

# The Straight Path

By Daniel Scot Sept. 2008

## Sura 'Al-Fatihah' (The Opening) 1:1-7

*In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful. Praise be to Allah, Lord of the Worlds, The Beneficent, the Merciful. Master of the Day of Judgment, You (alone) we worship; You (alone) we ask for help. Show us the straight path, The path of those whom You have favoured; Not the (path) of those who earn Your anger nor of those who go astray.*

Jesus said: "...and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:32)

**Warning—This pamphlet contains words of the Qur'an in Arabic and English. Please use appropriately.**

NOTE: Authoritative Islamic texts are the Qur'an and Hadith. Muslims believe that the Qur'an is the revealed word of Allah (verse numbers differ slightly in different versions). Sura always stands for a chapter in the Qur'an. Islamic belief is that Muhammad is the perfect example to be followed by all Muslims. Whatever he said, practiced or approved is called Hadith. There are six different sets of authentic ahadith (Hadiths): Bukhari, Muslim, Abu Dawud, Tirmizi, Sunnan Ibn Majah and Sunnan Nasa'i. This pamphlet is intended to show the teachings and examples of Muhammad, and is not intended to be offensive to Muslims; many Muslims may have little real knowledge of what their god, Allah and their prophet has said on this topic.

Sometimes, in the busyness of our daily lives, we forget that our lives are mere wisps in the span of time. We forget that there is an eternity and a God to whom we must give an account.

On Judgement Day, who are you trusting to gain your entry to heaven? Where will you be? The path you are treading, will it take you to Heaven or Hell? Scripture says:

☐ *"For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26).*

## All People Are Sinners

This is why Muhammad was commanded by Allah to pray for his own sins and the sins of others.

☐ *So know (O Muhammad) that there is no God save Allah, and ask forgiveness for your sin and for believing men and believing women. Allah knows (both) your place of turmoil and your place of rest. (Sura 47:19)*

☐ Sahih Al-Bukhari vol. 8 Hadith #407: Narrated by Abu Musa: *"The prophet used to call upon Allah saying: "O my Lord! Forgive my sins and my ignorance and my exceeding the limits (boundaries) of righteousness in all my deeds and what you know better than I. O Allah! Forgive my mistakes, those done intentionally or out of my ignorance or (without) or with seriousness, and I confess that all such mistakes are done by me. O Allah! Forgive my sins of the past and of the future which I did openly or secretly. You are the One Who makes things go before, and You are the One Who delays them, and You are the Omnipotent."*

☐ Sahih Al-Bukhari in vol. 8 Hadith #319: Narrated by Abu Huraira: *I heard Allah's Apostle saying,*

**"By Allah! I ask for forgiveness from Allah and turn to Him in repentance more than seventy times a day."**

You cannot save yourself

Even Muhammad, knew that obedience does not guarantee entry to heaven. We read in the Qur'an:

- **"Say: I am no new thing among the messengers (of Allah), nor know I what will be done with me or with you. I do but follow that which is inspired in me, and I am but a plain Warner."** (Sura 46:9)
- Sahih Al-Bukhari vol. 5 Hadith #266: ...He [Muhammad] said, "As to him, by Allah, death has overtaken him, and I hope the best for him. **By Allah, though I am the Apostle of Allah, yet I do not know what Allah will do to me.**" By Allah, I will never assert the piety of anyone after him

Muhammad Cannot Save You

The word 'saviour' does not appear in the Qur'an. For someone to save a drowning person, the saviour must be able to swim. Not just passably well, but well enough for two people. From the above quotes we have seen that Muhammad couldn't "swim" for himself, so he can't save you either.

When we read in Sura 26:214, "And warn your nearest kindred", we see that Muhammad was commanded to warn his relatives. To understand this verse let us look at the following Hadith:

- Sahih Muslim vol. 1 Hadith #398 and 402: Abu Huraira reported: *When this verse was revealed: "And warn your nearest kindred" (26:214), the Messenger of Allah (may peace be upon him) called the Quraish; so they gathered and he gave them a general warning. O sons of Hashim (name of Muhammad's great grand father), rescue yourselves from Fire; O sons of 'Abd al Muttalib (name of Muhammad's grand father), rescue yourselves from Fire; O Fatimah (name of Muhammad's most beloved daughter), rescue yourself from Fire, for I have no power (to protect you) from Allah in anything except this that I would sustain relationship with you. O Safiya (aunt of the Messenger of Allah) I can't avail you at all against Allah; O Fatimah, daughter of Muhammad, ask me whatever you like, but I can't avail you at all against Allah.*

