# DID JESUS PREACH ISLAM

Muhammad Solaiman

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Jesus (peace be upon him, PBUH) was sent – like all the prophets of God-to teach people that God is One and we should submit to His Law.

"The most important one,." answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one'". (Mark, 12:29)

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them." (Matthew, 5:17)

However, after Jesus (PBUH), Paul of Tarsus, who used to torture Christians, claimed his conversion to Christianity. In addition, he claimed to have had direct revelations from Jesus (PBUH), and hence, formulated a new Pauline Christianity.

According to Pauline Christianity, Jesus (PBUH) who was sent as a prophet of God, became the divine son of God who was sent as a ransom for the redemption of the Original Sin of Adam and Eve. In addition, instead of fulfilling the law of God, Jesus (PBUH) was claimed to have freed Christians from it.

Regrettably, the Roman Emperor Constantine was inclined to Pauline Christianity and the Church adopted it to satisfy him and enforced it with his help. Therefore, what we have today is a Pauline Christianity and not the original Christianity.

In this booklet, we provide ample evidence, based on the Bible, that – like all prophets – Jesus (PBUH) taught both the Oneness of God and the commitment to His Law, both of which are, by definition, the essence of the religion of ISLAM.

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May God reward all those who contributed to writing, revising, amending, translating and printing this booklet.

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#### **Muhammad Solaiman**

The International Commission of the Scientific Signs in the Qur'an and Sunnah, Taif Branch, Saudi Arabia

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# 1. Introduction

The four Gospels of the Bible narrate Jesus' life, teachings, and mission. However, if we go thoroughly through these Gospels, we will discover that the word "Christianity." is not mentioned even once. This raises an important question: "Wasn't Jesus (peace be upon him, PBUH) sent to preach the religion of Christianity?"

The answer to this question is found in the Gospel of Matthew (5:17), where Jesus (PBUH) clearly declared the purpose of his mission:

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them."

Jesus (PBUH), in other words, was not sent by God to preach Christianity in the sense of a new, different religion; his mission was to continue the mission of Moses (PBUH) and the chain of all the previous prophets of God.

The mission of all the prophets of God, including Jesus (PBUT), was to teach their people that there is **One God** who has no partners and to command them to **obey Him and submit to His Law**. Hence, Jesus (PBUH) was not an exception among them. He was sent to the Jews, though they worshipped one God, because they were not committed to the Law of God and therefore, he called them "the lost sheep of Israel." (Matthew, 15:24)

From where then, did the Triune nature of God (God the Father, God the

Son and God the Holy Ghost) come? Where did Original Sin—and the suffering and death of God's "divine son" on the cross, as a ransom for our Original Sin—come from? Were these notions preached by Jesus (PBUH) or other prophets? And are they found in the Gospels?

In this booklet, we will try to answer these questions. We will use Bible-based evidence to demonstrate that unlike what has been propagated and taught about Jesus (PBUH), he absolutely preached the worship of One God and not a Trinity. In addition, all through his mission, he emphasised on the observation of the Law of God, which he was originally sent to fulfil, and he was committed to it, even before his mission.

We will also discover that Jesus (PBUH) never discussed or even mentioned the concept of "Original Sin." or that he was sent as a ransom to suffer and to be crucified for this sin.

Finally, we will provide Bible-based evidence to prove that Jesus, like all the prophets of God (PBUT), preached Islam, and show how his message was twisted.

# 2. Islam

In order to understand the relationship between what Jesus (PBUH) preached and Islam, we need first to briefly explain what Islam is.

### 2.1. What does Islam mean?

Islam means "submission to God alone without associating with Him any partner(s)." This religion has been the Straight Path of God. It started with the birth of humanity: with Adam and Eve. They were commanded by God not to eat from a certain tree in Paradise. In other words, God wanted them to submit and obey His Command or Law.

Since then, the obedience to the Law of God, which by definition is Islam, has been the core issue of the message of God conveyed by all His prophets and messengers, including Noah, Abraham, David, Moses, Jesus and Muhammad (PBUT). Whenever people deviated from Islam, God sent them one of His prophets to remind them to hold firmly to His Straight Path.

"Pure Religion with God is Islam. Those to whom the Scripture was given (the Jews and Christians) differed only after knowledge came to them." (Qur'an, 3:19)

Therefore, Jesus (PBUH) was sent to the lost sheep of Israel (Matthew, 15:24), when they deviated from the Law of God, in order to get them back to

God's Straight Path – i.e. Islam.

In Islam, you confess that "there is only One God, and Muhammad is His messenger." You also have to believe in the Angels of God, all the original revealed Books, all the messengers of God (like Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and finally Muhammad, (PBTH), and the last Day. Believing in One God is an instinct deeply rooted in everybody, regardless of his religion. Therefore, even those who are polytheistic (believing in more than one god) usually believe in one major god, and associate other gods with him.

In Islam, associating partners with God is a major sin. God – the Creator of the Heavens and the Earth – the Almighty and the All-Knowing does not accept any partner(s) to be associated with Him. This is quite clear all through the Bible and is affirmed by the Qur'an, revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)

"Do not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God." (Exodus, 34:14)

"God does not forgive association with Him, but He forgives anything less than that to whomever He wills. Whoever associates anything with God has devised a monstrous sin." (Qur'an, 4:48)

Submission to God means to love Him and to reform your life according to His Will, as taught to us by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

On the other hand, the word Islam linguistically means both peace and submission to God. Worshipping God and submission to Him bring peace of mind, peace of the heart, peace with oneself, and peace with others. Submission to God is the Straight Path of God and the only way to achieve lasting, true happiness in this life and the life to come.

# 2.2. What is unique about Islam?

Islam is the only religion today which has kept its faith, beliefs, rituals, and its Holy Book unchanged.

The Glorious Qur'an, which is the Divine Book revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), has been well-preserved, exactly as it was revealed. Once the verses of the Qur'an were revealed through Angel Gabriel to the Prophet Muhammad, they were memorised by heart by his followers and immediately recorded. Therefore, there is only one version of the Qur'an in its original language of revelation, which is Arabic.

Today, millions—or at least hundreds of thousands—of the 1.6 billion Muslims around the world memorise the Glorious Qur'an by heart from the

beginning to the end, regardless of their nationalities or native languages. Therefore, because the Qur'an has been authentically preserved, there is no need for another revelation or a new messenger of God.

On the other hand — unlike the writers of the Gospels who ignored some details of Jesus' early life, and his experiences — all the minute details of Muhammad's tradition, including both what he did and said, have been meticulously and fully preserved. Therefore, the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) has set an example in all aspects of life for Muslims to follow. In fact, he has taught and demonstrated for us how we can live out Islam in the real world.

# 3. The Bible

The Bible is the Christian scripture, which consists of the Old and New Testaments. The scriptures of the Bible were written at different times by different authors in different locations over a period of about 1,500 years.

Most Christians believe that it has been accurately preserved over the ages and that the textual differences that exist are largely insignificant. However, Jeremiah, who was one of the major prophets of the Hebrew Bible (the Old Testament), had another opinion and he stated that, "The false pen of the scribes has made it into a lie." (Jeremiah, 8:8)

"So woe to those who write the Scripture with their own hands, and then say, "This is from God." (Qur'an, 2:79)

Despite this, Christian denominations – which number over  $33,000^1$  – accept the Bible as a major source for the teachings of Jesus Christ (PBUH).

# 3.1. Books of the Bible

The Old Testament consists of 66 books which are based on the Hebrew Bible. It was **transmitted orally for several generations** before being committed to writing. Therefore, naturally, over the years, the books of the Old Testament evolved through countless translations, additions, and revisions.

The New Testament consists of 27 books: the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, as well as the 23 other books.

