

# God Gave to Jesus the Gospel

Speaking  
the Truth  
in Love  
to Muslims

by  
Abdul Njai

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**Freely you have received, freely give [Mt.10:8]**

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## A Salaam Alechem

Peace be unto you who love the Muslim world; who love them truly, enough to bring them the message of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Yes, I myself am a disciple of Jesus. I write to fill your stomach with the bread of God. It is only then that your hand will possess something to give to others.

If merely placed in your palm, it cannot remain there long. It will slip through your fingers or be laid aside and you will remain empty. No, my friend, let the truth of Jesus sink into your ears. Taste it with your tongue and swallow it to fill your soul before it passes from your lips upon the air. It is good like that.

The Life of Jesus is no system. The Spirit blows where He wills. The Gospel is not a memorized formula. Living threads weave eternal patterns in skillfully fabricated gospel cloth. Single strands will never clothe the naked and pre-manufactured goods will not suit the wearer.

There is no quick fit in preaching to Muslims. Individual tailoring is in order. One size does not fit all.

Jesus our Lord is the Master in every way. Learn from Him to preach your gospel. Truth was never modified to accommodate His listeners, but His emphasis varied. Application of the one gospel was molded to the likes of a young rich ruler, a Nicodemus, a woman of Samaria. Go and do thou likewise.

Truth digested is of more practical use than that which is packaged for distribution. Every scribe who is a disciple of the kingdom of heaven will bring forth from his treasure things new and old.

Stay close to the Shepherd: There is no other place of safety when sent forth as sheep in the midst of wolves. Nevertheless, His rod and staff will comfort you and you will even find a table spread in the presences of enemies.

Feast there and invite your Muslim guests to dine with you in that eternal banquet of love in the kingdom of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Your brother and partaker of the tribulation as it is in Jesus,

Abdul

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# 1

## Islam's Beginnings

Jesus Christ our Lord was born 570 years before Muhammad. The full and wonderful payment for our sins had been paid by His suffering and death long before Islam ever was, and we bless the name of the Lord for that.

In Mecca about the year 570 AD, Muhammad was born to a noble family of the *Quraish* [Koreish] tribe. They were the heirs and guardians of the *Ka'ba* in which were 360 idols and the sacred Black Stone.

Muhammad was orphaned early in life. The keys to the *Ka'ba* and the rule in Mecca passed on to others in his tribe. At age twenty-five, he married a wealthy widow, Kahdija, who was forty years old. After her death, he married others wives. The *Quran* did not limit the number of wives the Prophet could take.

In desolate caves while seeking spiritual light, he reported that *Malika Jubril* [Angel Gabriel] brought to him a Word from *Allah*, the one true God. From this experience, he believed himself to be the chosen Prophet to bring the final revelation of *Allah* to end unbelief and idolatry.

Fellow tribesmen in Mecca did not agree. He was resisted and driven out because it was feared that his fierce opposition to the old Arabic religion would harm their trade.

His *Hijrat/Hegira* [flight] from Mecca to Medina in the year 622 AD marks the beginning of the Islamic calendar. There he was received as a prince and prophet and quickly became its political and religious ruler. Increasingly militant "revelations" received there, as he said, from

Gabriel, were accompanied by military action against Mecca.

By 630 AD, Muhammad led his first successful *Jihad* [holy war] against Mecca, the place of his birth. With his 10,000 troops, he "cleansed" the *Ka'ba* of its idols and made Islam the only religion of all the tribes of Arabia. Ever since then, Mecca and the *Ka'ba* have been the sacred center of Islam and of Muslims' annual pilgrimage.

War was declared against all *Kafara* [unbelievers], whether pagans, Jews, or Christians. Only two years later, he died at the age of 64 in the year 632 AD. Islam since has spread and conquered from Mecca, with now about one billion Muslims worldwide.

In this book, Arabic words and quotations from the *Quran* will appear in *italics*. The translation used is that of Ustadh ABDULLAH YUSEF ALI by royal decree [No. 12412, dated 27/10/1405 AH] printed at King Fahd Holy *Quran* Printing Complex in *Al-Madinah Al-Munawarah*.

## 2

### Beliefs

#### The 5 Pillars of Islam

- [1] *Shahada* – The Creed
- [2] *Salat* – Prayers
- [3] *Zakat* – Alms
- [4] *Ramadhan* – The Fast
- [5] *Hajj* – Pilgrimage

#### The 6 Beliefs of Islam

##### Belief:

- [1] in one God
- [2] in His angels
- [3] in His scriptures
- [4] in His prophets
- [5] in the resurrection and day of judgment
- [6] in predestination [fate]

Islam appears to be uniform in its beliefs and practices worldwide. This is because their 5 Pillars are maintained

everywhere, not because there is true unity. There are three main divisions and one major differing persuasion among Muslims.

[1] Sunni These are the ones who follow the traditions of Muhammad contained in the *Sunna*.

[2] Shiites This group honors Ali, the cousin and son-in-law of Muhammad who married his daughter, Fatima. They believe that his descendants should be the leaders in the Muslim community. The last of the 12 *Imams*, *Al Mahdi*, is still believed to be alive and will return on the last day to restore justice to the earth.

[3] Kharijites Muslims who broke away from Ali and his followers are called by this name. They are strict, believing that the best Muslim should be the *Caliph* [successor to Muhammad], even if he be a lowly slave.

[4] Sufi Though not a separate group, they are of a different persuasion. Their desire is for a spiritual oneness with *Allah*. They are more interested in the qualities of love, peace, and patience. Doctrine is not as important to them as personal experience with God. Many of this persuasion are found in more animistic and religiously tolerant places in the world such as India and sub-Sahara Africa where local practices are mixed freely with their type of Islam.

# 3

## Definitions

The Muslim outlook must be understood in order to communicate the truth of Christ to him

**ABLUTION** Ceremonial washing of hands, eyes, ears, nose, mouth, and feet before the required prayers, five times daily.

**ABRAHAM** [*Ibrahim*] Abraham and his son, Ishmael [*Ismail*], were Muslims who laid the foundation of the Ka'ba and announced pilgrimage to it [S. 2:125-127; 22:26,27]. *Abraham was not a Jew nor yet a Christian; but he was upright, and bowed his will to Allah's, which is Islam. And he joined not gods with Allah* [S.3:67].

**ALLAH** The proper name of God in Arabic. Literally means, "The God." See **10 Is Allah the One True God?**

**ANGELS** [*Malika*] Messengers of Allah who are held in high regard, many times in a superstitious way. Sometimes they are communicated with by men. *The angels celebrate the Praises of their Lord, and pray for forgiveness for all beings on earth* [S.42:5].

**CREATION** Allah is the creator of all, though not everything was made at once. Evolution is part of his process. *It is Allah Who has created the heavens and the earth, and all between them, in six Days...the measure of which*

*is a thousand years of your reckoning* [S.32:4,5]. In Sura 70:4, a Day is as fifty thousand years.

**EDEN** A spiritual place other than earth. Gardens often picture heaven in the Quran and Eden is identified with that Paradise. *O Adam! Dwell thou and thy wife in the Garden...Then did Satan make them slip from the Garden...On earth will be your dwelling place* [S.2:35,36].

**HADJJ** Pilgrimage to Mecca taking place in the last month of the Islamic calendar. All Muslims are urged to make pilgrimage at least once in their lifetime. *Al Hadji* [the traveler] is the title given to pilgrims.

**HIJRAT/Hegira** The flight of Muhammad from Mecca in 622 AD to Medina. This is the date from which the Islamic calendar begins.

**HOLY SPIRIT** Generally is thought to refer to the Angel Gabriel who is the messenger of revelation from Allah [S.16:102] and the one who strengthened Jesus thereby [S.2:253].

**IBLIS** Satan. He refused to bow to Adam at God's command and was thus cast out of God's presence as a rebel [S.15:26-35; 38:74-77]. He tempts and leads men astray. *Iblis said: "O my Lord! Because Thou hast put me in the wrong, I will make wrong fair-seeming to them on the earth, and I will put them all in the wrong"* [S.15:39]. *Iblis said: "Then, by Thy Power, I will lead them all astray"* [S.38:82].

**IMAM** A teacher or leader in religion and group prayer.

**INJIL** The Gospel originally given to Jesus. Muslims believe that this original message given to Jesus has been corrupted by Christians, especially the Apostle Paul. The four gospels of the NT do not, then, contain that message according to them. Oh, what could be more misled! Even the Quran itself does not agree with this. *No change can there be in the Words of Allah. This is indeed the supreme triumph* [S..10:64]. *There is none that can alter the Words of Allah* [S.6:34].

**ISA** Jesus. It is unknown for certain how this name came to be used for Jesus. It may be because at the time of Muhammad some who were against the Christians had mockingly called Jesus “Esau.” Esau was rejected and hated by God [Mal.1:2,3] as Jesus was by them.

