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Source: www.islamcode.com

by Yusuf Estes - Former Christian - Muslim Chaplain



# Da Vinci Code Broken?

# Read Answers provided by Islam

Da Vinci Code controversy - It is everywhere! Dan Brown's book claims Jesus in not divine or God, and the gospels as we know them, have been changed, and after Jesus stay here on earth, men raised his status to the level of God. Could any of this be true?

Ancient secrets of the Church, hidden for centuries have actually been revealed and published in books prior to the fictional writings of Brown in the Da Vinci Code. Baigent and Leigh have produced other books from researchers point of view over the last two decades, including "Dead Sea Scrolls Deception", "Holy Blood, Holy Grail", and "Messianic Legacy." These books were the talk of the religious communities when they came out in the early 90's and certianly they have fueled an ongoing interest into just exactly who was this man Jesus, what was his message and what happened to him?

Islam claims to "break the code" so to speak, over 1,400 years ago. The answer, according to Muslm scholars has been in the Quran for over fourteen hundred years

Some may be surprised to learn, Muslims believe in the miracle birth and other miracles associated with Jesus. They actually consider him as the "Messiah" and they even say, "peace be upon him" when mentioning his name. However, they are quick to negate any connection between God and Jesus as a partnership or God-head, and they rule out the notion of God having any son (or daughter for that matter).

Here is how Muslim scholars present their understanding and "break the code":

How Muslim scholars "broke the code":

Creation itself tells us there is a creator and from the beginning of time – Allah, (the One God in Arabic) alone is to be worshiped. This is clear teaching throughout the Old testament (Torah), the scriptures that Jesus himself read and taught from. God is one not one of three; for example: 'He is God; there is no other besides Him'. (Deuteronomy 4:35). The same is mentioned in the book of Mark in the New Testament, chapter 12, verse 29, when Jesus, peace be upon him, had been asked about the Greatest Commandment he replied, "To know, O Israel, the Lord your God is One Lord; and you have to love Him with all your heart and all your mind and all your strength."

According to the oldest and most authentic copies of manuscipts and scrolls available throughout the centuries, Jesus, peace be upon him, never claimed to be God, or the creator, or the One to pray to, nor did he tell his followers to revere him as God. These notions appear on the lips of others who came along decades and even centuries later.

While Jesus was on earth he did not claim to be the creator or ask us to revere him as God. His miraculous birth is a sign of his prophethood: "Verily, the likeness of Jesus before Allah, is the likeness of Adam. He (Allah) created him from dust and said "Be!" and he was" (Quran 3:59). Like all the great and noble prophets of Allah such as Adam, Abraham, Moses, Isaac and David, Jesus came with one message: Worship, love, obey and submit to the one true God, Allah, the creator of everything and do not worship anything besides Allah.

Throughout history, people have taken to worship things or people alongside Allah, or just worshiping something else like power, status or money. Even the names of religions seem have more to do with the creation and less or nothing to do with the Creator. For example: Buddhism – Buddha (the name of a man), Confucianism – Confucius (the name of a man), Hinduism – Hind (the name of an area), Judaism – Judah (the name of a tribe) and Christianity – Christ (the name of a great prophet).

Islam is different. Islam is a word coming from the verb "aslama" and it carries the meaning of "surrender", "submission", "obedience", "sincerity" and "peace" between you and Almighty Allah (God) and not to any human or anything within creation. Anyone who practices Islam submits to and worships Allah, alone without any partners of any kind.

The Quran states: "There is only One God (Allah) then have reverance for Me and fear Me (and Me alone)." To Him belongs whatever is in the heavens and on earth, and to Him is duty due always: then will ye fear other than Allah?" (Quran 16:51-52)

Isn't it time you join Jesus, the son of Mary, along with all of the other Prophets of Allah and practice the "Submission to the Will of God" (Islam)?

Or simply put: "Worship the Creator - and not His Creations!"



by Yusuf Estes - Former Christian - Muslim Chaplain

#### Introduction and Explanation of Purpose of This Research and Presentation

First of all, let me begin by saying that I am a former Christian, preacher, minister of music and organist for a long number of years in the Disciples of Christ Church, Baptist, Methodist churches and The Church of God. I totally and completely accepted the teachings and concepts of salvation within the Christian church many years ago. My parents were very religious and their parents were also very instrumental in building and supporting the work of the church throughout their entire lives. So, it is not my aim to discredit the efforts of those who came before me whatsoever. This is totally the opposite of my purpose in this presentation.

Second, I am still most active in the spreading of the True Word of God as much as HE will allow me to be. I have found that some of the teachings of the translations of the Bible contain errors and mistakes which must be examined and thought through so as to bring about a better understanding for both the Christians and the non-Christians, especially those of the Muslim (Islam) faith.

Third, I am presently an institutional chaplain and I hold the position of Delegate to the United Nations Peace Conference for the World's Religious Leaders. As such I hold all the leaders of other religions in proper regard and with due respect. Many of my associates and co-workers are from the Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and Hindu faiths.

Therefore, it is not my intention to cause people to loose their belief in God, His divinely-inspired prophets and messengers, or the holy scriptures that they brought. I humbly request all who read and study these pages to be considerate of those who are committed to believe in the scriptures of the Bible and not use this material as a tool for attacking and harming the faiths of others. The opposite is what I request the reader to do. Please take time to learn the materials and then share in a positive light with those whom you honestly feel can handle a discussion on this topic without being confrontational.

May Almighty God guide all of us the all truth, amen.

An examination of the Bible is necessary today because of the many questions being raised by religious people of all circles, including Jews and Christians, as to its inconsistency with contemporary church teachings as well as its inconsistency within itself.

Today, there are thousands of different versions of the Bible in circulation and the transcript has been freely translated from one language to another numerous times. According to Bible scholars themselves, the original scripture is no longer extant. It is nowhere to be found. We have no idea if what we are reading and implementing into our lives and belief system is, indeed, God's teaching.

Muslims believe in the same Omnipotent, All-powerful, Unseen God that the Jews have believed in since Adam. However, unlike the Jews, Muslims join in with the Christians by also believing in Jesus as the "Christ"; "Messiah"; "Logos"; and "Miraculous Conception"; as well as all the previous Biblical prophets and their original scriptures that they brought. Muslims also believe that God is merciful and just to His creatures. So, they deny the concept of the 'Original Sin' [all children are born into the sins of their parents] and the 'Sacrificial Lamb' concept which requires the blood of Jesus, peace be upon him, to atone for the sins of the sinners. This being the case, how can Muslims say that God is just and that His revelation, the Bible, is corrupted? Where is it in God's great plan that His revelation loses all credibility? These are all very excellent questions.

