

Islam's Jesus

Taiwo Olokun

Hadith (e.g., Sahih Bukhari 1.1.3) reveals that Muhammad could not believe in Allah to **Cover him** from the torment of the supernatural being that was tormenting him. Instead, Muhammad ran to his wife Khadija, shouting in Fear:

“COVER ME! COVER ME!”

Hadith also reveals how Khadija at various times relieved Muhammad's **Serious Fears And Doubts** about the supernatural being (Jibril) which continued tormenting Muhammad, as Khadija kept telling Muhammad that the supernatural being is not of Shaitan but of Allah.

Like other religions, the main proof that Islam isn't the right way is this: the Qur'an and Hadith teach that you don't have **A Saviour To Cover You**. Qur'an and Hadith teach that you don't have a Saviour who took God's Judgment on your behalf so you can have peace with God. The Qur'an teaches that you must pay for your sins and perform good works to be accepted by Allah **but with no guarantee of acceptance** -- different from the God of the Jewish Scripture (Old and New Testament).

No matter how good we are, we can never be good enough for the true God. Our best goodness is counted as filth before His Holiness.

Qur'an says Adam, Abraham (Ibrahim) and Ismail were the ones that originally established the Kaaba as Islam's holiest place of worship, but if that's true, why does Islamic calendar (1 AH) begin during Muhammad's lifetime instead of Ibrahim's time when pure-Islam was originally established?

In some parts of the Qur'an, Muhammad spoke well of Christians and Jews, but in other portions of the Qur'an he commands Muslims to kill Christians and Jews because they too are infidels. **In Islam's beginning, the prayer direction (Qibla) was towards Israel, not Mecca.** The Qur'an still contains references to some prophets of the Jewish Scripture (Old and New Testament), but in Islam's beginning, when most Christians and Jews didn't convert to Muhammad's new religion, things began to change in Medina (Yathrib). **Muhammad changed Islam's prayer direction towards Mecca where the Kaaba is located.** Muhammad began to teach that: Adam, Abraham (Ibrahim) and Ismail were the ones that originally established the Kaaba as Islam's holiest place of worship because they first worshiped there.

Daily recital of the Shahada/Kalima is the head of the Five Pillars of Islam. It states that “there is no god but Allah and Muhammad is Allah's messenger”. The Qur'an teaches that Abraham, Moses, and Jesus were Muslims including all the prophets of the Jewish Scripture (Old and New Testament). However, it is very clear that the statement: “There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is Allah's messenger” is non-existent in the Jewish Scripture (Old and New Testament). When most Christians and Jews didn't convert to Muhammad's new religion, **Islam's prophet began changing his favorable speech towards them and began saying that the Jewish Scripture (Old**

and New Testament) had been corrupted by Christians and Jews and that they must be killed (if they don't submit to Islam).

According to Hadith, Islamic calendar/history (Hijra: AH) began when Muhammad emigrated from Mecca to Medina in 622 AD/CE. Yet Hadith and Qur'an says Adam, Abraham (Ibrahim) and Ismail were the ones that originally established the Kaaba as Islam's holiest place of worship, **but if that's true, why does Islamic calendar (1 AH) begin during Muhammad's lifetime instead of Ibrahim's time when pure-Islam was originally established?**

The Qur'an and Hadith doesn't **limit the expansion** of Ummah al-Islamiyah, the lands over which Sharia's Theocracy must be administered; in comparison to the Torah's Theocracy over a specified land: Eretz YisraEl.

In Islam, hiding the intention to expand Islamic territory is a virtue. When Muhammad didn't have enough soldiers, he agreed to be peaceful with Mecca (Peace Treaty of Hudaibiya), but after he gained more followers, he went from Medina to Mecca and **conquered Mecca during Ramadan (a pre-Islamic pagan fasting month in which Meccans won't usually fight)**. Following the example of Muhammad, Muslims (even today) advocate and follow Quranic and Hadithic verses that speaks of making peace with infidels when Muslims are the minority in a society. Examples of such verses are: Qur'an 2:256 "Let there be no compulsion in religion ...", yet Muhammad destroyed/desecrated all the idols of the Kaaba, all the idols of Arabia, except the Black-Stone (his choice idol). Concerning Jews and Christians some verses say: "They are not all the same. Among the People of the Book, there are those who are righteous who recite the revelations of Allah at night, falling prostrate, they believe in Allah and the Last Day, and enjoin right conduct and forbid indecency, and hasten to do good works. ... Allah is aware of them" (Q3:113-115). "The Apostle [Muhammad] had not been given permission to fight or allowed to shed blood ... he had simply been ordered to call men to Allah, endure insult, and forgive the ignorant" (Ibn Ishaq, Sirat Rasul Allah).

