A close-up, high-contrast photograph of a person's eye, looking directly at the viewer. The eye is brown and is the central focus of the image. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows and bright highlights on the skin and hair. The background is dark and textured.

Truth
About The Sin
The Original

دقيقة الخطبة الأصلية
ا.د. عبدالله بن هادي القطاني

**The Truth About
The Original Sin**

Prof. Abdallah H. Al-Kahtany

حقيقتا الخطيئة الاصلية
اللغة الانجليزية
الطبعة الثالثة

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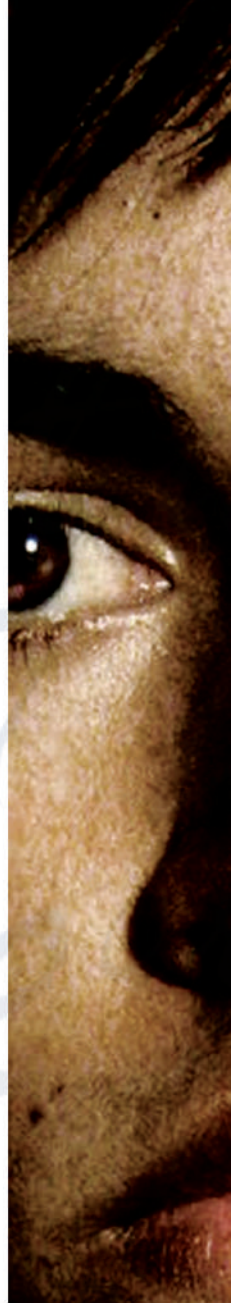
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The Truth About the Original Sin

حقيقة الخطيئة الاصلية

تأليف

أ.د. عبدالله بن هادي القحطاني

يتطرق هذا الكتاب لعقيدة الخطيئة الأصلية لدى النصارى ويبين من خلال الأدلة العقلية والنقلية بطلان هذا الاعتقاد ، ويخلص إلى أن السبيل الوحيد للنجاة من النار والضوز بالجنة يكون باتباع ما جاء به الله في كتابه العزيز ودحض هذه الغربة العظيمة التي تقوم عليها العقيدة النصرانية وإقضاء هدي نبينا الكريم صلى الله عليه وسلم بتوحيد الله بالعبادة وأن كل إنسان يحاسب عن أعماله وأنه لا تزر وازرة وزر أخرى .

This book deals with the Doctrine of the Original Sin in Christianity. The author utilizes evidence from both logical and religious perspectives to prove the falsehood of this doctrine. He further explains that the only way to salvation is through following the teachings of the seal of all prophets Muhammad (pbuh); by believing in the Oneness of God in worship. All mankind will be accounted based on their deeds and that no bearer of a burden shall bear the burden of another.

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Dedication

I dedicate this booklet to Allah and have all hope that He will accept it.

I also dedicate this booklet to all those who search for the truth.

Acknowledgement

I am indebted to the great Muslim scholar Ibn Taymiyyah for his marvelous work, which inspired me to study the concept of The Original Sin in Christianity.

I also wish to express my gratitude to my honored brothers Dr. Abdallah Abu Ishi and Dr. Abdurazaq Sammandar for their valuable suggestions and help in preparing the manuscript.

If there is any good in this work, it is from Allah. If there is any mistake in it, it is from myself. I therefore extend my thanks and devotion to Allah Who enabled me to finish this humble booklet in His cause.

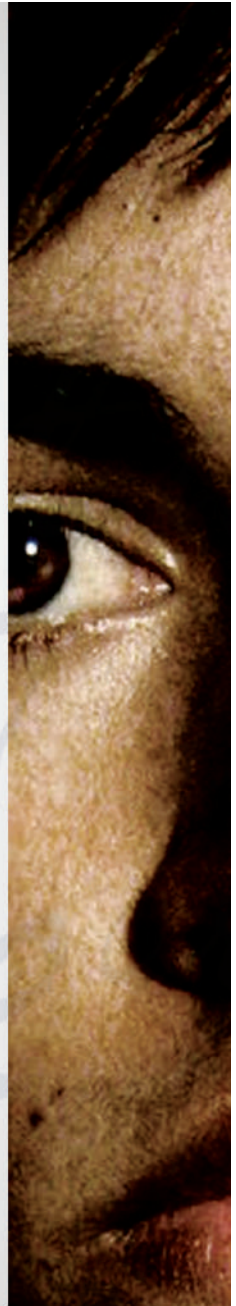
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I. Introduction

Issues related to belief are complex and sensitive to deal with, particularly with regard to religious matters. However, with the rapid advance in communication and spread of mass media globally, the once perceived cultural barriers and negative stereotypes are fast giving way to more open debates and fruitful discussions on many contentious issues. Thus, it becomes necessary that beliefs be investigated objectively and even revisited with an open mind.

Concerned religious scholars and their followers need to be more understanding and lend a sympathetic ear to alternative positions and views held by people of diverse cultures, if they are truly seeking genuine answers to resolve, or at least clarify, outstanding issues of a common or universal nature. This is particularly the case if such beliefs are exported to other nations along with all types of consumer durables in a shrinking global village of today.

As governments and institutions set vital quality assurance standards and specifications on manufactured goods, services and imports, it is, as well, important to test and affirm the validity of competing or diverse views, values and beliefs. In particular, Muslim relation with the Christian world today has become so close, intertwined and even inseparable that we both need to get acquainted with what each party has to contribute in forging a common understanding of the pressing global concerns and social issues confronting humanity today.



In particular, since the concept of The Original Sin in Christianity forms the cornerstone on which a cluster of beliefs like the godship of Jesus (pbuh)¹, his crucifixion and the salvation of mankind have emerged, it therefore singles itself out as a prominent topical candidate to be discussed and studied.

The approach followed in this analysis of The Original Sin is to utilize two basic sources of evidence. The first is that body of Islamic literature including The Glorious Qur'an and Muslim Scholars² who have given serious thought to the notion of The Original Sin, espoused by Christianity. The second type of evidence must necessarily include the Bible³ itself from which this doctrine is first alleged to have arisen in Christianity and Biblical or Christian scholars who themselves have contemplated this subject.

1-Pbuh stands for peace upon him or pbuh which stands peace be upon them, for plural).

2-For example, see Ibn Taymiyyah, Ahmad. Al-jawab as-sahih liman badala deen al masseh. Vol. I. (This copy does not have references to the publisher nor to the year of publication.) Ibn Taymiyyah is a prominent Muslim scholar of the Thirteenth Century who presented arguments against the doctrine of The Original Sin as taught by Christianity.

