

HOLY QUR'AN AND ISLAM : A DOCTRINE OF DEVILS? - PART 1

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September 11, 2001 World Trade Center Twin Towers Attacks, New York City Muslim Mosque Controversy, Pastor Terry Jones, Why Do You Protest Against The New York City Muslim Mosque?, Do You Know What The Qur'an Really Teaches, Is The Religion Of Muhammad -- Islam -- Really A Violent Religion?, Who Was Really Behind The 9-11 Twin Tower Attacks?, Serious Flaws In The Official Story?, An Inside Job?, Government Corruption, Deception And Manipulation Of The Facts, Discredit Seekers Of Truth, We Will Probably Never Know Truth Regarding 9-11, 9-11 Is Not A Valid Reason To Protest The NYC Muslim Mosque, Purpose Of This Series, Spreading Poisonous Roots Of Islam, Rise Of The Endtime Beast And Ten Horns, Europe And Russia Or Muslims And Middle East?, American And Russian Interests In The Middle East, Israelis Palestinians Iraqis Iranians, Fear And Intimidation Tactics, Bush's Mushroom Cloud, WMD, Osama bin Laden And A Forgetful American Public, The Volatile Situation In The Middle East, Euphrates River Will Dry Up, Slaughter Of Great Tribulation, Abraham Hagar And The Lord, Isaac - Seed Of Faith Who Received Inheritance Of Abraham, Muhammad Arrives On Historical Scene Promoting New Religion, Jesus' Warning Concerning False Prophets, The Deception Of Surah As-Saff Verse 16:6, Jesus Never Prophesied Of Coming Of Muhammad, Similarities Between The Qur'an And Christian And Jewish Beliefs, Jesus' Status Is Demoted In The Qur'an, Persecution Of Early Christians By Jews, Persecution Of The Jews By Muslims In The Future?, The Muslim And Arab Heart

In light of the recent controversy surrounding the proposed construction of a Muslim center and mosque in the heart of New York City, only a few city blocks away from the site of the horrific September 11, 2001 attacks on the twin towers of the World Trade Center, which left almost three thousand Americans dead, I felt that it was time to revisit this old article from 1998, and to update it as may be required.

At this current time, there is a lot of banter being traded in many parts of the world as a result of the plans to build the Muslim center. From politicians, to distraught Christian conservatives, to members of American-Muslim organizations, to ordinary people on the street, it appears that everyone has an opinion concerning this hotly-debated issue. It seems that many people want to know: Is Islam -- the religion of Muhammad -- a threat to us? Will the construction of the NYC Islamic center and mosque serve as a magnet to draw more Muslim radicals to the United States, and to New York City?

While many people have opinions concerning the Islamic mosque and center, we must honestly ask ourselves how many of these people really have an informed opinion regarding this issue? Do we really know whereof we speak, or are we just following the herd and parroting what we hear other people say because

it happens to be fashionable? Sadly, it was a recent NYT news article which I read that motivated me to update this series. It seems that there is an evangelical pastor by the name of Terry Jones who heads a small church in the state of Florida. According to the news article, this year, Mr. Jones plans to commemorate the September 11, 2001 attacks by holding a book burning bonfire. But the issue at hand -- which has made him some quick friends, as well as some enemies -- is that Pastor Jones has intentions to use copies of the Qur'an as fuel on the so-called "International Burn A Koran Day".

While I can easily offer my opinion regarding the actions of Pastor Jones, what really caught my attention is the simple fact that according to the article, when Mr. Jones was asked about his knowledge of the Qur'an, he reportedly stated "I have no experience with it whatsoever. I only know what the Bible says." This struck me as being very odd. Here is a man who is prepared to make a very public, and very controversial statement regarding his opinion concerning Islam, and yet, he has never even read the book. In other words, Terry Jones is not just ill-informed, he is not informed at all. I think it is great that he knows what the Bible says -- although going by the news article, we really have no idea how complete of an understanding Terry Jones has of the Bible -- but it seems to me that if he is prepared to make such a public protest against Islam, he should at least know what he is protesting against. Otherwise, his actions lack any real meaning, and are just showmanship.

September 25, 2010 Update: As a result of serious social and political pressure -- including from American President Barack Obama -- Pastor Terry Jones chose not to go through with his plans to burn copies of the Qur'an on September 11, 2010.

But what about you? If you're a Christian, are you protesting against the proposed Muslim center and mosque in NYC just to protest, or do you have solid grounds for your disapproval? More specifically, do you personally know what Muslims truly believe regarding the nature of Jesus Christ? Can you point to any clear proof in the Qur'an which demonstrates that the religion of Muhammad -- Islam -- is the violent religion that is promoted by some Muslim extremists, as well as by certain people who work within the mass media infrastructure? If you answered in the negative to either of these two questions, I believe that this series will be of benefit to you; because it is not based on hearsay alone, and neither does it simply offer answers that are politically-correct. It in fact delves into the Qur'an itself, as well as into the Bible, and offers a contrast between what the founders of Christianity and Islam really teach.

However, before delving into the meat of the matter, I feel that it is important to reiterate a particular point that I have been making since the very week that the 9-11 attacks occurred, and that is this: Not long after the 9-11 attacks happened, certain people within conspiracy circles began to cast blame for the attacks in a variety of directions. This included blaming -- among other people -- Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaeda terrorist network, the Bush Administration, the International Bankers, the Israeli intelligence agency Mossad, New York investor and developer Larry Silverstein, the CIA, Saudi Arabia, and I don't know who else. Everyone

had, and still has, their own pet theories regarding the 9-11 attacks on the twin towers at the World Trade Center complex, as well as the attack on the Pentagon.

As any educated person can determine, there were all kinds of holes in the "official" story that was being promoted by the White House and the US mass media. It seems to me that to this day, there still remain many unanswered questions, and too many contradictions in the official story. Because of this fact, personally, I continue to reject the belief that the attackers -- whoever they were -- could have acted alone from outside the country. They must have had inside help of some kind. In my view, it defies logic to accept that the attackers were capable of bypassing all American security systems, and then simultaneously commandeering four airplanes, which ultimately resulted in the "success" of three of their four attacks, which has changed our lives, and the world, forever.

If there is one thing which I have stressed over the years, it is that modern governments and political figures are so corrupt, and so prone to deceive, and so adept when it comes to manipulating information, that I seriously doubt that we know the truth about much of anything. We may think that we do, particularly if we buy into the government line -- as a lot of people apparently have done in regards to 9-11 -- but do we really? The powers-that-be will deeply bury the truth under layers of deception, as they always do; and if anyone dares to talk, they will be humiliated, discredited and made to look like a total nut case. The government uses character assassination all the time when people get too close to some embarrassing truth; and sometimes, if they get too close to the truth, and even begin to vocalize it, they may even end up dead.

So the main point that I wish to emphasize from my previous comments, is that if we are truly honest with ourselves, then we must be willing to admit that none of us -- perhaps other than certain politicians in very high places -- really knows with any degree of certainty, who is actually responsible for the 9-11 attacks; and quite frankly, I very seriously doubt that we ever will know all of the facts regarding the events of 9-11. Furthermore, given the gullibility of the American public, the Bush Administration could have painted anyone on those planes as dangerous terrorists, and they would have gotten away with carrying out such a deception; particularly if the persons they identified were of Arab descent.

The primary reason why I feel that this point is so important to our current discussion regarding the New York City mosque controversy, is because if we don't know who really destroyed the World Trade Center twin towers on September 11, 2001, then in all fairness, we cannot -- and should not -- use 9-11 as an excuse in our efforts to try to legitimize our protest against the construction of the Muslim center and mosque. Lamentably, the damage has already been done. As you may already realize, the US Government skillfully deployed its propaganda machine; and despite whatever the true facts may be regarding the 9-11 attacks, convinced many American citizens that nineteen Muslim terrorists were responsible for those attacks, regardless of whether or not they truly were the perpetrators of said acts. One of the inevitable results of this propaganda war is that

today, any attempt to build the Muslim center and mosque just a few blocks from the World Trade Center and the former site of the twin towers, is viewed by many Americans as a callous and insensitive act.

Nevertheless, as Christians, I believe that if we are going to object to the construction of this Muslim mosque in NYC, then we require a more solid reason in order to validate our position. That's what I hope to accomplish with this series. By examining the actual contents of the Qur'an, my intention is to show you why Islam is both spiritually and physically harmful to America, and to the rest of the Christian world as well. It's my hope that after pondering the evidence that I will be presenting here, you will become convinced that, as a fellow believer in the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ, we must not allow the poisonous roots of the Islamic faith to further infiltrate American society, as they have already done in Europe, and elsewhere. So let us begin.

In a number of my articles which deal with the subject of Endtime prophecy -- such as "The Seven Heads" series, "The Beast And The Three Broken Horns", "The Kings Of The North And The South" and "The Great Tribulation And The Rapture" -- I explain that unlike quite a few Christian theologians and Bible students who anticipate the rise of the kingdom of the Beast -- and the Ten Horns who temporarily support him -- in Europe and Russia, over the years I have pondered the possibility that these Endtime events may actually revolve around the country of Israel, and ten Arab/Muslim nations who will temporarily give their power and allegiance to the devilish global leader who the Bible refers to as the Beast. These events are described for us in verses such as the following:

"After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns . . . And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows . . . And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings."
Daniel 7:7, 20, 24, KJV

"And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads."
Revelation 12:3, KJV

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy."
Revelation 13:1, KJV

"So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns . . .

And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns . . . And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast . . . And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire."
Revelation 17:3, 7, 12, 16, KJV

The fact that I currently embrace this theological position does not mean that I have totally rejected possible Russian involvement; after all, even now the Arab states are divided in their loyalties between Russia and the United States Of America. Both nations -- the USA and Russia -- have long-term interests in the affairs of the nations of the Middle East, as is clearly evidenced by American involvement in Iraq, and Russia's current involvement with Iran. In my articles, I've also posited that the False Prophet -- who is mentioned in Revelation chapter thirteen and elsewhere -- may possibly be a religious leader who will stir up the masses in support of the Beast. If -- as I speculate -- the rise of the Beast and the Ten Horns is indeed a more localized event which centers around the nation of Israel, then it seems only natural to assume that Islam may be the religion of the False Prophet, and not Roman Catholicism as some theologians have proposed.

If you pay close attention to the news, particularly to news which details events that involve Israel, the Arab nations of the Middle East, and Iran -- Iran is not Arab, it is Persian -- then you may realize that the volatile political situation in that area of the world may possibly reach a boiling point in the not-too-distant future. Consider the following facts:

The Palestinians have been fighting for their own state for decades now; and yet, they don't seem to be that much closer to their dream of achieving it. The Jews keep stalling with more words, military incursions and settlements expansion, while the Palestinians occasionally lob rockets into Israel out of frustration, and Hamas and Fatah each continue to try to win the hearts of the Palestinian people. At least the suicide bombers have been at bay for a while now.

Turning to the nation of Iraq, despite more than seven years of occupation by the United States, that nation still hasn't overcome its internal problems. At this current time, despite the fact that parliamentary elections were held in March of 2010, the Iraqi leadership remains both divided and corrupt, and a new government has yet to be formed. Lethal violence is likewise still very much the norm, even in the capital city of Baghdad. Utility services such as electricity and water still remain at substandard levels -- even in Baghdad -- and one must wonder what the USA has been doing there all these years. It simply doesn't take that long to restore everything that was destroyed during the illegal American invasions more than seven years ago.

Meanwhile, in the neighboring country of Iran, assisted by Russia, the Iranians are finally initiating the process to fire up their first nuclear reactor; a reactor which the USA adamantly claims may ultimately be used to produce nuclear

weapons grade fuel. Israeli and American political figures -- and the mass media -- have been continuously filling our ears with anti-Iranian banter, and rumors of an impending Israeli military strike has been on the lips of many for months now. The latest word from those who are supposedly "in-the-know", is that Iran will supposedly have its first nuclear weapon within about a year, and UN sanctions have proven to be an ineffective tool of persuasion.

But we must ask ourselves: Is this simply more psychological manipulation of the masses by the powers-that-be? I am again reminded of the constant campaign of fear and intimidation that was strongly promoted during the eight long years of the Bush administration. Let's not forget George W. Bush's misguided "mushroom cloud" remark, which ultimately led to the illegal invasion and war to supposedly find and destroy WMD in Iraq. If you want a perfect example of government deception and manipulation, which clearly demonstrates how easily the American public can be hoodwinked, just consider the years 2000 to 2008. Bush promised to get Osama bin Laden dead or alive. He also promised to find those elusive WMD in Iraq. Bush is no longer in office. The WMD were never found. Osama bin Laden is now dead, but this did not occur during George W. Bush's watch. The American public has for the most part forgotten about it all, even though the USA -- and the world -- continue to pay for Bush's deception and mistakes.

Of course, the previous paragraphs describe just a few of the more volatile situations in the Middle East which have been highlighted by the news media. There are other problems that don't make the news as often, such as the constant squabbles over water rights, which will only continue to grow worse as the region of the Middle East slowly dries up. As I point out in other articles, the Book of Revelation informs us that one of these days, the Euphrates River -- which is an important water source for Turkey, Syria, Iraq and Iran -- will dry up, as we see here:

"Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates . . . And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared."
Revelation 9:14, 16:12, KJV

So the point is, there are a number of hot issues and hot spots in the Middle East which could explode at a moment's notice; and ultimately, some of them will; and in my view, they may very well be catalysts for the final events of the Endtime, as they are described for us in the pages of the Bible -- events which may center around Islam -- the faith originated by and promoted by Muhammad.

Considering the relative closeness of these Endtime events, and the Great Tribulation in particular, which will involve the slaughter of possibly millions of people who believe in the Holy Scriptures, I feel that it is important for us to try to understand what will motivate these Arab and Muslim nations to commit such atrocities in the name of their god Allah. Of course, I say this based on a Futurist -- and not a Preterist -- point of view; meaning that I believe that the Great Tribulation isn't a historical event that occurred

during the First Century; rather, it is a future event that will transpire after the Holy Covenant -- which is possibly the coming peace agreement between the Palestinians and the Israelis -- is broken. Furthermore, as I point out in the series "The Great Tribulation And The Rapture", I embrace a Post-Tribulation Rapture point of view. Finally, as I noted earlier, this series is based on the belief that the Beast and the False Prophet will embrace the Muslim religion.

