

## What is Islam?

While it is not our intent to belittle the spiritual beliefs of others, at the same time it is our duty to expose those beliefs that promote a false sense of godliness. Such is the case with the religion of Islam!

Islam in all its facets poses a very definite threat to God's eternal purpose. Although we must understand that God is in control at all times, and His plans cannot be thwarted by men (Isaiah 55:8-11), that does not mean that Satan has thrown in the towel.

The genesis of the religion of Islam can be traced back to Arabia in the seventh century AD. For centuries the Arabs had been living a nomadic pagan life surrounded by hundreds of gods and goddesses. Their dominant religion was "*Sabianism*" which is the worship of heavenly bodies. The moon being viewed as a male deity, and the sun as female. Together it is said that they produced three goddesses called "*The Daughters of Allah*." Christianity spread quickly into Arabia, working to establish a monotheistic view of God and move them to abandon superstitions.

In 610AD, Mohammed, at the age of 40 was convinced that God or Allah (Arabic for God) had called him to be His prophet. He claims that the angel Gabriel came to him to make the first Arab prophet. It is believed, and may very well be true, that Mohammed had received some teaching from Christians and Jews during his youth. This would account for his desire to rid Arabia of its multiple gods, and to encourage the worship of only one God. Sometime after 622 Mohammed went to the city of Medina and converted a majority of the city, after which they made him dictator of the city. In 630 he traveled to Mecca with 10,000 soldiers which was taken and converted to Islam with little blood shed.

Since that time, Islam was spread across the world through many battles and sword forced allegiance to the doctrine of Mohammed. A power struggle developed after the death of Mohammed, dividing the Muslims into several sects, the largest being the Sunnites and Shiites. The book of the

Muslims is called the Koran (Quran), which is divided into one hundred fourteen suras (chapters). The Koran contains speeches, prayers and utterances of Mohammed, supposedly during his receiving of divine revelation. However, it is strange that most of the doctrines found were borrowed from the Old and New Testaments of the Bible.

As Islam spread across the world by military force, it reached Northern Africa around 667AD, and slowly stretched southward. Yet it is claimed by African-Americans that "*Islam is the original religion of the black man*." If this be the case, then the black man couldn't have appeared until 667!

In short, the religion of Islam is based upon seventh century Arabia, in language, government, diet, clothing, family life, and culture. Muslims true to the writings of Mohammed believe that all other religions are an abomination and it is their duty to rid the world of them and make all people Muslims. If violence is what it takes, then violence is what they will use (referred to as Jihad, "*Holy War*"). There are five obligations of every Muslim and five articles of faith. This of course is not an exhaustive view of Islam as there is not enough space to do so. But it is our prayer that every soul will check diligently into every aspect of this religion before accepting it as God ordained.

### The Nation of Islam

Of the approximate one billion Muslims in the world today it is believed that five million reside in the United States alone. This religious belief is flourishing in every university of the country. Their evangelistic efforts find no rivals. Not even the Mormons or Jehovah's Witnesses can hold a candle to this religious group. The most prominent of Muslims in the United States is what is referred to as "*The Nation of Islam*" or "*Black Muslims*."

Sadly, over the centuries the cross of Christ has been used as a symbol for the hatred. It is the abuse of the cross that supposedly drove many blacks away from Christianity and toward Islam. No one should condone the atrocities conducted in the name of "*Christianity*" anywhere in the world,

when it clearly violates the Word of God. Keep in mind that we are here defending the pure unadulterated gospel of Jesus Christ, not the type that men hide behind to abuse the rights and honor of their fellowman. Racism has always played a part in the history of humanity. But the God of the universe has NEVER condoned it, nor is He pleased when men and women take part in it.

Founded in Detroit, Michigan in the 1930's by Wallace Dodd Fard (Wali Fard Muhammad), this group began due to frustration over black social conditions. Even after the Civil War, Reconstructionism did little to change the climate between whites and blacks. The aftermath of World War I and the Great Depression only compounded the problems that black Americans were facing. Like a salesman Wallace Fard started preaching from Biblical texts that his listeners were familiar with and occasionally laced them with texts from the Koran. He preached of the social injustice that plagued black communities and how it was Christianity that had enslaved them.

