



# A different story

Matthew 24: 1-8 & Isaiah 11: 6-9

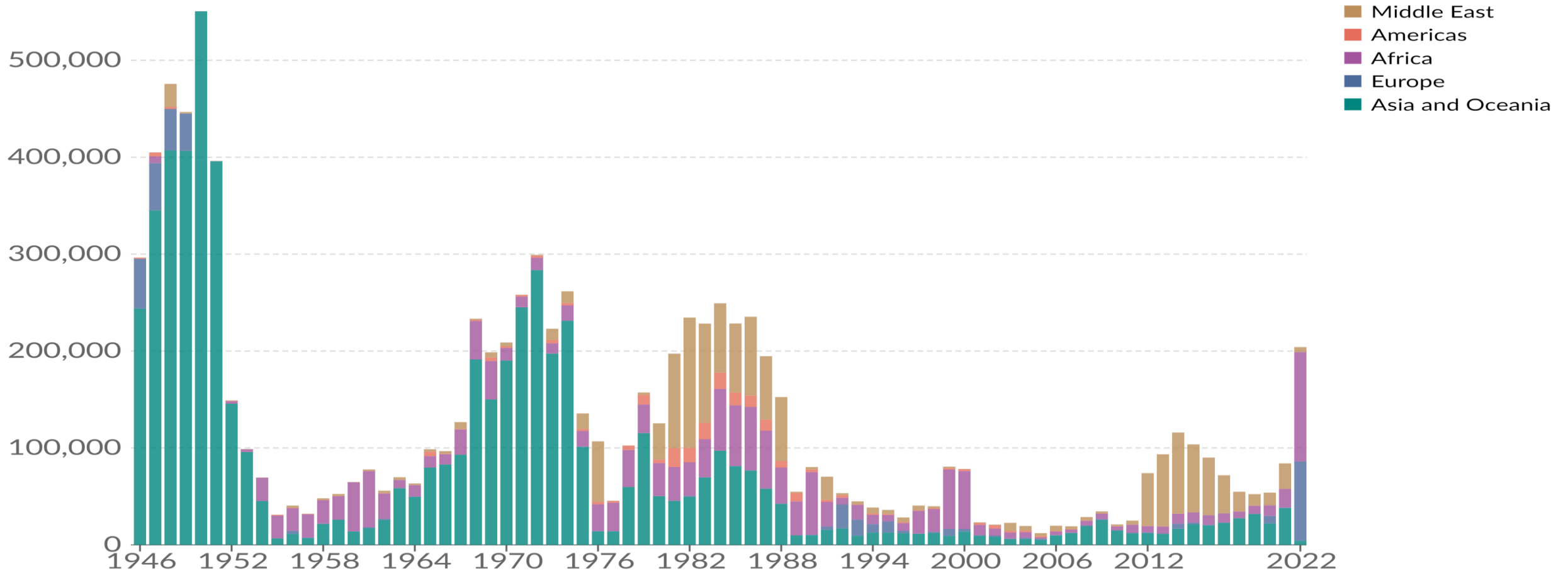


# A different story

Where is God in a world of violence?

# Deaths in state-based conflicts by region

Interstate<sup>1</sup>, intrastate<sup>2</sup>, and extrasystemic<sup>3</sup> conflicts that cause at least 25 deaths during a year. Deaths of combatants and civilians due to fighting.



Data source: Uppsala Conflict Data Program (2023); Peace Research Institute Oslo (2017)

[OurWorldInData.org/war-and-peace](https://OurWorldInData.org/war-and-peace) | [CC BY](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)

1. Interstate conflict: A conflict between states.

2. Intrastate conflict: A conflict between a state and a non-state armed group. Internationalized if a foreign state is involved, non-internationalized if not.

