



ISLAM

RELIGION OF PEACE OR WAR?



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The information included in this booklet was collected by native Arabic speakers and Muslim-background believers who studied Islam and have been working in the fields of communications and comparative religion for many years.

For their research they relied on authentic Arabic Hadith and Sunna and utilized the Arabic version of the Quran that is currently used in Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

To present their findings in English they used the Palmer English translation of the Quran that is considered to be one of the oldest English translations in the world and is currently used by many worldwide.



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ISLAM: RELIGION OF PEACE OR WAR?

It was a beautiful morning. The skies over Manhattan were clear as crystal and the view from the 94th floor was magnificent. But nothing could have prepared the workers in the North Tower for what they now saw. Engines screaming, a massive Boeing 767 was speeding straight for them—in a matter of minutes, both towers had been hit and jet fuel, fire, chaos, and death engulfed the World Trade Center buildings.

In the 2001 September 11 attacks, 2,977 innocent people were killed by Islamic terrorists. Travelers on the four planes, and people at work at the Twin Towers and the Pentagon were the victims. The images are forever imprinted on our minds.

Who can forget the pictures of hundreds of people who made the choice to leap out of skyscraper windows, rather than be burned alive? We remember the gallant first responders who ran towards death on behalf of their friends and neighbors. We can still see the massive cloud of debris as it swallowed the city.

In other parts of the world, people gasped and wept as they saw what had happened to America. But in many Islamic nations, street

celebrations were rampant. “The great Satan has been wounded,” they boasted. They congratulated themselves on the death of so many innocents as they burned American flags in effigy.

And yet, within six days, the President of the United States, George W. Bush, stood at the Islamic Center in Washington, D.C., and proclaimed before a watching world that Islam was a religion of peace.

Thus, cognitive dissonance began for many. How can we observe the savage slaughter, bombings, beheadings and hatred demonstrated by Islamic believers and still concede that Islam is a religion of peace? This is the question that many refuse to ask and this booklet will attempt to answer.



According to the consensus of the eminent Jurists of Islam, the world is divided into two parts—Dar el Harb, the House of War; and Dar el Islam, House of Islam. In other words, there is no middle ground. A person is either submitted to the teachings of Islam and the sayings of their prophet, or else he is at war with Islam. Again, there is **no middle ground**.

Is Islam a Religion of Peace or War?

To arrive at a proper conclusion we must understand who Muhammad was by the record given in the so-called holy book of Islam, the Quran; and the Sunna, the traditions, sayings, and deeds of Muhammad. Lastly, we must look at the actual practices of those who were the followers of Muhammad and his successors. The principal practice was the incessant waging of a holy war in what was called *jihad*.

Who Was Muhammad?

Muhammad was born around A.D. 570, in the town of Mecca in the Arabian Peninsula, where Saudi Arabia is located today. The desert environment was harsh, and the region was relatively isolated from the rest of the world.

Many religions were present in the region, including Christianity and Judaism. Even the biblical Queen of Sheba came from the area. Ongoing tribal warfare was prevalent, along with the belief in supernatural beings—angels, demons, and mystical creatures called *jinn*s.

Europe and parts of the Middle East were entering what is known as the Dark Ages, the chaotic years after the fall of the Roman Empire. As Europe through the centuries began moving toward what we know as the Renaissance, the Arabs on the Arabian Peninsula seemed frozen in the seventh century.

The boy Muhammad entered into frequent trances, which one of his nurses attributed to demon possession. (We should note that Muhammad's mother gave him away to a nurse to raise for the first three to four years after he was born.) He suffered repeated tragedies as his mother, father, and grandfather died, leaving him to be raised by his uncle.

Muslims believe Muhammad received no formal education and that he was illiterate, unable to read or write.

A wealthy widow named Khadija, who was 15 years his senior, arranged for Muhammad to marry her. He worked as his wife's employee traveling throughout the Arabian region. In his position as the business manager, he encountered many Jews and Christians and learned of their religions and culture.

