## THE STATUS OF JESUS IN ISLAM

## مكانة عيسى في الإسلام

DR. RABEE' IBN HAADEE AL-MADKHALEE

FORMER PROFESSOR AT THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF MADEENAH



# **The Status of Jesus in Islaam**

## Written By Dr. Rabee' bin Haadee al-Madkhalee

Translated by isma'eel alarcon



#### © Copyright Al-Ibaanah Book Publishing, USA Published On-Line for Free Distribution

#### **First Edition: August 2004**

**Note:** This document is an on-line book publication of <u>www.al-ibaanah.com</u>. This book was formatted and designed specifically for being placed free on the Internet. Al-Ibaanah Book Publishing allows for this document, in its present form and with no alterations, to be distributed, printed, photocopied, reproduced and/or disbursed by electronic means <u>for the purpose of spreading its content and not for the purpose of gaining a profit</u>, unless a specific request is sent to the publishers and permission is granted. Anyone wishing to quote from this document must give credit to the publisher.

**About the Book:** This is a translation of a short essay "*Makaanatu 'Eesaa fil-Islaam*" (The Status of Jesus in Islaam) written by Dr. Rabee' bin Haadee Al-Madkhalee, a Muslim religious scholar from Saudi Arabia. The source used for this translation was the on-line version of the book, which can be found on www.rabee.net.

Since the book, for the most part, is geared towards non-Muslim readers, particularly Christians, names of prophets and other righteous believers of the past are presented here in their standard English version, even though, they are pronounced differently in Arabic by Muslims. This was done to make it easier for the non-Muslim audience, who are not accustomed to the Arabic versions of these names, to read the treatise.

Also, in many instances, the word "Allaah" was translated as God, in order to assist non-Muslim readers understand the subject at hand more clearly. However, the proper name of God, Allaah, was left as is in other parts where deemed appropriate.

It is hoped that this treatise may serve as a means to invite and call the Christian community to develop an understanding of how Jesus is viewed in the eyes of the Muslims and what we believe concerning him, as revealed to us by Allaah in the Qur'aan and the teachings of Prophet Muhammad.

A Publication of **AI-Ibaanah E-Books** 

#### THE TREATISE

All praise be to Allaah,<sup>1</sup> and may His peace and blessings be on His Messenger (Muhammad), as well as his family, Companions and those who follow his guidance.

To proceed:

All of the nations are in agreement that God alone is the One who created this universe with its heavens and earth, as well as everything that lies between them and within them, such as the angels, jinn<sup>2</sup> and mankind.

And they acknowledge that He is the One who governs and administers this universe, and that everything in existence is subjected to His Will and Power, but yet in spite of this, He maintains it with Gentleness, Mercy and Wisdom.

He has entrusted every sane adult with worshipping Him and obeying His commands. And it is for this reason that He created them, as He says: **"And I did not create mankind or the jinn except to worship Me. I do not seek any provision from them nor do I ask that they should feed Me. Verily, Allaah is the All-Provider, Owner of Power, the Most Strong."** [Qur'aan 51:56-58]

So He provided them with the necessary tools they would need to carry out this responsibility – of worshipping Him – such as upright innate natures and rational and conscious intellects. And He subjected the heavens and the earth to serve them.

And He sent them noble messengers every time the Devil and his helpers diverted them away from the objective for which they were created, such as towards

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> **Translator's Note:** Allaah is the proper name for God, the Creator of everything that exists. When reading the name Allaah throughout this essay, notions of an idol, statue or human being should not come to mind. God has referred to Himself as Allaah in the Qur'aan, and it is by this name that the Muslims call Him. So it refers to the Creator, Sustainer, and Administrator of everything in existence, and not a man, concept or idol. The words Allaah and God will be used interchangeably throughout this essay when appropriate to make for easier reading for Non-Muslims who are not accustomed with the name Allaah.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> **Translator's Note:** The jinn are a separate species created by God from a smokeless flame of fire. They are part of the Unseen and information concerning them has been revealed to us in the Qur'aan. In fact, the Devil, is one from among the jinn. Contrary to western beliefs, the Devil is not a "fallen" angel, but rather a jinnee (singular of jinn), who refused to obey God in humbling himself before His creation of Adam, and was thus cast out and rejected. God created the angels to obey Him, as He says: **"They do not disobey Allaah in what He commands of them, and they do what they are ordered to do."** [Qur'aan 66:6]

polytheism, the worship of him (i.e. the Devil), and the abandonment of God's Straight Path.

At the head of these noble messengers were those who possessed strong will and determination, and they were: Muhammad, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Noah, may God send the best of His peace and blessings on them.

Allaah says: "He has ordained for you the same religion that He ordained for Noah and which We revealed to you (O Muhammad) and ordained for Abraham, Moses and Jesus – that you should establish the Religion and make no divisions in it. Intolerable for the polytheists is that which you call them to. Allaah chooses for Himself whom He wills and guides unto Himself those who turn to Him in repentance and obedience." [Qur'aan 42:13]

So all of the messengers – especially those who were mentioned above – their religion was one, and it was Islaam; there being no religion besides it that they ascribed to.<sup>3</sup>

Allaah says: **"Verily the only Religion acceptable in the sight of Allaah is Islaam."** [Qur'aan 3:19]

And He says: "And whoever desires other than Islaam as his religion, it will never be accepted from him and in the Hereafter, he will be from among the losers." [Qur'aan 3:85]

And He says: "O Messengers! Eat from the good lawful foods and do righteous deeds. Verily, I am Well-Acquainted with what you do." [Qur'aan 23:51]

And Allaah says: "Verily, this nation of yours is one (Muslim) nation, and I am your Lord, so worship Me alone." [Qur'aan 21:92]

The word "**nation**" here refers to religion. So this means that their religion is one and it is Islaam, which consists of making one's worship sincere and solely for God, the One and Indivisible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> **Translator's Note:** Islaam is an Arabic word that means to surrender and submit one's will. This is what the Religion of Islaam entails in that when one adheres to Islaam as a Muslim, he submits his will to the Will of the one true God, Allaah. So whatever God requires of him, he abides by it without doubting it or fighting against it. A Muslim has two sources from which his religion is derived -1. The Qur'aan, and 2. The teachings of Prophet Muhammad, known as the Sunnah. As a Muslim, one must follow the Commandments and avoid the Prohibitions mentioned in these sources of revelation, thus submitting to the Command of God.

All created beings are servants of God, and amongst these created beings are the noble messengers, which include those messengers of strong will and determination: Muhammad, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Noah. So they are in fact God's servants – He created them so that they may worship Him and call the people to worship Him.

Therefore, God is the Lord and Creator, and He is the One deserving of being worshipped. No created being from amongst all of His creations shares, partakes in or assists Him in even the smallest aspect of this universe, whether with respect to its creation, sustenance, bringing to life (of things) or causing things to die. Nothing commingles with Him in any of His Attributes of Lordship and Divinity and His Perfect and Most High descriptions.

## "Say: He is Allaah, the One (Indivisible). Allaah is the Self-Sufficient (in need of nothing). He begets not nor was He begotten. And there is no one co-equal or comparable to Him." [Qur'aan 112:1-4]

After having made this introduction, our objective here is to clarify and explain the condition of the noble messenger of God, Jesus, son of Mary, and his status in Islaam.

This honorable prophet holds a great position in Islaam, which the Jews and Christians are either unaware of or purposely neglect in their daily lives, beliefs and writings.