3. Extrasystemic conflict: A conflict between a state and a non-state armed group outside its territory.



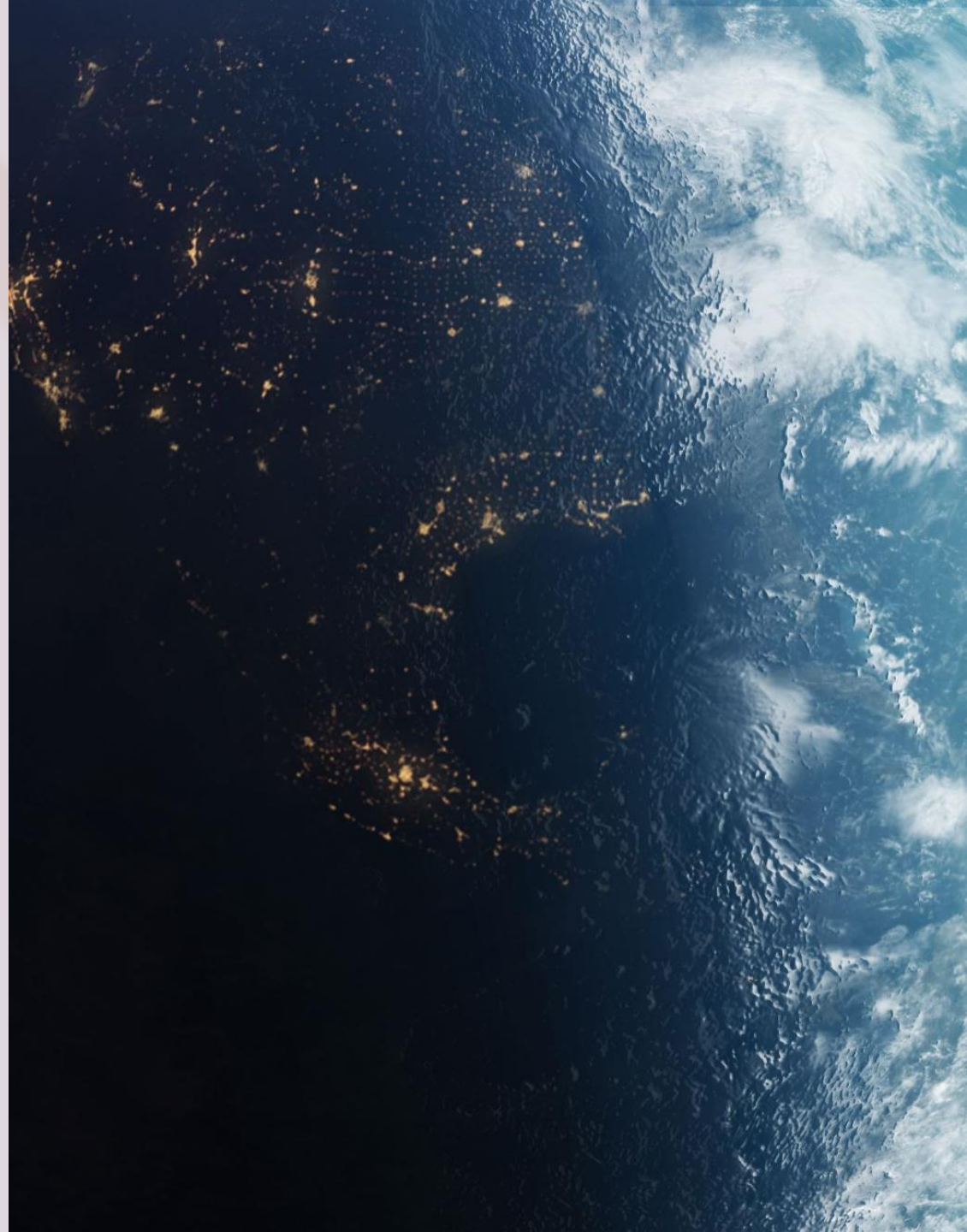
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When will Jesus return?

