

# LAMPLIGHTER

*"Prophecy is like a lamp shining in a dark place." - II Peter 1:19*

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**The truth  
about Islam**





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### Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 919  
McKinney, TX 75070

### Shipping Address:

2069 County Road 463  
Princeton, TX 75407

Telephone: 972/736-3567

Fax: 972/734-1054

Sales: 1-800/705-8316

Email: [lamlion@lamlion.com](mailto:lamlion@lamlion.com)

### Web site:

<http://www.lamlion.com>

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# Observations by the Editor

## The True God

My first memorable experience with ignorance about Islam came in 1981 when I visited a large Disciples of Christ church in Plano, Texas. The purpose of my visit was to get acquainted with the new pastor, a man touted nationally as one of the Disciples' foremost theologians.

Before he preached, he read a pastoral prayer. Midway through the prayer he said something that was so startling to me that I actually opened my eyes, looked up at him, and audibly said, "What?" That's when my wife poked me!

What did he say that was so unusual? His words were, "Father, I ask You to bless the soul of our dear, departed brother-in-Christ, Anwar Sadat." (Anwar Sadat was the Egyptian leader who had just been assassinated.)

The first thing that shocked me was the Catholic-like prayer for the welfare of a departed soul, as if our prayers would have any affect upon the destiny of the spirit of a dead person. But even more shocking was the reference to Sadat as a "brother-in-Christ." How could that be? After all, Sadat was a Muslim.

The next day I called for an appointment. When I raised the question about Sadat, the pastor answered, "Muslims believe in one God. Christians believe in one God. Therefore, we both must believe in the same God, and that makes us spiritual brothers and sisters."

I was appalled, both by his faulty logic and by his ignorance of Islam.

The fact that a person believes there is only one god does not mean that person believes in the one true God revealed in the Bible. The prophets of Baal in Old Testament times believed in one god, but Elijah proved in his confrontation with them that their god was a false one. I hope to demonstrate in the lead article in this month's issue that Allah, the god of Islam, is also a false god.

I hope also to prove that Islam is not the tolerant, peace-loving religion that Islamic propagandists are trying to sell the public in Western democracies.

What is particularly upsetting to me are the large number of Christian spokesmen who are staging public forums where they join a Jewish rabbi and an Islamic



**Dr. David Reagan**

cleric and try to convince their audiences that there are no substantial differences between the three religions. The irony is that a Reformed rabbi, a liberal Christian pastor, and a secularized Islamic cleric could agree on most anything because they believe in little of anything except tolerance.

The God of biblical Judaism is the God of Christianity, but He is not the God of modern day, rabbinical Judaism because Jesus was God in the flesh, and modern day Jews reject Him. And the Islamic god, Allah, is and always has been a pagan god. Like the Jews, Muslims reject Jesus as God in the flesh.

Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me" (John 14:6). He meant it. And Peter emphasized it when he said, "There is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Christian leaders who embrace the false gods of Judaism and Islam either do so in ignorance or because of apostasy. Regardless of the motivation, they make a mockery of Jesus, the very one who is supposed to be their Lord. ✚





*Illustration from Christianity Today, November 16, 1979.*

# The Truth About Islam

Observations by Dr. David R. Reagan

Ever since the Attack on America on September 11, 2001, we have heard a never-ending chorus of voices from government, academia, and the media assuring us that the Islamic terrorists who attacked the Trade Towers and the Pentagon are not representative of "true Islam." We have been likewise assured by spiritual leaders — even some Christian spokesmen — that Islam is a religion of peace, and that Muslims worship the same God as Christians and Jews.

"Our war is not against Islam," we have been told repeatedly. "Our war is against terrorism."

## Central Questions

Well, what about it?

- Are Muslims the spiritual brothers and sisters of Christians and Jews?
- Do we all worship the same God?
- Are the Islamic holy scriptures, known as the Koran, inspired by God?
- Is Islam another path to God by which one can attain eternal life?



- Are the Islamic fundamentalists representative of true Islam, or are they a terrible aberration of an otherwise peace-loving religion?
- Is our war really a political one against international terrorists, or is it a spiritual battle against a demonic, intolerant, militant, and imperialistic religion known as Islam?



## An Historical Perspective on Islam

Let's begin our consideration of these questions with some historical background.

Muhammad, the man who dictated the Koran and gave birth to Islam, was born in Mecca in the Saudi Arabian peninsula in 570 A.D. His father died before he was born, and his mother died when he was six years old. He was raised first by a grandfather and later by an uncle.

Muhammad was illiterate throughout his life. Until the age of 25 he worked in caravans. During his extensive travels, he encountered many Christians and Jews. Through his conversations with them, he picked up bits and pieces of both Judaism and Christianity.

His life was radically changed at age 25 when he met a wealthy widow 40 years old who fell in love with him. Their marriage enabled Muhammad to live a life of leisure from that point on.

### Muhammad's Call

Fifteen years after his marriage, at age 40, Muhammad had a visitation from a spirit. Supposedly, this spirit told him that he was called of God to be a "prophet" and an "apostle." It is interesting to note that there was no tradition in Arabian religions of either prophets or apostles. These terms were obviously used by Muhammad to appeal to Jews and Christians.

Muhammad continued to have spirit visitations. They would throw him into a trance, and his utterances during the trances were written down by scribes. These ethereal statements became the Koran, but they were not compiled until after Muhammad's death. When the compilation was made, the utterances were not organized either chronologically or by subject matter. The result was a jumble of disorganized and often incoherent sayings which are frequently contradictory.

For example, the Koran<sup>1</sup> gives four conflicting accounts of Muhammad's call to be a prophet [the word, Sura, means chapter]:

- 1) Suras 53 and 81 — God, or Allah as he is called in Arabic, personally appeared to Muhammad.
- 2) Suras 16 and 26 — The call was from the Holy Spirit.
- 3) Sura 15 — Angels issued the call.
- 4) Sura 2 — Gabriel was the one who appeared to him.

### Muhammad's Revelations

At the time Muhammad received his initial visitation, there were over 300 gods being worshiped in Mecca by pilgrims who came there each year to pray at the Ka'aba, a small cubic building that housed a black meteorite and effigies of the various gods. One of those gods was Allah, the moon god.

Muhammad decided to proclaim that there was only one god — and he selected Allah as that god. That's the reason the crescent moon became the symbol of Islam. Muhammad also proclaimed that he was the prophet of Allah.

Initially, Muhammad expected both Jews and Christians to receive his new revelation. Thus, early passages in the Koran speak admiringly of "the people of the Book." These are the passages that Muslims in the West love to quote in their effort to prove that Islam is a tolerant religion. An example is Sura 5:82 which says, "You will find that those who are nearest in love to the believers [Muslims] are those who say, 'We are Christians.'"

### Muhammad's Rejection

But when Jews and Christians rejected Muhammad, he turned fiercely against them, and later passages in the Koran speak of them disparagingly:

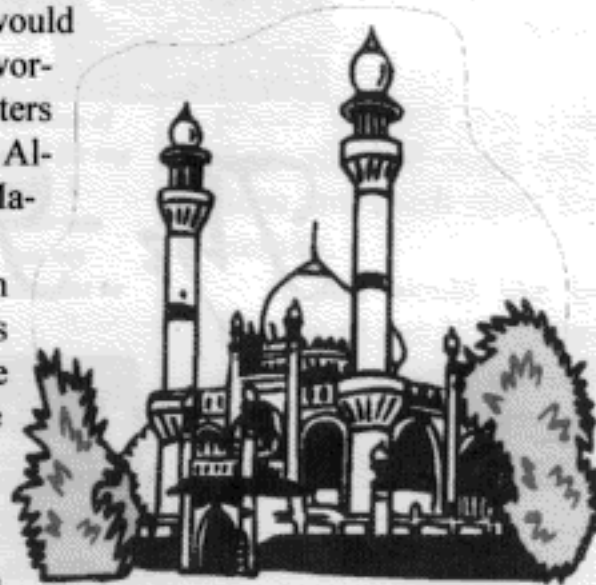
- Sura 5:51 commands Muslims not to take Jews and Christians as friends.
- Sura 9:29 commands Muslims to fight against Jews and Christians until they either submit to Allah or else agree to pay a special tax.
- Sura 2:65-66 and Sura 5:60 contain references to Jews as "apes and swine to be despised and rejected." (Think of that! You can be sure that such a statement did not come from the true God of this universe who selected the Jews to be His Chosen People.)

Jews and Christians were not the only ones who rejected Muhammad's new revelations. The people of his own tribe, the Quraysh, also rejected him. In response, Muhammad succumbed to the temptation to appease his tribe by announcing that it would

be okay for them to worship the three daughters of Allah — named Al-Lat, Al-Uzza, and Manat.

This declaration led to the infamous "Satanic verses" of the Koran which were later deleted when Muhammad reverted back to monotheism. Muslims have tried

ever since to cover-up this diversion from the faith. You may remember that in 1989 an Indian writer by the name of Salman Rushdie brought up this taboo topic when he wrote a novel entitled, *The Satanic Verses*. The Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran condemned him and called for his assassination. A three million dollar bounty was placed on his head, and he has been in hiding ever since.





## Muhammad's Trek

The opposition to Muhammad in his home town of Mecca continued to grow until he was forced to flee 250 miles to Medina where his message was received. The Islamic calendar dates from this year when Muhammad fled to Medina and found a receptive audience, resulting in the formal establishment of Islam as a religion. It was the year 622 A.D., and that date represents year one of the Muslim calendar, which is a lunar calendar. The year 2001 is the year 1422 in the Muslim dating system.

After the death of his wife, Muhammad married at least 11 other women (some sources place the total as high as 16). He also took several concubines. He married one girl who was only six years old and had sexual relations with her when she was 9.<sup>2</sup> According to the Koran, only the prophet could have unlimited wives. All other Muslim men are limited to four (Sura 4:3).

Muhammad died on June 8, 632 A.D. in Medina at age 63. He left no successor, and Islam soon broke into warring sects such as the Shiites and the Sunnis.

## The Spread of Islam

All of those who survived Muhammad took up the sword, as directed by the Koran, and devoted themselves to advancing Islam through military might. The resulting spread of the religion was phenomenal. Within a century, Islamic forces had conquered Saudi Arabia, the entire Middle East, Central Asia, and large parts of India. The armies raged through Egypt and across North Africa, destroying corrupt Byzantine Christianity in their path.

In 710 A.D.<sup>3</sup> the Islamic armies crossed the Straits of Gibraltar and quickly conquered three-fourths of Spain and Portugal. They then invaded France and took one-third of the nation. They were 125 miles from Paris when they were miraculously defeated at the Battle of Poitiers (also known as the Battle of Tours) in 732 A.D. by a French army led by Charles Martel. Their influence in Spain lived on for a few more centuries before they were slowly driven back to North Africa.

