

Muhammad Was Not Born of a Virgin

 Various Passages

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Since before Thanksgiving I have been trying to come up with something unique for a Christmas lesson. In years past we've taught all the major passages that directly touch on the virgin birth, some of them more than once. So I was thinking and watching what's happening in our world and our country and the fact is there's a major problem growing in the world; that problem is Islam. Interestingly, it's not a new problem; the United States of America actually fought its first national war in 1801-1805 against Muslims. It was known as the first Barbary War, though you won't find it in any of the new, progressive textbooks. It was fought against the Barbary pirates who were Muslims living in North Africa and patrolling the Mediterranean Sea forcing our cargo ships to pay tribute. If the ship refused to pay they would capture the crew, enslave them and put them up for ransom. When Thomas Jefferson became president the ransom prices were high and he refused to pay. Instead, he did what every smart leader does and that is learn the ideology of the enemy. Because they were Muslims he got a copy of the Qu'ran and he read it. After reading it he knew these people couldn't be dealt with by negotiation so he just sent the United States Navy over there and bombed the hell out of them until he forced them to give us passage. That was our first war against Islam and of course it wasn't our last one and the last one is not going to be our last one. There are many more coming because Islam is following Muhammad and his vision of establishing a global caliphate under Sharia law, that means Islamic law, and they are doing this nation by nation either by revolution like in Iran in 1979 or by judicial rulings as in Turkey, Europe and the United States. There are already 56 Muslim nations, 57 if you include the so-called Palestinians. And unfortunately, the United States has been more than complicit in toppling several secular governments that were ruling Muslims, and then watching them write new constitutions based on Sharia law to further the goal of Islam to rule the world. We are helping them do this and it is even here at the highest level. Our government has been breached, the White House, and we are in serious trouble, some think beyond recovery.

We don't have time to go into all of this and the ideology of Islam but it's in our face increasingly every day. There are Mosques popping up all over the US, some which are replacing Churches, and especially

in California and Texas, we are leading the way in mosques. Can you believe that? Here, in Texas we are running neck and neck with California for the most mosques in the United States of America. They are increasing their terrorist base and attacks right here on American soil. Most people don't understand why they are doing what they are doing. This is all part of the global agenda of Islam. They are working toward transitioning America from being what Muslim clerics refer to as the House of War to the House of Islam. Europe has already been declared House of Islam. We are still considered a House of War but Muslim clerics have been known to declare a nation House of Islam with as little as 5% of the population being Muslim. Right now we are probably around 3-4% Muslim. I'm not trying to frighten you but I am trying to wake you up to the fact that they are trying to transition our nation from House of War to House of Islam. And when we are declared House of Islam their agenda will come out in the open because then Muslims have to follow Islamic law. Right now they don't have to do that, they have different rules as long as America is a House of War and that involves lying, lots of lying, any lie is valid if it promotes and protects the Islamic agenda. But you need to know what we, and the whole world, are up against, at least on a basic level. And unquestionably this has prophetic significance. Ezek 38-39 is an eschatological passage dealing with a coalition of Islamic nations coming against Israel. That is a battle that is still future but in many ways is looming on the horizon and we can see how this is taking shape.

I. The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

So I was looking at all this and I decided to title my lesson "Muhammad Was Not Born of a Virgin?" I'm really just using Muhammad as a mock to give a background for presenting the uniqueness of Jesus Christ. But maybe we can learn some things about Islam along the way. Basically the issue between Islam and Christianity is very simple; if Muhammad was not born of a virgin and Jesus Christ was then Christianity is true and Islam is false. It's really as simple as that. In fact, that's true of Christianity vs all other religious claims. If Jesus Christ is born of a virgin then obviously Christianity is true and all other religious claims are false. That's what I want to show. Everyone needs Jesus Christ, Muslims need Jesus Christ. Muhammad won't save them.