Regarding the manner in which Christian Believers are going to be slaughtered once these events begin to occur, we will be discussing it later on in this series. What I find tragic about this future scenario, is that according to the Bible, thousands of years ago, Abraham's second wife -- Hagar the Egyptian -- and her son Ishmael, appear to have worshipped the same God as Abraham and Sarah. Consider the following incident that occurred after Hagar had fled from Sarai, or Sarah, her mistress:

"And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur. And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai. And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands. And the angel of the LORD said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude. And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou art with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction."

Genesis 16:7-11, KJV

As I note in the article "The Children Of God And Politics", Ishmael -- who was Abraham's first son by Hagar -- became the progenitor of the Twelve Princes of the Arab nations. However, it would be Isaac -- who was the seed of faith who was born to Abraham and Sarah in their old age -- who would receive the inheritance of the Lord, as we can determine by the following verses:

"And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year."

Genesis 17:19-21, KJV

"Now these are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's handmaid, bare unto Abraham: And these are the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, according to their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebajoth; and Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam, And Mishma, and Dumah, and Massa, Hadar, and Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah: These are the sons of Ishmael, and these are their names, by their towns, and by their castles; twelve princes according to their nations."

Genesis 25:12-16, KJV

Based on the previous Scriptural evidence of Hagar's apparent devotion to the God of Abraham, her husband, God's blessings upon her and her son Ishmael, and upon Ishmael's descendants, and my personal study of the Muslim holy book, the Qur'an, I can only conclude that when Muhammad arrived on the historical scene approximately six hundred years after the time of Jesus, and began to promote a new religion that, while having certain similarities to both the Jewish and the Christian faiths, yet at the same time, is quite contrary to both of them, he wasn't listening to the voice of the One True God, who his ancestors apparently still worshipped to some degree. In short, while my words will obviously be offensive to Muslims, is it possible then that Muhammad was actually one of the many false prophets of whom even Jesus warned us in His discourse concerning the Endtime and the time of His own Second Coming? Consider the following verse:

"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."
Matthew 24:24, KJV

To my personal dismay, I learned some time ago that the holy book of the Muslims -- the Qur'an -- contains a surah called As-Saff -- or The Ranks, Battle Array -- in which there is a verse where Jesus supposedly prophesies concerning the coming of Muhammad, in order to follow in His footsteps as the next great prophet of God. Consider this verse as it is found in three different translations of the Qur'an:

Yusufali Translation:

"And remember, Jesus, the son of Mary, said: "O Children of Israel! I am the messenger of Allah (sent) to you, confirming the Law (which came) before me, and giving Glad Tidings of a Messenger to come after me, whose name shall be Ahmad." But when he came to them with Clear Signs, they said, "this is evident sorcery!"
As-Saff (The Ranks, Battle Array) 61:6

Pickthal Translation:

"And when Jesus son of Mary said: O Children of Israel! Lo! I am the messenger of Allah unto you, confirming that which was (revealed) before me in the Torah, and bringing good tidings of a messenger who cometh after me, whose name is the Praised One. Yet when he hath come unto them with clear proofs, they say: This is mere magic."
As-Saff (The Ranks, Battle Array) 61:6

Shakir Translation:

"And when Isa son of Marium said: O children of Israel! surely I am the messenger of Allah to you, verifying that which is before me of the Taurat and giving the good news of an Messenger who will come after me, his name being Ahmad, but when he came to them with clear arguments they said: This is clear magic."
As-Saff (The Ranks, Battle Array) 61:6

In my view, the above verse is nothing short of an outright

demonic deception; obviously because Jesus would not claim to be the Son of God and Saviour of the world, and then turn around and prophesy of an even greater prophet in the future who would deny Jesus's very Divinity and Messiahship, which is exactly what Muhammad does. To say the least, the idea of Jesus prophesying in positive terms about a future prophet who will deny Him is ludicrous.

What makes this particular Muslim deception so subtle, is the fact that this verse is concealed between thirteen other verses in this surah, which Jews and Christians will readily identify with, due to the fact that the surah embraces some Biblical themes, such as the importance of putting obedience behind our faith -- much like James chapter two -- Moses and the rebellious Israelites, and Jesus and His Disciples. The truth is, if you read the Qur'an, you will find many things with which you are familiar as a Christian or a Jew. Some of the names will obviously be different, but you'll recognize the accounts of Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Noah and the Ark, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the story of Lot and Sodom and Gomorrah, Moses, Aaron and Pharaoh, the parting of the Red Sea, Gideon (Talut), King David, Solomon, Job, Jonah, etc. You will also read about Joseph and Mary, and discover that Mary's Immaculate Conception is accepted within Islam, even though I personally view this as a false doctrine. The birth of John the Baptist to Elizabeth and Zacharias is likewise discussed.

You may even begin to think, "Wow! This Qur'an isn't so bad after all! Maybe I have been wrong about the Muslim faith." But if that is your experience, then reader beware! As you will discover later in this series, while Christ's Divine Mission as a holy Messenger from God is accepted, as well as His many miracles, that is as far as it goes. He is totally stripped of any status greater than that; and I will provide many verses from the Qur'an to prove this particular point beyond a shadow of a doubt!

In addition to the above topics, you will also discover that the Qur'an discusses Heaven and Hell, Satan -- who is known as "Shaitan" in the Islamic religion -- the Last Days, Gog and Magog, the Day Of Resurrection, the Final Judgment, a New Creation and other familiar themes. So, on the surface, the Qur'an appears to be a rather innocent book; but is it really, or does Islam teach certain things that some people don't know about?

The truth is, if you are a Spirit-led Christian and begin to read the Qur'an more closely as I have done, you will begin to recognize the blatant inconsistencies and the lies. As a long-time Christian, I am firmly convinced that this is so. Furthermore, I am convinced that it will be because of this strong delusion and rebellion on their part, that the Muslim nations may soon -- within a few short years -- ravage the country of Israel, and kill many people, all motivated by a misguided belief that they are doing so in the name of the "One True God" -- Allah. It is interesting to note that the Lord prophesied the following concerning the coming fate of His First Century followers:

"They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth

God service."
John 16:2, KJV

It's important to realize that life is like a boomerang, and that we each reap what we sow. Just as the pharisaical Jews -- such as the former Pharisee Saul -- persecuted and killed some of the First Century Christians, in the sincere belief that they were performing God's service, in the years ahead, it seems probable that the Jews may likewise be visited by their own sins when Muslim radicals, filled with pride and honor for their Islamic faith, and motivated by the devilish rantings of their Islamic False Prophet, may begin to kill the Jews, and destroy their synagogues, to a greater degree than what we have already witnessed with Palestinian suicide bombers. If and when this happens, tragically, the situation will have come full circle.

To fully understand this situation, and to help you to grasp why these events may happen at some point in the future, we will now begin to examine actual excerpts taken from Islam's holy book -- the Qur'an -- or Koran, according to the Western spelling of the word. Through this examination, you will come to recognize what is really felt and believed within the Arab and Muslim mind and heart. Be forewarned that this knowledge can be dangerous. It is ideas like these which put the life of author Salomon Rushdie in danger; and to be quite honest, I too have considered the personal risk that I am taking by publishing controversial -- and to some people -- offensive information such as this. Nevertheless, I am motivated to be faithful to Him who has called me to this writing ministry. Furthermore, I still have much work to do for the Lord, and I trust that He will continue to protect me, until such time when I have completed my task.

As I stated at the beginning of this series, it would be a mistake on any of our parts to simply believe in government propaganda, or to accept mass media hearsay, regarding Muslim beliefs. So let us now go straight to the source; that is, to the actual writings of the "prophet" Muhammad -- or Mohammed if you prefer -- so that you can plainly see exactly what he taught and advocated almost fourteen hundred years ago. As I said, you will see that Islam is by no means the non-violent and peaceful religion that some people have proposed.

Please go to part two for the continuation of this series.

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HOLY QUR'AN AND ISLAM : A DOCTRINE OF DEVILS? - PART 2

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Definitions Of Phrases Used In Islam And The Qur'an: Islam, Moslem And Muslim, Infidel, Unbeliever, The Book And "WE", Is Islam The True Religion Of Allah?, Islam's Definition Of True Believer And Unbeliever, Muhammad's Offensive Language Concerning Unbelievers, Satan Is The Father Of Lies And The Accuser Of The Saints, Qur'an Accuses Christians And Jews Of Causing A Religious Schism, Qur'an Claims That The Bible Is A Work Of Men And Not A Work Of God, Religious Commercialism, Muhammad Strongly Warns Muslims To Stay Away From Christians And Jews Lest They Lose Their Faith And Become Unbelievers, Some Tough Questions For Muslims Living In Christian Nations, Saudi Arabia, Wahhabi And Restrictions Against Christianity, Bill 5738-1977, Jew's Hostility Against Christian Evangelism, Jewish-Controlled Anti-Christian Organizations In The USA, A Double Hypocritical Standard: Yes We Can But You Must Not!, Muhammad Instructs His Followers To Fight Against Christians And Jews, Muhammad Rejects Christ's Status As The Son Of God, Muhammad's Goal Was For Islam To Prevail Over Other Faiths, Qur'an Teaches That It's Honorable To Kill For Islamic Faith, Muhammad & George W. Bush Both Utilized Religion To Inspire People To Wage War And Kill, Will Qur'an Be The Tool Of The False Prophet?, Muhammad: Fight Until They Convert To Islam

To begin with, allow me to offer you a few definitions of terms that are associated with Islam -- the religion that was promoted by Muhammad -- as I understand their usage in the Muslim holy book, the Qur'an:

1. Islam - the religion of Allah, as taught to the Arabs by the "prophet" Muhammad. In case you are wondering, I place the word "prophet" in quotes in order to emphasize the fact that I personally do not accept Muhammad as a true inspired Prophet of God; at least not the God who I have worshipped as a Christian believer for many years. My reasons for this position will become clear to you as you continue reading this series.
2. Moslem or Muslim - an adherent of the Islamic faith. One who submits or yields himself to the will of Allah.
3. Infidel - one who is unfaithful to Islam -- the religion of Allah.
4. Unbeliever - one who does not adhere to the beliefs and practices of Islam as taught in the Qur'an. This includes everyone outside of the Islamic world.
5. The Book - in most cases, this term refers to the Holy Scriptures of the Christians and the Jews. However, in some verses in the surahs, "the Book" also refers to the Qur'an itself, which, according to Islamic belief, is the final revelation of The Book, just as Muhammad is considered the final prophet of Allah.
6. WE - assumed to refer to the plural spiritual overseers found within Islam. Please note that even the Hebrew word for God in the Old Testament -- "Elohim" -- is also plural in nature; although it is translated as "God" instead of "Gods".

As a point of reference, excluding the previous verses from Surah 61 which I shared with you in part one of this series, please note that all of the surah excerpts henceforth used in this series are extracted from the English translation of the Qur'an performed by Maulvi Sher Ali, and edited by Malik Ghulam Farid, which you can find online at the following URL:

<http://www.alislam.org/quran/search2/>

Similar to Bible references, the first number in the excerpts represents the surah -- a specific chapter or section of the the Qur'an -- while the second number is the verse reference. To begin this study of the Qur'an, I believe it is important that we establish the foundation for what Muslims perceive to be the "true religion"; that, of course, being Islam, as we see by the following verse:

3: 20. "Surely the true religion with ALLAH is Islam. And those who were given the Book did not disagree but, after knowledge had come to them, out of mutual envy. And whoso denies the Signs of ALLAH, then surely ALLAH is quick at reckoning."

As you can plainly see, according to Islam and the teachings of Muhammad, we are to believe that Christians and Jews have rejected the "true religion" out of envy. This, of course, is by no means the truth. I can't speak for anyone else, but the reason why I personally reject Islam is because it outright denies the Divinity and the role of Messiah of Jesus Christ. My rejection of Islam and the Qur'an has absolutely nothing to do with envy. Following are a few excerpts which explain the definition of a "true believer" according to Islam:

8: 3-5. "They are only the true believers whose hearts tremble when the name of ALLAH is mentioned, and when HIS Signs are recited to them they increase their faith, and who put their trust in their Lord. Who observe Prayer and spend out of that which WE have provided for them. These it is who are true believers. They have exalted grades of rank with their Lord, as well as forgiveness and an honourable provision."

2:129. "'Our Lord, make us both submissive to THEE and make of our offspring a people submissive to THEE. And show us our ways of worship and turn to us with mercy; for thou art Oft-Returning with compassion, and art Merciful."

49: 16. "The believers are only those who truly believe in ALLAH and HIS Messenger, and then doubt not, but strive with their possessions and their persons in the cause of ALLAH. It is they who are truthful."

Thus, according to the teachings of Muhammad and the Qur'an, a "true believer" -- or Muslim -- is a person who submits himself to the will of Allah, and who likewise believes that Muhammad is his "prophet". As we saw previously, people who are not "true believers" -- such as adamant Christians and Jews -- are viewed by devout Muslims as being infidels and unbelievers. Muhammad argues that because we accept what God has given us through the Old Testament Prophets, as well as through the teachings of the New Testament, and yet reject "the truth" which Allah supposedly gave to Muhammad, we are

unbelievers, as we see by these verses:

2: 92. "And when it is said to them 'Believe in what ALLAH has sent down,' they say 'We believe in what has been sent down to us;' and they disbelieve in what has been sent down after that, yet it is the Truth, fulfilling that which is with them. Say 'Why, then, do you seek to slay the Prophets of ALLAH before this, if you were believers."

2:102. "And now that there has come to them a messenger from ALLAH, fulfilling that which is with them, a party of the people to whom the Book was given have thrown the Book of ALLAH behind their backs, as if they know it not."

It may surprise you, and offend you, to know that throughout the Qur'an, Muhammad often refers to the unbelievers as being deaf, dumb and blind, ignorant, those who have gone astray, conscious deceivers, liars, losers, transgressors, (sinners), the worst of creatures and doomed to burn in Hell. Consider the following verses:

2:172. "And the case of those who disbelieve is like the case of one who shouts to that which hears naught but a call and a cry. They are deaf dumb and blind - so they do not understand."

3: 70. "A party of the People of the Book would fain lead you astray; but they lead astray none except themselves, only they perceive not."

3: 72. "O People of the Book ! Why do you confound truth with falsehood and hide the truth knowingly ?"

