

# Contents

List of Illustrations vii

Acknowledgments ix

Preface

UNMAKING THE MIDDLE KINGDOM I

*The Editors*

Chapter 1. Counterfactual Thought Experiments

WHY WE CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT THEM & HOW WE  
MUST LEARN TO LIVE WITH THEM 14

*Philip E. Tetlock and Geoffrey Parker*

PART I. Creating the West

Chapter 2. A Stillborn West?

THEMISTOCLES AT SALAMIS, 480 BC 47

*Victor Davis Hanson*

Chapter 3. The Resilient West

SALAMIS WITHOUT THEMISTOCLES, CLASSICAL GREECE WITHOUT  
SALAMIS, & THE WEST WITHOUT CLASSICAL GREECE 90

*Barry Strauss*

Chapter 4. The Quest for a Counterfactual Jesus

IMAGINING THE WEST WITHOUT THE CROSS 119

*Carlos M. N. Eire*

PART 2. The Rise of the West

Chapter 5. Religious Kitsch or Industrial Revolution

WHAT DIFFERENCE WOULD A CATHOLIC ENGLAND MAKE? 145

*Carlos M. N. Eire*

Chapter 6. Europe's Peculiar Path

WOULD THE WORLD BE "MODERN" IF WILLIAM III'S INVASION  
OF ENGLAND IN 1688 HAD FAILED? 168

*Jack A. Goldstone*

Chapter 7. Nineteenth-Century British Imperialism Undone  
with a Single Shell Fragment

A RESPONSE TO JACK GOLDSTONE'S "EUROPE'S  
PECULIAR PATH" 197

*Carla Gardina Pestana*

PART 3. The West Undone?

Chapter 8. The Song Empire

THE WORLD'S FIRST SUPERPOWER? 205

*Robin D. S. Yates*

Chapter 9. Without Coal? Colonies? Calculus?

COUNTERFACTUALS & INDUSTRIALIZATION IN  
EUROPE & CHINA 241

*Kenneth Pomeranz*

Chapter 10. King Kong and Cold Fusion

COUNTERFACTUAL ANALYSIS & THE HISTORY  
OF TECHNOLOGY 277

*Joel Mokyr*

Chapter 11. Hitler Wins in the East but Germany Still  
Loses World War II 323

*Holger H. Herwig*

PART 4. Conclusions

Chapter 12. Counterfactual History

ITS ADVOCATES, ITS CRITICS, & ITS USES 363

*Geoffrey Parker and Philip E. Tetlock*

Contributors 393

Index 401