A second powerful attempt to subjugate all of Europe was made 900 years later in the 17th Century when the Turks began to expand their Ottoman Empire. They took Greece, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, and parts of Romania and Hungary. By 1683 they had reached the gates of Vienna where once again the Western forces won a miraculous victory against overwhelming odds.

Following this second attempt to conquer Europe, Islam fell into a state of depression and stagnation until it was awakened in the 20th Century due to several factors:

- 1) The Amassing of Great Wealth — due to the discovery of vast reservoirs of oil in Arab lands.
- 2) The Re-establishment of the Nation of Israel — interpreted by Islamic clerics like Khomeini as a judgment of Allah due to Islamic stagnation and apostasy.
- 3) The Positioning of U.S. Armed Forces — the placement during the 1990's of American troops throughout the Middle East in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.
- 4) The Encroachment of Western Culture into the Muslim World — due to the penetration of Western movies, television programs, and consumer goods.

## *The Hadith*

The Hadith is a record of Muhammad's words and deeds according to his wives, relatives, and companions. Next to the Koran, it is the most important part of Islamic law. Its teachings are considered as binding as those contained in the Koran.

The most recognized compilation of these sayings is the one by Sahih Al Bukhari. Some examples of the bizarre sayings of Muhammad which are contained in Bukhari's nine volumes are reproduced below:

- ▶ Women are deficient in mind (2:541 and 3:826).
- ▶ The majority of people in Hell are women (1:28, 301; 2:161; 7:124).
- ▶ Women are a bad omen (7:30).
- ▶ Drinking camel urine will make you healthy (7:590).
- ▶ A fly in your drink can cure you of disease (4:537).
- ▶ Fever comes from the heat of Hell (7:619).
- ▶ "Though I am an apostle of Allah, yet I do not know what Allah will do to me" (2:375).
- ▶ If you speak badly about a deceased person, that person will go to Hell (2:448).

## *The Cultural Nature of Islam*

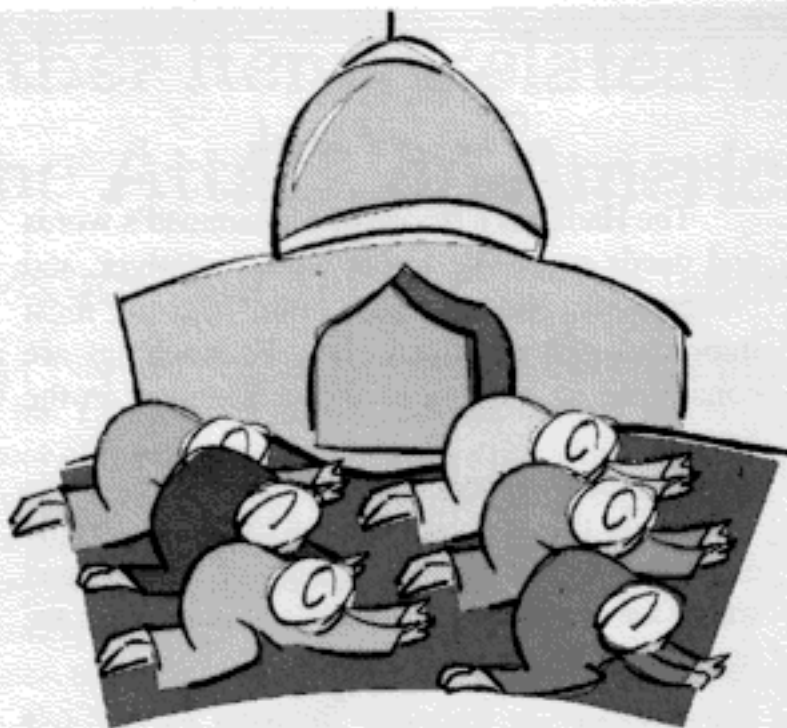
The encroachment of Western culture cannot be stressed too much. It seems trivial to most Westerners, but that is because of the failure to understand that Islam is a cultural religion that deifies 7th Century Arabian culture.<sup>4</sup>

Westerners tend to view religion as something intensely personal and private, and not as a cultural phenomenon. For example, Christianity is "supra-cultural" in that it allows people to live, dress and eat in accordance with the culture in which they exist. This is not so with Islam. In Islam there is no "secular realm" that is free of religion. Islam regulates every aspect of life to the point that religion, politics, and culture are inseparable. Islam is thus fueled by a subtle form of racism in which 7th Century Arab culture is to be imposed upon all other cultures.

Here are some examples of the cultural nature of Islam:

**Political Structure** — The tribalism of 7th Century Arabia is the political structure sanctioned by the Koran. The chief has absolute authority. There is no concept of civil rights. This principle is reflected today in the reality that all Islamic countries are ruled by dictators, and civil liberties, like freedom of speech and religion, do not exist.



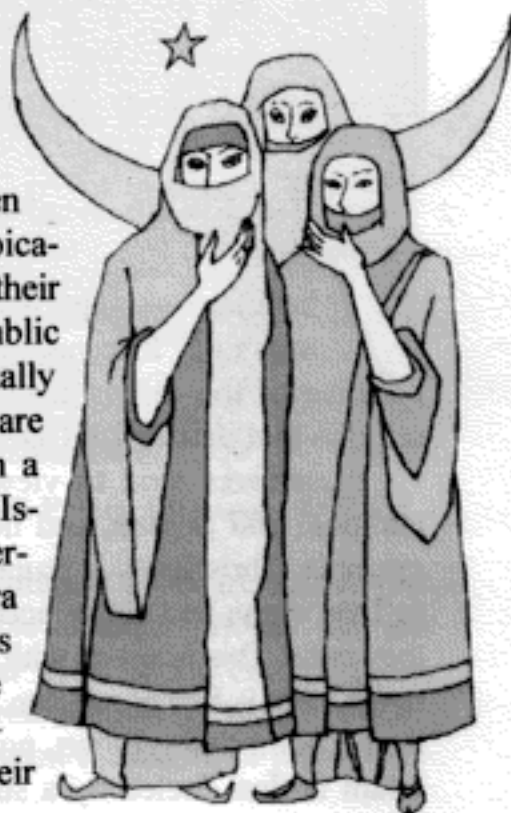


**Prayer** — A Muslim is required to pray five times a day toward Mecca. This is a symbol of the underlying cultural imperialism that lies at the heart of Islam. Think of it — what if all Russian Orthodox throughout the world were required to pray toward Moscow? Or, if all Roman Catholics were required to face Rome when they prayed? What if Evangelical Christians were required to pray toward Jerusalem? Such requirements would imply a cultural attachment to the focal point of prayer.

**Pilgrimage** — A Muslim is required, despite the hardship and cost, to make a pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia once in his lifetime. Again, what if all Christians were required to go to Rome once in their lifetimes?

**Dietary Laws** — The only foods allowable are those that were acceptable in 7th Century Arabia.

**Women** — What an illiterate, nomadic tribeswoman wore in the desert in 7th Century Arabia is what is mandated for Muslim women today. The plight of women in Islamic countries today is despicable. They can be kept prisoners in their homes. They cannot appear in public without a covering. They are usually denied the right to vote. They are often denied anything more than a rudimentary education. In strict Islamic countries, women are generally treated as sub-human.<sup>5</sup> Sura 4:34 says, "Men are the managers of the affairs of women . . . Those women who are rebellious — admonish them, banish them to their couches, and beat them."



**Punishment** — Cruel and unusual punishment is practiced throughout the Islamic world. Incarceration without due process is common. Punishments often include torture, the cutting off of body parts (hands, ears and tongues), the gouging out of eyes, beheading, and public flogging — all representative of 7th Century Arabian culture. The Koran specifically commands that those who disobey Allah are to be tortured (Sura 8:12-14).

*Time* magazine recently presented a chilling summary of the cultural nature of Islam as it is evidenced in the "moderate" Islamic nation of Saudi Arabia:<sup>6</sup>

Despite the modernization that took place after the discovery of oil reserves in 1938, Saudi Arabia remains a land where rigid religious and traditional values are strictly enforced. Cinemas and discos are outlawed; men and women are separated in banks, schools, and fast-food restaurants; women must wear veils and are forbidden to drive. Public decency police known as *muttawa* comb shopping malls searching for women whose loose scarves reveal a curl of hair and forcing store owners to shut during prayer times. Unforgiving Saudi justice is on view after the main prayer every Friday, when a swordsman beheads blindfolded murderers, sorcerers, drug smugglers, and other criminals in Riyadh's "Chop-chop Square."



## The Spiritual Nature of Islam

Islam is a typical works salvation religion centered around a false god. Its fundamental tenets deny the heart of the Christian Gospel, revealing its demonic origin.

**The Koran** — As I have already pointed out, the holy book of Islam is riddled with contradictions. Consider, for example, what it says about creation. In one place it asserts that Allah created everything in "the twinkling of an eye" (Sura 54:49-50). Elsewhere it says that the time period of the creation was two days (Sura 41:9, 12); four days (Sura 41:10); six days (Suras 7:54, 10:4, and 32:4); in "a day equaling 1,000 years" (Sura 32:5); and also in "50,000 years" (Sura 70:4). That's a total of six different time periods!

The Koran contains many scientific errors. A crude example is found in Sura 18:8-86 where it says that Alexander the Great followed the setting of the sun and discovered that it went down into the waters of a muddy spring!

Many Arabian fairy tales about genies are contained in the Koran, and the book is also full of historical errors. It presents Mary the mother of Jesus as the sister of Moses and Aaron (obviously confusing her with their sister, Miriam). The Noahic flood is placed in the time of Moses, and the claim is made that one of Noah's sons refused to enter the Ark and was drowned.

The Koran also pictures Abraham as offering Ishmael as a sacrifice in Mecca, whereas the biblical account has Abraham offering Isaac on Mt. Moriah in the area that would later become



the heart of Jerusalem.

**God** — The Koran asserts that the god of Islam is the God of Christians and Jews (Sura 29:46). Nothing could be farther from the truth.<sup>7</sup>

The god of Islam, Allah, is most definitely not the God of the Bible. Allah is presented in the Koran as an autocratic ruler who is aloof and arbitrary (Sura 5:40). Allah is unknowable whereas the God of the Bible is knowable (2 Timothy 1:12). Allah is impersonal, unlike the personal God the Scriptures reveal (1 Peter 5:6-7). Allah is unitarian (Sura 4:48) whereas the God of the Bible is trinitarian (2 Corinthians 13:14). Here is what the Koran says about the God of the Bible (Sura 4:171):

Believe in Allah and say not "Trinity." Cease!  
It is better for you! Allah is only One God. Far is  
it removed from his transcendent majesty that he  
should have a son.

Allah is capricious (Sura 2:284), whereas the true God is trustworthy. And Allah is never anywhere presented as a god of love — which is the essence of the nature of the true God (1 John 4:7-16).