**ISLAM** Meaning, to submit. The one universal religion of all of *Allah's* prophets. Abraham, Moses, David, Jesus, and the Apostles were Muslims. *When Jesus found unbelief on their part He said: “Who will be My helpers to the work of Allah? Said the Disciples: “We are Allah’s helpers we believe in Allah, and do thou bear witness that we are Muslims”* [S.3:52].

**JIHAD** Fighting for the cause of truth or defense against unbelievers required by *Allah* of every Muslim. It involves mental, spiritual, and physical conflict using any and all means at hand [S.2:190-193; 8:12-14,67; 9:5,13,14,20,29; 47:4; 61:4; 66:9]. *O ye who believe! Fight the Unbelievers who are near to you and let them find harshness in you: and know that Allah is with those who fear Him* [S.9:123]. See **10 *Is Allah the One True God?***

**JINNS** A created definite race of personal living beings made out of fire [S.15:27]. They are morally accountable and may believe or disbelieve; not exactly spirits, demons, or powers. The English word “Genie” comes from this. Satan was one of the *Jinns* [S.18:50].

**JUDGMENT** *Allah* determines all. None can know before death what his fate may be. Oh, what a hopeless and cheerless religion of bondage is this Islam! *Those whose balance of good deeds is heavy; – they will be successful. But those whose balance is light, will be those who have lost their souls; in hell they will abide* [S.23:102,103].

**KA'BA** The enclosure in the sacred mosque in Mecca which is the center of Islam and pilgrimage. See ***Abraham*** and ***Hadij***.

**KAFARA** Unbelievers. *Kafara* are any pagans, Jews, Christians, or

unfaithful Muslims. Anyone who rejects faith, blasphemes, or says things that are unworthy of *Allah* are *Kafara*.

**MESSENGERS** Someone to whom *Allah* has revealed a Book. The main Messengers in Islam are Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad. Others include Noah, Lot, Joseph, David, Solomon, Jonah, and John the Baptist.

**MOSQUES** Places established for regular prayers. Only faithful Muslims are allowed to enter. *The mosques of Allah shall be visited and maintained by such as believe in Allah* [S.9:18]. Mecca is the most holy of the mosques.

**MUHAMMAD** The final and greatest Prophet of *Allah* who confirmed all the messages of the former prophets; the Seal of the Prophets. He corrected the twisting of the former prophets' messages by the *Kafara*, and established Islam as the one universal and true religion of all men. See **1 *Islam's Beginnings*** and **4 *In Islam, Who are Jesus & Muhammad?***

**MUSLIM** One who submits to *Allah* and his Messengers.

**PEOPLE OF THE BOOK** Jews and Christians who have distorted and lied about the Book of God. See ***Injil***. *There is among them a section who distort the Book with their tongues; as they read so that you would think it is a part of the Book, but it is no part of the Book; and they say, “That is from Allah,” but it is not from Allah: It is they who tell a lie against Allah, and well they know it!* [S.3:78]. Yet, true followers of Jesus are said to be full of compassion and mercy from God [S.57:27]. See ***Islam***.

**PRAYERS** Prayers are prescribed and memorized in Arabic. Sura 1 *Al Fatiha* is repeated five times daily. In verse 6 the Muslim repeats five times daily, *Show us the straight way*. A Muslim has no assurance of eternal life or sins forgiven. He will daily pray for the dead, especially the

Prophets. Oh, Christian! Do we not have a message of full and free pardon and cleansing through the Gospel of the Lord Jesus?

**PREDESTINATION** Fate. You will often hear the Muslim say, "It is the will of *Allah*," no matter what happens. *So Allah leads astray those whom he pleases and guides whom he pleases* [S.14:4].

**QUIBLA** Facing the direction of Mecca during prayers [S.2:142-144, 149].

**QURAN** Recitations. The perfect and final revelation of *Allah* to man, sent by Gabriel to Muhammad between the years of 610 and 632 AD. It was written down by Muhammad's followers at his dictation and collected into a book. The standard text was formed during the reign of *Caliph Uthman* between 644 and 656 AD. Copies of the *Quran* that had differences were then destroyed. Their claim is that it descended from *Allah* in its present form which has never been changed. *We [Allah] sent down the Quran in truth, and in truth has it descended* [S.17:105]. Thus the earthly bound volume is thought to be a copy of an eternal book kept in heaven, the Mother of the book; so they understand *Sura 85:21,22. Nay, this is a Glorious Quran, inscribed in a Tablet Preserved!* It is claimed that the *Quran* brings the same message as the previous Prophets and books. *Nothing is said to thee that was not said to the messengers before thee* [S.41:43].

**RAMADHAN** The ninth month of the Islamic calendar in which Muslims fast daily from dawn to dusk. Some view the fast as purification for sins committed during the previous year.

**SACRIFICE** is celebrating the name of *Allah* over suitable food which is offered in thanks to him. Sacrifice has nothing to do with forgiveness of sins, but is merely asking *Allah's* blessing on what is eaten and shared with the needy. *To every people did We appoint rites of sacrifice, that they might celebrate the name of Allah over the sustenance He gave them from animals fit for food...It is not their meat nor their blood, that reaches Allah: it is your piety that reaches Him...* [S.22:34,37]. See **7 The Trinity, Son of God, &**

## **Sacrifice.**

**SALLAH** The 10<sup>th</sup> day of pilgrimage month in which a ram is sacrificed to commemorate Abraham's sacrifice of his son whom Muslims believe to have been Ishmael.

**SHAHADA** The Creed: *There is one God, Allah, and Muhammad is his Prophet.* Some believe that the mere pronouncing of the words makes one a Muslim.

**SHARIA** Muslim law which is interpreted from [1] the *Quran* [2] the *Sunna* [3] Precedent decisions [4] the views of Muslim scholars and jurists.

**SIN** Ceremonial uncleanness constitutes serious transgression in Islam. Moral sins are also important to a Muslim, but a man's prayers will still be acceptable, though he is a cheat, if the proper rituals are performed.

**SUNNA** The traditions from Muhammad's teachings that were not part of the *Quran*.

**SURAT/Sura** A chapter of the *Quran*. Literally, a Step by which we mount up. The 114 chapters of the *Quran* were arranged under Muhammad's direction. *Sura 1* is repeated five times daily in prayer. *Sura 2* summarizes the main teaching of the entire *Quran*.

**ZAKAT** Charity. A definite portion of wealth which is given to the needy at the turn of the year.

# 4

## In Islam, Who are Jesus & Muhammad?

### Jesus

To call Jesus the Son of God is a monstrous blasphemy and an unforgivable sin. They say: “The Most Gracious has betaken a son!” Indeed ye have put forth a thing most monstrous! [S.19:88,89].

Muslims believe that Jesus is a direct Creation of Allah, like Adam, from the dust. *The similitude of Jesus before Allah is as that of Adam; he created him from dust, then said to him: “Be”: and he was* [S.3:59].

To them, Jesus is a Servant like all the Prophets and nothing more than another Messenger. *Christ the son of Mary was no more than a Messenger... [S.5:75]. He was no more than a servant... [S.43:59].*

Saying that there is a Trinity is blasphemy and unforgivable. *Whoever joins other gods with Allah, – Allah will forbid him the Garden, and the Fire will be his abode...They disbelieve who say: Allah is one of three in a Trinity: for there is no god except One God. If they desist not from their word of blasphemy, verily a grievous chastisement will befall the disbelievers among them* [S.5:72,73].

Neither Jesus nor Mary are gods. *And behold! Allah will say: “O Jesus the son of Mary! Didst thou say unto men, ‘Take me and my mother for two gods beside Allah?’” He will say: “Glory to Thee! Never could I say what I had no right to say... [S.5:116].*

Allah is not Christ. *They disbelieved indeed those that say that Allah is Christ the son of Mary... [S.5:17].*

Jesus was not Crucified. *That they said in boast, “We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah”; – but they killed him not, nor crucified him. Only a likeness of that was shown to them. And those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no certain knowledge but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not [S.4:157].*

It was impossible for Jesus to Bear the Burden of anyone’s sin. *No bearer of burdens can bear the burden of another [S.53:38].*

Jesus was Ignorant of what was in Allah’s heart. [Jesus is described as saying] *Thou knowest what is in my heart, though I know not what is in Thine* [S.5:116].

Jesus prophesied the coming of Ahmad [Muhammad]. *Remember Jesus, the son of Mary, said: “O children of Israel! I am the messenger of Allah sent to you, confirming the Taurat [Moses’ Law] which came before me, and giving Glad Tidings of a messenger to come after me, whose name shall be Ahmad* [S.61:6].



