

Islam:

**Session 3: Christianity & Christians
In Islam**

The Multifaceted Dimensions of Muslims and Islam

- Early History of Islam
- The Islamic Gradualism:
 - The early phase: coexistence with non-Muslims
 - The intermediate phase: Separate rules and communities for Muslims and non-Muslims
 - The concluding phase: Dominance and intolerance of non-Muslims

The early phase (continued)

- Was practiced in early Islam, until late 610s/early 620s AD.
- Appeals to nowadays secularist, liberal, and moderate Muslims.
- The belief in Muhammad is not mentioned: only the belief in Allah

The early phase (continued)

AL Baqara -The Cow (2:62)

Those who believe (in the Qur'an), and those who follow the Jewish (scriptures), and the Christians and the Sabians, - any who believe in Allah and the Last Day, and work righteousness, shall have their reward with their Lord; on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.

The early phase (continued)

Younan -Jonah (10:94)

But if you are in doubt as to what We have revealed to you, ask those who read the Book before you; certainly the truth has come to you from your Lord, therefore you should not be of the disputers.

The early phase (continued)

AL Nahl- The Bee (16:126)

Invite (all) to the Way of thy Lord with wisdom and beautiful preaching; and argue with them in ways that are best and most gracious: for thy Lord knoweth best, who have strayed from His Path, and who receive guidance.

- Note: (previous verses refer to the Jews).

The reward for believing in Jesus will be doubled if one believes in Muhammad too.

- Narrated Abu Musa Al-Ash'ari
- Allah's Apostle said, " ... And if a man believes in Jesus and then believes in me, he will get a double reward...."
- Source: **004.055.655** (SB)

The intermediate phase: Separate rules/communities of Muslims and non-Muslims

- Between early 620s and 628 AD
- The period of Muhammad's migration from Mecca to Medina, before Muhammad and his followers conquered Mecca in 628
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The intermediate phase (continued)

AL Ma'ida- The Dinner Table (5:82)a

Strongest among men in enmity to the believers wilt thou find the Jews and Pagans; and nearest among them in love to the believers wilt thou find those who say, "We are Christians": because amongst these are men devoted to learning and men who have renounced the world, and they are not arrogant.

The intermediate phase (continued)

Al baqara - The Cow (2:120)

Never will the Jews or the Christians be satisfied with thee unless thou follow their form of religion. Say: "The Guidance of Allah, -that is the (only) Guidance." Wert thou to follow their desires after the knowledge which hath reached thee, then wouldst thou find neither Protector nor helper against Allah.

The intermediate phase (continued)

AL Ma'ida - The Dining Table (5:51)

O ye who believe! take not the Jews and the Christians for your friends and protectors: They are but friends and protectors to each other. And he amongst you that turns to them (for friendship) is of them. Verily Allah guideth not a people unjust.

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- Source: Suan Al- Turmothi (my translation)
 - Allah Messenger said, "Do not initiate greeting the Jews and Christians, and if you meet one of them on the road, force him (or them) to its narrowest part"

The Transition to the concluding phase:

The Constitution of Medina (627 Or 628 AD)

- Muslims defined themselves as a separate Community from all others.
- Jews and Christians (called Dhimmis) can live as long they conformed to Muslims' laws/rules. They can live as associates members of the Muslim state.
- Jews and Christians must pay yearly tax (jizya) to Muslims.
- Pagans (Polytheists) were not allowed in the Medina.

Source: <http://islamicity.com/education/ihome/default.asp?Destination=/education/ihome/2.asp>

The concluding phase: Islamic Dominance and control, after 628 AD

- Started after Muhammad and Muslims conquered their enemies (Pagans, and non-Muslims)
- The Islamic Rules (Shari'a).

The concluding phase (continued)

Al-Tauba - The Repentance (9:29)

Fight those who believe not in Allah nor the Last Day, nor hold that forbidden which hath been forbidden by Allah and His Messenger, nor acknowledge the religion of Truth, (even if they are) of the People of the Book, until they pay the Jizya with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued.

The concluding phase (continued)

The Repentance (9:30)

The Jews call 'Uzair a son of Allah, and the Christians call Christ the son of Allah. That is a saying from their mouth; (in this) they but imitate what the unbelievers of old used to say. Allah's curse be on them: how they are deluded away from the Truth!

The concluding phase (continued)

Spoils Of War (8:12-13)

12. Remember thy Lord inspired the angels (with the message): "I am with you: give firmness to the Believers: I will instil terror into the hearts of the Unbelievers: smite ye above their necks and smite all their finger-tips off them."

13. This because they contended against Allah and His Messenger. If any contend against Allah and His Messenger, Allah is strict in punishment.

The concluding phase (continued)

Spoils Of War (8:65)

O Messenger, rouse the Believers to the fight. If there are twenty amongst you, patient and persevering, they will vanquish two hundred: if a hundred, they will vanquish a thousand of the Unbelievers: for these are a people without understanding.

Christians forgot part of the covenant. God cursed them.