When the church compiled them, it chose texts written in the old **Koine Greek language** and not the Aramaic Language spoken by Jesus (PBUH).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Christian Encyclopaedia, Oxford Univ. Press, 2nd edition, 2001



Figure 1: The oldest known Christian Bible (1,600-year-old) was found in a monastery in the Sinai desert in Egypt more than 160 years ago. It includes two books that are not part of the official New Testament and at least seven books that are not in the Old Testament. The New Testament books are in a different order and include numerous hand-written corrections. Important passages dealing with the resurrection of Jesus are missing.

http://www.codex-sinaiticus.net/en/codex/content.aspx

The composition of the New Testament was officially settled at the Council of Carthage in AD 397. However, the exact text preserved in later manuscripts may not necessarily be identical to those which existed in antiquity (See figure 1). No two copies of the discovered manuscripts agree completely throughout, and texts may even be contradictory.

Textus Receptus is a printed Greek New Testament published in 1516. It is the script which was translated into different languages like English (King James Bible), German, Spanish and Russian.

# 3.2. Is the Bible the divine work of God?

Let us review the following points about both the Old and the New Testaments before coming to conclusions.

### 3.2.2. The Old Testament

- The Old Testament was first orally transmitted for generations before being written. The Old Testament evolved through countless translations, additions and revisions.
- Considering Martin Luther's demands, the Catholic Church examined the question of the Canon in the Council of Trent (1545 and 1563). The **Council by vote** (24 yea, 15 nay, 16 abstain) approved the present Roman Catholic Bible Canon.
- In 1672, the Synod of Jerusalem accepted the Greek Orthodox Canon, which is the same as the Roman Catholic Canon, **in addition to** Psalm 151, 1 Esdras, 3 Maccabees, 4 Maccabees, and Psalms of Solomon.

• There are incidences of deletions in the Old Testament. For example, the "Acts of Nathan the Prophet" and the "Vision of Iddo the Seer" referred to in 1 Chronicles 29:29 and 2 Chronicles 9:29, respectively, are missing.

#### 3.2.2. The New Testament

- Jesus (PBUH) was not the writer of the New Testament, or any known book.
- The writers of the New Testament were neither disciples nor eyewitnesses of Jesus (PBUH).
- The Gospels were recorded long after Jesus's life on this Earth (PBUH) because early Christians mistakenly expected Christ's second coming during their own lifetime. Therefore, the first recorded Gospel of Mark was written around the year 70 AD (i.e. 70 years after Jesus was assumed to have died)
- The 27 books of the New Testament were affirmed as authoritative by the Church after almost four centuries, through three councils held between the years 363 and 397 AD.
- The New Testament books chosen by the Church were written in an old Greek language, instead of the Aramaic Language used by Jesus (PBUH).
- There are different interpretations of the old Greek language of the New Testament by different Christian denominations.
- The New Testament contains many contradictions. In figure 2, we provide examples.
- The New Testament lacks some books (Figures 1), and some verses have been omitted in the modern translations (Table 1).
- The New Testament has suffered from additions. For example, the first Vatican Council (April 24, 1870) approved additions to Mark (v.16:9-20), Luke, (22:19b-20, 43-44) and John, (7:53-8:11). Theses verses were not present in earlier manuscripts. Please refer to the footnotes of the New International Bible and Wikipedia.<sup>2 3 4 5</sup>

Is it possible for a Divine Book of God to be subjected to debates, disputes, omissions and additions?

<sup>2 (</sup>https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+7%3A53+&version=NIV)

<sup>3</sup> https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+22%3A43%E2%80%9344&version=NIV

https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+16:9-20

<sup>5</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Development\_of\_the\_New\_Testament\_canon

Table 1: Some examples of verses deleted from modern translations of the Bible.

Daggaga	Bible translation						
Passage	NIV	NASB	NKJV	REB	HCSB	EXB	
Matthew 17:21	F	В	F	F	В	F	
Matthew 18:11	F	В	F	F	В	F	
Matthew 23:14	F	В	F	F	В	F	
Mark 7:16	F	В	F	F	В	F	
Mark 9:44	F	В	F	F	В	F	
Mark 9:46	F	В	F	F	В	F	
Mark 11:26	F	В	F	F	В	F	
Mark 15:28	F	В	F	F	В	F	

B, bracketed (noted most biblical scholars today believe were not part of the original text); F. omission (noted in the footnote) <sup>6</sup>

Figure 2: The Bible is full of contradictions. The following are just three examples told about the crucifixion of Jesus (PBUH).

Both of those who Jesus was offered Simon of Cyrene were crucified with carried Jesus' cross vinegar to drink Jesus taunted him (Matthew 27:32; Mark (Matthew 7:48; Luke (Matthew 27: 44). 15:21; Luke 23:26). 23:36; John 19:29). Only one taunted Jesus carried his It was wine and him and he was own cross (John. rebuked bv the myrrh (Mark 15:23). 19:17). other (Luke, 23:39-42).

# 3.3. A confession of some Christian Scholars

The scholars who edited the New American Bible have made frank confessions in their introduction of the edition of 2011. Below we summarise some of them. *The Italic sentences* are taken as they are, word-for-word, from their introduction.

- "The Bible is God's word and man's word."
- "Some authors chose existing folk tales and even beast fables to bring out their point."

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea and saw a beast rise up out of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of Biblr verses not included in modern translations#Ot her English translations

- sea, having seven heads and ten horns." (Revelations 13:1)
- "The sacred writers attribute quite several human characteristics to God." This is "conditioned by time and culture".
- The one who grabs a Babylonian baby and dashes it against a rock in Psalm 137:8-9 is blessed. "The feeling, the thought, the total poem is inspired (guided) by God, though it is not necessarily the revealed truth."
  - "O daughter of Babylon, you devastated one ... blessed is the one who takes your babies and smashes them against the rocks!" (Psalm 137:8-9)
- The description of the heavens and the earth in Genesis, Chapter 1, is not necessarily a true description. It is conditioned by the time and the culture in which it was written.
- "Reading the Gospels, one should distinguish historical facts from theological elaboration."
- "It is difficult to know whether the words or sayings attributed to Jesus are written exactly as He spoke them."
- The genealogy of Jesus in Matthew (1:1-17) is not an absolutely true genealogy.

# 4. Is Christianity based on Jesus' teachings?

Christians are told that their religion is based on the teachings of Jesus (PBUH). However, this is not true, because, many of today's Christian's beliefs and practices are not based on the Bible and the teachings and practices of Jesus (PBUH).

# 4.1. Deviation in beliefs

We will discuss only three core concepts of beliefs which are accepted by most Christians including Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox Churches. These concepts are the **freedom from the Law** of God, the **Trinity**, and **Original Sin**.

#### 4.1.1. Freedom from the Law of God

As mentioned before, the submission and application of the Law of God are highly important, since the time of the creation of Adam and Eve. God commanded them not to eat from a certain forbidden tree.

To make sure that mankind would be committed to God's Law, God sent a succession of prophets who guided their people to the Law of God and commanded them to obey and follow it.

The importance of the commitment to the Law of God is demonstrated in the following verses from both the Old and the New Testaments.

"It pleased the Lord for the sake of his righteousness to make his law great and glorious." (Isaiah, 42:21)

"And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail." (Luke, 16:17)

"I tell you the truth: until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke or a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished." (Matthew, 5:18)

"Not all of those who call me 'Lord' will enter the kingdom of God, but only the one who does the Will of my Father in heaven." (Matthew, 7:21)

It is not enough to know the law if you do not apply it. That is why Jesus (PBUH) was angry with the scribes and Pharisees who knew the Law of God, but they did not apply it. Jesus (PBUH) considered that a hypocrisy. He wanted his followers to respect the Law of God both in action and in spirit.

# Was there any point in blaming the scribes and the Pharisees for their hypocrisy, regarding the Law, if Jesus' mission was to exempt them from it?

"You also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness." (Matthew, 23:25-28)

Jesus (PBUH) also made the commitment to the Law as a sign of his love.

"If you love me, keep my commandments." (John, 14:15)

The keenness of Christ (PBUH) that his followers would be committed to the Law of God made him, even though he was full of love, to curse those who do not apply it.