It is a known fact that Jesus was regarded by his followers as a prophet and that what he preached was written down into physical form by his disciples. However, God placed the responsibility on humans to preserve the integrity of this message over time. When the people failed in their duty, it was made necessary for the Holy Qur'an to come into existence in order to correct the teachings that were changed. By God's mercy He revealed His will once again to Muhammad over 600 years later, and his companions similarly wrote it down and compiled it into what became known as The Holy Qur'an. By God's justice He promised that He would preserve it therefore making it the last revelation to humanity. Today an actual seventh century Qur'an, complete and intact, is on display in a museum in Istanbul, Turkey. I just returned from a trip to

Istanbul, Turkey and have information about it on this web site:

#### http://www.IslamTomorrow.com/events/

Amazing Revelation Strange as it may seem I came across astonishing information By Allah's Mercy I have learned the Arabic language sufficient enough to read the Holy Quran in the original language. I have found the answers to problems of understanding meanings of scriptures in the Bible while studying the Holy Quran.

Every Arabic Qur'an in the world today is, letter for letter, identical to this ancient script. Due to this preservation, the Quran exists today exactly as it did over 1,400 year ago in a language which is still alive today. I have found the Qur'an's teachings to be quite clear, consistent, and practical for application even in today's so called "modern world."

The whole idea behind this work is to present the clear truth about the Bible, the Quran and the two religions of Islam and Christianity. If you do not have a good Bible, it would be a good idea to acquire at least two. Namely, the King James Version (based on the 1611 AD edition) and the Revised Standard Version (published in 1953). As you go through the many Biblical inconsistencies which I will be referring to in this material, please refer back to your Bible and examine it objectively.

Do not let pride, ego, bias or prejudice affect your judgment as you review the pages. If you do not free your mind and heart from these obstructions, then it will be near to impossible to see the light of truth to which we will be referring so often.

Bear in mind also, that if a book were revealed from Almighty God to the humans, it should not have even a single mistake or error anywhere in it. Otherwise, it would indicate that it is not from a Perfect God, but rather from an imperfect human.

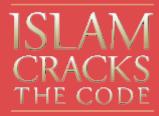
While traveling around the world, I have found that many Jews and Christians are opening their eyes to this fact and are willfully accepting Islam and the Last and Final Testament of Almighty God (the Holy Quran) wholeheartedly.

We have to examine the facts in order to be able to better understand the value of this information on our society today. One statement that is clear and repeated often these days is that Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world today and the largest religion in the world today with over 1.5 billion souls claiming to be Muslims. The word of God has been preserved in the Holy Qur'an and has been changed in the Bible. So, I am merely attempting to produce material which will help to clarify the matter. Due to the many years of traditional religious teachings and upbringing, it may be very difficult for you to accept this. If you are sincere in your heart and pray to the One Who Created you in the first place, then it will be totally up to Him to Guide you to all truth, not me. Islam is a complete Way of Life and it is based on total surrender to Almighty God, submission to Him in complete obedience and sincerity and in peace.

Details About Islam: <u>http://www.IslamTomorrow.com/islam/</u>

Free Quran (download)

<u>http://www.IslamTomorrow.com/downloads/nobleguran.exe</u> For comparison of Holy Quran: <u>http://www.IslamTomorrow.com/quran.htm</u>



# Bible - A Closer Look! CHAPTER 1

by Yusuf Estes - Former Christian - Muslim Chaplain

# CHAPTER 1

"Is 'King James' Version the Actual Bible?"

**Note:** The word "Bible" comes from the Koine Greek word "biblios" and it simply means the same as the word "book" in English. Nowhere in the Bible do we find the word "Bible." However, it is interesting to note the word "kitab" (Bible in Arabic) appears many times in the Quran, referring to the Bible and the People of the Book (Jews and Christians).

Let me begin by saying that the King James "version" of the Bible is in English. There was no English language until the year 1066 AD when the Normans invaded the Saxxons. Therefore the English Bible cannot be anything like what any of the prophets spoke or understood, as it did not exist in their times.

Next, my grandfather, who was a devout and wonderful Christian man gave a gift of the Holy Bible to my sisters and I almost fifty years ago. It was an authorized version of the Bible, being The Revised Standard Version of the Bible which was a revised version of the American Standard Version, published in 1901, which was a version of the King James Version, published in 1611, which was revised and corrected for the first time in 1612, etc. I was very much impressed with the easier to read text and clarification of some of the wording which was presented in this version and began to read the Bible on a daily basis for hours at a time. The removal of the Elizabethton English terms, phrases and expressions made the Bible a more accessible and understandable and intimate Book for me. But that is not all the RSV did for me and many others, as well.

My love and respect for the Word of God increased the more that I spent time reading and understanding the message. The Bible became my most prized and respected book in my life. I often turned to it throughout the rest of my life in times of joy, happiness, sadness, troubles and pain. It was my compass, my road map, my weather vane and my friend. However, there were still some problems with this IMPROVED VERSION of the Holy Bible. It began to disturb and concern me to the extent that I made consultation with my father, who was also an ordained minister and student of the Bible since childhood. Based on his research and background in the origin and sources for modern day Christianity, I began to go deeper into the problems which had plagued my thinking and faith since childhood.

I prayed to Almighty God and then found the answers to some of the problems were spelled out very clearly in the very beginning of the exact same book. I have that book lying in front of me on my desk as I write this article and would like to quote to you from some of the PREFACE page iii and iv:

"The King James Version has with good reason been termed 'the noblest monument of English prose.' Its revisers in 1881 expressed admiration of 'its simplicity, its dignity, its power, its happy turns of express... the music of its cadences, and the felicities of its rhythm.' It entered, as no other book has, into the making of the personal character and the public institutions of the English-speaking peoples. We owe to it an incalculable debt."

"Yet the King James Version has grave defects. By the middle of the nineteenth century, the development of Biblical studies and the discovery of many manuscripts more ancient than those upon which the King James Version was based, made it manifest that these defects are so many and so serious as to call for a revision of the English translation. The task was undertaken, by authority of the Church of England, in 1870. The English Revised Version of the Bibles was published in 1881-1885; and the American Standard Version, its variant embodying the preferences of the American scholars associated in the work, was published in 1901."

