What the Quran Says About Jesus Christ

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What the Quran Says About Jesus Christ

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All scripture quotations are from the Authorized (King James) Version. Where portions of a verse are set forth in block capital letters or are underlined, it is for the purpose of the author's emphasis and does not represent a revision of the text.

Most people in North America had little or no interest in the Islamic religion prior to September 11, 2001. That incredibly small group of born again Christians who actually witness for the Lord Jesus had plenty of falsehood to combat in the form of Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons. Thus, to true Christians and nominal ones alike, the followers of Mohammed were virtually a non-factor.

But with the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, people suddenly wanted and needed to know about Islam. Of course, the pavlovian masses turned on their television sets so they could be told what to think and how to believe. They watched a parade of Muslim clerics say things like, "Islam is a religion of peace," or "These attacks do not represent Muslims or their faith." Reporters and hosts nodded their heads. Viewers sat in their living rooms and dutifully nodded their heads.

For 99.9999% of the citizens of the United States, such a "study" of the Islamic faith was sufficient. After all, these are people who elect a president based on physical appearance and run up massive credit card debts in response to sixty-second advertisements.

The rest of us do a little thinking. We ask ourselves questions like, "If the terrorist attacks do not represent Islam, why are every one of them carried out by followers of Mohammed?" "If Islam is a religion of peace why are the people who pray toward Mecca waging war on civilian populations on four continents?"

If I wanted to know what a Protestant or Catholic was *supposed* to believe I would never consult a man who was so void of truth as to be accepted by the news media as a spokesman. I would go to The Bible. If I wanted to know what a Muslim was *supposed* to believe I would never consult a man who was welcome on "Today" or "60 Minutes" or the nightly news. I would go to the Ouran.

So, on September 17, 2001, I took my copy of the Quran off the shelf in my library and began to read. In this booklet I am going to report my findings. It is not my purpose to discuss the fundamentals or the intricacies of the Muslim religion. I only wanted to know, and in turn want you to know, what the followers of the Quran believe about the Lord Jesus Christ and those who claim Him as their personal savior.

I am sure that the Muslim community has the same problem with multiple versions and translations as does the Christian community. I am aware of the fact that some Mohammedan will reject my findings because they did not come from the right source. The quotations below are taken from "The Holy Qur-an¹ – Text, Translation and Commentary" translated by Allama Abdullah Yusuf Ali. This two-volume set has the Arabic and the English in parallel columns and extensive footnotes throughout. It was copyrighted in 1946 (the first edition was completed in 1934) and printed in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

In order to verify my understanding of certain passages I have consulted "Islam in Focus" by Hammudah Abdalati. This book was published by The Islamic Teaching Center in cooperation with the North American Islamic Trust and bears no copyright date.

Let the reader understand that I have approached the Quran as a born again Christian who not only believes that Jesus Christ is the only savior of sinners but as one who believes the Holy Bible to be the perfect and inerrant word of God. Thus, I will compare the statements made by the Quran with those made by the Bible per the instructions of 1 Corinthians 2:13. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

In making this comparison, when I find a discrepancy between the two, I will adhere to the command of the older document, the Holy Bible, wherein I am commanded: To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them (Isaiah 8:20).

Thus, where I find the Holy Bible to conflict with the Holy Quran, I will always take the light of the former over the darkness of the latter, as commanded by the Most High God.

Another point needs to be made before we begin our study. A true Christian could never participate in a prayer service with a

¹ The sacred book of Islam is spelled Qur-an, Quran, or Koran. I have adopted the spelling used in the writings of the Muslim sources in my library.

Muslim or Jew. A true Jew could never participate in a prayer service with a Christian or Muslim. A true Muslim could never participate in prayer service with a Christian or Jew. When you see staged media events where "clerics" of many "faiths" unite in an ecumenical display to "say prayers" you can be certain that every one of those men compromised what he is supposed to believe in order to take part in a POLITICAL gathering. In such meetings, the greatest transgressor is the Christian. Why? The Jew can pray to God without violating his principles. He never made any claim of faith in Jesus. The Muslim can pray to God without violating his principles. He never made any claim of faith in Jesus. The Christian claims faith in Jesus. He must hide this light under a bushel in order to join in prayer with the other two. A professing Christian who will deny His Lord to be politically correct is not going to be of benefit to the cause of Jesus Christ.

