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# BIBLE TALK

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This week we are discussing this question: **Was Islam a violent religion in its origin?**

Last week we noticed that thru history, some people calling themselves “Christians” used violence to spread their religious beliefs. For example, the medieval crusades and the Salem witch trials. But we also noticed that when these people used violence, they were acting contrary to the teachings of Christ – the Founder of Christianity.

The question before us now is this: When Muslims use violence, hatred, and intimidation on others, are they acting **contrary** to the founder of their religion, or are they merely following in the teachings and footsteps of their founder?

## **FIGHT BACK**

First, here is what the Koran teaches when someone harms a Muslim:

### **Surah 2:190**

”Fight for the sake of God those that fight against you, but do not attack them first. God does not love the aggressors. Slay them wherever you find them. Drive them out of the places from which they drove you.”

Now, compare this with what Jesus said:

### **Matthew 5:38-39**

<sup>38</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'

<sup>39</sup> "But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

Do you see the difference? Do you see that we're not just all "serving the same God"? Do you see that all religions are not the same? Do you see that we're not all "going to the same place; we're just going by different ways"?

## **FIGHT JEWS & CHRISTIANS**

Second, the Koran teaches Muslims to fight against their enemies:

### **Surah 4:76**

"The true believers fight for the cause of God, but the infidels fight for the devil. Fight then against the friends of Satan."

The question here is: Who are these "friends of Satan" with Muslims are called to fight? As you keep reading in the Koran, you will discover that the "friends of Satan are Jews and Christians. Listen:

### **Surah 5:16**

"Unbelievers are those who declare: 'God is the Messiah, the son of Mary.'"

### **Surah 5:82**

"You will find that the most implacable of men in enmity to the faithful are the Jews and the pagans, and that the nearest in affection to them are those who say: 'We are Christians.'"

So the founder of Islam (Mohammed) taught his people to fight and kill all who are not Muslims. When Muslims fight today and perform terroristic acts, they are not acting against the teachings of Islam. Rather, they are acting in accord with the teachings of the founder of Islam. Listen again:

### **Surah 9:5**

"When the sacred months are over, slay the idolaters wherever you find them. Arrest them, and lie in ambush everywhere for them. If they repent and take to prayer and render the alms levied, allow them to go their way."

In other words, if an unbeliever will repent and convert to Islam and pay the money levied against him, his life can be spared by a Muslim warrior. But if he refuses to convert, he must be slain. Such is the teaching of the founder of Islam and the holy book of Islam – the Koran.

By way of contrast, Christ and His apostles converted men by persuasion. They would reason with people and debate with people. When violence erupted, it was always Christ and His disciples who would suffer the persecution without retaliating.

### **Romans 12:17**

<sup>17</sup> Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.

### **1 Peter 2:21-23**

<sup>21</sup> For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

<sup>23</sup> who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;

Do you see the difference between Islam and Christianity? Islam is not a peaceful religion. It did not begin in a peaceful way. It was not spread by peaceful means. On September 11, 2001 we saw the Islam religion for what it really was.

When Christians kill others, it is against the teachings of Christ and the teachings of the NT scriptures. Christians who kill are acting contrary to what they have been taught. But when Muslims kill, they are only doing what the founder of their religion taught them to do! There is a big difference my friend.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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