"Because of the unhappy experience with unauthorized publications in the two decades between 1881 and 1901, which tampered with the text of the English Revised Version in the supposed interest of the American public, the American Standard Version was copyrighted, to protect the text from unauthorized changes. In 1928 this copyright was acquired by the International Council

of Religious Education, and thus passed into the ownership of the churches of the United States and Canada which were associated in this Council through their boards of education and publication."

".... decision was reached that there is need for a thorough revision of the version of 1901..""In 1937 the revision was authorized by vote of the Council."

"Thirty-two scholars have served as members of the Committee charged with making the revision, and they have secured the review and counsel of an Advisory Board of fifty representatives of the co-operating denominations."

"Each section has submitted its work to the scrutiny of the members of the charter of the Committee requires that all changes be agreed upon by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Committee."

"The problem of establishing the correct Hebrew and Aramaic text of the Old testament is very different from the corresponding problem in the New Testament."

"For the New Testament we have a large number of Greek manuscripts, preserving many variant forms of the text. Some of them were made only two or three centuries later than the original composition of the books."

"For the Old Testament only late manuscripts survive, all (with the exception of the Dead Sea Texts of Isaiah and Habakkuk and some fragments of other books) based on a standardized form of the text established many centuries after the books were written."

"The present revision is based on the consonantal Hebrew and Aramaic text as fixed early in the Christian era and revised by Jewish scholars (the 'Masoretes') of the sixth to ninth centuries. The vowel signs, which were added by the Masoretes, are accepted also in the main, but where a more probable and convincing reading can be obtained by assuming different vowels, this has been done."

"... vowel points are less ancient and [less] reliable than the consonants."

"Departures from the consonantal text of the best manuscripts have been made only where it seems clear that errors in copying had been made before the text was standardized."

"Most of the corrections adopted are based on the ancient versions [translations into Greek Aramaic, Syriac, and Latin], which were made before the time of the Masoretic revision and therefore reflect earlier forms of the text."

"Sometimes it is evident that the text has suffered in transmission, but none of the versions provides a satisfactory restoration. Here we can only follow the best judgment of competent scholars as to the most probable reconstruction of the original text."

"Many difficulties and obscurities, of course, remain."

"Where the choice between two meanings is particularly difficult or doubtful, we have given an alternative rendering in a footnote."

"If in the judgment of the Committee the meaning of a passage is quite uncertain or obscure, either because of corruption in the text or because of the inadequacy of our present knowledge of the language, that fact is indicated by a note."

"It should not be assumed, however, that the Committee was entirely sure or unanimous concerning every rendering not so indicated."

"To record all minority views was obviously out of the question."

"The King James Version of the New Testament was based upon a Greek text that was marred by mistakes, containing the accumulated errors of fourteen centuries of manuscript copying."

"It was essentially the Greek text of the New Testament as edited by Beza, 1589, who closely followed that published by Erasmus, 1516-1535, which was based upon a few medieval manuscripts."

"The earliest and best of the eight manuscripts which Erasmus consulted was from the tenth century, and [yet] he made the least use of it because it differed most from the commonly received text; Beza had access to two manuscripts of great value, dating from the fifth and sixth

centuries, but he made very little use of them because they differed from the text published by Erasmus."

"We now possess many more ancient manuscripts of the new Testament, and are far better equipped to seek to recover the original wording of the Greek text. The evidence for the text of the books of the New Testament is better that for any other ancient book, both in the number of extant manuscripts and in the nearness of the date of some of these manuscripts to the date when the book was originally written."

The words are in plain English. The second paragraph says it all, "Yet, the King James Version has grave defects.

Therefore, we must conclude the "King James Version" is NOT the Actual Bible sent by God to

(Please continue to chapter 2 - "<u>Are There Contradictions in the Bible?</u>")

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# Bible - A Closer Look!

by Yusuf Estes - Former Christian - Muslim Chaplain

# **CHAPTER 2**

"Contradictions in the Bible?"

First and foremost, let me be perfectly clear on the position of Muslims regarding the authenticity of the Holy Bible. It is a condition of faith for believers to believe in all of God's Books and scripture as stipulated by the Quran, the Last and Final Testament from Almighty God to mankind, that the previous scriptures, including of course the Old Testament (Arabic = Torah), the Psalms (Arabic = Zabur) and the New Testament (Arabic = Injeel) were all from Almighty God (Arabic = Allah) in their original form. The beginning verses of the Quran clearly spell out the position of the 'Believer' with regard to these scriptures. As the translation from Arabic may be rendered regarding the conditions of believers:

"And they (believers) believe in what is being sent down to you (Muhammad, peace be upon him) and they believe in what has been sent down before (previous Holy scriptures to Abraham, Moses, David, Solomon, and of course Jesus, peace be upon them all)." [Quran 2:2,3]

Therefore, it must be established that Muslims do accept that Almighty Allah did send down many Holy Books and he did allow the people to alter, change, delete and make additions to these Books, and as such, they can not longer be considered as the "Word of God" in their present condition. This is something immediately agreed upon by all qualified Biblical scholars.

Incidentally, there is sufficient evidence in the Quran to prove the remainder of the Bible still contains many of the original teachings and sayings of the prophets to whom the various scriptures were reveale

From the previous chapter we can easily determine that the original source of the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments have been lost and are no longer extant in any language. What has remained and been referred to for translations, is in fact nothing more than old copies that do not necessarily agree with each other and there does exist in them obvious corruption in additions and deletions. Additionally, they are not complete and do not have full agreement of the scholars of the Bible as to their meanings.

Just to offer a few of the many contradictions and errors of that which is being presented as the "Word of God" in the Bible I would like to quote the research of scholars of the Bible:

### **VERSES THAT CONTRADICT THEMSELVES**

Genesis 6:3 and Genesis 11:11 - Life limited to 120 years?

Genesis 32:30 and Exodus 33:20 - Jacob's life was preserved?

Exodus 4:22 and Jeremiah 31:9 - Who was God's firstborn?

Numbers 23:19 and Genesis 6:6-7 - Does God repent or not? 2 Samuel 6:23 and 2 Samuel 21:8 - Did Michael have children?

