
BIBLE TALK

This week we are discussing the following topic: ***The peaceful religion of Islam strikes again!***

On Friday night (November 13, 2015) Islamic terrorists carried out attacks in Paris, France and a norther suburb of Paris – called Saint Denis. As of Monday (November 16), the death-toll is 127 dead, 415 admitted to hospitals of which 80 people are listed as "seriously injured." This attack in France is said to be the deadliest attack since World War II. The attacks were coordinated by several Muslim terrorists. The most deadly attack occurred at the Bataclan Theatre where 89 people were killed.

This shocking news does two things:

- First, it causes our hearts to sorrow for those innocent civilian victims who were killed and for their families who are sorrowing over the loss of their loved ones.
- Second, it reminds us that what people think and believe affects how they act.

In America we are being told: ***Islam is a peaceful religion.***

- Former President George W. Bush declared Islam was a peaceful religion immediately after the terrorism of September 11, 2001.
- President Barack Obama says a few violent fanatics have hijacked the otherwise peaceful religion of Islam.
- Former British Prime Minister, Tony Blair, after the London bombings of July 7, 2005 said Islam was a peaceful religion.
- Australian Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, after the Sydney hostage crisis of December 15, 2014, said Islam was a peaceful religion.
- After two Muslims beheaded British soldier Lee Rigby (May 22, 2013), British Prime Minister David Cameron said Islam was a peaceful religion.

All of this reminds me of the children's fairy tale of *The Emperor's New Clothes*. Do you remember that story? Wikipedia records this:

"*The Emperor's New Clothes*" is a short tale by Hans Christian Andersen about two weavers who promise an emperor a new suit of clothes that is invisible to those who are unfit for their positions, stupid, or incompetent. When the Emperor parades before his subjects in his new clothes, no one dares to say that he doesn't see any suit of clothes until a child cries out, "But he isn't wearing anything at all!"

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Emperor's_New_Clothes

You see, no one wanted to say the obvious, that the Emperor was really naked, because each person was afraid of being labeled stupid and incompetent.

Likewise, world leaders and the media are afraid to say the obvious about the Islamic religion, because they are afraid every non-Islamic person form a lynch-mob against Muslims living in the U.S., Britain, Australia, France, and other free countries.

In America we are being told that Islam is a "peaceful religion." Further, we are being taught all religions are basically equal – one religion has no right to claim superiority over another. I ask you, my friend, to consider the terrorism in France and ask yourself the question: ***Are all religions basically equal?***

Throughout history, some people called themselves "Christians" and used violence to spread their religious beliefs. For example, the medieval crusades and the Salem witch trials. 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

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

³⁹ "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" which Muslims are called to fight against? 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. 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

¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil. ...

1 Peter 2:21-23

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

²³ 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 November 13, 2015 we see true Islam for what it really is.

In summary:

- Show to me a Christian who purposefully kills others and I will show you someone who is acting contrary the teachings of Jesus Christ – the founder of Christianity.
- Show to me a Muslim who purposefully kills others and I will show you an obedient follower of Mohammed who is doing exactly what Mohammed taught him to do.

- Conversely, show me a Muslim who is peaceful and does not hurt others and I will then show to you a Muslim who is NOT following the teachings of Mohammed – the founder of Islam.

My friend, all religions are not equal. The Church of Christ, as presented by its founder Jesus Christ, is superior to all other religions on earth. The Church of Christ, as presented in the Bible, is superior to all other religions on earth. We invite you to take our free Bible correspondence course and learn more about the most superior book of all – the Holy Bible.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Well ... thanks for listening to our message this week. We invite you to visit our website www.WillOfTheLord.com. There you may download the notes and the audio file of the message you just listened to.

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