

# The Proofs that Islam is the Truth – Part 3

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## **Outline of the Course**

1. Testimonies of the People of the Book
2. The Testimony of Heraclius, the Roman Emperor
3. The Negus of Abyssinia
4. The People of the Book in Arabia
5. Muhammad (pbuh) In the Bible
6. Mohammed the Unlettered Prophet
7. Muhammad (pbuh) the descendant of Kedar
8. The Prophet Succeeding Jesus
9. Prophecies in the Qur'an
10. Prophecies the Hadeeth
11. Signs of the Last Day prophesied by the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)
12. Miracles of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)

### **Course objectives:**

1. To be able to prove that Islam is the truth through studying the prophecies in the Qur'an and the traditions of the prophet (pbuh).
2. To be able to enumerate some of the physical miracles of the prophet (pbuh)
3. To prove that the people of the book acknowledged him to be the prophet but rejected him out of arrogance.

## **QUESTION & ANSWER BUCKET**

## **TRANSCRIPTS**

## **ASSESSMENT**

Multiple Choice Questions

Match the Columns

True or False

#### COURSE DURATION

Video	–	2 hours 50 min
Study Guide	–	30 min
Assessment	–	15 min
Total Duration	–	3 hours 35 mins

# Lesson 1: The Proofs that Islam is the Truth Part-11

## 1. Testimonies of the People of the Book

### 2. The Testimony of Heraclius, the Roman Emperor

The prophet Muhammad (pbuh) sent him a letter inviting him to Islam. Heraclius sent for Abu Sufyah and his men who came to his land for trade. He asked Abu Sufyan, being the most related of them to the prophet (pbuh), some questions, and asked his friends to tell whenever he lied. Abu Sufyan, afraid of being labelled a liar, he told the truth. The dialogue went as follows:

Heraclius: What family status has he amongst you?

Abu Sufyan: He belongs to a noble family amongst us.

Heraclius: Has anybody else amongst you ever claimed the same before him?

Abu Sufyan: No.

Heraclius: Was any of his ancestors a king?

Abu Sufyan: No

Heraclius: Do the nobles or the poor follow him?

Abu Sufyan: It is the poor who follow Him.

Heraclius: Are his followers increasing or decreasing?

Abu Sufyan: Increasing.

Heraclius: Does anybody amongst those who embrace religion become displeased and renounce the religion afterwards?

Abu Sufyan: No.

Heraclius: Have you ever accused him of telling lies before his claim?

Abu Sufyan: No.

Heraclius: Does he break his truce?

Abu Sufyan: No, we are in a truce with him now. And we don't know what he's going to do with it.

Heraclius: Have you ever had a war with him

Abu Sufyan: yes. Sometimes we were victorious, and sometimes he was victorious.

Heraclius: What does he order you to do?

And Abu Sufyan replied, He tells us to worship Allah, and Allah alone, and not to worship anything along with Him. And to renounce all that our ancestors had set; he orders us to pray, to speak the truth, to be chaste, and to keep good relations with our kith and kin.

Heraclius told Abu Sufyan that what he mentioned is exactly what prophets have been always like, and commented,

If what you said is true, he will very soon occupy this place underneath my feet. And I knew it from the scriptures that he was going to appear, but I did not know that he would be from you. And if I could reach him, definitely, I would go immediately to meet him. And if I was with him, I would wash his feet.

### **3. The Negus of Abyssinia**

At the time the prophet was still in Makkah, the disbelievers persecuted the Muslims and forced them to leave their land, following the advice of the prophet to Abyssinia, whose king was a just Christian ruler.

Having a good relationship with the king the Makkan disbelievers came to him and complained to him that the Muslims insulted their gods and escaped, asking him to send them back with them.

The Negus called the Muslims to his court. And he asked them about their religion. And Jafar Ibn Abu Talib gave him a concise introduction to Islam, which convinced him that they should not be sent back to the pagans.

Then the delegation told the king that the Muslims had a horrible opinion about Jesus. Again, he asked the Muslims to his court and asked them about Jesus.

Jaffer said, we say what our Prophet says that He is a messenger from Allah and His Word, which He bestowed upon Mary, and a spirit from Him. So this is what we believe concerning Jesus.

And when Negus heard that, he said, Truly, Jesus said nothing more than that about himself. "What is this book that you read?", Negus asked. And Jafar read the first few verses of Surah Mariam.

That captivated the Negus, who began to cry. And then he said, (Verily what your prophet has bought, and what Jesus said, are two things from the same source; you are free to stay and live in My Kingdom. In fact, the same Negus of Abyssinia himself converted to Islam.