3-Muslims believe that God has revealed The Torah to Prophet Moses (pbuh), parts of what is called (The Old Testament) and The Injeel to Prophet Jesus (pbuh), parts of what is called (The Gospel or New Testament), as guidance to their people. Nevertheless, the current numerous versions of the Bible made it difficult to decide which is the authenticated one. For more details about this issue, see, Taha, Ezziah Ali (1987). The Methodology of Collecting the Bible and the Sunnah: A Comparative Study. Kuwait: Dar Al-Buhuth Al-Elmiyyah. See also Deedat, Ahmad (1982). Is the Bible God's Word? International Publishing House. (1982) P.1



The primary objective of this methodology is to explore the logical possibilities, the rational and theological soundness of this specious doctrine. Comparing the two types of evidence on the notion of The Original Sin will allow the readers, whom God has bestowed with intellect that distinguishes them from other creatures, to ponder, analyze and evaluate the basis for such a claim and then decide for themselves what exactly is the truth on the matter.

II. Why is it important to study the concept of The Original Sin in Christianity?

Professor Jurgen Moltmann in his book, *The Crucified God*, said:

“The death of Jesus on the cross is the center of all Christian theology...all Christian statements about God, about sin and death have their focal point on the crucified Christ. All Christian statements about history, about hope stem from the crucified Christ.”⁴

4- Deedat, Ahmad (1984). *Crucifixion or Crucifixion?* International Islamic Publishing House, p. 2.

Jürgen Moltmann



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It is evident that without the concept of The Original Sin, there would be no need in Christianity for the crucifixion of Christ (pbuh), and the attendant doctrine of salvation or atonement to take place through him alone.

Garner Ted Armstrong, the Executive Vice-President and Co-Publisher of The Plain Truth - a Christian Magazine from America, which boasts a current, free world-wide circulation of six million copies a month - attempts to answer his own puzzle under the heading: "WAS THE RESURRECTION A HOAX?" It is stated that the resurrection of Jesus Christ of Nazareth (pbuh) is either the supreme fact of history or a flagrant, deliberate fabrication boldly foisted on the followers of Christianity.⁵

In the strongest terms, Josh McDowell, an American Evangelist, claimed in his book, The Resurrection Factor:

"I was forced to the conclusion that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is either one of the most wicked, heartless, vicious, hoaxes ever foisted upon the minds of men, or it is the most fantastic fact of history." ⁶

5-The Plain Truth. February (1984). Cited in Deedat's Crucifixion or Crucifixion? p. 5.

6-McDowell, Josh. The Resurrection Factor. In Deedat, 1984, p. 5.

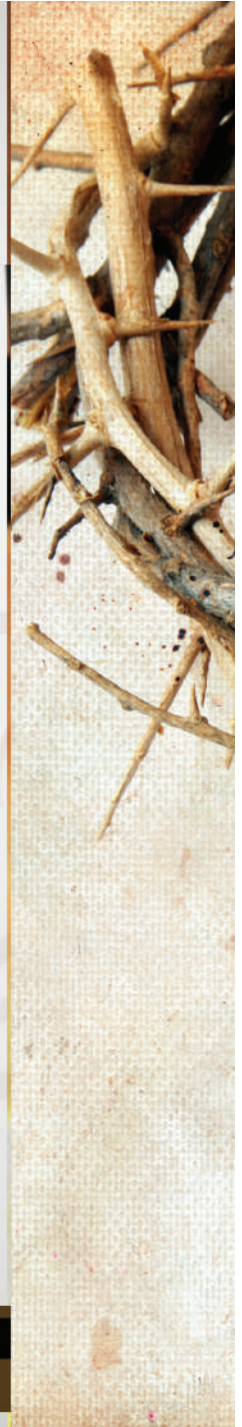


The open controversy among prominent Christians themselves on the contentious issue of the crucifixion of Jesus (pbuh), which was deemed necessary for the atonement of the alleged Original Sin, underscores the importance of pursuing serious investigation of such a concept further.

III. How can God be crucified to save humanity?

The Concept of the Original Sin exceeded all limits in attributing lies and fabricating injustice to God Almighty. It has challenged and even undermined the Divinity of God in ways that no other Concept on the face of the earth has ever done before. In reality, this renders those who initiated the Concept of The Original Sin to be far from praising God or glorifying Him, let alone being true believers.

Christendom claims that when Adam (pbuh) ate from the forbidden tree, he sinned perpetually and angered God Who thereby afflicted eternal punishment upon him which was to continue on his offspring until the coming of Jesus (pbuh). Thus, the sole purpose of the latter's crucifixion and alleged death on the cross was to relieve later generations from their forefather's sin, and their own of course, which they continue to bear. Christians further claim that all the sons of Adam (pbuh) were imprisoned by Satan, including the Prophets of God, such as Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, Solomon and Joseph (pbut).

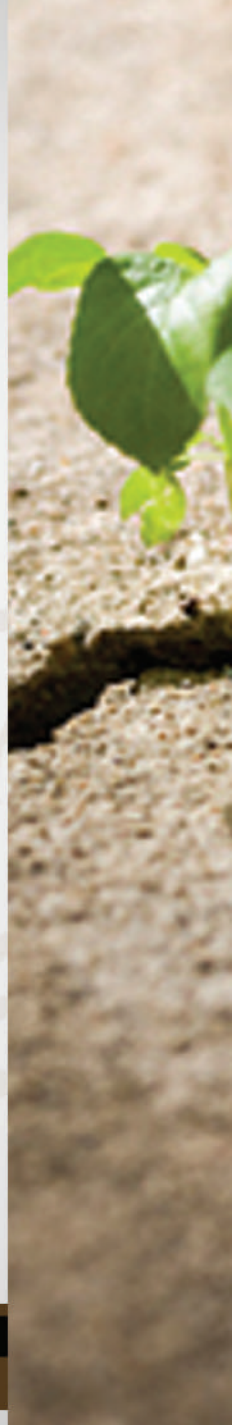


In contrast, Islam refutes such abhorrent claims as the Qur'an emphatically honors the noble prophets of God Almighty:

وَوَهَبْنَا لَهُ إِسْحَاقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ كُلًّا هَدَيْنَا وَنُوحًا
 هَدَيْنَا مِنْ قَبْلُ وَمِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِهِ دَاوُدَ وَسُلَيْمَانَ وَأَيُّوبَ
 وَيُوسُفَ وَمُوسَى وَهَارُونَ وَكَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي الْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿٨٤﴾
 وَزَكَرِيَّا وَيَحْيَى وَعِيسَى وَإِيلَىٰ كُلًّا مِّنَ الصَّالِحِينَ ﴿٨٥﴾
 وَإِسْمَاعِيلَ وَإِسْحَاقَ وَيُونُسَ وَلُوطًا كُلًّا أَفَضَّلْنَا عَلَى
 الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٨٦﴾

And We bestowed upon him Ishaq (Isaac) and Yaqub (Jacob); each of them We guided; and before him, We guided Nuh (Noah); and among his progeny Dawud (David), Sulaiman (Solomon), Ayyub (Job), Yusuf (Joseph), Musa (Moses), and Harun (Aaron). Thus do We reward Al-Muhsinin (the good-doers. And Zakariyya (Zachariya) and Yahya (John) and Isa (Jesus) and Ilyas (Elias), each one of them was of the righteous. And Ismael (Ishmael) and Al-Yasaa (Elisha) and Yunus (Jonah) and Lut (Lot), and each one of them did We prefer above the Alamin [mankind and jinn (of their time)]. (Al Qur'an, 6:84-86).