The week following the attacks on United States civilians, we ran a copy of our Sunday sermon in the local newspaper. This full-page ad clearly presented the saving gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Much of the response was very positive. ALL the criticism came from professing Christians who were outraged at our suggestion that adherents to other religions would not go to heaven when they died. These professors have NO regard for the words of the living God as found in the Holy Bible.

Jesus Christ said, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (John 14:6). I believe Him. The Bible declares in Acts 4:12: Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. I believe it.

Therefore, I have no regard for the opinions of those who claim to be followers of Jesus Christ while calling Him a liar. If He said He is the only way, then who is a priest, preacher, scholar or church member to contradict Him? I have more respect for a Muslim who says Mohammed is the only way than for a Christian who says that Jesus is not.

The Quran teaches that: JESUS IS EQUAL TO OTHER GREAT MEN, BUT IS NOT SUPERIOR TO THEM

The Quran declares: They say: "Become Jews Or² Christians if ye would be guided (To salvation)." Say thou: "Nay! (I would rather the Religion Of Abraham the True, And he joined not gods with God." Say ye: "We believe In God, and the revelation Given to us, and to Abraham, Ismail, Isaac, Jacob, And the Tribes, and that given To Moses and Jesus, and that given To (all) Prophets from their Lord: We make no difference Between one and another of them: And we bow to God (in Islam)" (2:16:135-136).³

When the Imam comes on the television and says that the Muslim faith embraces Jesus he is telling the truth. The birth, miracles, the teaching and the ascension of Jesus are all set forth in the Quran. However, the Muslim's sacred text is quite clear in its denial of the fundamental truth held by Christians. They reject the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ. Notice in this passage it is clearly stated that there is no difference between Jesus and Ishmael or Moses.

The Bible says: 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 2:9-11).

A similar passage in the Quran reads: Do they seek For other than the Religion Of God? – while all creatures In the heavens and on earth Have, willing or unwilling, Bowed to His Will

² The text renders all verses in poetic style, capitalizing the first letter of each line. I have retained the capitalization, though not the type style. Thus capitals will appear throughout the verses where they do not seem to be warranted.

³ The Bible is referenced by book-chapter-verse, e.g. John 3:16. The Quran is referenced in the same way, but throughout the text the books, called Suras bear only their number, not their name. For example, Fatiha 1:12 will be notated as 1:1:12 or Anfal 2:20 will be noted as 8:2:20.

(Accepted Islam), And to Him shall they All be brought back. Say: "We believe In God, and in what Has been revealed to us And what was revealed To Abraham, Ismail; Isaac, Jacob, and the Tribes, And in (the Books) Given to Moses, Jesus, And the Prophets, From their Lord: We make no distinction Between one and another Among them, and to God do we Bow our will (in Islam)" (3:9:83-84).

Notice the words "we make no distinction." There is no doubt about the meaning. Jesus and Isaac are on equal footing in the religion of Islam. The word of God also speaks of men standing on the same ground in Romans 3:22-23. Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. There is no difference between one SINNER and another. They have all sinned and all need the imputed righteousness of God to be saved. Whether you claim to be a Muslim or a Protestant you must understand, that to deny the deity of Jesus Christ is to make Him a sinner. If He is a sinner He is not the savior. If He is not the savior you are yet in your sins.

Another Quran passage reads: The same religions has He Established for you as that Which He enjoined on Noah – The which We have sent By inspiration to thee – And that which We enjoined On Abraham, Moses, and Jesus: namely, that ye should remain Steadfast in Religion, and make No divisions therein: To those who worship Other things than God, hard is the (way) To which thou callest them. God chooses to Himself Those whom He pleases, And guides to Himself Those who turn (to Him) (42:2:13).

Here we are told that Jesus was, like Abraham and Moses, required to remain steadfast in religion. He was under the same requirement and threat of judgment as Noah. To the religious man, nothing evil has been said of Jesus. To those who believe the Bible, we have an outright rejection of its grandest theme.

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory (1 Timothy 3:16).

I and my Father are one. Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God (John 10:30-33).

If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? (John 14:7-9).