2 Samuel 8:4 and 1 Chronicles 18:4 - 700 or 7000 horsemen?

2 Samuel 8:9-10 and 1 Chronicles 18:9-10 - Toi or Tou? Hadadezer or Hadarezer? Joram or Hadoram?

2 Samuel 10:18 and 1 Chronicles 19:18 - 700 or 7000 charioteers? 40,000 horsemen or footmen? Captain's name?

2 Samuel 24:1 and 1 Chronicles 21:1 - Who provoked David?

2 Samuel 24:9 and 1 Chronicles 21:5 - 800,000 or 100,000?

2 Samuel 24:13 and 1 Chronicles 21:11-12 - 7 or 3 years?

1 Kings 4:26 and 2 Chronicles 9:25 - 40,000 or 4,000 stalls?

1 Kings 5:15-16 and 2 Chronicles 2:2 - 3300 or 3600?

1 Kings 7:26 and 2 Chronicles 4:5 - 2000 or 3000 baths?

2 Kings 8:26 and 2 Chronicles 22:2 - 22 or 42 years old?

2 Kings 24:8 and 2 Chronicles 36:9 - 18 or 8 years old? 3 months or 3 months and 10 days?

Ezra 2:65 and Nehemiah 7:67 - 200 or 245 singers?

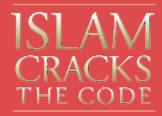
Matthew 1:12 and Luke 3:27 - Who was Salathiel's father?

Matthew 1:16 and Luke 3:23 - Who was Joseph's father?
Matthew 9:18 and Mark 5:22-23 - Dead or not?
Matthew 10:5-10 and Mark 6:7-8 - Bring a staff or not?
Matthew 15:21-22 and Mark 7:24-26 - The woman was of Canaan or Greece?
Matthew 20:29-30 and Mark 10:46-47 - One or two beggars?
Matthew 21:1-2 and Mark 11:1-2 - What happened to the ass?
Matthew 26:74-75 and Mark 14:72 - Before the cock crow once or twice?
Matthew 27:5 and Acts 1:18 - How did Judas die?
John 3:16 and Psalms 2:7 - Only begotten son?
John 5:31 and John 8:14 - Was Jesus' record true or not?

# VERSES THAT CONTRADICT THE TRINITARIAN DOCTRINE AND/OR THE DIVINITY OF JESUS

Exodus 33:20, John 1:18, 1 Timothy 6:16 - No one saw God. Isaiah 42:8 - Do not praise and worship images.
Isaiah 45:1 - "Anointed" does not mean "God".
Matthew 14:23, 19:13, 26:39, 27:46, 26:42-44 - Jesus prayed. Matthew 24:36 - Jesus was not all-knowing. Matthew 26:39 - Jesus and God had different wills. Matthew 28:18 - All power was given to Jesus. Mark 1:35, 6:46, 14:35-36 - Jesus prayed. Mark 10:17-18 and Luke 18:18-19 - Jesus denied divinity. Mark 12:28-29 - God is one. Mark 13:32 - Jesus was not all-knowing. Mark 16:19 and Luke 22:69 - Jesus at the right hand of God. Luke 10:21 - Jesus gave thanks. Luke 23:46 - The spirit of Jesus was commended to God. John 4:19 - Jesus was a prophet. John 4:23-24 - Worship in spirit and truth. John 14:28 - One was greater than the other. John 5:19, 5:30, 7:28, 8:28 - Jesus was helpless. John 5:20 - The Father showed the son. John 5:30 and 6:38 - Jesus and God had different wills. John 5:31-32 - Jesus' witness was not true. John 6:11 and 11:41-42 - Jesus gave thanks. John 6:32 - The Father was the provider, not the son. John 7:16, 12:49, 14:24, 17:14 - Jesus' words were not his. John 8:42 - Jesus did not come of himself. John 14:1 - Jesus said, "...believe also in me." John 14:16, 17:1, 17:9, 17:11, 17:15 - Jesus prayed. John 17:6-8 - "I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me." John 20:17 - Jesus had a god. Acts 2:22 - Jesus was "a man approved of God." Romans 8:34 - Jesus was an intercessor. 1 Timothy 2:5 - Jesus was the mediator between God and humans.

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# Bible - A Closer Look!

by Yusuf Estes - Former Christian - Muslim Chaplain

# CHAPTER 3

"Who is the God of the Bible?"

# "ONE" - SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN LITERALLY

Mark 10:6-9 and John 14:20, 15:1-7, 17:11, 17:18-23, 17:26 There are many verses in the Bible that speak of Jesus and God as being "one".

But does this necessarily mean that Jesus is God? If you read the six selections above then you will see that we cannot take the word "one" so literally. If we do, then we are God, as Jesus said, "...they also may be one in us" and "...they may be one, even as we are one." What the Bible means when it says that Jesus is "one" with God is that he is extremely close to god, "as if" they are one. John 17:18-23 tells how we normal human beings can attain this "oneness" (or "closeness") with God by being "sanctified through the truth." Aside from this, neither the word "trinity" appears anywhere in the Bible nor any explanation of such a thing.

#### "LORD" DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN "GOD"

Matthew 18:23-34, Luke 19:11-21, and John 20:26-29 Many of Jesus' disciples referred to Jesus as "Lord". Even Jesus himself said that he is their Lord. But does this mean that he is their God? If you read the three short stories above then you will realize that back in the Biblical time period most servants referred to their masters as "lord". This was a common practice because it showed honor and respect for a person of such high stature.

# "LORD" - A Lofty Title

Even today in many countries around the world such as England, "lord" is used in referring to kings, princes, and others who deserve such a lofty title. The disciples and followers of Jesus viewed him as their earthy master and themselves as his servants. He was a man from God who brought them God's message of truth, justice, and peace. Who could be more deserving of the title "lord" than Jesus Christ? Besides, "lord" is defined by Webster in many curious ways.

A few of them are as follows:

- 1. A man of high rank in a feudal society.
- 2. A king.
- 3. A general masculine title of nobility or rank.
- 4. A man of renowned power.
- 5. A man who has mastery in a given activity or field.

Commenting on the word's history, Webster says that "lord" literally means 'guardian of the bread'". He continues, "Since such a position would be the dominant one in the household, lord came to denote a man of authority and rank in society at large."