**Jesus** — The Koran denies point blank that Jesus was the Son of God (Sura 112:2-3). It also denies His atoning sacrifice by claiming that he never died (Sura 4:157). A substitute died for Him on the Cross. Jesus was translated to Heaven, like Enoch, where He will remain until He returns to kill all pigs, destroy all crosses, and convert the world to Islam. Jesus will marry, reign for 40 years and then die and be buried next to Muhammad in Medina.<sup>8</sup> Jesus is characterized in the Koran as nothing more than "an apostle of Allah" (Sura 4:171).

**Sin** — There is no concept of sin in Islam and therefore no need for forgiveness. Shame replaces sin. Everything is a matter of honor verses dishonor.<sup>9</sup> In the Muslim view, man does not need redemption, he only needs some guidance so that he might develop the inherently pure nature with which the Creator has endowed him. If he will be faithful in his prayers, almsgiving and fasting, God is likely to overlook his failures and usher him into Paradise.<sup>10</sup>

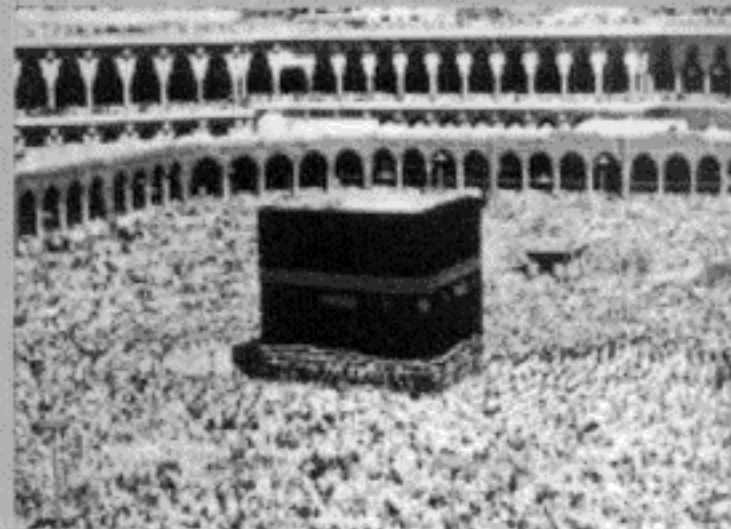
**Ethics** — The situation determines the appropriate action, not a standard of right and wrong. As an example, Al Ghazzali (1058 - 1111), one of the greatest Muslim theologians, wrote: "Know that a lie is not wrong in itself. If a lie is the only way of obtaining a good result, it is permissible. We must lie when truth leads to unpleasant results."<sup>11</sup> The Koran sanctions revenge: "If anyone transgresses . . . against you, transgress likewise against him" (Sura 2:194).

**Salvation** — Islam is a religion of works. One obtains favor with Allah by performing the five pillars of the faith:

- ◆ Reciting the creed that there is one god, Allah, and his prophet is Muhammad.
- ◆ Praying five times a day toward Mecca.
- ◆ Giving alms to the poor.
- ◆ Fasting from sunrise to sunset one month a year during the month of Ramadan.

## The Ka'aba

The Ka'aba, known also as the House of Allah, is a small cubical building located in Mecca that serves as the holiest shrine in Islam. The building is made of stone and measures 60 feet long by 60 feet wide by 60 feet high.



According to Islamic lore, the building was first constructed by Adam when he fell from Paradise to earth and landed at Mecca. It is supposed to be a prototype of a house in the seventh heaven situated immediately above the Ka'aba.

The building fell into a state of disrepair and was supposedly reconstructed by Abraham who declared that it should become a center of worship for all good and pious people.

When Abraham died, people filled the house with idols. Thousands of years later, Muhammad cleansed the house of the idols and dedicated it to Allah.

The four corners of the building roughly correspond to the four points of the compass. At the east corner is a small black stone (about 12 inches in diameter). It is most likely a meteorite. Its significance in Islamic theology is difficult to determine. One explanation is that since it is the cornerstone of the building, it represents the descendants of Abraham through Ishmael who became the cornerstone of the Kingdom of God. The building is covered with a large drape.

During the yearly time of pilgrimage, millions of pilgrims come to Mecca to walk around the Ka'aba. The circumambulation, as it is called, begins by kissing the black stone. The pilgrim then walks around the Ka'aba seven times in an anti-clockwise direction. It is believed that this puts the circumambulator (the circling pilgrim) into synchronized motion with the earth, atoms, the moon, the stars, and the galaxies.

Muslims deny that they worship the Ka'aba. They argue, instead, that it is simply a direction of worship.



◆ Making a pilgrimage to Mecca.

Another way to reach Paradise is to die fighting for Allah (Sura 3:157).

Islam is so works oriented that it teaches that good deeds cancel bad ones (Sura 11:114). In contrast to all this emphasis on works, the true Word of God teaches that it is impossible to earn salvation because it is a gift of God's grace that is received through faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior (Ephesians 2:8-10).

**Heaven** — The Islamic Paradise is a place of sensual pleasure consisting of gluttonous feasts and endless sex orgies (Suras 52:17-24; 55:54-56; and 78:32-34).

## *The Intolerant and Militant Nature of Islam*

One of the most controversial issues regarding Islam concerns whether or not it is a militant religion. Muslims in the West argue it is peace-loving. Westerners who have experienced it in the Muslim world argue it is inherently intolerant and militant.

The Koran itself preaches intolerance toward other religions. Sura 5 contains the following command: "Take not Jews and Christians for friends . . . He among you who takes them for friends is one of them . . . Choose not for friends such of those who received the Scripture before you [Jews and Christians] . . . But keep your duty to Allah" (verses 51, 55, 57). Extreme intolerance is commanded in Sura 5:33 —

[For those who do not submit to Allah] their punishment is . . . execution or crucifixion, or the cutting off of hands and feet, from the opposite sides, or exile from the land.

The Koran also expresses an intolerant attitude toward any person who decides to reject the Islamic faith or convert to another religion. Such persons are to be executed (Sura 9:12). In the Hadith (the oral tradition of Muhammad's sayings) it says "Whoever changes his religion, kill him" (Hadith 9:57). These commands are practiced in all Islamic Fundamentalist countries today.

With regard to militancy, the Koran not only condones it, it commands it:

Fighting is prescribed for you, and [some of] you dislike it. But it is possible that you dislike a thing which is good for you, and that you love a thing which is bad for you. But Allah knows, and you know not (Sura 2:16).

Fight and slay the pagans wherever you find them, beleaguer them, and lie in wait for them in every stratagem of war (Sura 9:5).

Fight in the way of Allah . . . and slay them [the unbelievers] wherever you find them and drive them out . . . and fight them until . . . religion is for Allah (Sura 2:190-193).

Muhammad is quoted in the Hadith as saying, "The sword is the key of heaven and hell. A drop of blood in the cause of Allah — a night spent in arms [war] — is of more avail than two



The April 16, 1979 issue of *Time* magazine warned of the militant revival of Fundamentalist Islam.

months of fasting and prayer. Whosoever falls in battle, his sins are forgiven, and at the day of judgment, his limbs shall be supplied by the wings of angels and cherubim."<sup>12</sup>

### **Muslim Propaganda**

Muslims living in Western democracies try to defend their religion by quoting Sura 2:256 which says, "There is no compulsion in religion."

In evaluating this very lonely verse in the Koran, you need to keep in mind first that it was written before Muhammad was rejected by Jews, Christians and his fellow Arabs — before he fled to Medina and started responding in hatred to all his detractors. But even more important is the fact that Islamic teachers themselves argue that this verse was later abrogated, either by the words or actions of Muhammad.<sup>13</sup>

- 1) Some argue that the verse was abrogated by Muhammad's later orders for his troops to fight until unbelievers were compelled to surrender to Islam.
- 2) Others argue it was abrogated by Sura 9:73 which says, "O Prophet, struggle with the unbelievers and hypocrites, and be harsh with them."
- 3) A third group argues that the words of the verse do not mean what they seem to say. They argue the words mean that religion cannot be used to force someone to do something evil, but compelling people to accept the truth of Allah is a religious duty.





An Islamic Fundamentalist and his son demonstrate in Pakistan against the U.S. bombardment of Afghanistan.

- 4) A fourth group of Islamic clerics accepts the words to mean what they say, but they argue that they were part of Allah's strategy to advance Islam. While Muslims were weak, Allah spoke through Muhammad and told them to tolerate infidels. But when the Muslims became strong, Allah commanded them to cease being tolerant and attack and subdue the infidels.

The bottom line is that regardless of the explanation, the result is the same — the verse has been abrogated, and infidels must embrace Islam or face death.

Muslims sometimes counter by pointing to the intolerance and violence that have characterized both Jews and Christians at certain times in their histories. They point to the slaughter of the Canaanites when the Jews took the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua. And, of course, they point to the Christian Crusades in the Middle Ages. Using these examples, they accuse Jews and Christians of being hypocritical in attacking the intolerance and violence of Islam today.

With regard to the Jews, this argument ignores the fact that God used them as an instrument of His judgment against the tribes living in Canaan — just as He later used the Assyrians and Chaldeans to judge the Jews (Genesis 15:16; Leviticus 18:24-25; Deuteronomy 9:5). He never told the Jews to conquer the world for Him, and He provided them with precise instructions as to how they were to treat aliens who might wish to live among them. They were to be treated with dignity and were to be pro-

vided with justice (Leviticus 19:17, 33 and Deuteronomy 27:19). Even more, the Jews were commanded to love their neighbors as they loved themselves (Leviticus 19:18).

Regarding the Christian Crusades, they were an aberration in Christian history based upon perverted Catholic doctrine and not upon any biblical injunction. In contrast, the intolerance and violence that have characterized Islam throughout its history are firmly rooted in the Koran.

What a contrast all the ghastly commands of Muhammad are to the loving words of Jesus who told Christians:

"Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5:44).

"Whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also" (Matthew 5:39).

"Do not judge, lest you be judged" (Matthew 7:1).

"However you want people to treat you, so treat them" (Matthew 7:12).

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39).

"This is my commandment that you love one another" (John 15:12, 17).

"Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13).

And what a contrast it is between the admonition of Muhammad to conquer for Allah with the sword and Jesus' exhortation to go forth in peace and appeal to people's hearts through the preaching of the Gospel, relying on the persuasive power of God's Holy Spirit.

## *The Imperialistic Nature of Islam*

From its inception, Islam has been committed to what it calls jihad — a word meaning holy war. The duty of Muslims is to subjugate or destroy "infidels" — the term the Koran uses for all non-believers.