Even by the age of 40, Muhammad was still experiencing trances. It was during this time he claimed his most powerful revelation. In it, he asserted that a being grasped him so tightly that he thought he would die. Then the being gave him a forceful message, which experience Muhammad attributed to a jinn.¹ Subsequently, Muhammad shared the experience he had with his

wife, and later her cousin, Waraqa. When Waraqa, who belonged to a sect of Christianity, grasped some meaning of what he'd been told, he said perhaps Muhammad had been visited by a messenger of God because this is what happened to Moses who received the great law. Therefore, according to Waraqa, Muhammad was to be considered the new prophet for this people.

How was this spiritual experience validated? His middle-aged wife gave him a four-part test.

She asked him if he saw a being in the room, and Muhammad answered in the affirmative.

His wife then said, "Sit on my left thigh. Do you see the being now?" "Yes," he answered.



“Sit on my right thigh,” she said. “Do you see the being now?”
“Yes,” he answered.

Then she said, “Sit on my lap. Do you see the figure now.”
“Yes,” Muhammad answered.

At this point, Khadija uncovered herself and said, “Do you see the being now?” “No,” answered Muhammad, “it has vanished.” At this point, Khadija says, “This must be an angel, because he would not look on an uncovered female.”²

On the strength of this “extraordinary” test, Muhammad’s revelation was validated. It is astounding to believe that an entire worldwide religious movement was founded on this, and only this, so-called “evidence.”

This “validation” can be considered doubly remarkable because, according to Islam, the testimony of a woman is only half as valid as that of a man. Therefore, Islam is only validated by the testimony of a woman.

Encouraged by his wife, Muhammad began to share his revelation with the inhabitants of Mecca in A.D. 610. He told them Allah alone was god and Muhammad was his prophet. He met with nothing but disbelief. In addition, the mystery surrounding his parentage led to humiliation at the hands of his peers. They asked him to perform miracles so they could believe in him. However, he was unable to perform the requested

miracles. They tried to kill him. Muhammad ran for his life toward the town of Yathrib (270 miles from Mecca), which name he later changed to Medina. This journey has become known as The Higira (Hijrah), the beginning of the Islamic calendar.

When he arrived in Medina, his followers grew in number. They were joined by a band of mercenaries. Together, they began to raid caravans to finance his operations. He took plunder and captives to be used as slaves or for ransom.

At the beginning of his teaching, Muhammad asserted that his followers should pray towards Jerusalem and should revere Moses as a great prophet.³ Much of his early teachings bear a striking resemblance to narratives taken from the Old Testament that Muhammad had undoubtedly heard from the Jews. This is why some religious scholars actually maintain that Islam is nothing more than a Christian heresy.⁴

The Jews in Medina refused to accept Muhammad as either a prophet or a messenger of God. They likewise refused to follow him. Stung by this rejection, Muhammad transformed his message and his methods. He began to use force to accomplish his mission by subduing or slaughtering those who opposed him. He and his troops mercilessly slaughtered or evicted all of the Jewish tribes. He took most of the Jewish women as concubines for his troops, saving some beautiful women as concubines for himself. This marked a shifting of his theology from one of peace, to one of violence. Muslims today justify the shift in their

sacred writings by what they call the “Doctrine of Abrogation.” From this moment on, Muhammad proclaims Mecca as the religious center for his followers, not Jerusalem.

Mecca was a city given to idol worship, but seemed ripe for conquest. So Muhammad led his army of fierce warriors to Mecca where he began a reign of pillage and slaughter. By the time he reached Mecca, his army had swollen to 10,000 men; the recruitment being fueled by the basic instincts of the desert warriors—sexual lust and greed. There was to be financial plunder and wonton sex to the victorious warrior.⁵

The extent of the sexual appetite was clearly revealed during Muhammad’s early life in Mecca when his eyes fastened on a sweet little girl 6 years of age named Aisha, the daughter of one of his best friends who became the first Caliph after Muhammad’s death. Muhammad took her to be his wife. When she was 9 and he was 54, he consummated the union sexually. From that time on, Aisha became his favorite among a harem of 11 official wives. The number 11 obviously does not encompass the captive women who, as slaves, were not counted as wives or concubines.⁶

Books have been written on the Islamic treatment of women. Suffice it to say, the roots of these attitudes began in the conduct of Muhammad and his followers in Medina and Mecca.