Fake Peace, Religious Pluralism:

Furthermore, to claim that the Qur'an and Hadith allows Muslims to be friends with infidels, Muslims point to more verses such as: "Allah does not forbid you from being friends with those who are not fighting you or driving you out of your homes. ... Allah only forbids you with regard to those who fight you for your faith, and who drive you out of your homes and support others in driving you out. Allah forbids you from turning to them for protection or taking them as friend. Those who seek their protection are indeed wrong-doers" (Qur'an 60:8-9).

Similar to Q42:13 is this one: Qur'an 2:135-136 "They [Christians and Jews] say: 'Become Jews or Christians if you would be rightly guided.' Respond by saying: No! we follow the religion of Abraham, and he did not join gods to Allah. We believe in Allah, and the revelation given to us, and to Abraham, Isma'il, Isaac (Ishaq), Yaqoub and the tribes, and that given to Moses (Musa) and Jesus (Isa), and that given to all

prophets from their Lord. We make no distinction between any of them, and we bow to Allah [Muhammad's God who sent Jesus and all the prophets].”

Mega-Confusion and Lies. The following is another portion of the Qur'an that easily qualifies for Pluralism (fake-Peace): Q29:46-47 “And do not dispute with the People of the Book [Jews and Christians] ... unless it be with those among them who do wrong; and say, ‘We believe in what has been sent down to us and sent down to you, and our God and your God is one, and to him [Muhammad's Al-ilah who sent all the Jewish prophets] we submit.’ Thus **We** have sent down the Book [Qur'an] unto thee, and those unto whom **We** gave the Scripture aforetime will believe in it; and of these also there are some who believe therein. And none deny **Our** revelations except the idolaters”.

Back to how Muhammad returned from Medina to conquer Mecca during Ramadan (a fasting month in which Meccans won't usually fight). True Muslims follow that example. The moment Islam gains followers in a territory, they must force every infidel, including fake-Muslims to **submit** to Allah/Islamic law. At that point, the Quranic and Hadithic verses that every Muslim must advocate and follow are of this sort: “Whoever changes his Islamic religion, kill him” (Sahih Bukhari 9.57). “The prophet Muhammad said, ‘burn all [including fellow Muslims] who do not come to Mosque for prayer, burn them alive inside their homes” (Sahih Bukhari 1.11.626). “... kill the idolaters [non-Muslims] wherever you find them, and take them captive, and besiege them, and prepare for them each ambush. But if they repent [and **submit** to Islam] ...” (Qur'an 9:5)

“Go forth, light-armed and heavy-armed, and strive with your wealth and your lives for Allah! This is best for you ...” (Q9:41).

Qur'an 48:29 “Muhammad is Allah's apostle. Those who follow him are ruthless [vicious] to the unbelievers but merciful to one another. ...”

Q9:73 “O Prophet, make war on the unbelievers and the hypocrites, and deal harshly with them. Hell shall be their home, an evil fate”.

Sahih Muslim 41.6985 “Abu Huraira reported Allah's Messenger ... as saying: ‘The Last Hour will not come until Muslims fight the Jews and kill them. Even the rocks and trees will cry: O Muslim, servant of Allah, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him ...”

Qur'an 4:89 “They desire that you should disbelieve [Allah] as they do, so that you might be like them; therefore take not friends from among them until they flee their homes for Allah, but if they turn back to what is forbidden, then seize them and kill them wherever you find them ...”

Q61:4 “Truly Allah loves those who fight in his cause in battle array, as if they were a solid rock structure.”

Sahih Bukhari 9.84.64 “... No doubt I heard Allah's apostle saying: During the last days there will appear some young foolish people who will say the best words, but their faith will not go beyond their throats; they will forsake their religion as an arrow goes out of the game. Therefore wherever you find them, kill them, because whoever kills them shall have reward on the Day of Resurrection”.