In the Muslim viewpoint, the world is divided into two regions — those areas controlled by Islam, called Dar al-Islam (meaning the House of Islam) and those called Dar al-Harb (the House of War). The Koran commands Muslims to fight non-Muslims until they exterminate all other religions, leaving Islam as the one and only religion in the world (Suras 2:193 and 8:39). Muhammad is quoted in the Hadith as saying, "I have been ordered to fight with the people until they say, none has the right to be worshiped but Allah" (Hadith 4:196).

Regarding terror, Allah orders Muslims to terrorize non-Muslims on his behalf: "Strike terror (into the hearts of) the enemies of Allah and your enemies" (Sura 8:60). Allah then assures his followers that he will assist them: "I will instill terror



Osama bin Laden



into the hearts of unbelievers. Smite them above their necks and smite all their finger-tips off them. It is not you who slay them, it is Allah" (Sura 8:12, 17).

Concerning jihad,<sup>14</sup> the Koran guarantees Paradise to those who fight for Allah (Sura 4:74). It promises instant Paradise for those who die in battle (Suras 9:111 and 47:5-6). Dying for Allah is presented as better than living:

And if you are killed or die in the Way of Allah, forgiveness and mercy from Allah are far better than all that others may amass [of worldly wealth]" (Sura 3:157).

Martyrs are promised a sensual and luxurious life in Paradise (Sura 52:17-22). According to Al-Ghazzali, one of Islam's greatest teachers, when a martyr reaches Paradise, he "will marry 500 companions, 4,000 virgins, and 8,000 divorced women."<sup>15</sup> Commenting on this statement, Randall Price, biblical teacher and Middle East expert, observed that the Islamic Paradise is "just the kind of place that adolescent, unmarried men, isolated through their lives from the opposite sex by rigid cultural standards, would die for."<sup>16</sup>

### Islamic Sermons

The murderous imperialistic nature of Islam is clearly revealed in the sermons delivered weekly throughout the Muslim world. Consider the following excerpt from a sermon by Sheikh Ibrahim Madhi that was broadcast live over Palestinian television on June 8, 2001. Referring to a suicide bombing in Tel Aviv that had killed 21 Israeli teenagers the week before, he praised the terrorists:<sup>17</sup>

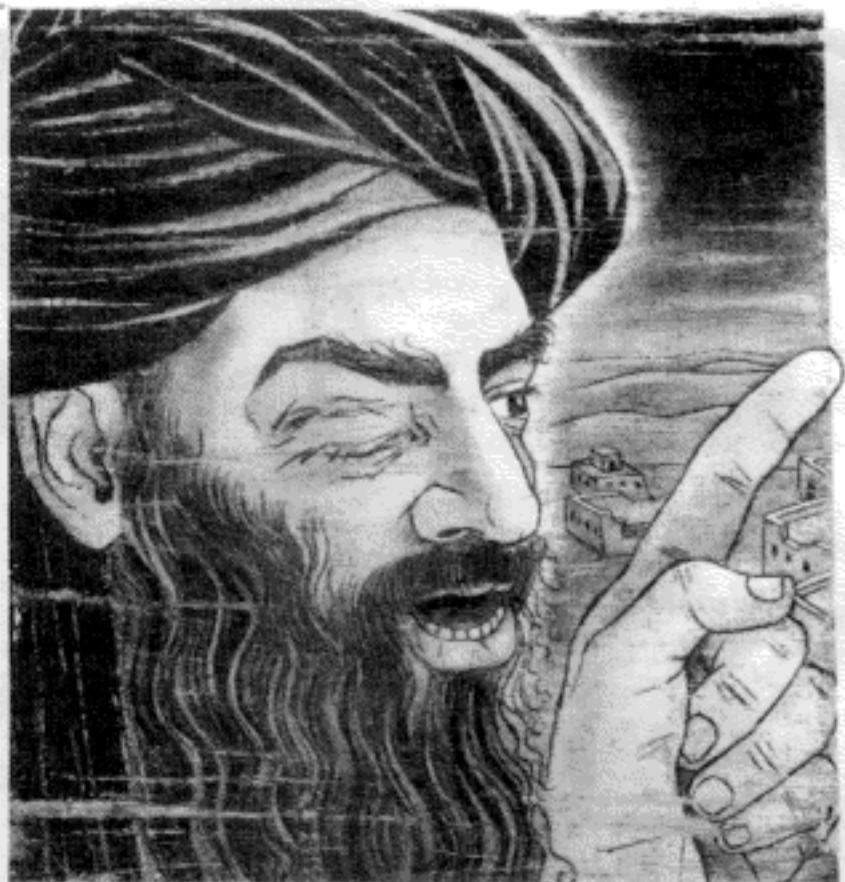


Blessings to whoever waged jihad for the sake of Allah. Blessings to whoever raided for the sake of Allah. Blessings to whoever put a belt of explosives on his body, or on his son's body, and plunged into the midst of the Jews, crying, "Allahu Akbar!" Praise to Allah!

Then he expressed the imperialistic aims of Islam by issuing warnings to nations that would be "erased:"

Allah is almighty . . . We must prepare the ground for the army of Allah that is coming according to [divine] predestination. We must prepare a foothold for them. Allah is willing for this unjust state of Israel to be erased. The unjust state, the United States, will be erased. The unjust state, Britain, will be erased.

A similar sermon was delivered the previous year on October 13, 2000, by Dr. Ahmad Abu Halabiya.<sup>18</sup> It too was carried live on Palestinian television. He proclaimed that the true terrorists are the Jews "who must be butchered and killed, as Allah the Almighty has said." He called for Muslims to have no mercy on the Jews: "Fight them wherever you are. Wherever you meet them, kill them, . . . and kill those Americans who are like them — who stand by them." As an incentive to carry out these murderous exhortations, the cleric added: "O brothers in belief,



Pictured above is the elusive Taliban leader, Mullah Muhammad Omar. He is blind in one eye from a wound in the war against the Russians. Only one known photograph of him exists, and it is not a good one. He objects to being photographed for religious reasons. This drawing appeared in the *Time* magazine issue of October 15, 2001.

the beautiful bride has a costly price and dowry . . . Our bride is Paradise. O brothers in belief . . . the cost of the dowry of this bride . . . is that we fight in the path of Allah, and kill and be killed."

Keep in mind that these are quotes from *sermons*! Can you imagine a Jewish rabbi or a Christian minister urging their congregations to go out and kill a Muslim for God?

### Fundamentalist Goals

The Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran was the modern day Islamic spokesman who revived Muhammad's vision of world conquest. He taught that the re-establishment of Israel was a Satanic miracle allowed by Allah because of the lukewarmness of the Muslim masses. He called for a renewal of true Islam to accomplish three purposes:<sup>19</sup>

- 1) To overthrow the "secular" rulers of Islamic countries (like Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, and Egypt), just as he had done in Iran.
- 2) To take back the land of Palestine for Allah, exterminating Israel in the process.
- 3) To conquer the rest of the world for Allah.

Notice the first priority was the transformation of secular Islamic countries into religious states ruled by the Koran. Then would come Israel and the world.

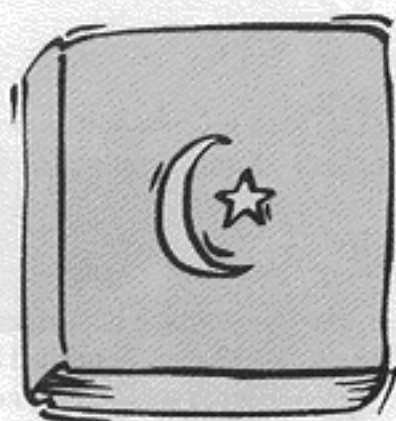
In a proclamation made by Osama bin Laden in 1998, he listed the same goals and prioritized them in the same order.<sup>20</sup> He then identified the United States as the prime obstacle to the achievement of these goals. Accordingly, he called on Muslims everywhere "to comply with Allah's order to kill the Americans and plunder their money wherever and whenever they find it."

It is important to note that the eradication of Israel is not the



top priority. Nor is Israel viewed as the major obstacle to world conquest. I emphasize this because many Americans are saying that the key to winning the war against terrorism is to dump Israel. More and more, on radio talk shows, I hear people saying, "Let's cut Israel loose. Let the Arabs have it. Then they will leave us alone."

That is utter nonsense. Israel is not the cause of Islamic terrorism toward the West. If Israel were to disappear tomorrow, Fundamentalist Islam would still be determined to destroy America as part of its plan to take the world for Allah. And if we were to abandon Israel, the Muslim world would interpret it as an act of cowardice, proving our word is meaningless and that we truly are, as they say, "a depraved society devoid of values." Our abandonment of Israel would only whet their appetite. Islamic Fundamentalism cannot be appeased. It must be defeated.



## Answering Questions

I want to conclude by answering the questions we began with:

**Are Muslims the spiritual brothers and sisters of Christians and Jews?** No, they have been deceived by a Satanic, false religion.

**Do we all worship the same God?** Absolutely not. The god of Islam is a false god. He is really Satan in disguise.

**Are the Islamic holy scriptures, known as the Koran, inspired by God?** Not the God of the Bible. The Islamic scriptures are a jumbled mess of contradictory statements that are unscientific, unhistorical, and unbiblical.

**Is Islam another path to God by which one can obtain eternal life?** No! Muslims reject Jesus as Messiah and deny His atoning sacrifice. Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me" (John 14:6).

**Are the Islamic Fundamentalists representative of true Islam, or have they hijacked a peace-loving religion?** There is no doubt they represent the true heart of Islam. Islam is a cultural, intolerant, militant and imperialistic religion of the sword.

**Is our war really a political one against terrorism, or is it a spiritual one against a demonic religion known as Islam?** Based upon the evidence I have presented from the Koran and from history, I think the answer is obvious. We are not engaged in a war against terrorism. Terrorism is a means, not the source of the struggle. Terrorism is a tool of those waging the war. To say this is a war against terrorism is equivalent to saying World



By David Seavey, USA TODAY

This very graphic and prophetic editorial cartoon appeared in *USA Today* immediately after the bombing of the World Trade Towers in 1993.

War II was a war against U-Boats, V2 Rockets and Kamikaze planes. No, World War II was a war against Fascism. The current war is one against Islamic Fundamentalism.

But even more substantive, it is a *spiritual war* against the forces of Satan.

## Obstacles to the Gospel

Jesus is about to return. The Bible says He will not return until the Gospel is preached to all the world (Matthew 24:14). There have been two major obstacles to the preaching of the Gospel — Communism and Islam, both religions of Satan. Communism collapsed and the former Communist countries are now open to the Gospel. The final barrier to be overcome is Islam.

For ten years now Evangelical Christians have been praying for the "10/40 Window" — that area of the world between the 10th and 40th latitudes where hundreds of millions are enslaved to the spiritual darkness of Islam.<sup>21</sup> The prayers have been effective. Countless numbers have been exposed to the Gospel in various surreptitious ways, and many have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior, knowing that to do so may well mean death.

