh-day Sabbath of the fourth commandment.

Meanwhile, with the uniting of the Muslim nations under the Caliphate, Islam is strengthening its position amongst the nations and the goal of instituting Sharia Law throughout the world in response to Allah's command seems attainable. The western world begins to mobilize its armies to keep Islam in check.

While this clash of civilizations is heating up, many in the Christian world are expecting that Jesus will appear after three and one half years from the time that Turkey (whom they mistakenly believe to be the beast of Revelation) took over Jerusalem.

And perhaps right on time, a brilliant supernatural being that resembles the description that Revelation gives of Christ, suddenly appears in different parts of the world. He commands all nations to honor and worship him by keeping Sunday holy.

The final waymark of Daniel 11 will now come to pass: “. . . yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.” The Caliph will be replaced. His work will come to an end. Satan takes the field in his disguise of being Christ. No one is there to help or support the king of the north because all are on board with this majestic being who has now come on the scene.

The nations of this world conform and it appears that finally unity and peace can come to this earth. But while men are saying peace, peace, sudden destruction begins. The events

of Daniel 12:1 begin. The four angels that have been holding back the winds of strife let loose. The seven last plagues begin to fall.

The nations marshal their armies for the battle of Armageddon. A time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation begins. It looks like the end of human civilization is about to take place.

This brilliant being whom the world believes to be the Christ declares that this horrendous World War that is now raging will not stop nor will these plagues stop until there is 100% compliance with his command to worship him by honoring Sunday as a holy day.

The world responds and a death decree is issued by the world governments to put to death everyone not in compliance. At the very time that this decree is to be executed, God speaks from His Temple in heaven (Revelation 16:17-21).

There is a mighty earthquake; hail stones (seventy pounds each) hit the earth. All war, all activity on planet earth comes to a halt as God delivers His people who refused to go along with this brilliant being who claimed to be Christ.

God announces the day and hour of His Son's return. Those who followed this false Christ realize that he was none other than Satan himself. The end of this world has come. Jesus returns to take His people, living and resurrected, to heaven for 1000 years. The wicked are destroyed by the brightness of His coming. Satan and his angels are left alone on this earth to contemplate their coming destruction.

At the end of the 1000 years Jesus and His people return to this earth with New Jerusalem, the capital of the universe.

The wicked of all ages are resurrected and the great judgment takes place. It is now that the battle of Gog and Magog takes place (Revelation 20:8). Satan, his angels and all the wicked acknowledge that Jesus is just and righteous and that they deserve the wages of sin which is death.

Fire comes down and consumes this earth along with the wicked. Jesus creates a new earth and the righteous inherit this earth for eternity.

John Witcombe  
[pastorjcw@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjcw@gmail.com)  
<http://www.daniel1145.com/>  
<http://www.thirdwoe.com/> (Password: 1844)

Here is a bit more that I had written on this issue:

Joel Richardson's view of end-time events is coming to the forefront in the Christian world through his new book, *Mideast Beast*.

Satan has studied the prophecies and he is well aware of what will be taking place. He has inspired men to promote teachings on end-time events that have points of similarity with the truth.

“Satan's angels are wise to do evil, and they will create that which some will claim to be advanced light, and will proclaim it as new and wonderful; yet while in some respects the message may be truth, it will be mingled with human inventions, and will teach for doctrine the commandments of men. If there was ever a time when we should watch and pray in real earnest, it is now. Many apparently good things will need to be carefully considered with much prayer, for they are specious devices of the enemy to lead souls in a path which lies so close to the path of truth that it will be scarcely distinguishable from it. But the eye of faith may discern that it is diverging, though almost imperceptibly, from the right path. At first it may be thought positively right, but after a while it is seen to be widely divergent from the way which leads to holiness and heaven. My brethren, I warn you to make straight paths for your feet, lest the lame be turned out of the way.” Undated Manuscript 111. {Ev 590.1}

“The track of truth lies close beside the track of error, and both tracks may seem to be one to minds which are not worked by the Holy Spirit, and which, therefore, are not quick to discern the difference between truth and error.” {1SM 202.2}

The teaching that an army will come from Russia (Gog and Magog) and attack Jerusalem has been taught in the Christian world for decades. Ezekiel 38 and 39 are used to teach that at the end of time this great army from Russia will sweep down upon Israel.

It looks to me like these two chapters may be speaking of the final destruction of the wicked after the 1000 year reign in heaven.

This is the only reference Ellen White wrote concerning Gog and Magog:

“And I saw, that as Christ is the vine, and his children the branches: so Satan is the "root", and his children are the "branches;" and at the final destruction of "Gog and Magog," the whole wicked host will be burnt up, "root and branch," and cease to exist. Then will appear the new heaven and the new earth. Then will the saints "build houses," and "plant vineyards." I saw, that all the righteous dead were raised by the voice of the Son of God, at the first resurrection; and all that were raised at the second resurrection, were burnt up, and ceased to exist.” {WLF 12.1}

Joel Richardson's new book is teaching that Gog and Magog is not Russia but rather this term refers to Turkey. He believes that the prophecies teach that the antichrist will arise from Turkey and setup his three and one half year reign in Jerusalem. This will be the fulfillment of Ezekiel 38 and 39. The evidence that he presents in his book appears to be more solid than the popular view that the antichrist will arise out of Europe. World conditions today seem to favor Joel's views. I anticipate that many evangelicals will accept what he is teaching and that it will soon become the dominant understanding.

Three and one half years later, after Turkey's antichrist takes over Israel, Jesus appears and destroys antichrist and takes over the throne of David. He then begins his 1000 year reign—according to Richardson.

Satan could very well be setting up the world for his overmastering delusion. He could introduce a teaching of end-time events that had truth mixed with error. Our pioneers believed that Turkey would go to Israel in fulfillment of Daniel 11:45. This event would precipitate the final events of this world's history. If this takes place as Uriah Smith

taught, the Christian world will see it as the fulfillment of the beginning of the seven year tribulation. I would not be surprised if Satan impersonated the coming of Jesus right on time according to the expectations of the Christian world. The Sunday laws will have been passed and God's people will be giving the loud cry. The evidence will be there that the evangelical world has been right and God's people will have been proven wrong, so they will think.

Based upon the fact that often "the track of truth lies close beside the track of error", if the error that Joel Richardson is teaching lies close to the track of truth, I would not be surprised to find that Uriah Smith and his fellow pioneers were right after all on their interpretation of Daniel 11:45.

This information came to Joel Richardson as "divine downloads". Satan gave this message to him.

Here is a link to hear a bit of his story:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EaDTShXtYek&feature=kp>

See Richardson's trailer for his new book:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=aZErFbz5NJc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=aZErFbz5NJc)

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=TI6eJWV4yc#!](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=TI6eJWV4yc#!)

<http://archives.joelstrumpet.com/?p=3509#more-3509>

John Witcombe

[pastorjcw@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjcw@gmail.com)