It is well known that Abraham's father was not only a nonbeliever, but a die-hard polytheist who blasphemed God, but God did not punish Abraham for his father's grave sin. How then would He hold him or the children of Adam, responsible for their forefather's sin? To attribute a wrong or its consequences to someone innocent is itself a calumny and grave sin. God Almighty is far from doing so.



Moreover, the Christian concept of The Original Sin erroneously assumes that Adam did not seek repentance and that God did not forgive him. Indeed, God has declared that Adam (pbuh) repented soon afterwards and was granted forgiveness by Him. This is clearly mentioned in the Glorious Qur'an:

﴿فَلَقَىٰ آدَمُ مِن رَّبِّهِ كَلِمَاتٍ فَتَابَ عَلَيْهِ إِنَّهُ هُوَ التَّوَّابُ الرَّحِيمُ﴾

Then Adam received from his Lord words [of forgiveness]. And his Lord pardoned him (accepted his repentance). Verily, He is the One Who forgives (accepts repentance), the Most Merciful (Al Qur'an, 2:37).

The Creator did not abandon Adam (pbuh) because he sinned. According to Islam, by the infinite mercy of God Almighty, it is He Who first taught Adam how to seek forgiveness for this sin and he was thereby forgiven once he did so. Moreover, the children of Adam were never at any time implicated in their forefather's sins at all.

The Concept of The Original Sin has gone out of the way to claim that through the crucifixion of Christ (pbuh), who perished on the cross, God will redeem the sins of man and thereby save Adam and his offspring from the Hell fire.



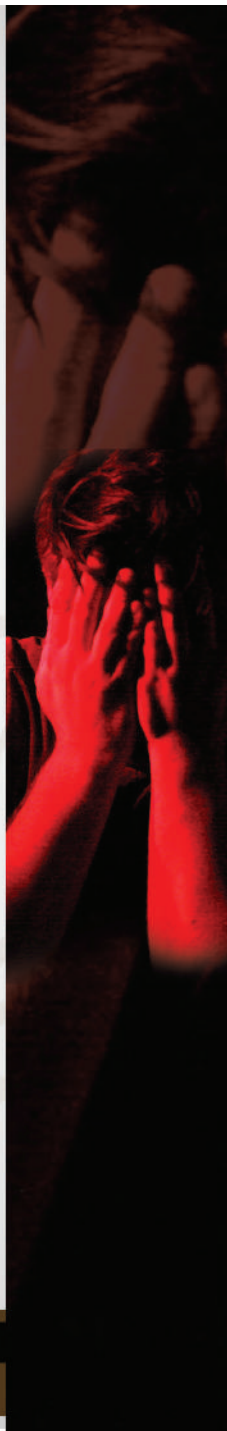
It further surmises that it was through this supposed crucifixion that God was able to trick Satan, notwithstanding the fact that Satan was the first of the creation to disobey God Almighty and the first deserving of punishment, because he proudly and arrogantly refused the command of God to prostrate to Adam (pbuh). Moreover, it was after Satan first sinned that he seduced Adam (pbuh) to commit sin in disobedience to the Creator.

It stands to reason that the Creator did not have to reduce Himself to a mortal in order to trick the Devil. He can do that best in His original grandeur as the Almighty. Moreover, God had the ability to punish Satan long before the coming of Jesus (pbuh) and can still do so at anytime. Instead, He granted him respite until the Day of Judgment and warned Adam and his progeny that Satan is an open enemy to them.

Thus, it is therefore necessary to question the spurious assumption that the sons of Adam are to be held accountable for their forefather's mistake, or anybody else's for that matter except their own, that they had nothing to do with.⁷

In Christian literature, crucifixion is not the only contentious issue by any means, as the life of Jesus (pbuh) himself is much shrouded in mystery, except for the three main years of his ministry.

7-Ibn Taymiyyah, pp. 216-217.

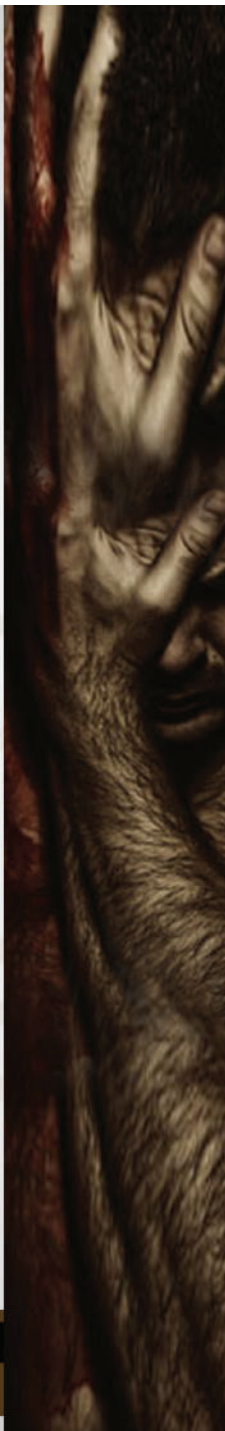


The Orthodox Christian Church makes it a cardinal point of its doctrine that Jesus' (pbuh) life was taken on the cross, that he was crucified and was buried, that he rose on the third day in body and soul with wounds intact, that he walked about and conversed, that he ate with his disciples, and that he was afterwards taken up bodily to heaven.

This belief is necessary for legitimizing and justifying the Christian theological doctrine of blood sacrifice and vicarious atonement for sins including the alleged Original Sin, all of which are rejected outright by Islam.⁸ Indeed, some of the early Christian sects themselves strenuously disputed the notion that Jesus (pbuh) was killed on the cross. Deedat, in his book (*Crucifixion or Crucifiction?* pp. 19-38) has provided numerous references to the falsity of the crucifixion of Jesus (pbuh). He draws most of his evidence from the Bible and the writings of Christian authorities.

The notion of crucifixion, as presented in Christianity, only strengthens the vile claims of the Jews that they were the masterminders of Jesus' (pbuh) death. In defense of this mighty messenger of God against such an ignominy and abomination, the Qur'an clearly upholds:

8-The Holy Quran: English translation of the meanings and commentary. Translator's note No. 663, p. 268.