Satan is enraged over these incursions into his territory. He is equally upset over the re-establishment of Israel. He can read the signs of the times, and he knows his time is short before Jesus breaks from the heavens in glory. But Satan is self-deceived, and he continues to believe he can thwart the purposes of God. He has therefore aroused and empowered Islam to make one last attempt to conquer the world.



Islam is destined to lose this battle, for the Word of God says that he who lives by the sword will die by the sword (Matthew 26:52).

I believe Islam will ultimately experience another defeat so overwhelming and so humiliating that the eyes of millions of Muslims will be opened to the fact that Allah is a false god. At that point their hearts will be opened to the true God — a God of lovingkindness who came to this earth and died for the sins of Mankind.

Isaiah was given a vision of this day in Isaiah 19 where it was revealed to him that one day during the Millennial reign of Jesus, Egypt, Assyria, and Israel will all be united in worshipping the one and only true God, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

### A Call to Prayer

Let us pray for our leaders, that they will be able to discern the spiritual nature of the war we are engaged in.

Let us pray for the leaders of Israel, that they will turn to God for their protection and stop seeking it through America and through trying to appease an enemy whose goal is to annihilate them.

Let us pray for the Islamic world, that Muslims everywhere will have their hearts opened to the Gospel.

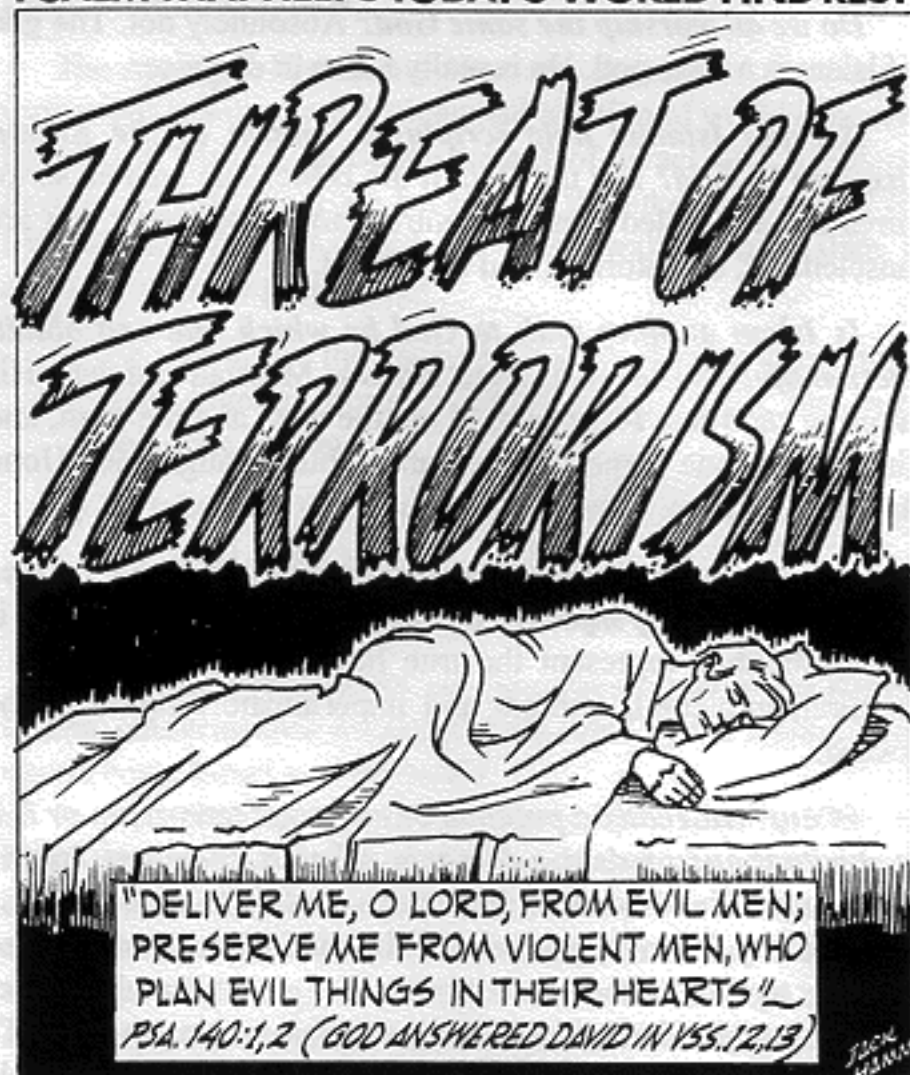
And let us daily cry out from the depths of our hearts, **"Maranatha!"** Come quickly, Lord Jesus! ✠

### Notes:

- 1) *The Koran* is available in many printed editions. A handy one that is fully indexed and which can be searched by words and phrases can be found on the Internet at <http://www.hti.umich.edu/k/koran>.
- 2) *The Hadith According to Al Bukahri*, 7:64. This version of the Hadith is considered to be the most definitive collection of Islamic oral traditions. It consists of nine volumes. It can be found on the Internet at <http://www.usc.edu/dept/MSA/reference/search/hadith.htm>.
- 3) An excellent chronology of Islamic history can be found on the Internet at <http://cawc.evansville.edu/chronology/ispag.htm>.
- 4) There is an outstanding discussion of the cultural nature of Islam in the book by Robert Morey entitled, *The Islamic Invasion* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1992). See in particular pages 19-32.
- 5) Abdullah Al Araby, "Incredible Teachings of Muhammed," on the Internet at <http://www.islamreview.com>. This is the website of a ministry called The Pen vs. The Sword. It contains many excellent articles about the true nature of Islam.
- 6) Scott Macleod, "Inside Saudi Arabia," *Time*, October 15, 2001, p. 62.
- 7) A good discussion of the differences between the god of Islam and the true God of the Bible can be found in the book, *Islam, Israel, and the Last Days*, by Elishua Davidson (Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1991). See pages 47-62, 103-122.
- 8) Lance Lambert, "The Messianic Expectations of Islam," Jerusalem, 1994. Produced on cassette tape by The Christians Friends of Israel Ministry in Jerusalem. Available through Lamb & Lion Ministries.
- 9) Clarence Wagner, Jr., "Islam and the Land," an undated, unpublished manuscript.

- 10) "Insights into Islam," an unsigned article on The Muslim - Christian Debate Website at <http://www.debate.org.uk/topics/apolog/insights.htm>.
- 11) "The Dark Side of Islam," an unsigned article on The Muslim - Christian Debate Website at <http://www.debate.org.uk/topics/coolcalm/Dark-Side-of-Islam.htm>.
- 12) Ibid.
- 13) M. Rafiqul-Haqq and P. Newton, "Tolerance in Islam," an article on the Internet at <http://www.debate.domini.org/newton/tolerance.htm>.
- 14) Ney Rieber, "The Truth about Jihad," an article on the Internet at <http://www.bible.ca/islam-jihad.htm>.
- 15) Randall Price, "Islam and the Middle East Conflict," an undated and unpublished article, page 10.
- 16) Ibid.
- 17) Ibid., page 8.
- 18) "The Palestinians in Their Own Words: Palestinian Quote Sheet #50, 16 October, 2000," a document on the Internet at [www.iris.org.il](http://www.iris.org.il).
- 19) Lambert.
- 20) Sheikh Usamah bin-Muhammad bin-Laden, "Text of Fatwah Urging Jihad Against Americans," published by *Al-Quds al-Arabi* on February 23, 1998. Posted on the Internet at <http://www.ict.org.il/articles/fatwah.htm>.
- 21) For more information about the 10/40 Window prayer effort, see <http://www.1040window.org>.

### PSALM THAT HELPS TODAY'S WORLD FIND REST





# Insightful Observations about the Attack on America

## Are Americans really the good guys?

**Bill Koenig of Koenig's International News —**

From his Internet report dated October 2, 2001.

"A lot of our patriotic pride hides our true condition, which is our sin nature . . . Yes, there are many wonderful people in our land, but in evaluating our true national condition, the word 'good' is not the first one that comes to my mind. The truth is that we are a fallen nation, with wicked and deceitful hearts, in great need of an intimate relationship with our only hope, Jesus Christ.

"We are as evil as others, but in different ways. America might be more civilized, but her civilization is offset by the nation's record on abortion, materialism, pornography, homosexuality, teenage pregnancies, violence, debt, divorce, etc. We aren't so special. We might have personal freedoms and the rights of free speech, but those don't make us 'good.'"



**Bill Koenig**

## Why is it ironic that we should now be resorting to prayer?

**Linda Bowles, nationally syndicated columnist —**

From her column dated October 9, 2001.



**Linda Bowles**

"What a monstrous irony that in this time of dire peril, as God hears prayers rising in a mighty chorus from across the nation, our children sit captive in government school classrooms where prayer is forbidden, God is ostracized, and religion is held in open contempt.

"This cannot be viewed as a neutral position toward religion. Children understand that when something is banned, it must be wrong or dangerous. The spurious 'separation of church and state' has evolved into a mandated separation of children and God.

"It is more than irony. It is a heinous, schizophrenic assault on common sense. While a majority of Supreme Court justices apparently have no problem with flag-burning, anti-religious 'art,' illegal immigration, condom distribution in government schools, sodomy, public obscenity, pornography, or the exposure of children to sexual smut on prime-time television and the Internet, they are constitutionally offended by a school child's silent prayer, a Bible on the desk of a teacher, or the sound of children singing a Christmas carol in the classroom."

## What is God trying to tell America?

**Henry Blackaby, author of *Experiencing God* —**

From an interview conducted on September 18, 2001 by John Beckett, chairman of Intercessors for America.

"In this time, I believe first of all that God is trying to speak to His people. Others will get a message, but they will not be able to understand it if they don't know the Lord. But God's people ought to know what God is trying to say. I think He is giving a warning. And I think He's giving a clear word about His relationship to the nation.

"In Isaiah 5 we read of when God's people turned away and God said, 'I've been protecting you. And that was part of a covenant that I made with you — I would protect you. But if you do not follow in My ways, I will remove that protection.' In the first verses of Isaiah 5, God describes His people as a vineyard, and He warns them that if they are not obedient to Him, 'I'll take the hedge away, I'll take the wall down, and you won't have any protection, and then the enemy will come.'

"Therefore, a sensitive Christian, one who knows the scripture, knows that there's no way that the enemy could do such a disastrous thing [the Attack on America] without it being within the permissive will of God . . . I think God has now definitely said, 'I am progressively allowing some remedial judgment so that you [the United States] will listen and you will turn from your wicked ways.'"



**Henry Blackaby**



## Why didn't God stop the attack?

**Anne Graham Lotz, Billy Graham's daughter and Christian evangelist —**

In response to a question on national television (September 2001) from Bryant Gumbel: "Why didn't God stop this thing or do something about this?"

