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The Christian–Muslim Conflict: From Scripture to Religions!

By Scot Aaron

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Scriptures from the Bible and Koran contradict one another! Should members of these powerful religions have conflict? This article examines the foundation of Christianity and Islam to discover that the conflict and possible resolution begins there.

The Christian–Muslim Conflict!

Is there really a conflict between Christians and Muslims? There were said to be nine crusades from 1095–1272. This was where Christians got together to fight against Muslims. What is happening in the world today? Maybe we should take a look at the Christian Bible and Muslim Koran before tensions escalate too far? Millions of people revere the writers of these sacred books. The question is, can and will this promote love and respect between neighbors in differing religions?

Have you ever asked yourself who actually wrote the New Testament and Koran? Should you examine the foundation of Christianity, known from the writers of the New Testament? Many of Paul's epistles are recognized by Biblical scholars as actual letters, the first written some 18 years (about 51 AD) after Jesus died. Paul clearly states that he never physically met Jesus. Paul only mentions three of the apostles by name (Galatians 1:18–20, 2:9)! When it comes to meeting Peter, as Jesus' key apostle, Paul states: "When Peter came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly in the wrong..." (Galatians 2:11)

Early letters and other writings do exist from those referred to as "Apostolic Fathers," yet the apostles are not mentioned by name. (Papias was 'quoted' as having mentioned Matthew; see the footnote below.) Beyond writing more of the New Testament than any other, Paul, in fact, appears to be the primary spokesmen for what became Christianity, even according to the Apostolic Fathers.

"I exhort you all, therefore, to yield obedience to the word of righteousness, and to exercise all patience, such as ye have seen before your eyes, not only in the case of the blessed Ignatius, and Zosimus, and Rufus, but also in others among yourselves, and in Paul himself, and the rest of the

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apostles. ... If a man does not keep himself from covetousness, he shall be defiled by idolatry, and shall be judged as one of the heathen. But who of us are ignorant of the judgment of the Lord? 'Do we not know that the saints shall judge the world?' as Paul teaches. But I have neither seen nor heard of any such thing among you, in the midst of whom the blessed Paul laboured." [From Chapters 9 and 11 of "The Letter of Polycarp to the Philippians," see footnote 1.]

The main objective of later Biblical writers — including the writers of the Gospels — was to make traditions fit together and convince others that Jesus was the Christ, the chosen Messiah. Was this viewpoint of Jesus intolerant of other faiths? The Christocentric view is stressed in the oft–quoted John 14:6 where Jesus was claimed to have said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

For more than a thousand years the large majority of Christians (strongly) believed that all non–Christians would eternally suffer in hell. For some, this has given Christians the right to coerce and even murder. Currently, many Christians may understand that all good people with or without religion can worship God in their hearts. The priority of love and compassion can save people from damnation. It seems that anyone can go "through Jesus" (referring to the scripture above) by accepting what Jesus established as the priorities in life.

The New Testament stresses to "Love God with all of your heart and mind, and your neighbor like yourself." Christianity has great spiritual power through the example of Jesus. Good individuals in every religious tradition have loved God, at least their understandings of God. Love and compassion are experienced throughout the world; however, abuse in the name of religion is also a very real experience.

Muhammad was the founding prophet of Islam. If a Muslim, you believe that Muhammad is the seal of the prophets. [3] As the authoritative seal, his prophecies or revelations provide the complete and final truths. As people questioned the authority of prophecies that were developed and expressed throughout the months and years of Muhammad's life, further revelations sought to clarify given situations.

"When we change one verse for another — God knows best what He reveals — they say: 'You [Muhammad] are an impostor.' Indeed most of these people do not understand. Say: 'The Holy Spirit brought the revelation down from God in truth, in order to strengthen the faithful, and to give guidance and good news to those that submit.' We know they say: 'A mortal taught him.' But the man to whom they allude speaks a foreign tongue, [4] while this is pure, clear Arabic. God will not guide those who disbelieve that these are His revelations. Woeful punishment awaits the disbeliever." (Koran 16.101–104)

Muhammad's viewpoint of Jesus' divine authority clearly contradicts what mainstream Christians believe!

