

## ISLAM

In the first part of this brief study of Islam I am relying heavily upon the book “Secrets of the Koran” by Don Richardson. Don is a world famous missionary and author. His book, Peace Child, was a Reader’s Digest book of the month selection and has been translated into 27 different languages. It was made into a movie in 1972.

In his book “Eternity in Their Hearts” Don lists a number of redemptive analogies between the traditions of various people groups and the Bible. These analogies can be used as bridges to bring these various people groups to Christ. We should not be surprised by this common thread for the whole world has been populated by the family of Noah. Here are a few examples.

- The pagans of Athens had an altar to the “unknown god”. This was not just any god, but they believed this “unknown god” was the Supreme God over all others. Paul used this tradition as a bridge for he came to tell them about the Supreme God Who was Lord over all (See Acts 17).
- In 1867 Norwegian missionaries began working with the Santal Tribe in India. While learning the language they came across the words “Thakur Jiu” which means “Genuine God”. The Santals believed their ancestors once knew the “Genuine God” but had lost contact with Him. When the missionaries explained that they had come to tell them about the “Genuine God” they baptized as many as 80 new converts per day
- The Chinese ideograph for “righteousness” is the pronoun “I” directly under a “Lamb”. Their word for “boat” is a “vessel with 8 people in it”. Their word for the Genuine God is “Shang Ti”. The Chinese do not need to know about a “new” God, but rather reminded of the “True God” whom their ancestors worshipped.
- The Korean word for Genuine God is “Hananim”, the Karen people of Asia call Him “Y’wa”, the Incas of South America called Him “Viracocha”, the Gedeo people of Africa call Him “Magano”. Since there is only One Genuine God all of these are merely different tribal names for the Genuine God Whom we know as Jehovah.
- In 1962 Don himself, and his wife Carol, began working with the cannibalistic headhunters of New Guinea known as the Sawi. The redemptive analogy they discovered with the Sawi forms the basis of their best selling book Peace Child.
- Don feels that Islam is unique among non-Christian religions in that there is no redemptive analogy forming a bridge to bring them to Christ. He writes “The more digging I did into the Koran the more I realized when it comes to Islam the redemptive-analogy cannot work” (p. 19)

## MOHAMMED

Jesus warned us to watch out for false prophets **“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.” (Matt. 7:15).** See also Matt. 24:11, 24; Mk. 13:22, etc.)

Please consider the following facts and see if Mohammed seems to you like a true prophet of God.

- The most commonly accepted year for his birth is A.D. 571.
- He was born in Mecca, orphaned in childhood, and raised by an uncle.
- He never became literate.
- Early in the 600s he claimed to receive visits from the archangel Gabriel.
- Mohammed then proclaimed himself a prophet and began preaching against idolatry.
- In A.D. 622 he was forced to flee from Mecca with his few followers to Medina.
- When the Jews in Medina refused to accept him as a prophet he had them exterminated.
- When Mohammed and his followers began robbing caravans and taking slaves the caravans began sending along armed guards.
- To keep his followers enthused in the face of danger he told them that those who died fighting for his cause had more sex than those merely raping victims in the caravan.
- The promise of virgins in heaven for martyrs has its origin in Koran 56:34 – 36, but the Hadith is more explicit. (The Hadith is a collection of traditions containing sayings of Mohammed and form a major source of guidance for Muslims).
- The preoccupation of Muslim men with sex led to making all women cover themselves to avoid being raped.
- Newsweek magazine (July 22, 2002) reported that a fire broke out in an intermediate school in Mecca housing 750 girls. Every window was covered with bars and every door was locked to keep these girls protected from Muslim men. Running to the only door that was open resulted in 15 girls being trampled to death. When the girls finally escaped the Muslim religious police began forcing them back into the burning building because they were bare headed. Fortunately, the civil police prevailed and the girls were spared.
- While the sex drive of Muslim men is encouraged, the sex drive of Muslim women is suppressed. Millions of Muslim girls routinely have their genitals mutilated to depress their sexual pleasure. This makes non-Muslim women more enticing and being gang raped by Muslim men is becoming increasingly routine.
- Wikipedia states: “According to Anas ibn Malik, the Prophet [Muhammad](#) used to visit all eleven of his [wives](#) in one night; but he could manage this, as he had the [sexual](#) prowess of thirty men.”
- Later Mohammed added more wives and concubines to his harem including the child bride Aisha with whom he consummated their marriage when she was only nine.

## THE KORAN

Muslims believe that the Koran was verbally revealed by God to [Muhammad](#) through the angel [Gabriel](#) gradually over a period of approximately 23 years. Muslims regard the Koran as the most important miracle of Muhammad, and proof of his prophethood.