"For years we have told God we didn't want Him in our schools. We didn't want Him in our government, and we didn't want Him in our finances — and God was being a perfect gentleman in doing just what we asked Him to do. We need to make up our mind — Do we want God or do we not want Him? We cannot just ask Him in when disaster strikes."



**Anne Graham Lotz**

## Was the attack God's wake-up call or His last call?



**Al Gist of Maranatha Evangelistic Ministries in De Ridder, Louisiana —**

From an email message to Dave Reagan dated September 27, 2001.

"I have been hearing much from the news media about the Attack on America being a 'wake-up call.' However, their reference is to America being awakened to the threat of terrorism and the need for increased security measures.

"The real wake-up call is from the God who created this great country. I am convinced that this is not just a 'wake-up call' but a 'last call.'"

"For the past four decades, America has been on a steady path of increasing apostasy. Secular Humanism has become the mind-set of the majority of our society. Now that tragedy has struck, suddenly I'm hearing God's name referenced much more. Like a spare tire, it appears that we only turn to God in times of emergency . . ."

**Al Gist**

## What is motivating the Islamic terrorists?

**Benjamin Netanyahu, former Prime Minister of Israel and expert on terrorism —**

From a statement presented to a committee of the U.S. House of Representatives on September 20, 2001.

"The soldiers of militant Islam do not hate the West because of Israel. They hate Israel because of the West — because they see it is an island of Western democratic values in a Muslim-Arab sea of despotism. That is why they call Israel 'the Little Satan,' to distinguish it clearly from the country that has always been and will always be 'the Great Satan,' — namely, the United States of America.

"Nothing better illustrates this than Osama bin Laden's call for jihad [holy war] against the United States in 1998. He gave as his primary reason not Israel, not the Palestinians, not the Middle East 'peace process,' but rather the very presence of the United States 'occupying the land of Islam in the holiest of places.' And where is that? 'The Arabian peninsula,' says bin Laden, where America is 'plundering its riches, dictating to its rulers, and humiliating its people.' Israel, by the way, comes a distant third, after 'the continuing aggression against the Iraqi people.

"For the bin Ladens of the world, Israel is merely a sideshow. America is the target."



**Netanyahu**



**Dave Wilkerson**

## Why are Americans hypocritical in their response to the tragedy?

**Dave Wilkerson, pastor of Times Square Church in New York City —**

From a sermon entitled, "The Towers Have Fallen And We Missed the Message." The sermon was delivered to Times Square Church in New York City on September 16, 2001.

"We risk missing God's message to us. Think about it: when public assemblies call for a moment of silence, we think it's true repentance. When we see politicians singing 'God Bless America,' we think our nation has turned back to God. When we see sporting events observe a silent minute at halftime, we think it's a spiritual experience.

"But is this all that's going to come out of our recent disaster? Will people in sports stadiums stand



in silence for a minute, then go back to painting their bodies in wild colors, chug beer after beer, and scream maniacally for their favorite team?

"Like most Americans, I wept as I saw Senators and Congressional leaders standing on the steps of the Capitol, singing, 'God bless America . . . Stand beside us, and guide us . . . ' Yet, as I was crying, the Lord reminded me, 'Many of the leaders you see singing have worked to rule Me out of American society. They are even determined to remove My name from American history books. And they've allowed the murder of millions of babies through abortion.'

"Suddenly, I was struck by the absolute hypocrisy of it all. We give lip service to God, but we continue to slide into the mire of immorality."

## Why does America have a double standard toward Israel?

**Gary Fisher of Lion of Judah Ministry in Franklin, Tennessee —**

From a letter to supporters dated September 17, 2001.

"Maybe we could find time to think about Israel, our strongest and only democratic ally in the Middle East. Israel has been suffering terrorist attacks of her own, especially of late. As they have, we Americans have demanded that Israel sit down and negotiate with those who commit acts of terror against them. Do we now practice what we have been preaching? As we have demanded of Israel, are we ready to accommodate those who have committed acts of terror against us? . . .

"No, we are ready to go and get the perpetrators and 'those who would harbor them' regardless of where they might be. Yet, we expect Israel not to retaliate against terrorists, even within their own borders. I think it very significant that we take into consideration that Israel is the 'apple of God's eye' (Zechariah 2:8) and treat them accordingly. Now that we have suffered from terrorism, we should have more of a sensitivity to what Israel has been going through, and we Americans should stop insisting that Israel negotiate with terrorists and give up land to appease them."



**Gary Fisher**

## Do we understand the implications of asking for God's blessing?



**Don Feder**

**Don Feder, nationally syndicated columnist —**

From an editorial of October 10, 2001 entitled, "Blessings aren't a one-way street."

"Since September 11 we've been invoking God more than a Baptist preacher in a Sunday sermon. And Irving Berlin's love song to his adopted land ('God Bless America') has climbed to the top of the charts.

"But do we understand the implications of asking for God's blessings? . . . Or do we say, 'God bless America,' like some incantation?

"Does it have no deeper significance than, 'Have a nice day'? Or does it recognize an obligation on our part to walk in His ways? God bless America. But what does God get in return? . . .

"We implore God to bless America — to bestow His blessings on us collectively. And yet, when planes aren't crashing into buildings, as a nation we tend to ignore Him, or to treat His laws as the archaic prescriptions of a monarch long dead.

"Approximately 6,000 died in the World Trade Center, and the nation mourned. Roughly 4,000 die in abortion clinics each day — medical terrorism conducted in the name of choice. Except for much-abused right-to-lifers, no one cares . . .

"Ah, but we're a secular nation, liberals say. Church and state must be separate. Taking God seriously is a threat to our liberties. Well and good. But don't go running to God in times of trouble, when the horror of chemical or biological warfare looms . . .

"God blesses the nation that acknowledges Him."

## Are we really fighting a war against terrorism?

**Linda Chavez, nationally syndicated columnist.**

From a column dated October 10, 2001.

"We are not fighting a war on terrorism. Terrorism is the *means* by which our enemy chooses to wage war against us, but we should not confuse its tactics with the nature of the enemy itself. The enemy has an ideology. It has a command structure. It has troops. And it is clear in its aim — nothing short of the destruction of our civilization.

"The enemy is militant Islamic fundamentalism. The command structure is made up of hundreds of mullahs around the

world, including some living in this country, who preach death to the infidels . . .

"Despite what our leaders keep telling us, Islam is not inherently a peaceful religion. Unlike Christianity, in whose name wars have been fought but without any Scriptural basis to support those wars to be found in the teachings of Jesus Christ, Islam can find explicit justification for its jihad or 'holy war' within its sacred text."



# Other Items Related to the Attack on America

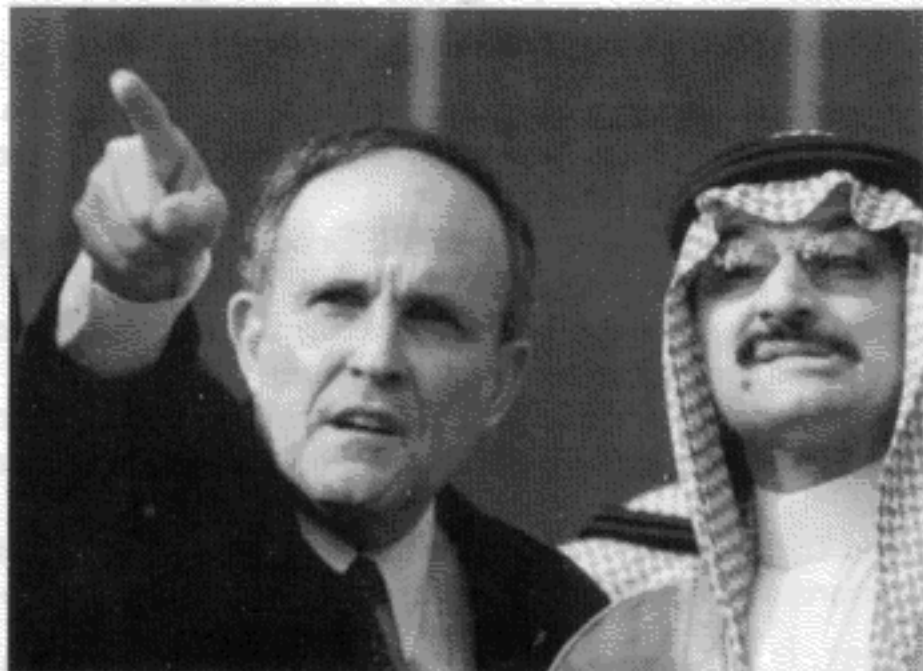
## Mayor Giuliani Stands for Israel

On Thursday October 11, Saudi Arabian Prince Alwaleed bin Talal, one of the world's richest men, was conducted on a tour of the devastated area where the World Trade Towers once stood. His host was Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

At the end of the tour, the prince astonished everyone by handing the mayor a personal check for \$10 million to be used for disaster relief.

Later, the prince issued a press release in which he said, "At times like this, we must address some of the issues that led to such a criminal attack. I believe the government of the United States of America should re-examine its policies in the Middle East and adopt a more balanced stance toward the Palestinian cause."

This crude attempt to justify the attack enraged Mayor Giuliani. He immediately announced that he was returning the prince's donation. "There is no moral equivalent for this attack," the mayor said at a City Hall news conference. "The people who did it lost any right to ask for justification when they slaughtered 6,000 innocent people. Not only are the prince's statements wrong, they're part of the problem."



Mayor Rudolph Giuliani with Saudi Prince Alwaleed bin Talal

It was refreshing to hear a politician speak his mind with such frankness and to put principle ahead of money. Jewish groups across America expressed their appreciation to the mayor. The State Department issued an apology to the prince! (After all, we certainly would not want the mayor to jeopardize our "Arab coalition.")

We need to pray that President Bush will see the hypocrisy of our declaring war on terrorism while we try to force the Prime Minister of Israel to make concessions to the world's leading terrorist, Yasser Arafat. Recruiting Islamic states to join our coalition against terrorism is like asking the Mafia to join a crusade against crime. The Islamic leaders will make all sorts of demands for money and arms and the desertion of Israel while giving us nothing more than lip support. ✪



## Hal Lindsey Foresaw the Danger

(From his 1994 book, *Planet Earth:2000 AD*, pages 177-178)

The greatest threat to freedom and world peace today is Islamic Fundamentalism. Whether we in the West care to admit it or not, we are already at war.

The media, our diplomatic and political establishment, and even our military planners have been tardy in recognizing the danger. In fact, tragically, the world's remaining superpower — the United States — has responded to this monumental threat by embarking on a suicidal, unilateral demilitarization process of unprecedented speed and recklessness. Like the Scriptures warn, the West is blithely saying, "Peace and safety," and talking about "peace dividends." Yet the free world today is facing danger greater than anything since World War II . . .

Over the rest of this decade, the divide between radical Islam and the industrial democracies will become the most destabilizing factor in world affairs.