فَمَا نَقِضِهِمْ مِيثَاقَهُمْ لَعَنَّاهُمْ وَكَفَرْنَا بِهِمْ وَأَقْرَبَهُمُ الْآيَاتِ
 بِغَيْرِ حَقٍّ وَقَوْلِهِمْ قُلُوبُنَا غُلْفٌ بَلْ طَبَعَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهَا بِكُفْرِهِمْ
 فَلَا يُؤْمِنُونَ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا ﴿١٥٥﴾ وَيَكْفُرُهُمْ وَقَوْلِهِمْ عَلَىٰ مَرْيَمَ
 بُهْتَنًا عَظِيمًا ﴿١٥٦﴾ وَقَوْلِهِمْ إِنَّا قَتَلْنَا الْمَسِيحَ عِيسَىٰ ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ
 رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَمَا قَتَلُوهُ وَمَا صَلَبُوهُ وَلَٰكِن شُبِّهَ لَهُمْ وَإِنَّ الَّذِينَ
 اخْتَلَفُوا فِيهِ لَفِي شَكٍّ مِّنْهُ مَا لَهُمْ بِهِ مِنْ عِلْمٍ إِلَّا اتِّبَاعَ الظَّنِّ
 وَمَا قَتَلُوهُ يَقِينًا ﴿١٥٧﴾ بَلْ رَفَعَهُ اللَّهُ إِلَيْهِ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ عَزِيزًا حَكِيمًا
 ﴿١٥٨﴾ وَإِنَّ مِنْ أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ لَلَّذِينَ يُؤْمِنُونَ بِهِ قَبْلَ مَوْتِهِ وَيَوْمَ
 الْقِيَامَةِ يَكُونُ عَلَيْهِمْ شَهِدًا ﴿١٥٩﴾ فَيُظَلَمُونَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ هَادُوا

Because of their breaking of the covenant, and of their rejecting the Ayat (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations etc.) of Allah, and of their saying: "Our hearts are wrapped (with coverings, i.e. we do not understand what the messengers say)" - nay, Allah has set a seal upon their hearts because of their disbelief, so they believe not but a little. And because of their (Jews) disbelief and uttering against Maryam (Mary) a grave false charge (that she committed illegal sexual intercourse); And because of their saying (in boast), "We killed Messiah 'Isa' (Jesus) son of Maryam (Mary), the Messenger of Allah," - but they killed him not, nor crucified him, but it appeared so to them [the resemblance of Isa (Jesus) was put over 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 [i.e. Isa (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary)].

But Allah raised him [Isa (Jesus)] up (with his body and soul) unto Himself (and he is in the heavens). And Allah is Ever All-Powerful, AllWise. And there is none of the people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians), but must believe in him [Isa (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary), as only a Messenger of Allah and a human being], before his [Jesus or a Jew's or a Christian's] death (at the time of the appearance of the angel of death). And on the Day of Resurrection, he (Jesus) will be a witness against them (Al Qur'an, 4:155-159).

In the Qur'anic verses above, there is a catalogue of iniquities of which the Jews were guilty, and for such iniquities "they are under divine displeasure."⁹ Their iniquities included:

1. They broke their covenant.
2. They rejected Allah's (God's) guidance as conveyed by His messengers.
3. They killed Allah's messengers and incurred a double guilt which included murder and that of deliberate defiance of His law.
4. They imagined themselves arrogantly self-sufficient, which means a blasphemous closing of their hearts forever against admission of Allah's grace.

9- The Holy Qur'an, Translator's footnote, No. 659, p. 266.

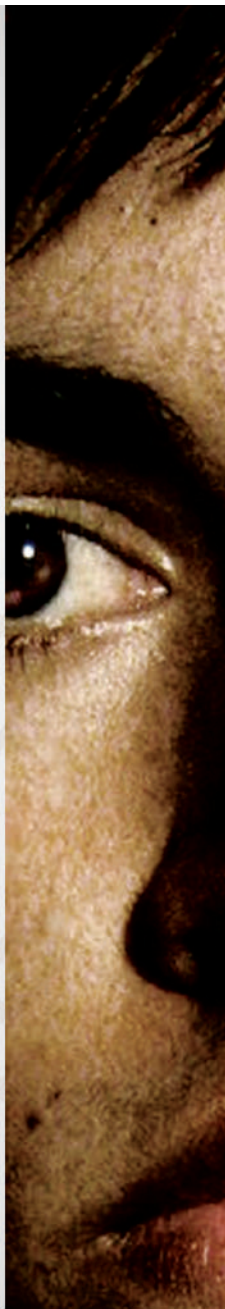
But the Jews were famous for their rebelliousness and iniquities against God, His prophets and the true believers:

1. They rejected faith.
2. They made false charges against a righteous woman like Mary, who was chosen by Allah to be the mother of Jesus (pbuh).
3. They boasted of having killed Jesus (pbuh) when they were victims of their own self-hallucination.
4. They hindered people from Allah's way.
5. They, by means of usury and fraud, oppressed their fellow men.¹⁰

The charge against Mary was that she was unchaste. Such a charge is heinous enough to make against any innocent woman, but it is particularly irreverent to be made against Mary the mother of the prophet of Allah, Jesus (pbuh). The Jews rejected his message from the beginning by ridiculing Allah's power through his extraordinary birth (Al Qur'an, 17:27-28).

The chastity of women is highly respected in Islam because it is such an essential aspect of their dignity and honor that no one is allowed to doubt, unless he or she brings strong evidence, namely, four eye witnesses that she did commit an unchaste act. If they fail to do so, they will be flogged with eighty lashes and barred from being competent witnesses in the future again (Al Qur'an, 24:4).

10- Such dealings are prohibited in the Bible. See Ezekiel, 18:8. Nevertheless, they still insist in acting against the Bible.



In the case of Mary, she was a pure, righteous, pious, virtuous and chaste lady of the highest rank among the women in her time, specially chosen by God Almighty.

Several sects of Christianity like the Basilidans also rejected the claim of crucifixion of Jesus (pbuh) and, instead, believed that someone else was substituted for him.

The Docetae, another sect in Christianity, held the view that Christ (pbuh) never had a real physical and natural body, but only an apparent or phantom body. The Gospel of St. Barnabas also supported the theory that Christ (pbuh) was substituted on the cross. ¹¹

Moreover, Christians propound that Christ (pbuh) was a man and a god at the same time. He purposely allowed the unbelievers to crucify him so that he would trick Satan.¹² They claim that Jesus (pbuh) concealed his identity as god, so that Satan would not know him by allowing his foes to capture him, beat him up and spit on his face.¹³ According to them, he also allowed them to crucify him, put thorns on his head and manifest the fear of death. In that state, he then cried out to his Lord saying: "'Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachtani? Which means, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken me?" (Matthew, 27:46).

11- The Holy Qur'an. Translator's footnote, No. 663, p. 286.

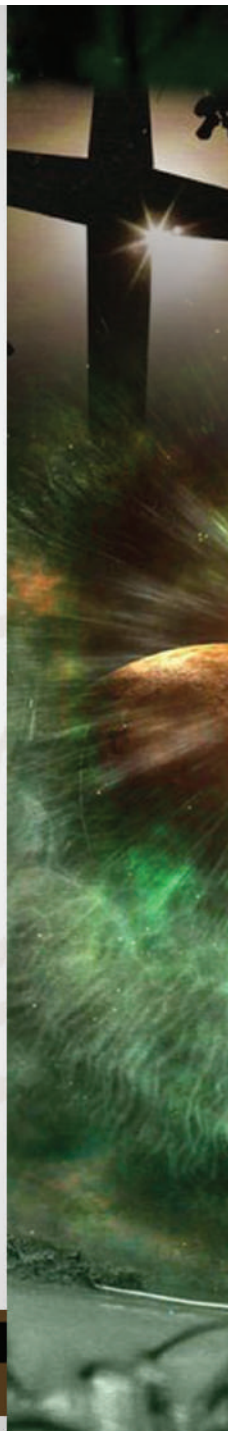
12- Ibn Taymiyyah, op. cit., p. 216.