In no uncertain terms, Jesus claimed to be God manifest in a body of human flesh, and those who heard Him speak knew that was exactly what He claimed. The Muslim faith says nice things about Jesus. It calls Him an apostle and a prophet. But if He was a liar, He was not a good man. And if He was not God, He was a liar, for He claimed to be the express image of the Father.

In Sura 6:10:84-87 it is written: We gave him Isaac And Jacob: all (three) We guided: And before him, We guided Noah, And among his progeny, David, Solomon, Job, Joseph, Moses, and Aaron: thus do We reward those who do good: And Zakariya⁴ and John, And Jesus and Elias: All in the ranks Of the Righteous: And Ismail and Elisha, And Jonas, and Lot: And to all We gave Favour above the nations: (To them) and to their fathers, And progeny and brethren: We chose them, And We guided them To a straight Way.

Here is a ranking of righteous men, much like we have in Hebrews 11 of the Holy Bible. But notice that Jesus is listed among them. Consider carefully those in the above list.

Isaac a liar
Jacob twice the liar
David an adulterer
Moses a murderer

Solomon violator of the first commandment

Noah a drunkard

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⁴ Zechariah.

As we noted earlier, *there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not* (Ecclesiastes 7:20). If Jesus was but a great man, He was still a man. And the very best of men are sinners. The religion of Islam leaves us without a savior.

The Quran teaches that: JESUS IS NOT THE TRUE GOD BUT IS ADDED TO HIM

They say: "Become Jews Or Christians if ye would be guided (To salvation)." Say thou: "Nay! (I would rather the Religion Of Abraham the True, And he joined not gods with God." Say ye: "We believe In God, and the revelation Given to us, and to Abraham, Ismail, Isaac, Jacob, And the Tribes, and that given To Moses and Jesus, and that given To (all) Prophets from their Lord: We make no difference Between one and another of them: And we bow to God (in Islam)" (2:16:135-136).

Here is the Muslim concept of Jesus, as well as their view of Christianity, in a nutshell. To claim that Jesus is God would be to establish a second God. Having rejected the doctrine of the trinity (see below), the Mohammedan is left in the same position as the Jew and the Wiccan. Yes, there was a historical figure named Jesus and He did some good things and had some pithy sayings that have stood the test of time. But there is only one God, so to claim deity for Jesus is to "add gods with God."

The Quran goes on to teach: O People of the Book! Commit no excesses In your religion: nor say Of God aught but the truth. Christ Jesus the son of Mary Was (no more than) An apostle of God, And His Word, Which He bestowed on Mary, And a Spirit proceeding From Him: so believe In God and His apostles. Say not "Trinity": desist: It will be better for you: For God is One God: Glory be to Him: (Far Exalted is He) above Having a son. To Him Belong all things in the heavens And on earth. And enough Is God as a Disposer of affairs (4:23:171).

So we have in this one verse an outright denial of two of the cardinal truths of Bible Christianity – the doctrine of the trinity and the deity of Jesus Christ.

First, as to the charge that Jesus was no more than an apostle we find the Holy Bible stating:

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting (Micah 5:2).

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14).

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS (Matthew 1:21-25).

Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad. Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I AM. Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by (John 8:56-59) [My caps].

So the Holy Bible declares that a virgin named Mary gave birth to one whose goings forth have been from everlasting. He was announced by the angelic host as: "GOD WITH US." Not only did His life predate that of Abraham, He claimed to be Jehovah, I AM, the God who spoke to Moses from the burning bush (Exodus 3:1-14).

As for the doctrine of the trinity, again the word of God is clear:

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one (1 John 5:7).

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily (Colossians 2:8-9).

Just as three sides make but one triangle and spirit-soul-body make but one man, so the God of the Bible is a perfect tri-unity. When God (singular) said "Let US" (plural) "make man in OUR image" (Genesis 1:26) the principle was laid down and it runs from one end of the Bible to the other.

As for God having a Son, to refuse this truth is to refuse not only the Holy Bible and its Jesus, but is a rejection of salvation itself.

John 3:16-18 says 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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Salvation is received or rejected based on whether or not one believes that Jesus is the Son of God. First John 5:10-13 makes this truth crystal clear.

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. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

No matter what you see on television, or hear from ministers, priests, rabbis and imams, all religions are not the same. One claims that Jesus is the Son of God, i.e. God Himself, manifest in a body of human flesh and that one can only have eternal life by believing this truth and putting faith in Him. Either the Bible is true or the Quran is true. They cannot both be the truth when they take such totally opposite positions on the person of Jesus Christ.