In The Holy Qur'an also uses "lord" in the same context (see 12:23 and 12:41-42). This was simply the language of the time.

The word "lord" does not render the person which it is being applied to as God. If this were the case, then many human beings in the Bible would have to be considered God.

http://www.islamcode.com/bible/bible\_closer\_look\_ch3.html



# Bible - A Closer Look!

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# CHAPTER 4

"Does Bible Say 'Jesus is God'?"

# JESUS DENIED DIVINITY Mark 10:17-18 and Luke 18:18-19

These verses are most indicative of Jesus' position and real nature. The verse in Mark reads: "As he [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone."

If you analyze this verse in truth you will see that Jesus, quite simply, is not God. If he was, why then would he say "No one is good but God alone"? Jesus did not want to be called "good" because he was not God. That title, as Jesus admits, belongs to none but God.

This subject was actually a part of another book that I have been in the process of writing for a number of years. Considering the fact that I may never finish it, I have taken the liberty to put some of it down on paper and then compared it to findings of other Christian preachers who have come to Islam and you can read that online at:

www.IslamTomorrow.com/bible/son of who.asp

http://www.islamcode.com/bible/bible\_closer\_look\_ch4.html

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# Bible - A Closer Look!

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# CHAPTER 5

"What Does it all Mean?"

#### CONCLUSION

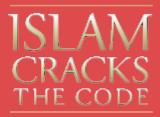
If all of this has confused you it's probably because you've been trying to justify your belief in the Trinity. To believe in the Trinity goes against all of the teachings of Jesus, as well as the Bible. This is because the Trinity is a man-made doctrine that was drawn up several hundred years after Jesus. In this time period different interpretations of the Bible were causing serious debates among Christians. The various interpretations were, undoubtedly, due to human perversion of the original scriptures, poor preservation, and/or shoddy translations. One of the main things being questioned was the nature of God and Jesus. Was Jesus actually God, the son of God, or just a messenger? The Council of Nicea was formed in an attempt to settle this dispute, and the Nicea Creed (the Trinitarian doctrine) was subsequently hammered out.

Again, as I stated in the beginning, this writing has not been complied to put down or destroy the true teachings of the Bible and the Prophets. I would like to quote from a version of the Bible wherein Jesus is represented as saying:

"Think not that I came to destroy the Law [Torah] and the Prophets [prophethood]. I did not come to destroy them, but rather to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments [from the Law] and teaches men so, shall be called least in the Kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the Kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." [Matt. 5:17]

It is wrong to assume that our beliefs are true simply because our teachers, preachers and parents have taught us something passed down to them by generations of forefathers before them. What I would invite all of us to do is to do research for ourselves and learn from reliable sources what is the origin of modern Christianity and what should be our perspective on true belief in general. We can only achieve this with open minds and hearts.

So, may the Great God of the Universe guide us all with His perfect Guidance to all truth, amee	n.
http://www.islamcode.com/bible/bible_closer_look_ch5.html	



# Bible - A Closer Look!

by Yusuf Estes - Former Christian - Muslim Chaplain

# CHAPTER 6

"What to do Now?"

It is not at all logical to simply accept a belief system because it was passed down to you by your parents. After all, what if it is not correct? A system for belief should be based upon sound principles of reasoning and understanding, rather than feelings and emotions.

As regards the Muslims treatment of Jesus, peace be upon him, it should be kept in mind that, although they do not hold him to be the 'son of god' in Christianity, he is definitely held in high esteem as great prophet, 'Miraculous birth" and also believe in the same unseen God that he referred to as "Your Lord and my Lord, your God and my God."

Please take time to read the articles on this site. Print them out and share with others. Write to us and visit our website for more information about the world's largest and most compatible religions; Islam and Christianity. Research for yourself the Council of Nicea and the preservation of the Bible, or lack thereof.

More Articles About Bible, Jesus, Trinity, etc. [click]

There are a number of books which are easily accessible written by experts and scholars on the Bible which are very enlightening on this subject:

"Who Wrote the Bible" - Richard Elliott Friedman [excerpts]

"Who Wrote the Dead Sea Scrolls?" - Norman Golb

"The Book of 'J'" - Harold Bloom & David Rosenberg

"The Text of the New Testament - Its Transmission, Corruption, & Restoration" - Bruce M. Metzger

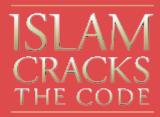
Islam is truly and simply a complete way of life and set of rules taught by all the prophets to mankind, similar to Biblical teachings that were revealed to humankind after Jesus through the last and final prophet Muhammad.

Why? Good Question...

For more details about ISLAM, please visit our web page at:

www.IslamTomorrow.com/islam

http://www.islamcode.com/bible/bible\_closer\_look\_ch6.html



# Comparing Codes of Belief Between Islam & Christianity

Allah (God Almighty) is the only Creator of all that exits.

There is one God (Allah). Jesus is the Christ, miracle birth- and Muhammad (p) is his last prophet, both of them said, "God is One and you have to serve Him with all your heart, mind and strength.

Allah reveals His 99 Divine Attributes and does not compare Himself to any of His creation.

Allah created man from dirt and "in His image" and of "His spirit," yet God has no likeness of anything in creation.

Adam & Eve sinned, then repented and were forgiven, with no continuing effects on their children.

God Forgives Adam and Eve after they repent. Then He makes Adam his deputy (caliph) and the first prophet.

Man is basically good but prone to mistakes. Muslims who repent and submit to God are forgiven without intercession from Christ (or anyone) needed.

Through submission to the Will of God in peace, anyone, anytime, any place becomes a servant of Allah and draw closer to Him.

Allah is not like His creation. He is neither male nor female, nor is creation like Him.