Islaam has substantiated his great role, which has been confirmed in the best, most complete and just of manners in several clear verses of the Qur'aan. Every pure and uncorrupt intellect should not accept anything except that which Islaam has affirmed for this Prophet, whilst rejecting everything that contradicts that, such as what the Jews affirm from slander against him and his mother, and what the Christians affirm from exaggerating about him and deifying him at times by considering him to be the son of God or God (Himself) or part of a divine trinity, and at times by debasing and mutilating him (i.e. on the Cross), all of which indicates misguidance and deviation in the religion and mind.

God has related to us the best and most marvelous of stories concerning Jesus and his mother, from the beginning of their ordeal going through the various stages of their lives, clarifying it in depth. So the believers from among the followers of Muhammad believed in all of this and gave Jesus and his mother the status they deserved and welcomed them with the highest level of honor.

In the same manner, they welcomed all of the other prophets and messengers and believed in them. In fact, Islaam has established believing in them as being one of the major pillars of Faith. And furthermore, it holds that whoever belittles any of the

prophets in any manner, has committed disbelief and leaves from the fold of Islaam. So what about those who disbelieve in them or even one from among them?! God has praised Jesus and his mother, the Virgin Mary, in many chapters of the Qur'aan. We will mention some examples from some of these chapters. He says in Chapter 3 of the noble Qur'aan:

1. "Allaah indeed chose Adam, Noah, the family of Abraham and the family of 'Imraan over mankind (of their time). Offspring, one of the other, and Allaah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing. (Remember) when the wife of 'Imraan said: 'O my Lord! I have vowed to You that the child in my womb will be dedicated to Your services, so accept this from me. Verily, You are the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing.' Then when she gave birth to her daughter (Mary), she said: 'O my Lord! I have given birth to a female child' - whereas Allaah knew better what she delivered - 'And the male is not like the female. I have named her Mary and I seek refuge in You for her and for her offspring from the outcast Devil.' So her Lord accepted her (supplication) with a good acceptance, and He caused her (Mary) to grow up in a good manner and put her under the care of Zachariah. Every time he would enter her room to visit her, he would find that she had (already) received sustenance. He said: 'O Mary! From where did you get this?' She said: 'This is from Allaah.' Verily, Allaah provides to whom He wills without limit. At that time Zachariah invoked his Lord saying: 'Grant me from You a good offspring. You indeed are the All-Hearer of invocations." [Qur'aan 3:33-38]

The story of Mary begins with this great connection of mentioning those whom God chose over mankind, which included the family of 'Imraan, who were the parents of Mary. This is done in order to make it clear that Mary came from a righteous and noble family, and that she was part of the offspring of chosen prophets, and that her mother was a pious woman. An example of her piety and righteousness was that she vowed to offer what was in her womb to the services of God. She was hoping that it would be a boy, but instead she gave birth to a girl. So she returned this matter back to God, seeking His pardon and asking Him to protect her daughter and her offspring from the outcast Devil. So her Lord answered her supplication and warmly accepted Mary, causing her to be raised in a good manner and placing a righteous and merciful prophet, Zachariah, in charge of caring for her. This shows that the mother of Jesus had a tremendous upbringing.

Allaah then continued to grant her more of His Bounty and Generosity, as He informs us about this in His saying:

2. "And (remember) when the angels said: 'O Mary, verily, Allaah has chosen you and purified you and selected you above all of the other women amongst

mankind. O Mary! Submit yourself with obedience to your Lord and prostrate yourself and bow down (in prayer) along with those who bow.' This is part of the news of the Unseen, which We reveal to you (O Muhammad). You were not with them when they cast lots with their pens to determine which of them should be charged with the care of Mary, nor were you with them when they disputed." [Qur'aan 3:42-44]

So neither Muhammad, the unlettered prophet,<sup>4</sup> nor his followers were aware of such tremendous and truthful information concerning all of the messengers, Mary, her mother, Zachariah and those who disputed with him regarding who would care for Mary. Nor were they aware of Zachariah winning charge of her after he had drawn lots with pens with his opponents. They did not know of how Zachariah welcomed her and of who used to bring her sustenance from God as a gift to her, which led Zachariah in spite of his old age and the barrenness of his wife to ask God to grant him righteous offspring. Neither Muhammad nor his followers were aware of any of this previously. It is not possible that you will be able to find such speech bearing the highest level of splendor and eloquence and which is nicely phrased and magnificently presented in the Gospels or anywhere else. This proves the truthfulness of Prophet Muhammad and that he was truly a messenger of Allaah, and this shows that he did not speak from his own whims, but rather that it was revelation revealed to him by the Lord of all creation.

Then Allaah continues with the story of the Virgin Mary and her son, Jesus, the servant and messenger of God, saying:

3. "(Remember) when the angels said: 'O Mary! Verily, Allaah gives you the glad tidings of a Word from Him (which was 'Be' and Jesus was formed). His name will be the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, held in honor in this world and the Hereafter. And he will be one of those near to Allaah. He will speak to the people while (still) in the cradle and during his (years of) manhood. And he will be one of the righteous people.' She said: 'O my Lord! How shall I have a son when no man has touched me?' He (Angel Gabriel) said: 'So it will be, for Allaah creates

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> **Translator's Note:** It is a well-documented fact amongst historians and researchers that Muhammad was an illiterate man. In fact, he even remained in this condition until his death. He would receive revelation from God through the Angel Gabriel and dictate God's words to his scribes who would record it for him. The Muslims of that time would also memorize the revelation by heart. This is another miracle of God in that He chose an unlettered man to carry His Message, proving beyond doubt that it would be impossible for Muhammad to forge the Qur'aan on his own. This is since the Qur'aan contains the highest level of literature, accurate historical facts, amazing scientific facts that have only been discovered in recent times, and many other amazing aspects that would make it impossible for a man in his position and time to have produced a magnificent book like the Qur'aan on his own.

what He wills. When He decrees a matter, He need only say: Be, and it is. And He will teach him the Book and the Wisdom, as well as the Torah and the Gospel.' And He will make him a messenger to the Tribe of Israel, saying: 'I have come to you with a sign from your Lord – that I design for you out of clay a figure like that of a bird, then breathe into it and it will turn into a bird, by God's Permission. And I will heal those who are born blind and the leper, and I shall bring the dead to life, by God's Permission. And I will inform you of what you eat and what you store in your houses. Surely therein is a sign for you if you truly believe. And I have come confirming that which was sent before me of the Torah, and to make lawful for you part of what was (previously) forbidden to you. And I have come to you with a proof from your Lord. So fear Allaah and obey me. Truly, Allaah is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him alone. This is the Straight Path.''' [Qur'aan 3:45-51]

These verses talk about the beginning of Jesus' affair and the manner in which God created him. It also talks about his being sent as a messenger to the Tribe of Israel and the great manners that God granted him, which proves the truthfulness of his being a messenger and of him and his mother being free from what the Jews accused them of. It is from the common practice of God when creating humans and animals that the process of reproduction and childbirth occur by way of two parents - a male and a female. However before this, He had created Adam, the father of mankind, from clay, i.e. he did not have two parents. And He created Eve, the mother of mankind, from a male, without a female - from the rib of Adam. All of this was from God's magnificent signs, which no one in the earth or the heavens is capable of doing. So after a long time had passed with mankind's existence on earth, God again wanted to show mankind a new sign that would prove His great Ability - and that was in the creation of Jesus, whom He created from just a female without any male involved. Mary found news of this strange matter hard to believe, so the angel Gabriel told her: "So it will be, for Allaah creates what He wills. When He decrees a matter, He need only say: 'Be, and it is.'"