# Muhammad

## He is called:

The unlettered Prophet [S.7:158], a witness, bearer of glad tidings, and a warning [S.48:8], a favor on believers [S.3:164] a mercy [S.9:61], an example [S.33:21], messenger to all men [S.34:28], the *Seal of the Prophets* [i.e. the final one] [S.33:40], but no more than a messenger [S.3:144]

## He was to:

Make the religion of truth prevail over all religion [S.61:9]

## He was not:

Mad [S.7:184], possessed [S.68:2], a forger [S.46:8], a poet [S.69:41], a soothsayer [S.69:42], an inventor of the *Quran's* message [S.69:44], a falsifier [S.53:11], bringing a word from Satan [S.81:25]

## It is claimed:

Inspiration came to him [S.18:110], he was mentioned in the Law and the Gospel [S.7:157] as the Prophet like unto Moses [Deut.18:18] and as the Helper/Holy Spirit [Jn.14:26; 15:26; 16:7,13] Muslims are to swear faith/loyalty to him [S.48:18]

# 5

## Preaching to Muslims

For a Muslim to convert to the Lord Jesus Christ from Islam is not an overnight process. Many stumbling blocks of misconceptions need to be overcome.

Consistent, loving, and patient exposure of the Word of God to the Muslim is the key to reaching him for Christ. Most have heard virtually nothing directly of Jesus' teaching. Ignorance and bias colors their thinking about both the Lord Jesus and Christians.

In order to diffuse these ideas, love, patience, respect and honor, forthrightness, and perseverance are the essential qualities needed for this work. A gradual approach of **Taste and see that the Lord is good** [Ps.34:8], goes a long way in enlightening them to a true understanding of things.

Their own *Quran* enjoins Muslims to *invite all to the way of the Lord with wisdom and beautiful preaching; and argue with them in ways that are best and most gracious* [S.16:125]. The Word of God directs the Christian to **not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth** [2 Tim.2:24,25].

Muslim evangelism is no quick fix. Unless the gospel worker is prepared to invest in a long-term commitment, he will see little, if any, fruit for his labors.

Everything the gospel worker does, says, and his attitudes will be carefully watched by the Muslim. He will be looking for consistency and

genuine concern in the Christian, as well as for faults and ignorance.

The Scripture says to **honor all men** [I Pet.2:17]. This is particularly important with the Muslim who will quickly be offended by religious arrogance or disregard for his beliefs or his person.

### Things to Avoid

Do not enter into discussions without prayer, both beforehand and during. To leave this off is spiritual foolishness.

Arguments, with their lack of patience and self-control, are worse than useless. Unless we are **speaking the truth in love** [Eph.4:15], we are no better than a noisy gong and clanging cymbal [I Cor.13:1]; both of which drive the listener away with fingers in his ears.

It is better to open the Word of God and show the Muslim the actual text than to quote from memory. He already believes that the People of the Book distort the message of God. Let him see the Word for himself. Any passages that he may refer to should be looked up also.

Attempts to invite him to your church meetings will not be successful. In his mind, to enter a mosque is to become a Muslim and to enter a church is to become a Christian. Conversion takes place before participating in Christian gatherings.

Do not be lured into reciting the *Shahada* out loud. A serious Muslim is ever as much an evangelist of his religion as is a serious Christian. He may try to get you to do so, thinking to “convert” you to Islam thereby. Simply politely explain, “I am a Christian and do not believe in your creed. It would not be right for me to pretend that I did.”

It is not advisable to carry a *Quran* along with your Bible when speaking the gospel to Muslims. Attention will definitely be drawn away from the Scriptures and their message. The Muslim may even think that you consider both as equally holy books and inspired by God.

As the Scriptures say, women should not teach men [I Tim.2:11,12]. This is especially so in a Muslim context where all religious teaching is done by men. For a Christian woman to preach to Muslim men will be resisted and despised from the outset. Likewise, Christian

men attempting to discuss privately with Muslim women will be strongly opposed and misinterpreted by their Muslim men.

### Things to Encourage

**Let the Word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another** [Col.3:16]. A shallow Christian with superficial understanding of the Word of God will be disregarded and despised by the Muslim as not being a serious person.

Expose the Muslim to the actual Word of God. This is what is **living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword** [Heb.4:12], not our wisdom or clever arguments.

A general familiarity with Islam and the *Quran* is most helpful in meaningful communication. Particularly, those verses in the *Quran* that can serve as bridges to Gospel truth are most helpful. See **6 Using the Quran to Preach Jesus**. This is only as a point of reference that leads from the known to the unknown. The *Quran* is not the Word of God and the Christian should not make it appear that it is. The Muslim’s own holy book cannot be argued with though he may be disturbed by this “new” presentation of Jesus from it.

### Similarities Between Judaism and Islam

There are many parallels between the Judaism of Jesus’ day and Islam. Both emphasize an external religion of human merit along with hatred for the Son of God.

In both, they have their Creed. Prayers are regularly scheduled and facing the sacred centers of their faiths; Jerusalem and Mecca. Ceremonial washings are required by both [Mk.7:2-8].

Fasting figures significantly in each. The giving of alms is prominent. Both have pilgrimage to their sacred center of worship; to Jerusalem three times a year [Ex.23:14-17], and for the Muslim to Mecca.

In each, Christians are persecuted unto death, thinking God is being served by doing so [Jn.16:2,3]. They are agreed that confessing Jesus

as the Son of God is blasphemy [Jn.5:18; 10:33,36].

Considering these obvious parallels, the teaching of the Lord Jesus in the Gospels takes on added significance as it relates to Muslim evangelism. The Gospels [*Injil*] are very relevant and powerful places to preach from the words of Jesus Himself.

It is noteworthy that the Lord Jesus did not hesitate to speak about those things which directly confronted the Jews' false concepts. Their view of God was lacking as well as that of the nature of true religion. They certainly had no true concept of who Jesus actually is.

Nevertheless, He did not avoid referring to Himself as the Son of God, as much as they may have disliked it. He clearly and lovingly spoke the truth so as to expose the emptiness of their external religion.

The Muslim does not know the message of Jesus whom he considers to be a true Prophet of *Allah*. He is often surprised when he hears Jesus' teaching for the first time.

Our Lord often emphasized the condition of one's heart before God in contrast to mere external religious ceremony such as in the Sermon on the Mount recorded in Mt.5-7. John's Gospel clearly reveals Jesus as the Son of God and uses many illustrations and figures of speech which readily appeal to the Muslim mind.

## 6

### *Using the Quran to Preach Jesus*

Jesus is described in the *Quran* in many incorrect ways. Some of the descriptions, however, at least introduce a concept that somewhat relates to the true biblical revelation of Christ in the Word of God. These can be used to begin a discussion about who Jesus really is.

### *Jesus*

Is the **LIGHT** by which you shall walk straight in your path. *He will provide for you a Light by which ye shall walk straight in your path, and He will forgive you your past* [S.57:28]. **Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life** [Jn.8:12]. Jesus is the **Sun of Righteousness** [Mal.4:2] . Lesser lights are not needed when the Sun has risen in its strength. The moon fades into obscurity in the Light of the Sun. The moon only reflects the Light it has received from the Sun. This is how the Prophets are. The light of the moon [the Prophets] cannot bring life. Only Jesus, the Light of the world, brings warmth and Life.

Was given a **GOSPEL**. *We [Allah] sent Jesus the son of Mary, confirming the Torah that had come before him: We sent him the Gospel: therein was guidance and light. And confirmation of the Torah that had come before him: a guidance and an admonition to those who fear Allah. Let the People of the Gospel judge*

by what Allah hath revealed therein. If any do fail to judge by what Allah hath revealed, they are those who rebel [S.5:46,47]. God gave to Jesus the Gospel which is guidance and light. Do you know what this Gospel is? Jesus summarizes His Gospel in these words: **Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My Word and believes in Him who sent Me has eternal life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life** [Jn.5:24].

Is to be **HONORED** by those nearest to God. *Behold! The angels said: "O Mary! Allah giveth thee glad tidings of a Word from Him: his name will be Christ Jesus, the son of Mary, held in honour in this world and the Hereafter and of the company of those nearest to Allah* [S.3:45]. *And those Foremost in Faith will be Foremost in the Hereafter. These will be those Nearest to Allah: in Gardens of Bliss* [S.56:10-12]. Even those closest to God, among even the Prophets, are to give highest honor to Christ Jesus the Lord. **For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son, so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him** [Jn.5:22,23].

Is the **SPIRIT** proceeding from God. *...Christ Jesus the son of Mary was no more than a Messenger of Allah, and His Word, which He bestowed on Mary, and a Spirit proceeding from Him...* [S.4:171]. The Spirit is the very essence; one's own self. **And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power...** [Heb.1:3].

Never sinned. He is **HOLY**. [Gabriel says to Mary] *He said: "Nay, I am only a messenger from thy Lord to announce to thee the gift of a pure son* [S.19:19]. Jesus said that He never sinned. **The Father has not left me alone, for I always do those things that please Him** [Jn.8:29]. Gabriel said so. **The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God"** [Lk. 1:35]. God Himself said the same. **This is my beloved Son in whom I am well**

**pleased** [Mt.3:17]. Even Jesus' enemies could point out no sin that He had committed. [Jesus said] **Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me?** [Jn.8:46]. Which kind of man is it that has never sinned? His is unique among all the Prophets.

Was **RAISED** up by God to Himself. *Behold! Allah said: "O Jesus! I will take thee and raise thee to Myself and clear thee of the falsehoods of those who blaspheme* [S.3:55]. *Allah raised him up unto Himself...* [S.4:158]. Which Prophet is alive but Jesus Himself? **God raised up His Servant Jesus and sent Him to bless you by turning every one of you from your wicked ways** [Acts 3:26].