### **4. The People of the Book in Arabia**

i. Waraqah bin Nawfal, who was a Christian, said about the revelation given to the prophet (pbuh):

Surely by him in whose hand is Waraqa's soul, you are the Prophet of these people, and that has come to you, the greatest angel who came to Moses; you will be called a liar, and they will treat you despitefully and cast you out and fight you.

ii. The Jewish community that lived in Arabia. Some of these people had specifically emigrated, because they were expecting in Arabia, the coming of the last prophet. In fact, out of the rabbis of Medina, half of them actually became Muslim. And one of the very famous and most learned of the rabbis of Medina was Abdullah bin Salaam, who commanded a great respect among the Jews before his acceptance of Islam.

## Lesson 2: The Proofs that Islam is the Truth Part-12

### 5. Muhammad (pbuh) in the Bible

#### The Honour of the prophet Ibraheem

Ibraheem is a prophet that is recognised by Jews, Muslims, and Christians. The one prophet that all Muslims, Jews and Christians have in common is this great prophet of God, Ibraheem.

The Quran says, who turns away from the religion of Ibraheem, except someone who is foolish and has become foolish.

In Genesis: 12:2-3: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing. And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Here greatness and honour in terms of numbers. Greatness and honour, in the criterion of God means a nation of people who obey God and follow God's commandment. This is what makes someone great with God.

#### The Muslims the only people who send the maximum blessings to Ibraheem

Who are the people who bless Abraham? In every Salaah, a Muslim recites, "Allahumma salli ala Muhammad (pbuh) wa ala aali Muhammad (pbuh) kama salla ta ala ibraheema wa ala aali ibraheem innaka hameedun majeed" (O Allah bless Mohamed and the family of Muhammad (pbuh), as you blessed Ibraheem and the family of Ibraheem, Verily, You are the praised and the majestic. ) Besides, whenever a Muslim mentions the name of Ibraheem, he says Alaihis Salam (may peace be upon him).

#### The Two Sons of Ibraheem

Now the very first son of Ibraheem was Ishmael. And Ishmael was born to his wife Hagar, who was the bondwoman of his other wife Sarah. Before marrying her, Ibraheem set her free and she became a free woman.

The Bible also tells us that Ibraheem did marry Hagar. So Ishmael is in fact, the very first son of Ibraheem. And in Genesis 17, in the fourth verse, it says, My covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. And in Genesis 21: 13, God promises that of the son of the bondwoman, will I make a great nation because he is thy seed.

And again, in Genesis 21, verse 18, "Arise, arise, lift up the lad, and hold him in thine hand; for I will make him a great nation."

And it is known that the Arabs are the descendants of Ishmael. In fact, the Bible calls the Arabs Ishmaelites. The Ishmaelites are the Arabs. So the Arabs are in fact, cousins of the Bani Israel.

## **An Awaited Prophet**

In the Bible, men come to Jesus and asked him whether he was the Messiah, since they knew that before the Messiah would come Elias the prophet. Jesus told them that the prophet that was supposed to come before him was John the Baptist.

In Deuteronomy, chapter 18, verse 18, "And the Lord said to me, they have spoken that which they have spoke, and I will raise them up a prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak unto them, and he shall among them." Here the prophet Moses is addressed.

The Bible continues, "And it shall come to pass that whosoever does not hearken unto my words, which he shall speak in my name, I will take vengeance on him".

This is the prophet that they were expecting. So the Messiah had come; Elias had come, but there's one prophet still left to come. That Prophet, the one prophesied in Deuteronomy 18:18 according to Collins Dictionary of the Bible, " The only man in history who can be compared even remotely to him is, Mohamed".

The same description of Muhammad (pbuh) in the Qur'an: "Nor does he speak of his own whims. It is only a revelation sent down [to him]".

### **Comparison:**

- i. Moses and Muhammad (pbuh) were born naturally, whereas Jesus was born miraculously with no father.
- ii. Both Moses and Muhammad (pbuh) were orphans.
- iii. Jesus was actually a follower of the Mosaic Law, whereas Moses and also Muhammad (pbuh) each brought a new law.
- iv. Both Moses and Muhammad (pbuh) were political leaders and prophets.

## Lesson 3: The Proofs that Islam is the Truth Part-13

### 6. Mohammed the Unlettered Prophet

Isaiah:29:12 says, " And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned."

The Qur'an is referred to in the Qur'an as Al Kitaab (the Book), and Muhammad (pbuh) is referred to as Ummi (unlettered).