Sahih Bukhari 1.2.24 “Allah's apostle said: I have been ordered to fight against people until they testify that there is no god but Allah and that Muhammad is Allah's apostle, ... if they perform ... then they save their lives and property from me except for Islamic laws ... [which claim their lives and property]”

In Saudi Arabia (by policy and culture) no Jew is allowed there:

The Saudi government's official tourism web-site in 2004 listed four groups of people who would be denied visas regardless:

- **Israelis and anyone with a passport that has an Israeli arrival/departure stamp.**
 - Those who don't abide by Saudi traditions, and those under the influence of alcohol.
 - Non-Muslims intending to go to Mecca or Medina, where non-Muslims are banned.
 - **Jewish people**
- (<http://middleeast.about.com/od/saudiarabia/a/me081128a.htm>).

Yet in Israel, Jews allow Muslims to be members of the Knesset (government) even though Islam calls for the extermination of all Jews.

October 2009: Information provided by the U.S. Department of State, regarding those who wish to travel to Saudi Arabia:

ENTRY/EXIST REQUIREMENTS: ... In the past, American citizens have reported being refused a Saudi visa because their passports reflected travel to Israel or indicated that they were born in Israel ...

Note for Dual Nationals: ... This only leads to difficulties when the traveler wishes to depart [from] the [Saudi] Kingdom ... as the traveler must first obtain a Saudi passport. American citizens of Saudi descent should understand that [in Saudi Arabia] Saudi nationality is not confirmed quickly or easily, and **documentary requirements encountered in Saudi Arabia may differ from those described by Saudi missions abroad.** ...

Standards of Conduct and Religious Police: ... Public display of non-Islamic religious articles such as crosses and Bibles is not permitted. Travel to Makkah (Mecca) and Medina, the cities where the two holiest mosques of Islam are located, is forbidden to non-Muslims. ...

(http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1012.html).

Concerning the punishment of those who are caught stealing, the Jewish Scripture (Old and New Testament) which Islam say has been corrupted by Jews and Christians, says: “If a man steals an ox or a sheep, and slaughters it or sells it, he shall restore five oxen for an ox and four sheep for a sheep” (Exodus 22:1). Even if what the person has stolen is expensive, the punishment is that, the person must restore more than the stolen item, but never is the person’s hand to be cut off.

According to Hadith and Qur’an, if someone is condemned for stealing an expensive material, the person’s hand must be cut off **against the person’s wish**:

Malik’s Muwatta 41.7.23: “Yahya related to me from Malik ... that a thief stole a citron in the time of Uthman. Uthman ibn Affan ordered its value to be estimated and it was estimated at three dirhams at the rate of exchange of twelve dirhams for the dinar, **so Uthman cut off his hand.**”

Malik’s Muwatta 41.7.24: “Yahya related to me from Malik ... that A’isha, the wife of the Prophet ... said, ‘It has not been too long and I have not forgotten. A thief’s hand is cut off for a quarter of a dinar and upwards.’”

Malik’s Muwatta 41.8.26: “Yahya related to me ... from Nafi that a slave of Abdullah ibn Umar stole while he was a runaway. Abdullah ibn Umar sent him to Sahid ibn al-As, who was the amir of Madina, **to cut off his hand**. Sahid refused to cut off his hand. He said, ‘The hand of a runaway slave is not cut off when he steals.’ Abdullah ibn Umar said to him, ‘In what book of Allah did you find this?’ Then Abdullah ibn Umar gave the order, and his hand was cut off.”

Dhimmi Status: Sahih Muslim 42.7135 “Abu Huraira reported that Allah’s Messenger ... said: A group of [Israelites] Bani Isra’il was lost. I do not know what happened to them, but I think they underwent a change and assumed the shape of rats. ...”

Sahih Muslim 26.5389 “Abu Huraira reported Allah’s Messenger ... as saying: Do not greet the Jews and the Christians before they greet you and when you meet any of them on the roads force him to go to the narrowest part of it.”

Qur’an 9:29 “Fight those who do not believe in Allah ... nor acknowledge the religion of Truth [Islam] ... until they pay **the Jizya with submission**, and feel themselves subdued.” [Tafsir Ibn Kathir, Surah 9 \(Al-Tauba\)](#): “Allah said ... ‘and feel themselves subdued’, disgraced, humiliated and belittled. Therefore, Muslims are not allowed to honor the people of **Dhimmah** or elevate them above Muslims, for they are miserable, disgraced and humiliated. ...”