The Consequences of Muhammad’s “Revelation”

The reign of terror by Muhammad’s troops was not limited just to Mecca and Medina, but soon targeted all of the inhabitants of Arabia, including Jews and Christians. During one attack on a Jewish tribe, Banu Qurayza, Muhammad ordered all the teenage boys and men of the tribe killed, simply because Muhammad claimed that they broke a treaty between them. His men dug a ditch and they chopped off the heads of over 700 males and threw their bodies into it. His forces raped the women, and then enslaved them along with their children.⁷

A careful reading of the Quran, when placed against the events of Muhammad’s life, indicate that the “revelation” changed according to the circumstances of his life. In fact, as has been pointed out above, an entire doctrine grew up around the radical changes in his teachings—the “Doctrine of Abrogation,” which means “annulment.”

The idea is simply that a newer revelation from Allah can cancel and replace an old one. The Quran itself claims that newer verses replace the older ones, because the newer ones are better. Quran/Surah 2:106 says:

We do not abrogate a verse or cause it to be forgotten except that we bring forth one better than it or similar to it. Do you not know that Allah is over all things competent?

As Muhammad changed doctrines to accommodate his desires, his very intelligent wife, Aisha, remarked, “Your Allah always rushes to fulfill your desires.”⁸ Abrogation came in very handy for Muhammad on numerous occasions. It seemed that whenever someone questioned his actions, he would hear from Allah who consistently vindicated him.

Here are just a few of the convenient revelations he received from Allah:

- Muhammad put himself on the same level as Allah in terms of obedience. There is not a single verse in the Quran that talks about obeying Allah without mentioning that obeying the prophet Muhammad is also commanded. On the other hand, there are verses in the Quran that command people to obey Muhammad without mentioning obeying Allah. Quran, Surah 4:80, *Whoso obeys the prophet he has obeyed Allah...*
- Muhammad lusted after his adopted son Zaid’s wife. Amazingly, he received a revelation from Allah that allowed him to marry his daughter-in-law. Quran, Surah 33:37: *But when Zaid had accomplished his want of her, we gave her to you as a wife, so that there should be no difficulty for the believers in respect of the wives of their adopted sons, when they have accomplished their want of them; and Allah’s command shall be performed.* (It should be noted that the practice authorized by Muhammad has actually caused the followers of Islam to forbid the adoption of children.)

- Muhammad's thirst for unlimited sex and sexual slaves was also justified by revelation from Allah. Quran, Surah 33:50, *O Prophet! Surely We have made lawful to you your wives whom you have given their dowries, and those whom your right hand possesses out of those whom Allah has given to you as prisoners of war, and the daughters of your paternal uncles and the daughters of your paternal aunts, and the daughters of your maternal uncles and the daughters of your maternal aunts who fled with you; and a believing woman if she gave herself to the Prophet, if the Prophet desired to marry her—specially for you, not for the rest of the believers. We now have ordained for them concerning their wives and those whom their right hands possess in order that no blame may attach to you.*



- Women were like any other possession taken in battle. Muslims found them useful in many ways. One method was to use captured women for sexual pleasures; another for their reproductive capabilities; and a third, to buy and sell women as slaves and concubines. This helped the expansion of Islam through the centuries. In addition to four wives, a man was allowed an unlimited number of sex slaves, with the only rule being that all children born were to be Muslim.⁹
- Muhammad ordered that the best fifth of all the spoils of war including women be reserved for him. Some were reserved for his personal use, the others were passed around as slaves and concubines for other men. It is not surprising that Muhammad received a revelation which allowed his people to murder innocent travelers and steal their property.¹⁰
- Muhammad suspected the treasurer of a conquered town, Khaybar, to be withholding information about the location of the town's treasure. He had his men torture the treasurer until he revealed where the treasure was located. Muhammad then ordered the man's killing. In a macabre ceremony the same day, Muhammad had the dead man's wife passed through the hands of his lieutenant and then Muhammad married her.¹¹

It is clear that Muhammad lusted and lived for power, sex, and wealth. What a contrast this is to the life of Jesus Christ. Jesus never commanded His followers to kill, steal, or destroy. He lived



a life of servanthood and goodness. He elevated the position of women and treated them with love, respect, and forgiveness.

