

Racism and Slavery In The Bible



By Omar Dunlap

"The law of slavery (in Islam) in the legal sense of the term is now obsolete. While it had any meaning, Islam made the slave's lot as easy as possible. A slave, male or female, could ask for conditional manumission by a written deed fixing the amount required for manumission and allowing the slave meanwhile to earn money by lawful means and perhaps marry and bring up a family. Such a deed was not to be refused if the request was genuine and the slave had character. Not only that, but the master is directed to help with money out of his own resources in order to enable the slave to earn his or her own liberty." -- The Meaning of the Holy Qur'an, footnote #2991, p. 875

Author's Note:

As always, before starting any pamphlet for our Christian brethren, I wish them to know that I have nothing personal against Christians or Jesus (SAAS). As a Muslim, I love Jesus (SAAS) as much if not more than a great deal of the Christians that I know. As a Muslim, I feel I am defending the truth of God and Jesus (SAAS) by writing this document and my intention is only to show why, as a former Christian, I left what I deem as 'modern Christianity' and chose to embrace Islam.

The fact is, in studying Islam I have come to the conclusion that the closest to true Christianity as Jesus (SAAS) actually taught it is that of Islam. The only thing that teaches Jesus (SAAS) was a "man approved by God" and nothing more (Acts 2:22), the faith that does away with the impossible notion of the Trinity, vicarious atonement, and the absurdities that must coexist with the belief that an utterly ineffable, indescribable, perfect, and limitless God not only is able but chooses to incarnate Himself into His own worthless creation (Job 9:32) is the perfect religion of ISLAM. Islam is the clean belief; the pure belief that corrected what the authors of the Bible attributed to what was once a perfect faith. To quote the atheist philosopher Nietzsche, "*There was only one Christian, and he died on the cross.*" (Indeed this would be true, if Christ died on the cross and if there was no such thing as the religion of Islam!)

With this being said, the Islamic view of Christianity is that the only thing that separates Christianity and Islam is some parts of the Bible. Parts of the Bible which had been corrupted at the hands of men (which any modern history scholar will tell you we have no idea who wrote 96 percent of the Bible, all 4 gospels included.). Therefore, Islam sees itself as the end of where other faiths started from. When the angel Gabriel spoke to Muhammad ibn Abdullah (SAAS) in that cave 600 years after the ascension of Christ, this marked the beginning of a series of revelations from God via the arch-angel which was written during the life of Muhammad (SAAS) himself, under his supervision, and was put in book form under the Caliphate of his friend and close companion Uthman and sent to the 4 corners of the Muslim world as it existed at that time. This book is called now as it was then, 'The Qur'an.' The Qur'an, a flawless book of divine origin, the very dictation of God spoken through Muhammad (SAAS) and written down shortly thereafter, no contradictions, no grammatical errors (despite the fact that Muhammad (SAAS) was illiterate) and in it are countless prophecies of striking accuracy, scientific proclamations only recently being realized to have been correct by modern science, and the most beautiful and eloquent poetry to have ever been uttered by a human tongue or heard by a human ear.

It is by the Qur'an and the exemplary example of God's final messenger Muhammad (SAAS) that we judge all things, (even the Bible) as a means to defend Jesus (SAAS) and his religion from the errors, omissions and lies the Bible has ascribed to him. Though as Muslims we believe the Bible to have **some** of the revelation of God, it indeed does have a great deal besides this, and therefore the attention of Christians must be drawn to this fact. This is the motivation of this pamphlet, to prove that God, who created the multitude of races, colors, tongues and creeds, is not a racist as we all know, but the Bible

does indeed have racism within its text. If this is true (as I will hopefully prove) then all honest thinking entities must reject the Bible as being the complete word of God, and hopefully, God willing, will understand that the wiser choice in religion is indeed Islam.

1. There are No Christian Terrorists?

In studying various topics about Christianity and Islam over the years I will never forget an article I came across on the topic of racism. It was called: “*Children of a White God*” and the author was Matthew C. Ogilvie. The very first sentence in his essay was particularly striking. He writes:

“It is common knowledge that Islamic extremism has been associated with numerous terrorist attacks around the world. It remains, though, that racist Christian theologies have also animated violent movements. One key example concerns the Oklahoma City bombing. Bomber Timothy McVeigh has been connected to white supremacist movements such as White Aryan Resistance and the Christian Identity Movement, both of which promote racist theology.”