God Almighty is the only Creator of all that exits. (Gen. 1:1)

There is one God. He exists eternally in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (There is no "Trinity" in the Bible)

God has revealed Himself as "One God" and "One Lord" (Dueteronomy 6:3; Mark 12:29)

God created man from dirt and the image of God (Genesis 1)

Adam and Eve sinned and thus brought sin into the world and their sins passed on to their children. (Genesis 3:1-7)

Original Sin - all of Adam's posterity are born with a sin nature and are sinful from birth (Romans 3:22-23, 1st John 1:10)

Man is by nature sinful and has need for redemption by the atonement of Jesus Christ (Romans 5:6, 8:32, Colossians 1:19-20, Hebrews 7:26-27, 9:26, 10:12, 1st John 4:10)

Through the work of Christ, God adopts Christians into His family and calls them His children (Romans 8:14-15, Ephesians 1:5, Galatians 4:5)

Bible says; "God is not a man... not the son of man.." (Numbers 19:23) Other places contradicts this(?)

http://www.islamcode.com/christianityvsislam.htm

# **Audio Lectures**

Jesus - peace be upon him http://www.islamcode.com/AudioLectures.html

# Video Lectures

Jesus - peace be upon him http://www.islamcode.com/VideoLectures.html



# Son of Who?

By - Yusuf Estes

#### Jesus Of Christianity & Islam

Comparing Ideas - Sharing Knowledge

Does the belief in Jesus, peace be upon him, as a 'son of God' really make sense?

What exactly does 'son of God' mean?

Can true salvation from God, be the punishment of someone else who is innocent from any of these crimes, to be punished as though he were guilty?

Does God need someone to suffer severe punishment, even though they are trying, day after day.

Did Jesus, peace be upon him, tell the people to take him as a god, or to worship him?

Let us find the answer to these and other important questions about the nature of Jesus of Christianity and Islam.

## "Look to the Books"

To begin, let us do a sample comparison of the teachings of the Holy Books of Almighty God.

**QURAN OF ISLAM** 

Surah 39:53 "Say: 'Oh my servants who have transgressed against their souls! Despair not of the Mercy of Allah: for Allah forgives all sins, for he is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful'."

Also: Surah 4:110

"If anyone does evil or wrongs his own soul but afterwards seeks Allah's forgiveness, he will find Allah Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."

Surah 2:21

"O you people! Adore your Guardian lord, who created you and those who came before you that you may become righteous."

Surah 58:22

"You will not find any people who believe in Allah and the Last Day, loving those who resist Allah and His Messenger, even though they were their fathers or their sons, or their brothers, or their kindred. For such He has written faith in their hearts and strengthened them with a spirit from Himself. And He will admit them to Gardens beneath which rivers flow, to dwell therein (forever). Allah will be well pleased with them, and they with Him. They are the Party of Allah. Truly it is the Party of Allah that will achieve Felicity."

New Testament of BIBLE

Mark 6:10

"Why do you call me good?" answered Jesus, "No-one is good but God alone!"

Matthew 5:17

"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them, but rather to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until Heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of the pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until all things are accomplished. Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But whoever keeps the commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven."

#### Matthew 7:21

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the Will of the Father who is in Heaven. Many will say to me on the day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!"

Some leaders claimed, "This probably refers to the Mormons or somebody else. Don't worry about it."

#### Mark 1:35

Gabriel says Jesus will be "called the son of God" and he would be "given the Throne of David" to "rule the House of Jacob forever."

#### Luke 3:36

"Enos was the son of Seth, and Seth was the son of Adam, and Adam was the son of God."

Note: Adam, not Jesus, is listed in this genealogy of Jesus as the son of God, not Jesus.

Later on, the priests are asking Jesus, peace be upon him, if he claims to be the son of God. He tells them in fact, it is they who are making this claim.

"You say that I am."

Gospel of John contains the greatest number of references to "son of God." Jesus, speaking in the third person talked about the "Son of God" in John 3:17

John 5:24 John 11:4 John 11:27

Martha, one of the followers, calls Jesus, peace be upon him, "The Messiah, the Son of God" John 20:31 he is called "The Messiah, the Son of God."

But no verse makes the exact statement "Jesus is the Son of God and as such he is divine or

# **QURAN 4:171**

God."

"O People of the Book! Commit no excesses in your religion: nor say of Allah anything but the truth. Christ Jesus, the son of Mary was (no more than) a Messenger of Allah, and His Word, which He bestowed on Mary, and a Spirit proceeding from Him: so believe in Allah and His Messengers. Say not "Trinity": desist: It will be better for you: For Allah is One God: Glory be to Him: (Far exalted is He) above having a son. To Him belong all things in the heavens and on earth. And enough is Allah as a Disposer of affairs."

Notice in the Bible, the frequent link between the position of Jesus, peace be upon him, as the Messiah and the 'son-ship.'

The term 'son of god' can not, in itself, be considered enough to declare anything unique about Jesus, peace be upon him, as this term is used for many people throughout the Old and the New Testament. See above: Luke 3:38

# Also, in Isaiah 62:8

refers to the entire house of Israel as being, 'Sons of God'.

Romans 8:14 Paul tells us about those who are led by the spirit: "because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God."

The word "Messiah" is one that more particularly seems to represent the station of the person predicted to appear and lead the people to the victory over this world.

Oxford Companion of the Bible states Jews prior to Jesus, peace be upon him, hoped for a prophesied ruler, reigning with everlasting justice, peace and security for the "Sons of Israel."

#### **BIBLE**

## Isaiah 11:1-5

"A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The spirit of the Lord will be on him - the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of Knowledge and of the fear of the Lord - and he will delight in the fear of

the Lord."

#### Jeremiah 33:14-20

"The days are coming, declares the Lord, 'When I will fulfill the gracious promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord Our Righteousness." For this is what the Lord says: 'David will never fail to have a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, nor will the priests, who are Levites, ever fail to have a man to stand before me continually to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offering and to present sacrifices."

#### Ezekiel 37:24-28:

"My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees. The will live in the land I gave to my servant Jacob, the land where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children's children will live there forever, and David my servant will be their prince forever. I will make a covenant of peace with them, it will be an everlasting covenant. I will establish them and increase their numbers and I will put my sanctuary among them forever. My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. Then the nations will know that I the Lord make Israel holy, when my sanctuary is among them forever."

# Genesis 49:10

"The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the rules staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his."

#### Numbers 24:17

"I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel. He will crush the foreheads of Moab, the skulls of all the sons of Sheth. Edom will be conquered; Seir, his enemy, will conquered, but Israel will grow strong. A ruler will come out of Jacob and destroy the survivors of the city."

#### God Incarnate? NOT HERE

#### **BIBLE**

2 Samuel 7:12-15 Nathan the prophet (son of Solomon)

"The Lord declares to you that the Lord Himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father and he will be my son. (New Testament book of Hebrews stops here)

Samuel continues:

"When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you."

## Hebrews 1:5

"You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

Does this support the case the doctrine that Jesus, peace be upon him, is the 'begotten Son of God?"