Jesus Christ gave His life as a sacrifice for many. Muhammad lived his life, sacrificing many for his own appetite and selfish gain.



Jihad

Once Muhammad gained control of Mecca and his forces grew stronger, the Quranic verses about fighting changed yet again. Now, Muslims were commanded not just to fight back when they were wronged or attacked—they were told to go on the offensive—to kill the infidels, and bring Christians and Jews into obedience to Islam.

For instance, consider these selective verses from the Quran:

One is called “the verse of the sword.” The majority of Muslim scholars, jihadists, and terrorists often use this verse to justify their violent attacks. This verse is said to abrogate more than 114 other verses that prescribe less severe treatment for non-Muslims. From Quran, Surah 9:5, *But when the sacred months are passed away, kill the idolaters (non-Muslims) wherever ye may find them; and take them, and besiege them, and lie in wait for them in every place of observation...*

And consider this ghastly admonition from Surah 5:33 in the Quran, *The penalty for those who wage war against Allah and His Apostle, and try to bring violence to the Earth—they will face being killed, or crucified, or having their hands and feet cut off from opposite sides, or they shall be banished from the land. That will be their disgrace in this world, and they’ll suffer a great punishment in the next world.*

And Surah 47:4 of the Quran is the clear underpinning for 21st-century beheadings that has shocked the civilized world: *And when*

you meet those who misbelieve, non-Muslims, while fighting in Jihad, cut off their heads until you have massacred them, and take them captive.

Military Expansion

Armed with their apostle's battle cry, the forces of Islam began a reign of terror unparalleled in history. The first target was the Arabian Peninsula, and in a series of brutal military actions the forces of Islam killed, captured, or forced the conversion of virtually every inhabitant of the Arabian Peninsula. From that moment on, this part of the world was subjected to Islam and later what is called Sharia Law.

During the ensuing 100-year period, the forces of Islam conquered all of North Africa, Palestine/the Holy Land, Asia Minor/Turkey, Spain, and parts of France until they were stopped by Charles Martel at the Battle of Tours in 732.

Their brutality knew no bounds. Consider these shocking statistics. Since the beginning of the Islamic conquests until now, those slain by Muslim forces are as follows:

- 51 million + Christians

Raphael Moore in his book *History of Asia Minor* estimates that 50 million Christians have died in wars by jihad. When you include the 1 million African Christians killed in the 20th century and the early martyrdom of Christians by Muslims, many scholars place the number at 60 million Christians killed by Islam.¹²

- 80 million Hindus

The country of India today is only half the size of ancient India due to jihad. It is estimated that 80 million Hindus were killed in jihad against India.¹³

- 10 million Buddhists

It is estimated that the total number of Buddhists killed by Islam is 10 million. Jihad killed the Buddhists in Turkey, Afghanistan, along the Silk Route, and in India.¹⁴

- 120-125 million African people

Islam ran the wholesale slave trade in Africa. Thomas Sowell estimates that 11 million slaves were shipped across the Atlantic Ocean and 14 million traded to Islamic nations in North Africa and the Middle East.¹⁵ It is estimated that for every slave who reached the selling block, another five died either in the initial raid, or from illness and privation.¹⁶ That means while 25 million slaves were delivered to market, another 120-125 million people are estimated to have died.

Modern Muslims contend that the term *jihad* pertains only to the inner struggle of the human soul against temptation and spiritual evil. In so doing, they attempt to sugar-coat the clear record of history. When leaders of radical Islamic groups such as Al-Qaida shout to followers, “Jihad, jihad, jihad,” they are hardly exhorting their troops to wage a battle for the soul.

An interesting side note: It does not appear from the

sacred writings of Islam that there is any assurance of eternal salvation outside of death in jihad. In fact, in Quran, Surah 3:157, *And if, indeed, ye be killed in Allah's way or die, surely forgiveness from Allah and mercy is better than what ye could have had on earth.*

And blessing will be accorded to those who fight in jihad, according to Quran, Surah 16:110, *Then, verily, thy Lord, will be forgiving and merciful for those who left their homes after they had been tried and then carried out Jihad and were steadfast.*

There is a veritable cascade of Quranic scripture underscoring the command to Muslims to fight and kill. Consider these selected verses taken directly from the Quran itself, Islam's holiest book.

