

Koran 6:34...*for none can change the decrees of Allah*

Koran 10:64... *the word of Allah cannot be changed*

However, at the same time Muslims are taught that the Bible (especially the *Injeel*) contradicts Muslim doctrine by teaching things like the deity of Jesus, the Trinity, etc. So in light of the many exhortations by Muhammad the Prophet of Islam to read and accept the *Taurat* and *Injeel* which are known to contradict the Quran, Muslims logically arrive at the conclusion that the *Taurat* and *Injeel* must have been corrupted since the time of the Prophet.

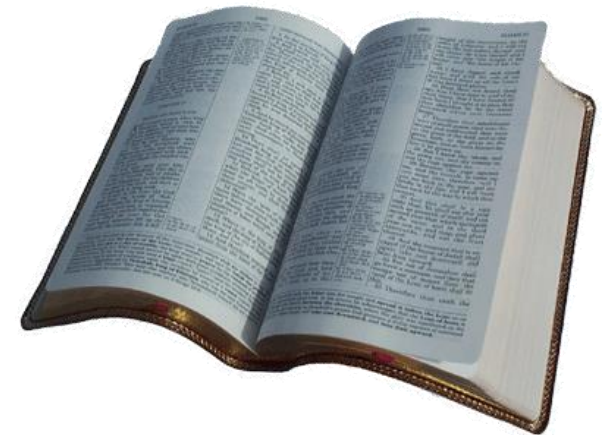
The difficulty is that Islam claims *Taurat* and *Injeel* are the word of God, and that the Word of God has never been corrupted, yet these somehow were corrupted (or more commonly, misinterpreted; the Koran actually never says the Scriptures were corrupted, but Hadith does).

Now we need to see what the Bible claims in regards to itself and further revelations. The Bible claims the Scriptures as given are NOT corrupt nor misapprehended (1 Pet. 1:25, 2 Pet. 1:19-21). Secondly, it claims that no other revelations were going to occur (2 Tim. 3:16-17, Jude 3).

This creates a clear problem. The Koran claims the Bible is from God and cannot be corrupted; yet the Bible claims that there would be no further revelations from God, and it claims that Jesus was God in the flesh. So Islam requires that the Bible be corrupted in order for the Koran to have any legitimacy, thus revoking the core relation of the Bible to the Koran.

Islam, Christianity and Judaism all reach to the same creator as their God. Judaism preached the coming of a Christ through Abraham that would bless all nations. Christianity proclaimed that Jesus was God's answer to all issues. Islam claims that these things were wrong, yet establishes itself as the natural heir of these things. Thus Islam is an illegitimate heir of Abraham, falsely claiming his heritage.

# Understanding Islam



Islam was founded in the Saudi Arabian town of Mecca around 610AD by the trader Mohammed. When he died in 632AD Islam split into two factions: the Shi'a, who favored rule (Caliphate) by Mohammed's cousin Ali, and Sunni (85% of Muslims), who favored Mohammed's adviser Abu Bakr.

Islam's holy book is known as the Koran, and the city of Mecca is a holy city in Islam. Followers of Islam (Muslims) practice five "pillars":

1. Declaration of Faith
2. Obligatory Prayer
3. Compulsory Giving
4. Fasting in Ramadan (month)
5. Pilgrimage to Mecca

There are six core tenants of Islam:

1. There is only one God (Allah)
2. Allah uses angels
3. Allah revealed Himself through books: The Torah, the Psalms, the Gospels (NT), and the Koran
4. Allah sent prophets to people. The top five are Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Mohammed
5. There is coming a day of judgment when Allah will raise all of the dead to be judged. The righteous (who submit to Allah) will go to paradise, the unrighteous to hell.
6. Allah has destined everything that will occur (predestination)

### **JESUS: THE ANSWER TO ISLAM**

We must understand how a Muslim views Christianity: *"A Muslim believes in Jesus as one of the most distinguished apostles of God, who was born from a virgin birth by Mary...he, nevertheless, repudiates as blasphemy the equality with God and the sonship of Jesus Christ."*

Islam claims Jesus (and His apostles) must be listened to, it is important to know what Jesus said: *"Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."* (John 8:58). The Jews took up stones to stone Him, for Jesus had just claimed that He was God. This should not have been shocking, since even the prophets of the Old Testament (also revered by Islam) claimed the Christ would be God (Isaiah 9:6). In Matthew 16:16, Peter's confession was that Jesus was the Christ and the Son of God. It is clear all of Jesus' disciples made this confession.

The phrase "Son of God" appears 82 times in the New Testament. Even Islam calls Jesus the **Christ** and the Word of God. Yet Islam does not explain the meaning. Christ means "Messiah", and the Word of God means the Message and Mind of God (John 1:1).

We are told in the New Testament that Jesus was the final message from God in Hebrews. 1:1-2 (*God spoke to us by His Son in these last days*). In

particular, the expression "last days" means no other period of time will follow. Again in Jude 3, we are told that God has revealed Himself "once and for all". All throughout the Old Testament there were messages of a coming Messiah and new Covenant. Yet not once in the New Testament was this concept forecasted. Instead, we are told that the church of Christ was God's eternal purpose (Eph. 3:11).

### **BIBLE: THE ANSWER TO ISLAM**

The wide spectrum in the attitude towards the Bible among Muslims comes from a tension between what the Quran teach about the Bible, and what the Bible teaches about Muslim doctrine. More specifically, the Quran and Hadith teach that Muslims should accept and read the *Taurat* (Torah) and the *Injeel* (Gospels) as authoritative revelation from God.

*Koran 3:3 He has revealed to you this Book with the Truth, confirming the scripture which preceded it, as He revealed the Taurat and Injeel.*

*Koran 5:46 And in their footsteps We sent Jesus the son of Mary, confirming the Law that had come before him: We sent them the Gospel: therein was guidance an light, and confirmation of the Law that had come before him: a guidance and an admonition to those who fear Allah.*