3: 79. "And, surely, among them is a party who twist their tongues while reciting the Book that you may think it to be part of the Book, while it is not part of the Book. And they say 'It is from ALLAH;' while it is not from ALLAH; and they utter a lie against ALLAH while they know."

3: 86. "And whoso seeks a religion other than Islam, it shall not be accepted of him, and in the Hereafter he shall be among the losers."

3:111. "You are the best people raised for the good of mankind; you enjoin good and forbid evil and believe in ALLAH. And if the People of the Book had believed, it would have, surely, been better for them. Some of them are believers, but most of them are transgressors."

5: 87. "And those who have disbelieved and rejected Our Signs, these are they who are the inmates of Hell."

98: 7. "Verily, those who disbelieve from among the People of the Book and the idolaters, will be in the Fire of Hell, abiding therein. They are the worst of creatures."

As I explain in a number of my articles, the Bible makes it very clear that Satan is truly the "father of lies" and the "accuser of the Saints". We might say that he is similar to a celestial Prosecuting Attorney. In exposing the sins of the unbelieving Jewish spiritual leadership, Jesus had this to say concerning that old serpent:

". . . He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."
John 8:44, KJV

Furthermore, in the Book of Revelation, we find the following verse written by the Apostle John, which describes how Satan incessantly accused God's children in the Celestial Courtroom until he was finally cast out of Heaven:

"And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night."
Revelation 12:10, KJV

Because Christians and Jews reject the Qur'an as being the inspired Word of God, and because we don't accept Muhammad as a true prophet of God, Satan attempts to turn the tables on us, by accusing us of being the ones who have created the schism -- or division -- in the religious world. Consider the following verse:

2:138. "And if they believe as you have believed, then they are rightly guided; but if they turn back, then they are bent upon creating a schism, and ALLAH will surely suffice thee against them, for HE is All-Hearing, the All-Knowing."

If devout Muslims believe that the Qur'an is the only true word of God, then exactly what does the Qur'an have to say regarding the inspiration of the Christian Scriptures? Here are some clear examples for your consideration. Typical of Satan, there is a degree of truth in the following excerpt which exposes one particular sin of modern Christianity and Judaism; however, it is the overall lie and delusion with which this piece of truth is mixed that makes the verse so dangerous:

2: 80. "Woe, therefore, to those who write the Book with their own hands and then say, 'This is from ALLAH,' That they may take it for a paltry price. Woe, then, to them for what their hands have written, and woe to them for what they earn."

While the previous verse exposes the blatant commercialism which has infiltrated and corrupted modern Christianity and Judaism -- a theme which I likewise discuss in a number of articles such as "Money-Making Bible Hucksters And Mammon" -- it also clearly states that the Bible is not the Word of God, but merely the work of men. This is a clear example of how the teachings of Muhammad and Islam mix a bit of truth with a pack of lies; just like Satan. Contrasting the last verse, consider this next verse which tells us that because we the "unbelievers" have supposedly been given "the truth" in the Qur'an, but have rejected it, Muhammad curses us:

2: 90. "And when there came to them a book from ALLAH, fulfilling that which is with them - and before that they have prayed for victory over the disbelievers - yet when

there came to them that which they knew to be the truth, they rejected it. The curse of ALLAH be on the disbelievers."

Concerning those people who have already accepted the Qur'an as being the words of Allah, Muhammad strongly warns them to stay away from believers in the Bible -- both Christians and Jews -- lest they abandon their faith in the Qur'an and turn into unbelievers, as we see by the following verses:

3:101. "O ye who believe ! if you obey any party of those who have been given the Book, they will turn you again into disbelievers after you have believed."

5: 52, 58-60. "O ye who believe ! take not the Jews and the Christians for friends. They are friends of each other. And whoso among you takes them for friends is indeed one of them. Verily ALLAH guides not the unjust people . . . O ye who believe ! take not those for friends who make a jest and sport of your religion from among those who were given the Book before you, and the disbelievers. And fear ALLAH if you are believers; And who, when you call people to Prayer, take it for a jest and sport. This is because they are people who do not understand. Say, 'O people of the Book ! do you find fault with us because we believe in ALLAH and what was sent down to us and what was sent down previously ? Or is it because most of you are disobedient to ALLAH ?'"

". . . Take not the Jews and the Christians for friends." Can Muslim sentiment be stated any clearer than that? Considering this strong bias against Christians and Jews that is plainly promoted by Islam and the Qur'an, should it really surprise us that anti-American sentiment is so strong in some Muslim and Arab countries? Let me remind you that this mentality has been promoted in Islamic mosques and madrasas for more than thirteen hundred years, and attitudes change very slowly in the Arab and Muslim nations of the Middle East. What I find even more disturbing, is the fact that according to certain mass media reports, this same hateful mentality continues to be nurtured in some Muslim mosques and madrasas today; even in the United States of America.

This begs some very serious questions. For example, if this is truly how a lot of Muslims feel concerning our Christian faith, how can they possibly make good friends, neighbors and work associates? Why should they even be allowed to enter and remain in a country -- such as the United States -- which for the most part still recognizes and embraces Christianity as the primary faith of the majority of its citizens? If certain Muslims feel such inward animosity towards other people who don't belong to their faith, how can they make good citizens? If they are just arriving in order to take advantage of the economic and educational advantages that the nation has to offer, then isn't this an abusive and dishonest practice? If an individual has no sincere intentions of integrating with their host society, then why should they even be allowed to remain in the country?

If one really stops to think about it, he will recognize that there is a considerable amount of hypocrisy on display here. For example, are you aware of the fact that in certain Muslim nations -- such as Saudi Arabia -- the overt practice

of non-Muslim faiths is strictly prohibited? Saudi Arabia is governed according to the Qur'an, which means that Sharia -- or Islamic law -- rules the land. Equally important are the sayings and traditions of Muhammad, referred to as the Sunnah. Due to the fact that Saudi Arabia is governed by a very strict form of Sunni Islam known as Wahhabi, there are very rigid restrictions placed on non-Muslims who enter the country, such as Christians. In light of the controversy we have all been hearing about surrounding the proposed Muslim mosque and center in New York City, the following startling facts may cause your jaw to drop:

- * Christian proselytizing and public preaching in Saudi Arabia is illegal.
- * It is illegal to distribute Bibles in Saudi Arabia.
- * No Christian churches are permitted in Saudi Arabia, even though approximately 30,000 Americans currently reside in the nation, many of whom are Christian.
- * It is illegal for Christian clergy to enter Saudi Arabia for the purpose of conducting religious services, not even in private.
- * Christians who are detained for practicing their religion may suffer imprisonment, be punished with lashes, and ultimately be deported. Some are even tortured.
- * Even wearing Christian symbols in public may result in attracting the wrath of the Saudi religious police.

It isn't very difficult to see the obvious disparity between these two situations. We have Muslim nations who absolutely despise our Christian faith, while at the same time, Muslims arrive in the United States and feel that they have the right to construct their mosques wherever and whenever they please. Do you get the sense that there is something seriously wrong?

While I have highlighted the restrictions that Christians may experience in certain Muslim nations, in all fairness, allow me to also point out -- as I've mentioned before -- that the nation of Israel -- who is supposedly the US's friend -- also prohibits public Christian evangelism, based on the so-called Anti-Missionary Law -- or Bill 5738-1977 as it is technically known -- which the Israeli Knesset passed almost thirty-three years ago on December 25, 1977, as if to make a point. Based on this law, if the Israeli government chooses to enforce it, a Christian can be faced with up to a five-year prison term if he or she endeavors to convert a Jew to the Christian faith, particularly if there is any evidence that any form of persuasion was used. Even distributing Christian tracts will attract the ire of orthodox Jewish authorities.

But as I have explained before, Jewish hostility against any Christian who dares to proselytize in the name of Christ is not limited to Israel alone. As you may already realize, the United States is home to a number of Jewish-controlled groups whose primary goal seems to be to stop Christian evangelism in its tracks, and to make the USA as antichrist as Israel is. These groups include the American Civil Liberties Union, the American Jewish Congress, the Anti-Defamation League Of

B'nai B'rith, the People For The American Way, and others. These organizations were either founded by Jews, are run by Jews or are funded by Jews. Under the disguise of supposedly upholding American law -- such as the grossly misinterpreted separation clause that's found in the Bill of Rights -- they are slowly turning America into a secular nation.

So consider the facts. While Jewish synagogues and Muslim mosques paint the American landscape from one coast to the other in increasing numbers, crucifixes, monuments of the Ten Commandments, manger scenes, and other symbols of our Christian faith are being removed from government offices and government-owned land; restrictions are being placed on prayer and other Christian activities within the American public education system; some hard-working people are being reprimanded or dismissed from their jobs when they refuse to do things which they find contrary to their Christian faith; etc. When Christians rise up in protest against the obvious hostile discrimination against our faith, we are reminded of the so-called separation of Church and State by the groups that I mentioned a moment ago.

In short, some Muslims and Jews appear to be saying to us: "Yes we can, but you must not!"; meaning that it is okay for them to restrict our Christian faith in their countries, but if we dare to protest against the encroachment of Islam and Judaism in our country, or strive to protect our freedom to publicly express our Christian faith in our own country, we are smacked down by liberal judges who claim that our actions are unconstitutional. So it is rather obvious to me that we American Christians are being subjected to a double standard, and this is hypocritical to say the least.

While we have taken a small detour from the primary emphasis of this series in order to add a certain degree of balance to my comments, let's return to our main discussion concerning Islam, Muhammad and the Qur'an. Because we Christians accept the Bible as being the inspired Word of God, instead of the Qur'an, Satan -- through the words of Muhammad -- has just one word of instruction for his followers: Fight against the Christians and the Jews -- "the people of the Book" -- as we see here:

9: 29. "Fight those from among the people of the Book, who believe not in ALLAH, nor in the Last Day, nor hold as unlawful what ALLAH and HIS Messenger have declared to be unlawful, nor follow the true religion, until they pay the tax considering it a favour and acknowledge their subjection."

Following the same technique of mixing a small bit of truth with his lies, Satan -- through the words of Muhammad -- then proceeds to expose how some branches of modern Christianity have elevated their spiritual leaders, as if they were gods themselves; as in the case of the Roman Catholic pope, who Catholics view as the so-called "Vicar of Christ". But you see, that small bit of truth is just a hook for the big lie that Muhammad throws in next, when he insists that through our exaltation of Jesus as the Son of God, we Christians are guilty of doing the exact same thing. In other words, what this next verse is saying, is that there is no god but God, and He has no son; which, as you will see later, is a theme

that runs throughout the Qur'an.

9: 31. "They have taken their priest and their monks for lords besides ALLAH. And so have they taken the Messiah, son of Mary. And they were not commanded but to worship the One God. There is no God but HE. Holy is HE far above what they associate with Him !"

Not content with just demoting Jesus Christ from His rightful position by His Father's right side, or with criticizing us for accepting Jesus as the Savior of the world, Muhammad then seeks to exalt himself as the "true Messenger" of God who has the only "religion of truth". Furthermore, Muhammad makes it clear that his goal is for Islam to prevail over all other religions, as we see here:

9: 33. "HE it is Who has sent HIS Messenger with guidance and the religion of truth, that HE may make it prevail over every other religion, even though the idolaters may resent it."

A little earlier, we discovered that Muhammad instructed his followers to "Fight those from among the people of the Book, who believe not in ALLAH". Exactly what does Muhammad mean by this comment? Is he just referring to verbally refuting the Christian and Jewish faiths? Absolutely not! Despite multiple attempts by some Muslims over the past nine years since the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks occurred, to downplay the negative, violent image that Islam has acquired, it is still a fact that the Qur'an teaches that it is an honorable thing for a Muslim to defend and kill for the Islamic faith. Even a cursory examination of Islamic history will validate this point. There are a variety of verses in the Qur'an which instruct Muslims to not be the aggressor, but rather to kill only when it is a matter of self-defense, such as when they are attacked during a war. Following is an example for your consideration:

2:191-192. "And fight in the way of ALLAH against those who fight against you, but do not transgress. Surely, ALLAH loves not the transgressors. And slay these transgressors wherever you meet them and drive them out from where they have driven you out; for persecution is worst than slaying. And fight them not in and near the Sacred Mosque until they fight you therein. But if they fight you, then fight them. Such is the requital for the disbelievers."

However, at the same time, there are also quite a few other verses in the Qur'an which clearly encourage the killing of anyone who disagrees with the Islamic faith. As we learned earlier, in Surah five, Muhammad instructs his followers to make no friends with either Christians or Jews. He says the same thing in Surah four, and then takes it a step further by insisting that they should be killed if they refuse to embrace Islam. Furthermore, Muhammad slyly employs a degree of intimidation by warning his followers that any Muslim who refuses to kill others for Allah and the Islamic faith, will be punished severely by Allah, as we see by these verses:

4: 90. "They wish that you should disbelieve as they have disbelieved, so that you may become alike. Take not, therefore, friends from among them, until they emigrate in

the way of ALLAH. And if they turn away, then seize them and kill them wherever you find them; and take no friend nor helper from among them;"

5: 34. "The only reward of those, who wage war against ALLAH and HIS Messenger and strive to create disorder in the land, is that they be slain or crucified or their hands and feet be cut off on account of their enmity, or they be expelled from the land. That shall be a disgrace for them in this world, and in the Hereafter they shall have a great punishment;"

8: 66. "O Prophet, urge the believers to fight. If there be of you twenty who are steadfast, they shall overcome two hundred; And if there be a hundred of you, they shall overcome a thousand of those who disbelieve, because they are a people [who] do not understand."

9: 5. "And when the forbidden months have passed, slay the idolaters wherever you find them and take them captive, and beleaguer them, and lie in wait for them at every place of ambush. But if they repent and observe Prayer and pay the Zak.t, then leave their way free. Surely, ALLAH is Most Forgiving, Merciful."

9: 39. "If you will not go forth to fight in the cause of ALLAH, HE will punish you with a painful punishment, and will choose in your stead a people other than you, and you shall do HIM no harm at all. And ALLAH has full power over all things."

9: 73. "O Prophet ! Strive hard against the disbelievers and the Hypocrites. And be firm against them. Their abode is Hell, and evil destination it is."

2:217. "Fighting is ordained for you, though it is repugnant to you; but it may be that you dislike a thing while it is good for you, and it may be that you like a thing while it is bad for you. ALLAH knows and you know not."

2:245. "And fight in the cause of ALLAH and know that ALLAH is All-Hearing, All-Knowing."