The nature of Allah makes assurance of salvation even more difficult. Abu Baker the first Rightly Guided Caliph said: "I swear to Allah that I do not feel safe from Allah's cunning (deceit) even if one of my feet is already in Paradise." (Khalid Muhammad Khalid, *Successors of the Apostle*, p. 114, quoted by Anwar al-Jundi, *Mizan al-Islam*, p. 170).

Muhammad tells people to rescue themselves from fire, but as we have already seen, Muhammad could not save himself; he did not know what Allah would do to him.

Who is sinless, who can save us?

- **The Qur'an says that Jesus was sinless:** "The angel said: I am only a messenger from the Lord that I am bestowing on you (Mary) a sinless/pure (Zakia) son." (Sura 19:19) Satan did not touch Jesus and His mother Mary (Sura 3:36).
- **The Holy Bible says:** "For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One [Jesus] who has been tempted in all things as we are, **yet without sin.** <sup>16</sup>Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:15-16)
- "Therefore **He [Jesus] is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.**" (Hebrews 7:25)

The Qur'an says that Jesus is the Word of God and Spirit of God (Sura 3:45; 4:171; 19:34; 21:91); as

such, He has immense value! God creates everything through His Word (Sura 2:117; 3:47, 59; 6:73; 16:40; 19:35; 36:82; 40:68). The Holy Bible confirms the same in Psalms 33:6

Therefore, The Word is both creative and eternal. Furthermore regarding the Word of God, the Holy Bible says:

□ *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* (John 1:1)

Before you say that the Holy Bible has been corrupted, you need to ask yourself: *Can a mortal man change the words of the Almighty?* Before you say that Christians worship three gods, you need to ask yourself; *Do Christians really worship three gods?* Have you ever read the Holy Bible? A suspect should be considered innocent until proven guilty!

Salvation in the Holy Bible

□ *...But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.* (Romans 5:8)

□ ***If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*** (Romans 10:9)

□ *But as many as received Him [Jesus], to them gave he power to become the sons of God, to them that believe on his name.* (John 1:12)

□ ***Jesus said: "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life, no one comes to the Father except through Me."*** (John 14:6)

But even though we are sinners, guilty before a Holy God, God loves us very much, and has lavished His love upon us by sending Christ Jesus, the Word of God, into this world to identify with us as a man, and to die in our place as payment for our sins! Even while we were still in our sins, enemies of God, He did this for us! What a marvellous love God has for us; He paid our ransom by the voluntary death of Jesus on the cross!

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

The penalty for our sin is death, but Jesus, being sinless, and the eternal Word of God, came into this world to die for our sins. Were Jesus only sinless and a perfect prophet, He could only have died for the sin of one person. But being the eternal Word of God, his sacrifice is able to pay for the sins of all mankind. He also offers us the gift of eternal life and invites us to live with Him for eternity!

Jesus died to pay the penalty for our sins and rose again on the third day, victorious over death, winning the ultimate victory in history; but each one of us must choose to receive this free gift. If you refuse to receive this gift, you cannot enjoy the benefits of the gift. A gift is given, not earned – indeed, the giver would have the right to be offended if you attempted to offer some form of payment. You cannot put God in your debt! God desires us to humbly receive this gift with a thankful heart.

To "*confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord*" means that you must agree with God that: 1) you are a sinner and that you deserve to die; 2) You cannot save yourself from hell fire; 3) The Lord Jesus paid the penalty for your sins on the cross and He bought you with His precious blood; and 4) You need Jesus to be your Lord and Saviour. If you wish to receive the forgiveness of sin through Jesus Christ by faith, you need only to open your heart and ask God in your own words, similar to the following:

*Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner. I admit that my good works can't take away my sins and I receive you as my Lord and Saviour. Cleanse me from my sins with your precious blood, and help me to walk according to your will. Thank you for providing a way for me to draw near to You. Amen.*

If you have any questions, please contact us (Mizan ul Haqq): email [anymorequestions@gmail.com](mailto:anymorequestions@gmail.com)

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