Dhimmah means: Promise of Protection. An Internet encyclopedia of Jewish history states:

This “protection” did little to insure that Jews and Christians were treated well by the Muslims. On the contrary, an integral aspect of the Dhimma was that, being an infidel, he had to openly acknowledge the **superiority of the Muslim**. ... Later, **the inferior status of Jews and Christians** was reinforced through a series of regulations that governed the behavior of the dhimmi. ... Dhimmis were excluded from public office and armed service, and were

forbidden to bear arms. They were not allowed to ride horses or camels ... The dhimmi had to show public deference [**submission**] toward Muslims [by] yielding them the center of the road. The dhimmi was not allowed to give evidence in court against a Muslim, and his oath was unacceptable in an Islamic court. To defend himself, the dhimmi would have to purchase Muslim witnesses at great expense. This left the dhimmi with little legal recourse when harmed by a Muslim. Dhimmis were also forced to wear distinctive clothing. In the ninth century, for example, Baghdad's Caliph al-Mutawakkil designated a yellow badge for Jews, setting a precedent that would be followed centuries later in Nazi Germany.

At various times, Jews in Muslim lands were able to live in relative peace and thrive culturally and economically. However, the position of the Jews was never secure. Changes in the political or social climate would often lead to persecution, violence and death. Jews were generally viewed with contempt by their Muslim neighbors; peaceful coexistence between the two groups involved the subordination and degradation of the Jews.

When Jews were perceived as having achieved too comfortable a position in Islamic society, anti-Semitism would surface, often with devastating results: On December 30, 1066, Joseph HaNagid, the Jewish vizier of Granada, Spain, was crucified by an Arab mob that proceeded to raze the Jewish quarter of the city and slaughter its 5,000 inhabitants. The riot was incited by Muslim preachers who had angrily objected to what they saw as inordinate Jewish political power ([http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/anti-semitism/Jews_in_Arab_lands_\(gen\).html](http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/anti-semitism/Jews_in_Arab_lands_(gen).html)).

Isn't Allah a singular (Monotheism) rather than plural (**We**)? Yet Allah addressed himself continuously with "We" instead of "I". Q45:16 "Verily aforetime **We** gave the Children of Israel the Scripture and the Command and the Prophethood, and **We** provided them with good things and **We** favoured them above all peoples." Qur'an 45:21 "Do those who commit evil think that **We** shall hold them equal with those who believe and do righteous deeds, that their life and their death will be equal? Their thinking (judgment) is sick." Q29:47 "... And none deny **Our** revelations [the Qur'an] except the idolaters". The Qur'an and Hadith vigorously fights against Christians' mystery of Father, Son, Holy Spirit -- **three yet one**. Qur'an and Hadith says there is no such union but only a singular God (Allah), yet it copies, hijacks, and abuses the Hebrew Scriptures -- Genesis/Bereshith 1:26 "Then Gods (Elohim) said, 'Let **Us** make man in **Our** image, according to **Our** likeness ..."

GT7: *GraceTruth7*

BTGH: *Back To God Hour*

GT7's Response to excerpts from BTGH's article "Jesus and Muslims":

Back To God Hour: ... Islam and Christianity have more in common than cultural impact. They also share some key beliefs and ideals. Both faiths are monotheistic. Christians agree with Muslims that there are not many gods, but one. Both faiths reject polytheistic belief in various gods and goddesses. Both faiths reject pantheistic belief that all things are God or part of God. Both faiths reject atheistic belief that no God exists. Christians and Muslims agree that there is one all-powerful, all-knowing Being, with no beginning or end, who rules over all things.

GraceTruth7: True Christians follow the Jewish Scripture (Old and New Testament) which teaches that there are many gods (idols) but only one true God (the King of the Jews). In Arabic language, “ilah” means god. Allah is a contraction of “al-ilah”, which means “the god” of the Kaaba. Decades before Muhammad was born, Arabs worshiped various spirits (idols). The Kaaba used to contain about 360 idols before Muhammad destroyed all the idols in the Kaaba **except the Black Stone, which is still adored and kissed by Muslims as they follow Muhammad’s example.** By the sword, he forced Arabia to bow down to his own choice-god. An Internet encyclopedia states:

At the time of Muhammad (CE 570-632), his tribe the Quraysh was in charge of the Kaaba, which was at that time a shrine containing hundreds of idols representing Arabian tribal gods and other religious figures, including Jesus and Mary. Muhammad earned the enmity of his tribe by claiming the shrine for the new religion of Islam that he preached. He wanted the Kaaba to be dedicated to the worship of the one God alone, and all the idols evicted. The Quraysh ... harassed him continuously, and he and his followers eventually migrated to Medina in 622. After this pivotal migration, or Hijra, the Muslim community became a political and military force. In 630, Muhammad and his followers returned to Mecca as conquerors, and he destroyed the 360 idols in and around the Kaaba. While destroying each idol, Muhammad recited [17:81] which says “Truth has arrived and falsehood has perished for falsehood is by its nature bound to perish.” The Kaaba was re-dedicated as an Islamic house of worship, and henceforth, the annual pilgrimage was to be a Muslim rite ... (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaabah#At_the_time_of_Muhammad).

BTGH: Muslims, like Christians, believe in divine creation and reject random evolution. The world and the things in it are products of intelligent design, not mindless chance. This is plain to anyone willing to look at the evidence; it is also stated clearly in the Bible and the Qur’an. Christians and Muslims agree that all things began with the Creator’s action, and they agree that the Creator continues ruling all things. Muslims and Christians agree that angels are real and active. Muslims and Christians agree that death is not the end of any human, but that people live on forever. Muslims and Christians agree that those who are right with the Almighty will enjoy an unending paradise of blessing ...

GT7: Islam’s paradise is **not** the same as the Jewish Scripture’s Heaven where the King of the Jews (the Lamb of God who died for our sins) is the joy of His followers,

contrary to Islam's heaven of sleeping with women and enjoying every earthly pleasure.

BTGH: ... and that those who remain rebels against the Almighty will suffer forever in the flames of hell. ... Islam and Christianity agree on many moral principles. They agree that it is wrong to worship idols.

GT7: But what is that **Black Stone in the Kaaba? Is that not an idol?**

Back To God Hour: They agree that murder, adultery, stealing, and lying are wrong.

GraceTruth7: Islam does **not** believe those things are wrong if the crime is against infidels.

BTGH: In fact, Islam teaches that writings in the Bible are revelations from God to his holy prophets. Islam says that the first five books of the Bible, called the Taurat in Arabic, were revealed to the prophet Moses. Islam says that the book of Psalms, also called the Zabur, was revealed to the prophet David.

GT7: The Qur'an has a different narration on Moses, David (Dawud) and all the other Jewish prophets. Islam doesn't see them as Jews by religion, but as Muslims (servants of Allah not YAH [I AM WHO I AM]). Islam disagrees that YAH is the one who gave the descendants of Yakob that land forever. **It says Allah is the one** that brought the Jews into the land of Israel. The Qur'an and Hadith says "... The Last Hour will not come until Muslims fight the Jews and kill them. Even the rocks and trees will cry: O Muslim, servant of Allah, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him ..." (Sahih Muslim 41.6985). But true Christians preach what YAH said to Moise (Moses) "For you [the Jewish nation] are a holy people to the Lord your God, and the Lord has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the nations of the earth" (Deuteronomy 14:2). **One of the confusing things about the Qur'an is this:** it says Allah has chosen the Jews to be above all other peoples of the earth (Q45:16). I'm sure those parts of the Qur'an were spoken when Muhammad used to teach his followers to look toward Israel when praying. Later he changed Islam's prayer direction to Mecca/the Kaaba.

Back To God Hour: Islam says that the New Testament gospel, also called the Injil, came through the prophet Isa, the Arabic name for Jesus. The Qur'an says some things about Jesus that it says about nobody else. Only Jesus, and nobody else, is called "Messiah" in the Qur'an. Only Jesus, and nobody else, is called "the Spirit from God" in the Qur'an. Only Jesus, and nobody else, is called "the Word of God" and "the Word of Truth" in the Qur'an. As highly as Muslims regard Muhammad, not even Muhammad is called "Messiah" or "Spirit from God" or "Word of God," and not even Muhammad is said to have raised the dead or given sight to the blind. The Qur'an attributes those things only to Jesus.

-- **Incredible Deceit. You Snake!** --

The Qur'an clearly preaches that Muhammad is the most supreme above all prophets, and that everyone must submit to him. It commands true Muslims to kill

those who would not submit to Islam. The Jesus of the Qur'an is only a prophet, not Almighty God who has no beginning.