To be honest, as ironic as it may seem -- and my next comment will undoubtedly irritate and offend some red-white-and-blue Americans -- there really isn't that much of a difference between Muhammad's proclamation to kill for Islam, and former U.S. president George W. Bush promoting the false belief that it was unpatriotic to not support the illegal and foolish war in Iraq. These two religions -- Islam and Christianity -- may indeed be quite different, but the intimidation tactics that are used by some of their leaders are exactly the same. It is a well-known fact that George W. Bush was heavily supported by Conservative American Christians -- to their own shame -- who apparently convinced Bush that it was his divine destiny to change the Middle East through dangerous, ill-conceived, destructive acts of war. Welcome to the modern Crusades!

But concerning Islam, if the coming False Prophet is indeed a Muslim spiritual leader -- an influential mullah or ayatollah as I have long speculated -- then it may be verses from the Qur'an, such as the previous verses, which he will use as a

tool to stir up the Arab and Muslim nations, when they begin their bloody slaughter in the Middle East. The Qur'an also offers advice regarding when it is time for faithful Muslims to cease from war. As we learn from the following verse, it is only when the unbelievers have been converted to Islam, or when they desist in their attacks against Islam:

2:194. "And fight them until there is no persecution, and religion is professed only for ALLAH. But if they desist, then remember that no hostility is allowed except against the wrongdoers.

Please go to part three for the continuation of this series.

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HOLY QUR'AN AND ISLAM: A DOCTRINE OF DEVILS? - PART 3

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Beheadings During The Iraq War, Qur'an: "Smite Their Necks", "Beheaded For The Witness Of Jesus" : The Endtime Scenario?, Islam: Religion Of The Beast And False Prophet?, John The Baptist And Apostle James Beheaded, Apostle Peter Escapes By A Miracle, 144,000 And Jewish Unbelief, God's Long Patience, Mercy And Compassion, Coming Judgement Of Israel By Islamic Forces, Trusting In The Lord And The Ungodly Nature Of War, Twisted Truths Of The Qur'an, Muhammad Claims He Received The Qur'an From Angel Gabriel, Muhammad Claims That Moses Prophesied Of His Coming In Deuteronomy, The Jews Question John The Baptist, A Spiritual Anointing Of Elijah On John, Jesus Fulfilled The Prophecy Of Moses Concerning The Coming Prophet, Disciples Of John The Baptist Confirmed That Jesus Was "That Prophet", Muhammad Attempts To Link His Arrival To The Prophecy Of Moses, Muhammad Demotes Jesus In Order To Elevate His Own Status, Neither Jesus Nor Moses Prophesied Of The Arrival Of Muhammad As The Great And Final Prophet

As we saw in part two, Muhammad and the Qur'an teach Muslims that it is an honorable act to kill for the Islamic religion. In fact, as we discovered, Allah -- through his "prophet" -- mandated that all Muslims fight for their faith, unless they wish to receive a severe punishment from him. So exactly how is this "honorable killing" supposed to be accomplished? In reality, even if you are not familiar with the contents of Islam's holy book, more than likely, you probably know the answer to this question. Few people are likely to forget the horrible images and videos to which we were subjected during the early years of the Iraq War by the mass media; images and videos which very graphically showed "infidels" -- Americans,

Europeans, Japanese, etc. -- being beheaded by militants of the Islamic faith in Iraq. Can there be any doubt then that in its bases form, Islam is a doctrine of devils?

To those of us who are not Muslims, we found these barbarous acts to be downright evil, sickening and utterly repulsive. However, if we had grown up in an Islamic environment, where we were required to read and study the Qur'an on a regular basis, faithfully obey its precepts -- because Sharia is the law in Muslim countries -- and perhaps even attend a madrasa, we might view these beheadings in a very different light. In other words, while we were sickened and repulsed, as we saw in part one, the Muslim militants who carried out these acts were absolutely convinced that they were doing the will of Allah. They were faithfully performing their duty as Muslims, by defending their religion against the foreign invaders; at least that is what Muhammad teaches them in the Qur'an. He in fact instructs Muslim warriors to "smite the necks" of the infidels -- that is, behead them -- as is made plain by the following verses from the Qur'an:

47: 5. "And when you meet in regular battle those who disbelieve, smite their necks; and, when you have overcome them, by causing great slaughter among them, bind fast the fetters - then afterwards either release them as a favour or by taking ransom - until the war lays down its burdens. That is the ordinance. And if ALLAH had so pleased, HE could have punished them Himself, but HE has willed that HE may try some of you by others. And those who are killed in the way of ALLAH - HE will never render their works vain."

8: 13. When thy Lord revealed to the angels, saying, 'I am with you; so make firm those who believe. I will cast terror into the hearts of those who disbelieve. Smite them above their necks, and smite off all finger-tips.'

As I explained earlier, beliefs and attitudes in the Middle East change very slowly, if at all. The fact that the Qur'an was written almost fourteen hundred years ago, doesn't make any difference to the Muslim extremists who carried out the beheadings. Just as we Christians believe that the Bible is just as valid today as it was when it was written thousands of years ago, so too, Muslims view the Qur'an in a similar fashion. So we must wonder: what does this suggest about the near future, and what part will Muslim beliefs play in the Endtime scenario?

If, as I have suggested, the rise of the Beast and the False Prophet will center in the Middle East -- and not in Europe -- and if the religion of the Beast and the False Prophet is Islam -- and not Roman Catholicism -- then in my mind, it is very easy to envision the Muslim faithful being stirred to anger -- as well as to extreme violence -- by the rantings of their mad Islamic False Prophet. This devil-in-the-flesh will encourage faithful Muslim warriors to raise their swords in vengeance against the Christian and Jewish "infidels" alike, and behead them. As I explain in some of my Endtime articles, this may possibly be why the Prophet John specifically wrote that the departed Saints who he saw under the Throne of God, were BEHEADED for the Word of God, as we see by the following verse that is found in the Book of Revelation:

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."
Revelation 20:4, KJV

Ironically, if this is to be the fate of some Jews sometime in the future, it is possible that this may be yet another example of the slow, steady, but continuous wheels of God's judgment against an unbelieving people. In other words, the Jews may be reaping what they sowed not quite two thousand years ago, when the Roman puppet, Jewish King Herod Antipas, ordered John the Baptist to be beheaded, due to the king's pride, and his infatuation with the daughter of Herodias, as we see by the following verses:

"But when Herod's birthday was kept, the daughter of Herodias danced before them, and pleased Herod. Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would ask. And she, being before instructed of her mother, said, Give me here John Baptist's head in a charger. And the king was sorry: nevertheless for the oath's sake, and them which sat with him at meat, he commanded it to be given her. And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison. And his head was brought in a charger, and given to the damsel: and she brought it to her mother. And his disciples came, and took up the body, and buried it, and went and told Jesus."
Matthew 14:6-12, KJV

Not only was Jesus' forerunner -- and Prophet -- beheaded by an evil Jewish king, but according to the Book of Acts, some years later, another evil Jewish king, Herod Agrippa -- who was the grandson of Herod the Great, and also the nephew of Herod Antipas -- began a campaign of persecution against the leadership of the First Century Church. Not only are we told that Herod Agrippa murdered James, the brother of John, with a sword -- probably meaning that he was beheaded -- but when the king saw that his violent actions against the Christians pleased the blood-thirsty Jews, he attempted to do the same thing to Peter. However, Herod Agrippa was frustrated in his evil machinations when God performed a miracle, and Peter was released from prison by an Angel, as we see by these verses:

"Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.) And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people. Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him. And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison. And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up

quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands. And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me. And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision. When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him. And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews."

Acts 12:1-11, KJV

As I explain in great detail in such series as "The Fruits Of Disobedience", throughout the Bible -- in both the Old and the New Testaments -- we find the Lord punishing rebellious Israel through invasion after invasion by the pagan nations which surrounded her. So I must ask: Why should that change in these Last Days? The situation really hasn't changed that much over the centuries. The vast majority of Jews continue to reject Jesus Christ as God's Son, and as the only Savior of the world. In fact, as I point out in such articles as "The Woman In The Wilderness And The 144,000", and also in "The Great Tribulation And The Rapture", even if the 144,000 sealed servants of the Lord who are mentioned in Revelation chapter seven are Messianic Jews, that is only about one per cent of the entire, worldwide Jewish population. One per cent.

So the truth of the matter is that the rest of the Jews -- both within Israel and without -- remain just as antichrist as they have ever been. Ninety-nine per cent of them do not accept Jesus Christ as their Savior. So tell me; what have they really done to assuage God's anger against them? Very little, it seems to me; which is why I believe that they are going to have to suffer during the Great Tribulation period. God must bring those proud Jews to their knees, and He may use the violence and the hatred of Islamic extremists to do it. If He used pagan nations to punish Israel in times past, He can certainly do it in these modern times as well, if He so pleases.

In his second Epistle, the Apostle Peter informs us that our God is indeed an extremely patient, loving and merciful God; and His patience with the obstinate Jews over the past two thousand years is clear proof of this. Consider this verse:

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

2 Peter 3:9, KJV

Following are some additional verses concerning the extent of God's patience, mercy and compassion, for your personal consideration:

"The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide: neither will

he keep his anger for ever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust. As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more. But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them."
Psalms 103:8-18, KJV

"The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy."
Psalms 145:8, KJV

"It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."
Lamentations 3:22-23, KJV

"The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet."
Nahum 1:3, KJV

"And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil."
Jonah 4:2, KJV

"And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil."
Joel 2:13, KJV

Of course, as I explain in a number of other articles, as the Apostle Paul informs us in his scholarly Epistle to the Roman brethren, the unbelief of the Jews has been to the advantage of the Gentile world, because it has allowed all of us to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Nevertheless, the patience of the Lord cannot -- and will not -- last forever; and the time of Israel's judgment must eventually arrive. Therefore, it seems to me that the axe may already be poised to strike the symbolic fig tree -- that is, Israel -- as she is even now surrounded by her potential Islamic executioners. While Israel has prevailed against her Muslim enemies until now, as a result of her obvious military advantage, if God chooses to punish her once more, this advantage could prove to be quite meaningless. This is in fact a scenario which I discuss in the series "The Great Tribulation And The Rapture", as well as in "Oh Israel, Why Will Ye Die?". Furthermore, even King David realized that all of the military forces in the world are utterly meaningless, if we are not truly trusting in the

Lord, as we see here:

"Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God."

Psalms 20:7, KJV

Allow me to remind you that while King David was both a king as well as an efficient military leader who trusted in the Lord, it was because of the fact that David was a man of war that God did not permit him to build the temple. The Bible informs us that this task was left to his son, Solomon. The reason why I am mentioning this point, is because there will undoubtedly be some people who will read that verse, and use it to try to justify the actions of so-called "Christian" US presidents -- such as former president George W. Bush -- who persuade American Christians that their wars against other nations are both righteous and justified. As I explain in a number of my politically-oriented articles, this is not what Jesus Christ -- or His followers -- taught us whatsoever. It is my firm belief that all war is ugly, evil and ungodly; and that it is usually motivated by some form of greed, despite the reasons that national leaders may offer the public.

Returning our attention to the specific teachings of Islam's holy book, the Qur'an, and its author, Muhammad, in the Old Testament, the Prophet Isaiah warns us not to call good, evil, and evil, good, as we see here:

"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

Isaiah 5:20, KJV

Despite this Biblical admonition against deception, this is exactly what Muhammad is doing in the following verse from the Qur'an. In fact, the entire Qur'an is a deception. It is a not-so-subtle twisting of Scriptural truth:

2: 91. "Evil is that which they have sold their souls - that they should disbelieve in what ALLAH has revealed, grudging that ALLAH should send down HIS grace on whomsoever of HIS servants HE pleases. So they have incurred wrath upon wrath; and there is a humiliating chastisement for the disbelievers."

In other words, Muhammad -- by way of the Qur'an -- is making his case against those who don't accept him as a prophet; and he is saying that it is evil for anyone to not believe what Allah has supposedly revealed to him. As you may know, God's real inspired Word -- the Bible -- informs us that the reward of those who twist the truth will be their own destruction, as we see by this verse, also written by the Apostle Peter:

"As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction."

2 Peter 3:16, KJV

Taking this delusion a step further, in the very same surah, Muhammad also claims that he received the words of the Qur'an by direct revelation from the Angel Gabriel. As a result, in

Muhammad's twisted view, whoever rejects the Qur'an, is also rejecting God, the Angels, His messengers, and also Gabriel and Michael. In short, Muhammad is saying that such people are both disbelievers, and the enemies of God. By using the word "messengers", I am assuming that Muhammad is referring to human messengers -- such as himself -- being as the word "angel" is actually derived from the Hebrew word "malak", which is translated into the English language as messenger, angel or ambassador. Following is Mohammad's teaching from the Qur'an:

2: 98-99. "Say 'Whoever is an enemy to Gabriel' - for he it is who has caused it to descend on thy heart by the command of ALLAH, fulfilling that revelation which precedes it, and is a guidance and glad tidings to the believers. Whoever is an enemy to ALLAH, and HIS angels, and HIS Messengers, and Gabriel, and Michael, then surely, ALLAH is an enemy to such disbelievers.'"

In the previous two verses which are found in Surah Two, in his attempt to legitimize his claim of being the prophet of Allah, Muhammad resorts to the same tactic that I mentioned in part one of this series. As you may recall, according to Surah Sixty-One, even Jesus Christ prophesied of the coming of Muhammad; but in the previous two verses, I believe that Muhammad may be referring to something else when he uses the phrase "fulfilling that revelation which precedes it".

If my understanding is correct -- and it does appear to be confirmed by online information regarding Islam -- these two verses are directly tied to the Muslim belief that the Angel Gabriel revealing the Qur'an to Muhammad, and Muhammad being chosen by Allah to be his prophet, is a direct fulfillment of a previous revelation, or prophecy, that was given to another Prophet who is highly esteemed within Islam. I'm referring to Moses, the great leader and liberator of the Hebrew children; although it was actually God, of course, who truly freed the ancient Israelites from Egyptian bondage after four hundred years of suffering under the Egyptian whip. As we discussed in part one, Moses is mentioned quite extensively throughout the Qur'an, and the followers of Islam have great regard for him. So what is the prophecy -- or revelation -- that Moses made, which supposedly foretells of the arrival of Muhammad? I believe that it is the following, which I also mention in such series as "Elijah: Where Are The True Prophets?":

"The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken; According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not. And the LORD said unto me, They have well spoken that which they have spoken. I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him."