A. Muhammad was not born of a virgin

What do Muslims believe about Muhammad? Muhammad, of course, is considered the founder of Islam in the 7th century AD. He is central to Islam. Muslims are to imitate Muhammad and this means knowing history. What Muslims are doing today around the world is imitating Muhammed. There are no such people as radical and moderate Muslims. There are Muslims living in nations that are House of War and others living in nations that are House of Islam. The rules are different and Muhammad's life actually transitioned from one house to the other house, which is why his life transitions. The world is in

transition and all Muslims are following Muhammad somewhere in that transition. They believe many things about Muhammad but one thing they don't believe is that he was born of a virgin. What they believe is that Muhammad is Allah's messenger and he is the last and greatest prophet. When we look at Muhammad in history we would say that Muhammad had a common birth. We would say there was nothing unique about his birth that set him apart from other humans and that this is the crux of the whole problem. Jesus Christ is unique in His birth and this set Him apart from all other humans who have ever been born. This birth was of a virgin and this was a necessary precondition to solving man's problem.

What's interesting is that the Qu'ran actually teaches that Jesus was born of a virgin. Apparently Muhammad didn't realize how significant it was or he might not have put it in his book. But it doesn't teach it in exactly the same way. The Bible teaches that Mary was a virgin and that the Holy Spirit authored the conception of the Child. The Qu'ran teaches that Allah through the angel Gabriel conceived the child. So there are differences and they amount to the Holy Spirit authoring the conception vs the angel Gabriel. That's an important difference but that difference set aside Islam still teaches that Jesus was born of a virgin. Here's the verse in Surah 19. This is the angel that was sent to Mary to inform her she would be with a child. He says, "I am only the messenger of your Lord to give you [news of] a pure boy. She said, "How can I have a boy while no man has touched me and I have not been unchaste?" That's the verse and it's one of several verses in the Qu'ran that lead Muslims to believe that Jesus was born of a virgin. It's interesting it says he was to be pure. We'd say without sin. That's official Muslim doctrine. Mary didn't know how this could happen so the angel goes on and says, "Thus [it will be]; your Lord says, 'It is easy for Me, and We will make him a sign to the people and a mercy from Us. And it is a matter [already] decreed.'" So the virgin birth was to be a sign in Islam, a sign that Jesus was a prophet and that's all they believe about Jesus. They don't believe He is God or that He died on the cross for our sins or was raised or any of that. He was a prophet born of a virgin and this was a sign but He was not the last prophet.

B. Jesus was born of a virgin

It's true that His birth was a sign. Isaiah 7:14 "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel." So it was a sign but what was it a sign of? It was a sign to the house of Judah that God had come in the flesh. Why do we say that is the sign? Because He would be called Immanuel and what does Immanuel mean? Immanuel means "God with us." So this son born of a virgin would be called God with us, that is God in the flesh. Now that is explicitly rejected by Islam but that is too bad because in Islam Allah never came down and dwelt with man. Allah is so distant from his creatures that he doesn't know what we are going through, he just sits far away someplace and therefore men cannot really know him either. There is no point of contact

possible with Allah. He is not at all the God of the Bible. A lot of people say God and Allah are the same but the only way you could say that is if you are deceived or part of the deception. Allah and the God of the Bible are not at all the same. Allah did not come and dwell among us. The God of the Bible did come and dwell among us. That's one major difference. John 1:14, "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth." What this means is that we can know the Father through the Son. We can truly know God through Jesus Christ. John 1:18, "No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him." To be in the bosom of one is to be in the place of privilege. Jesus Christ is the only begotten God who is in the place of privilege with the Father. He has explained Him. The Greek word explained is *εξηγεομαι* and it means "to exegete." Jesus exegeted the Father here on planet earth. This means He drew out and gave a detailed exposition of the Father to the world. This exegesis was so clear that He could say in John 14:9, "He who has seen Me has seen the Father." So in Christianity we can know God because God became flesh and dwelt among us. In Islam you can't really ever know Allah because He never became flesh. He never came and dwelt among us. He never took to himself true humanity born of a virgin.