Still ignored by most so-called experts and the media, the rise of Islamic Fundamentalism threatens most Middle East moderate regimes, sponsors uprisings in many other nations, and is spreading rapidly throughout the world.

While many in the West are still congratulating themselves on the defeat of Communism in the Soviet Union and its satellites, there is a quiet new menace growing stronger every day — a force more explosive and dangerous than totalitarianism of the right or left. In fact, Islamic Fundamentalism is actually billing itself as the successor to Marxism as the main agent of change in the world and the number one challenge to the Judeo-Christian order. (Pages 177-178). ✪



## Where Was God?

**I**t's the question people keep asking over and over. The answer is that God was right in the middle of it, superintending every aspect of it. He was the one who allowed it as an act of remedial judgment, using it to call this nation to repentance before He is forced by His righteousness, holiness, and justice to destroy our nation.

When God told the Hebrew prophet Habakkuk that He was going to send the Chaldeans to destroy Judah because of the refusal of its people to repent of their grievous sins, Habakkuk dropped to his knees and prayed, "Lord, in Your wrath remember mercy" (Habakkuk 3:2). It was an unneeded prayer because God always shows mercy when He begins to judge a nation. In fact, the Bible teaches that the fundamental purpose of God's wrathful judgment is not to punish, but rather, it is to motivate people to repentance so that they can be saved (Isaiah 26:9).

God never pours out His wrath without warning. He raises up prophetic voices like that of Dave Wilkerson in New York City. He sends remedial judgments like the Vietnam War, the homosexual plague, the epidemic of drug abuse, and teenage rebellion. He is patient, but He is determined, and He cannot be deceived. If a nation steadfastly refuses to repent, He will lower the hedge of protection around it and allow judgments of increasing severity until the nation either repents or is delivered from judgment to destruction.

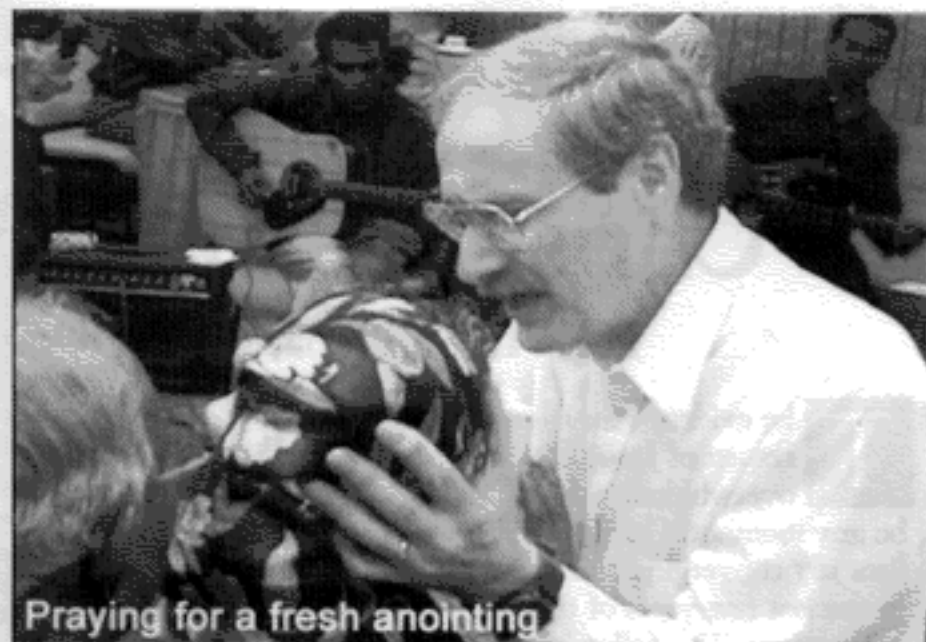
In the midst of the attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., God was there, showing His mercy. Consider the following facts:

- 50,000 people were working at the World Trade Center. A little over 5,000 were killed. That means 90% escaped.
- 23,000 people were at the Pentagon. 123 of these lost their lives. That is a survival rate of 99.5%.
- American Airlines flight 77 that hit the Pentagon could hold 289 people. Only 64 were aboard. 78% of the seats were empty.
- American Airlines flight 11 that hit one of the Towers had a capacity of 351. It carried only 92. That means 74% of the seats were empty.
- United Airlines flight 175 which hit the other Tower also had a capacity of 351. It had only 65 aboard. It was 81% empty.
- United Airlines flight 93 which crashed in Pennsylvania, could carry 289. It had the smallest number of people on board — only 45. It was 84% empty.

To summarize, out of 74,280 Americans directly targeted, 93% survived or avoided the attacks. Praise God for His mercy! Now, let's turn to Him in repentance.

If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. — 2 Chronicles 7:14. ✚

## Outreach to India



**W**hen the Attack on America occurred, Dennis Pollock, Lamb & Lion's Associate Evangelist, was on his way back home from India. He and one of the ministry's trustees, Ronnie Jones, were on a flight from Amsterdam to Detroit. They were diverted to Toronto, and they spent the next week trying to get back to the Dallas area.

We are glad to report that Dennis' outreach in India went much smoother than the trip home. Our host, John Ishmael of Revival Literature Fellowship, did a superb job of making preparations for the two conferences that Dennis conducted on Bible prophecy. The first was held in the large city of Bangalore in south central India. The second was conducted in the city of Madurai located on the southern tip of India.

Each conference was attended by 100 pastors. Dennis focused on teaching the basics of Bible prophecy, particularly as it relates to the Second Coming of Jesus. He also tried to show the pastors how they could incorporate Bible prophecy into their sermons, using it to call the lost to repentance and motivate believers to holiness and evangelism.

After the conferences, John Ishmael wrote: "We are beginning to see the fruits of your ministry here in India. Many people have contacted me to share with me what a blessing the conferences were to them . . . My own pastor was so motivated by what he learned, that he devoted his next sermon to the Second Coming."

Dennis reports that one pastor was so filled with joy over what he had learned that he went to a nearby store and purchased shirts and ties for both Dennis and Ronnie! As Dennis put it, "The pastors were like empty sponges, eagerly soaking up all they could hear about the Lord's soon return."

The conferences were so powerfully blessed by God's Spirit that many of the pastors came forward asking Dennis to pray that God would give them a fresh anointing of His Spirit. Many of their wives came also.

We have been invited to return next year in September, and both Dennis and Dave plan to go. They are scheduled to hold similar conferences in New Delhi, the capital of India, and in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. We are so thankful to John Ishmael for publishing our materials in the major languages of India and for arranging the conferences. ✚



# A Ministry Worthy of Your Prayer Support

## ADVERTISEMENT

## 8 Compelling Reasons Why: Christ Is Coming Very Soon!

How To Be Prepared For History's Greatest Event

**T**he evidence for the soon return of Jesus Christ is overwhelming. It could be any moment. One scholar lists 167 converging clues just in the last few years of this millennium. The following are eight:

### 1. Israel's rebirth.

As Jesus prophesied, the Jews were scattered during the Jewish-Roman war of A.D. 70 (Luke 21:24). Also prophesied to occur before Christ's return, the nation of Israel was miraculously reborn on May 14, 1948. Israel is called "God's time clock."

### 2. Plummeting morality.

Studies show a shocking breakdown just since mid-century (2 Timothy 3:1-4).

### 3. Famines, violence and wars.

Jesus said the signs before His return would come as intensifying birth pangs, seeing increased famines, violence and wars, a clear picture of our planet (Matthew 24: 6-8). One of six people on earth suffers from hunger. Violence is epidemic. A study of wars since 500 B.C. shows a recent dramatic increase. More than 100 conflicts have erupted since 1990, about twice the number for previous decades.

### 4. Increase in earthquakes.

Also prophesied to be as birth pangs (Matthew 24:7), a recent study shows a dramatic increase in earthquakes worldwide, just since the decade of Israel's rebirth. In the 1940s there were 51 above Richter 6.0; the 1950s, 475; the 1980s, 1,085; and the 1990s, 1,514.

### 5. Explosion of travel and education.

Two key conditions described about 2,500 years ago for the Second Coming are that "travel and education shall be vastly increased" (Daniel 12:4, Living Bible). In all of history, the vast increase in travel has come just since mid-century with the explosion of both ground and air transportation; in education, with the advance of science and computers.

### 6. Explosion of cults and the occult.

Counterfeit spirituality is everywhere with cults and false Christs (Matthew 24:24), psychic phenomena, spiritism, Satan worship, witchcraft, nature worship and the New Age movement (1 Timothy 4:1). What is a cult or the occult? See FREE REPORTS below.

### 7. The New World Order.

Increased centralization of world financial and political power is a prelude to the soon-coming world power system in the hands of "Antichrist," who will be the incarnation of Satan and who will deceive most of the world (Daniel 7:12, Matthew 24:15, Revelation 13). Beware of "the mark of the beast." See FREE REPORTS below.

### 8. Increase in both apostasy and faith.

The Bible predicts in the last days, "A form of godliness, although they have denied its power" (2 Timothy 3:5). Today many churches deny the eternal truths of Scripture and power of the Holy Spirit, replacing them with ungodly, temporal and "politically correct" values. But also, a prophesied outpouring of God's Spirit is causing hundreds of millions worldwide to come to true faith in Christ in record numbers, virtually unnoticed by the media.

## ► The Escape Plan

Christ's death and resurrection have opened the way to heaven and life with the Father forever for all who put their trust in Him and His great sacrifice on our behalf. Christ will soon come and rescue His people from the approaching "Great Tribulation" (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). He will later rule and bring peace on earth—after He judges the world and every person (Matthew 25:31-46).

God's judgment is, indeed, coming on a world in rebellion. He cannot deny His nature. His attributes of perfect holiness and justice demand judgment for sin, of which we are all guilty. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

The result of sin is death, or separation from God. "For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Wages are something we earn, or deserve.

But "God is love" (1 John 4:8). Is "love" in conflict with "judgment"? Answer: God's wisdom reconciled the dilemma—The Son of God would take all our judgment upon Himself! "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

To escape God's judgment, we each must receive His free gift of forgiveness and love, "But the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23). A gift is something we do not earn, or deserve.

## ► How to receive Him

In any gift exchange, there has to be giver and receiver. God has already given us the gift, His Son; now we must receive Him. "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12).

We receive Him by faith. "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast" (Ephesians 2:8,9).

We receive Him by personal invitation. (Christ speaking) "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him" (Revelation 3:20). Do you hear His voice?

The following is a suggested prayer: "Lord Jesus, I believe you are the Son of God and that you died on the cross for my sins to save me from eternal death. I open the door of my life and receive you as my Savior and Lord. I give you my life. Help me to be what you want me to be. Amen."

## FREE REPORTS

SEND A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED BUSINESS SIZE ENVELOPE to receive three exciting, free reports: (1) "Seven Incomparable Benefits of Trusting Christ," (2) "Beware: the Mark of the Beast!" (3) "What is a Cult or the Occult?"