Deuteronomy 18:15-19, KJV

As I explain in the aforementioned series, the Jews were very well aware of Moses' prophecy. It is for this reason that in his Gospel, the Apostle John informs us that upon learning of

John the Baptist's activities at the Jordan River, they sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to question John. Notice exactly what they asked him in the following verses:

"And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, What then? Art thou Elias? And he saith, I am not. Art thou that prophet? And he answered, No. Then said they unto him, Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias. And they which were sent were of the Pharisees. And they asked him, and said unto him, Why baptizest thou then, if thou be not that Christ, nor Elias, neither that prophet? John answered them, saying, I baptize with water: but there standeth one among you, whom ye know not; He it is, who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose."
John 1:19-27, KJV

As you can plainly see, when the Jews inquired of John the Baptist, they made a clear distinction between Elias -- the Greek form of Eliyahu, or Elijah as we English readers know him -- the Christ, and "that prophet". Twice the Jews used the phrase "that prophet" in the previous verses, and it is assumed that they were referring to the Prophet which Moses had written about in the Deuteronomy prophecy. As I explain in "Elijah: Where Are The True Prophets?", John the Baptist fulfilled Malachi's prophecies concerning the coming of the Prophet Elijah. Jesus said so quite plainly Himself, even though John the Baptist denied that he was Elijah, probably out of a sense of humility.

Please note that my personal belief regarding this matter is that John the Baptist was not really Elijah raised from the dead or reincarnated; rather, I believe that Jesus was saying that John the Baptist carried the same spiritual anointing as the Old Testament Prophet Elijah. In fact, this is precisely what the Angel Gabriel told John's father, Zacharias, in the temple, prior to John's birth. Consider the following verses that are found in Luke chapter one:

"And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. AND HE SHALL GO BEFORE HIM IN THE SPIRIT AND POWER OF ELIAS, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."
Luke 1:11-17, KJV

So, if John fulfilled the role of Elijah, but was not "that

prophet" or the Christ, as per the previous verses from John, then who was Moses prophesying about? As I noted previously, the followers of Islam are convinced that this prophecy was fulfilled in their prophet Muhammad; which in my view is the furthest thing from the truth, and just another Satanic lie. There is no doubt in my mind whatsoever that Jesus is the one who fulfilled the prophecy of Moses. Moses clearly said that God would raise up this Prophet "from the midst of thee, of thy brethren . . . I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren", and this is exactly what happened. God did in fact raise up Jesus from His own brethren -- that is, the Jews -- and in return, the vast majority of Jews chose to reject Him, as they have done to this day, as we see by the following verses:

"He came unto his own, and his own received him not."
John 1:11, KJV

"He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not."
Isaiah 53:3, KJV

Not only was Jesus raised up amongst His own Jewish brethren, but in fulfillment of the prophecy, He was likewise every bit as knowledgeable of Torah law as Moses was. Furthermore, God did in fact put His words in the mouth of Jesus, exactly as the prophecy said He would. On a number of occasions, Jesus emphasized the fact that He did and said whatever the Father showed Him, as we see by these verses:

"Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel."
John 5:19-20, KJV

"I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me."
John 5:30, KJV

At the very end of the same chapter, in His final rebuttal to His unbelieving Jewish accusers, Jesus made it clear once and for all that Moses was indeed referring to Him as the Prophet that should come, in the prophecy that is found in the Book of Deuteronomy, as we see here:

"For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for HE WROTE OF ME. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?"
John 5:46-47, KJV

In fact, after witnessing the miracles that Jesus performed, the disciples of John the Baptist were convinced that Jesus was indeed the Prophet of whom Moses had prophesied, as we see by the following verse. Please notice again that John's disciples refer to Jesus as "that prophet":

"Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus

did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world."

John 6:14, KJV

In my view, there is absolutely no room for misunderstanding or error here. Jesus fulfilled the prophecy of Moses, and NOT the Islamic prophet Muhammad. Despite this fact, about three quarters through the Qur'an, we find another verse which also very subtly suggests that Muhammad is the fulfillment of the prophecy spoken by Moses, by making a link between Moses and Muhammad. Consider what verse sixteen of Surah Seventy-Three has to say:

73: 16. "Verily, WE have sent to you a Messenger, who is a witness over you, even as WE sent a Messenger to Pharaoh;"

Obviously, the purpose of this verse is to make a connection with the words in the prophecy of Moses which say "Like unto me". In other words, this prophesied Prophet would be like unto Moses. He would be a great messenger to the people. So as we've already seen, it is because of this purported link between Moses and Muhammad, that Moses is spoken of quite extensively throughout the Qur'an. In fact, Moses is spoken about much more in the Qur'an than any other personality who we are familiar with in the Holy Scriptures.

Of course, in order to elevate himself as the great and final prophet, Muhammad had to find a way to demote Jesus from His rightful place as the second most powerful Being in Heaven, who is worthy of our praise and honor. The way that Muhammad accomplished this feat, is by telling his followers that at the time of the Resurrection, all of the prophets -- such as Jesus -- who were worshipped as gods by their followers, will not only become the enemies of those who worshipped them, but they will refuse to be worshipped as well, as we see by this verse that is found in Surah Forty-Six:

46: 7. "And when mankind are raised up after death, the false deities will be enemies of their worshippers and will deny their worship."

A few verses later in the same surah, a sly question is asked regarding what will happen to a person who denies that Moses was referring to Muhammad as the coming Prophet in the Book of Deuteronomy. This is what the following verse means when it states "bears witness to the advent of one like him". In other words, one like Moses, meaning Muhammad:

46: 11. "Say, 'Tell me, if this Qur'an is from ALLAH and you disbelieve therein, and a witness from among the Children of Israel bears witness to the advent of one like him, and he believed, but you are too proud to believe, how should you fare ?' Verily ALLAH guides not the wrongdoing people."

Only two verses later, Muhammad makes it very plain that he is referring to the Book of Moses, and more specifically, to the Book of Deuteronomy, where the prophecy is found which supposedly speaks of his own advent, or coming, as the great and final prophet of God:

46: 13. "And before it there was the Book of Moses, a guide

and a mercy; and this is a Book in the Arabic language, fulfilling previous prophecies, that it may warn those who do wrong, and give glad tidings to those who do good."

So again we see that Muhammad is convinced -- and is likewise trying to convince his followers -- that his arrival on Earth as a prophet and messenger of Allah, is a fulfillment of the previous prophecy that was prophesied by Moses in the Book of Deuteronomy. As we saw in part one, Islam's holy book -- the Qur'an -- makes the claim that Jesus likewise prophesied of the coming of Muhammad. Thus, this is a double heresy, and a doctrine of devils. Despite the abundant Scriptural evidence which absolutely refutes the misguided claims that are made by Muhammad in the Qur'an, millions of the followers of Islam continue to believe that Moses and Jesus both prophesied of the arrival of Muhammad during the seventh century. This is the furthest thing from the truth. It is an absolute satanic deception.

Please go to part four for the continuation of this series.

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HOLY QUR'AN AND ISLAM: A DOCTRINE OF DEVILS? - PART 4

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Muhammad: A Lying, Manipulative, Self-Aggrandizing Deceiver Who Cast Doubt On Jesus' Messiahship And On Trustworthiness Of The Bible, New Age Gurus And Dangerous New Revelations, Mixing Truth With His Lies Is The Devil's Age-Old Technique, Muhammad Claimed The Right To Discard Portions Of The Bible And Replace Them With His Own "Improved" Revelations, New Age Thought And The Qur'an Both Try To Rewrite The Bible, Muhammad Capitalized On Differences Between Christians And Jews In Order To Exalt Islam, Muhammad Preached A Religion Of Good Works And Rejected Necessity Of Christ's Sacrifice, Followers Of Islam Don't Believe Jesus Died On The Cross, Modern Judaism And Islam Are Co-Partners In Rebellion And Sin Because They Reject Christ As The Savior Of The World, Let No Man Call God A Liar, Muslims Don't Accept The Gospel, Jesus Preached The Good News And Glad Tidings Of Salvation, Both Jews And Muslims Reject Associating Any Deity With God

Based on what I have read in the Qur'an, there is no doubt in my mind that Muhammad -- the prophet of Islam -- was a lying, manipulative and self-aggrandizing deceiver, who preached a dangerous doctrine of devils, which has deceived the souls of billions of people, and led them astray from the truth of the Bible, for almost fourteen hundred years now. Muhammad's goal

was to found a new religion, in which he established himself as the greatest prophet of all time. As we saw earlier in the series, in order to achieve this objective, Muhammad found it necessary to demote Jesus as the Son of God and Savior of the world, and to place Him in the ranks of other Prophets, who did not require that they be worshipped.

But this willful act of casting down the Son of God was not enough. In addition to casting doubt upon Jesus' Messiahship, Muhammad also had to cast doubt upon the trustworthiness of the Holy Scriptures, particularly upon the New Testament, in order to elevate the importance of his own writings in the Qur'an, which, as we know, contradict what we are taught in the Bible, concerning the Divine Mission and Role of Jesus Christ as the only Savior of the world. But how Muhammad goes about accomplishing this goal is rather subtle. In the verse that follows from Surah Three, Muhammad claims to accept the Bible as the inspired Word of God:

3: 4. "HE has sent down to thee the Book containing the truth and fulfilling that which precedes it; and HE has sent down the Torah and the Gospel before this, as a guidance to the people; and HE has sent down the Discrimination."

In the previous verse, I believe that when Muhammad uses the phrase "the Book", he's referring to the full canonical Bible which was compiled several centuries earlier. This would help to explain why he then adds "the Torah and the Gospel before this". In other words, before the complete Bible was compiled several hundred years after the time of Christ. However, once Muhammad claims to accept the Bible, only four verses he adds that the problem is that some of it has been misinterpreted, as we see here:

3: 8. "HE it is who has sent down to thee the Book; in it there are verses that are firm and decisive in meaning - they are the basis of the Book - and there are others that are susceptible of different interpretations. But those in whose hearts is perversity pursue such thereof as are susceptible of different interpretations, seeking to cause discord and seeking wrong interpretations of it. And none knows it except ALLAH and those who are firmly grounded in knowledge; they say, 'We believe in it; the whole is from our Lord.' - And none take heed except those gifted with understanding -"

Now, on the surface, what Muhammad is saying appears to be the truth. In other words, as honest Christians, even we can admit that there are certain portions of the Bible that are very easy to understand. These are the parts which Muhammad refers to as being "firm and decisive in meaning". But there are other more profound parts of the Bible which are open to a lot of different interpretations. Furthermore, as we saw in part three, there have always been people who will take certain ambiguous verses from the Bible, and corrupt their meaning in order to achieve their own unscrupulous goals. So what Muhammad is saying is true in that regard.

However, it is the final part of the previous verse from the Qur'an which should cause alarm amongst Christians; because what Muhammad appears to be inferring, is that while certain people believe that the whole Bible is inspired by God -- he

says "the whole is from our Lord" -- he doesn't believe that this is necessarily so; but only people who are "gifted with understanding" will realize this; at least so says Muhammad.

Some of you who are reading this series are undoubtedly aware of the fact that one popular approach that is used by certain New Age adherents, such as the people who support and promote the demonic work known as the Urantia Book -- or the Unbelief Book as I prefer to call it -- is to say that God has given them "new revelations" for a New Age. Similar to Muhammad, some of these people also claim that the Bible contains many errors, misunderstandings, misquotations, and outright lies. These misguided deceivers claim that through their so-called "new revelations", God is simply clearing things up for us, and giving us a better understanding regarding what He really said and meant when He spoke through the Prophets and Holy Men of ages past.

If you are a long-time reader of my work, then you no doubt already know my views concerning this New Age nonsense. It's nothing but poisonous psychobabble and lies, spun in Satan's workshops of deception. Of course, as I explain in a number of my articles, Satan has been relying upon this technique of mixing the truth with lies for a very long time; so it should come as no surprise to us that Muhammad likewise became one of his pawns fourteen hundred years ago. While claiming that Islam accepts the Bible as a previous inspired Word of God, Muhammad then proceeds to inform us that nevertheless, some updating and clarification of its contents is required, even if it results in protests from us Christian believers, as we see by the following verses:

2:106-107. "They who disbelieve from among the people of the Book, or from among those who associate gods with ALLAH, desire not that any good should be sent down to you from your Lord; but ALLAH chooses for HIS mercy whomsoever HE pleases; and ALLAH is Lord of exceeding bounty. Whatever message WE abrogate or cause to be forgotten, WE bring one better than that or the like thereof. Knowest thou not that ALLAH has the power to do all that HE wills ?"

What Muhammad is actually saying in those two verses is that unbelievers -- meaning people who accept the Bible, but who reject Muhammad's message -- don't want him to receive any "new revelations" from Allah. However, Allah chooses whoever he will to receive these new revelations; meaning, of course, Muhammad. He then goes on to say that if they -- meaning the beings in the Muslim spiritual hierarchy -- break or discard anything from the Bible, we really shouldn't worry about it, because the "newer revelations" which are being revealed to Muhammad will be equal to, or even better than, the Biblical passages which have been discarded.

As I noted earlier, this is exactly what we find happening in New Age thought as well. For example, the Urantia Book falsely claims to tie up loose ends in order to bring unity to different ideas, and to questions that remain unanswered in the Bible. In the Qur'an, Muhammad makes this very same claim. In other words, both New Age adherents, and Muhammad, are trying to rewrite, or at least trying to reinterpret, the Bible according to their own whims. The following verse that is found in Surah Two provides additional proof that

Muhammad was intent on corrupting the central truth of the Scriptures:

2:214. "Mankind were one community, then they differed among themselves, so ALLAH raised Prophets as bearers of good tidings and as warners, and sent down with them the book containing the truth that HE might judge between the people wherein they differed. But then they began to differ about the Book, and none differed about it except those to whom it was given, after clear Signs had come to them, out of envy towards one another. Now has ALLAH, by HIS command, guided the believers to the truth in regard to which they (the unbelievers) differed; and ALLAH guides whomsoever HE pleases to the right path."

Again we see that Satan -- via his pawn Muhammad -- mixes a degree of truth with his lies. He purposely says something which he knows a lot of people will agree with; and that is that a great division has indeed existed between the people of the Book -- meaning Christians and Jews -- as a result of Jesus Christ. But there is no need for us to worry, because as Muhammad writes, "Now has ALLAH, by HIS command, guided the believers to the truth in regard to which they (the unbelievers) differed". Exactly what is this truth that will supposedly bridge the gap and unite all Christians, Jews and Muslims?