All you have is one guy, Muhammad, who supposedly got a revelation from God. That's not the way God reveals Himself in the Bible. God always has a string of prophets and then He Himself comes and dwells with man. This is a key to understanding history. God wants to dwell with man and He reveals Himself through many prophets before He Himself came. What does Hebrews 1:1-4 say? "God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,² in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.³ And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,⁴ having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they." Now that's the entire answer. Jesus Christ created the world. He died for our sins. He was raised. He upholds the universe by His power. He made purification for sins. He sat down at the right hand of the Father. Muhammad didn't do any of this. We'll talk some later about what he did do, the very things Muslims are doing today, but you see the first point is that Jesus is totally unique and Muhammad is not unique. Muhammad is common. Jesus was born of a virgin and Muhammad was not born of a virgin. That is the total answer. Why is that the total answer? Because it is necessary to solve the legal problem that we have with God.

II. The Legal Ramifications of the Birth

What's the legal problem? The legal problem is that God is holy and men are sinners and God is not going to compromise His holiness. In the beginning God created everything good and Adam was originally good, in harmony with God, but Adam sinned against God and when Adam sinned against God we sinned against God in Adam and were estranged from God. That's Romans 5:12, "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world and death through sin, so death spread to all men because all sinned." We all sinned in Adam in the sense that we all participated in the sin. It was, of course, a personal sin of Adam but it was also a sin we participated in because he was both a man and mankind since we all descended from him. This means we are all implicated in the sin such that when we come into existence at conception we are already in sin. The problem is not fundamentally personal sin but imputed sin, our sin in Adam. And that creates a problem because God is holy and God cannot look upon sin without expressing His holiness through divine wrath. He is just and He is not going to compromise His justice. Compromise is what Allah does because Islam has no sacrifice for sin. The penalty of sin is death. God said in the day you eat you will surely die. Islam has no solution for death. It has no sacrifice for sin. It has no way of paying the penalty of sin. Muhammad didn't pay for sin. Muhammad was sin. He couldn't pay for sin. What's the evidence that he was sin? He died and stayed in the grave. If you are without sin you cannot remain in the grave. That's the only way to conquer death. Muhammad remained in the grave. So there can be no salvation in Muhammad. Muhammad can't save anyone. So in Islam salvation is always by appeasing Allah through good works, the good works of Islam, works we will look at later and you will see that they are not good at all. But finally you have to say that Allah has to compromise justice because all still sin and there is no sacrifice for sin in Islam and yet you can still get to paradise. Allah is a compromiser; he distorts justice. Not so in Christianity; God never distorts justice, His justice is met in One individual. Once for all the Just for the unjust so that we might draw near to God.

So the necessary precondition for God's justice being met is someone being virgin born, someone coming into this world without a sin nature and at the same time being a genuine human. This is a necessary precondition. It doesn't get you all the way to meeting God's justice on the cross but it is a necessary precondition for getting to the cross. This means we can't say what so many liberal theologians said in the 20th century that the virgin birth is a side issue. It's not a side issue at all. It's a crux issue. What the virgin birth is solving is the legal problem between a holy God and sinful man. Without that you can never solve the problem. God always ends up compromising His justice. That is why liberal Christianity has played right into the hands of Islam and that is why the formation of Chrislam. These are Christians who have abandoned the God of the Bible. They are inviting Muslims to share their faith from their pulpits. They are saying the God of the Bible and Allah are the same god.

They have no good news to proclaim. They have erased the good news. The Bible never erases it. They have abandoned the Bible. The Bible says the good news is that God has provided a salvation freely without compromising His justice. That His justice is satisfied, the penalty of sin is paid in full, it was paid for by One who was not a sinner.