Allah prefers Muslims who carry out jihad to those who don't.

From Quran, Surah 4:95, *Not alike are those of the believers who sit at home without harm, and those who are strenuous in Allah's way with their wealth and their persons. Allah hath preferred those who are strenuous with their wealth and their persons to those who sit still, by many degrees, and to each hath Allah promised good, but Allah hath preferred the strenuous for a mighty hire over those who sit still.* Allah prefers those who fight with their money and lives to those who stay behind. Allah has promised rewards to both, but he prefers, and has a great reward, for those who fight.

Muslims who flee from jihad will go to hell. From Quran, Surah 8:15-17, *O ye who believe! When ye meet those who*



misbelieve in swarms, turn not to them your hinder parts; for he who turns to them that day his hinder parts, save turning to fight or rallying to a troop, brings down upon himself wrath from Allah, and his resort is hell, and an ill journey shall it be! Whoever flees from an Islamic conflict risks the wrath of Allah. Allah is testing faithful Muslims through jihad and war.

True Muslims are those who carry out jihad. From Quran, Surah 8:74, *Those who believe and have fled and fought strenuously in Allah's cause, and those who have given a refuge and a help, those it is who believe; to them is forgiveness and generous provision due.* Forgiveness and provision will be given to those who fight or provide help and asylum for jihadists. In parts of the world today, women are lured by jihadists to give their bodies as sexual provision for the men who fight. This is a way for women to participate in jihad.

Allah grants forgiveness to those who carry out jihad. From Quran, Surah 16:110, *Then, verily, thy Lord, will be forgiving and merciful for those who left their homes after they had been tried and then carried out Jihad and were steadfast.*

Allah commands his followers to carry out jihad by beheading people. From Quran, Surah 47:4, *And when ye meet those who misbelieve (non-Muslims) while fighting in Jihad, cut off their heads until you have massacred them, and take them captive. Then either give them freedom afterward, or get a ransom for them. That's the command. If Thy Lord had wanted,*

He could conquer them, but He wants you to carry out Jihad in order that He may try some of you by means of others. And those of you who are killed in strenuous fighting in Allah's cause, He'll never let your works be lost.

There is salvation through jihad. From Quran, Surah 61:10-12, *O ye who believe! Shall I show you a bargain that will save you from grief? It's that you believe in Allah and His Apostle, and that you carry out Jihad on Allah's behalf with your money and your lives. That's what's best for you, if you only knew it! He will forgive your sins and bring you into Paradise, which contains rivers and pleasant dwellings in the gardens of Eden—that is the great victory.*

Allah grants forgiveness and mercy to those who die in jihad. From Quran, Surah 3:157, *And if, indeed, ye be killed in Allah's way or die, surely forgiveness from Allah and mercy is better than what ye could have had on earth.*

The Quran commands people to love fighting. From Quran, Surah 2:216-217, *Prescribed for you is fighting, but you hate it; but while you may hate something that's good for you, and you may love something that's bad for you; but Allah knows, and you—you do not know!*

Fighting non-Muslims leads to prosperity. From Quran, Surah 5:35, *O ye who believe! Fear Allah and crave the means to approach Him, and be strenuous in His way, haply ye will prosper then.*

Keep fighting until Islam is the only religion. From Quran, Surah 8:39, *And keep fighting them until there is no division among you, and Islam is the only religion; but if non-believers give up worshipping other gods, then Allah sees what they do.*

The jihadi standard of fighting—terrify your enemies. From Quran, Surah 8:57, *But when you meet a group of soldiers in a war, make an example of them that the following group of soldiers behind them would panic and run away and never forget it.*

Allah commands his followers to fight Jews and Christians. From Quran, Surah 9:29, *Fight those who don't believe in Allah or in the Last Day, and who don't forbid the things that Allah and His Apostle have forbidden; and who don't have Islam, the religion of truth, as their religion; from among the Jews and Christians—until they pay the fine for being non-Muslims, and they have been humiliated.*