As it will become very clear to you by the time that you've finished reading this series, and as I have already stated a number of times, this "truth" is that Jesus is NOT the Son of God, or the Savior of the world who died for the sins of mankind. Muhammad is persuaded that by removing this Divine Status from Jesus, we can all live in peaceful agreement and coexistence. This same tactic of mixing a degree of truth in with his lies is used throughout the Qur'an by Muhammad. Not only that, but Muhammad repeatedly uses the differences that exist between Jews and Christians, as a means to exalt Islam. We see this same subtle approach being used quite clearly in verses such as the following:

2:112-114 "And they say. 'None shall enter Heaven unless he be a Jew or a Christian.' These are their vain desires. Say, 'Produce your proof, if you are truthful.' Nay, whosoever submits himself completely to ALLAH and he is the doer of good, shall have his reward from his Lord. No fear shall come on them nor shall they grieve. And the Jews say, 'The Christians stand on nothing' and the Christians say, 'The Jews stand on nothing;' while they both read the same book. Even thus said those, who had no knowledge, like what they say. But ALLAH shall judge between them on the Day of Resurrection concerning that wherein they disagree."

What Muhammad is basically saying is that the Jews say one thing, while the Christians say another, but God will sort it all out on the Day of Resurrection. While this is indeed true, it is what Muhammad says next that is both deceptive and dangerous, because once again he purposely omits Jesus as a necessary part of God's Salvation Equation. Muhammad rationalizes that all we have to do is submit ourselves to the will of Allah -- which is what the word "Muslim" means -- by doing good deeds, and in his view, it will be enough for us to obtain our Eternal Reward. But tell me; how can a

Muslim claim to be submitting to Allah, or to God, or even claim to believe in all of His Words, when he denies the Divine Sacrifice of God's Son?

But you see, that is the gist of the matter: Muslims don't believe that God's Word says that Jesus is the Son of God; and as I mentioned earlier, this key point will become even more evident to you as we continue our discussion concerning Islam and the teachings of its false prophet, Muhammad.

Equally important is the fact that -- as I've often stated in my articles -- any attempt on our part to try to merit Eternal Salvation through our own good deeds, but without acknowledging the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ, amounts to a religion of works, and it simply will not suffice in God's eyes. The reason why this is so, is because according to the laws of the Old Testament concerning sin, the only way to atone for sin is through a blood sacrifice; which is why it became necessary for Jesus to make the Final Atonement for our sins on Calvary almost two thousand years ago. For more information concerning this topic, please consider reading such articles as "The Blood Atonement: In Jesus' Own Words", "Message To The World", "Is Jesus The Only Begotten Son Of God?" and similar articles which deal with the issue of Salvation.

Furthermore, as Jesus made it very clear in the Gospels, He and His Father are a package deal. We cannot accept the one without the other; and to deny the one, is to likewise deny the other; which is exactly what Muslims do when they deny that Jesus is the Son of God. Consider the following verses that are found in the Gospels:

"He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me."
Matthew 10:40, KJV

"He that heareth you heareth me; and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth him that sent me."
Luke 10:16, KJV

"I and my Father are one . . . If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him."
John 10:30, 37-38, KJV

As you will see by the following extracts taken from various surahs of the Qur'an, there is absolutely no doubt that the followers of Islam not only do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God, but neither do they believe that He died a cruel death on a Roman cross for the sins of the world.

As I've already stated, the followers of Islam quite readily accept that Jesus was sent by God. They even acknowledge that He fulfilled Old Testament Scriptures and that He was a great Prophet of God; but as far as His Crucifixion is concerned, they simply deny that it ever happened, due to the lies that are told by their false prophet -- Muhammad -- in the Qur'an. The followers of Islam are convinced that Christ's death on the Cross was a deceitful trick, and that Allah prevented it

from ever happening. Muslims also claim that His Disciples are confused about the matter. Finally, Muhammad claims that Jesus lived out a full life on Earth, and then died a natural death. The followers of Islam believe that Jesus is currently waiting to be resurrected from the dead, just like everyone else. Here then is the Qur'an's account of what supposedly happened to Jesus:

5:47. "And WE caused Jesus, son of Mary, to follow in their footsteps, fulfilling that which was revealed before him in the Torah; and WE gave him the Gospel which contained guidance and light, fulfilling that which was revealed before him in the Torah; and a guidance and an admonition for the God-fearing."

4:158. "And for their saying, 'We did slay the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the Messenger of ALLAH;' whereas they slew him not, nor did they bring about his death upon the cross, but he was made to appear to them like one crucified; and those who differ therein are certainly in a state of doubt about it; they have no certain knowledge thereof, but only pursue a conjecture; and they did not arrive at a certainty concerning it."

3:56. "Remember the time when ALLAH said 'O Jesus, I will cause thee to die a natural death and will raise thee to Myself, and will clear thee of the charges of those who disbelieve, and will exalt those who follow thee above those who disbelieve, until the Day of Resurrection; then to ME shall be your return, and I will judge between you concerning that wherein you differ."

3:60-63. "Surely the case of Jesus is like the case of Adam. HE created him out of dust, then he said to him, 'Be', and he was. This is the truth from thy Lord, so be thou not of those who doubt. Now whoso disputes with thee concerning him, after what has come to thee of Knowledge, say to him 'Come, let us call our sons and your sons, and our women and your women, and our people and your people; then let us pray fervently and invoke the curse of ALLAH on those who lie. This certainly is the true account. There is none worthy of worship save ALLAH; and surely, it is ALLAH Who is the Mighty, the Wise."

5:111. "When ALLAH will say, 'O Jesus son of Mary, remember MY favour upon thee and upon thy mother; When I strengthened thee with the spirit of holiness so that thou didst speak to the people in the cradle and when of middle age; and when I taught thee the Book and the wisdom and the Torah and the Gospel; and when thou didst fashion a creation out of clay, in the likeness of a bird, by MY command; then thou didst breathe into it a new spirit and it became a soaring being by MY command; and thou didst heal the night-blind and the leprous by MY command; and when thou didst raise the dead by MY command; and when I restrained the Children of Israel from putting thee to death when thou didst come to them with clear Signs; and those who disbelieved from among them said, 'This is nothing but clear deception.'"

9:30. "And the Jews say, 'Ezra is the son of ALLAH,' and the Christians say, 'the Messiah is the son of ALLAH;' that is what they say with their mouths. They only imitate the

saying of those who disbelieved before them. ALLAH's curse be on them ! How they are turned away."

So as you can plainly see by the previous verses, Muhammad's solution to anyone who continues to insist that Jesus is the Son of God who died for the sins of the world, and who was raised from the dead on the third day, is simply to claim that they have turned away from the truth, and to curse them all in the name of Allah.

The reality of the situation -- as I have long believed -- is that the Jews and the Muslims are guilty of the very same sin of unbelief in Jesus Christ being the Son of God who died for the sins of the world. While the followers of Islam believe that Jesus didn't really die on the Cross, as I've mentioned before, according to Matthew chapter twenty-eight, the Jews concocted the story that following His Death on the Cross, the Disciples simply stole His body, and Jesus wasn't really raised from the dead. In fact, the Jewish Elders bribed the soldiers who had watched over Jesus' grave with money. Here is the account as told by Matthew:

"Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done. And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept. And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you. So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day."
Matthew 28:11-15, KJV

What we see then, is that both modern Judaism and Islam are based on one central lie: absolute denial of Jesus' role as the Son of God, and the Savior of the world. Both of these religions can claim to believe in the One True God, but by denying what God chose to do through Christ, they've become false, deceptive religions which do not lead to Salvation of any kind. Furthermore, by denying Christ's role, they are in essence calling God and His Holy Word a lie. As you may know, the Bible has some very strong things to say concerning this issue, as we see by the following verses:

"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?"
Numbers 23:19, KJV

"God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged."
Romans 3:4, KJV

"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;"
Titus 1:2, KJV

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a

liar, and the father of it."
John 8:44, KJV

"Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ?
He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son."
1 John 2:22, KJV

"He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in
himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar;
because he believeth not the record that God gave of his
Son."
1 John 5:10, KJV

"If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and
his word is not in us."
1 John 1:10, KJV

In previous verses from the Qur'an, I have demonstrated how
the followers of Islam claim to accept the Gospel; yet if we
stop to examine the actual meaning of the word, we realize
that this really isn't the case whatsoever. Our English word
"Gospel" is derived from the Greek word "euaggelion", which
means to bring or to proclaim good news, or to announce glad
tidings. Here is a more amplified definition of the word:

----- Begin Quote -----

1) a reward for good tidings

2) good tidings

2a) the glad tidings of the kingdom of God soon to be set
up, and subsequently also of Jesus the Messiah, the
founder of this kingdom. After the death of Christ, the
term comprises also the preaching of (concerning) Jesus
Christ as having suffered death on the cross to procure
eternal salvation for the men in the kingdom of God, but
as restored to life and exalted to the right hand of God
in heaven, thence to return in majesty to consummate the
kingdom of God.

2b) the glad tidings of salvation through Christ.

2c) the proclamation of the grace of God manifest and
pledged in Christ

----- End Quote -----

These are the same glad, or good, tidings that the Prophet
Isaiah was referring to when he wrote the following lines
over twenty-five hundred years ago:

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that
bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth
good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith
unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!"
Isaiah 52:7, KJV

"The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD
hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he
hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim
liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to

them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;"
Isaiah 61:1-2, KJV

In the previous verses, the Hebrew equivalent for the phrase "good tidings" is the word "basar". What I find particularly interesting about these verses is the fact that they are one of the very first prophecies that Jesus quoted when He began His public ministry in the synagogue at Nazareth, as we see by the following verses that are found in the Gospel of Luke:

"And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears."
Luke 4:16-21, KJV

From the previous information, it is plain to see then, that the actual meaning of the word "Gospel" is the good news, or the glad tidings, that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to our world, in order to die for the sins of humankind, so that we can inherit Eternal Life through repentance and belief in His Name. This is what is meant by the word "Gospel"; and it is the central tenet of our faith, which both the followers of Islam, and most Jews, soundly reject. Through their sound rejection of Jesus Christ -- who is the only-begotten Son of God, and the only Mediator between God and man who died on a Roman Cross for the sins of the world, and thus became the Firstfruits of the Resurrection of the dead -- these faiths, Islam and Judaism, have become false religions, which lead to damnation, rather than to Salvation. They are co-partners in rebellion and sin against the Words of the Most High God.

Concerning the unbelieving Jews, in spite of the fact that Jesus fulfilled literally hundreds of ancient Old Testament prophecies through His Birth, Life, Death, and Resurrection, the stubborn Jewish hierarchy of that time rejected Him as the foretold Messiah, or Moshiah; and the majority of their descendants have continued this misguided practice to this very day. While many of the common people were aware of and expected the coming Messiah, and gladly received Jesus when He arrived, the Council of Seventy -- who were known as the Sanhedrin, and who also were aware of the Scriptures -- in the end clung to their "only-one-God" mentality, as we can see by the following verses:

"And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he:"
Mark 12:32, KJV

"Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God."

John 5:18, KJV

Just like the followers of Islam, the Jews were willing to accept Jesus as a Great Teacher and a Prophet come from God, but not as the Son of God, or the promised Messiah, in spite of the many miracles which He performed in their midst. While the Jews and the Arabs hate each other due to their millennia old sibling rivalries -- some of them are half-brothers as a result of a common ancestry through Abraham -- insofar as the status of Jesus Christ is concerned, they have much more in common with each other, than we Christians do with either one of these faiths. As we have seen through previous verses from the Qur'an, the followers of Islam also cling to the "One-God" mentality, and only respect Christ as a Great Teacher and a Prophet. Following are some additional verses from the Qur'an which clearly substantiate this point:

2:134, 136, 139, 164. "Were you present when death came to Jacob, when he said to his sons. 'What will you worship after me?' They answered, 'We will worship thy God, the God of thy fathers, Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac, the One God; and to HIM we submit ourselves.' . . . And they say, 'Be ye Jews or Christians, then you will be rightly guided,' Say 'Nay, but follow ye the religion of Abraham who was ever inclined to ALLAH; he was not of those who associated gods with ALLAH.' . . . Say, 'We have adopted the religion of ALLAH; and who is better than ALLAH in teaching religion, and him alone do we worship.' . . . And your God is One God; there is no God but HE, the Gracious, the Merciful."

3:65, 68. "Say, 'O people of the Book ! come to a word equal to us and you - that we worship none but ALLAH, and that we associate no partner with HIM, and that some of us take not others for Lords beside ALLAH.' But if they turn away, then say 'Bear witness that we have submitted to God.' . . . Abraham was neither a Jew nor a Christian but he was ever inclined to God and obedient to HIM, and he was not of those who associate gods with ALLAH."

4:49. "Surely, ALLAH will not forgive that a partner be associated with HIM; but HE will forgive whatever is short of that to whomsoever HE pleases. And whoso associates partners with ALLAH has indeed devised a very great sin."

So as you can see, just like the Jews, the followers of Islam strongly resist associating any other deity with God, and in fact view it as "a very great sin". This is why they simply cannot accept that Jesus is the Son of God. This idea of accepting Jesus as a Prophet, but rejecting Him as the Son of God is also subtly hidden in the following verses as well:

3:80-81. "It does not befit a truthful man that ALLAH should give him the Book and Wisdom and Prophethood, and then he should say to men, 'Be my worshippers instead of ALLAH; but he would say, 'Be solely devoted to the Lord because you teach the book and because you study it. Nor does it befit that he should bid you to take angels and Prophets for lords."

What ! would he enjoin you to disbelieve after you have submitted to God."

Please go to part five for the continuation of this series.