The **SON of GOD**. Gabriel was sent to Mary *...to announce to thee the gift of a pure son* [S.19:19]. The Muslim will emphatically tell you that nowhere is Jesus ever called Son of God in the *Quran*. Here, Gabriel himself refers to Jesus as the son given by God. It must be clearly stated to the Muslim that this is in no physical sense, but rather a description of the closest possible relationship. A son partakes of the essential qualities of his father. In Middle Eastern expression, a traveler is called "a son of the road," a desert dweller as "a son of the desert," and a rogue as "a son of the wind." James and John were called **the Sons of Thunder** [Mk.3:17]. Certainly in none of these descriptions are we to think of them in any literal and physical sense; so too in the Scriptures when referring to Jesus as Son of God. **These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life** [I Jn.5:13]. See **7 The Trinity, Son of God, & Sacrifice**, and **9 Jesus in the Word of God**.

Is the **WORD**. *Behold! The angels said: "O Mary! Allah giveth thee glad tidings of a Word from Him: his name will be Christ Jesus, the son of Mary, held in honour in this world and the Hereafter and of the company of those nearest to Allah* [S.3:45]. **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth** [Jn.1:1,14]. Our word expresses our

true self and cannot be separated from who we actually are. Jesus, as the Word, expresses the true life, nature, and heart of God. **No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten Son who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him [Jn.1:18]. See 7 *The Trinity, Son of God, & Sacrifice.***

Is to be **OBEYED**. *When Jesus came with Clear Signs, he said: "Now have I come to you with Wisdom, and in order to make clear to you some of the points on which ye dispute: therefore fear Allah and obey me" [S.43:63]. He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the Word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day [Jn.12:48].* The Word and message of Jesus must first be known before it can be obeyed. Do you know what commands God gave Jesus for you to obey?

Is a **MERCY** from God. Gabriel said to Mary ... *We wish to appoint him as a Sign unto men and a Mercy from us: It is a matter so decreed [S.19:21]. Surely the greatest mercy God can show man is that of forgiveness of sins and entrance into His presence. How can forgiveness of sins be obtained? Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My Word and believes in Him who sent Me has eternal life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life [Jn.5:24].*

Sent as a **PROPHET**. Jesus said *I am indeed a servant of Allah: He hath given me Revelation and made me a prophet [S.19:30].* Every Prophet had a message from God. Do you know what His was? **Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people [Lk.24:19].**

**CHRIST**. *Behold! The angels said: "O Mary! Allah giveth thee glad tidings of a Word from Him: his name will be Christ Jesus, the son of Mary, held in honour in this world and the Hereafter and of the company of those nearest to Allah [S.3:45].* What do the prophets say would be the mission of the Christ? **And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory? Then**

**beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures...All things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."** Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins should be preached in His name among all nations" [Lk.24:25-27, 44-47].

Will come again as **JUDGE**. *And Jesus shall be a Sign for the coming of the Hour Of Judgment: Therefore have no doubt about the Hour, but follow ye Me: this is a Straight Way [S.43:61].* The Judge knows all men, their thoughts, actions, and motives. He has authority to act and His Word is final. **Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man who He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead [Acts 17:30,31].**

The message to all true believers in God is to:  
*Believe in the scripture which He sent to those before him*  
[that is, before Muhammad. S.4:136]

Do you believe the Word of God, the Gospel, given by Jesus?  
God commands that you do.

# 7

## The Trinity, Son of God, & Sacrifice

Concepts about the nature of God, Christ, and sacrifice are difficult for the mind of man to grasp. These subjects are particularly so for the Muslim. The following are the three key stumbling blocks in presenting the Gospel to Muslims. Each is presented in a conversational style that can be readily adapted in personal discussions.

### Trinity

The concept of the Trinity is an abomination to the Muslim who imagines the Christian to be worshiping three deities, one of whom is Mary. See **4 In Islam, Who are Jesus & Muhammad?** In explaining the Trinity to Muslims, the following will be helpful.

“We Christians believe that God is One. The Word of God tells us this. **Hear O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is One!** [Deut.6:4]. Isaiah the prophet wrote these words **I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides Me there is no God** [Isa.45:5].

“We do not worship three Gods. We worship the One true and living God and none other.

“Think with me for a moment about this imagined situation. You have been invited to give a speech before a large audience. But unfortunately, circumstances arose which would not allow you to attend.

“So, in order not to disappoint, you carefully write down the

exact words of your speech and send it in your absence. Your word is the expression of everything you would have said if you were there yourself.

“Your word communicates yourself, your very spirit. It reveals all that you are and really cannot be isolated from yourself. You, your word, and your spirit are one.

“You are not three, as if there were you, your word, and your spirit. You are one. Yet your body without your spirit is not you, neither could your spirit be without your body. But no one could truly know you apart from your word.

“All three are needed; yet you are not three, but one. Apart from your word, your spirit remains hidden though your body is seen. Without the live-giving spirit, neither your word nor body could be. Without your body, your spirit could not express itself in words.

“This is what is meant by Trinity: Not three Gods, but One; God, His Word, and His Spirit. Christians call these Father, Son [Jesus, the Word], and Holy Spirit. God is One and we worship Him as such.

“Let me just ask you this. Are your words really different than you? Is the spirit dwelling in your body something besides your own self? Is your body separate from who you are? No, you are one and not three.

“My friend, God is far greater, more exalted, and eternally other than man. If we, mere creatures, have deep mysteries about our own being, how much more so the One true and living God? What a man can invent, he can explain; what he can't, he cannot have invented. This is Revelation about God too wonderful for our complete understanding.”

### Jesus as Son of God

Muslims have a great misunderstanding about what is meant by calling Jesus the Son of God. To them, it is claiming that God performed a physical sexual act to conceive a child. This is an abhorrent blasphemy because *It is not fitting to the majesty of Allah that He should beget a son* [S.19:35].

Any who say that Jesus is the Son of God bring the curse of *Allah* upon themselves which will cast them into hell. *The Christians call Christ*

the Son of Allah. That is a saying from their mouth; in this they but imitate what the Unbelievers of old used to say. Allah's curse be on them: how they are deluded away from the Truth [S.9:30].

They will insist that Jesus is never referred to as the Son of God either in the *Quran* or by Jesus Himself. He is merely a servant of God and it was others, the *Kafara*, who called him Son of God. See **9 Jesus in the Word of God**.

As such, the Christian must carefully explain this title of Jesus to the Muslim or an insurmountable stumbling block will remain. The following will be most helpful in doing this.

“My friend, we know that it is not possible for God to beget a son as a man begets a son. This could never be. God is incapable of such a physical act and we must never think of God in this way. No Christian would ever think such a blasphemous thing of the true and living God.

“Yet we must inquire carefully about the birth of Jesus, for no one was ever born as He was. It is the angel Gabriel who has told us much about Jesus' birth. Gabriel appeared to the pure virgin Maryam with this message, *He said: “Nay, I am only a messenger from thy Lord to announce to thee the gift of a pure son [S.19:19].*

“How is it possible for this pure virgin to have a son since she knew no man? Gabriel again gives us the answer. **The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God” [Lk.1:35].**

This Holy Son resulted from the power of God. It was a miraculous act of the Holy Spirit of God Most High. Jesus' birth was a great miracle and a great mystery. How this came about only God knows.

“But we must ask ourselves this question. Since Jesus is called “Son” by Gabriel himself, both in the *Quran* and in the *Injil*, whose Son is He?

“We know that Jesus had no human father; that is very clear. It is not Joseph, then, who was His father. Was Gabriel His father? No, certainly not. He himself said that he was only a messenger sent to announce the *gift of a pure son [S.19:19].*

“The gift came, not from Gabriel, but from God. God gave the gift of this pure son. The gift was His. The Son was His. Jesus was the Son of God. What does God mean when He calls Jesus His Son?

“When we speak about a son we say that he is the very image of his father. He has the authority and right to represent his father and speak on his behalf. His word is the same as hearing that of his father. To see the son is to see the father. No one is as close to the father as is his son. The son is the heir of the father's estate. To honor the son is to honor the father.

“This is what Christians mean when we say that Jesus is the Son of God. He is unique. No one else is like Him in relationship to God or with men. Here is how the *Injil* describes Him:

**“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe.**

**“The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word.**

**“After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So He became as much superior to the angels as the name He has inherited is superior to theirs.**

**“For to which of the angels did God ever say, ‘You are My Son; today I have become your Father’? And again, ‘I will be His Father and He will be My Son’? And again, when God brings His firstborn into the world, He says, ‘Let all God's angels worship Him’” [Heb.1:1-6].**

## Sacrifice

The concept of sacrifice in Islam is nothing like that found in the Old or New Testaments. The slaying of an animal is never done with any idea that the blood shed will forgive or cleanse away sin. To them, it is unworthy of *Allah* to suggest that he requires shed blood in order to forgive. *To every people did We appoint rites of sacrifice, that they might celebrate the name of Allah over the sustenance He gave them from animals fit for*

food...It is not their meat nor their blood, that reaches Allah: it is your piety that reaches Him... [S.22:34,37].