The Table (5:15) - Medinan
(Different verse number on the website)

From those, too, who call themselves Christians,
We did take a covenant, but they forgot a good
part of the message that was sent them: so we
estranged them, with enmity and hatred between
the one and the other, to the day of judgment.
And soon will Allah show them what it is they
have done.

Christians say that Allah is Christ.

The Table (5:19) - Medinan

Different verse number in the web page (5:17)

In blasphemy indeed are those that say that Allah is Christ the son of Mary. Say: "Who then hath the least power against Allah, if His will were to destroy Christ the son of Mary, his mother, and all every - one that is on the earth? For to Allah belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between. He createth what He pleaseth. For Allah hath power over all things."

God punished the Jews and Christians for they believe they are sons of God.

The Table (5: 20) - Medinan

Different verse in the website (5:18)

(Both) the Jews and the Christians say: "We are sons of Allah, and his beloved." Say: "Why then doth He punish you for your sins? Nay, ye are but men,- of the men he hath created: He forgiveth whom He pleaseth, and He punisheth whom He pleaseth: and to Allah belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between: and unto Him is the final goal (of all)"

Jews and Christians (people of the Book) who reject Islam will be in Hell-Fire

The Clear Evidence (98:6)

Those who reject (Truth), among the People of the Book and among the Polytheists, will be in Hell-Fire, to dwell therein (for aye). They are the worst of creatures.

Christians' blasphemy and its penalty: Hell-fire

The Table (5:75-76)

Web page (5:72-73)

75. They do blaspheme who say: "God is Christ the son of Mary." But said Christ: "O Children of Israel! worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord." Whoever joins other gods with Allah, - Allah will forbid him the garden, and the Fire will be his abode. There will for the wrong-doers be no one to help.

76. They do blaspheme who say: Allah is one of three in a Trinity: for there is no god except One Allah. If they desist not from their word (of blasphemy), verily a grievous penalty will befall the blasphemers among them.

Christians blaspheme against God: They believe in Trinity

The Table (5:75-76) - Medinan

Web page (5:72-73)

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Jews and Christians will be sent to Hell-Fire: they believe that God has a wife and son.

- Narrated Abu Sa'id Al-Khudri
- Jews and Christians (companions of the cross) will be sent to (Hell) Fire for they believe that God had a wife and son: The Jews believe that Izra was God's son, and Christians believe that Jesus is God's son. They lie because Allah has neither a wife nor a son.
- Source: **009.093.532** (SB)
 - Long Hadith

Allah transformed some unbelievers to apes and swine

The Table 5:60

Say: "Shall I point out to you something much worse than this, (as judged) by the treatment it received from Allah. those who incurred the curse of Allah and His wrath, those of whom some He transformed into apes and swine, those who worshipped evil;- these are (many times) worse in rank, and far more astray from the even path!"

Islam is the true Religion: the followers of other religions are lost

The Family of Imran (3:85) - Median

If anyone desires a religion other than Islam (submission to Allah), never will it be accepted of him; and in the Hereafter He will be in the ranks of those who have lost (All spiritual good).

Muslims are ordered to do the opposite of what Jews and Christians do.

- Narrated Abu Huraira
- Allah's Apostle said, "The Jews and the Christians do not dye (their grey hair), so you shall do the opposite of what they do (i.e. dye your grey hair and beards)."
- Source: **004.056.668 (SB)**.

Humiliating the Jews and Christians in Al-Hijaz, and expelling them from Al-Hijaz.

- Narrated Ibn 'Umar
- Umar expelled the Jews and the Christians from Hijaz. When Allah's Apostle had conquered Khaibar, he wanted to expel the Jews from it as its land became the property of Allah, His Apostle, and the Muslims. Allah's Apostle intended to expel the Jews but they requested him to let them stay there on the condition that they would do the labor and get half of the fruits. Allah's Apostle told them, "We will let you stay on thus condition, as long as we wish." So, they (i.e. Jews) kept on living there until 'Umar forced them to go towards Taima' and Ariha'.

Muhammad (near his death) cursed the Jews and Christians.

- Narrated 'Aisha and 'Abdullah bin 'Abbas:
- **When the last moment of the life of Allah's Apostle came he started putting his 'Khamisa' on his face and when he felt hot and short of breath he took it off his face and said, "May Allah curse the Jews and Christians for they built the places of worship at the graves of their Prophets." The Prophet was warning (Muslims) of what those had done.**
 - Source: **001.008.427** (SB)

Muslims will be first, then Jews, then Christians in the Day of Resurrection !?

□ Narrated Abu Huraira:

- I heard Allah's Apostle (p.b.u.h) saying, "We (Muslims) are the last (to come) but (will be) the foremost on the Day of Resurrection though the former nations were given the Holy Scriptures before us. And this was their day (Friday) the celebration of which was made compulsory for them but they differed about it. So Allah gave us the guidance for it (Friday) and all the other people are behind us in this respect: the Jews' (holy day is) tomorrow (i.e. Saturday) and the Christians' (is) the day after tomorrow (i.e. Sunday)."
 - Source: 002.013.001 (SB)