

The Mission of Muhammad to the Christians

By

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The Christian hate mongers occupy themselves by slandering the Prophet of Islam, belying the Koran and claiming that Muslims worship a god other than theirs. Some of them go to the extent of claiming that Muslims worship a moon god or even a monkey God. Others claim that Muslims are terrorists and want to dominate the world! The insolence the Christian hate mongers launch against Islam must not turn them from the real purpose Islam came to warn them against.

Islam is a Universal Religion

Muslims worship Allah, the only God of the universe. The One who created the heavens and the earth. The One who sent all Prophets beginning with Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, until Jesus, till Muhammad. Muslims worship the One God who descended upon Abraham the scrolls, and upon David the Psalms, and upon Moses the Torah, and upon Jesus the Gospel, and upon Muhammad the Koran. If any non-Muslim worship another god than this one God, Allah, he is then in a real problem.

Islam is not a religion restricted to a group of people or sect as was the case with all previous Prophets before Muhammad. Islam is a universal religion; it came to the Arab pagans of Makkah as well as to the Jews and the Christians.

Muhammad had to come because all divine Books before the Koran disappeared or corrupted. The present adulterated Books contain only partial truths mixed with the erroneous tales and views of their human authors. The knowledge in these Books was infested with falsehood, and falsehood yields nothing but false hopes, and falsehood vested with ignorance and illiteracy afford conjecture.

Allah says in the Koran:

So woe to those who write the Book with their hands, then say, 'This is from Allah,' that they may sell it for a little price; so woe to them for what their hands have written, and woe to them for their earnings (Al-Baqarah, 79).

And there is a sect of them twist their tongues with the Book, that you may suppose it part of the Book, yet it is not part of the Book; and they say, 'It is from Allah,' yet it is not from Allah, and they speak falsehood against Allah, and that wittingly (Al-Imrân, 7).

Out of His mercy, and because Allah means no injustice to any of His servants, He sent Muhammad, the seal of the Prophets with the Koran as the Last Testament to the world.

It is He who sent His Messenger with the guidance and the religion of truth, that He may uplift it above every religion, though the unbelievers be averse (Al-Najm, 91).

After nearly six hundred years from Jesus, Allah has sent Muhammad and for the last time, to make clear to the Christians the facts and to help them abandon imagination so that they cannot later on claim innocence and say, 'No one came to us in the capacity of a spectacle and a warning.

People of the Book (Jews and Christians), now there has come to you our Messenger, making things clear to you, upon an interval between the Messengers lest you should say, 'There has not come to us any bearer of good tidings, neither any Warner.' Indeed there has come to you a bearer of good tidings and a Warner; Allah is powerful over everything (Al-Maidah, 19).

The Advent of Muhammad was mentioned in the Torah of Moses: Deut. 18: 18-20; 33: 1-2; Genesis 25: 13; 21: 21; Isaiah 42: 1-13; 21: 13-17; 42: 10-11; 28: 11; 28: 10; Habakkuk 3: 3.

The advent of Muhammad was also mentioned in the Gospel of Jesus: John xiv. 16, xv. 26 and xvi 7.

Yet, the Jews and the Christians concealed the prophecies contained in their Scriptures about the Holy Prophet. Because of enmity and jealousy they would not recognize him and would insist on mixing up truth with falsehood rather than accept the truth in its unalloyed purity.

As we read in the Koran:

Those to whom We gave the Book (Jews and Christians) recognize him (Muhammad) as they recognize their sons, but some of them conceal the truth while they know it (the qualities of Muhammad which are written in the Torah and the Gospel) (Al-Baqarah, 146).

People of the Book! Why do you confound the truth with vanity, and conceal the truth while you know? (Al-Imran, 71).

Those who keep from the knowledge of others the clear revelations which Allah presented in His Books, have earned the curse of Allah, the angels and the believers whose curse takes effect against whom it is uttered.

Those who conceal the clear signs and the guidance that We have sent down, after We have shown them clearly in the Book – they shall be cursed by Allah and the cursers (Al-Baqarah, 159).