Thus the OT sacrifices as a basis of sins being forgiven is rejected and even scoffed at by the typical Muslim. The Christian's oft repeated statement, "Christ shed His blood on the cross to forgive our sins," is a foolish impossibility in the Muslim mind. He will often attempt to "prove" the absurdity of this by quoting from Ezek.18:20, **The son will not bear the punishment for the father's iniquity.**

He will say, "You call Jesus the Son of God and Adam as the father of the sinfulness of all men. The Bible says that the son cannot bear the iniquity of the father, so how can Jesus' supposed death pay the price for Adam's sin?"

He does not believe that Jesus actually died on the cross. Sura 4:157 says, in part, *They killed him not, nor crucified him.* Islam rejects the concept of vicarious atonement [bearing sins in another's behalf] citing places like Sura 53:38, *No bearer of burdens can bear the burden of another.*

It is most important, therefore, to establish the true nature of sacrifice from the text of the Word of God itself. A most effective way is described below from the lives of the following men, who are considered to be true prophets of God.

"My friend, let us consider what God Himself tells us about sacrifice through the lives of His Prophets. From the very beginning we can learn about this by looking at what He did for His servant, Adam.

"Because of his sin against God, he became guilty, knowing that he was naked before God. Adam made his own coverings to try and hide his shame. **They sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves** [Gen.3:7].

"God, however, was not satisfied with man's efforts to cover his guilt and shame. The Lord Himself provided for them coverings which met with his approval. Here is what God did. **The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them** [Gen.3:21].

"God rejected Adam's own attempts to cover his sin. God then provided for man what He accepted. The skins were obtained from slain animals. God Himself shed their blood that Adam's guilt of sin might be

covered.

"We next learn about which type of sacrifices God accepts. We read this in the Word of God from the life of Abel, His servant, and from his brother, Cain. Both brought their sacrifices to God. Abel's was pleasing to the Lord while Cain's was rejected.

"Abel brought the sacrifice of a lamb whose blood was shed, while Cain brought the fruit of his own toil, similar to what his father, Adam, had done. The Lord had no regard for Adam's efforts, and He discarded Cain's also. This is what the Scriptures tell us:

**The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering He did not look with favor. Then the Lord said to Cain, "If you do what is right, will you not be accepted?"** [Gen.4:4-6].

"Cain's sacrifice was suitable food which was offered up to God with thanks, but it was rejected by the Lord. God only accepts what He Himself has shown us from the very beginning; the shedding of blood to cover the guilt of our sinfulness.

"Our father, Abraham, was directed by God to offer up his son as a sacrifice to the Lord. As he and his son walked along, his son inquired where the sacrifice was. **Abraham said, "God will provide for Himself that lamb for the burnt offering** [Gen.22:8].

As he was about to slay his son, **the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham! Do not stretch out your hand against the lad, for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son from Me.**

**Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horn; and Abraham went and took the ram and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son** [Gen.22:11-13].

"My friend, here we learn something very significant about the nature of true sacrifice to God. The ram was slain in the place of the son. The lamb died instead of the person so that the man might be set free from the judgment about to come upon him.

"The death of the lamb was accepted as a substitute in the place of the one who was condemned to death. The *Quran* describes it in this way, *We ransomed him with a momentous sacrifice* [S.37:107]. The lad would



not be offered again since the lamb had taken his place. This judgment would never face him again because God provided for Himself a lamb of sacrifice which was acceptable in His sight.

“Moses, the Prophet of God, reveals to us an additional truth about the sacrifice that the Lord receives. God was about to judge the land of Egypt for all of its wickedness. The Word of God tells us how the believers in the Lord would be spared from the wrath of God.

**They are each one to take a lamb for themselves. Then the whole assembly of the congregation is to kill it at twilight. Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the house where they eat the lambs.**

**The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt [Ex.12:3,6,7,13].**

“Here, the blood of the sacrifice is what saved them from destruction and judgment. The blood of the lamb was their protection from the wrath of God coming upon the unbelievers. It is when the Lord saw the blood applied to where they lived that they were saved.

“All of these things were instructing us about the sacrifice that God accepts. They were preparing the way for the coming of the Lord’s final sacrifice, the one that forgives sins once and for all. The Prophet of God, Isaiah, spoke in great detail about this final sacrifice hundreds of years before God would send Him. Listen to the Word of God:

**Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high. Just as many were astonished at you, so His visage was marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men; so shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; for what had not been told them they shall see, and what they had not heard they shall consider.**

**Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; and when we see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him.**

**He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of Sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He**

**was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.**

**But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray. We have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**

He was oppressed and He was afflicted. Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.

He was taken away from prison and judgment, and who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgressions of My people He was stricken. And they made His grave with the wicked – but with the rich at His death, because He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.

**Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You made His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand.**

**He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities.**

Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many. And made intercession for the transgressors [Isa. 52:13-15; 53:1-12].

“These wonderful Words of God about the Servant of the Lord reveal many things. They show us that it was the purpose of God Himself to make His Servant a sacrifice for sins. This Servant was pierced for our iniquities. He was like a lamb sacrificed to bear the sins of others.

“Who was this Servant? How could a Servant of God become a sacrifice to forgive sins?

“Hear the Words of God given to His Prophet John. The next

day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” [Jn.1:29]. Jesus is the Servant of God who became the final sacrifice to take away our sins.

“It is quite true that no sinful man could ever bear the sins of another because each has his own sins to bear. But Jesus is not sinful as are all other men and the prophets themselves. No, He is unique. He is the *gift of a pure son* [S.19:19].

He alone of all men never once needed to ask forgiveness. No verse in all of the Word of God or the *Quran* can be found where Jesus ever asked forgiveness for His sins.

He had none. God Himself said, **This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased** [Mt.3:17]. Jesus said of Himself, **I always do the things that are pleasing to Him** [Jn.8:29]. To His own enemies Jesus asked them, **Which one of you convicts Me of sin?** [Jn.8:46].

“Jesus had no sins of His own, so He alone of all men was qualified to bear the sins of others. None of the Prophets could do this, for they all had their own burdens of sins to bear.

“He was the prophesied Lamb of God who took away the sin of the world. He was the fulfillment of all that had been prophesied about the Servant of the Lord who would bear the punishment for man’s sins.

“No one took His life from Him. He was not the victim of the schemes of evil men. He volunteered to die for the sins of all men. It was His free choice to substitute Himself in the place of condemned humanity. Abraham’s ram was a substitute, but not of its own choice.

“Jesus, however, gave Himself freely to die in the place of sinful men. This is what He says, **I lay down My life so that I may take it again. No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father** [Jn.10:17,18].

“It was the will of God that He do so. It was the eternal purpose of God that He should offer Himself as a sinless substitute for the sins of man in order that they be forgiven. This is what Christians mean when they say ‘The blood of Jesus cleanses from all sin.’”

## 8

### *A Message to Preach*

## What do you Think About Christ?

### *A Salaam Alechem*

**P**ease, it is a lovely greeting. Better still is to have a heart that is at peace with the true and living God. He alone can grant such peace. Do you know the way to peace?

Throughout history, the one true God has given His message to His Prophets. Abraham spoke for God as did Moses, John, Jesus, and others. Since God is One, their messages will harmonize as one. There will not be conflict or confusion between them.

God commands all believers to *believe in the scripture which He sent before him* [S.4:136]. Jesus said, **Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill** [Mt.5:17].

We are to believe what the Prophets have said. We know many things about Abraham. The life and message of Moses is well known. You may be able to tell us many things about some of the other Prophets.

But can you tell us about the Prophet Jesus? Of Jesus the *Quran* says, *We sent him the Gospel: therein was guidance and light* [S.5:46]. What is the message of this Gospel that all men are to believe?

My sincere desire is that no one misleads you about Him. I want

you to hear what the Word of God tells us about Him.

Do not think that He is merely one of the Prophets, simply another Servant of God. No, He is unique; none can compare with Him.

Let us consider together what the Word of God says, that we might know the truth about His unique Life as the Light of men.

### My friend, What do you think about His BIRTH?

Jesus is called the son of Mary. It is the father after whom the son is named. Ismael is called the son of Abraham. John, the son of Zacharias. Muhammad, the son of Abdullah. Strange that Jesus is called son of Mary.

But it is only strange until we realize that He was born, not by a human father, but by the power of God. The pure virgin Mary was His mother. Apart from any physical contact, God Himself performed a holy act by His power to bring about His birth.

The angel Gabriel said to Mary, **the Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God** [Lk.1:35].

All men, like Adam who was fashioned from the clay, are earthy and of the earth. Jesus is called "He who descended." Jesus said, **No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven: The Son of Man** [Jn.3:13]. Jesus said, **I am the living Bread that came down out of heaven** [Jn.6:51].

