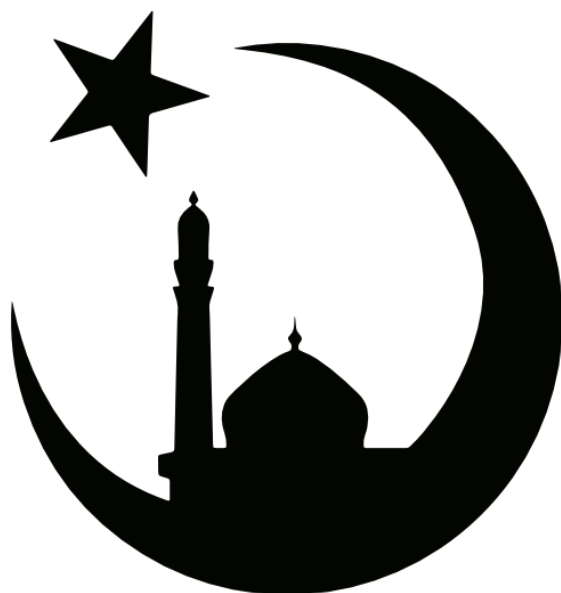


THE TRUTH ABOUT ISLAM



LESSON 4: JESUS AND THE GODHEAD

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MANNA PROJECT

IMPORTANT BIBLE DOCTRINES

We thank you for taking the time to complete the first and second course on *The Truth about Islam* and begin the class of this course. You have seen that the Bible is proven to be accurate as the Word of God and that the Quran is not inspired by God. Please remember that the authenticity of every religion can be established **only** on the basis of the source of its authority. The religion of Islam and Christianity will either stand or fall based upon its source of authority.

It is our goal to accurately and honestly give you the facts concerning Islam and Christianity. There are several questions that are important to note and ask as we begin with this lesson:

1. Why do Christians believe in the “Trinity”?
2. Who is Jesus?
3. Is Jesus really the Son of God?
4. Was Jesus the fulfillment of prophecy in the Old Testament?

We have included all verses that are referenced in this and following studies so that owning a Quran or Bible is not essential at this point. Each course class should take you less than one hour to read and study. At the end of each course is a set of questions. The answers to these are all found in the text of the course. We ask that you answer each question to the best of your ability. On the last page is an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have from the current study. Included with each course is a self-addressed envelope that you can send in your course questions and someone will grade it. They will then send you the next course with another self-addressed envelope. Included with each study will be the contact information for someone who can be of assistance with this study if you need their help.

It is our goal and prayer that this study is of benefit to you and your soul. We mean no ill-will to anyone or their religious beliefs but rather hope to help you as you strive to reach the ultimate

WHAT IS THE GODHEAD?

The Bible doctrine of the Godhead has troubled many in Islam who are considering converting to Christianity. The constant praying and teaching in the Muslim community that there is only one God reinforces this idea as well as the Quran which says concerning the God of the Bible being three persons (or maybe better understood as personalities):

Surah 4:171 People of the Book! Do not exceed the limits in your religion, and attribute to Allah nothing except the truth. The Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, was only a Messenger of Allah, and His command that He conveyed unto Mary, and a spirit from Him (which led to Mary's conception). So believe in Allah and in His Messengers, and do not say: (Allah is a) trinity. Give up this assertion; it would be better for you. Allah is indeed just one God. Far be it from His glory that He should have a son. To Him belongs all that is in the heavens and in the earth. Allah is sufficient for a guardian.

God's Word, the Bible, is the reason Christians believe in the "trinity" of the Godhead. An honest study of scripture will clearly show that there is One God, yet He exists between 3 distinct persons. Let us turn to the Biblical scriptures to see what they teach about the "trinity".

Ephesians 4:6 *One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

John 6:27, *"Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him."*

Acts 5:3-4 *"But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."*

2 Peter 1:1 *Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:*

We even see perfect Unity among the Godhead in the Bible:

Matthew 28:19 *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”*

Some may see this and imply that this is only a New Testament doctrine. However, a genuine study of the Old Testament would show us that the concept of the Trinity has always been there.

Genesis 1:1 *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”*

The word God is translated from the Hebrew word *Elohim* and it is in fact plural. If one were to translate that word literally, it would read “*Gods*”. However, we do not translate it that way, because the verb in that sentence is singular. *Elohim* is plural yet the verb treats it as singular. Wow! The very first verse in the Bible shows that God is singular in one sense, yet he is also plural. He is one God existing within three distinct entities. Plural in persons and singular in being.