Well, this was news to me at the time. I remembered that the majority of slavery in the United States had been justified by Christians in the past, but certainly, I thought, this was over. I thought this was just the ignorance of poorly educated Christians of old. But as I read the words in this mans essay, I began to realize that indeed, there were several Christian sects who taught racist theologies to this day, and such theologies resulted in countless acts of terrorism in the world.

As seen above, there were two listed Christian groups who taught racism: the *White Aryan Resistance* and the *Christian Identity Movement*. The Christian Identity movement is of particular concern. *Christian Identity* is a collection of churches which teach racist theologies. According to Wikipedia, there are roughly 350,000 members of the Christian Separatist movements.

Wikipedia also states:

*“A relatively new tenet gaining popularity among some radical Christian Identity believers justifies the use of violence if it is perpetrated in order to punish violators of God's law, as found in the Bible and interpreted by Christian Identity ministers and adherents. This includes **killing interracial couples, abortionists, prostitutes, and homosexuals.**”*

There is a 350,000 member-strong Church that believes killing interracial couples in the name of God in order to punish ‘violators of God’s law’ is a principal doctrine. But the Muslim need not look for cluster bombing in America. No, no, no. There is no need to even wonder if any Christians are being held for years in prison without charge for ‘security reasons.’ There is no call by the U.S. government to wiretap churches. Well, all these things are being perpetrated upon Muslims and in Muslim lands, no such call has been made in America for the Christians. With such a title as the ‘war on terror’ one

wonders why there is no ‘war on Christian terror’ but only a ‘war on Muslim terror.’ One wonders why the media isn’t bombarding homes with phrases like ‘Christian terrorists’ but everyone has heard the term ‘Muslim terrorists.’ A 350,000 member strong terrorist Christian organization running in America, right here at home, and no one bats an eye. Maybe it’s just me, but when I hear that **THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND PEOPLE SEE IT AS THEIR GOD GIVEN DUTY TO KILL BLACK PEOPLE** and these same people **MIGHT LIVE NEXT DOOR...**I tend to get a little jittery. This sends shivers up and down my spine. But maybe none of the non-racist Christians, and maybe none of the U.S. Government officials see these 350,000 people as a credible threat...because, let’s be honest...they don’t have weapons of mass destruction like Saddam, right?

Wrong.

2. The Arsenal of CHRISTIAN TERRORISTS making ‘Middle-Eastern Terrorists Jealous.’

As I read more and more of Mr. Ogilvie’s essay, I began to increasingly little worried. Of particular concern was his summary of a book he had read about the KKK. See, Mr. Ogilvie read all kinds of information, very credible information, when composing his essay, and as a result, this man knows what he is talking about. He drew from almost 70 sources and textbooks when writing his essay, and so this man knows what is what, as we say. He knows his business. He has read more on racism in America than most Muslims read about Islam! He knows what’s what. And in his incredible essay, he says:

Of much concern is that white racists, who call themselves “Christian” and who believe in a theology that gives divine justification to their beliefs, possess arsenals of high-technology weapons, the likes of which many Middle-East terrorists would be most jealous. (Patsy Sims, *The Klan*, [Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, Second Edition, 1996])

Well, this isn’t just a little problem then, is it? It’s not just a thorn in our side. It’s not an improbable threat. These Christian Terrorists are a **problem**. There are over 350,000 of these fundamentalists running around with weapons of MASS DESTRUCTION! Surely we are wire-tapping churches? Surely we are throwing them in jail for no reason like the Muslims in this country. Surely we are stopping them at airports, for goodness sakes THEY might have a high-tech chemical bomb! Surely we are taking SOME precaution, right? An add-on to the patriot act? Anything?

Don’t bother to look. It isn’t there. We are wide open. While all the U.S. troops are sitting in the desert finding NADA (nothing), Christian terrorists by the hundreds of thousands are preparing for a chemical-bomb ARMAGEDDON.

3. AMERICA’S POLICY: Elect your Local Terrorist

Reading further in Mr. Ogilvie’s essay, we see the following:

*Racist theology has today found itself powerful and influential voices. Of these, most prominent would be **David Duke, former Ku Klux Klan leader, who was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives.** Duke proclaims that he has always been a believing Christian and that **an integral part of his Christianity has been a theology of racial segregation.** We read in his own work that in the name of race preservation, **God has commanded genocide**, segregation and anti-miscegenation, and today forbids racial intermarriage and the crossing of racial boundaries.*

Stand back and take a deep breath. It is a lot to take in, I know. A former KKK Member in the U.S government. He was elected by the people. The “Moral Majority” of Louisiana felt a KKK member would be a good leader, who believed in segregation, and **genocide**. He calls himself a believing Christian. And those terrorists down in Louisiana elected him! Is there an influx of U.S. troops bombing homes in Louisiana?