# Old Testament BIBLE

Psalms 2:7 David is stating what God has proclaimed regarding David's relationship to God "I will proclaim the decree of the Lord: he said to me, 'you are my Son; this day have I begotten you."

Note: the New International Version says the verse could be translated either as "become your Father" or as "begotten you" into English or Greek.

# New Testament BIBLE

Mark 1:35

"He will be called the Son of God."

Note: This does not state he "is" the son, but rather, he will be "called" the son of God.

Or was he the "one anointed to preach Good News to the poor." prophesied by Isaiah, and the Messiah proclaimed by Gabriel, the followers of Jesus, peace be upon him, Jesus, himself and the remained of the New Testament, he evidently would not be God.

**New Testament BIBLE** 

John 8:58

"I tell you the truth', Jesus answered, 'before Abraham was, I am!"

"I am" is the term used to identify God to Moses, peace be upon him.

**New Testament BIBLE** 

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son, that whoever believed in him should not perish but have everlasting life."

This does not actually define Jesus, peace be upon him, as God, or as the Messiah or as a Prophet.

Note: This verse was actually modified by Jerome in the 4th century.

ARIUS (Early history of the Church) a popular leader from Alexandria, Egypt. He argued, Jesus, peace be upon him, was created and not 'begotten.' He was charged with heresy and his followers were horribly oppressed by the Church.

After the matter was 'decided' and 'confirmed' by the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. and in an effort to consolidate both beliefs, Jerome altered the original version of the Gospel of John 3:16 by changing the word 'monogenes' (unique) and substituted the word 'ingenious'; meaning 'only begotten.'

What other 'interpretations' did the early Church Fathers invent to satisfy their claims of the divinity of Jesus, peace be upon him?

Good question.

**New Testament BIBLE** 

John 10:38 "But if I do it, even though you do not believe me, believe the miracles, that you may learn and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father."

John 14:10 "Don't you know that I am in the Father and that the Father is in me? The words that I say to you are not my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me who is doing this work."

But further reading in the very same chapter:

John 14:20 "On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you."

So how does he live in his disciples and how do they live in him? And if so, are they also, sons of God or Gods?

Another good question.

1st John 2:5-6 (This is an epistle [letter] written by another "John," not John the Gospel er nor John the Baptist)

"But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in Him. Whoever claims to live in Him must walk as Jesus did."

Note: This indicates, living 'in God' means, 'Obeying God's commandments and following the Way of Jesus, peace be upon him.'

Twice in the New Testament, Jesus, peace be upon him, tells his followers how to pray saying, "When you pray, say this..."

And the words are very clear, 'God's Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven."

BIBLE

John 17:22-23

"I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one; I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

The word used throughout chapter 10 and 17, for unity or one was the same, 'heis' meaning the number one. There is another word 'hen' which means a unity of essence. However, 'hen' is nowhere to be found in these chapters.

Note: Conclusion is this is a prayer from Jesus, peace be upon him, to God that all of his followers would have the same relationship that he (Jesus) had.

Understanding the word 'one' meanings understanding the way in which it is being used. For example a man and a woman become 'one' when they marry; someone might say, 'One hopes for success' or 'We are one in agreement.'

Jesus, peace be upon him, is supposed to have said, "If you have seen me, you have seen the Father." In the very part of the Bible we find the verse wherein Jesus, peace be upon him, tells his followers, if they accepted a little child, then they also accepted Jesus, peace be upon him. Naturally, he did not mean the child was God or that he was a child.

Christians are taught early in life, by doing good deeds and service for others, they are in fact allowing others to see Jesus in them.

Why do we hold so tight to doctrines, even after realizing the incorrectness and false teachings?

Yet another good question.

The Bible clearly teaches that Jesus, peace be upon him, is a man, born of a woman without any father, strengthened by a Spirit from God (Gabriel), sent by God to teach the Children of Israel the true meaning of belief and proper actions (following the commandments) that God would accept from them and as such, their 'road to salvation.'

One more time:

**BIBLE** 

John 1:1

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God at the beginning."

Jesus, peace be upon him, was the very "Word of God."

#### **QURAN**

Surah 4:171

"O People of the Book! Commit no excesses in your religion: nor say of Allah anything but the truth. Christ Jesus the son of Mary was (no more than) A Messenger of Allah, and His Word, which He bestowed on Mary, and a Spirit proceeding from Him; so believe in Allah and His Messengers. Say not 'trinity': desist.

It is difficult for us to admit that we have been deceived for so many years by some many people, some of them very near and dear to us. The truth is, 'Someone has been lying to us' - on purpose.

It is also difficult to consider the consequences of loosing faith in the doctrine of the Church, out of fear of loosing faith in God altogether.

But there is wonderful hope, Grace, Mercy and Salvation for those who come to the correct belief and obey the commandments.

Wisdom or Word?

Oxford Companion to the Bible

The words "wisdom" and "word" were synonymous (exactly the same words) in Jewish thought at the time of Jesus.

Old Testament BIBLE

Proverbs 8:22-30

"The lord brought me forth at the beginning of his work before his deeds of old; I was appointed from eternity, from the beginning before the world began. When there were no oceans, I was given birth, when there were no springs abounding with water; before the mountains were settled in place, before the hills, I was given birth, before he made the earth or its fields or any of the dust of the world. I was there when he set the heavens in place, when he marked out the horizon on the face of the deep, when he established the clouds above and fixed securely the fountains of the deep, when he gave the sea its boundary so the waters would not overstep his command, and when he marked out the foundations of the earth. Then I was the craftsman at his

# Proverbs 3:19

"By Wisdom the Lord laid the earth's foundations, by understanding he set the heavens in place;

by his knowledge the deeps were divided, and the clouds let drop the dew."

APOCRYPHA (hidden books of the Bible)

Wisdom 1 and Wisdom II

Sirach (also called: "Ecclesiasticus") written by Jesus ben Sira, a devout Jew of Jerusalem, 200 years before Christ.

These texts were a part of the Bible until the time of the Calvinists and the Protestant Reformation (hence the word - protest).

Scrolls found at Wadi Qumran and Masada confirm these were always a part of the ancient version of the Bible, but obviously not something Protestants wanted anything to do with.