13- The Glorious Qur'an states: "They did not crucify him nor did they kill him...". (Al Qur'an, 4:157)

These words according Christians were spoken so that the Devil will not know that Jesus (pbuh) was "God" or "the son of God" because Satan wants to take his soul to Hell as he allegedly did to Noah, Abraham, Moses and other prophets (pbuh) and the believers as well.

As a result of this deception, God will argue against Satan by saying: "For what reason did you take my soul?" Satan will reply: 'Because of your sin". Then god's human side would reply: "I have no sins like other prophets. They had sins by which they deserve that their souls be thrown in Hell-fire." Christians also contend that in this way God was able to establish a pretext (evidence) to punish Satan. Thus, it became permissible for God to punish Satan and save the children of Adam from Hell-fire.

Such claims are illogical, baseless and full of absurdity and defy all reason and comprehension. How could God be captured by Satan in the first place? Moreover, how could God die? Is that possible and how could the accursed Devil kill Him ? Who can challenge or stand up to the Omnipotent Creator? To claim that God was humiliated, persecuted and then captured and put to death by Satan is itself an abomination and flagrant evil beyond all bounds. Who dares to question or argues with the Almighty? The Glorious Qur'an states:



قُلْ لَوْ كَانَ الْبَحْرُ مَدَادًا لَكَلِمَتِ رَبِّي

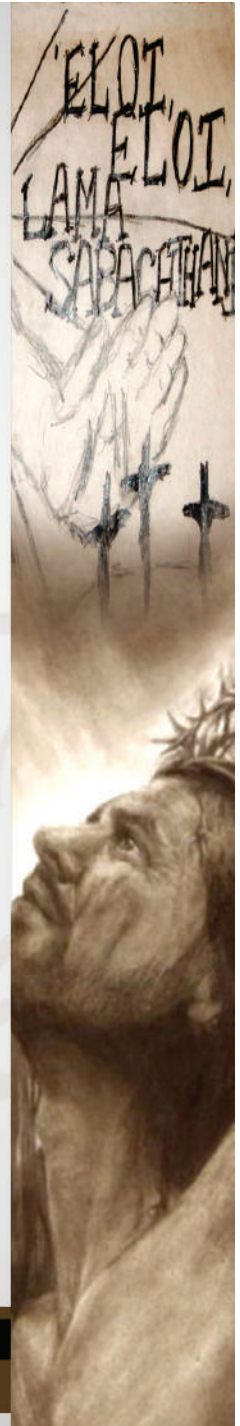
لَنفَدَ الْبَحْرُ قَبْلَ أَنْ نُنْفِذَ كَلِمَتُ رَبِّي وَلَوْ جِئْنَا بِمِثْلِهِ مَدَدًا ﴿١٠٩﴾

Say (O Muhammad (pbuh) to mankind): "If the sea were ink for (writing) the Words of my Lord, surely, the sea would be exhausted before the Words of my Lord would be finished, even if we brought (another sea) like it for its aid (Al Qur'an, 18:109).

Let us examine these claims in a systematic manner from several angles. First, if we accept that Jesus (pbuh) was saying: "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachtani?" And he was not telling the truth but only to deceive Satan, he, then is accused of a promulgating heinous lie. It is impossible, as it is inconceivable, that a righteous prophet, let alone God Almighty would lie and tell some cheap lie at that, in order to deceive the accursed Devil.

Islam teaches that a prophet of God will never lie, since all the prophets were specially chosen by God and are therefore infallible and God Almighty is never a liar or a deceiver. The only other alternative is that Jesus (pbuh) did not know that he was the "Son of God" and this is absolutely out of the question. Therefore, we are left with the third and most realistic option that Jesus (pbuh) was no other than a mortal man just like all other prophets of God.¹⁴

14- Ibn Taymiyyah, op. cit., p. 216.



IV. What is the real nature of Christ (pbuh)?

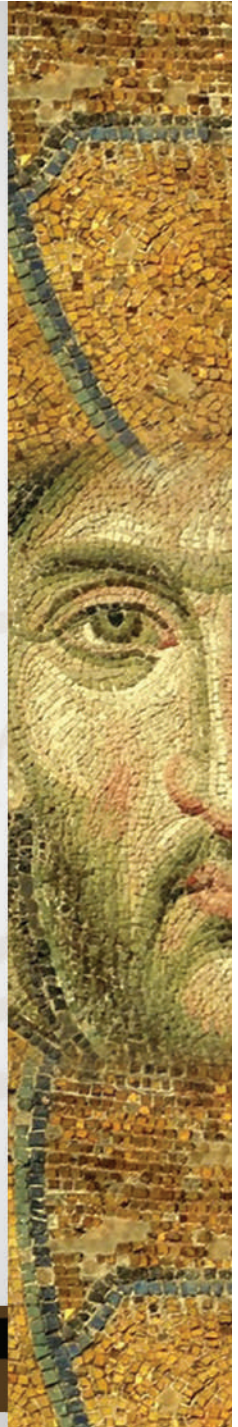
If Satan has taken the children of Adam for their father's sin, then there is no difference between the human nature of Christ and other humans.¹⁵ There are many places in the Bible where Jesus (pbuh) said or referred to himself as a man, among which are:

...come to see, A MAN who told me everything I ever did... (John, 4:29).

Ye men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, A MAN approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know (Acts, 2:22).

In fact, Jesus (pbuh) was never quoted in the Bible as saying that he was the son of God. He called himself the son of man. Moreover, it was other prophets of God who were categorically referred to in the Bible as the sons of God, as in Psalms, 2:7 where the prophet David (pbuh) was referred to as the son of God: "He said to me, "you are my Son; today I have become your father". Since God explicitly addressed David (pbuh) as His son, why do Christians not consider him also a "son of God" in the same way as they hold Jesus (pbuh) to be?

15- Ibid., p. 218.



V. What is the fate of Adam's (pbuh) progeny?

If we say that generations of people after Christ (pbuh) were like those who came after him, how can it be that Satan was allowed to take hold of the previous generations but not the later ones, although they are all equally the same progeny of Adam (pbuh)? Moreover, they have also committed greater sins than those nations of the prophets of God before them. On what basis then was Satan given the chance to punish the preceding generations and prophets to Jesus but was not allowed to do so after him? Is God Almighty unjust to His creations, preferring some over others when He is the Absolutely Just and Merciful? It seems more logical and reasonable to believe that God is most concerned with the well-being of all human beings alike and will not allow Satan to ruin those before Jesus (pbuh) and save only those who came after him.