Only One who comes down from above, who is pure like the sun or the rain, can bring help from above. Gabriel says Jesus is *the gift of a pure son* [S.19:19]. Yes, **Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners** [I Tim.1:15].

He alone, from above, can reach down to save those struggling in the mire of sin below. Even the greatest of the Prophets could not deliver their fellows, for they too were of the earth. There is none to compare with him in His birth.

### My friend, What do you think about His CHARACTER?

Here was someone who was perfect in every way. He never once sinned or made a mistake. What kind of man was He who never needed to ask forgiveness? All other men who fear God regularly confess their sins and ask forgiveness. Some have admitted to asking forgiveness seventy times each day.

The Prophet Solomon said, **Who can say, "I have cleansed my heart, I am pure from my sin?"** [Prov.20:9]. However Jesus said even to His own enemies, **Which one of you convicts Me of sin?** [Jn.8:46]. Nowhere in the Bible or in the *Quran* is there found even one verse where Jesus asked forgiveness of God. He alone, of all men and among all the Prophets, was without sin.

### My friend, What do you think about His CLAIMS?

Jesus said, **I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the Light of life** [Jn.8:12].

Have you ever watched the crescent moon shine greater and greater across the month's night sky? It shines brightest at full moon, then declines and dies. But another moon arises in its place next month to shine its light upon this darkened world.

This is how the Prophets are. They shine their light from God for awhile into this world of darkness and then pass from the scene. They help us to see along our way for a time. But when the Sun has arisen, no man needs the lesser light of the moon any longer.

Jesus is the Light of the world. The Sun never becomes old or wears out. It shines upon every man in every land and shall never die. Only the Sun provides the Light of Life. This, the moon can never do. The moon only reflects the Light it has received from the Sun. The Sun is the life-giving source of Light itself. This is who Jesus is.

Jesus also said, **I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life; no man comes to the Father but by Me** [Jn.14:6]. Other prophets were sent to point the way to God. Jesus said, **I am the Way**. No other prophet would dare say such a thing. His claims are like no other claims.

### My friend, What do you think about His NAMES & TITLES?

Each of the Prophets had a special name given by God. Moses is called the spokesman [*kalim*] with God. Still others are referred to as *Ruh Allah* and *Habib Allah*. Now, which one of these two does someone love more, a friend [*Habib*] or his very self, his own spirit [*Ruh*]?

Be honest with your own heart as you think about this. Yes, we love our own spirit, our very self, more than even the closest friend. It is *Sura 4:171* that calls Jesus, *Ruh Allah*.

God Himself said of Jesus, **This is My beloved Son: Hear Him** [Lk.9:35]. The *Quran* tells us that Gabriel was sent to *announce to you the gift of a pure son* [S.19:19].

Isaiah told us about this gift of a Son. **For a child will be born to us, a Son will be given to us; and the government will rest upon His shoulders. And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace** [Isa.9:6]. What does God mean when He calls Jesus His Son?

When we speak about a son we say that he is the very image of his father. He has the authority and right to represent his father and speak on his behalf. His word is the same as hearing that of his father. To see the son is to see the father. No one is as close to the father as is his son. The son is the heir of the father's estate. To honor the son is to honor the father.

This is what Christians mean when we say that Jesus is the Son of God. He is unique. No one else is like Him in relationship to God or with men. Here is how the *Injil* describes Him:

**In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken**

to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe.

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word.

After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So He became as much superior to the angels as the name He has inherited is superior to theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say: "You are My Son; today I have become your Father"? And again, "I will be His Father and He will be My Son"? And again, when God brings His firstborn into the world, He says, "Let all God's angels worship Him" [Heb.1:1-6].

Jesus Himself said, **I am the Resurrection and the Life** [Jn.11:25]. He is the One who will raise the Prophets and all men on the last day. He is able now to give new life, a clean life, eternal life to all who will receive Him and His Words from God. None can compare with Him in His names and titles.

### My friend, What do you think about His DEATH?

Death is a great mystery to us. Which one of us knows when we will die? Who knows how you will die or where? God knows all these things, we do not know.

The Lord Jesus is different than all others. He knew. He predicted beforehand where He would die, and how, and when, and why.

Listen to what He said to His disciples, **We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock Him, insult Him, spit on Him, flog Him, and kill Him. On the third day He will rise again** [Lk.18:31-33].

This death of Jesus was prophesied long beforehand in the Psalms of David that the *Quran* tells us, *To David We gave the Psalms* [S.4:163]. Here is part of David's prophesy about Jesus' very words at the cross, **They pierced My hands and My feet** [Ps.22:16].

No one took His life from Him. He was not the victim of evil men's schemes. He volunteered to die for the sins of all men. It was His free choice to substitute Himself in the place of condemned humanity. Abraham's ram was a substitute, but not of its own choice.

Jesus, however, gave Himself freely to die in the place of sinful men. This is what He says, **I lay down My life so that I may take it again. No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father [Jn.10:17,18].**

No one ever died as He died. The prophet John said of Jesus, **Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world [Jn.1:29].**

Where will you spend eternity after you die? This you do not know. God decides. But the wonderful Gospel given to Jesus tells us we can know in this life where we will spend the next. Listen to Jesus' own words, **I tell you the truth, whoever hears My Word and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life and does not come into judgment: he has crossed over from death to life [Jn.5:24].** There is none that can compare with Him in His death.

### **My friend, What do you think about His RESURRECTION?**

After His death, men did their best to keep Jesus in the grave. Soldiers were ordered to guard His tomb. There was no question in anyone's mind that He was dead.

But three days later, Jesus was raised from the dead just as He had said. An angel sent from God met His followers at the grave on that third day.

The angel said to them, **Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying [Mt.28:5,6].** *Sura 4:158 says, Allah raised him up to Himself.*

We must all face the great enemy, death. All of the Prophets died

and so must you and I. Jesus alone has conquered death. He alone is the living One among all the Prophets.

Only Jesus can save from death and sin. He is alive and able to deliver us. There is none like Him in His resurrection.

### **My friend, What do you think about His RETURN?**

Jesus said He would come to earth again. **I will come again and take you to be with Me [Jn.14:3].** Angels told His followers that He would return. **This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way you have seen Him go into heaven [Acts 1:11].** The *Quran* directs believers to follow Him in light of His coming in the Day of Judgment. *And Jesus shall be a Sign for the coming of the Hour Of Judgment: Therefore have no doubt about the Hour, but follow ye Me: this is a Straight Way [S.43:61].*

When He comes, everyone will stand before Him as Judge of all. You will see Him face to face. He will say to you, "What do you believe about Me?" He will ask you, "Do you know My Words, have you kept My commandments?"

Do you know what you will say? If you say that He is just one among many prophets, you will be condemned. No, He is unique. There is no one like Him.

No one else has come from above, pure and without sin. No other of the Prophets claimed to be the Savior. None of them have been raised from the dead.

Who is coming back as earth's King and Judge? Is it Moses, or Abraham, or one of the other Prophets? No, it will be the Lord Jesus Christ who will be earth's King, Judge, and Lord.

There is no one like Him in heaven or earth.

My friend, what do you think about Jesus now? I'm sure you have many questions. Let us continue to discuss these things together from the Word of God.

May the Lord bless His Word to your heart.

# 9

## Jesus in the Word of God

At the Name of

J E S U S

every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that

J E S U S C H R I S T I S L O R D

[Phil.2:10,11]

**J** IN THE WORD OF GOD, JESUS IS REFERRED TO AS:

**ADVOCATE** [I Jn.2:1] **And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.** The legal counsel appointed for defense. Jesus represents believers before the court of heaven and assures our acceptance before God by His own righteousness.

**ALPHA & OMEGA** [Rev.22:13] **I am the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.** Jesus is Eternal, One in essence with the Father, and sovereign over all creation. Compare Rev.1:8,17 and Isa.41:4; 44:6.

**AMEN** [Rev.3:14] **The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the beginning of the creation of God.** The assurance and fulfiller of the promises of God [see 2 Cor.1:20]. The ultimate Truth, the source, and Creator of everything in heaven and earth [see Jn.1:3; Col.1:15].

**BEGINNING & END** See ALPHA & OMEGA

**BEGINNING of the Creation of God** See AMEN.

**BRANCH** [Isa.11:1,2. See v.1-5] **Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch from his roots will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him. [Jer.23:5,6] I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; and He will reign as king and act wisely. [Zech.3:8,9] I am going to bring in my Servant the Branch...and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day. [Zech.6:12,13] Behold, a Man whose name is Branch...He will build the temple of the Lord.** [All references to Jesus as the Branch are Isa.4:3; 11:1-5; 53:2; Jer.23:5,6; 33:15,16; Zech.3:8; 6:12,13]. The One who springs forth in freshness of life from a dry and deadened condition. Job 14:7-9 gives the imagery for this.

**BREAD** [Jn.6:51] **from heaven [Jn.6:33] of God [Jn.6:48,57,58] of Life.** He comes down from heaven and brings life to the world.