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HOLY QUR'AN AND ISLAM: A DOCTRINE OF DEVILS? - PART 5

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Jesus Is The Second Most Powerful Being In Heaven After His Father, Jesus Will Ultimately Submit Himself To His Father, Jesus's Rightful Place At The Right Hand Of God The Father, Muhammad Adamantly Rejects Jesus Christ Being The Son Of God, Jesus Is Our High Priest Intercessor And Mediator Before God, Muhammad Insisted That His God Allah Requires No Intercessor, The New Age Great White Brotherhood And The Ascended Masters, Do Followers Of Islam Really Accept Christian Gospel?, God's Requirements For Obtaining Salvation, Which Angel Gabriel?, Biblical Warning Concerning False Apostles, Satan The False Angel Of Light, Islamic Heaven, Eternal Life Or Judgment? Muhammad's Self-Promotion As Bearer Of Glad Tidings & Truth, Muhammad's Ultimate Goal Was For Islam To Prevail Over All Religions, Light Of God's Word, Jesus: Light Of The World, Was Muhammad Truly A Light-Giving Lamp And A Bearer Of Glad Tidings?, Biblical Admonitions Regarding False Bearers Of Light, Verses On Spiritual Blindness And Hardness Of Heart

To begin this part of our series, allow me to make an important point. In all of the years that I've been teaching the Bible, I've never stated that Jesus is equal with God the Father insofar as His level of Authority is concerned. While it is indeed true that God the Father bestowed upon Jesus all of His Power and Authority while Jesus served as His Father's Ambassador here on the Earth, nevertheless, the Bible clearly indicates that ultimately, Jesus must still submit Himself to His Father's Will. This Scripture-based point alone supports my position that the Authority of the Father supersedes that of the Son. If one has greater Authority than the other, then obviously, they cannot be truly equal in every regard, as a number of misguided Christian leaders and teachers propose.

While God the Father and His Son may be viewed as being equal from the perspective that both of them are powerful Spiritual Beings, as I explain in a number of my articles, even Jesus Himself never claimed that He is equal to God the Father when it comes to levels of Divine Authority. In other words, while they work as one in spiritual harmony and unity -- please see the seventeenth chapter of the Gospel of John -- ultimately,

Jesus made it very clear that in matters of Divine Authority, His Father is in charge, that He -- meaning Jesus -- occupies the Second Position in rank at His Father's Right Hand, and that He must submit Himself to His Father's Will.

While some Christians have found my position to be heretical, as far as I am concerned, it is completely supported by the Scriptures, as we see by the verses which follow below. As you carefully study the following verses, please pay special attention to some of the key words and phrases that are used in them, such as:

1. "is given unto me"
2. "hath given him authority"
3. "if thou be willing"
4. "nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done"
5. "I can of mine own self do nothing"
6. "I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me"
7. "the Father hath sent me"
8. "he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death"

All of the previous phrases indicate that Jesus received His Power and Authority from Someone greater than Himself; that is, from His Father, to whom He had to submit Himself, even to the point of death. Here then are the full verses for your consideration:

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth."
Matthew 28:18, KJV

"For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him."
John 3:34, KJV

"For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man."
John 5:26-27, KJV

"And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done."
Luke 22:41-42, KJV

"I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true. There is another that beareth witness of me; and I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me is true . . . But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given

me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me . . ."
John 5:30-32, 36-37a, KJV

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."
Philippians 2:5-11, KJV

"For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."
Romans 14:11, KJV

"For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."
Colossians 2:9, KJV

I have left the following verses for last, due to the fact that the way in which they have been translated into English -- with so many he's and him's -- may be a bit difficult for some young Christians to understand. The words that you see in brackets are mine, and have been placed there for the sake of clarification. What these verses are saying, is that when all is said and done, Jesus will subject Himself to His Father, so that God the Father may be all in all:

"Then cometh the end, when he [Jesus] shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he [Jesus] shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he [Jesus] must reign, till he [Jesus] hath put all enemies under his [under Jesus'] feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he [God the Father] hath put all things under his [under Jesus'] feet. But when he [God the Father] saith all things are put under him [under Jesus], it is manifest that he [God the Father] is excepted, which did put all things under him [under Jesus]. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, [unto Jesus] then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him [unto God the Father] that put all things under him [under Jesus], that God may be all in all."
1 Corinthians 15:24-28, KJV

As I noted earlier, while a great deal of Power and Authority has been delegated to Jesus by His Father, so that Jesus can undertake the task of cleaning up the Kingdom for His Father, nevertheless, Jesus' rightful position remains at the Right Hand of His Father. Jesus does NOT occupy the Throne of God; His Father does. One simply cannot occupy the Throne of God, and occupy the Right Hand of God, at the same time. It is totally illogical. Consider the following verses, which also clearly support my explanation of 1 Corinthians 15:24-28:

"Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea

rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."
Romans 8:34, KJV

"Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,"
Ephesians 1:20, KJV

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God."
Colossians 3:1, KJV

"Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high . . . But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?"
Hebrews 1:3, 13, KJV

"Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;"
Hebrews 8:1, KJV

"But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;"
Hebrews 10:12, KJV

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."
Hebrews 12:2, KJV

"Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him."
1 Peter 3:22, KJV

As we have already seen, it is the fact that we Christians, based upon what is clearly stated in the Scriptures, accept Jesus as the Son of God, as well as the only Savior of the world, which Jews and Muslims alike find so offensive and blasphemous. Due to their upbringing, their traditions, and their "One God" mentality, they are either unwilling, or simply incapable of grasping the concept of God the Father having a Son who died for the sins of us all. If you read the Qur'an, as I have done, you will discover that Muhammad is extremely adamant in his rejection of Jesus Christ being the Son of God. Following are some additional verses from the Qur'an for your consideration. They clearly reveal how Muhammad attempts to demote Jesus to the status of being just another Prophet and Messenger of God, but no more than that:

2:137. "Say ye, 'We believe in ALLAH and what has been revealed to us, and what was revealed to Abraham and Ishmael, and Isaac and Jacob and his children and what was given to Moses and Jesus, and what was given to all other Prophets from their Lord. We make no distinction between any of them;

and to HIM we submit ourselves.'"

2:286. "This Messenger of OURS believes in that which has been revealed to him from his Lord, and so do the believers; all of them believe in ALLAH, and in HIS angels, and in HIS Books, and in HIS Messengers, saying, 'We make no distinction between any of HIS Messengers;' and they say 'We have heard and we are obedient. Our Lord, we implore THY forgiveness, and to Thee is the returning.'"

4:172. "O People of the Book ! exceed not the limits in your religion, and say not of ALLAH anything but the truth. Verily, the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, was only a Messenger of ALLAH, and a fulfillment of HIS word which HE has sent down to Mary, and a mercy from HIM. So believe in ALLAH and HIS Messengers, and say not, 'They are three.' Desist, it will be better for you. Verily, ALLAH is the only One God. Holy is HE, far above having a son. To HIM belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth. And sufficient is ALLAH as a guardian."

5:18. "They indeed have disbelieved who say, 'Surely ALLAH - He is the Messiah, son of Mary.' Say, 'Who then has any power against ALLAH, if HE desired to destroy the Messiah, son of Mary, and his mother and all those that are in the earth ?' And to ALLAH belongs the Kingdom of the heavens and the earth and what is between them. HE creates what HE pleases and ALLAH has power over all things."

5:73-76. "Indeed, they are disbelievers who say, 'ALLAH, HE is the Messiah, son of Mary,' whereas the Messiah himself said, 'O Children of Israel, worship ALLAH Who is my Lord and your Lord.' Surely, whoso associates partners with ALLAH, him has ALLAH forbidden Heaven, and the Fire will be his resort. And the wrongdoers shall have no helpers. They surely disbelieve who say, 'ALLAH is the third of three;' there is no god but the One God. And if they do not desist from what they say, a grievous punishment shall surely befall those of them that disbelieve. Will they not then turn to ALLAH and ask HIS forgiveness, while ALLAH is Most Forgiving and Merciful ? The Messiah, son of Mary, was only a Messenger; surely Messengers like unto him had passed away before him. And his mother was a truthful woman. They both used to eat food. See how WE explain the Signs for their good, and see how they are turned away."

5:117-118. "And when ALLAH will say, 'O Jesus, son of Mary, didst thou say to men, 'Take me and my mother for two gods beside ALLAH ?' he will answer, 'Holy art THOU, I could never say that which I had no right. If I had said it, Thou wouldst have surely known it. Thou knowest what is in my mind, and I know not what is in Thy mind. It is Thou alone WHO art the Knower of all hidden things; 'I said nothing to them except that which Thou didst command me - Worship ALLAH, my Lord and your Lord. And I was a witness over them as long as I remained among them, but since Thou didst cause me to die, Thou, hast been the Watcher over them, and Thou art Witness over all things;'"

19:36-37. "It does not befit the Majesty of ALLAH to take unto Himself a son. Holy is HE. When HE decrees a thing, HE says to it, 'Be, and it comes into being.' Said Jesus,

'Surely, ALLAH is my Lord and your Lord, so worship HIM alone, this is the right path.'

39:4-5. "Remember, it is to ALLAH alone that sincere obedience is due. And those who take as protectors others beside HIM, say, 'We serve them only that they may bring us near to ALLAH in station.' Surely, ALLAH will judge between them concerning that wherein they differ. Surely, ALLAH guides not him who is an ungrateful liar. If ALLAH had desired to take to Himself a son, HE could have chosen whom HE pleased out of what HE creates. Holy is HE ! HE is ALLAH, the One, the Most Supreme."

43:58-62. "And when the son of Mary is mentioned as an example, lo ! thy people raise a clamour thereat; And they say, 'Are our gods better, or he ?' They mention not this to thee but for the sake of disputation. Nay, but they are a contentious people. He was only Our servant, on whom WE bestowed Our favour, and WE made him an Example for the children of Israel. And if WE so willed, WE could make from among you angels to be your successors in the earth. But, verily, he was a sign of the Hour. So entertain no doubt about it, but follow me. This is the right path."

As you may already know, in writing his Epistle to Timothy, the Apostle Paul clearly stated that Jesus Christ is the only Mediator between God and man. In his Epistle to the Hebrews, Paul goes into even more detail, and explains how Jesus has become our final High Priest and Intercessor, thus annulling the necessity of the priesthood of the Old Testament period. Consider some of the key verses from Paul's writings which emphasize Christ's role as our Mediator. Please note that Paul -- like Christians today -- does not deny the fact that there is only ONE GOD; however, he also recognizes that due to our sinful condition, it became necessary for Christ to intervene on our behalf:

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;"
1 Timothy 2:5, KJV

"But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises."
Hebrews 8:6, KJV

"And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."
Hebrews 9:15, KJV

"And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel."
Hebrews 12:24, KJV

Thus, as I explain in some of my other articles, such as the series "Is Jesus the Only Begotten Son of God?", Jesus now occupies the important position of being our High Priest and Intercessor before the Throne of God. However, according to

Muhammad, this core tenet of our Christian faith is nothing but a lie. Not only is there no room in the Qur'an for Jesus to be the Son of God, but neither is there any room for Him as our Mediator and Intercessor either, because the god of Islam -- Allah -- requires no intercessor, as the following verses from Surah Thirty-Nine demonstrate:

39:44-45. "Have they taken intercessors beside ALLAH ? Say, 'Even if they have no power over anything and no understanding ? Say, 'All intercession rests with ALLAH. To HIM belongs the Kingdom of the heavens and the earth. And to HIM, then, shall you be brought back.'"

So once again we see that while Jesus is greatly admired and respected as a Great Teacher and Prophet within the religion of Islam, He is totally stripped of His unique status as the only-begotten Son of God, the Saviour of the world, and our High Priest and Intercessor before the Throne of God. Islam may be an old religion, but it certainly possesses a New Age flavor to it. As I mentioned earlier in this series, there are a variety of New Age religions which likewise embrace Christ to varying degrees; but as with Islam, Jesus is not the Son of God and Savior of the world, but merely an Avatar, an Ascended Master, a spiritual being called Sananda, who is an equal with other spiritually-advanced beings who occupy the so-called "Great White Brotherhood". According to this belief, this group of Ascended Masters includes the likes of Gautama Buddha, Maitreya and Confucius.

If you have been carefully reading this series, then you will realize that while Muhammad and the followers of Islam claim to believe in "what was given to Moses and Jesus", evidence from the Qur'an itself reveals what a deception and lie this really is. Their claim of accepting the Gospel -- the good news of Salvation through Jesus Christ -- is in reality an absolute fallacy. Is it possible that some of them simply do not understand what the word "Gospel" actually means? While this may be true for some Muslims, it seems to me that even Muhammad himself fully understood the concept, but simply chose to reject it, and by extension, told his followers to reject it as well.

That being the case, I can only conclude that when followers of Islam say that they are submitting to Allah, and are thus worthy of "The Gardens", they must be speaking of some other god, and some other "heaven", but certainly not the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, or the Heaven which is described in the pages of the Bible; because in order to reach the Heaven of the Bible, one must repent of his sins -- Muslims do not even accept the concept of sin -- as well as seek forgiveness through the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

The God of the Bible laid down clear and specific requisites regarding what is necessary in order for a person to obtain Eternal Salvation. It is plain to see -- just from reading the Qur'an -- that Islam and its prophet Muhammad deny all of them. While Muhammad claims that he received all of his revelations in the Qur'an from the Angel Gabriel, from this short study of the Qur'an, I very seriously doubt that this is so. I am reminded of the following verses written by the Apostle Paul in his second Epistle to the brethren at Corinth:

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."

2 Corinthians 11:13-15, KJV

Contrary to the hope of receiving Eternal Life in a wonderful place called "Jannah", or Paradise -- Firdaus is the highest level to which one can hope to attain in the Islamic version of Heaven -- it seems to me that unless they come to their senses, and acknowledge Christ as Savior in their lives, the followers of Islam will only be disappointed when they learn some day that their only reward will be darkness and God's judgment.

As the following verses from the Qur'an reveal, Muhammad was fully aware of the fact that he would be rejected by Jews and Christians alike, due to his refusal to accept "their creed". Nevertheless, he forcefully promoted himself -- in the name of Allah and the Muslim spiritual hierarchy -- claiming that he bore "the truth", "glad tidings", "the religion of truth", "knowledge", "wisdom" and "true guidance". But when speaking about the Christians and the Jews, Muhammad refers to them as "those who have no knowledge", who require a sign. As we saw earlier in this series, Muhammad also makes it clear in the following verses that his ultimate goal as Allah's messenger is for Islam "to prevail over all religions, however much those who associate partners with ALLAH may dislike it". That last phrase is again an obvious criticism against Christians who believe that Jesus is the Son of God -- or God's Partner.