So every creation no matter how big or small – from God's Throne to His footstool to the heavens and the earth and the mountains and oceans and what lies in them, not to mention outer space and what it contains such as the sun, the moon and the stars – all of these are brought into existence by God's Desire and Will and by His merely saying: **"Be!"** So Glorified and Exalted is He. This is from a great Lord that is All-Able and All-Overpowering. Nothing can resist or hold back from His Desire nor can anything escape from His Desire. So whatever He wills comes to pass and whatever He doesn't will doesn't come to pass.

God granted Jesus knowledge, wisdom, the (divine) message, and miraculous signs as part of the virtues which He grants to all of His prophets and messengers. So the creation of Jesus' with the Word of God, "**Be**", from only a female, was one of His miracles that indicated His great Ability. However, this was preceded by a miracle far greater than it, which was the creation of Adam, without any male or female, and the creation of Eve from the rib of Adam, without any female. All of this proves the magnificence and great Ability of God to the believers with intellects and leads them to thank, love, glorify, sanctify, honor and direct all forms of worship to Him alone.

The people who best comprehend this aspect, implement it in their lives and call others to it are the noble prophets, at the head of whom were the five prophets with strong will and determination, which includes Jesus. This is asserted in the Qur'aan as well as in the preserved revelations that came before it, like the Gospels, before they were altered and changed.  $^5$ 

Jesus affirmed and clearly stated that he was a servant of God and that he was created and brought up (from childhood). And he affirmed that God was his Lord, Master and Creator as well as the Lord, master and Owner of all other creatures. So first, he affirmed all of this, then he called the people to worship this great Lord, Master, Creator of all that exists and Owner of all creation, as he said: **"Truly, Allaah is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him alone. This is the Straight Path."** And before that, he said: **"So fear Allaah and obey me."** 

So God alone is the One who deserves to be feared and obeyed. All of the prophets including Jesus called to this, and God assisted them with amazing miraculous signs as proof for the truthfulness of what they brought. So mankind had no choice after all of this except to answer the call of the messengers and obey them in that which they conveyed from God from His revelation, which consisted of the command to believe in only Him and make all the worship strictly for Him alone (apart from false gods).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Translator's Note: Allaah says in the Qur'aan: "Do you (faithful believers) think that they will believe in your religion in spite of the fact that a party of them used to hear the Word of God, then change it knowingly after they understood it?" [Qur'aan 2:75] And He says: "So woe be to those who write the Book with their own hands, then say: 'This is from God' – to purchase with it a small price." [Qur'aan 2:79] This shows that the revealed books were changed and altered after their respective messengers had passed on. This was the case with the Jews, who changed the Torah after Moses died to conform to their whims, and the Christians, who changed the Gospels after Jesus was raised unto God. Proof for this is as evident as the moon on a clear night, for one only needs to refer to the various editions/translations/versions of the Bible that exist in circulation today, not to mention the contradictions that can be found in the Bible, as documented by even major Christian theologians.

The point derived from these revealed texts is that God informs us in them that Jesus, as well other prophets beside him, hold a great position in Islaam. And they contain information that his creation and the creation of his mother came about from the highest form of purity and that they both came from families that were firmly upon Islaam and a pure state. These verses also contain mention of his Message, his miracles, and his call to believe in God's Lordship, to worship Him, fear Him and be dutiful to Him.

This speech concerning Jesus is just like God's speech concerning Adam and all of the messengers, with regard to their history, manners and call. They are true stories, there being no folklore or exaggeration in them at all. Muhammad and his followers believed this and loved the prophets from the bottom of their hearts. And they honored and respected all of the prophets amongst whom was Jesus, peace be upon him. And they held this to be one of the fundamental beliefs of their Religion, as Allaah says: "The Messenger (Muhammad) believes in what has been sent down to him from his Lord, and so do the believers. Each one believes in Allaah, His Angels, His Books and His Messengers. (They say): 'We make no distinction between one another of His Messengers', and they say: 'We hear and we obey. (We seek) Your Forgiveness, our Lord, and to You is the return.'" [Qur'aan 2:285]

And He says:

4. "And remember in the Book, (the story of) Mary, when she withdrew in seclusion from her family to a place facing east and placed a screen (to screen herself) from them. Then We sent to her Our spirit (the angel Gabriel), and he appeared before her in the form of a man, in all respects. She said: 'Verily, I seek refuge in the Most Gracious (Allaah) from you, if you do fear Allaah.' He (the angel) said: 'I am only a messenger from your Lord, (to announce) to you the gift of a righteous son.' She said: 'How can I have a son when no man has touched me, nor am I unchaste?' He said: 'So it will be. Your Lord said: 'That is easy for Me. And We wish to appoint him as a sign to mankind and a mercy from Us. And it is a matter already decreed.' So she conceived him,<sup>6</sup> and withdrew with him to a far away place (Bethlehem valley). The pains of childbirth were such that it drove her to the trunk of a date-palm tree. She said: 'Would that I had died before this, and had been forgotten and out of sight!' Then (the baby Jesus) cried out to her from below her, saying: 'Grieve not, your Lord has provided a water stream under you. Shake the trunk of the date-palm tree towards you, it

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Translator's Note: Allaah explains Mary's conception of Jesus in another verse of the Qur'aan, saying: "And remember she who guarded her chastity, We breathed into (the sleeves of) her (shirt) [through Angel Gabriel], and made her and her son (Jesus) a sign for mankind." [Qur'aan 21:91]

will drop fresh ripe dates before you. So eat and drink and be glad. And if you see any human being, say: Verily, I have vowed a fast unto the Most Gracious, so I shall not speak to any human being this day.' Then she brought him (the baby) to her people, carrying him. They said: 'O Mary, indeed you have brought forth a tremendous thing! O (the likes of the) sister of Aaron!<sup>7</sup> Your father was not a man who would commit adultery, nor was your mother an unchaste woman.' So she pointed to the baby. They said: 'How can we talk to one who is a child in the cradle?' He (Jesus) said (to them): 'Verily, I am a slave of Allaah. He has given me the Scripture and made me a prophet. And He has made me blessed wherever I may be. And He has enjoined on me prayer and the giving of charity for as long as I live. And (He has enjoined me) to be dutiful to my mother. and He has not made me arrogant and wretched. And peace be upon me the day I was born, the day I shall die, and the day I will be raised alive.' Such is Jesus, son of Mary. This is a statement of truth about which they doubt. It is not befitting to Allaah that He should beget a son. Far removed and exalted is He above such a thing! When He decrees a matter, He need only say: 'Be' to it and it is. (Jesus said): 'Verily, Allaah is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him alone. This is the Straight Path.' Then the (Christian) sects differed between themselves, so woe unto the disbelievers from the meeting of a great Day (i.e. the Day of Resurrection). How clearly will they (the disbelievers) see and hear the Day when they will appear before Us! But the wrongdoers today are in manifest error!" [Qur'aan 19:16-38]

