

The Blessed Prophet Muhammad in Other Scriptures -

Are their references to other religions to accept ISLAM?

THE BLESSED PROPHET MUHAMMAD IN OTHER SCRIPTURES

Since the creation of the first man, Adam, God has sent many prophets to guide mankind. All of these prophets have taught the same message, Islam i.e. to worship the one true God. Unfortunately, the teachings of most of these prophets have been either lost completely or drastically changed into the so called religions of the present day. Only Islam as taught by the final Prophet and Messenger, Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace), remains completely intact. Unlike the scriptures of other religions, the holy book of the Muslims, the Qur'an, which was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) by God has not changed and remains in its original form.

However, if we examine other religious scriptures we can still find some sparse remnants of truth in them. The prophecy about the coming of Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) is an example of this.

JUDAISM

In the Torah (the old testament) the book of Deuteronomy has a verse regarding a prophet to come.

"I will raise them a prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and I will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I *shall command him*." (Deuteronomy 18:15-18)

However, if we examine other religious scriptures we can still find some sparse remnants of truth in them. The prophecy about the coming of Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) is an example of this.

The following points can be understood from this verse;

- a) A prophet is yet to come, from amongst the *brethren* of Moses Muhammad and Moses both have genealogies going back to Abraham (peace & blessings be upon them all).
- b) The prophet shall not speak of his *own* accord, but will recite what is said to him. Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) declared that the Qur'an was revealed to him via the angel Gabriel.
- c) He will be like unto *thee*, i.e. He will be like Moses. The Christians say this refers to Jesus so let us compare these three prophets.
 - Moses had a father and mother, as did Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace). Jesus, however, had a miraculous birth, only having a natural mother.
 - Moses and Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) married and had children but Jesus did not.
 - Moses and Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) were accepted as prophets in their time, but Jesus was not.
 - Moses and Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) were both rulers over a people. Jesus was not.

- Moses and Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) brought new laws. Jesus did not (see Matthew 5:17-18).
- Moses and Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) died natural deaths. Jesus has not died.
- Moses and Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) lie buried in Earth, but Jesus does not.

From the above we can conclude that Muhammad has more similarities to Moses and not Jesus (Allah's peace & blessings be upon them all).

CHRISTIANITY

An important point to bear in mind before examining the Bible is that the Bible has been constantly edited and revised so it is hardly surprising that it has lost much of Jesus's original teaching which were in Aramaic and not Greek or English.

"If ye love me ye will keep my commandments. And I will pray to the Father and He shall give you another Parakietos (Comforter) that he may be with you forever. These things have I spoken unto you while yet abiding with you. But the Comforter (Parakietos) which is the spirit of truth whom the Father will send...he shall teach you all things and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth, It is expedient for you that I go away, for if not away, the Comforter (Parakletos) shall not come unto you. And he, when he is come, will convict the world in respect of sin and righteousness and of judgement. I have yet many things to say to you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of Truth is come, he shall guide you into all the truth for he shall not speak from himself but what things so ever he shall hear, these shall he speak and he shall declare unto you the things that are to come," [JOHN 14:15:16:2526 16:7;8;12;13.]

The following points should be noted from the above verses?

- The word "Parakletos" means *illustrious* or *renowned* answering in every description to the Arabic word 'Ahmad' or Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace).
- Another Comforter implies someone else is yet to come, a single person who will bring everyone to the truth.
- He shall *not* speak from himself. It is well known, even by non-Muslims, that Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) declared that the Qur'an was not his words, but revealed to him by God via the angel Gabriel

At this juncture it is worth mentioning the Gospel of St. Barnabas, which was taken out of the Bible 300 years before the birth of Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace).

The reason for this is no doubt the clear prediction of the Blessed Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

"Then said the priest, How shall the Comforter be called and what sign shall reveal his coming?" Jesus answered: The name of the Comforter is Admirable: for God himself gave him the name when He had created his soul, and placed it in celestial splendour. God said: Wait Muhammad, for thy sake I will create Paradise, the World and a great multitude of creatures, whereof I make thee a present, in so much that who shall bless thee, shall be blessed, and who shall curse thee, shall be accursed When I shall send thee unto the world, I shall send thee as My messenger of salvation and thy word shall be true, in so much that heaven and earth shall fail, but thy faith shall never fail"

Muhammad is his blessed name. Then the crowd lifted up their voices saying:

"O God, send us thy Messenger. O Muhammad, come quickly for the salvation of the world" [TRANSLATED BY LONSDALB AND LAURA RAGG, OXFORD, 1907.]