VI. Who gave Satan the authority?

The claim that Satan was allowed to drive the children of Adam (pbuh) into Hell could only have one of the following two implications: either what Satan has done was injustice committed by him against the offspring of Adam; or whatever he has done was just.



In the first instance, if such actions were just, then Satan cannot not be blamed and there would be no reason for Christ (pbuh) to prevent him from doing what is right. Moreover, Satan should be granted the opportunity to take hold of both generations, those before as well as those after Jesus (pbuh). More seriously, in that case, there was no need for Jesus (pbuh) to come to the salvation of the children of Adam (pbuh). They simply do not need it.

On the other hand, if what Satan did was injustice and God did not prevent him from committing it before the coming of Christ (pbuh), we are faced with two possible scenarios: either God was incapable (God forbid) of preventing such an injustice; or He was able but did not. In either case then, there is no difference had injustice been prevented in one particular time or another, because God is either impotent to stop it or simply does not care. But this is not a tenable position at all, as the Blessed Creator is both Omnipotent and Ever Merciful to the best of his creations – mankind.

VII. Should Satan be punished?

If Satan had been excused or even authorized, before Christ (pbuh) came, to take people to Hell because of their father's sin, then there is no reason to blame him, let alone punish him.



If, however, he was not excused, then there is no need to deceive him in order to holding him responsible for his transgression, because he is deserving of punishment and it will be meted out to him without doubt in the very Hell Fire that he is alluring the children of Adam (pbuh) to.

If Jesus (pbuh) did not establish evidence on Satan before crucifixion and he did not crucify him, Satan could say that he did not know that this man represented the 'human side' of God; and God had permitted him to take the children of Adam to Hell, Jesus (pbuh) himself being clearly one of them. In that case, the Devil could reasonably contend that he had no knowledge that God had been incarnated in the person of Jesus (pbuh). Had he known that, he would have certainly glorified him. Consequently, he can also reasonably plead for clemency for his crimes, and request that God does not punish him.

We could assume that Satan might say therein: "OH my God! This is the only human being that I have mistakenly taken his soul. However, I have the right to take the souls of people after him (Christ) as I did it before him, due to either their father's sin or their own sins." If what the Concept of The Original Sin States is true, then God would need another pretext to hold Satan responsible for what he has done.



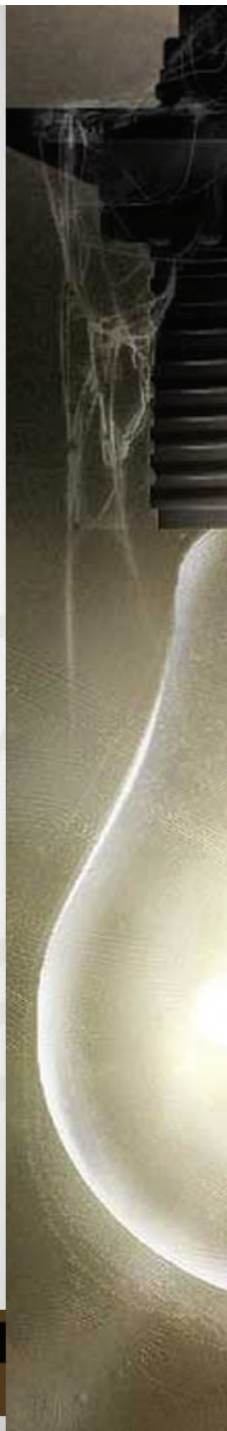
VIII. Was Satan given permission to deceive?

If we say that Adam (pbuh) had committed a sin and his children have also committed sins through Satan's deception, then is it not up to God to punish them all for their sins? If we assume that Satan's duty is to deceive the children of Adam, should he not then be granted the authority to persecute them without God's permission? Is not this claim borrowed from the Maguses who say that every evil or sin and persecution for it is carried out by the Satan? In that case, God has nothing to do with these things. He does not persecute anybody for the sins that he or she has committed, because Satan caused them to sin and he will persecute them for it.

No doubt such erroneous beliefs have found their way into Christianity from Magus. Therefore, there is no evidence to support these claims, neither from the revealed books nor from any of the disciples. So, the Marinates sect of Mazdasim and Christianity is basically a combination of Mazdasim and Christianity. Their leader (Mani) was a Magi-Christian. Indeed the relationship between the two religions is very strong.¹⁶

Does Satan persecute the children of Adam (pbuh) and send them to Hell with or without the permission of God? If it is believed that it was with the permission of God, then Satan does not deserve to be punished; if he does not have the permission God, then is it fair to say that God would allow Satan to practice injustice and not punish him also?

16- Ibid., pp. 217-218

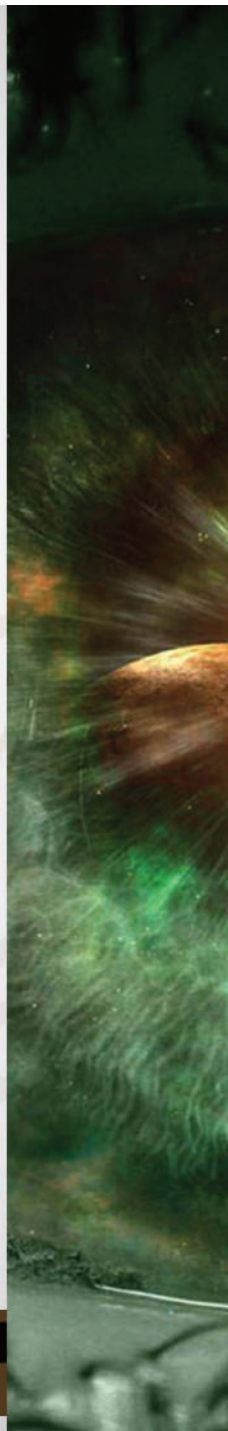


If these were allowed by God to happen at one time, then it would be allowed to take place at all times, and vice versa. There is no difference between the time before Jesus (pbuh) and the time after him on the issue of injustice or sin.

IX. Could not God stop Satan?

Could God stop Satan and punish him without the scheme of God's incarnation in a human form, in the character Jesus (pbuh) as claimed by Christians in order to deceive Satan and make him think that Jesus (pbuh) was a man, and would it be right for God to do so? If the answer is negative, then God does not need to plot a cheap scheme to deceive Satan and crucify Himself or "His son, Jesus" (pbuh). Was it an obligation upon God to practice justice on Satan by stopping him from his mischievous acts? If it were not, then Satan would be permitted to operate his evil doings at all times since there is no difference between one time and another.

If Christians claim that God is incapable of stopping Satan, then they would be accusing Him of being powerless (God forbid) to restrain Satan. Such a perception of God is considered by all religions as the worst type of disbelief. What blasphemy! Such a conclusion is similar to the atheists who claim that light could not rid the world from evil.