"No! But this mob that knows nothing of the law - there is a curse on them." (John, 7:49)

"Cursed be anyone who does not confirm the words of this law by doing them. And all the people shall say, Amen." (Deuteronomy, 27:26)

"The example of those who were entrusted with the Torah, but then failed to uphold it, is like the donkey carrying works of literature. Miserable is the

example of the people who denounce God's revelations. God does not guide the wrongdoing people." (Qur'an, 62:5)

Ironically, not only did Paul claim that Christ has set the Christians free from the Law of God, but he also considered God's Law and Jesus Christ's commands (BUH) as curses on us.

"For sin will have no mastery over you, because you are not under law but under grace." (Romans, 6:14)

"Because through Jesus Christ the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death." (Romans, 8:2)

"Therefore, let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God." (Hebrews, 6:1)

"All who rely on observing the law are under a curse, for it is written: 'Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.'." (Galatians, 3:10)

"Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.'." (Galatians, 3:13)

Does it make sense to claim to love Jesus (PBUH), and yet follow Paul, who taught a radically different religion and abolished the Law of God?

## 4.1.2. The doctrine of the Trinity

According to the Trinity, God is three **distinct**, eternally **co-existing** and **co-equal** persons: the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit. The three persons are distinct, yet they are of "one substance, essence, and nature."

The Trinity was debatable in several councils before being officially adopted centuries after Jesus' time on Earth (PBUH). In 325, the Council of Nicaea adopted the Trinity and the notion that Christ is "God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father." In 381 the Council of Constantinople defined and affirmed "the Holy Spirit." which is the third part of the Godhead.

Since Adam was created and for thousands of years till the advent of Jesus (PBUH) there was never a hint of a divine son of God and a divine Holy Spirit as parts of a triune Godhead. On the contrary, **God all through the Old** 







Indian trinity



Greek Trinity

Figure 3: Examples of triune gods, which preceded the Trinity.

**Testament affirms that He is absolutely One God.** In addition, the term "Trinity" was never mentioned by Jesus (PBUH) in the Gospels.

"You may know and believe Me and understand that I am He. Before Me, there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me." (Isaiah, 43:10)

"How can you believe since you accept glory from one another but do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?" (John, 5:44)

"Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." (John, 17:3)

Would we believe what God and Jesus said about the absolute Oneness of God, or what Paul or the Church say about His triune nature?

"They have taken their rabbis and their priests as lords instead of God, as well as the Messiah son of Mary. Although they were commanded to worship none but The One God. There is no god except He. Glory be to Him; High above what they associate with Him." (Qur'an, 9:31)

### 4.1.3. Original Sin

According to Paul, through one man (Adam), sin entered the world. Original Sin is harboured in every descendant of Adam; the entire human race inherits it from the very moment of conception.

"For as by one man's (Adam's) disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's (Jesus') obedience many will be made righteous." (Romans, 5:19)

Original Sin means that God condemns us for a sin we never committed, and He expiated it by sacrificing Himself for the sin He originally condemned us with.

We say: There is no Original Sin; both Adam and Eve repented and were forgiven. God is Forgiving and Merciful.

"Then Adam received words from his Lord, so his Lord pardoned him (accepted his repentance) He is very Relenting, the Most Merciful." (Qur'an, 2:37)

"The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love." (Psalm, 103:8)

"Say, 'Oh My servants who have transgressed against themselves: do not despair of God's mercy, for God forgives all sins. He is indeed the Forgiver, the Clement.'." (Qur'an, 39:53)

#### 4.1.3.1. Original Sin is a second century innovation

The doctrine of Original Sin was adopted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century by the Church and it is based on the teachings in the Epistles of Paul.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans, 6:23)

"That Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he rose again on the third day, according to the scriptures." (1Corinthians, 15:3-4)

The Old Testament, which Jesus (PBUH) was sent to fulfil, teaches that humans are born free from sins.

"The son will not bear the punishment for the father's iniquity, nor will the father bear the punishment for the son's iniquity; the righteousness of the righteous will be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked will be upon himself." (Ezekiel, 18:20)

# Who then gave the Church of the second century the authority to add the doctrine of the Original Sin?

God has not given anybody the authority to change His Law. Even Jesus himself (PBUH) was not given this authority.

"Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you." (Deuteronomy, 4:2)

"For I [Jesus] did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me to say all that I have spoken." (John, 12:49)

#### 4.1.3.2. Original Sin is not based on Jesus' teachings

Jesus (PBUH) never mentioned anything about the Original Sin of Adam and Eve and he never mentioned that he was sent to suffer and die on the cross to redeem our Original Sin.

The following verse of John's Gospel was claimed to refer to Original Sin and redemption:

"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'." (John, 1:29)

However, this verse was stated by John and not by Jesus (PBUH). In addition, it could be understood in the sense that, like all prophets, Jesus (PBUH) was sent to take away sins of people by guiding them to God's Straight Path.

According to that Law of God-which Jesus (PBUH) was sent to fulfil-"the iniquity of the father is not inherited." (Ezekiel, 18:20)

In addition, Jesus (PBUH) emphasised that for God to forgive us, we have to forgive others.

"And when you stand to pray, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins." (Mark, 11:25)

"For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." (Matthew, 6:14)

"Forgive and you will be forgiven." (Luke, 6:37)

If our sins have been already forgiven through the crucifixion of Jesus (PBUH), what is the point of hoping to be forgiven by God?

#### 4.1.3.3. Lessons from the parable of Lazarus

In the parable of the rich man and the poor man (Luke, 16:19-31), Lazarus was a poor man covered with sores and longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table. When they died, the poor man was carried by the angels to be with Abraham in Paradise and the rich man was tormented in Hell. The rich man asked Abraham to have mercy on him and to send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool his tongue to relieve his agony in the flames of Hell. He also asked Abraham to send Lazarus to warn his five brothers. Abraham replied, "'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He (the rich man) said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone

goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'" (Luke 16:29-31)

Notice in this parable of Jesus (PBUH), there is no hint of Original Sin. Instead, Jesus (PBUH) teaches us that the most important criterion is to submit to the Law of God. The rich man and his brothers should have listened to Moses and the prophets (PBUT) if they wanted to be admitted to Paradise.

Why was this parable given? Unequivocally, Jesus wants his followers to be committed to the Law of God he was sent to fulfil. He is warning you not to listen to somebody like Paul or the later Church.

The doctrine of Original Sin, the basic message of redemption in Christ and the abandonment of the Law of God-invented by Paul and propagated by the Church-do not lead to Paradise. Lazarus went to Paradise because he obeyed the Law of God and the rich man went to Hell because he disobeyed the Law.

#### 4.1.3.4. We are born innocent

All humans are innocent by birth and they become sinful only when they consciously commit a sin. We all equally have the tendency to be righteous or wicked and we have been guided through Revelations to prophets, like Moses, Jesus and Muhammad (PBUT).

It is we who chose to be grateful and guided by the Law of God revealed to the prophets to end up in Paradise or disobey God's Law and go to Hell.

"And the soul and He who proportioned it, and inspired it with its wickedness and its righteousness. Successful is he who purifies it and failing is he who corrupts it." (Qur'an, 91:7-10)

"Verily, We showed him (man) the way, whether he be grateful or ungrateful." (Qur'an, 76:3)

#### 4.1.3.5. Original Sin contradicts the Grace of God

According to Christian scholars, God's justice requires that there should be a payment of the penalty for sin. Therefore, Jesus Christ (PBUH) was offered as the atonement for sins so that both the justice and the love of God have been maintained. The Council of Florence (1442) stated that those who die in



"Original sin is not only the violation of a positive command of God, but also and above all, a violation of the will of God expressed in that command. Original sin attempts, then, to abolish fatherhood, destroying its rays which permeate the created world, placing in doubt the truth about God and leaving man only with a sense of the master-slave relationship".

Figure 4: A quote from Pope Paul II in his book "Crossing the Threshold of Hope", Random House, Inc., New York City, page 228, 1994.

Original Sin alone go to hell, but with unequal torture as those who die in actual mortal sin.