This true story explains what happened to Mary after God had raised her in a good manner with the care she received from that noble prophet (i.e. Zachariah) and after she had become reputed as a pious worshipper that was pure, chaste and honorable. So the time, which God designated to carry out His Will by creating Jesus in the manner He informed us He would, had now come: **"Then We<sup>8</sup> sent to her Our spirit, and he appeared before her in the form of a man, in all respects."** 

This refers to the angel Gabriel. So at the time this (miraculous) event took place, this pure and chaste woman had set out to devote herself to worshipping God, and she had placed a screen in front of her for this purpose in order to protect her honor and chastity and so that she can establish her worship. Then lo and behold, a human that was well-proportioned in his form and beauty suddenly appeared before her. So she

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> **Translator's Note:** This does not refer to the Aaron, the brother of Moses, but rather to a pious man who lived at the time of Mary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> **Translator's Note:** Throughout the Qur'aan, Allaah (God) refers to Himself in the plural form, such as by saying We, Us and Our. This, from a literary standpoint, is to show His Grandeur and Majesty, similar to the royal "We" used in the English Language. It does not mean that Allaah refers to himself as being a pluralistic God or that He is part of a trinity, etc.

demonstrated the signs of her chastity and modesty in this instance, saying: **"Verily, I** seek refuge in the Most Gracious (Allaah) from you, if you do fear Allaah."

Such a statement could only come from the heart of a true believer that seeks refuge and solace in God during times of grief and difficulty. And in her saying, she reminds and alerts (the angel in the form of a man) to be fearful of God. All of this was done in order to repel what occurred to her from this frightening and dangerous ordeal.

Then the noble messenger (Gabriel) gave her news that caused her fear to be removed and her heart to find tranquility: "I am only a messenger from your Lord, (to announce) to you the gift of a righteous son." So she replied in amazement: "How can I have a son when no man has touched me, nor am I unchaste?"

This is the normal way that children are conceived (i.e. through cohabitation). So the angel informed her: **"So it will be. Your Lord said: 'That is easy for Me. And We wish to appoint him as a sign to mankind and a mercy from Us."** 

So creating the universe and all that it contains within it is something easy for God, as He says: **"The creation of you all and the resurrection of you all is nothing more than like the (creation and resurrection) of a single person."** [Qur'aan 31:28]

So this spirit blew (the life of Jesus) into her. And he was the angel Gabriel whom God sent for this great task to carry out His Command. So she conceived him, and withdrew with the baby in her womb to a far away place. There she gave birth to her child and was faced with the problem that any chaste and honorable woman like her would feel (i.e. slander of being a fornicator), so she wished she were dead. Then there came that which removed her fear and anxiety: "(The baby Jesus) cried out to her from below her, saying: 'Grieve not, your Lord has provided a water stream under you."

These were signs and miracles that increased her reliance, tranquility and faith in the fact that God would protect her, demonstrate that she was free from any claims of fornication, and manifest her honor and nobility. So all she needed to do was point to this infant that the slanderers used as a means to accuse her of fornication. **"They said: 'How can we talk to one who is a child in the cradle?"** 

So this child, whose speech they disregarded, startled them while he was still in his cradle through that amazing miracle, saying to them: "Verily, I am a slave of Allaah. He has given me the Scripture and made me a prophet. And He has made me blessed wherever I may be. And He has enjoined on me prayer and giving of charity for as long as I live. And (He has enjoined me) to be dutiful to my mother,

#### and He has not made me arrogant and wretched. And peace be upon me the day I was born, the day I shall die, and the day I will be raised alive."

These are truly some of Allaah's incredible verses, in which He discusses the way Jesus was conceived and born and how he absolved his Virgin Mother from slander. Then these amazing verses provide an explanation of the mission and message of Jesus. Part of Jesus' great message was to clarify to the people that he was a servant of God, and remarkably, this was the first thing he said when he spoke to the people (from the cradle). The second thing he mentioned in his speech was his Message, saying: **"He has given me the Scripture and made me a prophet."** Then the third thing he talked about was the effects of his call: **"And He has made me blessed wherever I may be."** 

Then he went on to explain His religious laws and the religious laws of those messengers that came before him, saying: "And He has enjoined on me prayer and the giving of charity for as long as I live."

Then he talked about his beautiful characteristics, such as being righteous and dutiful, and how God did not give him the characteristics of the arrogant and wretched: "And (He has enjoined me) to be dutiful to my mother, and He has not made me arrogant and wretched."

Then Allaah comments on everything he mentioned previously about Jesus and his mother, saying: "Such is Jesus, son of Mary. This is a statement of truth about which they doubt.

This is the true and definitive statement from the Lord who created Jesus and everyone else – the One who is All-Knowing and All-Aware of every miniscule and magnificent aspect of this universe and mankind, amongst whom was Jesus. Allaah has indeed stated the truth about him, which cannot be blemished by the smallest speck of falsehood that the liars from amongst those doubtful and deviant individuals state about him. Allaah has spoken the truth about him, which every person with an uncorrupted intellect and pure innate understanding will accept. This is also what all of the previous religious laws spoke about and that which the believers adhered to.

So all of these events that occurred, such as the angel Gabriel breathing into (the sleeve of) Jesus' mother, then her conceiving him and giving birth to him, the pains and hardships his mother faced because of that, her being absolved from these hardships by Allaah causing her child to speak from the cradle, which proved that she was free from blame and which also proved that he was one of the slaves of God that He chose to be His prophet and messenger and to receive His Book, as well as his

being mandated with the same tremendous religious laws that the prophets and messengers before him were mandated with, such as establishing the prayer, giving charity and being dutiful – all of this is the established and confirmed truth. And any claims and allegations that contradict this are false. So the attacks and accusations forged by the Jews against Jesus and his mother are all lies. And the claims made by their opponents – the Christians – with respect to Jesus alleging that he was God or the son of God or part of a divine trinity are also falsehood and misguidance, which no upright intellect, religious law or innate nature will accept.

The truth with regard to this matter is that which has been stated by God, the One who created Jesus and everyone else from beginning to end – jinn and mankind – for the purpose of worshipping Him. And He is the One who chose him as a slave and messenger, just as He chose others to carry and convey his Message to mankind, so that they may actualize the objective for which they were created – and that is to worship God alone and to make the religion sincerely for His sake.

Jesus indeed conveyed His Message in the best of manners, and he was at the forefront from his nation of those who worshipped and submitted themselves to God, speaking the truth openly from the time when he was in his cradle to his years of manhood up to the point when God raised him up to Him.<sup>9</sup>

This is the status of the prophet and messenger of God, Jesus, peace be upon him, in Islaam and according to the Muslim nations. So this is the truth and anything else beside it is a lie and misguidance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> **Translator's Note:** Contrary to Christian beliefs, Muslims believe that Jesus was not crucified, but rather that someone else was made to resemble him and crucified instead of him. The Qur'aan states that he was raised up to the heavens where he will await until the day when he will be sent back to earth towards the end of time. Allaah says: **"And because of their (Jews) saying boastfully: 'We killed the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, Messenger of God.' But they killed him not nor did they crucify him, but rather the resemblance of Jesus was put in another man (and they killed that man). And those who differ therein are full of doubts. They have no certain knowledge; they follow nothing but conjecture, for surely they killed him not. Rather, Allaah raised him up (body and soul) unto Himself. And Allaah is Ever All-Powerful, Most Wise. And there is none of the People of the Scripture (i.e. Jews and Christians), except that he will surely believe in Him (that he was really a messenger of God) before his (Jesus') death. And on the Day of Resurrection he will be a witness against them." [Qur'aan 4:157-159] The Prophet Muhammad has prophesied that Jesus will return and judge mankind with justice. He will descend by the white minaret in the east of Damascus, placing his hands upon the wings of two angels, and will fight against the Antichrist (Dajjaal) until he reaches him by the gate of Ludd (present-day Israel), where he will kill him.** 

