

The Story of Jesus

Millions of people from all over the world, from different religions and different cultures, love him ... Who is he? He is a man about whom people have disagreed. Is he God? Is he the son of God? Is he God, the son? Is he a messenger of God? or was a mythological figure in history? Was he a real man?

These are questions that we are going to discuss from the Islamic perspective in our session today ... 2000 years ago Jesus came into the world in the form of a human being in very difficult circumstances;

The whole earth was controlled by the Romans, who were in conflict with the Jews, who were looking for a new leader...

Then, Jesus appeared, He said about himself: I am the son of God.

This argument was a scandal for people who asked themselves: How can this person be the Son of God? his statement seemed very suspicious to them, Jesus demonstrated that it was true as he performed acts that only God can do, he did things beyond human capability, the most important thing was the resurrection of the dead, and this miracle is considered the foundation of our faith that is why we celebrate Easter, which was the day of his death and also of his resurrection.

This is the summary of our main belief that Jesus died for us and bore our sins when He was crucified.

As Muslims, we love, respect and believe in all the prophets and messengers of Allah.

We believe that the essence of Islam is submission to one God, it was the message revealed to all the prophets but over time man made alterations according to the religions and writings of those deceased messengers and that's why we found differences in their beliefs.

One of those points where we find difference between religions such as Judaism, Christianity and Islam is the status and position of religion with respect to Jesus, May peace be upon him.

In Judaism they have taken an extreme, to the point that they reject Jesus pbuh, they consider him a false prophet and an illegitimate son. May Allah protect us from that!

However, when we read in the Bible about some acts of Jesus, we can see that they support the Jewish opinion.

As they were lacking of wine, Jesus' mother told him: "They have no wine". Jesus answered: "Woman, what does it have to do with me?" (Gospel of John: 2: 3; 4)

How is it that a prophet or half god speaks with his mother so inappropriately? Whereas the Qur'an presents a virtuous vision of a prophet chosen by God.

We read in the Qur'an as Jesus speaks of his mother: 'and he made me obedient to my mother and did not make me a miserable tyrant' (19:32).

And in Christianity, they have taken another extreme, they say that Jesus is actually the son of God, or God, the son and he is divine and part of the Trinity.

But in Islam we have taken a middle point, we believe that Jesus (pse) is a righteous man, a noble Prophet and Messenger of Allah and he is someone who was free from sin and was an example and role model for the nation to which he was sent

It's amazing how the consecutive Bibles support the Islamic perspective

Jesus says in the Qur'an: 'Oh, Children of Israel! Worship Allah, for He is my Lord and yours. (5:72)

And in the Bible it says: 'a man who has told the truth, who I have heard from God. (John 8:40)

The Qur'an: 'The Messiah son of Mary is only a Messenger, like the other Messengers who preceded him, and his mother a faithful and true believer. They both ate food '(5:75)

"Early in the morning, while Jesus was on the way back to the city, he was hungry" (Matthew 21:18)

Qur'an: "The Messiah does not despise being a servant of Allah, nor are the angels close to him." (4: 172)

'Jesus of Nazareth, He was a prophet, powerful in words and deeds before God and before all people "(Luke 24:19)

The question Was Jesus God or a human being?

It has been controversial for hundreds of years, here in the Protestant church we believe that he was both he was completely human and completely god at the same time.

The divinity of Jesus and his humanity are not independent but they do not mix, From my personal point of view I believe that Jesus is the spirit of God in human form; It is a special case that can not be measured by the rest of humanity.

The most important part of any religion is the concept of God; in Islam we believe that there is no other god or deity worthy of worship except Allah.

We also can ask the experts that studied in seminaries and biblical institutes and also we will have some difficulty to understand, they say that is something you must take with faith.

But if we observe the Quran, we believe that one of the greatest miracles that Jesus did was that he talked from the cradle being a newborn and the first words that came from their mouth were: 'I am the servant of Allah'

And that's why Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) warned the Muslims saying: 'Do not praise me excessively like the Christians did with Jesus, the son of Mary, but say that I am the slave and Messenger of Allah'

The mission of Jesus (pbuh) on Earth was not to be a worshiped god but was a person chosen by God Almighty to show people the true way of worshipping God, This is the origin of the difference between Christians and Muslims' beliefs.

In this point, Muslims and Christians separate and take different opinions from the Islamic perspective, Jesus is the servant of Allah Almighty, sent by Him to teach people that they must worship God only, cause God is One and does not have partners.

This is mentioned several times in Christian Scriptures of all denominations.

Salvation in Islam we believe that is believing and following the Prophets and Messengers.

If we say that Jesus (pbuh) is a savior, is a savior for those who believed in him and followed him during his time and those who followed his true message and its spirit are those who will be saved.

And today, the spirit of his message can be found in the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

Muslims are in fact more worthy of Jesus (pbuh) than the others. To clear this, we must analyze 4 main points:

Number 1, the prophets of Allah are all related to each other.

Number 2, the only religious way of life accepted is Islam, the submission to One God.

Number 3, Jesus (pbuh) was only a humble messenger and prophet of Allah, and 4, Jesus (pbuh) will walk away from the slander and accusations that Christians unjustly raised about him?

Through my observation, I think that the majority of Christians do not pay attention to other religions, the generations from 50 to 70 years old have more of their religion and they treat people based on the teachings of their Holy Book.

Regarding the next generations and the ones to come, it's expected that they will deviated completely from Christianity.

Unfortunately, in their faith and life, either in business or material aspect, they are only interested on the materialistic one. How to earn money? How to build a house? How to buy an expensive car?

In Islam we believe that Jesus (pbuh) was not crucified, we believe that other was crucified in Jesus place and that was made to appear that Jesus was crucified.

We believe that Allah has saved the messenger, Jesus (pbuh), and he was elevated to Heaven and that he will come back to Earth.

In Christianity it's believed that he was killed and crucified and it's mentioned that he said: 'father, father, why you have abandoned me?!

We believe that these words are not appropriated for a believer, and they are not appropriated for a messenger of God even less, as the Christians asserted, for a son of God or God Himself, to believe that he was abandoned by God and do not accept his destiny or what it was decreed for him. So, this is an evidence for us, that Jesus (pbuh) was not crucified.

Now, similar to the Christian belief, we believe that Jesus (pbuh) will come back but in the second coming, we believe that Jesus (pbuh) will follow the teaching of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and he will be a leader that will call people, once again, to worship One God and to submit to all the practises and the way of life, to the teachings that Allah has revealed. I would like to invite everyone of our audience that are non-Muslims, I invite everyone to think and reflect upon everything we said today and ask yourself, do we really love Jesus (pbuh) so, we must follow him and we must follow his teachings and practices.

This is a real sign of our love for him, to be his true followers who will be with him in Paradise in the Hereafter, so, we have to follow what its stated in the Bible, that is that there is Only One God worthy of worship (Allah).

And that God is the Creator of all things it is the Only One that we must worship and to Whom we must submit. And doing so, we will be true followers of Jesus (pbuh) and true followers of all prophets and messengers.

So, I invite every one of you to submit to Allah and to accept Islam and become Muslims. so, we can achieve success and happiness in this life, and what is most important, in the Hereafter