At least some form of this Original Sin doctrine is taught in nearly every mainstream Church. Christian scholars believe that outside the Church there is no salvation, so those who are not baptised, whether adults or new-borns, will not enjoy salvation.

Original Sin means that every single human being ever born automatically inherits a sinful nature at birth and the guilt of Adam and Eve's Original Sin.

If this were true then every baby who dies before baptism would go to Hell. Is that fair, though babies or infants have not committed sins and do not comprehend what is meant by accepting or rejecting Jesus (PBUH) as a saviour?

On the contrary, Jesus (PBUH) made of children an example of purity.

"And He called a child to Himself and set him before them, and said, 'Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.'" (Matthew 18:2-3)

Because some Christians find this cruelty difficult to accept, Medieval theologians developed a theory that the hell of the new-borns is a mitigated form called "limbo". However, still, infants have been deprived of Heaven. Furthermore, the limbo of infants is not considered an official doctrine of the Catholic Church and neither the Eastern Orthodox Church nor Protestantism accepts the concept of the limbo of infants.

Do you find it fair for babies who die unbaptized go to Hell?

#### 4.1.3.6. Original Sin is a controversial issue

Both Catholics and Protestants in the Western Traditions accept Original Sin, as based on the writings of Augustine of Hippo (354 - 430). Both groups believe that unbaptized infants go to hell.

In 2007, the International Theological Commission released a ground-breaking report, approved by Pope Benedict XVI, in which they stated that there is a possibility that unbaptized babies can go to heaven.

Some Protestant scholars believe that those who died as believers prior to the crucifixion of Jesus (PBUH) reside in a place named "Abraham's Bosom", which is not Heaven, but not Hell.

Most Eastern theologians rejected any suggestion that infants were born tainted with sin. Most Orthodox Christians deny that humanity inherited guilt from anyone. However, they believe that humanity bears the consequences of Original Sin and not the personal guilt associated with this sin.

The Eastern Orthodox Church lays much stress on the resurrected Christ's action of liberating Adam and Eve and other righteous figures of the Old Testament, such as Abraham and David, from Hades (Hell).

It may be concluded that Original Sin is an innovation which is not based on the Old Testament and was never mentioned by Jesus (PBUH). It contradicts with God's Passion, Kindness, Justice and Love and it is cruel enough to deprive unbaptized new-borns of God's Grace.

Therefore, even though Pope Paul II was supposed to be one of the defenders of Original Sin, he denounced it. (See figure 4)

# 4.2. Deviations in practices

Many worshipping rituals of Christianity were introduced by the Church long after Jesus (PBUH). These rituals are utterly unbiblical and were influenced by the pagans of the Roman Empire in Europe, Africa and Asia. In other words, the Church "Christianised" some rituals of the surrounding pagan religions to attract their members, as demonstrated in the following examples.

#### 4.2.1. Confession of Sins to a priest

The concept of confession of sins to a priest was not taught by Jesus (PBUH) in the Bible. God forgives all sins as we confess them directly to







Isis, Nat. Archaeological Museum, Athens, Greece



Isis, Capitoline Museum, Rome., 1<sup>st</sup> century AD

Figure 5: Isis' worship spread throughout the Greco-Roman world.

Him (1 John, 1:9). We do not need mediators between us and Him.

"Say, 'O My servants who have transgressed against themselves: do not despair of God's mercy, for God forgives all sins. He is indeed the Forgiver, the Clement'." (Qur'an, 39:53)

#### 4.2.2. Intercession of the saints

Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches hold the doctrine of the intercession of the saints.

Prayer to saints was borrowed from pagans to attract them to Christianity. The Church simply replaced Roman pagan gods with the Christian saints. The intercession of saints was never mentioned by Jesus (PBUH) and contradicts the following verse of the Bible:

"Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omen ... or who consults the dead. For whoever does these things is detestable to the Lord." (Deuteronomy 18:10-12)

Logically, who has the authority to appoint someone as a saint? In addition, in order for a saint to hear all prayers directed to him, he should possess the attributes of omniscience and omnipresence, both of which make him an associate to God.

God is near to all of us and does not need saints as intercessors. He hears our prayers and forgives our sins, no matter how much or how big they are.

"And when My servants ask you about Me, I am near; I answer the call of the caller when he calls on Me. So, let them answer Me, and have faith in Me, that they may be rightly guided." (Qur'an, 2:186)

#### 4.2.3. Prayers to Mary

Catholics and Orthodox Christians pray to Mary as the Queen of heaven and mother of God. This was originally practised at the time of the Romans for the goddess Isis of Egypt. The worship of Isis was combined with the worship of her husband, Osiris, and her son, Horus, who constituted an Ancient Egyptian trinity, one that preceded the Christian Trinity by thousands of years.

Isis' worship spread throughout the Greco-Roman world (Figure 5). For instance, there was an annual ancient Roman religious festival in honour of the goddess Isis at least until the year 416 AD. To attract Isis' worshippers to Christianity, the Church substituted her with Mary (PBUH). Therefore, the worship of Mary is not Biblical, has roots in ancient pagan Egyptian practices and was never taught by Jesus (PBUH).

### 4.2.4. Consumption of Christ's Body and Blood

In Eucharist (a.k.a. Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper, the Sacrament of Sacraments), Christians eat bread and drink wine (or grape juice) to symbolise Jesus' body and blood. This practice has roots in Mithraism which was a popular religion in the Roman Empire in the 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> centuries AD.

According to Mithraism, their god Mithras was "present" in the flesh and blood of the bull, and when his followers consumed them, they were granted salvation. Therefore, the bull was replaced with Jesus Christ (PBUH), who is considered by Christians as God in flesh and the bread and wine symbolise Jesus' (PBUH) body and blood (Figure 6)

#### 4.2.5. Festivals

To compromise with pagans so that they become Christians, the Church co-opted their festivals and gave them new Christian names.

#### 1. Christmas in Winter Solstice:

Jesus was born in Fall, not in Winter. On the winter solstice, pagans used to celebrate the Day of Saturnalia which is the birthday of their unconquered sun god, Sol Invictus. Winter solstice is also the birth date of the pagan gods Attis and Mithras.

#### 2. Easter on Spring Equinox:

Spring equinox is the time pagans had celebrations in honour of Ishtar the goddess of fertility.



Figure 6: Compare the depictions Jesus (above) with those of Mithras (below). Notice the amazing similarities in the last supper, the carriage of a lamb, and the riding a sun chariot. **Don't they reflect the influence of the pagan Mithraism on Christianity?** 

#### 3. St. John's Day on Summer Solstice:

Summer solstice is the time when pagans celebrated the fire festival, or what is called Litha.

#### 4. St. Michael and All Saints on Fall Equinox:

Fall equinox is the time of festivals of Dionysus, the festival of Pomona (the Roman goddess of fruits and growing things), and the festival of Avalon (the festival of the wine and apple harvest).

Do you believe that Christian festivals and pagan festivals coincide by chance, or this was deliberately planned by the Church?

# 5. Tracing Jesus' original teachings

It is true that there were thousands of genuine records of the Gospels and the Church destroyed most of them and selected only four Gospels—written tens of years after Jesus—to be canonical.

Nonetheless, there are verses in the four canonical Gospels which still reflect the real nature of Jesus (PBUH) and his original message. These verses

are coherent with the message preached by all the prophets of God who preceded Jesus and the message conveyed by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUT). In this section of the booklet, we will try to trace some of them.

## 5.1. God is one

Jesus, in several verses in the Gospels, emphasises that God is One God and not a triune God as claimed by the Church.

"The most important one,." answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'" (Mark, 12:29)

"Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." (John, 17:3)

"How can you believe since you accept glory from one another but do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?" (John, 5:44)

"O Prophet (Muhammad) say: 'I am but a man like you. It is revealed to me that your God is One God; therefore, take the Right Way towards Him and implore His forgiveness'. Woe to those who associate other gods with Him." (Qur'an, 41:6)

# 5.2. Fulfilment of the Law of God

Jesus (PBUH) was dedicated to the Law of God. He used to teach this Law in the temple and he commanded his followers to be committed to it. If Jesus had the least intention to destroy or abrogate the Law of God, as Apostle Paul claimed, why was he keen to keep and teach an obsolete Law every day?

