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# BIBLE TALK

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This week the question is: **Was Mohammed predicted in the Bible? (pt 2)**

Last week we noticed the Koran, the “holy book” of the Muslims, states in Surah 7:157 that Mohammed was prophesied in the OT law of Moses and also in the NT gospels. The OT passage which most Muslim scholars believe predicts the coming of Mohammed is Dt 18:15-22. Let me read v15 to refresh your memory:

## **Deuteronomy 18:15**

<sup>15</sup> "The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear,

We noticed last week that this passage could not possibly refer to Mohammed, because the “Prophet” under consideration in this passage was to be from the “brethren” of the audience being spoken to in Dt 18. We noticed that the word “brethren” in that passage refers to men within the nation of Israel ... “brethren” in this context means a Jew. The Arabs were never called “brethren.” Mohammed was not and is not a “brother” to the Jews. He was and is an Arab – an enemy of the Jews.

We also noticed that Dt 18 says the “Prophet” would be like Moses. Muslims try to compare Moses and Mohammed with each other and they believe they can find enough similarities to say that Mohammed is like Moses and that he fulfilled the prophecy of Dt 18. But we pointed out that Mohammed is actually very different from Moses and that Jesus, in many ways, is more like Moses. But here’s the important question:

**Q:** How can we identify the “Prophet” of Dt 18 so we can know exactly who is being referred to?

In the prophecy itself, we are given two distinguishing features to look for which clearly indicate the nature of the “*prophet.*” Moses had two distinctive features that no other prophet had:

- **Moses knew the Lord “face to face.”**
- **Moses performed signs and wonders.**

Now ... it's true that some prophets besides Moses performed signs and wonders, but no prophet had both these characteristics of knowing the Lord "face to face" and also working signs and wonders.

The "*prophet like Moses*" would clearly have to have these same two qualities.

**Q:** Did Mohammed have either quality?

## **"FACE TO FACE"**

Let's take the idea of "*face to face*" first.

God spoke to Moses directly face-to-face:

### **Numbers 12:6-8**

<sup>6</sup> Then [God] said, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream.

<sup>7</sup> Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house.

<sup>8</sup> I speak with him **face to face**, Even plainly, and not in dark sayings; And he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant Moses?"

### **Deuteronomy 34:10**

<sup>10</sup> But since then there has not arisen in Israel a prophet like Moses, whom the LORD knew **face to face**,

The scriptures are making it plain that God speaking to Moses face to face was the unique aspect of Moses which the "prophet" would possess.

But the Koran plainly teaches that Mohammed received communications at all times from the angel Gabriel. At no time did he supposedly speak directly with God.

Muslims admit this themselves.

But look at what the scriptures say about **Jesus**:

## **John 8**

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but **as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.**

<sup>38</sup> **I speak what I have seen with My Father,** and you do what you have seen with your father."

So, Jesus meets the first criteria while Mohammed does not.

## **SIGNS AND WONDERS**

Now consider the signs and wonders.

The "*prophet*" of Dt 18 would have to show signs and wonders if he claimed to be like Moses.

**Q:** Did Mohammed perform any signs or wonders to prove he was a prophet from God?

**R:** Absolutely not. If any man believes Mohammed is a prophet, they must simply take his word – blind faith – for he never performed any signs.

### **Surah 6:37**

*They say: "Why is not a sign sent down to him from his Lord?" Say: Allah hath certainly power to send down a sign: but most of them understand not.*

***In other words, God could send a sign if He wanted, but He just hasn't.***

In the same Surah here is Mohammed speaking:

### **Surah 6:57**

*Say: "For me, I (work) on a clear sign from my Lord, but ye reject Him. **What ye would see hastened, is not in my power.** The command rests with none but Allah*

...

So, Mohammed himself says he does not have power to work any clear sign from God.

***Later in the same chapter unbelievers ask for a sign and Mohammed says none will be given because they wouldn't believe it anyway.***

But what about Jesus? Did He work signs and wonders to prove He was from God?

### **John 3:1-2**

<sup>1</sup> There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

<sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do **these signs that You do** unless God is with him."

### **Acts 2:22**

<sup>22</sup> "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man **attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs** which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know —

Everyone knew Jesus did signs and wonders.

**Clearly**: Mohammed fails the test. He is not the prophet of Dt 18. But Jesus passes the test.

We will continue this investigation next week.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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