Watch how easily you could be misled by a spokesman for Islam who looks into the camera and quotes: *Those who believe* (in the Qur-an), Those who follow the Jewish (scriptures), And the Sabians and the Christians, -- Any who believe in God And the Last Day, And work righteousness, -- On them shall be no fear, Nor shall they grieve.

"See, salvation for all true men of all faiths. This is what the Quran teaches," says the Muslim cleric on the radio talk show. But suppose we finish the passage. We took the Covenant Of the Children of Israel And sent them apostles. Every time there came To them an apostle With what they themselves Desired not - some (Of these) they called Impostors, and some they (Go so They thought there would be No trial (or far as to) slay. punishment); So they became blind and deaf; Yet God (in mercy) turned To them; yet again many Of them became blind and deaf. But God sees well All that they do. THEY DO BLASPHEME WHO SAY: "GOD IS CHRIST THE SON OF MARY." But said Christ: "O Children of Israel! Worship God, my Lord And your Lord." Whoever Joins other gods with God, -- God will forbid him The Garden, and the Fire Will be his abode. There will For the wrong-doers Be no one to help. THEY DO BLASPHEME WHO SAY: GOD IS ONE OF THREE IN A TRINITY: for there is No god except One God. If they desist not From their word (of blasphemy), Verily a grievous penalty Will befall the blasphemers Among them. Why turn they not to God, And seek His forgiveness? For God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful. Christ the son of Mary Was no more than An Apostle; many were The apostles that passed away Before him. His mother Was a woman of truth. They had both to eat Their (daily) food. See how God doth make His Signs clear to them; Yet see in what ways THEY ARE DELUDED AWAY FROM THE TRUTH! Say: "Will ye worship, Besides God, something Which hath no power either To harm or benefit you? But God, -- He it is That heareth and knoweth All things" (5:10:72-79) [My caps].

So, we see from the context, that far from an embrace of Judaism and Christianity, the passage cited calls Christians blasphemers and those who hold to the doctrines of the deity of Christ and the trinity deluded.

Can you imagine the outcry if a preacher went on CNN and called all the adherents of Islam deluded blasphemers?! Can you imagine a Muslim leader telling one of the ministers of propaganda on a nightly newscast that all Christians are deluded blasphemers?! If some-one did say such a thing those who call themselves Christians would denounce the preacher as "hateful and non-Christian" and those who claim to follow Mohammed would charge the Muslim leader with "misrepresenting Islam." Nonsense! Either Jesus is the only way and every other way is false, or Islam is the way and the Bible is a lie. Choose one. Stop playing politics when your soul is at stake.

Blessed in He Who Sent down the Criterion To His Servant, that it May be an admonition To all creatures; -- He to Whom belongs The dominion of the heavens And the earth: no son has He begotten, nor has He A partner in His dominion: It is He Who created All things, and ordered them In due proportions (25:1:1-2).

Such (was) Jesus the son Of Mary: (it is) a statement Of truth, about which They (vainly) dispute. It is not befitting To (the majesty of) God That He should beget A son. Glory be to Him! When he determines A matter, He only says To it, "Be", and it is. Verily God is my Lord And your Lord: Him Therefore serve ye: this is A Way that is straight (19:2:34-36).

Later in this same Sura we read: They say: (God) Most Gracious Has begotten a son!" Indeed ye have put forth A thing most monstrous! At it the skies are ready To burst, the earth To split asunder, and The mountains to fall down In utter ruin, That they should invoke A son for (God) Most Gracious. For it is not consonant With the majesty of (God) Most Gracious that He Should beget a son (19:6:88-92).

So those who claim that Jesus is the Son of God are telling a monstrous lie. Thus says the Quran. Has God begotten a Son? Let us see what God says about the matter.

I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession (Psalms 2:7-8)

God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee (Acts 13:33).

For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son? And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him. And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom (Hebrews 1:5-8).

And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased (Luke 3:22).

The Father not only calls Jesus His begotten Son, but calls Him GOD in Hebrews 1.