"Each day, Jesus was teaching (the Law) at the temple." (Luke, 21:37).

Because Jesus (PBUH), like all the prophets of God, was dedicated to the Law of God he explicitly commanded his followers to stick to it and not even to think otherwise.

"Then We have put you (O Muhammad) on a plain pathway of commandment. So, follow you that, and follow not the desires of those who do not know." (Qur'an, 45:18)

"When the believers are called to God and His Messenger to be judged, they say, 'We hear and we obey.' And those are the successful." (Qur'an, 24:51)

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law (the Old Testament) or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them." (Matthew, 5:17)



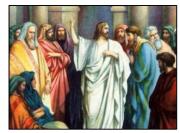


Figure 7: If Jesus (PBUH) was sent to abolish the Law of God or free Christians from it, what was the point of teaching it every day in the temple?

"'Why do you ask me about what is good?' Jesus replied. 'There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, keep the commandments'" (Matthew, 19:117)

The Qur'an affirms that Jesus Christ (PBUH) was sent to confirm the Law of God and so did the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

"And [I (Jesus) come] confirming what was before me of the Torah and to make lawful for you some of what was forbidden to you. And I have come to you with a sign from your Lord, so fear God and obey me." (Qur'an, 3:50)

"It is not for any believer, man or woman, when God and His Messenger have decided a matter, to have the liberty of choice in their decision. Whoever disobeys God and His Messenger has gone far astray." (Qur'an, 33:36)

# 5.3. Jesus was a prophet of God

All prophets were sent by God to guide their people to His Straight Path. Jesus (PBUH) made it clear that he was sent as a prophet to guide the lost sheep of the sons of Israel. Therefore, people at his time recognised him as a prophet of God.

"Truly, truly, I tell you: he who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life." (John, 5:24)

"Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is not without honour except in his hometown and in his own household." (Matthew, 13:57)

"And the crowds said, 'This is the Prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee.'" (Matthew, 21:11)

"Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." (John, 17:3)

"I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the One who sent him." (John, 13:16)

In the following verses, Jesus (PBUH) emphasised that the words he conveyed were God's words and not his. *Isn't that the job of a prophet?* 

"These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me." (John, 14:24)

"The Messiah, the son of Mary, was no more than a messenger; Many messengers had already passed away before him. His mother was a truthful woman." (Qur'an, 5:75)

"And We sent, following in their footsteps, Jesus, the son of Mary, confirming that which came before him in the Torah; and We gave him the Gospel, in which was guidance and light and confirming that which preceded it of the Torah as guidance and instruction for the righteous." (Qur'an, 5:46)

# 5.4. Jesus was a man accredited by God

Jesus was recognised by people to be a man accredited by God.

"Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know." (Acts, 2:22)

"By myself, I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgement is just, for I seek not to please myself but Him who sent me." (John 5:30)

"Is there of your claimed partners of God, one who guides to the truth? Say: 'It is God Who guides to the truth.' Is then He Who guides to the truth more worthy to be followed or he who finds no guidance unless he is guided?" (Qur'an, 10:35)

"They (Jesus and Mary) both used to eat food. Note how We make clear the revelations to them; then note how deluded they are." (Qur'an, 5:75)

"The likeness of Jesus in God's sight is that of Adam: He created him from dust, and then said to him, 'Be,' and he was." (Qur'an, 3:59)

# 5.5. Jesus was not divine

# 5.5.1. "The Father is greater than I"

"I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I." (John, 14:28)

"Why do you call me good? No one is good, except God alone." (Mark, 10:18)

"My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand." (John, 10:29)

"And indeed, God is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him. That is a straight path." (Our'an, 19:36)

#### 5.5.2. Jesus was a servant of God

"The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—the God of our fathers—has glorified His servant Jesus." (Acts, 3:13)

"I tell you the truth: no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the One who sent him." (John, 13:16)

"Here is my servant (Jesus) whom I have chosen." (Matthew, 12:18)

Would God choose Himself or His eternal Son as a servant, or more logically choose His prophets to be His servants?

### 5.5.3. Jesus lacked knowledge and authority

"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.con" (Mark 13:32)

"For I [Jesus] did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me to say all that I have spoken." (John, 12:49)

If Jesus (PBUH) were divine, why did he lack knowledge and authority?

# 5.5.4. Jesus' divinity is based on false speculations

Christian scholars have claimed that some verses in the Gospels imply the divinity and eternity of Jesus (PBUH).

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him, nothing came into being that has come into being." (John, 1:1-3)

"And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began." (John, 17:5)

"I and the Father are one." (John, 10:30)

The notion of **the first verses** (John, 1:1-3) was stated by John and not by Jesus (PBUH). John was not an apostle or even an eyewitness of Jesus (PBUH). He wrote his Gospel about 100 years after Jesus and there is a possibility that he was influenced by the notions of Paul's Epistles, which preceded his Gospel.

In addition, the original writings of John are not available, and therefore, one should not drop the possibility that the "false pen", mentioned in Jeremiah (8:8), might have manipulated these verses. This might be confirmed by the fact that John in other verses in his Gospel, explicitly stated that God is one God (Read John, 5:44 and 17:3 in section 5.1).

**The second verse** could mean that God glorified Jesus as He did with all His prophets (PBUT) when He planned to create mankind and the world.

**The third verse** (John, 10:30) might imply that Jesus (PBUH) is one in purpose with God because he preached God's Straight Path. That is why Jesus said, "As You, Father, are in me, and I in You; that they also may be one in us." (John 17:21). Definitely, "one" in this verse means 'one in purpose'.

"And they say: 'The Most Merciful (God) has taken (for Himself) a son.' Assuredly you utter a hideous thing, whereby the heavens are almost torn, and the earth split asunder and the mountains fallen in ruins; That they ascribe unto the Most Merciful a son, when it is not suitable for (the Majesty of) the Most Merciful that He should take a son." (Qur'an, 19:88-92)

# 5.6. Jesus' miracles were done by the Will of God

It was by the Will of God that Jesus did his miracles. Therefore, Mark tells us that Jesus was not able to heal a blind man in the first attempt (8:22-26). Would God or the son of God fail to heal a blind man in his first attempt?

"But if I drive out demons by the hand of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you." (Luke, 11:20)

"But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you." (Matthew, 12:28)

"Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know." (Acts, 2:22)

"And He will teach him writing and wisdom and the Torah and the Gospel and [make him] a messenger to the Children of Israel, [who will say], 'Indeed, I have come to you with a sign from your Lord in that I design for you from clay [that which is] like the form of a bird, then I breathe into it and it becomes a bird by permission of God. And I cure the blind and the leper, and I give life to the dead - by permission of God. And I inform you of what you eat and what you store in your houses. Indeed, in that is a sign for you, if you are believers" (Qur'an, 3:48-49)

Jesus (PBUH) admitted that he was capable of doing miracles only by the will of God and not because he was divine. Interestingly, it was obvious for those who witnessed his miracles that he was a man supported by God (Acts, 2:22), and not God Himself or the son of God.

# 5.7. Everybody is responsible for his own deeds

According to modern Christianity, Jesus suffered, died, was buried, descended into hell, and rose from the dead, all in order to grant eternal life and forgiveness of sins to those who believe in him.

Where in the Bible did Jesus say that he was God's son who was sent to suffer for the remission of sins? On the contrary, in the Bible as in the Qur'an, everybody is responsible for his own deeds.

"The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him." (Ezekiel, 18:20)

"Fathers shall not be put to death for their children, nor children put to death for their fathers; each is to die for his own sin." (Deuteronomy, 24:16)

"No soul gets except what it is due, and no soul bears the burdens of another." (Qur'an, 6:164)

"Whoever is guided is only guided for (the benefit of) his soul. And whoever errs only errs against it. And no bearer of burdens will bear the burden of another. And never would We punish until We sent a messenger." (Qur'an, 17:15)

# 5.8. Love of Jesus necessitates obedience to his teachings

Jesus (PBUH) emphasised and commanded his followers, who love him, to obey his teachings and not to be misled by a false messiah, who might come after him even though he may perform great miracles and may be called an apostle.

"Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me." (John, 14:24)

"At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Messiah!' Or, 'There he is!' Do not believe it. For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and

perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you ahead of time." (Matthew, 24:23-25)

"Take heed that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name ... Do not go after them." (Luke, 21:8)

"O you who believe! Obey God and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you. And if you dispute over anything, refer it to God and the Messenger, if you believe in God and the Last Day." (Qur'an, 4:59)

Is it fair after all these warnings of Jesus to follow a false messiah, like Paul, though he forsook the teachings of Jesus (PBUH)?

# 5. 9. "Son of God" is a metaphor

The term "son of God" is used in the Bible as a metaphor to refer to prophets and even anyone who is righteous. Therefore, we find several "sons" of God in the Bible.

In the following two verses, God considered David His "son." Did the Jews then consider David a literal, divine son of God?

"I will proclaim the LORD's decree: He said to me, 'You (David) are my son; today I have become your father'." (Psalms, 2:7)

"I will be his Father, and he shall be my Son." (1 Chronicles, 17:13)

Jesus (PBUH) clearly stated that God is his God and the God of his followers and God is his Father and the Father of his followers.

"I'm ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." (John, 20:17)

How could Jesus-as a son of God and God Incarnate-have a God and why were his true followers not considered divine though God is their father, too?

"And the Christians say: 'The Messiah (Christ) is the son of God.' That is what they say with their mouths, imitating the sayings of the former unbelievers." (Qur'an, 9:30)

# 6. Did Jesus practice Islam?

Jesus (PBUH) was born into a family of practising Jews who were consecrated to the service of God. Throughout his life, like all prophets of

God, he preached the worship of one God—as we explain in sections 4.2 and 5.1 in this booklet. Believing in One God is essential in Islam.

"God does not forgive associating partners with Him, but He forgives anything less than that to whomever He wills. Whoever associates anything with God has devised a monstrous sin." (Qur'an, 4:48)

In addition, Jesus (PBUH) was committed to the Law of God and he taught it to "multitudes" of the lost sheep of Israel and commanded them to apply it. He even taught the law of God in the temple when he was young and before his mission. In his last speech, Jesus (PBUH), commanded his disciples to be committed to the law of God.

#### "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." (John, 14:15)

By definition, Islam means believing in one God and adhering to His Law. Therefore, because Muslims practice Monotheism and strive to keep to the Law of God, they are the true followers of Jesus (PBUH).

# 6.1. Prayer

In his prayers, Jesus (PBUH) used to wash parts of his body (James, 4:8) and to physically bow or prostrate to God (Matthew 26:38), as Abraham, Moses and Aaron did (Genesis, 17:3; Numbers, 20:6). Like Jesus (PBUH), Muslims pray five times a day. Their prayer is preceded by ablution and they, too, bow down and prostrate to God.

# 6.2. Jesus did not eat pork

Eating pork is forbidden in the Old Testament. Jesus (PBUH) was committed to the Law of God, and therefore, he and his true followers, during his time, never consumed pork. Muslims also observe the Law of God and they are not permitted to eat pork.

"You must not eat their meat or touch their carcases; they (pigs) are unclean for you." (Leviticus, 11:8)

"Prohibited for you are carrion, blood, the flesh of swine, and animals dedicated to other than God." (Qur'an, 5:3)

However, Paul gave himself the authority to allow Christians to eat pork because he believed that they were no longer under the Law of God.

"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believes." (Romans, 10:4)

# 6.3. Jesus prohibited usury

"Do not take interest or any profit from them, but fear your God, so that they may continue to live among you." (Leviticus, 25:36)

"But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return." (Luke, 6:34-35)

Jesus (PBUH) respected the Law of God (Leviticus, 25:36) and regarded the charging of any interest for loans as sinful (Luke, 6:34-35). Muslims also respect the Law of God and do not take interest.

However, unfortunately, this is not observed even by the Vatican itself which invests in interest-bearing schemes and requires Church administrators to do likewise.<sup>7</sup>

# 6.4. Jesus and wine drinking

Alcoholic drinks are definitely harmful. They take our money and harm our lives, and our health. However, the issue of drinking wine in the Bible is controversial.

The Biblical book in Proverbs is filled with warnings against indulging in wine and strong drinks (Proverbs, 20:1; 21:17; 23:29-35; 31:4). Wine mocks those who use it (Proverbs 20:1) and rewards them with woe, sorrow, strife, and wounds without cause (Proverbs, 23:29, 30). Yet, the Bible does not say that drinking is a sin. On the contrary, in some other verses, the Bible talks about wine in positive terms (Ecclesiastes 9:7; Psalm 104:14-15; Amos 9:14).

Would God contradict Himself by sometimes encouraging and sometimes discouraging drinking? Or alternatively, the stories of drinking in the Bible

were fabricated for some reasons by false pens (Jeremiah, 8:8)?

The turning water into wine by Jesus (PBUH) in the wedding is most likely a fabrication because:

**First:** The story is only mentioned in John's Gospel.

**Second:** Jesus (PBUH) was definitely aware of the draw backs of drinking (Proverbs above) and hence would not encourage it.

**Third:** In John's story, Jesus (PBUH) talked rudely to his mother Mary. This does not befit a noble prophet like Jesus (PBUH).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Usury#Usury\_and\_the\_law , retrieved 6 August 2016



Figure 3: Usury is one of the crimes against humanity. Witzsche, A.F. (2003) Discovering infinity, volume 1B: Crimes against humanity, Cygni Communications Ltd, North Vancouver, BC, Canada

"O Woman, what has this to do with me?" (John 2:4)

"And (God) has made me (Jesus) blessed wherever I may be... and dutiful to my mother, and He did not make me a disobedient rebel." (Qur'an, 19:31-32)

**Fourth:** Even for the sake of argument, turning water into wine at the wedding does not mean that Jesus (PBUH) drank it.

"They ask you about intoxicants and gambling. Say, 'There is gross sin in them'." (Qur'an, 2:219)

# 6.5. Greetings

The greeting of Muslims is "peace be upon you". This greeting was used by all the prophets of God, like David (PBUH) (1 Samuel, 25:6).

The Jews use the word "Shalom" which means "peace" in the Hebrew language. Jesus (PBUH) kept this tradition of greeting (John, 20:19, 21, 26; Luke, 24:36).

"While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you'." (Luke, 24:36)

# 6.6. Prayers and meditation in solitary

Jesus (PBUH) used to slip out to a solitary place—like a mountain—to pray (Matthew 14:23). He sometimes even spent all night praying and meditating (Luke, 6:12).

Praying alone, far from other people, was also practised by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and by Muslims.

#### 6.7. Jesus never bowed down to a cross or a statue

All across the world, images and statues of Jesus, Mary and various saints are found in the houses and churches of Christians. In those churches, people very often bow down to these statues of Mary and Jesus (PBUT). This is a violation of the commandments of God. He has forbidden us to bow down to an idol, or any likeness.

"Do not make **idols** or set up an **image** or a sacred stone for yourselves, and do not place a carved stone in your land to bow down before it. I am the LORD your God." (Leviticus 26:1)

"You shall not make for yourself an idol or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them." (Exodus, 20:4-5)

"Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their hearts and have put right before their faces the stumbling block of their iniquity. Should I be consulted by them at all?" (Ezekiel, 14:3)

So how can it be that Christians go to churches having idols, and then pray to them? Jesus (PBUH) never bowed down to a cross or a statue as is commonly practised by Christians.

# 7. How was Christianity falsified?

This was first initiated by **Paul** who preached religious teachings utterly different to those of Christ (PBUH). This twisted Pauline Christianity suited **Constantine I**, the pagan Roman Emperor, who claimed his conversion to Christianity. The **Church** then compromised with Constantine and formulated the twisted Pauline Christianity that was enforced with the help of the powerful Emperor.