# A different story

**“But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father”**

**Matthew 24:36**





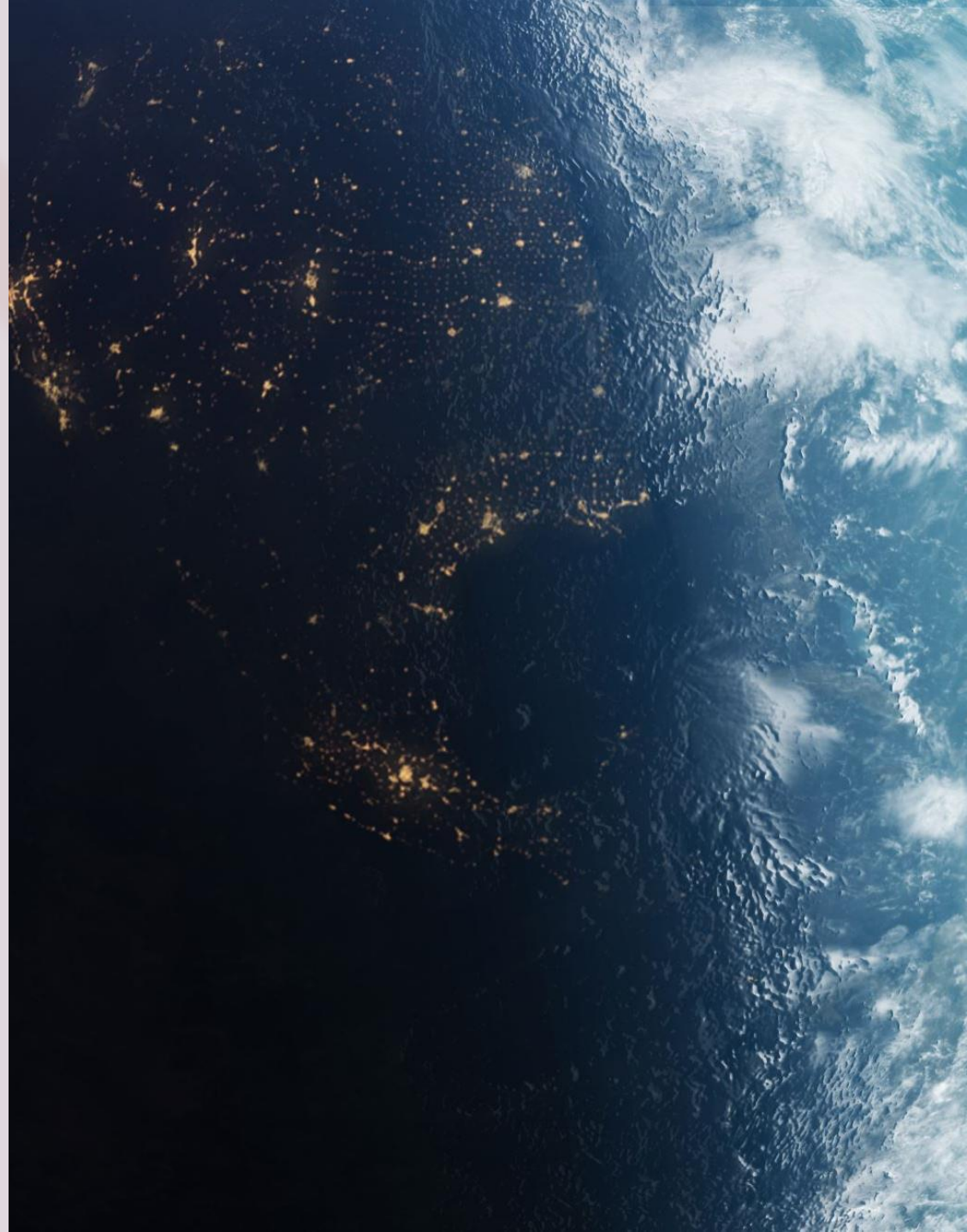
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Part of the solution

# A different story

**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here.**

**2 Corinthians 5:17**



# A different story

You can't trust an apocalyptic religion to find real world solutions. Their identity is based around the world ending.







# A different story

The future in God's hands

# Isaiah 11:1-2

**'A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a branch will bear fruit'**

**'The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon him - the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord.'**



# Reflection

- **Where is there conflict going on in my life?**
- **Is there anything I need to turn my back on?**
- **How does Jesus call me to live in the light of his victory and soon return?**