God is not in need of begetting a son. Attributing a child to Him is from the greatest forms of disbelief and misguidance, since it constitutes the highest level of insult and deficiency being ascribed to His Honor, Greatness and Lordship. This is since everything apart from God (the Creator) can only be one of His creations, and all of His creations submit themselves to His Honor and Grandness and are mandated to worship Him, whereas God is divine and free of begetting a child. This is why Allaah says to those who ascribe a child to Him, and His speech is the truth: **"You have indeed brought forth something very terrible (i.e. an evil statement) – due to which the heavens are ready to tear apart, the earth split asunder, and the mountains fall in ruins. It is that they ascribe a child to the Most Merciful (i.e. God). However, it is not befitting for the (Majesty of the) Most Merciful that he should beget a child. There is none in the heavens and the earth except that he comes unto the Most Merciful as a servant. Verily, He knows each one of them, and has counted them a full counting. And each one of them will come to Him on the Day of Resurrection alone (and without any helpers)." [Qur'aan 19:89-95]** 

And He says: "Say: He is Allaah, the One (Indivisible). Allaah is the Self-Sufficient (in need of nothing). He begets not nor was He begotten. And there is no one coequal or comparable to Him." [Qur'aan 112:1-4]

Allaah said, talking to Prophet Muhammad: "And warn those who say: 'God has begotten a child.' No knowledge have they of such a thing, nor their fathers. Abominable is the statement that comes out of their mouths. They utter nothing but a lie." [Qur'aan 18:4-5]

So anyone that claims that God has a son is speaking nothing but lies, regardless of whether they are Arabs, who say that the angels are God's daughters, or Buddhists and Brahmans, who claim that for Buddha and Brahma, or the Christians, who claim that Jesus is the son of God, God Himself or part of a divine trinity. All of these are lies and fabrications on God. And in spite of this, all of these groups reject and deny each other – no group (amongst those mentioned above) accepts the views of their opponents. So the lies and fabrications are removed due to the fact that these groups all disbelieve in each other, and because of the fact that the Qur'aan, Islaam and Muslims disbelieve in them and their false claims, as do all upright minds and innate natures.

And all that remains is the clear truth that God informed us of in His miraculous Book, which falsehood cannot enter whether from in front of it or behind it. This is the magnificent Book (i.e. the Qur'aan), which Allaah uses to challenge the jinn and mankind to bring forth a book equal to it or ten chapters similar to it or at least one

chapter similar to it. But they were unable to do this for more than 14 centuries. And they will never be able to accomplish this until the Day of Judgement.<sup>10</sup>

So what truer and stronger proof is there than the fact that the neither the jinn or mankind were able to produce any part of that Book that was brought by an unlettered man who could neither read or write (i.e. the Prophet Muhammad)? This proves that whatever He said about Jesus is the truth, and everything beyond it is nothing but falsehood.

The point derived from this is that the Qur'aan has given Jesus his due right and granted him the honorable position that he deserves. And it has ensured that he will always be mentioned truthfully in a Qur'aan (revealed Book) that is read repeatedly by Muslims in their homes and in their mosques, since they recite verses from the Qur'aan related to Jesus in their prayers. This is the case with all of the other prophets and messengers of God.

Shouldn't all of this that Islaam and the Muslims adhere to serve as an invitation for the Christians, particularly the rulers, popes, priests, monks and educators amongst them, to reflect, ponder and re-examine their stance towards Muhammad and the great and miraculous Book he came with, as well as their stance towards his followers who believed in Jesus as a prophet and messenger and in the (undistorted) Scripture that was revealed to him? This would hopefully lead to them in turn showing respect and honor for Muhammad, and to being just towards him and giving him the position he deserves amongst the prophets and messengers. So where is the return of courtesy?

Is it a return of friendly gesture that they put their hands in the hands of the Jews, who disbelieved in Jesus, denied him and slandered him and his mother with the vilest of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> **Translator's Note:** This is one of the greatest challenges of Allaah and it proves that the Qur'aan is truly a revelation from God. If one studies the history of Islaam, he will see that Prophet Muhammad, an unlettered man from the lands of Arabia, challenged the hierarchical system of the pagan Arabs at that time with the pure religion of Islaam, whose followers grew in numbers as the years progressed. This "new religion" at that time was a direct threat to the power of the pagan Arabs who ruled over Makkah and led them to eventually wage war against him and his followers when their strength increased. Had Muhammad's religion and revelation from God been false, all these rulers had to do was hire the best poets and writers of their times to produce a book, ten chapters or even one chapter similar to the Qur'aan. By doing this, they would have avoided long wars, monetary loss, removal of power, imminent destruction and eventual humiliation. But the true fact is that they were not able to do it, since the Qur'aan was revealed from God, and those (Arabs) who read it, for the most part saw its miraculous nature in terms of its written format, detail in description, and topics it covered, and accepted it as the true word of God.

slanders and accusations? Aren't they the ones who held the worst form of enmity towards him from the time he was born up to this very day of ours? Aren't they the ones who treated his followers with oppression and transgression, the likes of which would make one's skin shiver?

And they corrupted his Creed and his Religion as part of their scheme and plot, making Jesus, may Allaah free him from this, into a myth of him being God or the son of God or part of a divine trinity, corrupting and nullifying his true Message. And they made his Religion and his followers into a joke and an amusement for those with common sense, let alone the most foolish of people. The plotters and schemers have changed it into a religion of a pagan myth, which those with true common sense would feel ashamed of.

Allaah clarifies this point further in His saying:

5. "Verily, the example of Jesus in the sight of Allaah is like the example of Adam – He created him from dust and then said to him 'Be' and he was. This is the truth from your Lord, so do not be from those who doubt. So whoever disputes with you concerning him (i.e. Jesus) after all this knowledge (about him) has come to you, say: 'Come, let us summon our children and your children, our women and your women and ourselves and yourselves and then invoke God to send His curses on those of us who is lying.' Verily, this is the true story (about Jesus). And there is no God that has the right to be worshipped except Allaah. And indeed Allaah is the All-Mighty, All-Wise." [Qur'aan 3:59-62]

This great example is a decisive proof that cancels out all the claims of the Christians. This is because if it is not possible or correct according to sound minds, religious doctrines, and innate natures to claim that Adam, whom God created from dust with His Hands and breathed into him his soul, is God or the son of God or part of a divine trinity, then it is for all the more reason that such cannot be claimed for Jesus. This is since the creation of Adam was more remarkable and amazing than that of Jesus, as he was created from dust and dust is not part of the human race.

On the other hand, Jesus was created from a woman, who is part of the human race, and she carried him in her womb in the same manner that woman carry children, and gave birth to him in the same manner that women give birth to children. So this is from the greatest of proofs that invalidate the false claims and absurd misconceptions of the Christians.

As a matter of fact, the angels were created from light without any fathers or mothers, and the Devil was created from fire without any parents. So this is something more remarkable and indicative of the great Ability of God, the Creator, Molder and Originator of the heavens and earth.