#### 7.1. The role of Paul

As he described himself in the New Testament, Paul was a Jew and a powerful persecutor of Christians (Acts 8:1-3; 9:1).

"And Saul approved of their killing him (Stephen)." (Acts, 8:1)

"I persecuted this Way (the first Christians) to the death, binding and putting both men and women into prisons." (Acts, 22: 4-5)









Figure 4: Did Jesus ever bow down to a statue?

"Do not become corrupt and make for yourselves an idol, an image of any shape, whether formed like a man or a woman." (Deuteronomy, 4:16)

"I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not give my glory to anyone else, nor share my praise with carved idols." (Isaiah, 42:8)

After Jesus's ascension, Paul claimed that he had been converted to Christianity after seeing Jesus Christ (PBUH) in a vision and he **appointed** himself an apostle of Jesus (1 Corinthians, 1:1).

In order to attract new Gentile converts, Paul used his knowledge of the Greek Stoic philosophy to paganize Christianity. Therefore, Pauline Christianity was agreeable to the pagan gentiles and he called himself "the Apostle of the Gentiles." On the contrary, Paul was rejected by the true followers of Jesus Christ (PBUH).

#### 7.1.1. Is the vision of Paul reliable?

There are three contradictory accounts of the story of the appearance of Jesus (PBUH) to Paul on the road to Damascus in Acts, 9:3-17; 22:6-21 and 26:12-18. Therefore, these contradictions raise doubts about the reliability of Paul's vision.

Because Paul was confronted with doubts, he was compelled to defend his apostleship. For example, read 1 Corinthians 9:1 and 2 Corinthians 10-12.

"Am I not an apostle? Did I not see Jesus, our Lord?" (1 Corinthians 9:1)

"But I do not think I am in the least inferior to those 'super-apostles'." (2 Corinthians, 11:5)

# 7.1.2. Query incidents in Paul's Apostleship

Though Paul (formerly Saul) was a contemporary of Jesus (PBUH) in time and place, he never met him. Furthermore, if Jesus-who is supposed to be

God incarnate and the son of God—was willing to appoint Paul an apostle, why didn't he appoint him in person instead of appointing him after his ascension in a questionable vision?

After his claimed conversion to Christianity and the claimed direct revelations from Jesus Christ (PBUH), instead of joining the apostles of Jesus (PBUH), he went to Arabia to stay for three years. Why did Paul avoid the Apostles? Why were there disputes between Jesus' apostles who held to Jesus' teachings and Paul? (See Galatians 1:6; Galatians 2:11-21; 2 Corinthians 11:4-5)

Paul's conversion reportedly happened in the year 32 AD. However, he started his first missionary journey in the year 47 AD. Why did it take him so long to start his missionary work and the writing of his Epistles?

Though Paul was supposed to be an apostle of Jesus (PBUH) he scarcely mentioned the teachings of Jesus' (PBUH) in his Epistles. How would the apostle of Jesus (PBUH) seldom mention his teachings and preach a doctrine contradictory to him?

#### 7.1.2. Paul preached a different religion

The doctrines of Paul are based on the following:

- 1) The divinity of Jesus (PBUH) as God and the incarnate son of God.
- 2) The concept of inherited Original Sin.
- 3) The atonement of sins through the suffering and death of Jesus (PBUH).
- 4) Salvation through faith in Jesus (PBUH) and not works of God's Law.

These doctrines are innovations; they are incompatible with the teachings of Jesus and all the other prophets of God (PBUT). Furthermore, as previously mentioned in section 4.1.1, Paul clearly mentioned that his innovated version of Christianity is better than Jesus' Christianity though the latter was revealed from God.

"Jesus answered them, "My teaching is not mine, but His Who sent me." (John 7:16)

Isn't it obvious that Paul is a false apostle who tried to abolish the teachings of Jesus (PBUH) and to destroy Christianity from within?

Jesus (PBUH) on his second return would not recognise the followers of Pauline Christianity:

"On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'" (Matthew 7:22-23)

#### 7.1.3. Jesus warned from Paul

Though Jesus (PBUH) warned his later followers about false messiahs like Paul, the Church has succeeded in misleading Christians to follow Paul's twisted version of Christianity.

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves." (Matthew 7:15)

"Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew, 5:19)

"Watch out that no one deceives you. **Many will come in my name**, claiming, 'I am he,' and will deceive many." (Mark, 13:5-6)

"For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive if possible even the elect." (Matthew, 24:24)

# 7.2. The role of Emperor Constantine I

The sun-worshipper and Roman Emperor, Constantine, also claimed to have seen a vision, and accordingly he decided to become a Christian in AD 312. After his conversion to Christianity, as normally practised in Rome, Constantine became the **Head of the Church, i.e. the "Pontifex Maximus**". This is now **the title of the Pope** of the Roman Catholic Church. Though Constantine is venerated as a great saint by Eastern Orthodoxy, Byzantine Catholics, and Anglicans, **his conversion to Christianity is questionable.** 

- **1.** Constantine was **baptised 25 years** after his claimed conversion to Christianity when he was **on his deathbed** in AD 337.
- **2.** He did not make Christianity the state religion and allowed pagan religious festivals and practices.
- **3.** He continued to mint coins imprinted with his unconquerable sun god (Sol Invictus). (Figure 10)

**4.** He substituted the Sabbath (Saturday) with Sunday (the day of his sungod) as the day of worship throughout the Roman Empire.

#### Why then did Emperor Constantine become a Christian?

Constantine was worried about his Roman Empire. He realised that his vast Empire was aging and needed a survival element desperately. He realised that the fast-growing religion of Christianity could unify His Empire and give it the needed momentum.

Christianity did strengthen his empire. However, after about a decade he discovered that the dispute about Jesus' divinity could again threaten the unity of his Empire. Therefore, Constantine – out of his political cleverness – called for the Council of Nicaea, in 325 AD, to resolve the theological controversy of Jesus' divinity.

At the Council of Nicaea, Emperor Constantine presided over 300 church bishops and Church leaders and demanded they define, by a majority vote, just exactly who Jesus Christ is.

To satisfy Constantine, who was inclined to Pauline Christianity, the Council of Nicaea overwhelmingly voted for the deity and eternity of Jesus Christ (PBUH) and affirmed the Trinity.

According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica: "Constantine himself presided, actively guiding the discussions, and personally proposed... the crucial formula expressing the relation of Christ to God in the creed issued by the council... Overawed by the emperor, the bishops, with two exceptions only, signed the creed, many of them much against their inclination." (1971 edition, Vol. 6, 'Constantine', p. 386)

Would one shape his faith according to a decision taken by voting in a Council called for and presided by an unbaptized pagan Emperor?

### 7.3. The role of the Church

After centuries of debates and disputes, the Church, with the help of Emperor Constantine, succeeded to substitute Jesus' Christianity with Pauline Christianity. The **Triune nature of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost** was crystallised at the **Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople, which were held in AD 325 and 381**, respectively.





Figure 10: After Constantine's conversion to Christianity, he continued to mint coins with his sun god (left). He called for the Nicaea Council (right) and used the Church to enforce the divinity of Jesus (PBUH).