Now we have the Koran, a Book containing divine wisdom and guidance to true salvation. A Book that brought good tidings to the believers in Allah's Oneness, and a severe warning to the polytheists, idolaters and disbelievers. The Koran is one unified Book that is not subject to change by curtailments and additions. A Book that is well guarded by Allah until the Day of Resurrection, an unchangeable Book that stood the test of time. The Koran is a decisive Message and no pleasantries, a Book that we must read thoroughly to know the ultimate truth.

Allah says in the Koran:

What, do they desire another religion than Allah's, and to Him has surrendered whoso in the heavens and the earth, willingly or unwillingly, and to Him they shall be returned?

Say: 'We believe in Allah, and that which has been sent down on us (the Koran), and the Tribes, and in that which was given to Moses and Jesus, and the Prophets of their Lord; we make no division between any of them, and to him we surrender (in Islam).'

Whoso desires another religion than Islam, it shall not be accepted of him; in the next world he shall be among the losers (Al-Imrân 83-85).

Now we are asked to listen to the proclamation of Muhammad's universal mission. We contemplate no longer after this, partial truths. It is not now a question of saving Israel from the bondage of Egypt, nor teaching Midian the ethics of business, nor reclaiming the people of Lute from sexual sin or Thamûd from the sin of oppression in power, or Ād from arrogance or ancestor-worship. Now are set forth plainly the issues of life and death, the final Message of Allah, the One universal God to all mankind (1).

The Message states clearly the one and true religion of Allah which He sent to all Prophets until Muhammad, the seal of the Prophets – Allah is One and He is to be worshipped alone without associating with Him any partners, i.e. Islam. This is the only religion that Allah will accept from His servants on the Day of Resurrection – pure monotheism.

As the Koran states:

Say: 'O mankind, I am the Messenger of Allah to you all, of Him to whom belongs the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. There is no god but He. He gives life and makes to die. Believe then in Allah, and His Messenger, the Prophet of the common folk, who believes in Allah and His words, and follow him; haply so you will be guided (Al-A'râf, 158).

The Muslim position is clear. The Muslim does not claim to have a religion peculiar to him. Islam is not a sect or an ethnic religion. In its view all religion is one, for the truth is one. It was the religion preached by all earlier Prophets. It was the truth taught by all inspired Books. In essence it amounts to a consciousness of the will and plan of Allah and a joyful submission to that will and plan. If anyone wants a religion other than that, he is false to his own nature, and he is false to Allah's will and plan. Such a one cannot expect guidance, for he has deliberately renounced guidance (1).

The mission of Muhammad is therefore clear - to re-establish the oneness of Allah on earth.

The Koran says:

Say: 'I am commanded only to worship Allah and not to join partners with Him. To Him I call, and to Him is my return.' (Ar-Ra'd, 13).

Say: 'I have been commanded to serve Allah making my religion His sincerely; and I have been commanded to be the first of those that surrender.'

Say: 'Truly I fear, if I should rebel against my Lord, the chastisement of a dreadful Day.'

Say: 'Allah I serve, making my religion Him sincerely .' (Al-Zumar 11-14).

The Prophet of Islam was ordered to follow the religion of Abraham which was pure monotheism – Islam.

Say: 'As for me, my Lord has guided me to a straight path, a right religion, the creed of Abraham, a man of pure faith; he was no idolater.'

Say: 'My prayer, my ritual sacrifice, my living, my dying – all belongs to Allah, the Lord of all Being.

No associate has He. Even so I have been commanded, and I am the first of those that surrender (Al-An'am 161-163).

Islam came to invite the Christians - who corrupted their Scriptures and invented peculiar dogmas that took them far away from the right path, to worship the One God Allah and not to incorporate with him other deities.

The Koran Says:

People of the Book! Come now to a word common between us and you, that we serve none but Allah, and that we associate no partners with Him, and do not some of us take others as lords apart from Allah. And if they turn their backs, say: 'Bear witness that we are Muslims (Al-Imrân, 64).

Had the people of the Book believed, it would have been better for them; some of them are believers, but the most of them are ungodly (Al-Imran, 110).