**BRIDEGROOM** [2 Cor.11:2] **I have betrothed you to one Husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.** [see Jn.3:29; Eph.5:25-27]. He loves His own with a fervency of affectionate devotion.

**BRIGHT MORNING STAR** [Rev.22:16] [see 2 Pet.1:19]. Jesus is the shining Light in the world of darkness.

**CHRIST** [Lk.2:11] **There has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.** [see Lk.24:44-46; Jn.4:25,26; Acts 10:38]. Christ means the Anointed One; Messiah in the Hebrew of the OT. It was the High Priest [Lev.8:12] and the King [I Sam. 16:1,12,13] who were the particular Anointed ones in the Scriptures. As Priest, Jesus is God's only mediator

who gave Himself as the final perfect sacrifice for sins. As the everlasting Priest, He represents His people in full acceptance before the throne of God. As King, He alone has the right to rule the hearts of the subjects of His kingdom according to the Law issuing from His throne. See **6 Using the Quran to Preach Jesus.**

**DAYSPRING** [Lk.1:78] **Through the tender mercy of our God, with which the Dayspring from on high will visit us.** The rising up of the Light of Revelation through Jesus, the Light of the world.

**DOOR** [Jn.10:9] **I am the Door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved.** The one means of access to the presence of God.

**EVERLASTING FATHER** [Isa.9:6] **For a child will be born to us, a Son will be given to us; and the government will rest upon His shoulders. And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.** Also translated, "Father of Eternity." The uncreated origin of all the unending epochs of eternity.

**FIRST & LAST** See ALPHA & OMEGA.

**FIRSTBORN** [Col.1:15] **of all creation** and [Col.1:18] **of the dead.** [Heb.1:6] **When He again brings the Firstborn into the world, He says, "Let all the angels of God worship Him."** The lawful heir and representative of the Father having first place in honor and privilege both in heaven and earth.

**GOD** [Mt.1:23] **Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which translated means, "God with us."** [see Isa.7:14; 9:6; Jn.1:1; 10:30; 14:7-12; 20:27-29; Col.2:9; Heb.1:3]. [Col.2:9] **In Him dwells all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.**

**HOLY** [Jn.6:69] **You are the Holy One of God.** [see Acts 2:27; Rev.3:7]. See **6 Using the Quran to Preach Jesus.**

**I AM** [Jn.8:58] **Before Abraham was, I AM.** [see Ex.3:14; Deut.32:39; Isa.43:13; Jn.8:28].

**IMAGE OF GOD** [Col.1:15] **He is the image of the invisible God.** [see Col.2:9; Heb.1:3]. The essence and exact representation of the nature and being of God.

**IMMANUEL** See GOD.

**JUDGE** [Jn.5:22] **For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son.** [see Mt.25:31-46; Jn.12:47-50; Acts 17:31]. [Jn.12:48] **The Word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.** See **6 Using the Quran to Preach Jesus.**

**KING OF KINGS** [Rev.19:16] **And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS and LORD OF LORDS".** The highest of all rulers and sovereigns.

**LAMB OF GOD** [Jn.1:29] **Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!** [see I Cor.5:7; Heb.10:1-14]. The final and perfect sacrifice for sin. See **7 The Trinity, Son of God, & Sacrifice.**

**LIFE** [Jn.5:26] **For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself.** [see Jn.11:25; 14:6]. Possessing uncreated eternal life and thus the source of life to all.

**LIFE-GIVING SPIRIT** [I Cor.15:45] **The last Adam [Jesus] became a life-giving spirit.** [see Rev.1:18]. Able to impart life since He is the Living One forevermore.

**LIGHT OF THE WORLD** [Jn.8:12] **I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the Light of life** [see Jn.1:4,5,9; 12:46]. See **6 Using the Quran to Preach Jesus.** See **8 A Message to Preach.**

**LION** [Rev.5:5] **The Lion that is from the tribe of Judah...has**

overcome. [see Gen.49:9,10]. The prophesied reigning King.

LIVING ONE [Rev.1:18]. See LIFE-GIVING SPIRIT.

LORD [Mt.22:42-45] “What do you think about the Christ, whose son is He?” They said to Him, “The Son of David.” He said to them, “Then how does David in the Spirit call Him ‘Lord,’ saying, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, until I put Your enemies beneath Your feet”’? [see Ps.110:1]. God’s testimony in the Scriptures is that He is Lord: [I Cor.2:8] of glory: [Rev.19:6; I Cor.8:6; Phil.2:9-11] of lords: [Jer.23:5,6] our Righteousness. See KING OF KINGS; BRANCH.

MASTER [Jude 4] Our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. [see Mt.10:24,25; Jn.15:20]. He is the merciful Despot who has absolute ownership with unrestrained power.

MIGHTY GOD [Isa.9:6]. See EVERLASTING FATHER; GOD.

ONLY BEGOTTEN SON [Jn.1:18] No man has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him. [see Jn.3:16; Ps.2:7]. Literally, the “One-of-a-kind” Son; the Unique One.

OVERSEER [I Pet.2:25] You were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. The One who watches over and protects the people of God.

PEACE [Eph.2:14] He Himself is our peace. [see Mic.5:2-5; Rom.5:1]. Peace with God is only through Jesus and his sacrifice.

POWER OF GOD [I Cor.1:24]. [see Acts 10:38].

PRINCE OF PEACE [Isa.9:6]. See EVERLASTING FATHER.

PROPHET [Acts 3:17-26] Moses said, “The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brethren; to Him you shall give heed to everything He says to you.” Jesus is that Prophet like unto Moses who was to come; not Muhammad. [see Lk.24:19]. See **6 Using the Quran to Preach Jesus.**

RESURRECTION [Jn.11:25] I am the Resurrection and the Life, he who believes in me shall never die. See **8 A Message to Preach.**

ROOT OF DAVID [Rev.5:5]. The life-source existing before, and from whence David came.

RULER OF THE KINGS OF EARTH [Rev.1:5]. [see Ps.2:6-8]. See KING OF KINGS.

SERVANT [Acts 3;26] God raised up His Servant Jesus and sent Him to bless you by turning every one of you from your wicked ways. [see Isa.52:13; Jn.8:29; 17:4; Acts 4:27,28]. He perfectly performed the will of God in every detail. See **7 The Trinity, Son of God, & Sacrifice.**

SHEPHERD [Jn.10:11] I am the Good Shepherd; The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. [Heb.13:20] The God of peace brought up from the dead the Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord. [I Pet.5:4] And when the Chief/Ruling shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. He leads and feeds His flock.

SON OF GOD [Jn.3:16] For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. [see Jn.5:20-23; Rev.2:18]. THE SON IS: the very image of the Father [Col.1:15; Heb.1:3], the Father’s authoritative representative [Heb.1:2], and the special object of God’s love [Jn.3:35].

JESUS was called SON by:

GOD [Mt.3:17] This is My beloved Son.



GABRIEL [Lk.1:35] The holy Child shall be called the Son of God.  
JOHN [Jn.1:34] I myself have..have testified that this is the Son of God.  
JESUS HIMSELF [Jn.10:36] I said, "I am the Son of God."  
HIS DISCIPLES [Mt.16:16] You are the ...Son of the living God.  
See **6 Using the Quran to Preach Jesus**. See **7 The Trinity, Son of God, & Sacrifice**.

SON OF MAN [Dan.7:13,14] Behold, with the clouds of heaven one like a Son of Man was coming, and He came up to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him. And to Him was given dominion, glory and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations and men of every language might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which will not pass away; and His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed.

SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS [Mal.4:2] But for you who fear My name, the Sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. Shining righteousness upon all men in every land. See **8 A Message to Preach**.

TRUE VINE [Jn.15:1-6] I am the Vine and you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

TRUTH [Jn.14:6] I am the Truth. [see Col.2:2,3]. Jesus did not only speak the truth, He is the embodiment of both truth and wisdom.

THE WAY [Jn.14:6]. I am the Way. Jesus did not merely point the way, we must walk in Him, by Him, and through Him.

WISDOM OF GOD [Col.1:24] Christ: the Power of God and the Wisdom of God. [see Mt.11:27; I Cor.1:30; Col.2:2,3]. All knowledge and wisdom is in Jesus.

WONDERFUL COUNSELOR [Isa.9:6]. See EVERLASTING FATHER.

WORD [Jn.1:1] In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [see Jn.1:14, 18; Rev.19:13]. Jesus is the full expression of the invisible God. See **7 The Trinity, Son of God, & Sacrifice**.

# 10

## Is Allah the one true God?

Allah is described by 99 names which the Muslim regularly recites as he ticks off one by one on his strand of prayer beads.

### 99 NAMES OF ALLAH

[1] *Rahman* - Compassionate [2] *Rahim* - Merciful [3] *Malik* - King [4] *Quddus* - Holy One [5] *Salam* - Peace [6] *Momin* - Faithful [7] *Mohymin* - Protector [8] *Aziz* - Incomparable [9] *Jabbar* - Benefactor [10] - *Mutakabbir* - Mighty Doer [11] *Khaliq* - Creator.