In this regard, let us remember that the Quran in numerous places put Jesus Christ on par with Moses, Elijah and other outstanding Hebrew figures. Praise the Lord, He allows us to look in on a meeting of three of history's great men. Read carefully.

And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistering. And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias: Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem. But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him. And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias: not knowing what he said. While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud. And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.

And when the voice was past, Jesus was found alone (Luke 9:28-36).

So there you have it! Jesus is not only declared to be superior to Moses and Elijah, but He is said to be the beloved Son of God – by God speaking from heaven.

Compare this to the words ascribed to God by the Quran. When (Jesus) the son Of Mary is held up As an example, behold, Thy people raise a clamour Thereat (in ridicule)! And they say, "Are Our gods best, or he?" This they set forth To thee, only by way Of disputation: yea, they Are a contentious people. He was no more than A servant: We granted Our favour to Him, And We made him An example to the Children Of Israel (43:6:57-59).

My friends, know and understand that the dividing line that runs through this world is not political or economic. It is not social or racial. It is not even religious. The line that divides men in time and for eternity is Jesus Christ. Some believe on Him as the Son of God and the Savior of the world. Most do not. The two cannot walk together.

The Quran teaches that: JESUS CHRIST DID NOT DIE ON THE CROSS

The outstanding tenent of Biblical Christianity is that the Son of God died on the cross to pay for the sins of the world. Liberalism and modernism and denominationalism may place emphasis on the life, teachings, miracles or example of Jesus, but this is not true Christian faith. The word of God makes the cross the focal point. It is clear from the Old Testament and the four gospels that Jesus came to this earth to die on the cross. It is clear from the epistles that this death on the cross is the foundation of the gospel message.

For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God (1 Corinthians 1:17-18).

But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world (Galatians 6:14).

For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: (Philippians 3:18).

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

Watch carefully as the Quran denies the very essence of the Christian gospel:

That they rejected Faith; That they uttered against Mary A grave false charge; That they said (in boast), "We killed Christ Jesus The son of Mary, The Apostle of God"; -- But they killed him not, Nor crucified him, But so it was made To appear to them, And those who differ Therein are full of doubts, With no (certain) knowledge, But only conjecture to follow, For a surety They killed him not: -- Nay, God raised him up Unto Himself; and god Is Exalted in Power, Wise; (4: 22:156-159).

So when the Muslim spokesman says that he believes Jesus was raised up and that He was ascended to heaven he is telling the truth. What he did not tell you is that he does not believe that our Lord was crucified. Their followers are taught that while darkness covered the earth Jesus slipped away to a quiet place and an impostor was crucified in His place. The argument is that it would be beneath the dignity of God to allow one of His prophets to be killed. How about the lack of dignity displayed by letting someone get nailed to a cross in your stead to foster the lie that you died for sinners?

And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins (1 Corinthians 15:14-17).

Somebody is a false witness. If Christ did not die for sinners and rise from the dead, Christians are liars. If He did die for

sinners and rise from the dead, the Quran does not speak the truth. You must choose one or the other. You cannot embrace both.

The Quran teaches that: CHRISTIANS ARE ACCURSED AND ARE NOT TO BE TAKEN AS FRIENDS OR PARTNERS

I certainly understand that there are differences between national politics and gospel preaching. I am writing as a minister of the gospel, but it would be well for those in government to heed these words. A true, devoted follower of the Quran will not form a binding alliance with a true, devoted follower of Jesus Christ. All the posturing by Islamic leaders to give Americans the impression that Islam stands for harmony and unity must be an offence to those who truly adore the words of the Quran.

Consider the following statements carefully.

The Jews call 'Uzair' a son Of God, and the Christians Call Christ the Son of God. That is a saying from their mouth; (In this) they but imitate What the Unbelievers of old used to say. GOD'S CURSE BE ON THEM: how they are deluded Away from the Truth! They take their priests And their anchorites to be Their lords in derogation of God, And (they take as their Lord) Christ the son of Mary; Yet they were commanded To worship but One God: There is no god but He. Praise and glory to Him: (Far is He) from having The partners they associate (With Him) (9:5:30-31) [My caps].

Here the holy book of the Muslim calls down god's curse upon those of us who call Christ the Son of God. This is Bin Laden's position, if he is true to his faith. This is Arafat's position, if he is true to his faith. This is the position of every Muslim who actually believes the Quran.