The Christians claim that Jesus sacrificed himself on the cross in order to erase their sins. They live without sins because their sins were forgiven! They can even go to a priest and confess their sins, and the priest grants them forgiveness! The priest here serves as a mediator between the sinner and the Creator!

The Christians believe that Adam's sin was inherited by his offspring, so all people are sinners, and Jesus had to sacrifice himself to free the sinners from guilt.

The Christians believe that Eve was the one who tempted Adam to eat from the forbidden tree; this is why she was cursed in their Books!

The Christians believe that God is one in a Trinity, the father, the son and the Holy Ghost, all three are one god. They took Jesus as god apart from the Creator. Jesus is their sole lord whom they worship in a Trinity.

Islam came to reject all the odd and peculiar dogmas the Christians invented in their religion.

Speaking of vicarious atonement, the Books of all Prophets including Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Muhammad, stated that man is responsible for his sins and no other innocent man would carry his sins on the Day of Judgment.

The divine verdict regarding man's responsibility for his own sins was old enough to be mentioned in the scrolls of Abraham and the Book of Moses.

The Koran states:

Or has he not been told of what is in the scrolls of Moses and Abraham, he who paid his debt in full? That no soul laden bears the load of another, and that a man shall have to his account only as he has labored, and that his laboring shall surely be seen, then he shall be recompensed for it with the fullest recompense, and that the final end is unto thy Lord (Al-Najm 36-42).

The Koran strongly emphasized man's responsibility for his own sins, he cannot transfer his sins to someone else, nor can anyone vicariously atone for his sins.

As we read in the Koran:

Say: 'Shall I seek a lord other than Allah, who is the Lord of all things?' Every soul earns only to its own account; no soul laden bears the load of another. Then to your Lord shall you return, and He will tell you of that whereon you were at variance (Al-An'am, 146).

As for the Christian doctrine that Adam sinned and his offspring inherited his sin thus needing Jesus to atone their sins, the Koran rejected this doctrine completely. The Koran also rejects the claim that Eve was cursed because she was the one who tempted Adam to eat from the forbidden tree. The Koran however states that Satan was the one who tempted Adam and not Eve. The Koran clearly states that prompted by the sense of guilt, Adam felt shame, but because guilt did

not reside in the intention, Allah in mercy inspired Adam with a prayer for invoking His forgiveness, and in turn did Allah give up resentment against him and pardon his offence. It is he who always accepts true repentance.

The Koran says:

And We said, 'Adam, dwell thou, and thy wife, in the Garden, and eat thereof easefully where you desire; but draw not nigh this tree, lest you be evildoers.'

Then Satan caused them to slip there from and brought them out of that they were in; and We said, 'Get all you down, each of you an enemy of each; and in the earth a sojourn shall be yours, and enjoyment for a time.'

Then Adam received certain words from His Lord (Our Lord! We have wronged ourselves. If you forgive us not, and bestow not upon us Your mercy, we shall certainly be of the losers 7: 23), and His Lord pardoned him; verily He is the One who forgives, the Most Merciful (Al-Baqarah 35-37).

As for Jesus crucifixion, the Christians themselves differed about his identity.

The Jews uphold the theory of the killing of Christ whom they never recognized. The Christians insist on crucifixion, burial and resurrection on the third day. The four Bibles relate the incident differently. The face of Yehuda who led the soldiers to arrest Christ was transfigured into that of Christ who had already been rescued by the angels through the window to the third heaven. By consequence it was Yehuda who suffered crucifixion.

The Basilidians believed in the substitution, on the other hand the Docetae believed that Christ never has a physical body but a phantom body and therefore his crucifixion was only apparent but not real.

The Marcionite Gospel denied that Jesus was born and that he was only

phantom who appeared in human form. The Gospel of St. Barnabas supported the theory of substitution on the cross.

The Orthodox Christian Churches make it a cardinal point of their doctrine that his life was taken on the cross, that he died and was buried, that on the third day he raised in the body with his wounds intact, and walked about and conversed, and ate with his disciples, and afterwards taken up bodily to heaven. This is necessary for the theological doctrine of blood sacrifice and vicarious atonement for sins!

