BIBLE TALK

This week the question is: Was Mohammed predicted in the Bible? (pt 3)

The Qur'an has a passage which declares that the Jewish scriptures and the Christian scriptures prophesied the coming of Mohammed.

Surah 7:157

Those who follow the Messenger, the unlettered [unspecified] Prophet, whom they find mentioned in their own (Scriptures) – in <u>the Law</u> and <u>the Gospel</u> – for he commands them what is just and forbids them what is evil ...

- The OT passage which supposedly predicts Mohammed's coming is Dt 18:15-22. We have been studying this passage for the past two weeks and we noticed it absolutely could not have been a reference to Mohammed.
- The NT passage which supposedly predicts Mohammed's coming is Jn 14:16.

In this study we wish to examine this passage and ask two questions:

- Does this NT passage actually predict the coming of Mohammed?
- If not, what does it predict?

SIX REASONS

The "Comforter" mentioned in <u>Jn 14:16, 26</u>, <u>15:26</u> and <u>16:7</u> refers to the Holy Spirit, not Mohammed.

I want to give you *six reasons* why this is true – six reasons why this <u>must</u> refer to the Holy Spirit and not Mohammed.

1) The promise of Jn 14:16 was to the apostles.

John 14:16

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give <u>you</u> another Helper (Comforter), that He may abide with <u>you</u> forever —

This promise is being made to the apostles. Read the entire chapter and you will see Jesus is speaking with the apostles.

2) The promise is for "another" Comforter.

According to Islam, the correct word here should be περικλυτός which means "praised one."

But look at the word "another." If Muslims are correct, then this means Jesus was the first "praised one" (περικλυτός), but there is no scripture ever calling Him this.

NOTE: This Greek word περικλυτός is never even used in the Bible at all – not in reference to Jesus nor anyone else.

However, the Greek word that <u>is</u> used and which is translated "comforter" in Jn 14:16 <u>is</u> used in reference to Jesus in 1 Jn 2:1.

3) The Comforter would be with the apostles "forever."

When Mohammed came, he did not stay with his people forever. He died in 632 AD and was buried. His tomb is in Medina. His body has been rotting for over 1300 years!

But Jesus said once the Comforter comes, He would be with the apostles forever.

The Holy Spirit is still with the apostles – still working thru the inspired word which they penned.

4) The world cannot "receive" the Comforter which Jesus promised.

John 14:16-17

 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper $_{(Comforter)}$, that He may abide with you forever —

<u>Here's a problem</u>: The Qur'an says that Mohammed was sent as a heavenly messenger to all men in the world!

Surah 34:28

We have not sent thee but as **a universal Messenger to men**, giving them glad tidings, and warning them against sin, but most men understand not.

Therefore, Jn 14:16 cannot be a reference to Mohammed, because Jesus said the world cannot receive the "Comforter."

5) The disciples Jesus spoke to "knew" the Comforter.

John 14:16-17

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper (Comforter), that He may abide with you forever —

¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but **you know Him**, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

These disciples listening to Jesus didn't know anything about Mohammed.

Mohammed wouldn't be born for another 540 years.

But they did know about the Holy Spirit.

¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, **whom the world cannot receive**, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

6) The Comforter would "dwell" with the disciples and be "in" them.

John 14:16-17

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper (Comforter), that He may abide with you forever —

¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for **He dwells with you** and **will be in you**.

This refers to miraculous power and inspiration of the apostles.

The apostles were neither empowered nor inspired by Mohammed.

- Mohammed himself never worked one single miracle.
- He certainly could never empower someone else to work a miracle.

Yet the apostles were empowered and inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:4

⁴ And [the apostles] were all **filled with the Holy Spirit** and <u>began to speak with</u> other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

CONCLUSION

The only conclusion which is rational is to admit the Qur'an is mistaken – neither the Jewish scriptures nor the Christians scriptures predict the coming of Mohammed. Mohammed was not a prophet of God. The Qur'an is a fabrication of Mohammed and his followers and is not a book from heaven.

The Jewish scriptures and Christian scriptures, on the other hand, form one unified volume of inspired scripture. These writings did come from God and can be defended on such grounds.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Call again next week when we consider a new subject on *Bible Talk*.