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

Notice the plural terms of “*we*” and “*us*”. Then, in the very next verse, Genesis 1:27 states, “So God created man in *His own* image; *in the image of God* He created him; male and female He created them.” Notice that He directly returns to a singular concept of Himself. God clearly affirms Himself to be both one single entity as well as having three distinct personalities. From the very beginning of the Bible, God chose to reveal himself within the concept of the Holy Trinity.

JESUS AND THE QURAN

The Quran certainly teaches that Jesus existed but the Quran does not agree with the Bible or History on who Jesus actually was in truth. The Quran says Jesus was only a messenger.

Surah 4:171 *People of the Book! Do not exceed the limits in your religion, and attribute to Allah nothing except the truth. The Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, was only a Messenger of Allah, and His command that He conveyed unto Mary, and a spirit from Him (which led to Mary's conception).*

The Quran also teaches that Jesus **is not** the Son of God and anyone who believes so is to be ruined by Allah!

Surah 9:30 *The Jews say: "Ezra ('Uzayr) is Allah's son," and the Christians say: "The Messiah is the son of Allah." These are merely verbal assertions in imitation of the sayings of those unbelievers who preceded them. May Allah ruin them. How do they turn away from the Truth?*

Surah 19:35 *It does not befit Allah to take for Himself a son. Glory be to Him! When He decrees a thing He only says: "Be" and it is.*

It also teaches that Jesus was a created being just like you and I.

Surah 3:59 *Surely, in the sight of Allah, the similitude of the creation of Jesus is as the creation of Adam whom He created out of dust, and then said: 'Be', and he was.*

The Quran even records that Jesus spoke as a newborn baby to those at his birth!

Surah 19:29-31 *Thereupon Mary pointed to the child. They exclaimed: "How can we speak to one who is in the cradle, a mere child?" The child cried out: "Verily I am Allah's servant. He has granted me the Book and has made me a Prophet and has blessed me wherever I might be and has enjoined upon me Prayer and Zakah (purifying alms) as long as I live;*

The question we must ask ourselves is Are these statements truth?

WHAT IS TRUTH THE ABOUT JESUS?

John 1:1-4 *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 were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.*

John 1:14 *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

Jesus Christ is the greatest being that has ever walked upon the earth. He is the Word. He is the Creator. He is God. He graced the world by leaving the glories of Heaven to dwell among sinful men for the sole purpose of giving them the opportunity for salvation!

Philippians 2:5-11 *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Romans 5:6-8 *For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

JESUS WAS MORE THAT JUST A MESSENGER

Revelation 1:5 *and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood.*

In the Old Testament, the high priest was the mediator between the holy God and His sinful people. As mediator, the high priest entered the Holy Place and offered a sacrifice to God on behalf of the people once a year on the Day of Atonement (Lev. 16:34).

Leviticus 16:34 *This shall be an everlasting statute for you, to make atonement for the children of Israel, for all their sins, once a year.” And he did as the Lord commanded Moses.*

He sprinkled the blood of the sacrifice on the mercy seat “because of the uncleanness of the people of Israel and because of their transgressions, all their sins”. This he did year after year after year.

Leviticus 16:16 *So he shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions, for all their sins; and so he shall do for the tabernacle of meeting which remains among them in the midst of their uncleanness.*

Christ, as our Mediator and High Priest, not only offered the sacrifice (once and for all), but He is the sacrifice. Like the high priest of old, Christ entered the Holy Place, but unlike the high priest, He entered to offer Himself. He had to enter only one time, for He sprinkled His own blood on the mercy seat.

Hebrews 9:11-14 *But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal*

spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD!!!

While the Quran clearly teaches that Jesus is not the Son of God, the Bible teaches over and over again that Jesus is the Son of God without question!

Hebrews 1:1-3 *God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,*

Hebrews 1:8-9 *But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions."*

1 John 5:20 *And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.*

Matthew 4:3 *Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."*

JESUS IS NOT A CREATED BEING!

The Quran asserts that Jesus was created by God just like Adam from the dust of the ground. The Bible tells a different story. The Bible teaches us that Jesus was the creator of the earth. If he created the earth then how was he created from it!!! He was there with God during the creation and has always existed.

Colossians 1:15-16 *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.*

In a prophecy of Jesus in the Old Testament, Jesus is described as being from “everlasting.”

Micah 5:2 *“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Though you are little among the thousands of Judah,
Yet out of you shall come forth to Me
The One to be Ruler in Israel,
Whose goings forth are from of old,
From everlasting.”*

DID JESUS SPEAK AT HIS OWN BIRTH?