The Koranic teaching is that Christ was not crucified nor killed by the Jews but they thought they did. And those who disputed his fate were themselves in a state of uncertainty as to the truth of the incident; their belief was based on empty knowledge and their opposition was formed on grounds admittedly insufficient, for indeed they just did not slay him but the guilt nevertheless resided in the intention. But Allah had taken him up to His August presence.

The Koranic statement that Jesus was not crucified but Allah lifted him up to Him came in the course of the Koranic verses narrating the iniquities of the Jews:

So, for their breaking the compact, and disbelieving in the signs of Allah, and slaying their Prophets without right, and for their saying, 'our hearts are uncircumcised' – nay, but Allah sealed them for their unbelief, so they believe not, except a few.

And for their unbelief, and their uttering against Mary a mighty calumny, and for their saying, 'We slew the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah' – yet they did not slay him, neither crucified him, only a likeness of that was shown to them.

Those who are at variance concerning him surely are in doubt regarding him; they have no knowledge of him, except the following of surmise; and they slew him not of a certainty – no indeed; Allah raised him up to Him; Allah is All-Mighty, All-Wise (Al-Nisa 155-158).

Jesus was not God, but only a human. If he were god he wouldn't have prayed for Allah in great agony to take away the cup of death on the

cross from him (Mark, 14: 36; Matt. 26: 29; Luke, 22: 42; and out of Allah's mercy his prayer was heard (Heb. 5: 7).

As for considering Jesus as god or the son of God, the Koran clearly states that infidels indeed are those who declare that Allah is the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary. The prophet was ordered to say to the Christians, 'Who then can restrain Allah in any way, if He willed to destroy the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, his mother, and all those domiciled on earth!

They are unbelievers who say, 'Allah is the messiah, Mary's son.' Say: 'Who then shall overrule Allah in any way if He desires to destroy the Messiah, Mary's son, and his mother, and all those who are on earth?' For to Allah belongs the kingdom of the heavens and of the earth, and all that is between them, creating what He will. Allah is powerful over everything (Al-Maidah, 17).

As the Koran states, worshipping Jesus as god or apart from God amounts to glaring blasphemy:

They are unbelievers who say, 'Allah is the Messiah, Mary's son.' For the Messiah said: 'Children of Israel serve Allah, my Lord and your Lord. Verily whoso associates with Allah anything, Allah shall prohibit him entrance to Paradise, and his refuge shall be the Fire; and wrongdoers shall have no helpers (Al-Maidah, 72).

The above mentioned Koranic verse is even confirmed by several Christian Scriptures. We see in Matt. Iv. 10, where Christ rebukes Satan for desiring the worship of others than Allah's. John xx. 17, where Christ says to Mary Magdalene, 'Go unto my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my father and your father; and to my God and your God.' Also in Luke xxiii, 19, where Christ rebukes a certain ruler for calling him good master: 'Why callest thou me good? None is good, save One, that is, God.' In Mark xii. 25 Jesus says: 'the first of all the commandments is, hear O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord.'

The concept of Trinity is also clearly condemned in the Koran:

They are unbelievers who say, 'Allah is the third of three.' No god is there but One God. If they refrain not from what they say, there shall afflict those of them that disbelieve a painful chastisement (Al-Maidah, 73).

Allah is One, His Message is one; yet how people's perversity transforms truth into falsehood, religion into superstition! The Messiah, the son of Mary, was no more than an Apostle; many messengers like him have passed away before him. His mother was a pious woman vested with saintliness of life and character; she and her son had to consume food to sustain their lives and therefore be destined to die.

The Messiah, son of Mary was only a Messenger, Messengers before him passed away; his mother was a just woman; they both ate food. Behold, how We make clear the signs to them; then behold, how they perverted are! (Al-Maidah, 75).

The Christians worshipped Jesus apart from Allah, although Jesus can neither do them harm nor can he affords them help. Allah is the only one who controls their fate.

Say: 'Do you serve apart from Allah, that which cannot hurt or profit you? Allah the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing (Al-Maidah, 76).