Table 2: Approximate dates of conversion of Paul and the writing of his Epistles. Notice that the Epistles were written after two decades of his claimed conversion! Notice also that the Epistles preceded the writing of the four Gospels.

ncident		Date	Paul's Epistle	writing Date	
			1. 1 Thessalonians	A.D. 52	
The ascension of Je	The ascension of Jesus		2. 2 Thessalonians	A.D. 53	
The alleged Paul's conversion		A.D. 31-36 3 Galatians		A.D. 53-54	
The amegen i and		,	4. 1 Corinthians	A.D. 55-57	
The writing of his f	irst Epistle	A.D. 52	5. 2 Corinthians	A.D. 56-57	
			6. Romans	A.D. 57-58	
			7. Ephesians	A.D. 61-62	
Gospel	writing Date		8. Philippians	A.D. 61-62	
Mark	A.D. 6	8–73	9. Colossians	A.D. 61-62	
Matthew	A.D. 7	0-100	10. Philemon	A.D. 62	
Luke	ADS	30-100	11. 1 Timothy	A.D. 63-65	
			12. Titus	A.D. 64-67	
John	ADS	0-100	13. 2 Timothy	A.D. 66-67	

The Bible with its 27 books of the New Testament was compiled by the Church and authorised **at the end of the fourth century** at the Councils of Carthage (**AD 397**). The Church tried to destroy all the genuine records of the Gospel-written in the Aramaic language of Jesus (PBUH) – and **the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John-which were written in Greek (the language of Paul)** – were considered canonical. Those writers were not eyewitnesses of Jesus (PBUH) and wrote their Gospels between AD 65 and 110. This guaranteed that they were, at least to some extent, influenced by Paul's Epistles, which were written earlier between 37 and 76 AD (Table 2).

In addition, to ensure the compatibility of the New Testament with the adopted Pauline Christianity, at least 13 of the compiled 27 books of the New Testament were written by Paul (Table 2).

# 8. Do you truly love Jesus?

# 8.1. You cannot love Jesus and follow Paul

God sent Jesus (PBUH) to guide people to His Straight Path. Therefore, Jesus' teachings and not Paul's teachings are the Straight path to God.

You might, by now, have realised that **you have been living a lie** and you are actually holding Paul's false teachings and not Jesus' teachings.

"If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples." (John 8:31)

"And when God will say, 'Oh Jesus son of Mary, did you say to the people, "Take me and my mother as gods rather than God""? He will say, 'Glory be to You! It was not for me to say what I have no right to. Had I said it, you would have known it. You are the Knower of the hidden. I told them what You commanded me: that you shall worship God, my Lord and your Lord." (Qur'an, 5:116-117)

"O People of the Book (Christians and Jews)! Why do you confound the truth with falsehood, and knowingly conceal the truth?" (Qur'an, 3:71)

"Say, 'Oh People of the Book! Do not exaggerate in your religion beyond the truth, and do not follow the opinions of people who went astray before, and misled many, and themselves strayed far away from the right path'." (Our'an, 5:77)

# 8.2. The guide to God's Straight Path

Because the teachings of Jesus (PBUH) were twisted and mixed up with Paul's notions and because God loves us and He wants us to hold to His Straight Path, He sent the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) to guide us back to His Straight Path.

The prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is a descendant of Abraham through his son Ishmael (PBUT). In the Bible, there are promises made by God to **Abraham**, and prophecies foretold by both **Moses** and **Jesus** about the advent of Muhammad (PBUT).

# 8.3. Muhammad is the brethren prophet

Abraham had two wives, Sarah and Hagar. His first son was born to Hagar and was called Ishmael (Genesis, 16:15). After thirteen years, a brother to Ishmael was born to Sarah and was called Isaac. According to the Bible, both the children of Isaac and Ishmael (PBUT) are brethren.

"And Ismael will dwell in the presence of all his brethren." (Genesis, 16:12)

"And He [Ishmael] died in the presence of all his brethren." (Genesis, 25:18)

Muhammad (PBUH) is, therefore, a descendant from among the brethren of the Israelites. In Deuteronomy 18:18, God said to Moses:

"I will raise them up a **Prophet from among their brethren**, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him."

The prophet of the brethren of the Israelites who had the words of God (the Qur'an) in his mouth was the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). In Acts 13:22-23, Paul misinterpreted this prophecy as a reference to Jesus (PBUH). However, Jesus (PBUH) is from the Israelites and not the brethren of Ishmael.

Interestingly, to mislead Christians and keep them away from the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), some recent translations substituted the term brethren with 'among their fellow Israelites' and 'countrymen'.

"Oh Prophet (Muhammad), Verily, We have sent you as a witness, a bearer of glad tidings and a Warner; and a preacher to God by His leave and a lamp spreading light." (Qur'an, 33:45-46)

# 8.4. Jesus' prophecy about Muhammad

In his last speech, Jesus (PBUH), told his followers about **the advent of the Helper** and commanded them to follow him.

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper that he may abide with you for ever." (John, 14:16)

"It is to your advantage that I go away, for **if I do not go away, the Helper will not come** to you; but if I go, I will send him to you." (John, 16:7)

"When the Spirit of Truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears (from God) he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will

glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you." (John, 16:13-14)

The Helper in the above verses was translated from the Old Koine Greek "Paraclete."

Paraclete comes from the Koine Greek word παράκλητος (paráklētos), that can signify "one who consoles or comforts, one who encourages or uplifts; hence refreshes, and/or one who intercedes on our behalf. The Paraclete is usually considered to be the Holy Ghost which is the third head of the Trinity. However, the Helper is actually the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and not the Holy Ghost because:

The term "*Paraclete*": means also **praiseworthy**, which is one of the names of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

- 1. "Another Helper": means that the Helper was going to be like Jesus (PBUH); i.e. a human and not a spirit.
- "If I do not go away, the Helper will not come": The Holy Ghost was around at the time of Jesus (PBUH). For instance, he witnessed Jesus' baptism (John 1:29-33). Therefore, he already existed and did not need to come after Jesus (PBUH).
- 3. "That he may abide with you for ever": God's Straight Path in the form of the Qur'an and the tradition of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) have been preserved meticulously to abide with us.
- 4. "He will not speak on his own authority but whatever he hears (from God) he will speak": According to the concept of the Trinity, the Holy Ghost is the third person of God, and therefore, he should have the full authority of God instead of hearing and conveying what he has heard. On the other hand, the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) heard the verses of the Qur'an from Angel Gabriel.
- 5. "He will glorify me": As a prophet of Islam, Jesus (PBUH) is mentioned 25 times in the Qur'an and more than 1.6 billion Muslims adore, love, respect, and glorify him. Whenever Muslims hear his name they say, "Peace be upon him".
- 6. "He will take what is mine and declare it to you": After the distortion of Christianity and the teachings of Jesus (PBUH) by Paul and the Church, it was Muhammad (PBUH) who brought back the teachings of Islam preached by Jesus (PBUH)

"Those who follow the Messenger, the unlettered prophet (Muhammad), whom they find written in what they have of the Torah and the Gospel, who enjoins upon them what is right and forbids them what is wrong and makes lawful for them the good things and prohibits for them the evil and relieves them of their burden and the shackles which were upon them. So, they who have believed in him, honoured him, supported him and followed the light which was sent down with him - it is those who will be the successful." (Qur'an, 7:157)

# 8.5. If you love Jesus follow Muhammad – the Spirit of the Truth

If you truly believe in God and love Jesus (PBUH), set yourself free from the teachings of Paul and the Church and return to Jesus' teachings.

"If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John, 8:31-32)

If you love Jesus (PBUH), listen to his last command and believe in the Prophet Muhammad, *the Spirit of Truth*, who affirmed Jesus' teachings and brought back to you *the Straight Path of God*, which has been preserved exactly as it was revealed and guarantees your joy in this life and the life to come.

"But when He, the Spirit of Truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears (from God), He will speak and He will disclose to you what is to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you." (John, 16:13-14)

"Is he who was dead, then We gave him life and made for him a light by which he walks among the people, like he who is in total darkness, and cannot get out of it?" (Our'an, 6:122)

"Say, 'My Lord has guided me to a Straight Path, an upright religion, the creed of Abraham the Monotheist (believing in one God), who was not a polytheist (believing in more than one God)'. Say, 'My prayer and my worship, and my life and my death, are devoted to God, the Lord of the Worlds. No associate has Him. Thus, I am commanded, and I am the first of those who submit'. Say, 'Am I to seek a Lord other than God when He is the Lord of all things?' No soul gets except what it is due, and no soul bears the burdens of another. Then to your Lord is your return, then He will inform you regarding your disputes." (Qur'an, 6:161-164)