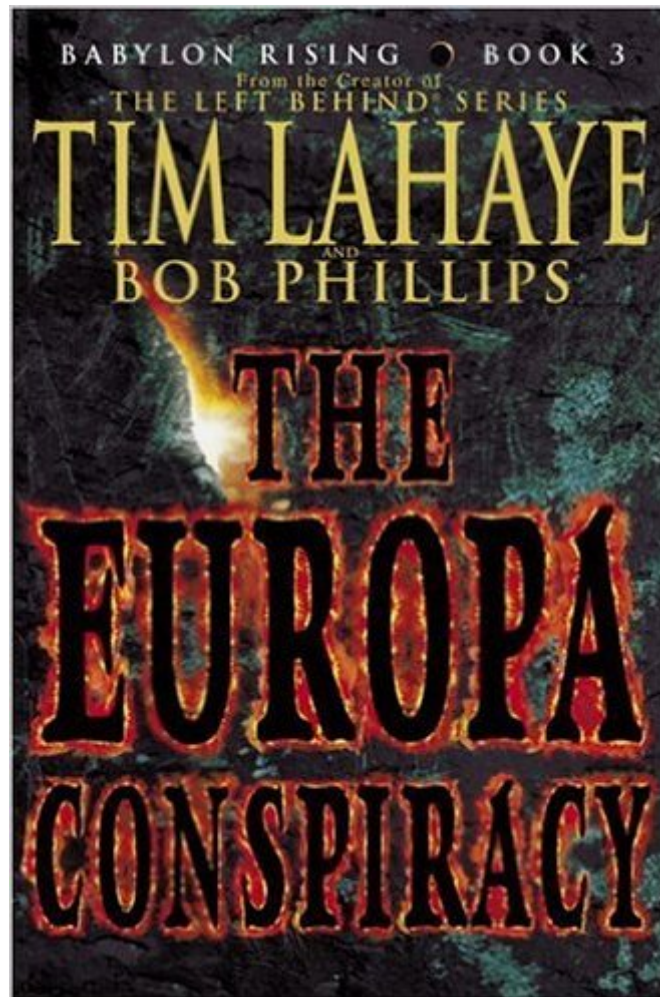


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The Europa Conspiracy (Babylon Rising, Book 3)



Synopsis

Tim LaHaye has called *Babylon Rising* his most exciting series ever, and *The Europa Conspiracy* is the most thrilling and suspenseful installment yet. Reaching back to some of the most dramatic and prophetically significant stories of the Bible, and forward to the creation of ultimate evil in the modern world, the awe-inspiring revelations never let up. It begins when Michael Murphy heads to the ancient city of Babylon in pursuit of one of the most famous and mystifying of Biblical prophecies: The Handwriting on the Wall. But the closer he gets to deciphering the true meaning of Daniel's ancient message for our troubled times, the closer Murphy comes to a shattering confrontation with the forces of darkness that will cause the earth itself to tremble. In *The Europa Conspiracy*, Tim LaHaye once again shows how his thrill-a-minute storytelling and deep understanding of the Bible have combined to make him one of today's most popular and influential fiction authors.

Book Information

Hardcover: 354 pages

Publisher: Bantam (September 27, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0553803247

ISBN-13: 978-0553803242

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1.2 x 9.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (291 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #68,553 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #99 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Literature & Fiction > Science Fiction](#) #584 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Literature & Fiction > Mystery & Suspense](#) #2918 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Contemporary](#)

Customer Reviews

After working on eleven books in the phenomenal *Left Behind* series, you might think that Tim LaHaye would relax a bit. Instead he has found another writing partner, Greg Dinallo, and has begun a new series of thrillers starting with *BABYLON RISING*. Dr. LaHaye says that he is more excited about this than any of the other books he has ever written. That's quite a comment from the author of more than forty books, including the *Left Behind* series that has sold over 60 million copies! But within the first few pages of *BABYLON RISING*, the reader will begin to share his enthusiasm and become totally engrossed in this supernatural adventure. Michael Murphy teaches