Rather, the creation of Eve from the rib of Adam, without any mother, was more miraculous than the creation of Jesus, who was conceived, carried in the womb of a woman and given birth to just as normal women give birth to children. So there does not remain any connection for the Christians according to every person possessing intellect, religion and fairness. But in spite of all this, Jesus, in the eyes of Islaam and the Muslims is far more superior than Adam and many of the other prophets and messengers, according to the Qur'aan and the teachings of Prophet Muhammad. This is since Jesus is one of the five messengers possessing strong will and determination, according to Islaam.

So after all this has been said, what is it that will change between the Christians and Islaam, which is the true religion of God and the religion of Jesus and all of the prophets? Won't they realize that the greatest form of misguidance and disbelief is to claim that God has a wife and a child, since this is the biggest insult and debasement that can be leveled against God, Lord of all that exists? And the greatest denial of Jesus is to disbelieve in the true message that he brought, such as by saying that he is the son of God, etc., even though he clearly stated from the very first day that he was a slave of God who gave him Revelation, made him a prophet, blessed him wherever he was and entrusted him with prayer and charity. These are characteristics that apply to a created being that is raised and nurtured and in need of his Lord, submitting himself to His Majesty and obedient to His commands.

Do they want the Muslims to put aside their intellects and thus disbelieve in Allaah and in what all of the messengers came with? Do they expect them to choose God's Wrath, Severe Punishment and Hellfire, which He prepared for those who disbelieve in Him, in exchange for His Contentment and Reward of Paradise, which was prepared for those who obey and worship Him alone?

O you Christians with sound intellects and who are fair and balanced: We call on you to stand up before God in pairs and individually and to then reflect on your view on Islaam, which is the true Religion of God and the Religion of Jesus and all of the prophets and messengers. This is the Islaam that has honored Jesus, treated him with justice, and given him the due position he deserves. I am sure that if you do this sincerely and without any influence from vain desires, and if you ask God to help you and seek assistance from what can be found in your Gospels, even after its distortions and alterations, you will be guided to the truth and the reality, which is: that

Muhammad is a messenger of God and the Book that he brought (the Qur'aan) is nothing but the truth revealed by God.

So whatever He said concerning Jesus is the truth – that he was a servant and messenger of God and that God created him just as He created everyone else – including the noble messengers – for the sole purpose of worshipping Him, subjecting themselves to His Majesty and submitting themselves to His Grandness.

Below are some examples taken from your Gospels<sup>11</sup> that confirm and support what Muhammad came with from the Qur'aan and his teachings. In the seventh verse of Chapter 4 of the Gospel of Mathew, it states:

### **1.** "Jesus said to him: 'Again it is written, You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'" [Matthew 4:7]

2. In this same chapter, there occurs a story about Jesus and the Devil, in which the Devil ordered Jesus to prostrate to him. So the Messiah Jesus responded to him, saying: "Be gone Satan, for it is written: 'You shall worship (prostrate only to) the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve (i.e. worship).""

This is what all the messengers came with and it is the argument that Jesus used against the Devil. So this clearly proves that all of the prophets including Jesus and Muhammad came to establish that God was One and that He was the Lord and only One deserving of being worshipped.

Jesus relied on the previously revealed books (from God) as proof, which state that God is the only Lord and that He is the only One who has the right to be worshipped and prostrated to.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> **Translator's Note:** The translation used for Biblical quotes in this booklet are from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, which can be accessed on-line at bible.com. It should be noted that currently there are many translations of the Gospels (New Testament) in the English Language. The average person can view the various translations and notice gross changes/alterations in the interpretation and translation of many verses of the Bible, not to mention some being left out completely. This is a further proof that the Bible has been distorted and altered as confirmed by God in His Final Revelation, the Qur'aan, which He guaranteed to protect and preserve in its original form. Allaah says: "Verily, We sent down the Reminder (the Qur'aan) and We will surely preserve it (from corruption)." [Qur'aan 15:9] The likes of this promise and guarantee from God was not made for His previous revelations, hence the obvious and noticeable contradictions in the present-day versions of these revealed Books of God – the Torah and the Gospels.

Similarly, Allaah revealed to (Prophet) Muhammad: "And We indeed sent to every nation a messenger (saying to his people): 'Worship Allaah alone and avoid the false deities.' So amongst them were those whom Allaah guided and amongst them were those whose misguidance was justified." [Qur'aan 16:36]

He also revealed to him: "And We did not send any messenger before you except that We revealed to him: 'There is no deity that has the right to be worshipped in truth, except Me, so worship Me alone." [Qur'aan 23:25]

So these statements that were revealed to Muhammad are in complete conformity with what Jesus stated in his reply to the Devil. It is also in conformity with what Jesus said when calling the Tribe of Israel: "Verily, Allaah is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him. This is the Straight Path." [Qur'aan 19:36]

And it agrees with what he will say on the Day of Judgement when his Lord will ask him: "O Jesus, son of Mary, did you tell the people: 'Worship me and my mother as two gods besides Allaah?' He will reply: 'Glory be to You! It was not for me to say what I had no right to say. If I had said such a thing, You would have surely known about it. You know what is in my inner self though I do not know what is in Your Self. Truly, only You are the All-Knowing of all that is hidden. I did not tell them anything except for what You commanded me to tell them, (which was): Worship Allaah, my Lord and your Lord. And I served as a witness for them for as long as I was with them. But when You took me up, You were the Watcher over them, and You are a Witness to all things." [Qur'aan 5:116-117]

**3.** In Chapter 11 of the Gospel of Matthew, verse 25, it states: **"At that time Jesus declared: 'I thank thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that Thou hast hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes (infants).""** 

So Jesus was one of God's servants and messengers. He acknowledged the right of his Lord who created him and bestowed His blessings on him, and therefore turned to Him, in thanks and affirmation that He alone was the Lord of the heaven and earth. This is since He is the One who created these two creations (the heaven and the earth), as well as everything inside them, in between them and whatever lies below the ground. No one else had any part in this – neither Jesus or anyone else – nor can anyone rival Him in that matter.

**4.** In Chapter 14 of the Gospel of Matthew, verse 23, it states: **"And after he had dismissed the crowds, he (Jesus) went up on the mountain by himself to pray."** 

Prayer is one of the greatest acts of worship that can be performed to God, and no one engages in it except for a lowly servant who stands in need of the mercy of his Lord and Creator. This is as Allaah says in the Qur'aan: "O mankind! It is you who stand in need of Allaah, whereas Allaah is Rich (free of all needs), Most Praiseworthy." [Qur'aan 35:15]

And Allaah says: "The Messiah (Jesus) will never be too proud to reject being a servant of God, nor the angels who are the ones close (to Him). And whoever is too proud and rejects worshipping Him, then He will gather them all together unto Himself." [Qur'aan 4:172]

So Jesus was a servant of God, and he was not nor will he ever be too proud to worship Him. This is his condition and the condition of all of the prophets and angels.

**5.** In Chapter 26 of the Gospel of Matthew, verse 39, it states that the Messiah (Jesus): "fell on his face and prayed, 'My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou wilt.""

So in this text, there is proof that Jesus was a servant (worshipper) of God who had no control over repelling harm from himself or bringing benefit to himself. And there is evidence in this text that he sought refuge in God during times of hardship, seeking His assistance and humbling himself before Him, in order to remove the harm and danger that was approaching him. So he fell prostrate with his face on the ground, seeking nearness to Him, lowering himself before Him, showing his need for Him and expressing the belief that no one has the ability to repel harm except Him. This is the state of all of the messengers, not to mention all of mankind.