Send your envelope to:

Christ's Soon Return  
P.O. Box 1464  
Bloomington, IL 61702-1464

You have our sincere pledge that your name and address will never be used for funds solicitation, sold, or used for any other purpose. This ad paid for by a concerned private contributor. No group is represented.

Newspaper ads like the one on the left have been run in hundreds of newspapers all across America ever since 1992.

That was the year that a man named Paul accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior in response to a similar advertisement. When the man who was running those ads died, Paul felt a call of the Lord to take up the man's mantle and run the ads himself in a greatly expanded form.

Paul, who prefers to remain anonymous, is a wealthy businessman who lives in Bloomington, Illinois. His wife handles the responses to the ad.

A biblical scholar and writer named Jim Bramlett who lives in Orlando, Florida, is the one who writes the excellent reports that are mentioned at the end of the ad.

I have been informed that the ministry does not receive contributions, but they do desire the prayers of fellow Christians.

So, put Christ's Soon Return Ministry on your prayer list and pray that their ads will reach millions and touch souls for eternity.

If you would like to see the ad run in your local newspaper, you can contact the ministry at their mailing address with that request.

You might also take the time to write the ministry a note of thanks and encouragement for the outstanding work they are doing to alert people to the fact that we are living in the season of the Lord's return. ♦



# Ministry News

**New Books** — Dr. Reagan's newest book, *Wrath & Glory*, is featured on the back cover of this issue. It presents an overview of the book of Revelation in down-to-earth, easy-to-understand language. It runs 239 pages in length and sells for \$10 plus \$2 for shipping.

Dennis Pollock's new book, *Making Room for Jesus*, is a short (69 pages), hardbound devotional book that reveals a secret that has the potency to turn your life around. The secret is not a formula. It is not a gimmick. It is not magic. It offers no guarantee of material wealth. It is a secret that has to do with the fundamental nature of the Savior of the world. When you truly see it, your walk with Jesus will never be the same. The cost is \$5 plus \$2 for mailing.

Dr. Reagan's *Christ in Prophecy Study Guide* contains an analytical summary of all the Messianic prophecies in the Bible concerning both the First and Second Comings of the Messiah. It runs 150 pages in length and is spiral bound. The cost is \$15 plus \$5 for shipping.

To order any of these books, call **1-800-705-8316**. Call between 8am and 5pm, Central time, Monday through Friday.

**Tapes** — Dr. Reagan has produced two new cassette tape programs recently. Each runs about 50 minutes in length. One is entitled "The United States in Bible Prophecy." It was recorded after the September 11 Attack on America, and it contains material related to that event. The other program is titled, "The Truth about Islam." It contains the information in the feature article in this issue. The tapes are priced at \$5 each, including the cost of mailing. To order, call **1-800-705-8316**.

**Videos** — The ministry produced several new videos last year that are proving to be very popular. They are as follows:

**Israel in Bible Prophecy** — A documentary film about seven prophecies being fulfilled in Israel today. 65 minutes. \$18 plus \$2 for shipping.

**A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** — Follow a pilgrimage group on a nine day tour of Israel. 75 minutes. \$18 plus \$2 for shipping.

**Preaching Prophecy** — An album containing two 90 minute videos with four sermons on Bible prophecy by Dr. Reagan. \$25 plus \$2 for shipping.

**The Middle East Crisis in Biblical Perspective** — A 45 minute presentation by Dr. Reagan. \$10 plus \$2 for shipping.

**A Panel Discussion of Bible Prophecy** — Four experts on Bible prophecy reply to questions from the audience. 80 minutes. \$10 plus \$2 for shipping.

**Sermons by Pollock** — Two sermons by Dennis Pollock. 90 minutes. \$12 plus \$2 for shipping.

To order any of these videos, call **1-800-705-8316**. Call between 8am and 5pm, Central time, Monday through Friday.

**Speaking Engagements** — Dr. Reagan will be in the Destin, Florida area during the first weekend in **January**. He will be speaking at Calvary Chapel (2), Destin United Methodist Church (4-5), and St. Andrew's Anglican Church (6). In **February** Dr. Reagan will be at Paradise Valley Christian Church in Phoenix, Arizona

## India Outreach —

Dennis Pollock is shown in the picture on the right talking to one of the participants in his conferences in India which he conducted in early September.

She is quite amused, so he is probably telling her his infamous mad dog story. That story is contained in a new video we have produced that features two sermons by Dennis. It is available for a cost of \$12 plus \$2 for mailing. It runs 90 minutes. You can order it by calling **1-800-705-8316**.



(1-2), at Calvary Christian Church in Winchester, Kentucky (8-10), and at Christian Church of the Hills in Agoura Hills, California (23-24). In **March** Dr. Reagan will be at Riverside Chapel in West Point, Mississippi where he will be ministering with Jack and Sally Hollingsworth of Acts 29 Ministry. Dave and Dennis will conduct a joint meeting at Sunnybrook Christian Church in Stillwater, Oklahoma (10-13). Dr. Reagan will begin the month of **April** (3-5) speaking at a prophecy conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma hosted by Thy Kingdom Come Ministries. This is one of the largest annual prophecy conferences held in the nation.

**Israel** — *The ministry's Holy Land Pilgrimage originally scheduled for April 20 through May 1 has been canceled. The ministry will not be conducting any pilgrimages to Israel until the world wide war situation settles down.*

**Fund-Raising** — We want to thank all of you who assisted us in raising funds for the Times Square Church in New York City and for the Hands of Luke Ministry in Juarez, Mexico. We will provide a report on the totals raised in our next issue.

The ministry is appealing for special designated funds to cover the cost of the following needs:

- 1) **Software** — We need to acquire a sophisticated software program that is designed specifically for media ministries. The software and equipment required will cost \$20,000.
- 2) **Vehicle** — The ministry's pickup truck is completely worn out. We need to replace it with a cargo van. The goal is to raise \$20,000.

Any help you could give us in meeting these special needs would be greatly appreciated. Make your check payable to the ministry and indicate on the notation line the specific purpose of the donation. *Thank you!*

*Mazanatha!*



## Dr. Reagan's New Book on Revelation

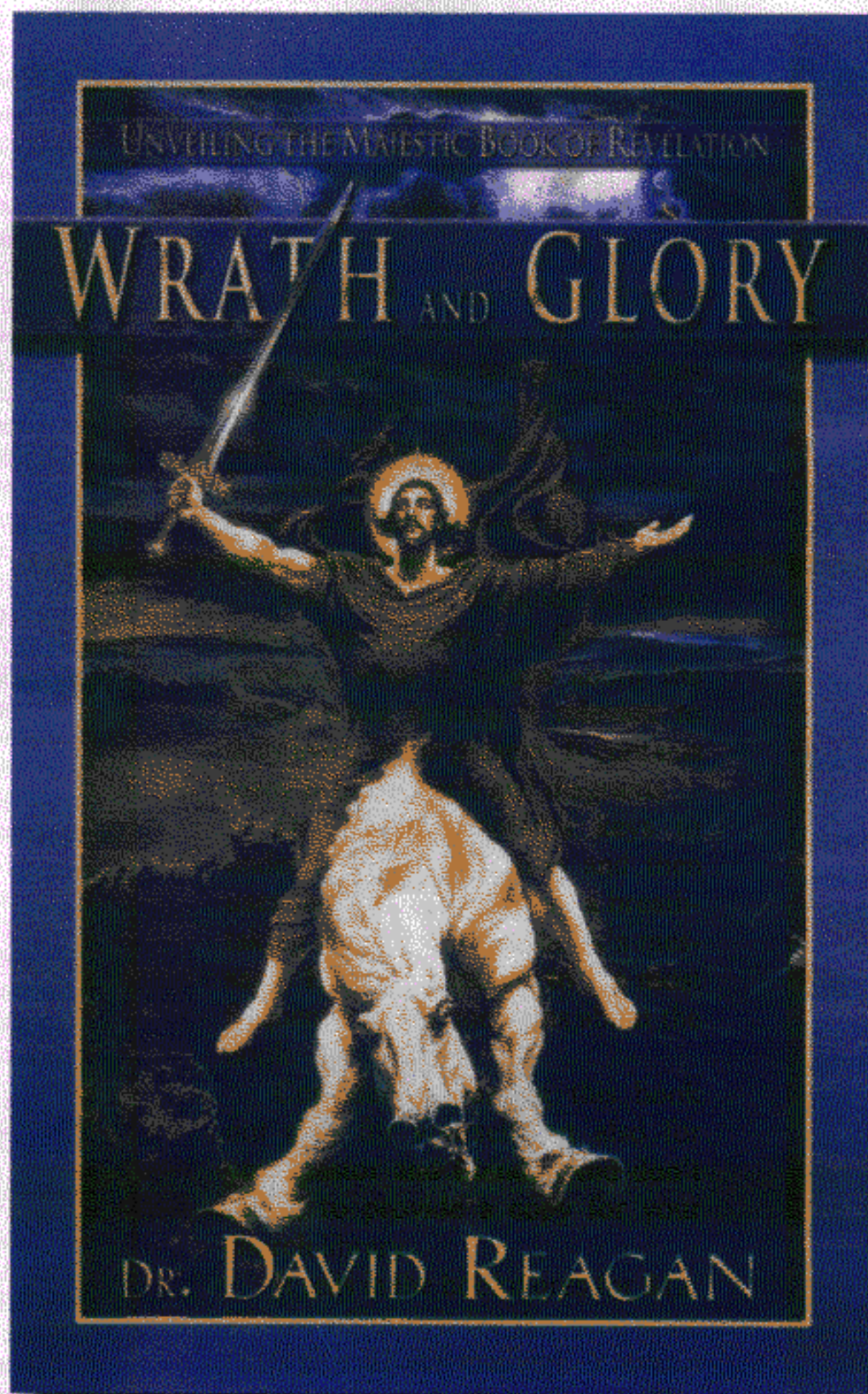
The book of Revelation reveals that when Jesus returns, He will come in both wrath and glory — thus the title of this new book. The subtitle, "Unveiling the Majestic Book of Revelation," is exactly what the book does in a down-to-earth, easy-to-understand manner.

The book is designed to clear away the mystery of Revelation, showing what it means about the future while making it relevant to daily living in the present. It contains many helpful charts and diagrams.

Dr. Reagan provides keys to understanding Revelation and then uses those keys to present a breathtaking overview of the book's message. He also responds to the most frequently asked questions about the book.

Consider purchasing this book not only for yourself but also for your pastor and friends. And don't forget to provide a copy for your church library.

It sells in the bookstores for \$12. We are offering it for the same price (\$10 plus \$2 for mailing). You can order copies today by calling 1-800-705-8316. Call between 8am and 5pm (Central time), Monday through Friday. ✚



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