"They say, 'We killed the Christ, Jesus son of Mary, apostle of God.' They did not kill him nor did they crucify him, though it appeared to them so. Those that disagree in the matter are lost in doubt. They have no knowledge about it other than conjecture, for surely God did not kill him." (Koran 4:157–158)

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"They are certainly unbelievers who say, 'God is the Messiah, the son of Mary.' For the Messiah had only said, 'O Children of Israel, serve God, who is my Lord and your Lord.' Whosoever associates others with God will have Paradise denied by God and shall be cast into hell. None shall help the evil–doers. They are certainly unbelievers who say, 'God is one person of the three.' There is but one God. If they do not desist from saying what they say, those of them that disbelieve shall suffer stern punishment." (Koran 5:72–73) [5]

The Koran mentions Jesus in numerous scriptures. Muslims place Jesus with the other Jewish prophets. Jews reject Jesus as the Messiah! Christians say the Jews killed Jesus! Muslims state Jews and Christians require Islam! With the ever–popular Bible and Koran, potential conflict is written and widely circulated throughout the world. This is a fact!

According to recent statistics, Christianity and Islam are the largest religions in the world, making up about 33% and 19.6% of the population. [6] Many Christians and Muslims have experienced God's power in their lives. Both can agree that God represents the qualities of love and compassion. For

religion to survive in the world, priorities must be established by leaders and members within the major religions. Will this ever happen? Only God knows. As an author, I recognize, respect and affirm the spirituality within all world religions, yet discover contradictions within the accepted foundations of each. Written scripture and traditions can pass along what obviously has and will lead to conflict. As intelligent humans, it is time to discover the real world religions.

[2] My current book "Love Your Neighbors? Discover the Real World Religions" mentions much more about the writer of this Gospel, particularly the claim that Jesus brought Lazarus back to life after being dead for four days (John 11).

[3] The "Twelvers" are the larger group of minority Shi'ite Muslims. They believe the twelfth leader in Muhammad's true line of successors disappeared and will return to restore order. Some might recognize similarities with Jesus' second coming.

[4] This verse clearly hints at the fact that Muhammad had corresponded with some individual, who was probably espoused with some form of Judaism or Christianity. Some scholars point out that the "foreigner" might refer to Salman the Persian, Adas the Monk, or Suhaib bin Sinan. The issue of Muhammad and the writing of the Koran are detailed in "Love Your Neighbors? Discover the Real World Religions."

[5] Muhammad knew Jews and Christians. During his lifetime individuals and groups espoused various views of Jesus. One group, Monophysites, flourished in Egypt and Syria. They said Jesus Christ had only one nature that was divine. Because these people completely associated the divine power of Jesus Christ with God, it followed that the actual humanity and suffering of Jesus were only apparent. Jesus was not actually crucified. The Crucifixion was an illusion. This was an early Christian view called Docetism, stemming from the Greek "dokeo", "I seem." There are indications that Monophysites, which heavily influenced the Christian traditions of Eastern Orthodoxy, held essential elements of this view where Christ's suffering was "apparent," or in other words an illusion. It might be noted that in 1984 the Syrian Orthodox patriarch and the Catholic pope signed a declaration proclaiming historical

differences were due to linguistic inadequacies and that everything was semantics.

[6] References for these and other statistics: Barrett, D.B., G.T. Kurian, & T.M. Johnson, "World Christian Encyclopedia: a comparative survey of churches and religions in the modern world." Oxford University Press: NY, 2001; 2001 "Encyclopedia Britannica Book of the Year"; "Time Almanac 2001"; and Adherents.com

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Programs and spent years "backpacking" through many countries to learn about religion, history and culture. "Love Your Neighbors? Discover the Real World Religions" (ISBN 1–58916–777–5) is his most current book. Please visit his web pages at PsalmPublishing.bei.t–online.de

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Religious Solutions?

By Jim Thio

I am not a muslim. In fact, some of my writings suggest many situations muslim radicals want to be prohibited. I might have pissed them of, but who doesn't?

However, I am not against muslim religion either. To me, a religion is just like any opinion. There are positive and negative side in it. It's important to examine every opinion closely and see what's really going on behind the scheme.

So yea, many of my ideas will be opposed by many religious groups, especially from non secular religious groups, like muslims. However, some of their ideas are similar to mine.