[12] *Bari* - Maker [13] *Musawwir* - Former [14] *Ghafar* - Forgiver [15] *Qahhar* - Powerful [16] *Wahhab* - Giver [17] *Razzaq* - Bestower of Daily Bread [18] *Fattah* - Opener [19] *Alim* - Omniscient [20] *Qabiz* - Restrainer [21] *Basit* - Expander [22] *Khafiz* - Depresser.

[23] *Rafi* - Exalter [24] *Muiz* - Strengthener [25] *Muzil* - Lowerer [26] *Sami* - Hearer [27] *Basir* - Seer [28] *Hakam* - Judge [29] *Adl* - Just [30] *Latif* - Benignant [31] *Khabir* - Knower [32] *Halim* - Clement [33] *Azim* - Great.

[34] *Ghafur* - Great Pardoner [35] *Shakur* - Rewarder [36] *Ali* - Most High [37] *Kabir* - Great Lord [38] *Hafiz* - Guardian [39] *Muqit* - Giver of Strength [40] *Hasib* - Reckoner [41] *Jalil* - Glorious [42] *Karim* - Munificent [43] *Raqib* - Watcher [44] *Mujib* - Approver of supplications.

[45] *Wasi* - Expander [46] *Hakim* - Physician [47] *Wadud* - All Loving [48] *Majid* - Glorious [49] *Bais* - Awakener [50] *Shahid* - Witness [51] *Haqq* - True [52] *Wakil* - Provider [53] *Qawwi* - Powerful [54]

*Matin* - Firm [55] *Wali* - Friend.

[56] *Hamid* - One to be [57] *Muhsi* - Counter [58] *Mubdi* - Cause [59] *Muid* - Restorer [60] *Mohyi* - Life-Giver [61] *Mumit* - Death-Giver [62] *Hai* - Living [63] *Qaiyyum* - Self-Subsisting [64] *Wajid* - Finder [65] *Majid* - Grand [66] *Wahid* - Unique.

[67] *Samad* - Perpetual [68] *Qadir* - Powerful [69] *Muqtadir* - Prevailing [70] *Muqaddim* - Bringer Before [71] *Muwakkhir* - Bringer After [72] *Anwal* - First [73] *Akhir* - Last [74] *Zahir* - Evident [75] *Batin* - Hidden [76] *Wali* - Governor [77] *Muta'a* - Sublime.

[78] *Barr* - Doer of Good [79] *Tawwab* - Propitious [80] *Muntaquim* - Avenger [81] *Afu* - Eraser [82] *Rauf* - Benefiter [83] *Malik-u-Maluk* - King of Kingdoms [84] *Zuljalal-wal-Ikram* - Lord of Glory and Honor [85] *Muksit* - Equitable [86] *Jami* - Assembler [87] *Ghani* - Rich [88] *Maghani* - Enricher.

[89] *Muti* - Giver [90] *Mani* - Withholder [91] *Zarr* - Afflicter [92] *Nafi* - Benefactor [93] *Nur* - Light [94] *Hadi* - Guide [95] *Badia* - Incomparable [96] *Baqi* - Eternal [97] *Waris* - Inheritor [98] *Rashid* - Director [99] *Sabur* - Present.

### ALLAH IS NOT THE FATHER

Many people wrongly imagine that *Allah* and the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ are one and the same. They believe that they are merely different ways of describing the same God.

This is a great error. It is not true. *Allah* and the God of the Bible are not the same. We should never confuse this fact. **For us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him** [I Cor.8:6].

With this, no Muslim would ever agree. Nowhere in Islam is God ever referred to as Father. This is certainly not one of *Allah's* 99 names. *Allah begets no son* [S.17:111] and hence is no one's father.

Yet God is called Father so often in the Scriptures that it hardly need be referenced to demonstrate this truth. The significance of this is

critical.

The Lord Jesus directed believers to pray in this way, **Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be Your Name** [Mt.6:9]. Believers are to pray to the Father in heaven. That is His name. Muslims do not pray to the Father at all because He is not their God. *Allah* is not the Father in heaven; Father is not his name.

Christians and Muslims are praying to different gods. This is the harsh and sobering reality after all is said and done. It is why the Christian seeks to preach the gospel to the Muslim. It is also why the Muslim seeks to either convert or eliminate the Christian.

## ALLAH DOES NOT LOVE SINNERS

*Allah does not love transgressors* [S.2:190]

*He loveth not any ungrateful sinner* [S.2:276]

*Allah loveth not those that do wrong* [S.3:140; 42:40]

*Allah loveth not those who trespass beyond bounds* [S.7:55]

The above quotations are self-evident and will not be discovered to be quoted out of context. It is the teaching of the *Quran* about *Allah*. He does not love sinners.

Contrast this with the repeated expressions of the love of God to sinful men revealed in the Scriptures. It is evident that the God and Father of the Bible is not to be confused with the *Allah* of the *Quran*. The following quotes from the Word of God show this to be true.

**But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us** [Rom.5:8].

**For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy** [Tit.2:3-5].

**But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with**

**which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)** [Eph.2:4,5].

It is more than obvious that we are talking about two different gods entirely. One is the Father in heaven, the other is not. The One true and living God loves men who are wretched and miserable in their sin and rebellion, *Allah* does not.

## ALLAH & JIHAD

From the above sampling of quotations, it is clear that the God of the Bible loves sinful men while *Allah* does not. Yet the *Quran* repeatedly claims that *Allah* is *oft-forgiving, most merciful* [S.4:25]. If this is true, who then does he forgive and love?

The *Quran* answers that question in no uncertain terms. *Truly Allah loves those who fight in his cause in battle array, as if they were a solid cemented structure* [S.61:4].

He loves those who fight in his cause; who fight unyieldingly whether with words, the pen, politics, wealth, or the sword; yes, and the sword.

How is the “faith” to be propagated and defended? Is error to be fought with truth or by physical force? The Lord Jesus answers, “With the Truth.” *Allah* replies, “By *Jihad*.”

*Allah* preaches a message of submission or slaughter. The *Kafara* are to be converted or eliminated. Islam must be embraced world-wide or populations who refuse are to be exterminated.

This is not extremism. It is faithful devotion to the *Quran*. Islam was begun by a *Jihad* led by Muhammad. Those who do not engage in *Jihad* are not true Muslims at all, but are no better than other *Kafara*.

*Jihad* is not optional if one would reach the Paradise of God and be saved. Those engaging in *Jihad* who *have the highest rank in the sight of Allah; They are the people who will achieve salvation* [S.9:20].

*Therefore, when ye meet the Unbelievers in fight, smite at their necks; at length, when ye have thoroughly subdued them, bind the captives firmly: therefore*

is the time for either generosity or ransom: until the war lays down its burdens.

*Thus are ye commanded: but if it had been Allah's Will, he could certainly have exacted retribution form them Himself; but He lets you fight in order to test you, some with others.*

*But those who are slain in the way of Allah, ~ He will never let their deeds be lost. Soon will He guide them and improve their condition, and admit them to the Garden which He has made known to them [S.47:4-6].*

What is it that the faithful Muslim is called upon to do in the cause of Jihad? The Quran answers this frequently so that there can be no mistake. See **3 Definitions.**

*Fight in the cause of Allah...and slay them wherever ye catch them...and fight them on until there is no more persecution and the religion becomes Allah's [S.2:190-193].*

*I [Allah] will instill terror into the hearts of the unbelievers: smite ye above their necks and smite all their finger-tips off them. This because they contended against Allah and His Messenger [Muhammad]: If any contend against Allah and His Messenger, Allah is strict in punishment [S.8:13,14].*

*Fight and slay the Pagans wherever you find them, and seize them, and beleaguer them, and lie in wait for them in every stratagem of war [S.9:5].*

*Fight them and Allah will punish them by your hands [S.9:14].*

*It is not ye who slew them; it was Allah [S.8:17].*

This is not the Gospel of God through our Lord Jesus Christ. It is not what the Lord Jesus practiced, nor what He taught His disciples to practice. Christianity is the true religion of love and forgiveness.

God Himself in the final Day of Judgement will righteously execute punishment upon all unbelief. It is His prerogative. But true believers in the Lord Jesus are never to take vengeance, much less take up the sword. Regarding this, the Scriptures are clear.

Jesus said, **But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you...treat others the same way you want them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same [Lk.6:27,28, 31-33].**

In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets [Mt.7:12].

But they did not receive Him...When His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them" [Lk.9:53-56].

They crucified Him...but Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing" [Lk.23:33,34].

When those around Him saw what was going to happen, they said to Him, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus answered and said, "Stop! No more of this." And He touched his ear and healed him... Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword shall perish by the sword" [Lk.22:49-51; Mt.26:52].

Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink...Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good [Rom.12:17-21].

This is Christianity. It is completely opposite of Islam. They are not the same religions because they do not have the same God.

Love, forgiveness, blessing, peace, and kindness flow from the Father in heaven to His own people who display the same to others.

Submission to Allah displays his qualities. Allah is another god.

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