No bombs. No wiretaps. Just a terrorist in the U.S. Government. Wonder what would happen if Bin Laden tried to run for office. They would bomb the whole city he was running in, in or outside of the U.S. Electing terrorists in other countries = bad. America would never do such a thing, right? Well, it turns out, electing terrorists in America = good. And there are no consequences for such a thing.

4. Racism in the Holy Book = Racism in the adherents

We can trace arguably some of the first racist theologies to the Bible itself. But, before tackling this issue, let me ask our Christian brethren, if I were to proclaim the white race as the holy race, is this racism? Would this be denounced as anti-Christian based on its ridiculous prejudice and racism? Would you bring a book into your house that was titled: *THE WHITE RACE IS THE HOLY RACE* and leave such a book on your coffee table for all to read?

Racism is defined as *The belief that race accounts for differences in human character or ability and that a particular race is superior to others.*

Now, if one race considers itself alone as holy, would this not be racism, by DEFINITION? The answer is, of course, **YES**, it is racism.

As it turns out, the Israelite writers of the Old Testament have referred to themselves as the HOLY RACE:

*“They (the Jews) have taken some of their daughters as wives for themselves and their sons, and have mingled the **holy race** with the peoples around them. And the leaders and officials have led the way in this unfaithfulness.” (Ezra 9:2 NIV version)*

We have read 2 important things in this passage:

1. That the Bible discriminates racially, and that
2. Mingling the “Holy Race” with other peoples is forbidden (i.e., interracial marriage)

My friends, this is where it all starts. The racism of the Jewish authors of the Old Testament. We begin to see why Terrorist Christians have developed the theology against interracial marriage and why racism is integrated into their faith.

5. The Bible and the Racism of Jesus

These inherently racist beliefs of the Jews easily leaked into Jesus’ doctrines according to the Bible. But again, before I begin, let me ask our Christian brethren a question. If I called a helpless woman **a dog** because she was not of my race...is this racism? Recall the definition of racism as defined earlier. Of course, such an action is considered racism. And unfortunately, if we read what the Bible says of Jesus’ teachings, we see that he had such an attitude:

*"A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, 'Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession.' Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, 'Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.' He [Jesus] answered, '**I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.**' The woman came and knelt before him. 'Lord, help me!' she said. He [Jesus] replied 'It is not right to take the children's [Jews] bread [blessings and miracles reserved for them] **and toss it to the dogs.**' 'Yes, Lord' she said, '**but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.**' Then Jesus answered, 'Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.' And her daughter was healed from that very hour." (From the NIV Bible, Matthew 15:22-28)*

Here we see some disturbing aspects of Jesus’ teachings (If we go on the Bible, that is.) A non-Jew woman came up and pleaded with Jesus, the verse says she came “*crying out*” -She was PLEADING PLEADING PLEADING with Jesus (SAAS). **Jesus’ response:** Well, the Bible says, as you read: *Jesus did not answer a word.* He didn’t even acknowledge her. The disciples wonder why, and Jesus (SAAS) responds to them, “*I was sent only to the lost sheep OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL.*” In other words, He only cares about the HOLY RACE. Not these other lesser races.

But still the woman pleads and pleads, “*Lord help me!*” She is still crying out. But still, Jesus turns an icy shoulder. “*It is not right to take the children’s bread and **TOSS IT TO THE DOGS.***” He calls the woman **a dog**. But why? Well, Jesus (SAAS) told you why. He was only sent to the House of Israel. The House of Israel = the HOLY RACE. The House of any other race = **DOGS**.

The woman is thus convinced that she is not equal to the Jews. She is beaten and admits that this doctrine is correct. She calls herself a dog, and admits that all she wants is some little crumbs: *'Yes, Lord' she said, 'but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.* –What is she saying here? “Yes, you are right, I am a dog.” This is what she is saying, “I am not a member of the Holy Race, but can I have some table scraps anyways?” You see, she has humiliated herself by believing in a racist doctrine. And out of pity, after having humiliated the woman in front of his disciples, Jesus finally heals her daughter. –Of course the reward only comes after she is humiliated and admits that she is a dog only worthy of crumbs from the table of the *HOLY RACE*.