One of the occasions in which the Quran speaks of Jesus, it spends some time telling the story of how Jesus spoke at his own birth! Sadly, this is simply another occasion in which Mohammed simply repeated a story he had heard most likely from traveling traders throughout the middle east. Mohammed was illiterate so we know he didn't read it. This story of Jesus talking at his own birth was first circulated in the 2nd century A.D. in a small book called *the Gospel of Thomas or the Infancy Gospel* which was called a fake and a heresy in “Refutation of All Heresies” (222-235AD) by Hippolytus, Origen referred to it in a similar way in a homily (written around 233AD), Eusebius resoundingly rejected it as an absurd, impious and heretical “fiction” in the third book of his “Church History” (written prior to 326AD), Cyril advised his followers to avoid the text as heretical in his “Catechesis” (347-348AD), and Pope Gelasius included the Gospel of Thomas in his list of heretical books in the 5th century.

The Bible never mentions such an occurrence of Jesus speaking at his own birth. If Jesus had spoken at His birth surely the inspired writers of the New Testament would have recorded such an event. It simply is not true just like the other stories in the Quran of Jesus childhood like turning a clay bird into a flying bird!

WAS JESUS THE FULFILLMENT OF OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES?

The New Testament clearly begins with the fact that Jesus is the Messiah, notice:

Matthew 1:1 The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

It starts right off with giving us an understanding that Jesus is the Messiah. Notice also that He is called our Christ.

John 20:31 *But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name. Jesus is the son of God and the savior of the world.*

1 John 4:14 *And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.*

Jesus would himself Claim that He was in fact the fulfillment of all the Old Testaments Law and the Prophets. Jesus would even claim that Moses wrote about him specifically.

Matthew 5:17-18 *Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.*

John 5:46 *For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me.*

Since Jesus made the claim of being the fulfillment of The Old Law and Prophets, is there scriptural evidence to support this bold claim? The answer is an overwhelming Yes! Let us look to the pages of the Old Testament to see the evidence.

Genesis 3:15 *And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”*

Right after mans fall into sin we see that God has a plan for us. This plan involved a massive blow to the head of satan who was the serpent in the garden. This seed of the serpent would bruise the heel of this seed of woman. On the cross of Calvary Satan bruised the heel of Christ, by causing His death. This Bruising of the heel suggests something that is not complete or final. Jesus would strike the ultimate blow to the head of Satan by taking on all of our sins and shedding his atoning blood at the cross of Calvary, giving us all the ability to have our sins forgiven and be able to be righteous again before our God and Father in Heaven.

2 Corinthians 5:21 *For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*

One great and memorable Messianic prophecy in the Old Testament which prophecies of the messianic reign upon the throne of David comes from the book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 9:6-7 *For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.*

We wish we had the space to cover all of these Prophecies concerning Christ. However, we can look at just a few of these in the chart below:

PROPHECY	FULFILLMENT
Jesus born in Bethlehem - Micah 5:2	Confirmed - Matt 2:1
Born of a Virgin - Isaiah 7:14	Confirmed - Matt 1:23
Betrayed by a friend - Psalm 55:12ff	Confirmed - Matt 26:49-50
Sold for 30 pieces of Silver - Zech 11:13	Confirmed - Matt 26:14-15
He would be tortured - Isa. 53	Confirmed - Matt 27:26-29
From Seedline of David - 1 Chron 17:11	Confirmed - Matt 1:1; 9:27
From Tribe of Judah - Gen 49:10	Confirmed - Luke 3:33
Body would not see corruption - Psa 16	Confirmed - Acts 2:31
Resurrection Predicted - Psa 17:15	Confirmed - Luke 24:6

**PLEASE ANSWER ALL
QUESTIONS TO THE BEST OF
YOUR ABILITY**

- 1. According to the Quran, was Jesus a creator or a creation?**
- 2. How many persons are in the Godhead?**
- 3. List two verses of the Bible that prove that Jesus is the Son of God:**
- 4. Why did Jesus come to earth from heaven?**
- 5. How long has Jesus existed?**

6. What book did Mohammed get the story of Jesus speaking at his own birth?

7. Who would bruise the heel of Jesus?

8. What throne was Jesus prophesied to sit upon?

9. How did Jesus crush the head of Satan?

10. What verse shows the fulfillment of Jesus being born in Bethlehem?

After this study, do you believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, who came to earth to save us from our sins? Do you believe he was the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies as the Messiah? Do you understand that Islam is not from God? We hope you do and we encourage you to keep studying about what Jesus expects you to do now that you have faith in Him!