The difficulty was how to get a genuine human into history without a sin nature to pay that penalty? If we all sinned in Adam how can anyone be born without sin? A virgin birth in exactly the way the Bible explains it, not as in the Qu'ran. The Qu'ran states a virgin birth but it doesn't explain it properly, it doesn't solve the problem, it creates a problem because it has Allah using an angel to impregnate Mary and that just leads to more problems. In Matt 1:20 it says, "the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit." God the Spirit conceived the Child in the woman. There was no father involved. Joseph was not his natural biological father, he was, as the Scriptures state it, "supposedly the father of Jesus." Why was bypassing a human father necessary? Because it is through the father that the sin nature is transmitted. Heb 7:4. This passage illustrates the legal connection of the human race and how this imputation is transmitted only through the father. It got started with Adam but it didn't stop there, it was still occurring later in history. "Now observe how great this man was to whom Abraham, the patriarch, gave a tenth of the choicest spoils. 5And those indeed of the sons of Levi who receive the priest's office have commandment in the Law to collect a tenth from the people, that is, from their brethren, although these are descended from Abraham. 6But the one whose genealogy is not traced from them collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed the one who had the promises. 7But without any dispute the lesser is blessed by the greater. 8In this case mortal men receive tithes, but in that case one receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives on." Now watch verses 9-10, the idea of the whole human race in Adam is shown in that the house of Levi was in Abraham. Verse 9, "And, so to speak, through Abraham even Levi, who received tithes, paid tithes, 10for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him." Somehow, Levi, not yet born, but in the loins of Abraham, paid tithes to Melchizedek, somehow Levi participated in that act. That's what the text says. The point is that it involves only the males, Levi and Abraham, not their wives. When we carry that concept over to imputed sin it seems that Adam's sin is imputed to the human race only through the father. So the virgin birth, involving only Mary, not Joseph, avoids the imputation of sin to Jesus from Joseph and at the same time preserves Jesus' humanity which He got from Mary his earthly mother. This makes Jesus entirely unique. This qualifies Him alone to be free from a sin nature and to pay the penalty of sin.

III. The Practical Ramifications of the Birth

A. Mohammad Lived a Sinful Life

Now that only gets you part of the way home, a human has to be born without a sin nature, but a human also has to be free from any personal sin in order to qualify to pay the penalty for sin. So the question is, did Muhammad live without personal sin? What about Jesus? What does history and the Bible report regarding these two men and personal sin?

We know that Muhammad had a sin nature because he was not born of a virgin. Did he have any personal sin issue forth out of his sin nature? Did he do any of the following? Did he tell lies? Yes. In the Reliance of the Traveler, one of the three holy books of Islam, the other two being the Qu'ran and the Hadith, the third book, not well-known among non-Muslims, the Reliance of the Traveler there is a section on lying. There are actually four types of lies in the Reliance of the Traveler. The first three can be committed if a Muslim is living in a nation classified as House of War. In fact, they are obligated to lie. They have to lie in order to protect the Muslim community and the ultimate agenda of Islam which is to rule the world. We are presently the House of War and so Muslims here are not moderate Muslims, they're not even bad Muslims, they are obligated to lie by the Reliance of the Traveler. That is a situation our law enforcement across the nation is having to deal with in their interrogation. Now I don't know about you but can you imagine if there was a section in the Bible on lying? How to lie, what lies you must tell and when? That is in one of their holy books. They are lying to us. The fourth kind of lie is breaking treaties and that lie can only be told when you are living in a nation that is a House of Islam, that is, it is ruled by Sharia law. In other words, what will happen if our nation is declared House of Islam is they will stop lying the first three kind of lies and they will tell you exactly what they are trying to do. They are already doing this in Europe. They just tell you right to your face. But this fourth lie can only be told when you are already living in a nation that is House of Islam. For example, Iran is a House of Islam. That is what Iran is and that is why they always break treaties with us. They are House of Islam and they can lie to the United States' face. They don't intend to keep any of the treaties they make with us. It is all lies. It's all spelled out in the Reliance of the Traveler. That is the book they are following. So yes, they lie. Why do they lie? Because Muhammad lied? They are following him. He made a ten year treaty with Mecca and broke it in two years. They are following Muhammad. People need to get a clue.