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⁵ Ezra.

Before you call me a hateful extremist, look at these statements from the word of God: But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed (Galatians 1:8-9).

So we have two religions. Each says the other is accursed. One believes Jesus Christ is the Son of God. One believes he is a sinful man. They cannot both be right.

What of an ecumenical prayer meeting, a mutual cooperation for religious purposes or a national coalition to bring about a one-world government? To the Muslim, the Quran says: *O ye who believe! TAKE NOT THE JEWS AND THE CHRISTIANS FOR YOUR FRIENDS and protectors: They are but friends and protectors To each other. And he Amongst you that turns to them (For friendship) is of them. Verily God guideth not A people unjust (5:8:54).*

They but wish that ye Should reject Faith, As they do, and thus be On the same footing (as they): But TAKE NOT FRIENDS FROM THEIR RANKS Until they flee In the way of God (From what is forbidden) (4:13:89) [My caps].

And to the Christian, the Holy Bible says: Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty (2 Corinthians 6:14-18).

So, I say again, that Jesus Christ is a divider of men, and families, and nations, and religions.

If both of these great faiths consider the other accursed, and forbid their members to make friendship or have fellowship with the other, is there any basic difference between them as far as the treatment of their fellow man is concerned? Absolutely. passage just cited from the Quran goes on to say: But if they turn renegades, Seize them and slay them Wherever ye find them; And (in any case) take No friends or helpers From their ranks; --Except those who join A group between whom And you there is a treaty (Of peace), or those who approach You with hearts restraining Them from fighting you As well as fighting their own People. If God had pleased, He could have given them Power over you, and they Would have fought you: Therefore if they withdraw From you but fight you not, And (instead) send you (Guarantees of) peace, then God Hath opened no way For you (to war against them). Others you will find That wish to gain Your confidence as well As that of their people: Every time they are sent back To temptation, they succumb Thereto: if they withdraw not From you nor give you (guarantees) Of peace besides Restraining their hands, Seize them and slay them Wherever ye get them: In their case We have provided you With a clear argument Against them (4:13:89-91).

Fight in the cause of God Those who fight you, But do not transgress limits; For God loveth not transgressors. <u>And slay them Wherever ye catch them</u>, And turn them out From where they have Turned you out: For tumult and oppression Are worse than slaughter; But fight them not At the Sacred Mosque, Unless they (first) Fight you there; But if they fight you, Slay them. Such is the reward Of those who suppress faith (2:24:190-191) [My underlining].

Such verses could certainly inspire a man to commit acts of terror in the name of God.

But to the born again Christian the New Testament commands: Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good (Romans 12:19-21).

Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust (Matthew 5:43-45).

Why are the fundamentalist Muslims calling for a holy war or jihad against the infidels of the west? Because if they can make the war a matter of race or religion they can invoke passages such as the following.

Then fight in God's cause – Thou art held responsible Only for thyself – And rouse the Believers. It may be that God Will restrain the fury Of the Unbelievers; For God is the strongest In might and in punishment. Whoever recommends And helps a good cause Becomes a partner therein: And whoever recommends and helps an evil cause, Shares in its burden: And God hath power Over all things. When a (courteous) greeting Is offered you, meet it With a greeting still more Courteous, or (at least) Of equal courtesy. God takes careful account Of all things. God! There is no god But He: of a surety He will gather you together Against the Day of Judgment, About which there is no doubt. And whose word can be Truer than God's? (4:11:84-87).

The punishment of those Who wage war against God And His Apostle, and strive With might and main For mischief through the land Is: execution, or crucifixion, Or the cutting off of hands And feet from opposite sides, Or exile from the land: That is their disgrace In this world, and A heavy punishment is theirs In the Hereafter; (5:5:36).

It is not fitting For an Apostle That he should have Prisoners of war until He hath thoroughly subdued The land (8:9:67).

I have not written to condemn the Muslim religion or to criticize its sacred book. It has been my purpose to point out to Christians and Muslims alike what the Quran says about Jesus Christ and what the Holy Bible says about Jesus Christ.

The Muslim religion teaches faith in one God and offers salvation to those who earn it by good works. The Bible teaches

faith in one God and offers salvation as a gift to those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast (Ephesians 2:4-9).

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 6:23).

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him (John 3:36).