Is this the Jesus (SAAS) you know and love? This is certainly not the Jesus (SAAS) I know and love. What does the Qu’ran say of Jesus? Let us read a quote from Jesus (SAAS) found in the Qu’ran:

"I am indeed a servant of God. He hath given me revelation and made me a prophet; And He hath made me blessed wheresoever I be, and hath enjoined on me Prayer and Charity as long as I live; (He hath made me) kind to my mother, and not overbearing or unblest; So peace is on me the day I was born, the day that I die, and the day that I shall be raised up to life (again)!" (Quran 19:30-33).

Here we see that according to the Qur’an, Jesus is not overbearing in his message. Jesus is seen as blessed, and as having come with a message of peace. But is racism a message of peace? Is calling a member of another race a dog a message of peace? It seems that the true peace-loving Jesus as propagated by the Christians can only be found in its true form in the Qur’an.

6. Jews and Gentiles Together At Last

After the Jewish racism of the Old Testament, and the Jewish racism of Jesus in the Gospels, the letters of the New Testament begin to take on a different tone. No more calling non-Jews dogs, and no more referring to the Jews as the Holy race. Paul, a Jew who converted to Christianity, tries to open up his religion to the Romans, that is, the gentiles. In order for his attempt to be successful, he must replace these old racist doctrines and open it up for the Romans. And we see in many areas of Paul’s writings, that he has done exactly that:

*“And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel **which I preach among the Gentiles...**”* (Galatians 2:2 NKJV)

We see that he is trying to open up Christianity to the Gentiles, which if we go by the Bible, is impossible. Furthering this point, Owen Chadwick, an award winning historian, writes:

“This is what Christians did. They were Jews who turned Judaism from a faith for the few to a faith for all...” (Chadwick 14)

You see, what Paul and his followers are doing are changing things. Adding in new ideas. They are changing the doctrines of Jesus (SAAS) and the Prophets before him. Covering that old racism up so that Jews and Gentiles, that is, whites, can now be arm in arm. But this is not to say that Paul is devoid of Racism. No, Paul makes it perfectly clear what his views on races other than whites and Jews are.

7. Paul's Racism

We have seen that Paul wanted to open up what was clearly racist doctrines to apply to whites as well as Jews. But I implore the reader to not be misled, Paul was by no means free from racism. We read in Paul's letter to Titus, the following:

"A prophet from their own people said of them "Cretans are always liars, wicked brutes, lazy gluttons." This testimony is true." (Titus 1:12-14)

Here is an instance where Paul quotes someone who has said that "Cretans are always liars." This is a negative generalization of an entire group of people, (the Cretans, a race from the island of Crete.) And Paul says that "*this testimony is true.*" Paul agrees with this assertion, that indeed it is true that **EVERY SINGLE CRETAN IS A LIAR**, and Paul also teaches that it is ok to over-generalize an entire group of people. To stereotype them. Paul also claims that people should imitate him:

"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ," (I Corinthians 11:1)

We now begin to see where some of the racist Christian sects are getting their doctrines. It is a simple case of racist teachings producing racist people. Paul does not forego the previous belief that the Jews are a Holy Race, but instead includes White people, the Roman Gentiles, in this 'everlasting covenant.' But what does he say of non-Jews and non-whites? He says they are "*always liars, wicked brutes, lazy gluttons...*"

8. Genocide against the Unholy Races

We now see where much of the racism of the 350,000 Christian terrorists in America comes from. The Bible. But what of their belief that it is ok to enact violence and terrorism, what of their belief in the use of weapons of mass destruction? Biblical? The answer, unfortunately, is YES. In the Old Testament we see the Jewish army, firm in their belief of being the Holy Race, marching from town to town, killing man, woman, and child:

Murder and Rape of the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead: *"So they sent twelve thousand warriors to Jabesh-gilead with orders to kill everyone there, including women and children. "This is what you are to do," they said. "Completely destroy all the males and every woman who is not a virgin." Among the residents of Jabesh-gilead they found four hundred young virgins who had never slept with a man, and they brought them to the camp at Shiloh in the land of Canaan." (Judges 21:10-11)*