#### Wisdom states in Sirach 24:1-12

"Wisdom praises herself, and tells of her glory in the midst of her people. In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth, and in the presence of his hosts she tells of her glory: 'I came forth from the mouth of the Most High and covered the earth like a mist. I dwelt in the highest heavens, and my throne was in a pillar of a cloud. Alone I compassed the vault of heaven and traversed the depths of the abyss. Over waves of the sea, over all the earth, and over every people and nation I have held sway. Among all these I sought a resting place; in whose territory should I abide? Then the Creator of all things gave me a command, and my Creator chose the place for my tent. He said, 'Make your dwelling in Jacob, and in Israel, receive your inheritance.' Before the ages, in the beginning he created me, and for all the ages I shall not cease to be. In the holy tent I ministered before him, and so I was established in Zion. Thus in the beloved city he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my domain. I took root in an honored people, in the portion of the Lord his heritage.

# Wisdom of Solomon 7:25-27

"For she is a breath of the power of God, and a pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty; therefore nothing evil gains entrance into her. For she is a reflection of eternal light, a spotless mirror of the working of God, and an image of His goodness. Although she is but one, she can do all things, and while remaining in herself, she renews all things; in every generation she passes into holy souls and makes them friends of God, and prophets."

Did the beginning of the Gospel of John indicate John believed the Spirit was sent by God to Jesus, peace be upon him, that it was the Spirit of Wisdom, Spirit of Prophecy, sent to all the prophets, with the same commandments and wisdom?

Could the Spirit of Wisdom be with God since creation? Or perhaps the Spirit was the 'Word of God' that was uttered or breathed by God in the Beginning and then continued along with God in the rest of Creation?

# **BIBLE APOCRAPHA**

Wisdom of Solomon 7:22

"For wisdom, the Fashioner of all things, taught me."

Could the Spirit of Wisdom be the Holy Spirit that spoke to Mary about having her baby? And the same Holy Spirit that descending upon him at this baptism?

#### **BIBLE**

John 1:32

"Then John gave this testimony: 'I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit'."

All of this confirms without doubt the writers of the Old Testament and the New Testament were definitely on the lookout for a "Messiah" or "chosen leader of the way to salvation in this life and the next life."

The word in Hebrew for the 'chosen one' or 'anointed one' or 'appointed one' is 'Messiah.' The word in Koine Greek for 'Messiah' is 'Christos' (became 'Christ'). The word in Arabic for it is "Meshiha"

Did Jesus, peace be upon him, ask people to pray to him, or to pray with him, to the God who sent him?

Did Jesus, peace be upon him, claim to be God?

Can the term "son of God" in English really present the meaning intended by the writers of the Bible?

Now let us compare with compassion and wisdom in our hearts. Which of the two concepts make the most sense between Islam and Chrisitanity when it comes to the subject of Jesus, peace be upon him?

Let us compare the two and see what our widsom and common sense tell us:

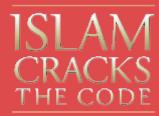
According to the teachings of Islam in the Quran and the words of the last prophet, Muhammad, peace be upon him, Jesus, the son of Mary, was predicted, he came to earth as a baby with a mother but no father, he did amazing miracles by the permission of Allah, including even bringing a dead man back to life; he did demonstrate for his followers the very best of behavior and obedience to the commandments of God. And according to the Bible he personally prayed and ask God Almighty to save him from the fate of going to the cross.

The Bible indicates Jesus' prayers at Gethsemene went unanswered, even though he stayed up through the night crying and asking God, "Let this cup pass from me, even so, Your will be done."

Yet, according to Quran, Almighty God did answer his prayers. He did not go to the cross, but rather the likeness of him was put on another person who did go to the cross and Almighty God, caused Jesus, peace be upon him, to be saved, protected and he is with God and will return in the Last Days to lead the true believers to victory over the evil ones.

Some have even speculated the one on the cross was the very one (Judas Thomas Iscariot) who sold out Jesus and his followers for thirty pieces of sliver.

http://www.islamcode.com/sonofwho.html



# Who Was Jesus - peace be upon him

called "Essa" in Arabic

Islam honors all the prophets who were sent to mankind. Muslims respect all prophets in general, but Jesus in particular, because he was one of the prophets who foretold the coming of Muhammad. Muslims, too, await the second coming of Jesus. They consider him one of the greatest of Allah's prophets to mankind. A Muslim does not refer to him simply as "Jesus," but normally adds the phrase "peace be upon him" as a sign of respect.

No other religion in the world respects and dignifies Jesus as Islam does. The Qur'an confirms his virgin birth (a chapter of the Qur'an is entitled "Mary"), and Mary is considered to have been one of the purest women in all creation. The Qur'an describes Jesus' birth as follows:

"Behold!' the Angel said, God has chosen you, and purified you, and chosen you above the women of all nations. Mary, God gives you good news of a word from Him, whose name shall be the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, honored in this world and in the Hereafter, and one of those brought near to God. He shall speak to the people from his cradle and in maturity, and he shall be of the righteous. She said: "My Lord! How shall I have a son when no man has touched me?' He said: "Even so; God creates what He will. When He decrees a thing, He says to it, 'Be!' and it is." [3:42-47]

Muslims believe that Jesus was born immaculately, and through the same power which had brought Eve to life and Adam into being without a father or a mother.

"Truly, the likeness of Jesus with God is as the likeness of Adam. He created him of dust, and then said to him, 'Be!' and he was." [3:59]

During his prophetic mission, Jesus performed many miracles. The Qur'an tells us that he said:

"I have come to you with a sign from your Lord: I make for you out of clay, as it were, the figure of a bird, and breathe into it and it becomes a bird by God's leave. And I heal the blind, and the lepers, and I raise the dead by God's leave." [3:49]

Muhammad and Jesus, as well as the other prophets, were sent to confirm the belief in one God. This is referred to in the Qur'an where Jesus is reported as saying that he came:

"To attest the law which was before me, and to make lawful to you part of what was forbidden you; I have come to you with a sign from your Lord, so fear God and obey me." [3:50]

Prophet Muhammad emphasized the importance of Jesus by saying: "Whoever believes there is no god but Allah, alone without partner, that Muhammad is His messenger, that Jesus is a servant and messenger of God, His word breathed into Mary and a spirit emanating from Him, and that Paradise and Hell are true, shall be received by God into Heaven. [Bukhari]

http://www.islamcode.com/WhoWasJesus.html