2:119-121. "And those who have no knowledge say, 'Why does ALLAH not speak to us, or a Sign come to us direct?' Likewise said those before them what was similar to their saying. Their hearts are all alike. We have certainly made the Signs plain for a people who firmly believe. We have sent thee with the Truth, as a bearer of glad tidings and a Warner. And thou wilt not be questioned concerning the inmates of Hell. And the Jews will never be pleased with thee, nor the Christians, unless thou followest their creed. Say 'Surely ALLAH's guidance alone is the true guidance,' And if thou follow their evil desires after the knowledge has come to thee, thou shalt have from ALLAH, no friend nor helper."

5:20. "O People of the Book ! there indeed has come to you Our Messenger, after a break in the series of Messengers, who makes things clear to you lest you should say, 'There has come to us no bearer of glad tidings and no Warner.' So a bearer of glad tidings and a warner has indeed come to you. And ALLAH has power over all things."

33:46-47. "O Prophet ! truly WE have sent thee as a Witness and a Bearer of glad tidings, and a Warner, And as a Summoner unto ALLAH by HIS command, and as a light-giving Lamp."

61:10. "HE it is Who has sent HIS Messenger with the guidance and the Religion of truth, that HE may cause it to prevail

over all religions, however much those who associate partners with ALLAH may dislike it."

62:3. "HE it is Who has raised among the unlettered people a Messenger from among themselves who recites unto them HIS Signs, and purifies them, and teaches them the Book and Wisdom though before that they were in manifest error;"

Please notice how the spiritual beings who are supposedly speaking to Muhammad, refer to him as "a light-giving Lamp" who is bearing "glad tidings". As we have already discussed, according to God's Word, the "glad tidings" -- or Gospel -- is the Good News of Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. Furthermore, in the Old Testament, we are told the following in the Book of Psalms concerning God's Word:

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
Psalms 119:105, KJV

In the New Testament, we also discover that Jesus -- who is the living Word of God -- is also the Light of the World, as we see by these verses:

"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."
John 8:12, KJV

"As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."
John 9:5, KJV

So what we can conclude is that God's Word is our Spiritual Light, and that Jesus -- who is the Living Word of God -- is also the Light of the World. Furthermore, we have seen that the key message of God's Word is the Good News of Salvation through Jesus Christ; that is, the Gospel. This all-important message runs throughout both the Old and the New Testaments, both in prophetic form, and in revealed and fulfilled form.

The obvious question then is this: Does Islam's prophet -- Muhammad -- truly meet the Biblical requirements in order to merit the titles of "light-giving Lamp" or a bearer of "glad tidings"? Is the "light" which he claims to be sharing truly the Light of God's inspired Word; and are the "glad tidings" he bears, truly the same glad tidings which are spoken of in the Bible? If you are a Christian, then I believe that the answers to these important questions are rather obvious. But, if you require some Scriptural assistance, then allow me to refresh your memory with the following Biblical hints:

"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"
Isaiah 5:20, KJV

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."
2 Corinthians 11:13-15, KJV

"The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!"

Matthew 6:22-23,, KJV

One of the primary reasons why some people become so easily deceived by such charlatans, is because they lack the Wisdom and Discernment of God's Spirit. As a result, in a sense, they become spiritually blind; and thus, they are unable to differentiate between what is truly of God, and what is not of God. Another reason why these false "angels of light" are able to deceive so many people, is because a lot of people knowingly turn their hearts away from the truth. They become hardened against, and insensitive to, the Voice of God which is speaking to their hearts, and thus, they soon fall prey to these deceptive individuals and spirits, which are more than willing to rush in and fill the spiritual void in people's lives. Consider the following verses:

"Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch."

Matthew 15:14, KJV

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

1 Corinthians 2:14, KJV

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

2 Corinthians 4:4, KJV

"Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:"

Ephesians 4:18, KJV

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;"

1 Timothy 4:1-2, KJV

Please go to part six for the conclusion of this series.

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HOLY QUR'AN AND ISLAM: A DOCTRINE OF DEVILS? - PART 6

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Muhammad Insists That Christians Jews And Muslims Worship The Same God, Conduct Your Own Biblical Archaeology, God Of Christianity And God Of Islam Are Not One And The Same, Will The Real Angel Gabriel Please Stand Up, The Biblical Angel Gabriel Identifies Jesus As The Son Of God, My Conclusions Regarding Islam And Its Prophet Muhammad, Wayward American Pastors View Qur'an As A Valid Sacred Book, Rejecting Islam For Right Biblical Reasons, Core Belief Of Christian Faith, A Closing Message To The Followers Of Islam And Muhammad

Despite his blatant denial of the Divinity of Jesus Christ, and the Salvation which is obtained through His Name alone, Muhammad persisted in his attempts to try to convince the "unbelievers" -- that is, Christians and Jews -- that there is common ground between us; and that despite our different viewpoints and theologies, we all worship the same God. But is this really the case? Is Allah - the god of Islam -- also the God of we Christians, or of the Jews? Muhammad wrote the following in his second surah:

2:140-141. "Say, 'Do you dispute with us concerning ALLAH, while HE is our Lord and your Lord ? And for us is our works and for you your works; and to HIM alone are we sincerely devoted.' Do you say that Abraham and Ishmael, and Isaac and Jacob and his children were Jews or Christians ?' Say 'Do you know better or ALLAH, and who is more unjust than he who hides the testimony that he has from ALLAH ? And ALLAH is not unaware of what you do.'"

I consider myself to be a rather logical, analytical, and often skeptical person. As I have gotten older, I've learned that it isn't wise to always take people at their word, and just to accept whatever they may be telling us, particularly when it concerns important issues such as spiritual matters, and most importantly, the Word of God. Over the years, I've learned to conduct my own Biblical archaeology and to search out the truth of the Scriptures for myself. As I have shared with my readers on previous occasions, in the Gospels, Jesus stated:

"Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old."

Matthew 13:52, KJV

It should come as no surprise to you then, that personally, I have a problem with Muhammad's claim that Christians, Jews and Muslims all worship the very same god. As I have told my readers before, if Christians, Jews and Muslims all believe in and worship the very same god, and if this god is really the author of our various sacred books, then it seems rather strange to me that he would impart such a vastly different message to each of these religions, concerning the nature and role of Jesus Christ. If he is the same god, then in my view, he is a very devious one indeed, not to mention a very

confusing god as well. Wouldn't you agree? I believe that part of the answer is found in this verse, which I've shared with my readers before:

"For God is NOT THE AUTHOR OF CONFUSION, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints."

1 Corinthians 14:33, KJV

By now, I hope, dear reader, that you realize that I honestly do not believe that the followers of Islam worship the same god as I do; because the God who I worship would not deny the Divinity of His own Son, nor the Divine Mission which He gave Him to complete. Neither would the God I worship tell any of His followers to go around chopping off the heads of people who don't agree with the Christian faith, and much less blow up buildings, buses, or whatever, in which dozens, hundreds or even thousands of people are maimed and killed, in order to make some kind of political or religious statement.

I embrace the very same position when it comes to the Angel Gabriel. If the angel Gabriel of the Qur'an is the very same Angel Gabriel who we read about in the Bible, then why is it that in the Qur'an, he repeatedly denies Jesus' Divine Status as the Son of God? Why does Islam's angel Gabriel deny that Jesus is the Savior of the world, while in the Bible he does the exact opposite?

As you may recall, the Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary just prior to her becoming pregnant with Jesus. During the brief conversation which ensued, Gabriel referred to Jesus as the Son of God two times. First the Angel Gabriel referred to the unborn Christ Child as "the Son of the Highest", and then a few sentences later he called Him "the Son of God". Consider the following verses from the Gospel of Luke:

"And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her."

Luke 1:26-38, KJV

Logic dictates that if we all truly worship the same god as Muhammad would have us to believe, and if the angel Gabriel of the Qur'an is the same Angel Gabriel of the Bible, then they would be saying the very same thing concerning Christ to each of these religions, but that is most certainly not the case. The only logical conclusion then, is that we are not all worshipping the same god. One of these gods is just a deceptive impostor, and one of these Gabriel's is likewise not who he claims to be. Personally, I can't arrive at any other conclusion; can you?

I believe that my position regarding the religion of Islam should be sufficiently clear to any sincere Christian who is reading this series. I am convinced by this comparative study of the teachings of the Bible, and the teachings of Muhammad and the Qur'an, that Islam is not a work of God. Furthermore, I am personally convinced that it is a counterfeit religion which, while speaking of, and teaching of, many things which are also found in the Holy Scriptures, fails its followers in that it denies the greatest fundamental truth of all; which is that Salvation is found in the Name and Sacrifice of Jesus Christ alone, who is the only-begotten Son of God, who died for the sins of the world.

In the words of the Apostle Paul, it is my view that Islam's prophet -- Muhammad -- was a "natural man" who was unable to perceive or receive the true things of God's Spirit. Due to his pride, inflated ego and delusion of self-importance, he most certainly thought that he was receiving things from God; but in reality, Muhammad was a man who was full of spiritual darkness, because he rejected the Light of Jesus Christ. As Jesus had said of the Scribes and the Pharisees, Muhammad was likewise a spiritually blind leader who was leading his blind followers; because his understanding had become darkened, and his heart blinded to the truth concerning Jesus Christ. As a result, Muhammad became an easy pawn for Satan.

Ironically, as a result of his own spiritual confusion, the prophet of Islam -- Muhammad -- became convinced that anyone who did not embrace his new religion, was following in the footsteps of Satan, as we see by the following verse, which is also found in Surah Two:

2:209. "O ye who believe, come into submission all of you and follow not the footsteps of Satan; surely he is your open enemy."

Sadly, and tragically, despite all of the Scriptural truth which I have shared with you in this series, which clearly exposes the deception behind the teachings of Muhammad and Islam, it seems that there are some wayward American pastors who don't see things quite the same way as I do. Recently, I was reading a newspaper article called "Far From Ground Zero, Obscure Pastor Is Ignored No Longer". This article deals with controversial Florida Pastor Terry Jones, who I mentioned in part one of this series. But what really irked me about the article, were the following paragraphs:

----- Begin Quote -----

More than a dozen houses of worship, of various faiths, also intend to respond collectively on the weekend of Sept. 11 by

"affirming the validity of all sacred books," said Larry Reimer, pastor of the United Church of Christ.

Some pastors even plan to read from the Koran in their services.

----- End Quote -----

Over the years I have read quite a few accounts where we find so-called American "Christian" leaders of various persuasions failing miserably in their jobs as shepherds of God's flocks. Most of the recent controversy -- and failures -- as you will undoubtedly already know, has centered around so-called gay and lesbian rights, same-sex "marriage", and the ordination of gays and lesbians. The above news excerpts demonstrate the latest compromise to afflict our Christian faith. The article reeks of political correctness. I simply can't understand how any person -- be they pastor or layman -- who truly knows, believes in and really understands the central message of the Christian Bible, can make such a preposterous claim regarding the Qur'an being a valid sacred book.

For any true, Bible-believing Christian, there is very little to be found in Islam's sacred book -- the Qur'an -- that is valid. As I noted earlier in our series, while the Qur'an may contain some of the very same characters and events that we encounter in the pages of our Christian Bible, that is as far as it goes. In fact, it is those very accounts which serve as the poisonous, deceptive icing on the cake, to draw in unwary readers who are not as familiar with the Gospel message as they should be. Of course, if we consider that the people of the United States currently have a very liberal president who seems to believe that all paths lead to the same place, then it really isn't surprising that these spiritual leaders would engage themselves in such compromising foolishness. What they are doing is merely a continuation of the same deceptive and dangerous ecumenical spirit, which has been promoted by the likes of Billy Graham, the Roman Catholic Church, and other One World Religion compromisers.

At the beginning of this series, I stated that my purpose in writing it was to provide my Christian readers with informed reasons regarding why we should reject the religion of Islam, and all that it stands for. Our faith, and our beliefs, must not -- and should never be -- governed by, manipulated by, controlled by, or determined by political propaganda, or by mass media sensationalism, which is so common in the world today. As I have shared with my readers on various occasions, our faith must be centered solely on the Word of God, because that is the only reliable Anchor Stone that we have. If we as Christians are going to reject Islam, then we must do it, not because of controversies such as the 9-11 attacks, or the New York City mosque debate, but rather due to the fact that the religion of Muhammad -- Islam -- is totally incompatible with our Christian faith, and is diametrically opposed to our most sacred core belief, which is embodied in Bible verses such as the following:

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
John 3:16, KJV

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."
John 14:6, KJV

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."
Acts 4:12, KJV

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."
Romans 5:8, KJV

That is why we should reject Islam. If you are doing it for any other reason, such as political party affiliations, or because of sensationalistic reports in the mass media which prey on people's emotions for the sake of profit, or for any other reason, then you are doing it for the wrong reason.

Before concluding this series, I would like to address any followers of Islam who may possibly be reading this series. If you are a dedicated follower of Islam and the teachings of Muhammad, I don't doubt that you will be offended, maybe even angered, by the contents of this series. Some of you, that is, the more radical elements within your faith, may even desire to do me harm, just as you attempted to do harm to Salman Rushdie. While I obviously do not agree with such feelings, nevertheless, I do understand why you may harbor them. Your religion has simply filled you with hatred and blind rage against anyone who does not agree with you.

Having said that, I do want more level-headed followers of Islam to know that I don't believe that every single Muslim is a dangerous, evil person with an explosive pack tied to his chest, or a machete in his hand. In fact, I would dare say that the majority of you are probably nice, respectable, law-abiding individuals who wish to do harm to no one; and that the extreme, fringe elements only comprise a very small percentage of your faith. Perhaps the radical elements are an embarrassment to you as well. I recognize your right as a follower of Islam to choose your own faith, and to abide by its precepts as you feel led; nevertheless, as I've clearly stated in this series, I firmly believe that Islam and the teachings of Muhammad have misguided you, and caused you to stray from the true path of Salvation.

Unlike your prophet Muhammad, I will not curse you for your error, or threaten you with violence. Instead, I will hope and pray that perhaps some day, in God's chosen time -- He does have His time for us all -- you will come to understand the Central Message of our Christian faith, and will choose to embrace Jesus Christ of your own free will, as I have done for many years now. After all, I'm sure you will agree that faith which is forced upon a person by a sword, a bomb, a gun, or by some other form of violence, is not true faith at all, and will not endure during times of adversity. As Jesus taught us:

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God."
Matthew 5:9, KJV

With these words, I will bring this series to a close. I trust that my labors have not been in vain, and that this series will be an eye-opener, as well as a source of truth and Salvation for many of you who take the time to read it.

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