HINDUISM

Hindus have many books relating to their religion. In a book called the Bhavishya Purana. It reads:

"Just then an illiterate man with the epithet of teacher, Muhammad by name. came along with his companions. Raja (Bhoja in a vision) to that Great Deva, the denizen of Arabia, purifying with the Ganges water with the five things of cow offered sandalwood and paid worship to him. O denizen of Arabia and lord of the holies to thee is my adoration. O thou who has found many ways and means to destroy all the devils of the world! O pure one from among the illiterates, O sinless one, the spirit of truth and absolute master, to thee is my adoration/Accept me at thy feet" [BHAVISHIYA PURANA PARV 3,

'From this passage we can deduce that;

- **Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) is mentioned by name (in the original Sanskrit, it is the fifth word from the left).**
- He will come from *Arabia*, as Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) did.
- He will be *illiterate*. It is a well established fact that Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) could not read or write.
- The spirit of truth (also mentioned in the Bible) was what Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) was known as, even before he received his prophethood.

Furthermore, Pandit Vedaprakash Upadhai a well known Hindu research professor at Allahabad University, India, in his book called "Kalki Avatar", claims that the description of Avatar found in the holy books of the Hindu religion is in fact that of the Prophet Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace).

The author says that Hindus who are still anxiously awaiting the arrival of Kalki Avatar are simply subjecting themselves to never ending pain. Because such a great messenger has come and departed from this world over 1400 years ago. Numerous evidences from the Vedas and other Hindu scriptures have been given in his book, some of which are listed below.

In Purana it is stated that Kalki Avatar would be born in the Arab region and would be the last messenger of God in this world for the Guidance of the whole world. The staple food of Kalki Avatar, would be dates and olive and he would be the most honest and truthful person in the region. The birth of Kalki Avatar would take place in an honourable clan. God would teach Kalki Avatar through his messenger (an angel) in a cave. This description of Kalki Avatar accurately describes the personality of the Prophet Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace).

The Hindu scriptures also give the names of the father and mother of Kalki Avatar as Vishnubhagat and Sumaani respectively. The

names of Prophet Muhammad's (Allah bless him & give him peace) father and mother were Abdullah and Aamenah respectively. If we examine the meanings of these names we shall come to a very interesting conclusion. Vishnubhagat means slave of God, in Arabic Abdullah has a similar meaning. Sumaani means peace or calmness, Aamenah in Arabic has the same meaning.

The author concludes that Hindus of the whole world should not wait any longer for the arrival of Kalki Avatar (the spirit), and should embrace Islam and readily accept Prophet Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace), as Kalki Avatar.

We can deduce from these findings that it is very likely that centuries before Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace). God sent one or more prophets to the Indian subcontinent, which would explain why a few remnants of truth can be found in the Hindu scriptures. However, these teachings were corrupted and changed to the paganism we have today. If we look at the chronology of Hinduism, we see that India was invaded by the Aryans between 1500-1200 years BC; by the Persians under Skylax in 518 BC; by Alexander of Macedonia in 327-325 B.C; and also by the Sungas, Iranians, Sakas and Kusanaa between 200-100 BC.

We also know that the first recorded idol can only be carbon-dated back to 100 B.C and the first idol with multiple arms date back to 50 CE. The similarity between the Hindu 'gods' and the Greek 'gods' suggests a strong influence of Alexandra of Macedonia.

It is a common fact that Hinduism can change because of the following examples. Until the late 1800's the practice of Sati (the burning alive of the widow on the dead husbands pyre) was an *integral part of Hinduism*. It was *abolished and outlawed* by the British Government due to the influence of Ram Mohan Roy. Also if we look at the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955 we see that traditional Hindu Law allowed up to four wives. But monogamy became the law, when after several amendments, this Act was passed in 1975. So we can see that Hinduism is no doubt amiable to change.

BHUDDISM

Bhuddists have scriptures in more than one language, the following is an extract from the Ceylon:

"Ananda said to the Blessed One, Who shall teach us when thou art gone?" And the Blessed one replied, I am not the first Buddha who came upon the Earth, nor shall I be the last, in due time another Buddha will arise in the world, a holy one, a supremely enlightend one, endowed with wisdom in conduct, auspicious, knowing the universe, an incomparable leader of men, a master of angels and mortals. He will reveal to you the same eternal truth that I have taughtyou. He will preach his religion, glorious in it's origin glorious at the climax and glorious at the goal. He will proclaim a rekgious way of life, wholly perfect and pure such as I now proclaim. His disciples will number many thousands, while

*mine number many hundreds.’ Ananda said
‘How shall we know him?’ The Blessed One re-
plied ‘He will be known as Maitreya...*

From this passage we can deduce the following;

- There are many messengers sent by the Creator. This conforms to the Muslim belief that there were about 124,000 messengers sent before Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace).
- His followers will number many. Islam is now considered the largest religion in the world (When Catholicism is considered an a separate religion.)
- Maitreya literally means a mercy and The Blessed One’. Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) is mentioned in the Qur’an as a mercy unto mankind (21:107).

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