For example, I know a succesful muslim entrepreneur that supports polygamy. I have nothing against the poly part in polygamy. I have a lot against the gamy part. However, if it is consensual, who am I to argue?

I am quite impress with the fact that some muslims, just like many christians, embrace more extreme form of capitalism, and hence freedom than I am.

I do support free market, but not to that extreme. Well, let's see what I am actually proposing to the world, and see that we may have some things in common.

Like most religious right wings, I suggest that the productive should make more money. You see, there

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isn't much alternative to this. If we do not let the productive to earn more money, the best and brightest among us will simply earn their wealth through other means.

So, we have an agreement here.

Then, women prefer the rich. Christians right wings limit one wife to each male. Muslim right wings allow more. I am a Christian, but I must give kudo to the muslim on this part. Oh by the way, anti polygamy laws within christianity is not really part of the scripture. It's just that most Christians believe it is, though some Christians group do not.

Again, all groups have their fair share of prejudices. If polygamy is allowed, many males will not get women. Obviously those males would love to embrace any religious pretext that put polygamy on bad light.

Then what?

Of course, a male with more women will make more kids. So far, I don't think my opinion is still far from my muslim entrepreneurs reference.

Then? Under Muslim religions, the poor get zakat, of 2%. This is where I differ. The world is getting more and more abundance. Don't we want to get rich as much as possible with no or little income tax? Don't we want to chase as many females as possible? Why be stingy about it? Why just 2%?

I suggest that we tax kids. I also suggest that we minimize governments' program and expenditure. When governments expenditure is low and and governments income is high, governments will have huge surplus defisit, which we shall call profit. Those surplus can be share to all citizens as stock holders. That way, poor people that postpone making kids will have huge initial capital to catch up the wealth of the rich.

So you see, if we want a good life, we should do so in a way that makes the other side profited too.

Now, when many alpha males get more than one females the other males don't get any. So what's the solution? What's the ancient religious solution? Jihad? No kidding.

In fact, that's explain why we have so many war in the world. The way we evolve is when we're not at war, we're in a race.

When we're in a race, we're in competition. Freedom means competition. Some people don't want to compete. So they oppose freedom.

That's the real intensive behind communism. Not to fed the poor, but to prevent you from getting rich. Women prefer the rich, so unproductive people hate the rich.

That's why the most prosecuted minority groups are often those who make the most money. The kids that got beaten up in school is the one the smartest.

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So, what's the solution for the best and brightest? Choosing not to be successful? That's lame.

However, some humans are so smart, they look beyond what businessmen see. Those people are politicians.

So what do politicians do? When we're not at war, we're in a race. If we're in a race, people will want to knock up those who run the fastest, which is me. So we shouldn't be in race. That means we should be in, guess what, war.

A wise politicians then pick of enemies for their people to fight for any reason. It's common enemies and common competitors that can unite people.

A chinese proverb says, the wise see the truth behind all religions. However, the narrow minded only see the differences. Correction chineses. Those who only see the differences are not the narrow minded. Those are the smart ass. Smart ass politicians see every little different between religions and use it as justification for war. That's how it really works.

Put yourself in a Sultan shoes. A sultan want a full harem. If the Sultan get all the women, most males would want to be Sultan. That means killing the current Sultan. So what would a wise Sultan do? Wage Jihad against Europeans. When the europeans are gone, a wise Sultan will wage Jihad against fellow muslims.

To be fair, muslim Sultans are not the only one doing it. European kings and Chinese emperors are into it too.

And what's the biblical solution? Well, you can read that in Number 20:13–14. God command those

people to kill all the males and rape all the females. Of course, nowadays, even porn is sin. Yea right.

Got that far? I am just trying to explain what's really going on here.

Is war necessary? Is there a more humane solution? Of course there is. What happen is, we can legalize prostitution and porn. So all those poor people will have enough cash to catch up the wealth of the rich, and enough entertainment till they get rich.

When that happen, most poor people will not mind voting in favor of free market. This one, I believe, most religious leaders would oppose.

Jim Thio is a silver medalist in International Physics Olympiad. He's learning evolution theory to understand humans nature. He freely helps humans to be happier. He visions a better world where the productive make more kids and the parasites get more cash. His website is at

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