Fight people until they convert to Islam. From Quran, Surah 48:16, *Say to the desert Arabs who stayed behind instead of going to battle, "You will be called to fight against a people who are great fighters; and you may fight against them, or they may submit and become Muslims. And if you obey, Allah will give you a good reward; but if you turn away as you did before, He will punish you with a great torment."*

Muslims are told to cut off the necks and fingers of those who opposed Allah and Muhammad. From Quran, Surah 8:12-14, *When Allah inspired the angels, "I am with you, so make the Muslims strong; I will put terror in the hearts of non-Muslims." So cut off their necks and cut off every fingertip. Do that because they opposed Allah and His Apostle. And Allah is intent on punishing anyone who opposes Him and His Apostle.*



Kill the non-Muslims who criticize Islam. From Quran, Surah 12:9-14, *But if the leaders of the non-Muslims break their promises after making a treaty with you, and criticize Islam, then fight them, because their promises don't mean anything to them; and this way you can stop their evil works. Won't you fight those who broke their promises and planned to expel His Apostle? Are you afraid of them? If you are believers, Allah deserves your honor. Kill them! Allah will use your hands to torment and disgrace them. He will help you and will heal the hearts of those who believe.*

Muslims should not seek peace when they are more powerful. From Quran, Surah 47: 35, *So don't be weak and call for peace while you have the upper hand; for Allah is with you, and He won't let your good works come to nothing.*

Be severe against non-Muslims and merciful to Muslims. From Quran, Surah 48:29, *Muhammad is the Apostle of Allah, and those who are with Him are vehement against the misbelievers, but compassionate amongst themselves....*

Allah will put terror in the heart of Christians and Jews and cause them to destroy themselves. From Quran, Surah 59:2, *He drove out of their homes the Jews and the Christians who didn't believe at the first gathering of forces. They thought their fortresses would protect them from Allah, but Allah came upon them from a place they didn't expect, and put fear in their hearts! They destroyed their own houses with their own hands, and with the hands of the believers. So heed this warning, you who have eyes to see!*

These then are just a few examples of the teachings of the Quran regarding jihad. There is denial that Muslims today embrace the teachings of Islam as set forth in the Quran. Either as a result of political correctness or naivety, many refuse to link Islamic terrorism with the Islamist ideology that inspires it.

Yet, the opposite is true. As just one example, listen to the words of current Islamic spiritual leader, Anjem Choudary, of the United Kingdom who says, “You can’t say that Islam is a religion of peace. Because Islam does not mean peace. Islam means ‘submission.’ So the Muslim is one who submits. There is a place for violence in Islam. There is a place for Jihad in Islam.”

Today in our world, the Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamic groups are harassing, torturing, and murdering non-Muslims across the globe. One of the most distressing issues of our time is the systematic emptying of Christians from the Middle East, through relentless Islamic-led persecution.

In addition, current Muslim world leaders regularly call for the destruction of Israel and the annihilation of the Jewish people.

This, too, has been a hallmark of the so-called Arab Spring, an Arab-wide rise to power of the Islamic ideology, which includes groups like the Muslim Brotherhood. Their Brother’s founder, al-Banna, wrote in an article titled “Industry of Death:”

Only those who become proficient in the “art of death” can prevail. So, prepare yourself to do a great deed. Be keen on dying and life will be granted to you, so work towards a noble death.

Is it any wonder that as the Muslim Brotherhood cohorts marched through the streets of Cairo, this past year, they shouted:

“We are afraid not of death, but we desire it... How wonderful death is... Let us die in redemption for Muslims. Jihad is our course of action... and death in the cause of Allah our most precious wish.”

The Western mind cannot comprehend a system of belief that encourages its young people to strap on bombs in murderous suicide, and sends its children to clear minefields as a service to their god.

Despite the commands for jihad and the acts of terrorism we see around the world, the Muslim people are not the enemy. They are the victims of the ideology of Islam.

Muslims are trapped in a world of spiritual darkness, one that's full of suffering, fear, and hatred. They're told to believe that the path of jihad is sacred and holy, and following it is a guarantee of paradise and eternal life.

A recent Pew Research Center survey in early 2013 found that most Muslims around the world reject suicide bombings and other attacks against civilians. Yet, their silence is deafening.