Back To God Hour: A devout Muslim scholar writes, "Muslims have great respect and love for Jesus (Isa) the Messiah. He is one of the greatest prophets of Allah. To deny the prophethood of Jesus is to deny Islam."

BTGH: The Qur'an almost never speaks of God's love for humanity, whereas the Bible often tells of God's love, and even says, "God is love." This love can be seen in God's actions and in his very nature as Trinity. Sometimes the Trinity has been misunderstood. I remember standing in an African cultural center containing statues of various gods, goddesses, and spirits. The guide explained what each statue represented to the people of that area: there was a god of thunder and power, a goddess of childbearing and fertility, and a variety of others. On the highest pedestal of the shrine stood three figures. The guide said these three figures represented the Trinity: the Father, the virgin Mary, and their son Jesus!

That confused view of the Trinity is not what the Bible teaches or what Christians believe. But that's a notion that has popped up in various places throughout history, and that's what some Muslims think the Trinity means to Christians: God had physical relations with Mary, producing the Son, Jesus. Well, if you're a Muslim, let me just say that if that's what Trinity means, then I reject it just as much as you do. Mary is not a divine being to be worshiped, God did not have physical union with Mary to produce Jesus, and the Trinity is not a collection of three separate gods. Christians are not polytheists.

Muhammad rejected the Trinity. It's possible that he was familiar only with strange, distorted views of the Trinity such as what I've described. If that's the notion of Trinity he was rejecting, Muhammad was right to do so. ...

Back To God Hour: The Qur'an denies that Jesus is the eternal Son of God, with the same divine nature as God the Father. The Qur'an denies that the Holy Spirit is a divine person along with the Father and the Son. In fact, the Q'uran (5:72-75) threatens punishment and hell for those who say Jesus is God come to earth and who believe in the Trinity. A Muslim writer says, "The doctrine of Trinity, equality with Allah, and sonship, are repudiated as blasphemies."

... As one Muslim puts it, "Muslims do not believe that Jesus is God, nor do they believe that God ever chose to come down to earth in a form of a man to die for our sins to purify us and forgive us." Muslims don't believe that our sins can be paid for by the suffering and death of Jesus. In fact, they don't believe Jesus died at all.

The Qur'an says that Jesus' enemies thought they killed him but were fooled by appearances. Islam agrees with Christianity that Jesus' enemies wanted to kill him and that Jesus was willing to die. But the Qur'an denies that Jesus actually died. Muslims believe that someone else, probably Judas, was made to look like Jesus and

was nailed to the cross instead of Jesus. The enemies of Jesus thought they killed him, but they actually killed someone else. God fooled them. Jesus himself was taken directly to heaven.

... In that case, how can we be right with God and live in paradise forever? Islam says eternal life depends on how good a person is, not on how loving God is. A Muslim seeks eternal life by working for it, not by trusting Jesus to provide free forgiveness through his death and eternal life through the power of his resurrection. The Bible says, "Christ died for the ungodly ... God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). But Islam seldom mentions God's love and says Jesus did not die at all. Christianity teaches that we are born sinners and are unable to free ourselves from sin or earn a right standing with God. But Islam denies that humanity is fallen. [It says] All people are born good but forgetful; they just need to be reminded of what God wants. Christianity teaches that even biblical heroes of faith were sinners who did some terrible things, but Islam says otherwise. The Bible says that Noah got drunk (Genesis 9:21), that Abraham lied (Genesis 20:2), that David committed adultery and murder (2 Samuel 11). But Islam denies that such serious sins were ever committed by prophets of God.

In Islam salvation is earned by those who deserve it. In Christianity salvation is God's gift to the undeserving. A leading Muslim scholar says, "Islam does not identify with the Christian conviction that man needs to be redeemed. The Christian belief in the redemptive sacrificial death of Christ does not fit the Islamic view that man has always been fundamentally good." Islam is a religion of law, of rules and regulations: the best thing God has done for us is giving a law that tells us exactly what to do. Christianity is a religion of love: the best thing God has done for us is to give us himself in the person of Jesus to die and rise again for our salvation.