**6.** In Chapter 21 of the Gospel of Matthew, verse 46, it states: **"But when they tried to arrest him, they feared the multitudes, since they held him to be a prophet."** 

There is proof in this verse that the masses of people who believed in God and in Jesus were monotheists with pure and sincere faith, and that they believed that Jesus was a messenger and a prophet. This proves that their prophet, Jesus, had taught them this and cultivated them to believe in that. So they did not used to believe that he was God or the son of God, since he would not teach the people these things.

**7.** In Chapter 23 of the Gospel of Matthew, verse 10, it states that Jesus said: "Neither be called masters, for you, even the Messiah, has One master." <sup>12</sup>

This text resembles the Qur'anic text in which Allaah informs us that His messenger Jesus told the Tribe of Israel: **"And verily, Allaah is my Lord and your Lord."** [Qur'aan 3:51]

So Allaah is the Lord of Jesus, as well as his Master, Nurturer and Owner. He is the Lord, Master and Owner of all mankind.

The Muslim scholar, Taqee-ud-Deen al-Hilaalee, pointed out in his treatise **"Clear Evidences"** that: Some translators have distorted this text, but that the English translation was saved from this corruption.

8. In Chapter 17 of the Gospel of John, verse 3, it states: "And this is the eternal life – that they know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent."

This text confirms that which all of the messengers came with, which was that there is no deity that has the right to be worshipped except Allaah, and it confirms that Jesus was a messenger of God. This was during his time, and every nation had its own time and messenger, as Allaah says: **"And We did not send any messenger before you except that We revealed to him: 'There is no deity that has the right to be worshipped in truth, except Me, so worship Me alone.'"** [Qur'aan 21:25]

And He says: "And We indeed sent to every nation a messenger (saying to his people): 'Worship Allaah alone and avoid the false deities.'" [Qur'aan 16:36]

9. In Chapter 12 of the Gospel of Mark, verses 28-30, it states: "And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he (Jesus) answered them well, asked him, 'Which commandment is the first of all?' Jesus answered, 'The first is: Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God, the Lord is One. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'"

This was the first commandment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> **Translator's Note:** This text was adapted from what is found in the Revised Standard Edition of the Bible to conform to the original text of this booklet, which was written in Arabic and which references an Arabic translation of the Bible.

And in verse 32 of the same chapter, it states that: "The scribe said to him, 'You are right, teacher. You have truly said that He is One, and there is no other but He.""

Then in verse 34 of the same chapter, it states: "And when Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.""

This first commandment mentioned by Jesus is the same commandment that Allaah prescribed to all of His messengers, including Jesus – and this was the commandment that the messengers passed on to their nations:

"He has ordained for you the same religion that He ordained for Noah and which We revealed to you (O Muhammad) and ordained for Abraham, Moses and Jesus – that you should establish the Religion and make no divisions in it. Intolerable for the polytheists is that which you call them to." [Qur'aan 42:13]

The religion that God ordained for them was the pure monotheistic Faith, which is represented in the statement: **"There is no deity that has the right to be worshipped except Allaah."** He ordered all of his messengers to call to this, and it is that which the polytheists found difficult to accept and for which reason they fought against God's messengers.

This was the same thing that Abraham and Jacob, also known as Israel, commanded the people with, as Allaah says: "And remember when Abraham and (his son) Ishmael were raising the foundations of the House (Ka'bah at Makkah), saying: 'Our Lord! Accept this from us. Verily, You are the All-Hearer, the All-Knower. Our Lord! Make us submissive unto You, and of our offspring, a nation submissive unto You. And show us how to perform the ceremonies required during the pilgrimage (to the Ka'bah), and accept our repentance. Truly, You are the One who accepts repentance, the Most Merciful. Our Lord! Send amongst them a messenger of their own (i.e. Muhammad), who shall recite unto them Your verses and teach them the Book and the Wisdom (Prophetic Teachings), and purify them. Verily, You are the All-Mighty, the All-Wise.' And who turns away from the religion of Abraham except for he who fools himself? Truly, We chose him in this world and in the Hereafter, he will be among the righteous. When his Lord said to him: 'Submit yourself', he said: 'I have submitted myself (as a Muslim) to the Lord of all that exists.' And this (submission to Allaah) was enjoined by Abraham upon his sons, and also by Jacob, saying: 'O my sons! Allaah has chosen for you the (true) religion, so do not die except while you are Muslims (i.e. submitting to the Will of your Creator).' Or were you witnesses when death approached Jacob? - When he said to his sons: What will you worship after me?' They said: 'We shall worship your God, the God of your

### forefathers – Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac – One God and to Him we submit (as Muslims).'" [Qur'aan 2:127-133]

This is truly a tremendous religion, in which they submitted their will to the Lord of all that exists, turned to Him in repentance and sought refuge in Him to make their offspring an offspring that submit themselves to God. And they invoked Him to send a messenger from amongst them to them who would recite His verses unto them, teach them the Book and the Wisdom and purify them – the purification and wisdom that would keep them far away from polytheism, foolishness and misguidance. And Allaah rules here that whoever turns away from this religion, which is pure monotheism, only fools himself.

The point derived from this is that the call of all of the prophets was in harmony in that they were calls to Monotheism and to Submission (to God) and that there was no deity that had the right to be worshipped except Allaah. They called their nations to this and counseled those who came after them from their offspring to abide by this.

The second point we want to focus on here, was the counsel of Israel, who was also known as Jacob. The text of the Bible in this regard is in conformity with the text from the Qur'aan in that the Biblical text indicates we should have love for God. This is also part of Islaam. In fact, the Religion of Islaam also consists of many aspects and great deeds apart from love (for the Creator).

Look at how Jesus responded and what his tremendous counsel was. And look at the faith of the scribe who had asked the question looking for an answer to benefit from, and his statement: **"You are right Teacher. You have truly said that He is One, and there is no other but He."** 

And look at how the Messiah responded to him, saying "You are not far from the kingdom of God." This, and Allaah knows best, is a promise from him that he will be in Paradise, and it indicates that anyone who doesn't believe in the Oneness of God and that He alone should be worshipped will not be allowed entry into Paradise. This is similar to what Allaah says in the Qur'aan, relaying to us what Jesus said to the Tribe of Israel: "Worship Allaah, who is my Lord and your Lord. Verily, whoever ascribes partners to Allaah in worship, Allaah will surely make Paradise forbidden for him and his final abode will be the Hellfire. And the wrongdoers will not have any supporters (in Hell)." [Qur'aan 5:72]

**Note:** According to the language of the Torah and the Gospels, every righteous and dutiful follower of God is called a son of God, so Jesus was not particularized with this expression of **"son of God."** 

**10.** In Chapter 5 of the Gospel of Matthew, verse 9, it states: **"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."** 

**11.** And in verse 45 of Chapter 5 of the Gospel of Matthew, it states: **"So that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven."** 

**12.** In verse 4 of the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 5, it states: **"You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."** 

**13.** In Chapter 6 of the Gospel of Matthew, verse 1, it states: **"Beware of practicing your piety before men in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven."** 

**14.** In Chapter 23 of the Gospel of Matthew, verse 9, it states: **"And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven."** <sup>13</sup>