In the Hadeeth of the prophet Muhammad (pbuh), he speaks about his first time he receives revelation from Allah, that the angel told him to read three times and every time he responded, "I am not learned".

### 7. Muhammad (pbuh) the descendant of Kedar

Isaiah 42:13 speaks about someone who is beloved to God, from the descendants of Kedar, who is the second son of Ishmael, a direct ancestor of the Prophet Mohamed May Allah's peace and blessings be upon him. It seems very clear from these statements in the Old Testament that the Jews were expecting a prophet to arise from amongst the children of Israel, who will bring a law, and will be like unto Moses, and that obviously many Christians who had studied the Old Testament or what they had whatever scriptures they had, recognised these attributes as well.

### 8. The Prophet Succeeding Jesus

And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

The comforter is the paracletus in Greek original. Some scholars have said that the word actually in Aramaic means Muhammad (pbuh) or Ahmed.

In John 15, in verse 26, But when the comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceeded from the Father, He shall testify of me.

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) testified to Jesus. None cannot be a Muslim unless they believe in Jesus.

In John 16:7 "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you."

Some Christians claim that the comforter is the Holy Spirit that inspires them, and helps them to speak in tongues and so on. However, there is a problem with this because Jesus says, If I do not go, the Holy Spirit will not be able to come. Yet the Holy Spirit is with the disciples while Jesus is there as well.



It is interesting that Rudolf Bultmann, in the Gospel of John a Commentary, says, "The Paraclete is a parallel figure to Jesus himself. Who else could all the above verses refer to? The prophet Muhammad (pbuh) fits all such biblical characterisations.

## Lesson 4: The Proofs that Islam is the Truth Part-14

### 9. Prophecies in the Qur'an

- i. The victory of Islam (24:55). And we have to remember that when these verses were coming down, the Muslims were a very small group. They were at every moment under the impression that they were going to be wiped out, either by the pagan Arabs or then by the Romans.
- ii. Say to those who deny faith, soon you will be vanquished (3:21).
- iii. People enter Allah's religion in multitudes (110<sup>th</sup> chapter). This was revealed when the Muslims were persecuted.
- iv. The religion of truth will be triumphant over all religions (9:33).
- v. The defeat of the Roman Empire. The Eastern Roman Empire, the Byzantine Empire, had for many years been fighting the Persian Empire, and they suffered a massive defeat at the hands of the Persians, who captured Jerusalem in the year 640 CE. And after that Egypt fell, and then Syria fell, and Constantinople itself was laid siege to. When this verse was revealed, it seemed impossible that the Roman Empire the Byzantine Empire would ever recover.

The word in the Qur'an, Bida', which actually means any number from three to nine years.

### 10. Prophecies from the Hadeeth

- i. According to a long Hadith, the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was sitting in a garden and Othman bin Affan walked in. And the Prophet asked Abu Musa Ashari, who was with him, to inform Othman of the Good News of Paradise, and also that people would mutiny against him, and this exactly is what happened.
- ii. While the Muslims were fighting the Jews in Khaybar after some days of attempting to besiege the fortress, the Prophet said, the next day he would entrust the flag to a man whom Allah would give victory, and he gave the flag to Ali. And the same day the fortress was conquered by the Muslim under Ali's command,
- iii. In another Hadith, the Prophet (pbuh) said, the caliphate will last for 30 years, then there will be a biting kingship. The caliphs are the righteous successors of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), and then after that, there will be a biting kingship. So the Prophet said 30 year and it happened exactly like this. The rule of the rightly guided caliphs meaning Abu Bakar, Omar, Othman and Ali was exactly 30 years. Abu Bakar ruled for two years, Omar for 10, Othman for 12, and Ali ruled for two and a half. And Hasan who succeeded Ali ibn Talib ruled for three and a half years. So they were 30 years and after that evil spread and kingship was established just as the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said would happen.

iv. In another Hadith of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) predicted the capture of Egypt. Remember, this is a time when the Muslims were just a small group of people. He even told them to treat the Egyptians well. And he mentioned also that they would seize the treasures of the Persian emperor.

v. He even told Suraaqah bin Malik, that he would wear the bracelets of the Persian emperor. And in fact this is exactly what happened. The bracelets fell into the possession of Omar ibn Al Khattab, who called Suraaqah, who was still alive because he could have been killed in all of these world wars, but he was alive. And Omar put the bracelets on him and reminded him of what the Prophet had said.

vi. The Prophet (pbuh) said, wait for six incidents before the last day: first my death. Then the conquest of Jerusalem. Third, an epidemic among them. Fourth, the abundance of wealth, so a man would not gladly accept 100 dinars if given it. Fifth, a trouble that would involve all Arab families without exception. Sixth, a treaty with the Christians, which the Christians would violate. All these prophecies took place.

vii. Also, he mentioned that some people would deny the Qadar or the Divine Decree of Allah. And he called them Majoos haazhil Ummah (or the magians of this nation) and this has happened exactly as he prophesied and they became known as Al Qadariyyah.