Don Richardson, however, points out that there are some glaring omissions in the Koran (p. 33). In the first 89 chapters the story of Moses confronting the Pharaoh is repeated 27 times (once every 3.3 chapters). Not once, however, does the Koran mention the Passover which was the central fact of the Biblical narrative.

There are other examples of the Koran mixing history with fables. For example, the Koran teaches that Adam and Eve sinned in paradise and not in an earthly garden (Koran 7:19 – 25). Further, God commanded every angel in heaven to prostrate themselves before Adam. Hamaan in the book of Esther was supposed to be an associate of the Pharaoh in Egypt who had been dead for 900 years (Koran 28:5 – 8). The Koran also confuses King Saul with Gideon (Koran 2:249, 250). The Koran tells Abraham's story with fables intertwined in 24 of the first 87 chapters and the story of Moses 27 times.

Since the Koran is the primary miracle validating Mohammed as a prophet, the integrity of the text is extremely important. Dr. James White argues, however, that the textual integrity of the Koran has almost certainly been corrupted. Dr. White is the director of Alpha and Omega Ministries and has authored more than twenty four books. He believes that the difference between the textual evidence for the New Testament and the Koran is as different as night and day.

White notes:

1. The manuscript of the Koran was controlled by only one person, the khalifa (as evidenced by Uthman's ability to recall all the manuscripts).
2. It was uniformly revised by Uthman.
3. During this time, if any error crept into the manuscript which would serve as the official text, this error would **only** be detectable by comparing it to previous manuscripts.
4. Unfortunately, all the previous manuscripts were put to the flames.

White concludes:

1. We have so many New Testament manuscripts that it is virtually impossible for the text to have been uniformly corrupted in a textually undetectable manner.
2. It is extremely easy for the Koran to have been uniformly corrupted in a textually undetectable manner.

The word Jihad occurs many times in the Koran. It refers a fight or struggle against the enemies of Islam. The Koran contains 264 such verses. For example "Strike off their heads. Strike off their finger tips! . . . because they defied God and his Apostle" (Koran 8:12, 13).

There can be no denial that Mohammed was a man of war. During his life there were constant battles with caravans plus the battle of Badr, the battle of Uhud, the battle of Ahzab, the conquest of Mecca, etc. After Mohammed's death Iraq was conquered in A.D. 633, Syria was conquered in A. D. 635, Palestine in A. D. 637, Egypt in A. D. 642, and after that Persia was conquered and for the next few decades a series of other military victories occurred.

The Muslim advance would have conquered all of Europe but for their defeat on October 10, 732 at the Battle of Tours. Charles Martel with a much smaller army halted between 40,000 – 60,000 Muslim soldiers under Abde el-pRahman. Many believe this decisive battle saved Europe from Muslim control.

In 1993 Sheik Omar Abdel Rahman (infamously known as the Blind Sheikh) and 11 others set off a bomb in the World Trade Center and planned to bomb other New York landmarks. The U.S government was insisting that Islam was a religion of peace and that these men had hijacked a peaceful religion for their own purposes. Prosecutor Andrew McCarthy concluded exactly the opposite. The Blind Sheikh turned out to be a globally renowned scholar—a doctor of Islamic jurisprudence who graduated from al-Azhar University in Cairo, the seat of Sunni Islamic learning for over a millennium. His area of academic expertise was sharia—Islamic law. McCarthy concluded that these men were doing precisely what the Koran commanded them to do.

The word “Islam” means “submission”. The ultimate goal of Muslims is therefore the submission of everyone to Allah. With this in mind, war is not the only way Muslims conquer. Immigration is another way their religion is spread.

Bill Warner wrote an article (9/15/ 2015) titled “Migration as Jihad”. He observed:

*“Migration is part of the doctrine of jihad. Migration is so important that the Islamic calendar is based upon the Hijra, Mohammed’s migration from Mecca to Medina. Why? Because it was migration that lead to the creation of jihad in Medina. And it was jihad that made Islam triumphant.*

*In the past Muslims tended to stay in Islamic countries. Today, the new politics is to migrate to Kafir lands and immerse themselves in local politics. This is the jihad of money, writing and speech. Their politics is to bring the Sharia to Kafir culture. An example is using Islamic money is to build departments in universities that will support Sharia and never criticize Islam.”*

Saudi Arabia has 100,000 air conditioned tents that are empty but takes no Muslim refugees. These tents are fireproof and equipped with kitchen and bathroom facilities. They are used a few days each year to accommodate pilgrims on their way to Mecca for the hajj. The Saudis much prefer, however, that Muslim refugees infiltrate Europe. Based on Islamic immigration and the birth rate of Muslim families Islam will take over Europe without firing a shot.

## ISLAM AND SLAVERY

Dr Marcus Garvey Jr. points out that over 28 Million Africans have been enslaved in the Muslim world during the past 14 centuries. While much has been written concerning the Transatlantic slave trade, surprisingly little attention has been given to the Islamic slave trade across the Sahara, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. While Europeans have been enslaving Africans for 3 centuries Muslims have been enslaving Africans for 14 centuries.

