

# For Those Who Fear God

Ever since God created Adam and Eve He has addressed mankind through His chosen prophets. Through those prophets, from Moses through to Jesus, and later His apostles, He gave us the Bible, of which the Qur'an states : "We gave Moses the book – so [Muhammad] do not doubt this meeting with Him; and we made it a guide for the Children of Israel." (Surah 32:23)

With reference to the first 5 books of the Bible, the Pentateuch, and the New Testament, the Qur'an says: "We sent Jesus, son of Mary, in their footsteps, to confirm the Torah that had been sent down before him. We gave him the Gospel wherein is guidance and light, and confirmation of the Torah already revealed – *a guide and a lesson for those who fear God.*" (5:46)

With regard to the whole Bible, the Qur'an states : "We have sent down to you [Muhammed] the Book with the truth, *confirming the Book that came before it*, and assuring it." (5:48, first lines)

We read these scriptures in the Qur'an and we can have no doubt that the Qur'an teaches that the Old and New Testaments in the Bible are from God, and must be believed as a lesson for true believers. You can read through the Qur'an from beginning to end and find no derogatory comments about the Bible. Indeed it says;

"There is no changing the words of God, that is truly the supreme triumph." (10:64)

"No man can change the words of God." (6:34)

As the Qur'an tells us that the Bible is God's word, any man who says the Bible has been changed, must be contradicting the Qur'an. Although the Qur'an criticises the Jews for rejecting scripture and wanting Muslims to stray from the truth too, (4:44-46) it nowhere makes such a charge against Christians, and these verses should in no way be used to deny the divinity and authority of the Bible.

The Qur'an then, says it is one with the Bible, as the revelation of the Great Creator:

"In matters of faith, he has laid down for you [people] the same commandment He gave Noah, which We have revealed to you [Muhammad] and which we placed upon Abraham and Moses and Jesus. 'Uphold the faith and do not divide into factions within it.'" (42:13)

It asks an interesting question in 42:21, - "How can they believe in others who ordain for them things which God has not sanctioned in the practice of their faith?"

There is a danger then, of being unaware of the laws which God gave to Noah, Abraham, Moses and Jesus, part of the whole revelation of God, for there are some ignorant and deceived people who are led by Satan to despise and break those divine commandments, and so we see around the world today Muslims killing Muslims, Muslims hating Jews and Muslims terrorising and beheading Christians. The fate of such people is plain according to Surah 35:36 "But those who reject the truth will stay in hellfire, where they will neither be finished off by death, nor be relieved from hell's torment. This is how We reward hardened disbelievers."

If the deceived had been sincere in their worship of God, they would have read the Bible as well as the Qur'an for then they would have read Jesus Christ's words in Matthew 5:44 –"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, and pray for them that persecute you."

Not only that, but we are told (Surah 35:43) "You will never find any change in God's practice, you will never find any deviation there." This is echoed in the Bible's words of the prophet Malachi, "For I am the Lord, I change not;" and in the words of the New Testament: "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever."

So, for both Muslims and Christians the Bible is a sacred and holy book to be honoured and revered as God's word.

The Qur'an gives us little information about the last days but in the Bible God provides extra information for those who will read all His Words. Both Muslims and Christians commonly believe that Jesus Christ will return from heaven at 'Al Qiyamah' - the climax of the last days, to bring peace upon the earth. This will be a time of judgment when the true hearts of men will be examined and revealed. "And [Jesus] shall be a sign (for the coming of) the Hour (of judgment) : therefore have no doubt about the (Hour) but follow ye Me: this is a straight Way." (Qur'an 43:61)

The Bible adds : "Behold the Lord comes with ten thousands of his saints, *to execute judgment upon all*, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

Jude :14-15.

It is wise then, for all God-fearing men and women not to neglect to learn from the Bible as a guide and lesson, the teachings which the Qur'an confirms are the words of God. The Qur'an has this message for its followers, for when that judgment day eventually arrives;

"Satan will say, 'God gave you a true promise. I too made promises but they were false ones: I had no power over you except to call you, and you responded to my call, so do not blame me, blame yourselves. I cannot help you, nor can you help me. I reject the way you associated me with God before. For wrongdoers there must be a Grievous Penalty.'" Surah 14:22.