... In the words of a Muslim author, "It would seem most inappropriate for the Messiah to die through a shameful crucifixion. God, who is just, would not permit the righteous Messiah to suffer in that manner." Rejecting the death of Jesus, Islam prefers to think that humans have the ability to earn eternal life through our own efforts. A Muslim must submit to the Five Pillars of Islam: (1) declare that there is no God but Allah, whose prophet is Muhammad; (2) pray five times each day; (3) give to the poor; (4) fast each year during the month of Ramadan; and, (5) if possible, go on a pilgrimage to Mecca, the Arabian city where Muhammad established Islam.

GraceTruth7: Hajj (pilgrimage to the Kaaba) with its rituals, are pagan practices that began many decades before Muhammad was born. Muhammad incorporated some of those idolatrous practices into his new religion. **The Black Stone in the Kaaba** which is still being revered today was one of the 360 idols in the Kaaba before Muhammad came and destroyed all the idols except the Black Stone. In pre-Islamic Arabia, "the god" (Allah) of the Kaaba changed from time to time depending on which tribe was the present-caretaker of the Kaaba. When another tribe becomes the caretaker of the Kaaba, that tribe sets up its own chief god (Al-ilah) above all the other gods of the Kaaba. The name of Muhammad's father was Abdullah, which

means: Servant of Allah. Many decades before Muhammad was born, his grandparents had their own Allah by which they named his dad Abdullah.

The Berean Call -- February 08 newsletter (Q.A. section):

Question: You have criticized Islam's sponsorship of terrorism and have asked the question, "What kind of God gives entrance into paradise and rewards for killing innocent women and children?" Unbelievers also could say that the God of the Bible commands murder: Deuteronomy 2:34, 13:12-16; Joshua 8:25; 1 Samuel 27:8; Numbers 31. God commanded destruction of entire populations, cultures, and people. How can you condemn Allah and not Yahweh?

Response: Israel was not commanded to take over the entire world and to kill all who resisted (as Allah commanded Muhammad) but was given a specific land because of the extreme evil and demonization of its people. Israel was not commanded to "convert" them, much less with the sword, but to kill them all because God deemed that necessary and just ... the land of Canaan, which God promised to Israel but delayed giving to them because the people of Canaan were not yet evil enough to justify their destruction: "The iniquity of the Amorites [i.e., Canaanites] is not yet full" (Gn 15:16). Deuteronomy 2:34 pertains to the destruction of the Amorites. God did not arbitrarily wipe out the Canaanites. The nations who occupied Canaan followed gods, goddesses, serpent worship, lewd fertility cults with prostitute priestesses, and nature religions. The evil of all of these religions is unmentionable. God held back their judgment for many centuries and only released Israel from slavery specifically to wipe them out when he could no longer delay their just punishment.

Deuteronomy 13:[12-15] orders the execution of [any Israelite city who would lead] Israelites into the worship of false gods, all of whom represented demons. Israel could not be allowed to be seduced into the very thing for which the Canaanites were being destroyed. Joshua 8:25 tells of the destruction of Ai, a Canaanite city, as commanded. In 1 Samuel 27:8, David is slaughtering more Canaanites, all of whom were to be killed by Israel, thus executing God's judgment upon them for their wickedness.

The destruction of the Midianites in Numbers 31 is a different case. They were descendants of Abraham by Keturah, whom he married after Sarah's death. They were not Canaanites, nor were the children of Israel given their land. They had sent their young women to seduce Israel's young men, whom they enticed into immorality and the worship of their gods. God executed this severe punishment to teach His people the seriousness of turning from Him to demonic deities (<http://www.thebereancall.org/node/6433>).

Unlike true Muslims who follow the Qur'an and the example of Muhammad a politician and military commander, any Christian group that conquer any land by the sword

(military power) or by politics/deceit is doing so in disobedience to the teachings of the New Testament. There are groups who claim to be Christian (e.g., the Roman Catholic Church and others) who engage in military or political power, but John 18:33-37 says “Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, ‘Are You the King of the Jews?’ ... Jesus answered, ‘**My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews leadership, but now My kingdom is not from here.**’ Pilate therefore said to Him, ‘Are You a king then?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.’”

Hebrews 13:13-14 “Therefore let us go forth to the Messiah, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. **For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.**” In a conversation with His Heavenly Father concerning His followers, Jesus said “I have given them Your Word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them by Your truth. Your Word is truth” (John 17:14-17).

GraceTruth7.org <http://www.gracetruth7.org>