X. Did God allow the crucifixion of Jesus (pbuh)?

It is alleged that the disbelieving Jews helped the Roman soldiers to capture and crucify Jesus (pbuh), according to Christian belief (Matthew, 26:47-75). Were they obeying or disobeying God by doing so? If they were obeying God, then the Jews who crucified Christ (pbuh) deserve a reward from God for their obedience to Him, just like other faithful believers. In fact, nearly all Christians agree that the Jews were the greatest sinners among men. They further curse them and would go to the extent of legally permitting the shedding of their blood.¹⁷

They have designated a time to persecute the Jews at the last days of their fasting¹⁸ to commemorate the days of crucifixion. Moreover, if those Jews were disobedient, could not God have prevented them from crucifying Christ (pbuh)?

17- For more on this, see, Maryam Jameelah (1983). *Islam in Theory and practice*. Lahore: H. Farooq Associate LTD., p. 1. She was a former Jewish Woman, has written about the enmity Christians hold against Jews. Sharing her personal experience, she said:

From a very early age, I wondered what I being a Jew really meant. I suppose I first began to wonder when at Easter-time Christian classmates at school called me "Christ killer". As soon as the Easter season had passed, they were miraculously transformed into friendly play mates for the remainder of the year. When I asked a little Roman Catholic boy in my class why he did this, he said that the Priest had told him to.

18- Fasting was prescribed in the Bible and instructed as follows: "When you fast do not look somber as hypocrites do" (Mathew, 6:16).

How many among the Christians even observe fasting nowadays?

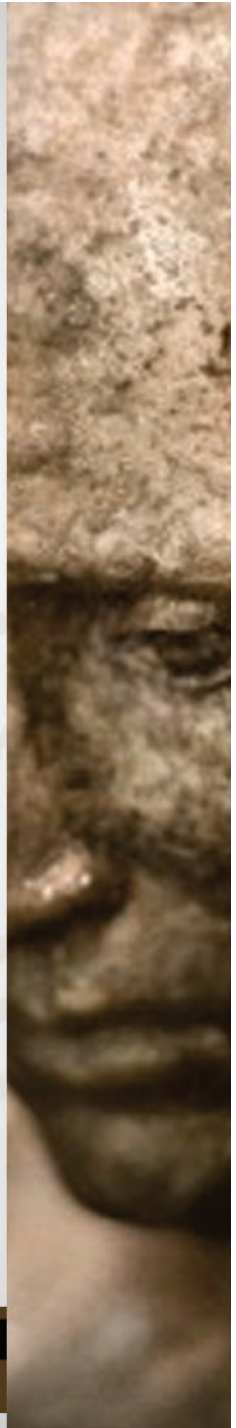
If God cannot do that, then He also cannot prevent Satan from oppressing the coming generations. If God could prevent the people from committing sins and He did not, then He can also stop Satan with no need for any scheme to deceive him, in order to do so.

On the other hand, if the act of crucifixion was approved by God, then it would be alright to give Satan the ability to oppress the children of Adam (pbuh) at any time, in the past and in the future – indeed at all times until the Day of Judgment. Therefore, there would have been no need for God to deceive Satan for indeed His plan is mightier than this cheap ploy. ¹⁹

Indeed, any rational person will recognize that the corruption that has come to Christianity is itself a calculated cheap trick to deceive mankind and thwart them from the truth. The truth is to believe in Allah, in His book - The Quran - in His prophet - Muhammad (pbuh) - and in His religion - Al-Islam. This is the only universal truth for all mankind.

Allah is just and does not order people to believe in absurdities or do something beyond their capabilities. It is most unfortunate that Christians continue to attribute unspeakable injustice to God. It is about time that they receive guidance and follow the religion of truth.

19- Ibn Taymiyah, op. cit., p. 218.



XI. How does Islam view man?

Islam affirms that every human being stands free to benefit from divine dispensations. The road to the truth is a free and open highway which anyone may tread on his own accord. No one has a monopoly on the truth. Everybody is innately endowed with the same rights and privileges which God has granted to all without discrimination. Islam insists that everything in the heavens and everything in the earth and what is between was created for the benefit of all mankind.

Indeed, God has done all this and even more! He has implanted His own rightly guided religion (Fitrah) into every human as their birth right, an inalienable and sacred right. The true religion is innate with which all humans are equipped. Behind the dazzling maze of religious diversity, Islam stands as an innate religion inseparable from human nature. This is the primordial religion, the one and only true religion from inception of creation to the end of time.



إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ
 اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ وَمَا اخْتَلَفَ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ إِلَّا مِنْ
 بَعْدِ مَا جَاءَهُمُ الْعِلْمُ بَعْضٌ بِبَعْضٍ وَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ يَأْتِ
 اللَّهَ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ سَرِيعُ الْحِسَابِ ﴿١٩﴾

The right religion before Allah is Islam (submission to His Will): nor did the people dissent therefrom except through envy of each other, after knowledge had come to them. But if any deny the signs of Allah, Allah is swift in calling to account (Al Qur'an, 3:19).

Everyone possesses it unless acculturation and indoctrination, misguidance, corruption or dissuasion have conditioned him otherwise. In a famous tradition (hadith), the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said:

Every newborn child is born on the innate nature (Islam -complete surrender to Allah). Then his parents change him into Judaism, Christianity, or Magianism. ²⁰

Islam entertains no idea of "the fall of man", no concept of Original Sin. It holds no man to stand in an innate, inescapable predicament out of which he cannot pull himself and for which he is not responsible.

20- For more on this see, Al-Minawi, Kauthar M. (1992). The Child's Rights in Islam. Translated by Saifuddin H. Shaheen. Riyadh: Safir Press.

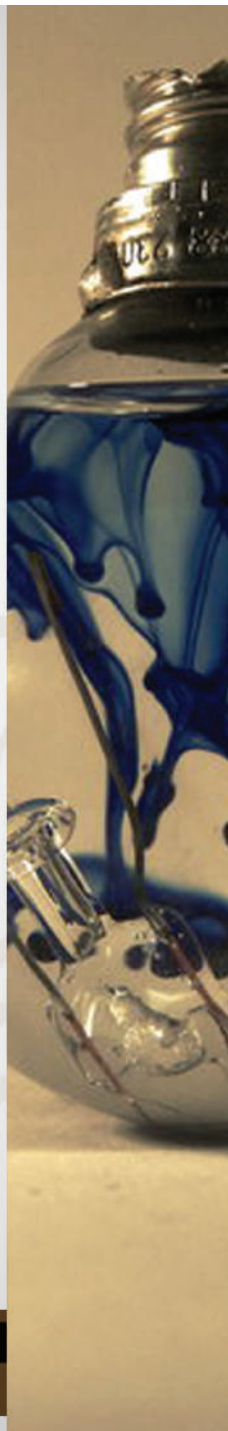


is not responsible. Man is innocent by birth. Indeed, he is born with a thousand given perfection, with faculties of understanding, and an innate sense with which to know the One True God – his Creator. In this, all men are equal, inasmuch as it follows from their existence since their creation. This is the basis of Islamic Universalism.²¹

The fact is that the true teachings of Christ (pbuh) also hold the same tenets that there is no Original Sin, no fallen man and Adam's (pbuh) progeny is free of such a burden. The idea of crucifixion for the redemption of the alleged Original Sin is not only incompatible with the human intellect and understanding of justice, but is also contradictory to the very teachings of the Bible itself:

The soul who sins is the one who will die. The son will not share the guilt of the father, nor will the father share the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous man will be credited to him, and the wickedness of the wicked will be charged against him (Ezekiel, 18:20).