After Fard's death in 1934, Elijah Poole (Elijah Muhammad) took over this new movement. While Fard claimed to be God incarnate, Poole became his messenger or prophet. Elijah Muhammad continued to indoctrinate his followers to hate Christians and Christianity. In 1975 after the death of Elijah Muhammad, his son Wallace Muhammad took his place and began slowly to counter everything his father had taught. In 1977, after becoming dissatisfied with the changes, one of Elijah Muhammad's followers left Wallace Muhammad's Islam community to rebuild Elijah Muhammad's Nation of Islam.

Louis Farrakhan's ideology matches Elijah Muhammad's almost completely, except for one change – they no longer desire a separate black state. The Nation of Islam and Orthodox Muslim's are not thirty-second cousins of one another. The three main concepts of the "*Nation of Islam*" are (1) Allah is God, (2) The white man is the devil, and (3) Blacks are Asiatic in origin. Black Muslim's consider Elijah Muhammad as being the last great prophet, while Orthodox Muslim's believe it was the Arabian Muhammad. Black

Muslims believe that W.D. Fard was Allah incarnate, while Orthodox Muslims hold that Allah has never appeared in the flesh. The Nation of Islam teaches that blacks were the original race created by Allah, and that an evil scientist used a recessive gene to create Caucasians. The white race is therefore a mutation of the Black race having no soul, making them devils. The Nation of Islam's view of the Judgment Day finds God returning the world to the black race, and restoring for all eternity purity and harmony as He had intended.

Truly, Islam in whatever form it takes (Orthodox or Black), is not a doctrine or religion approved of God, for He has never been a respecter of persons (Deuteronomy 10:17; Acts 10:24; Romans 2:11; 1 Peter 1:17). Muslims deny the Godhead (Father, Son & Holy Spirit), that Jesus died for all men on the cross, that salvation comes through Jesus Christ alone, or that Christ is our only mediator. God however, has spoken concerning His pre-existent plan that included all these things (Ephesians 1:3-11; 3:10-11). "*Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so, death passed unto all men, for that all have sinned...for if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, JESUS CHRIST*" (Romans 5:12-17). God's eternal promise to all of humanity (white, black, yellow, red, etc.) was that the "*seed*" of Abraham would bless ALL FAMILIES/NATIONS of the earth (Genesis 12:1-3; 18:18) – that seed being JESUS CHRIST (Galatians 3:16). Nowhere, does the Word of God ever mention Mohammed, the Koran, or Islam. In fact, Scripture undeniably warns against adding to or taking away from the Word of God (Deuteronomy 4:2; Joshua 1:7; Revelation 22:18-19).

While Muslim's claim that Jesus was not deity the Bible, which the Koran states must be regarded by all men says that Jesus was, "*God with us*" (Matthew 1:23; Isaiah 7:14)? Even doubting Thomas declared Jesus as, "*my Lord and my God*" (John 20:28).

## The Koran vs. The Bible

The word “Koran” means “to recite” or “the thing read.” All Muslims believe that the Law of Moses, the Psalms and the Gospel of Christ are additional revelations of God, but that they have been corrupted by Jews and Christians. They teach that translating the Bible into other languages is what corrupts it, which is why the Koran is only considered pure in its original language of Arabic.

Elijah Muhammad has been the greatest influence in our country in poisoning the minds of men against the Bible. Uninformed Muslims while charging that the Bible is corrupted are apparently unfamiliar with their own book! Ninety-five percent of the Koran is made up of Old and New Testament text! For those Muslim’s who ask the question, “how can we know which book is right?” next to the Bible itself, the Koran is the strongest proof that the Bible is God’s ONLY revelation to man.

