CONCESSIONS OF THE KORAN

By Jason Hilburn

The Bible and the Koran cannot both be from God. Truth does not contradict itself, and Christianity and Islam oppose one another in many ways. Honest investigators will realize that the Bible is the Book from God. The Bible is the Book with hundreds of fulfilled prophecies, historical accuracy, archaeological accuracy, scientific foreknowledge, and unparalleled unity. The Bible was written by about forty inspired writers in various locations over a period of more than 1600 years, yet the message is completely unified. It is also noteworthy that the Bible came first—with other imitators, like the Koran, coming along hundreds of years later. The Koran contains many errors and was written in the seventh century A.D. With 114 chapters (called "suras"), the Koran contains about 20% less writing than the Holy New Testament Scriptures.

The Revelation of God's Word was completed in the first century A.D. when the apostles and early church were miraculously guided into "all truth" (Jn. 16:13; Zech. 13:1ff; 1 Cor. 13:8ff; Eph. 4:5, 8ff; Jude 3, etc.). In the Bible God warned people not to listen to anyone who taught anything different than what God had revealed, even if the message supposedly came from an angel (Gal. 1:6-9; cf. 1 Kin. 13:18; Mt. 7:16-20; 1 Jn. 4:1). When Muhammad claimed that the angel Gabriel gave him a new message, this should have been enough to discredit Muhammad fully among Bible believers. It is truly sad that so many souls have been (and continue to be) deceived. "With about 1.6 billion followers or 23% of earth's population, Islam is the second-largest religion and arguably the fastest-growing major religion in the world" (wikipedia.org).

Muhammad's message was exactly the kind of deadly doctrine about which Paul warned the Galatians. Some of the Koran's fatal errors include denying the Sonship of Christ, the Deity of Christ, His crucifixion, and His resurrection. Although there are many teachings in the Koran that contradict the Bible, what many do not realize is that the Koran contains many passages which seem to argue more for Christianity than for Islam! Such passages can be used when trying to convert Muslims to Christianity.

The Koran states:

- Only one woman's name: Mary, mother of Jesus. Her name is recorded repeatedly, and an entire chapter is named after Mary (19); however, neither the name of Muhammad's mother nor any other woman's name is mentioned in the Koran.
- Jesus was born of a virgin (Sura 19:20-21); Muhammad was not.
- Jesus was the Messiah (Sura 3:45); Muhammad was not.
- Jesus is the "word of truth" (Sura 19:34; cf. 4:171); Muhammad is not.
- Jesus was a sign from Heaven to mankind (Sura 19:21).
- Jesus was "a mercy" from Heaven to mankind (Sura 19:21).

- Jesus was a true prophet who received revelation from Heaven (Sura 19:30; 61:6).
- The Injil (Gospel) of Christ was from Heaven (Sura 3:3; 19:20; 57:27).
- Writings of the Bible, such as "the Psalms," "the Torah [Law of Moses, JPH]" and "the Gospel" came from Heaven (Sura 3:3-4; 4:163).
- Men like Job, Moses, Solomon, David, and Jonah were truly inspired (Sura 4:163).
- The Gospel of Christ was sent from Heaven as "guidance and instruction for the righteous" (Sura 5:46; cf. 3:3-4).
- Muslims "...have believed in...what was given to Moses and Jesus and what was given to the prophets from their Lord..." (Sura 2:136; cf. 3:84).
- Christians should judge by what is revealed in the Gospel (Sura 5:47).
- Jesus was given the Holy Spirit (Sura 2:87; 2:253; 5:113).
- Jesus is "righteous" (Sura 6:85).
- Muhammad was guilty of sin (Sura 40:55; 47:19; 48:1-2).
- All prophets except Jesus were said to have sinned, and Jesus is to be "distinguished in this world and the Hereafter and among those brought near [to Allah]" (Sura 3:45).
- Jesus did miracles (but Muhammad did not!) (Sura 3:49; 5:110).
- Allah raised Jesus up to Heaven (4:158); therefore, according to Islamic doctrine, Jesus is alive and Muhammad is dead! They believe that Christ's living body is not on earth, but Muhammad's dead body is.
- Jesus will return (but Muhammad will not!) (Sura 4:159; 43:61).

With all of these concessions to the greatness and superiority of Jesus found in the Koran, one should ask, "Who is greater? The One born of a virgin, or the one not born of a virgin? The One known as the Messiah, or the one not known as the Messiah? The One who is alive, or the one who is dead? The One raised to Heaven, or the one not raised to Heaven? The One who did many miracles, or the one who did no miracles? The One who committed no sin, or the one who committed many sins? The One who will return, or the one who will not return?" Since Christ is obviously greater in every way, all men should listen to the words of Christ (the Bible), and reject words of Muhammad which contradict Christ and His apostles. As God the Father said of Jesus, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him" (Mt. 17:5; cf. Deut. 18:18-19).

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