faith
IN THE FACE
of empire

The Bible Through Palestinian Eyes

MITRI RAHEB
Contents

Acknowledgments x

Introduction 1

1. History and the Biblical Story 9
   History as a *Longue Durée* 9
   History and Identity 11
   History and Memory 14
   History and Myth 17
   History and Story 19

2. A Prelude to a Palestinian Narrative 23
   Dominant Culture 24
   A Voice from Exile 27
   The Uprising of the People 30
   Responses from the World 31
   New Jewish Voices 32
   Questioning the Prevailing Narrative 33
   Promising Developments 39
   Kairos Palestine 40

3. The Geo-Politics of the Middle East 43
4. **Palestine**  
The Image  
The Geo-Politics

5. **The Empire**  
Control of Movement  
Control of Resources  
Settlements  
State Terror  
Exile  
Jerusalem and the Temple  
Imperial Theology

6. **The People of Palestine**  
Where Are You, God?  
Who Is My Neighbor?  
The Way to Liberation?  
When Will We Have a State?

7. **God**  
Revelation  
God as a Factor in Geo-Politics

8. **Jesus**  
The Messiah Is Here!  
History *Longue Durée*  
Faith as Resistance  
Restoring the Community  
Jesus’ Political Program  
Ambassadors for the Kingdom
## Contents

9. **The Spirit** 109
   - Not by Might 109
   - Diversity 110
   - More Than Victims 113
   - Freedom 115
   - Women 116
   - Creative Resistance 120
   - Culture of Life 122

Epilogue 125

Notes 131

Selected Bibliography 141

Index 151