Rules of War: Non-Jews have 2 options, become SLAVES OR DIE: *"As you approach a town to attack it, first offer its people terms for peace. If they accept your terms and open the gates to you, then all the people inside will serve you in forced labor. But if they refuse to make peace and prepare to fight, you must attack the town. When the LORD your God hands it over to you, kill every man in the town. But you may keep for yourselves all the women, children, livestock, and other plunder. You may enjoy the spoils of your enemies that the LORD your God has given you." (Duet 10-15)*

More Genocide: *You must completely destroy the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, just as the LORD your God has commanded you. (Duet. 15-18)*

More Genocide: *During this period, Joshua destroyed all the descendants of Anak, who lived in the hill country of Hebron, Debir, Anab, and the entire hill country of Judah and Israel. He killed them all and completely destroyed their towns. Not one was left in all the land of Israel, though some still remained in Gaza, Gath, and Ashdod. So Joshua took control of the entire land, just as the LORD had instructed Moses. He gave it to the people of Israel as their special possession, dividing the land among the tribes. So the land finally had rest from war. (Joshua 11:21-23)*

It now becomes clear that the terrorists from among the Christians have no problem with wiping out entire races, man, woman, and child with all the weapons of mass destruction stockpiled as their possessions, and that this belief they derive from the Bible alone. No outside sources, no brainwashing, just old fashion biblical adherence.

9. Slavery of the Unholy Races

It is no doubt that when slavery was enacted in America, Christians used the Bible to justify this practice. In the 1800's thousands of Africans were put into bondage, and worked for white Christians for no pay. The Christians, in defense of their belief of the 'divine institution of slavery' cited several passages from the Bible. This is impossible to ignore, indeed, it is a historical fact. In 1852 Jossiah Priest published a book called *Bible defence of slavery*. The worldbook reference book, under the title "slavery" states:

*During the early 1800's, abolitionists started a crusade to end slavery. Southerners then began to defend slavery in what became known as the proslavery movement. Some Southerners in the movement argued that slavery reflected "the law of nature" that permitted the strong to rule the weak. **Others insisted that the Bible supported slavery.***

Of course, at this time in America, slavery was a racial issue. The black slaves were forced into extremely harsh conditions, and this practice was defended, at the time, by the white Christian majority. Their defense was the Bible. But what does the Bible really say about racial slavery? Allowed or not? Let's take a look:

The UNHOLY RACES (non-Jews) can be slaves, but NOT the HOLY RACE: *However, you may purchase male or female slaves from among the foreigners who live among you. You may also purchase the children of such resident foreigners, including those who have been born in your land. You may treat them as your property, passing them on to your children as a permanent inheritance. You may treat your slaves like this, but the people of Israel, your relatives, must never be treated this way. (Leviticus 25:44-46)*

Furthermore, the practice of whipping slaves is condoned by the Bible as well: *When a man strikes his male or female slave with a rod so hard that the slave dies under his hand, he shall be punished. If, however, the slave survives for a day or two, he is not to be punished, since the slave is his own property. (Exodus 21:20-21 NAB)*

In this law we see that beating a slave is ok unless the slave dies immediately, but if the death is not immediate, there is no harm done. The shocking treatment of African Slaves in the U.S. was clearly condoned by these passages.



Photo of a black slave after being beaten (whipped)

Jesus (SAAS) also clearly approves of the beating of slaves in the New Testament:

The servant will be severely punished, for though he knew his duty, he refused to do it. "But people who are not aware that they are doing wrong will be punished only lightly. Much is required from those to whom much is given, and much more is required from those to whom much more is given." (Luke 12:47-48 NLT)

Now after reviewing all of this material on the Christian terrorists/racists that exist, let us examine some other quotes we have mentioned in this document:

*"A relatively new tenet gaining popularity among some **radical Christian Identity believers** justifies the use of violence if it is perpetrated in order to punish violators of God's law, as found in the Bible and interpreted by Christian*

*Identity ministers and adherents. This includes **killing interracial couples, abortionists, prostitutes, and homosexuals.***"

Does the above sound like a far-fetched group of psychos, or a terrorist group based on strict interpretation of the Bible?