These verses show that use of the terms **"father"** and **"son"** to refer to the connection between the Lord and His servant was a practice established in the Bible for all people, so the Messiah, Jesus, was not specifically characterized with this apart from others. <sup>14</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> **Translator's Note:** The use of the relationship of Father and Son to refer to the connection between God and His righteous servants is not just limited to the New testament of the Bible, rather, there can be found proof for it in the Old Testament as well: "The sons of God saw that the daughters of men were fair; and they took to wife such of them as they chose." [Genesis 6:2] "The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men that were of old, the men of renown." [Genesis 6:4] "When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of men, he fixed the bounds of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God." [Deuteronomy 32:8] "Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them." [Job 1:6] "When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" [Job 38:7]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> See "The Clear Evidences" of Taqee-ud-Deen Al-Hilaalee (pgs. 6-10). Translator's Note: Further evidence from the New Testament that confirms this point that the use of the relationship between Father and Son as a substitute for the relationship between God and His servant is as follows: "For they cannot die any more, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection." [Luke 20:36] "For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God." [Romans 8: 14] "But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God." [John 1:12] "And not for the nation only, but to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad." [John 11:52] "It is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God." [Romans 8:16] "...because the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God." [Romans 8:21] "That you may be

Perhaps all of this was from the behavior of some of the Jews and Christians, but God knows best. This is since Allaah says in the Qur'aan: "The Jews and the Christians say: 'We are the children of God and His beloved ones.' Say: 'Why then does He punish you for your sins?' Nay, you are but human beings from those He has created. He forgives whom He wills and He punishes whom He wills. And to Allaah belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth and all that is between them. And to Him is the final return." [Qur'aan 5:18]

Any fair and balanced person with sound intellect will realize that the Qur'anic texts we mentioned contain in them a tribute, honor, warm reception and high praise for Jesus. And they confirm that he was a prophet and a messenger, and that he was one of the greatest messengers who carried the banner of Monotheism, called mankind to this Monotheistic Faith, which means making all worship purely for God alone, fought against polytheism, and warned those who adhere to it (polytheism) that they would reside eternally in the Hellfire – what an evil destination!

These verses from the Qur'aan also show how God absolved Jesus and his mother from the slander that the Jews accused them of, how He raised the status of Jesus and his mother and made the statements of the Jews against him and his mother to be considered as disbelief and immense slander.

Furthermore, the texts of the Qur'aan and the Bible are in conformity with the fact that Jesus was a servant and messenger of God. This is a perfect state that no one can attain except for the great messengers amongst whom was Jesus. The teachings of Prophet Muhammad also professed the same beliefs and the Muslims believed in all of this. So what then is wrong with Islaam and the Muslims? There is nothing wrong with it at all, in the eyes of those with sound intellects and impartiality. Rather, the wrong is against God Himself, since the terrible statement (that Jesus is the son of God), due to which the heavens are ready to tear apart, the earth split asunder, and the mountains fall in ruins is the opposite of what is indicated in the Qur'aan, the teachings of Prophet Muhammad and what the Muslims adhere to, not to mention what the monotheistic texts still preserved in the Bible indicate.

blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world." [Philippians 2:15] "See what love the Father has given us – that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him." [1 John 3:1] "By this it may be seen who are the children of God, and who are the children of the Devil, Whoever does not do right is not of God, nor he who does not love his brother." [1 John 3:10] "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandment." [1 John 5:2]

Has not the time come for the Christians, after hearing all of this, to hasten and rush to Islaam, especially the intellectual, educated and free thinking ones amongst them?

We call them again to stand up before God in pairs and individually, then to reflect on this tremendous matter – of which there is no matter greater than it – with firm determination and impartiality and earnestly seeking to attain the truth and the reality, for it is indeed a crucial matter, which can either lead one to Paradise, the size of which spans the heavens and the earth, or to the Hellfire, whose fuel will be men and stones and which is prepared for those who disbelieve to reside therein forever. This is a matter that all of the messengers agreed on and which is contained in their revealed books, including Jesus, the servant and messenger of God.

At this point, it is appropriate for us to honestly tell you: "O People of the Scripture!<sup>15</sup> Come to a word that is just between us and you – that we worship none but God alone and that we associate no partners with Him, and that none of us shall take others as lords besides God.' Then if they turn away, say: 'Bear witness that we are Muslims.'" [Qur'aan 3:64]

This is a sincere call that requires your stern attention. So do not let the enemy of God, the Devil, divert and impede you from the objective (of finding out the truth). Verily, the Devil is a clear and open enemy to you. And indeed, he only calls his followers to be from amongst the inhabitants of the Hellfire, whereas Allaah, the Most Kind and Most Merciful, calls you to Paradise and to forgiveness. And Allaah invites you to the abode of Peace and guides whom He wills to a Straight Path.

I swear by Allaah that true success and prosperity in this worldly life and in the Hereafter can only be found in this great religion of Islaam, which has been ordained by Allaah, Lord of all that exists. And again, I swear by Allaah that in Islaam you will be able to find solutions for all of the problems facing mankind today, whether they are related to beliefs, politics, society, economy or daily etiquettes. Furthermore, Islaam eliminates the hostilities, hatred and malice that a person's life harvests, and which may serve to transfer him to the Hellfire.

So there is no religion or methodology on the face of this earth today that truthfully contains and consists of what we stated previously, except for this magnificent religion, with its miraculous Qur'aan, its tremendous teachings of the Prophet Muhammad, its accurate and wise principles and its firm fundamentals.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> **Translator's Note:** In the Qur'aan, Allaah refers to the Jews and Christians as **"People of the Scripture"** due to the fact that they had been sent messengers with revealed scriptures - i.e. Moses with the Torah and Jesus with the Gospels.

So I urge you to rush to the real means that will bring you salvation from misery in this life and the Hereafter, and salvation from destructive wars and stifling worries.

O Allaah, I ask You to guide these nations (of Christians) to Your upright Religion and Your Straight Path, Verily, You are Able to do all things and Respond to all requests.

There will be a continuation to this treatise, in which we will clarify the greatness of Islaam and the truthfulness of the Messenger of Islaam (Muhammad), as well as him and his Message being far removed from extremism and negligence and in conformity with sound intellects and uncorrupt innate natures.

#### [End of the Treatise]

# THE STATUS OF IN ISLAM

#### About the Book:

In this brief treatise, the author sets out to clarify Islam's true position towards Jesus, which is the middle course between two extremes. At one extreme there are those who believe that Jesus is God, the Son of God or part of a divine trinity while on the other extreme there are others who slander him and deny his message.

The correct belief regarding Jesus as confirmed in the Qur'an and Prophet Muhammad's teachings is that he was no more than a prophet and messenger of God sent with the same message as all the prophets before him such as Moses, Abraham and Noah. That message was to worship God alone and avoid false deities. This is the one true unwavering message of the Creator to His creation throughout the course of time, and it is the same message that Jesus brought to his people and which Muhammad brought to his people after him.

We hope that this short treatise will serve as an invitation to Christians to reflect on the beauty and simplicity of Islam, which has taken a moderate stance towards Jesus, assigning him a lofty role as one of the foremost messengers of God.

#### About the Author:

Dr. Rabee' Ibn Haadee Al-Madkhalee is one of the well-known scholars of Saudi Arabia. He is a former graduate and professor at the renowned Islamic University of Madeenah. He has authored numerous books and treatises about Islam which clarify misconceptions and false notions concerning it.