On the Day of Resurrection Jesus will not be there to carry the sins of others because Allah is the only one who can justly punish His servants for disobedience, no one can say to him nay, for He is high above all. On that mighty Day, Jesus will be busy defending himself before Allah by trying hard to answer Allah's question: 'Did you O Jesus, the son of Mary, ask the people to take you and your mother as two gods besides God and pay you the same tribute that is dutiful only to Me!' Jesus will disclaim any knowledge of the sorts of things that are attributed to him by those who take his name. Jesus will acknowledge that he was mortal, and that his knowledge was limited like that of a

mortal.

As we read in the Koan:

And when Allah will say, “O Jesus, son of Mary, did you say unto men: ‘Worship me and my mother as two gods besides Allah?’” He will say: “Glory is to you! It was not for me to say what I had no right (to say). Had I said such a thing, you would surely, have known it. You know what is within my soul, and I know not is within Your soul; truly You, only You, are the All-Knower of all that is unseen.

Never did I say to them aught except what you did command me to say: ‘Worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord.’ And I was a witness over them while I remained among them, but when you took me up, You were the Watcher over them; and You are a Witness to all things.

If you punish them, they are your slaves, and if You forgive them, You are the All-Mighty, the All-Wise.

Allah will say: ‘this is a Day on which the truthful will profit from their truth; theirs are Gardens under which rivers flow (in Paradise) – they shall abide therein forever. Allah is pleased with them and they with Him. That is the great success (Paradise) (Al-Maidah 116-119).

Those who dispute about the signs of Allah which are clear to all who care to see, are merely in far error. They turn a deaf ear to Allah’s revelation and refuse to listen but to their own conception which is an imagination proceeding from their deviated senses. They will come to know the fatal consequence of their denial of Allah’s authority, when in time they bear the yoke and be dragged in chains, plunged into boilers and from thence into Hell where they suffer torment. There and then they will be asked, ‘Where are those whom you incorporated with Allah in worship?’ They will say, ‘They have vanished away.’ They further lie and say, ‘We did not worship anything before.’ Thus Allah leads astray the disbelievers. Allah will throw them in Hell to abide therein forever because they rejected Allah’s signs, and incorporated with Him in

worship other deities (Jesus, priest, pope, saint, idol, nature, prophet etc...).

Allah says in the Koran:

Hast thou not regarded those who dispute concerning the signs of Allah, how they are turned about?

Those who cry lies to the Book and that wherewith We sent Our Messengers – soon they will know!

When the fetters and chains are on their necks, and they are dragged into the boiling water, then into the Fire they are poured; then it is said to them, 'Where are those you associated apart from Allah?' They shall say, 'They have gone astray from us; nay, but it was nothing at all that we called upon aforetime.'

Even so Allah leads astray the unbelievers.

That is because you rejoiced in the earth without right, and were exultant. Enter the gates of Hell to dwell therein forever.' How evil the lodging of those that are proud (Ghafir 69-76).

Such is the requital of the enemies of Allah – the Fire, a fit requital for that they used to deny Allah's signs.

That is the recompense of Allah's enemies – the Fire, wherein they shall have the Abode of Eternity as a recompense, for that they denied His signs (Fussilat, 28).

The one true reality is that Allah is One. Blessed are those who treasured this truth in their souls while still living their life of probation.

This was the Message of Muhammad to the whole world. A Message of pure monotheism directed to the polytheists who associate with Allah in worship other deities, a warning to the atheists, infidels and disbelievers who deny Allah's presence. Muhammad, the seal of the prophets delivered the Message then travelled up to his Creator. Muslims after him continue and will continue to deliver the Message of monotheism until the end of time. This is how they were ordered by the Prophet and by the teachings of their Lord. They persist in promulgating the

message because it is a Message of mercy, the road to paradise. A lot of good will come to them if they succeed in spreading the Message of Islam to the world. Allah is One, and no god worthy of being worshiped but Him alone.

Allah says in the Koran:

This is a Message to be delivered to mankind that they may be warned by it, and that they may know that He is one God, and that all possessed of mind may remember (Ibrahim, 52)."

References

- (1) The Meaning of the Koran. Text, translation and Commentary. By Abdullah Yusuf Ali.