*Racist theology has today found itself powerful and influential voices. Of these, most prominent would be **David Duke, former Ku Klux Klan leader, who was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives.** Duke proclaims that he has always been a **believing Christian** and that **an integral part of his Christianity has been a theology of racial segregation.** We read in his own work that in the name of race preservation, **God has commanded genocide, segregation and anti-miscegenation, and today forbids racial intermarriage and the crossing of racial boundaries.***

Is this at all shocking coming from a proclaimed 'Christian nation' given what we have learned in this document? We see that the Bible promotes racism against all non-Jews and non-whites. It is crystal clear. We see that the Bible promotes genocide against foreign nations, and racial slavery, (including the whipping and beating of slaves.) Even the New Testament condones slavery (as seen in Ephesians 6:5 and 1 Timothy 6:1-2) We see that if what the Bible says about Jesus (saas) is true, then he considered anyone not of his race **DOGS** and the apostle Paul considered the non-Jew and the non-white a liar, wicked brute, and lazy glutton.

10. Islam and Racism

When we look to the Qur'an, we see no such doctrines. We see that in Islam, there is no room for racism or intolerance. In the Qur'an we read the following verses:

*"O Mankind, We created you from a single (pair) of a male and a female **and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know each other. Verily the most honored of you in the sight of God is he who is the most righteous of you**"(Surah 49:13)*

It is of course interesting that God informs mankind that we are of different nations and tribes to know each other. Not to kill each other, or subject each other into slavery. God reminds us that true honor does not come from skin color, but rather from righteous action. If we read further in the Qu'ran we see the following:

*"And among **His Signs are the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the difference of your languages and colors.** Verily, in that are indeed signs for those who know" (Surah 30:22)*

Any possibility of racism is in the above verse demolished. God calls the creation of man in various colors a ‘sign for those who know.’ -In other words, a sign for men endowed with reason, something by which we may reflect on the greatness of God.

Furthermore, when the Prophet Muhammad (Saas) was feeling as though he were about to breathe his last, he climbed to the top of Mount Arafah, and gave a summation of his life’s message. In his last sermon to mankind, we read the following excerpt:

‘O people, Remember that your Lord is One. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a black has no superiority over white, nor does a white have any superiority over black, except by piety and good action. Indeed the best among you is the one with the best character.’

In another Hadith Muhammad (SAAS) has said:

“In the sight of Allah, all men are as equal as the teeth of a comb.”

Muhammad (saas) early on taught that members of any race could be leaders:

“Obey your rulers even if a Negro with a head like a raisin were appointed (over you as ruler)” (Bukhari book 10, number 54)

We also see, based on this Hadith that even if the Negro ruler were incompetent, so long as he was virtuous, he should be obeyed.

11. Islam Enjoins the Release of Slaves

Before Muhammad’s call to prophethood, slavery was a common practice. But through the Divine Guidance of the Qu’ran, and the teachings of Muhammad (Saas) –slavery was eventually eradicated from the Arabian Peninsula. While the Qu’ran did not force men to give up their slaves, it did emphatically encourage the release of slaves by considering it a virtuous act:

“It is not righteousness that ye turn your faces Towards east or West; but it is righteousness to believe in God and the Last Day, and the Angels, and the Book, and the Messengers; to spend of your substance, out of love for Him, for your kin, for orphans, for the needy, for the wayfarer, for those who ask, and for the ransom of slaves; to be steadfast in prayer, and practice regular charity; to fulfil the contracts which ye have made; and to be firm and patient, in pain (or suffering) and adversity, and throughout all periods of panic. Such are the people of truth, the God-fearing.” (The Noble Quran, 2:177)

Furthermore, Muslims are encouraged to release slaves in certain circumstances, such as, if one commits manslaughter, based on Quranic law, he should free a slave (Q 4:92). If a

man cannot fulfill an oath to God he is enjoined to free a slave (Q 5:89). If one fails to follow proper Islamic divorce law, the penalty is the freeing of a slave: (Q 58:3).

In a Hadith, the Prophet Muhammad (saas) ordered people to release slaves on every solar eclipse:

Narrated Asma: *"No doubt the Prophet ordered people to **manumit slaves** during the solar eclipse."* (Translation of Sahih Bukhari, Eclipses, Volume 2, Book 18, Number 163)

Muhammad (SAAS) also said to his followers:

Narrated Abu Musa Al-Ash'ari: *"The Prophet said, "Give food to the hungry, pay a visit to the sick and **release (set free) the one in captivity (by paying his ransom).**"* (Translation of Sahih Bukhari, Food, Meals, Volume 7, Book 65, Number 286)

12. Islamic Treatment of Slaves

As was pointed out earlier in the essay, in the Bible, one can beat their slaves quite badly. But in Islam, the last divinely-revealed religion, it is quite another story. Since in Islam, a Muslim is taught that his slaves are his brothers (Translation of Sahih Bukhari, Belief, Volume 1, Book 2, Number 29). We see the following directives from the Prophet Muhammad (SAAS) regarding their treatment:

*When the slave of anyone amongst you prepares food for him and he serves him after having sat close to (and undergoing the hardship of) heat and smoke, **he should make him (the slave) sit along with him and make him eat (along with him), and if the food seems to run short, then he should spare some portion for him (from his own share.**"* (Translation of Sahih Muslim, the Book of Oaths (Kitab Al-Aiman), Book 015, Number 4096)

And further reiterating this point:

"...so whoever has a brother under his command should feed him of what he eats and dress him of what he wears. Do not ask them (slaves) to do things beyond their capacity (power) and if you do so, then help them." (Translation of Sahih Bukhari, Belief, Volume 1, Book 2, Number 29)

We also see that in Islam, if one were to beat a slave, he risks being thrown in the Hell-fire:

Abu Mas'ud al-Ansari reported: *"When I was beating my servant, I heard a voice behind me (saying): Abu Mas'ud, bear in mind Allah has more dominance over you than you have upon him. I turned and (found him) to be Allah's Messenger (may peace be upon him). I said: Allah's Messenger, **I set him free for the sake of***

*Allah. Thereupon he said: **Had you not done that, (the gates of) Hell would have opened for you, or the fire would have burnt you.** (Translation of Sahih Muslim, The Book of Oaths (Kitab Al-Aiman), Book 015, Number 4088)*

So while Christians and Jews can practice racial slavery and beat their slaves quite badly, such a treatment in Islam would result in the hell-fire. It is, in other words, a sin to do such a thing in Islam.

THE CONCLUSION: Where do you worship?

I encourage Christians, the next time they go to their church to look around and see how many different nationalities and races are there. The fact is, Christianity teaches and practices racial segregation. We have, in America, all-white Churches and all-black Churches and this is done of peoples' own desire. The Blacks wish to worship with other Blacks and Whites wish to worship with other Whites.

But in Islam, Muslims wish to worship with other Muslims, regardless of race or nationality. This is not to say that if you went to a Mosque in Cairo it would no be predominately Egyptian -- of course it would be because it is in Egypt. But Mosque's in areas where the population is in variety, so too are the worshippers in a Mosque in variety, and there is no trouble between them. They stand toe to toe, shoulder to shoulder, and when the prayer is over, they hug and go their separate ways.



Muslims of several races and nationalities praying together

Compare that with the following statistic:

"...in more than 80% of the congregations in America, at least 90% of the congregants are of the same racial group." 10:30 AM on Sunday morning remains the most racially segregated time of the week. ("An inside look at today's churches reveals current statistics on Protestant churches," 1997-OCT-30 <http://www.barna.org/cgi-bin/PagePressRelease.asp?>)

Indeed this is not surprising, considering the Old Testament Biblical Mandate to keep the 'Congregation of the Lord' pure of any intermixing of the races:

- *"A bastard shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD: even to his tenth generation shall he not enter into the congregation of the LORD. An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to their tenth generation shall they not enter into the congregation of the LORD for ever."* (Deut. 23:2-3)

The word "bastard" in the first sentence is a translation of the Hebrew word *mamzer*. *Mamzer* refers to any half-breed (that is, a child of a mixed race) or illegitimate (that is, child born out of wedlock). Refer to *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible* to page 67 of the Hebrew-Chaldee Dictionary and read the entry marked by the number 4464, which reads:

"Mamzer: A Mongrel."

In other words, **someone with a different bloodline**. The above Bible verse also lists specific races, the Ammonites and the Moabites, which are not allowed to worship in the house of the Lord. It is because of such racist teachings that Churches have become segregated and racist terrorism runs rampant (And unpunished) within the Christian faith. It is because of such teachings that America has seen the horrors of racial slavery and the viscous beatings and in some cases murder of African Americans. So we shall let the Christians decide, with whom do you associate, and where do you want to worship?

"It comes as no surprise to Christian Separatists that the Bible explicitly and repeatedly forbids Christians to associate with mongrels and non-whites and forbids mongrels or non-whites to have any part or lot with the Body Politic or Government of God." – Pastor V.S. Herrell.

"An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a black has no superiority over white, nor does a white have any superiority over black, except by piety and good action. Indeed the best among you is the one with the best character." – The Prophet Muhammad.

Notes & Sources

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