Biblical Archaeology and Prophecy at Preston College --- not exactly an "A" list course. To enhance his classroom lectures and satisfy his desire to authenticate the Bible, he seeks and uncovers ancient artifacts that are directly tied to Biblical events. This scholar/adventurer image makes him somewhat of a campus hero and students flock to hear him bring the Bible to life. For the reader's enlightenment, chapters are interspersed with the story of King Nebuchadnezzar, the world's most powerful ruler, and Daniel, the young Israeli slave who fearlessly interprets the King's dreams. This writing technique serves to underscore the role that faith plays in the lives of people throughout history. Faith that allows a young slave to stand fearlessly before the most powerful man on earth and tell him the hard truth, knowing that his God will protect him regardless of the King's reaction. Faith that allows a small-town college professor to stand up to evil forces in order to unearth ancient Biblical artifacts that glorify God, the enemy of evil.

An OK read overall, but not up to par with Mr. LaHaye's other works. This series has potential, but it needs to fine tune some aspects of the writing. For example: 1) Michael Murphy, our hero, is a real Renaissance man. He's really, really, really smart; he relates well to the kids (in his Biblical archeology class); he's a wonderful husband; buff and tough enough to whup up on a big, nasty, slobbering lion; a dead-eye shot with a compound bow; and blessed with the talent of solving multiple impenetrable mysteries buried in desert sands for 2,500 years in a single minute. Yes, this Action Hero does everything but sing like his musical namesake (we think). Any weaknesses? Oh yeah, he's got a thing for risking his life, career and pride at the whim of the mysterious "Methuselah" to gather archeological treasures which could prove events in the Bible really happened. Fortunately, our hero's biggest challenge in the first half of the book is withstanding his Just As Smart And Independent wife's withering anti-machismo comments and first-aid treatment after besting Methuselah's challenges. Oh yes, he doesn't shave for a few days after his wife's tragic death, and is a little ticked at God. But a quick confessional to his congregation, and he gets over it. I like to engage my suspension of belief when I read fiction, but this was too much. Come on, the woman he intended to invest the next 50-60 years (and maybe planned a family with) is gone. It's not something you just get over -- you learn to live with it. The elements are there -- just don't make him a superhero. Rayford Steele of the Left Behind books is a great example of a more balanced (and human) protagonist. 2) Methuselah.

I wanted to like this book... I enjoyed the first two in the series. But this one left me a bit dry...

Babylon Rising: The Europa Conspiracy by Tim LaHaye and Bob Phillips. This continues the story of

Michael Murphy, a college professor teaching biblical archaeology. He is now heading off to Iraq to follow a tip on the location of "The Handwriting on the Wall" from the days of Daniel. He's falling in love with a colleague who is in the same area, and he fears for her safety as things start to get dicey in his life. Talon and the mysterious Seven are trying to eliminate him, and there are a few attempts on his life. Mixed into this story is a terrorist attack on New York designed to throw America into an economic and national panic, as well as to prompt the UN to move their headquarters to the ancient city of Babylon. Murphy, for someone who's pretty much a small fish in the large ocean, finds himself in the middle of all this...As I said, I really wanted to like this book. The Murphy character is likeable, and I enjoyed the action. But the plotline was spotty and over the top. Murphy was using martial arts to take out everyone who attacked him (highly unlikely). Everything the terrorists tried to do was thwarted just in the nick of time (over the top). The story attempted to be both a Christian End Times novel and a terrorist suspense novel, and they didn't do either one especially well. Murphy's growing infatuation with Isis was rather repetitive with the "she's so beautiful" and "could she be interested in me" interludes. And finally, none of the plotlines wrapped up. You got to the end and thought "so?" Fine if you're ready to read the next installment, but not good if you started here or you have to wait some months for the next one...

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