
BIBLE TALK

Part 1

This week we are considering: **Things you need to know about Islam** (pt. 1).

This is a large topic and hardly one that can be covered in this short program. We will cover this subject for two weeks in hopes of giving our listeners some things to consider about Islam.

Islam – is the name of the religion that came from the teachings of Mohammed. Islam is the Arabic term for “*submission*.”

Muslim – is the name given to one who adheres to the religion of Islam. This word means “*one who submits*.”

Let me tell you a little of the history of this religion. In the year 570 A.D. a man was born in the city of Mecca (Saudi Arabia) named Mohammed. His father died before he was born and his mother died when he was six. His uncle reared him. Growing up he made several trips to Syria where he probably met some Christians and he probably heard Jews and Christians discussing their religious differences. He began to manage the affairs of a rich widow and when he was 25 she offered marriage to him which he accepted. His new wife was 15 years older than him. Together they had 2 sons and 4 daughters. The sons died young. He died in the year 632 at the age of 62 years old.

I’ll read now from the [World Book Encyclopedia](#), and as I read this, keep in mind that the article written in [World Book](#) was critically reviewed and accepted by Islamic scholars.

My point is: This is an accurate statement of what Muslims believe.

... when Muhammad was meditating alone in a cave on Mount Hira, a vision appeared to him. Muslims believe that the vision was of the angel Gabriel, who called Muhammad to be a prophet and proclaim God’s message to his countrymen.

At first Muhammad doubted that his vision had come from God. But his wife Khadija reassured him. She became his first disciple. For a time, no more revelations came, and Muhammad grew discouraged. Then Gabriel came once more, and told him, “Arise and warn, magnify thy Lord ... wait patiently for Him.”

At first Muhammad may have told only relatives and friends of the revelations. But soon he began to preach publicly. Most of the people who heard Muhammad ridiculed him, but some believed. Abu Bakr, a rich merchant, became a disciple. Omar, one of the leaders of Mecca, persecuted Muhammad at first, but later accepted him as a prophet.

World Book Encyclopedia, vol. 13, p. 754a).

My friend, I am not making this up. This is exactly what the encyclopedia says – I have added nothing to the article. I have left nothing out. This article has been critically reviewed by Muslim scholars.

Here is what I want you to focus on: Here is a man who has a vision while meditating in a cave. He himself doubts that the vision was from God, but his wife convinced him that it was really from God.

Q: How do we know this man had a vision from God? How do we know that the angel Gabriel appeared to him and delivered a revelation from God? What proof is there to demonstrate that God was behind any of this?

R: My friend, here is the proof ... are you ready for this ... the proof that Mohammed is a prophet from God is that Mohammed's wife said he was! How about that?

- Never mind the fact that Mohammed never worked any miracles to prove that he was a prophet.
- Never mind that he never gave a single shred of proof that he was a true prophet.

We are being asked to accept the idea that he was a prophet because his wife convinced him that he was a prophet. And not only this, but as he began to have more and more so-called "revelations" from God, Mohammed declared that Jesus Christ was not the Son of God, nor equal with His Father. Mohammed declared that Jesus was only a prophet from God – nothing more.

- Never mind the fact that Jesus worked miracles to prove that He was from heaven (Jn. 10:38).
- Never mind the fact that Jesus died and resurrected again and showed Himself alive to over 500 eyewitnesses to demonstrate that He was the Son of God (1 Cor. 15:6).

- Never mind the fact that the apostles of Christ were baptized with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4), worked miracles to prove they were from God (2 Cor. 12:12), and that these apostles declared Jesus to be the divine Son of God.

No ... we are suppose to ignore all of this about Jesus and take the word of a man who had a vision in a cave – who doubted himself that it was a vision from God – and his wife convinced him that it was a vision from the angel Gabriel.

Now, let me read a passage from the OT and remember as I read this that Muslims accept the truthfulness of the Law of Moses. They believe that Moses was a true prophet from God.

Exodus 4:1-9

¹ Then Moses answered and said, "But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, 'The LORD has not appeared to you.'"

² So the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A rod."

³ And He said, "Cast it on the ground." So he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it.

⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail" (and he reached out his hand and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand),

⁵ "that they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you."

⁶ Furthermore the LORD said to him, "Now put your hand in your bosom." And he put his hand in his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous, like snow.

⁷ And He said, "Put your hand in your bosom again." So he put his hand in his bosom again, and drew it out of his bosom, and behold, it was restored like his other flesh.

⁸ "Then it will be, if they do not believe you, nor heed the message of the first sign, that they may believe the message of the latter sign.

⁹ "And it shall be, if they do not believe even these two signs, or listen to your voice, that you shall take water from the river and pour it on the dry land. And the water which you take from the river will become blood on the dry land."

Do you see how God works? God gives evidence to people to prove that a messenger is from heaven. God never expects people to "just believe" without any evidence! If a man is a true prophet, he must demonstrate this by performing some miraculous sign.

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

¹ And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God.

² For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

³ I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.

⁴ And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

⁵ that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

I submit to you, my friend, that Muslims have their faith rooted in the “wisdom of men” and not in “the power of God.”

Not only do Muslims place their faith in a man who never proved himself a prophet, but Mormons do the same thing. Joseph Smith, who claimed to be a prophet with a new revelation, never worked one miracle to prove that he was from heaven.

When people blindly follow after so-called prophets, without one shred of proof that the prophet is actually from heaven, they are destined to fall into a ditch with the prophet (Mt. 15:14). I close with this warning from the apostle of Christ:

1 John 4:1

¹ Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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