If we believe in absolutes, then we must believe that truth is absolute, meaning that there is only one truth. Believe it or not, the original Mohammed believed that the Bible was that one and only truth! Take for example what he said in Sura 5:50 & 71: “Let the People of the Gospel Judge by what Allah hath revealed therein. If any do fail to judge by the light of what Allah hath revealed, they are no better than those who rebel.....Say: O People of the Book! (Bible) ye have no ground to stand upon unless ye stand fast by the Law, The Gospel, and all the revelation that has come to you from your Lord...” Here within these two passages of the Koran, Mohammed confirms that if ANY MAN does not heed the words of the Law of Moses or the Gospel of Christ they are no better than one who rebels. He states specifically “People of the Book (Bible)” have no where to stand unless they stand on the Law & Gospel. It doesn’t seem that Mohammed considers the Bible to be tampered with or corrupt. But even more important is that Mohammed states that it is the Gospel that God (Allah) has given for men to evaluate truth – not the Koran. Anyone willing to reject the gospel as their spiritual guide is a rebel,

plain and simple. Therefore, every Muslim, according to their book, is bound to reverently search and accept ALL that is contained in the Bible so that he may be properly guided thereby. Thus proving, that the Bible is the only source of truth for all peoples.

One mistake that Mohammed made concerning the Bible Scriptures he used is that he mixed up the people and dispensations, thereby creating contradictions and showing the Koran to be false. In Sura 28:9, Mohammed thought that it was Pharaoh’s wife that adopted Moses, when in fact as Moses states, it was Pharaoh’s daughter (Exodus 2:5-10). In the book of Esther, a man by the name of Haman served King Ahasuerus (Xerxes) who reigned between 485-464BC (Esther 3:1-3). Yet Mohammed placed Haman some one thousand years earlier in the employment of Pharaoh of Egypt (Sura 28:6, 38; 29:39). The Koran even goes further to say that Pharaoh commanded Haman to build a tower of brick up to heaven (Sura 28:38). However this tower, known by the “People of the book (Bible),” as that of Babel which was constructed more than 500 years earlier (Genesis 11:1-9). In Sura 19:28, Mohammed confused Jesus’ mother Mary, with the sister of Old Testament high priest Aaron, whose name was Miriam (Exodus 15:20).

While we understand the nature of the Koran being the Muslim’s holy book, we are by no means trying to demean them for their sincere beliefs, but only to ask that they study more carefully and compare their book with the Bible. Numerous examples can be given to show that the Koran is not revelation from God/Allah. It doesn’t matter if you are Black or Orthodox; please open your mind to what God has truly said to ALL MEN.

How can we say that the Bible is the one and only book of God to man? Because in it alone can be found a discourse that instructs all men, everywhere, in every generation how to live and how to deal with their fellowman. It is unique in that the Bible alone reveals both sides of man – sinning, yet striving toward holy perfection. While Mohammed admitted to being only a man and a sinner, Jesus is equal with God and never sinned

once (John 8:58-59; 10:30; 1 Peter 2:22; Hebrews 4:15). Only the Bible tells us from where we came, and why we are here. The Bible is the only truth from God because it convicts men of sin, instructs us how to be cleansed of sin, and how to gain victory over sin. With over 300 Old Testament prophecies concerning Jesus Christ, all of them were fulfilled in Jesus. According to God’s own Word, the Bible is indestructible and incorruptible, and will endure forever (1 Peter 1:23-25; Isaiah 55:8-11). The Bible can be shown to be the only inspired book of God through its own words, and also by the words of historians. Flavius Josephus recorded the history of his Jewish nation beginning with Genesis down his day. He testifies to the fact that all things mentioned in the New Testament were historical fact. In comparison, the Koran is a book written by one man during a ten year period, while the Bible chronicles historical events that occurred over a four-thousand year period. Although many claim that their religious books are inspired by God, those who do, use Bible texts as their springboard.

In short, Islam is based upon a false assumption of God. Their doctrine is situational as it makes God deal out evil as well as good. This religion is very dangerous and one that every person should carefully assess before accepting it as God given.

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