Dr. Garvey notes these differences:

- 2 out of 3 slaves shipped to America were men. 2 out of 3 enslaved by Muslims were women.
- As many as 10% of slaves died crossing the Atlantic. As many as 80% - 90% of slaves died crossing the North African desert.

- Most of the children of slaves to the west are now citizens of the country that enslaved them. Most of those enslaved by Muslims have disappeared.
- Most of the slaves in the west had children. Most of those enslaved by Muslims were castrated.
- While Christian reformers brought about an end to slavery in the western world, there was no similar effort to free Muslim slaves.
- By some estimates Muslims have enslaved as many as 180 million.
- Many Muslims still have slaves today. Sandro Magister points out that Josephina Bakhita was Sudan's first Catholic saint. She was freed in 1890 and was canonized by John Paul II in the year 2000. Yet today, more than a century later, there are still slaves found between the Sahara and the Nile. What's more, this slavery has its basis in Islam.
- Officially, slavery has long been abolished in Mauritania, but the law has never been enforced. Today there are an estimated 600,000 slaves in Mauritania, almost one in five of the country's 3.2 million people.

### BY THEIR FRUIT YOU WILL KNOW THEM

Jesus taught: **“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them.”** (Matt. 7:15, 16)

When observing a piece of furniture it is sometimes difficult to tell what kind of wood has been used. It is easy, however, to tell a tree by its fruit. An apple is easy to distinguish from a peach or a pear.

So also with religious teaching. When you compare the Bible and the Koran they may seem quite similar. The fruit they produce, however, is dramatically different.

In this regard Saudi Arabia is perhaps a better example of what Islam produces than any other country on earth. Islam is the state religion of Saudi Arabia and the country is sometimes called the “home of Islam”. The cities of Mecca and Medina, where Muhammad lived and died, are in Saudi Arabia. One of the five pillars of Islam is to make the pilgrimage to Mecca. The true nature of Islam is seen more clearly by studying Saudi Arabia than by studying the Koran.

What is it really like in Saudi Arabia? The Wikipedia encyclopedia states: *“Children born to Muslim fathers are by law deemed Muslim, and conversion from Islam to another religion is considered [apostasy](#) and [punishable by death](#). Blasphemy against Sunni Islam is also punishable by death, but the more common penalty is a long prison sentence. . . A Saudi court sentenced a Palestinian man, [Ashraf Fayadh](#) to death for apostasy on November 17, 2015, for alleged blasphemous statements during a discussion group and in a book of his poetry. Religious freedom is virtually non-existent. The Government does not provide legal recognition or protection for freedom of religion, and it is severely restricted in practice. As a matter of policy, the Government guarantees and protects the right to private worship for all, including non-Muslims who gather in homes for religious practice; however, this right is not always respected in practice and is not defined in law.”*

Wikipedia also reminds us that non-Muslims are strictly banned from the Holy Cities of [Mecca](#) and [Medina](#). On highways, religious police officers may divert them or hand out a fine. In the

cities themselves, road checks are randomly conducted. Saudi Arabia also prohibits public non-Muslim religious activities. Non-Muslim worshipers risk arrest, imprisonment, lashing, [deportation](#), and sometimes torture for engaging in overt religious activity that attracts official attention. Proselytizing by non-Muslims, including the distribution of non-Muslim religious materials such as [Bibles](#), is illegal. The country was reported to have passed a law recommending the death penalty for anyone caught carrying or smuggling a Bible into the country, although the claim of the death penalty later was recalled by the original source of the information. Muslims or non-Muslims wearing religious symbols of any kind in public risk confrontation with the Mutawwa'in. Under the auspices of the Ministry of Islamic Affairs approximately 50 "Call and Guidance" centers employing approximately 500 persons work to convert foreigners to Islam. Under Saudi law, all females must have a male guardian (*wali*), typically a father, brother, husband or uncle (*mahram*). Girls and women are forbidden from traveling, conducting official business, or undergoing certain medical procedures without permission from their male guardians. Honor killings are acts of vengeance, usually death, committed by male family members against female family members, who are held to have brought dishonor upon the family. A woman can be targeted by (individuals within) her family for a variety of reasons, including: refusing to enter into an [arranged marriage](#), being the victim of a [sexual assault](#), seeking a divorce—even from an [abusive](#) husband—or (allegedly) committing [adultery](#). The mere perception that a woman has behaved in a way that "dishonors" her family is sufficient to trigger an attack on her life.

While Muslims disguise the true nature of their religion in other parts of the world, the true nature of their religion can be clearly seen in Saudi Arabia. By their fruit you shall know them!

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