## Lesson 5: The Proofs that Islam is the Truth Part-15

### 11. Signs of the Last Day prophesied by the Prophet Muhammad

- i. The prophet's death
- ii. The barefooted Bedouins compete with each other in building tall buildings. This is obvious in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and their competition in tall buildings although some 60 years ago, these people were barefooted and poor, and Africa used to send money to Saudi Arabia for the orphans and Islamic schools. Now who could have told the prophet about that?
- iii. The trustworthiness would disappear, so much so that a person will be able to say, I know a trustworthy person in such and such town.
- iv. An increase in killing, which the Prophet called Harj, to the extent that neither the killer would know why he is killing the other nor the killed would know why he was killed.
- v. An increase in the use of Riba which means usury or interest, to the extent that no one would be able to escape the dust of it. Everybody will be affected by it. And this is without doubt the truth of the world economy. Today, the whole world economy is affected and controlled by banks, and the use of interest money.
- vi. An increase in literacy. In fact, so many people will be able to read and write but actually knowledge will decrease. More people will read and what do we end up reading; most of us we read rubbish. Ignorance has become prevalent.  
  
Only ignorant people will remain, and people will ask them for religious verdicts, and they will give it even though they are ignorant, and they will misguide themselves and misguide others.
- vii. And the Prophet mentioned although the speakers will be many, the scholars will be few.
- viii. An increase in sexual promiscuity, leading to what the prophet described as "diseases and ailments that were unknown before".
- ix. Women will be naked, although they are dressed. I don't think there is a better way of describing the dress of some women today, which reveals what is inside.
- x. The worst and the most ignorant people will become the leaders.
- xi. A man will obey his wife and disobey his mother, something really contrary to the teachings of Islam; he will rather listen to his friends than listen to his father.
- xii. Keeping on to the religion will be like holding hot coals.

## 12. Miracles of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)

The greatest miracle that was given to the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was the Qur'an. But there are many miracles that are not known to the majority of people:

- i. the tremendous change of the conditions of the house in which he was wet-nursed. Their animals became fatter and had plenty of milk, etc. his wet nurse herself became stronger and healthier and was producing more milk.
- ii. The stones would speak to him and they would say to him, Mohamed, You are the messenger of Allah.
- iii. the crying of the post the prophet used to climb and deliver his sermons. It made a crying sound when he decided to deliver the sermon using his new pulpit. But when the prophet embraced it, it calmed down.
- iv. Animals complained to the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) about some people who caused them some harm.
- v. Little food and drink suffices multitudes, after the prayer of the prophet.
- vi. The miraculous Night Journey from Makkah to Jerusalem, and up from Jerusalem through the heavens, where Allah gave him the five prayers, and he saw many wonderful signs in the heavens, including Paradise and the Hellfire.
- vii. The splitting of the moon. The pagan Arabs kept asking the prophet for a sign. So eventually Allah gave him the sign, and the moon was split into two halves

## Question and Answer Bucket

### 1. Did the People of the Book at the time of the prophet have him mentioned in their scriptures?

**Ans.** The answer is yes, and they had his description. Heraclius the Roman Emperor asked Abu Sufyan, a number of questions that he considered to typically happen to prophets, such as the prophet's lineage, career, claims, morality, followers, etc. Through these questions he told Abu Sufyan that he would possess his own land, the Roman land at that time. This means that he had full idea about the prophet to come.

### 2. Did the prophet prophesy the emergence of those who came to be known as the "Khawarij"?

**Ans.** what he said was more than a mere prophecy about some people. Rather, he pointed to a certain man who was there saying that from his descendants would arise people who would fight the believers considering them as disbelievers, and applying to the Muslims the rules applicable only to the disbelievers. The prophet called them the Dogs of Hell, and commanded that they should be fought. They actually emerged at the time of Ali bin Abu Talib, and he fought them.

**3. Who is the "Comforter" who would come only if Jesus departs? Is he the Holy Spirit?**

We Muslims understand the Holy Spirit (Roohul Qudus) to be the angel Gabriel, who brings down the revelation. So the Holy Spirit will not come with a new revelation until Jesus has left.

If there is no prophet with the people, then it is so much hard for them to follow God's guidance and to be righteous.