21- Al-Farouqi, Isma'il (1989). Towards a Critical Theology. Towards Islamization of Disciplines. The International Institute of Islamic Theology, p. 443.



XII. Conclusion

To summarize, Christianity uses the claim of the Original Sin or the fall of man as the basis of its cardinal doctrine, in order to justify the crucifixion of Jesus (pbuh) and salvation of mankind. Using both body of literature – Islamic and Biblical sources – the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. The idea that the sin of Adam (pbuh) or the so called Original Sin was passed on to his progeny is baseless as it is absurd. None of the sources supported this erroneously postulate blindly propagated by Christendom.

2. In fact, any alleged Original Sin was first committed by Satan himself because of his proud and arrogant refusal to obey the command of God to prostrate before Adam (pbuh). Adam (pbuh) did not commit any original sin; it was the Devil who did. If, indeed, God sent Jesus (pbuh) to save anyone from the Original Sin, it should be directed at Satan, not Adam (pbuh) or his innocent progeny.

3. It was Satan who after first committing the Original Sin tempted Adam (pbuh) to sin thereafter.

4. Unlike Satan, Adam (pbuh) was ashamed and remorseful of his disobedience to God Almighty and sought forgiveness which was granted to him by his Forgiving and Merciful Lord.

5. Adam (pbuh) was not taken to Hell by Satan, nor was any Prophet, nor did his progeny inherit or share in his mistake which was forgiven by God and for which they are innocent and have nothing to do with.



That would be unjust and God is not unjust to His servants.²²

6. As God Almighty forgave Adam (pbuh) and his progeny after him, He will continue to do likewise to his descendants after him until the Day of Judgment, as long as they do not associate partners with him and follow the truth from their Lord.

7. Jesus's (pbuh) advent and crucifixion have nothing to do with the forgiveness of the sins of anyone after him, as it is with those before him. Since there was no Original Sin inherited by Adam's (pbuh) progeny, Christ (pbuh) could not have come for this purpose either.

8. At no time – before Jesus (pbuh) or after him – has God granted Satan power over His true servants, including His Prophets, and he cannot lead them astray, persecute them or take them to the Hell Fire on his own accord, except by their own deeds. Moreover, Satan himself is subjected by God Almighty to the punishment of the Hell Fire for his wickedness.

9. God did not come in the form of any mortal, including the person Jesus (pbuh) in order to do His Will, or to deceive or trick Satan. He is Almighty, Wise and Omnipotent; none can challenge or question Him.

22- Allah says in the Holy Quran:

Say: Shall I seek a Lord other than Allah, while He is the Lord of all things? No person earns any (sin) except against himself (only), and no bearer of burdens shall bear the burden of another. Then unto your Lord is your return, so He will tell you the truth of the things wherein you have been differing." (Al An'am, 6:164).



10. Jesus (pbuh) was neither God nor the son of God. This is not supported by any of the sources consulted, including authentic Biblical sources. He was a mortal like all other Prophets.

11. God, the Glorified is absolutely Just and does not commit injustice or oppression against any of His creations. Anyone, including Satan, who leads another to commit a sin has himself sinned and will be punished, unless he makes sincere repentance and is thereby forgiven by God. Unlike the children of Adam (pbuh) though, Satan is not ashamed and remorseful of his wickedness and thus does not seek forgiveness.

It seems that the notion of the Original Sin and concept of the fallen man and all that they entail are deliberate concoctions in order to justify the prevailing false tenets and doctrines of Christianity, none of which was ever taught by Jesus (pbuh) himself and can find support in the authentic sources. Using the words of the American Evangelist, Josh McDowell, this is perhaps the most wicked, heartless, vicious, hoaxes ever foisted upon the minds of men. It is time to face the truth and accept it.

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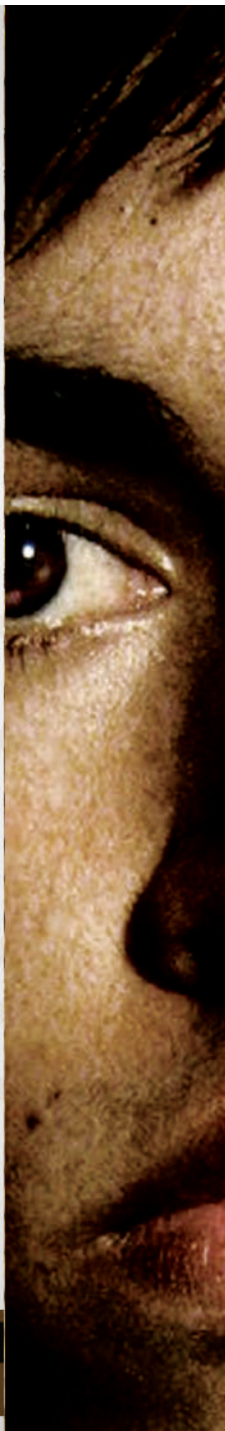
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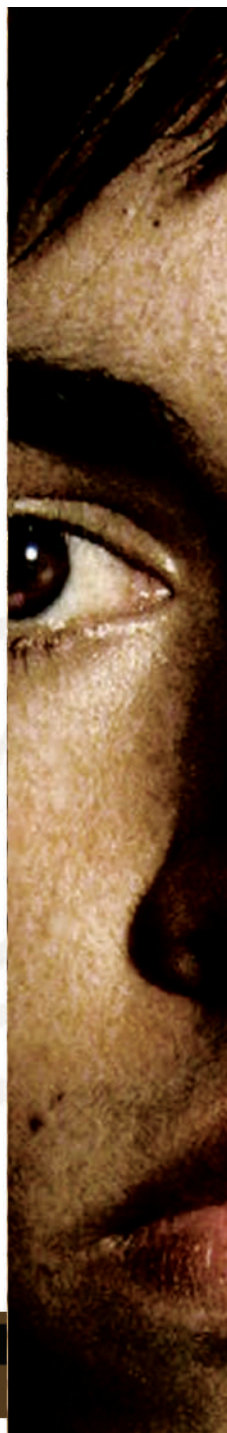
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The Truth About The Original Sin

Prof. Abdallah H. Al-Kahtany

This book deals with the Doctrine of the Original Sin in Christianity. The author utilizes evidence from both logical and religious perspectives to prove the falsehood of this doctrine. He further explains that the only way to salvation is through following the teachings of the seal of all prophets Muhammad (pbuh); by believing in the Oneness of God in worship. All mankind will be accounted based on their deeds and that no bearer of a burden shall bear the burden of another.

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