Did Muhammad order the killing of apostates? Absolutely. Did he take sex slaves? Yes. They were the war booty. Did he take child brides? Yes. Anyone know the name of his child bride. Aisha. Anyone know how old she was when he married her? Six. Can you imagine? Does any civilized society permit the marrying of six year olds? Now he did wait to consummate the marriage till she was nine, how gracious.

But this is in the Hadith. I'm not making this up. Here it is narrated by Aisha, the little girl he married at age six. She says, "that the prophet married her when she was six years old and he consummated his marriage when she was nine years old. Hisham said, "I have been informed that 'Aisha remained with the Prophet for nine years (i.e. till his death.)" This is in a holy book of Islam. Can you imagine if Jesus Christ did that? Molested little girls. Yet that is what is going on in Muslim nations ruled by Sharia law. You can marry young and some say as young as six though most say 7-9.

Did Muhammad behead people? Yes. In Sirat A, Rasul we read, "When the Banu Qurayza Jewish tribe, was surrendered (627A.D.) unconditionally..." they were surrendered Jews. "the apostle confined them in Medina in the quarter of al-Harith. They the apostle went out to the market of Medina and dug trenches in it (Battle of Trenches). Then he sent for them and struck off their heads in those trenches as they were brought out to him in batches tying both their hands with their necks. This beheading went on until the apostle made an end of them. There were 600 or 700 in all, though some put the figure as high as 800 or 900." Why do you think Muslims behead people today? Because that is what Muhammad did. He raped, killed, attacked innocent people, committed child molestation, owned slaves, sold slaves, kidnapped women, asked for ransom, beheaded, cut off hands, put nails in the eyes of people and followers of Islam do the same thing today. They are imitating Muhammad. But this is all personal sin. Muhammad was not without sin. He could not die for sin. He died because he was a sinner.

B. Jesus Lived a Sinless Life

What about Jesus? Did Jesus have any personal sin? In John 8:46 Jesus asked His enemies, "Which one of you convicts Me of sin?" The word "convicts" is ελεγχω. It means "to shine a light on, to bring to light." He is asking them to bring up any personal sin that He had committed. He is asking His enemies this. And what did they say? Nothing. They were invited to point out some personal sin and they couldn't point out one sin. That is a very remarkable situation. What about Heb 4:15, "For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin." Jesus had no personal sin. Jesus didn't marry and molest little girls, Jesus raised little girls from the dead. Jesus didn't kill women and order them to be stoned, He treated them with respect and protected them. Jesus never killed non-followers but taught us to love our enemies. Jesus' last words were "forgive them Father, they know not what they do." Muhammed's last words were kill Jews and Christians.

These are startling differences and they manifest why Jesus is the only way to God. He is the only human born of a virgin. He is the only human born without a sin nature. He is the only human tempted in all things as we and yet without any personal sin. Thus, He alone qualifies to pay the penalty for our sin in the greatest act of love ever seen on the planet, not laying down His life for His friends but laying

down His life for His enemies. This He did once for all. Heb 7:26-27, "For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens; ²⁷who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the sins of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself." Jesus offered up Himself for sinners. Heaven has been satisfied. The Father is propitiated. The way to the Father is through Jesus Christ. He alone is the way, the truth and the life. We all need to believe that He died for our sins and rose from the grave on the third day. We need to be firm and resolute in these truths and not be taken in by the cloak of deception that is falling over so many in our nation. The handwriting is on the wall and we know what prophecy says, we know that ultimately America goes down, but that does not mean that we don't stand firm and resolute against this wickedness that is sweeping across our nation. Ultimately Islam will face defeat; Ezek 38-39 sketches Islamic nations in a coalition against Israel being defeated by God Himself. America is not going to do it. It's very sad. Most of our fellow Americans are deceived and most in our government are part of the deception and Islam will only increase, slowly, through legislation and invoking fear. We have to be resolute. 1 Tim 3:16, "By common confession...He who was revealed in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory." He is coming again. His kingdom come, His will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. We put our faith and hope in Him who gives us ultimate security and the resoluteness to stand. Maranatha, our Lord come!