

Words of Truth

Exposing Islam/ Muslims (Part 6)

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This will be our sixth and final article exposing the errors of Islam. I think we can all see there is much about this false religion that we could talk about more than we have. When writing about a religion with so many errors, it is hard to know when to stop. This article will expose something that I have found in my research of Islam that connects with many of their core beliefs. In fact, this one thing gives even more insight into why Mecca is so important to Muslims. That one thing is the Islamic view of Abraham's son Ishmael (cf. Genesis 16:1-16). Amazingly, they misuse Ishmael to try and give credibility to their real founder and spiritual leader (Muhammad). Therefore, let me share with you what I have found on Ishmael from a Muslim view. Then, we shall see how that view is wrong as we look at the word of the only true God!

The Muslim View Of Ishmael

First, let's begin with the Muslim view that instead of Isaac, it was Ishmael who was going to be offered as a sacrifice by Abraham: "According to the Qur'ân, the sacrificed cannot be Isaac. According to authentic Islamic tradition, the sacrificed is Ishmael. The Muslim scholars have solved this case a long time ago and, very early in the history of Islam, the popular Islamic tradition has integrated the fact that Ishmael was the sacrificed" (<http://www.islamic-awareness.org/Quran/Contrad/MusTrad/sacrifice.html>). Muslims even have a memorial service dedicated to this called Eid ul-Adha. Notice: "In addition, like the pilgrims in Makkah, those Muslims who can afford to do so offer domestic animals, usually sheep, as a symbol of Abraham's sacrifice. The meat is distributed for consumption to family, friends, and to the poor and needy" (http://www.islamicity.com/mosque/hajj/Adha/eid_ulAdha.htm). Sadly, Muslims even have a service for Hagar. Notice: "In the ceremony of sa'y they reenact the search for water by Hagar, wife of the patriarch Abraham" (<http://www.islamicity.com/MOSQUE/IHAME/Ref2.htm>).

Beyond the error that Isaac was not the one offered by Abraham, Muslims claim that Ishmael is the promised child of Abraham. Their doctrine just gets more twisted after that. They go on to claim a continued foundation of Islam that both Abraham and Ishmael built together, which Muslims continue to look to today. Notice: "Do Islam and Christianity have different origins? No. Together with Judaism, they go back to the prophet and patriarch Abraham, and their three prophets are directly descended from his sons Muhammad from the eldest, Ishmael, and Moses and Jesus from Isaac. Abraham established the settlement which today is the city of Makkah, and built the Ka'ba towards which all Muslims turn when they pray. What is the Ka'ba? The Ka'ba is the place of worship which God commanded Abraham and Ishmael to build over four thousand years ago. The building was constructed of stone on what many believe was the original site of a sanctuary established by Adam. God commanded Abraham to summon all mankind to visit this place, and when pilgrims go there today they say 'At Thy service, O Lord', in response to Abraham's summons" (http://www.islamicity.com/mosque/uiatm/un_islam.htm).

The Truth About Isaac and Ishmael

“And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him... But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year... By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God” (Genesis 17:19; 21, and Hebrews 11:8-10).

Did God allow Sarah to be pleased while secretly making Ishmael the real promised seed? Notice: *“And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking. Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac. And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son. And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called” (Genesis 21:9-12).*

What son was Abraham supposed to offer as a sacrifice? Notice: *“And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. And he said, **Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac**, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of” (Genesis 22:1-2; cf. Hebrews 11:17-19 and James 2:21-22).*

Which son of Abraham did God save from being sacrificed by Abraham? Notice: *“And **Isaac** spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound **Isaac** his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, **seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me**. And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son” (Genesis 22:7-13).*

Conclusion

When we read through the Scriptures we read of salvation through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, etc. (Exodus 2:24, Matthew 1:1-2, Matthew 8:11, Acts 3:13, Romans 9:7, etc.). When God's people today think upon our relationship with God, we think back to Isaac, not to Ishmael (Galatians 4:28). We do not read of salvation through Ishmael. In fact, the Scriptures show clearly that the birth of Isaac was the promised continuance of Abraham's seed, while the birth of Ishmael was not (Galatians 4:22-23). This concludes our series on the false religion of Islam. Our next series of articles will explore another religion we see from time to time. Our next series will focus on the religion of the Amish.