Where is the outcry among Muslims against brutal attacks of terror? When those who truly value peace refuse to condemn and sanction those who commit such atrocities, their point of view becomes irrelevant.

We began our discussion with this question:

Is Islam a religion of peace or war?

Clearly, from the recitations of the Quran, to the teachings of leading imams in the world today, we understand that Islam means the submission of all people to itself.

When submission confronts freedom there is only one inevitable outcome. The answer is war.





A MESSAGE OF HOPE FOR YOU TODAY

Christianity has a different message. Instead of giving commands to kill enemies, Jesus Himself said, “... *love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven*” (Matthew 5:44, 45).

The Bible, the true Word of God, tells us that God loves all people, regardless of their background, race, gender, or religion. But it also makes it clear that *all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God* (Romans 3:23).

To reconcile man to Himself, God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to the earth, to live a perfect life, and become the atoning sacrifice for all our sin. John 3:16 says, *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

Jesus Himself declared, “*I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me*” (John 14:6).



Jesus is ready to accept all who come to Him. He died for all of humanity—including you. If you haven't accepted Jesus as your Savior, you can ask Him into your heart today. He will hear your sincere prayer of faith.

Lord Jesus

**I am a sinner.
Thank You for
paying the debt of my sin when You died for
me. Come into my heart and life today. Please
forgive me of my sins, and show me Your will
for my life.**

Amen

Notes

1. al-Halabi, Burhan al-Deen, *Al-Sira Al-Halabiya*, Vol. I, p. 377; and Al-Bukhari, Muhammad Ibn Ismail, *Al-Jami al-Sahih* (Sahih al-Bukhari), Vol. I, Book I—Revelation, Hadith 1.3.

2. al-Suhaili, Abd al-Rahman Ibn Abd Allah, *Al-Rawd al-Unuf fi Tafsir al-Sira al-Nabawiya* of Ibn Hisham, Vol. 1, pp. 408-409.

3. Quran, Surah 7:144.

4. Quran, Surah 2:142-144 and al-Bukhari, *Tafsir al-Quran*, Surah al-Baqara; Bab: al-lathina Atinahum al-Kitab and Muslim, Sahih Muslim, *Kitab al-Masajid wa Mawadi al-Sala*, Bab tahweel al-Qubla min al-Quds ila al-Kaba.

5. Sahih Muslim, *Kitab al-Nikah*, Bab: Nikah al-Muta wa Bayan Anahu Ubiha Thuma Nusikha Wa Istaqar Tahrimuh Ila Yawm al-Qiyama; and Al-Alusi, *Tfasis al-Quran li Surat al-Fateh* 1; and *Tarikh al-Tabari* 2:101

6. Sahih Muslim, *Kitab al-Nikah* Fi Bab Tazweej al-Ab lil-Bikr al-Saghirah.

7. al-Tabari 19:142; and Ibn Diya al-Maki, *Tarikh Mecca*, Bab: Thikr qatl Bani Qurayza bil-Madina.

8. al-Tabari, Tafsir 11:188; and al-Wahidi, *Asbab al-Nuzul* of al-Ahzab 51 (Surah 33:51).

9. http://library.islamweb.net/newlibrary/display_book.php?idfrom=6202&idto=6202&bk_no=15&ID=6093

10. Quran, Surah 8:41 and http://library.islamweb.net/newlibrary/display_book.php?flag=1&bk_no=12&ID=3276

11. Ibn Hisham, *al-Sira al-Nabawiya* 2:337; and al-Tabari, *Tarikh al-Rusul wa al-Muluk*, Vol. 3, p. 14.

12. <http://www.politicalislam.com/tears/pages/tears-of-jihad/>

13. Koenard Elst, *Negationism in India* (New Delhi: Voice of India, 2002), p. 34.

14. David B. Barrett and Todd M. Johnson, *World Christian Trends, A.D. 30 – A.D. 2200* (Pasadena: William Carey Library, 2001), p. 230, table 4-1.

15. Thomas Sowell, *Race and Culture* (New York: BasicBooks, 1994), p. 188; and Women's Presbyterian Board of Missions, *David Livingstone* (1888), p. 62.

16. Women's Presbyterian Board of Missions, *David Livingstone*, p. 62.

