

Da'wah Course DP206 at IIU

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Recommended book.

WHERE DO YOU STAND by Abdul Hye, Ph.D.

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This book is about the Bible and Christianity, very good analysis.

Reading assignment.

1. Call to Islam by Amin Ahsan Islahi, pp. 134-158
2. Allah's Promise by Amir Ali to be posted at www.ilaam.net.
3. Relevant brochures and articles on www.ilaam.net.

Developing Islamic personality:

1. Allah's promise Qur'an 24:54-57
 - a. Da'wah tips. Obey Allah and obey the Messenger. By extension duty of a Muslims is to call people to Allah and His Messenger and to obey them. Obey Allah means living by the commandments of the Qur'an and obey the Messenger means to live by the teachings of the Prophet as they are found in sound and authentic Ahadith, some people term it the Sunnah.
 - b. If you turn away then you should know that the Messenger is responsible for what he was charged with and you are responsible for what you are charged with. By extension we are not responsible to bring people into Islam by force or coercion, not even implementation of Islam upon Muslims by force. Only an Islamic government will promulgate Islamic laws and enforce them. In case of Da'wah our duty is to convey but not to convert or convince because this is the matter between Allah and the individual.
 - c. If you obey the Messenger you will be guided; it goes without saying that if you do not accept Islam and / or do not obey the Messenger you will be lost like a blind person in an unknown area wandering and hurting himself.
 - d. It is emphasized further that the job of the Messenger and by extension that of a Muslim is no more than to convey the message in clearest possible way.
 - e. The verse 24:55 has been discussed much in detail in the article, Allah's Promise mentioned above. Please read the article.
 - f. The verse 24:56 commands believers to establish Salat, pay the Zakat and obey the Messenger so that you may receive mercy and compassion of Allah.
 - g. A warning to the rejecters of Islam (Kuffar) that they cannot overcome Allah or escape to anywhere in the earth and their destination is the hell-fir, which is a very bad place where there is no help available to them.
2. Permission of polygamy: (polygyny and polyandry), Qur'an 4:2,3 and 129.
 - a. These verses were revealed after the war of Uhad (3 AH) when around 70 Sahaba lost their lives leaving behind widows and orphans.
 - b. Allah prohibits embezzlement or exchange of orphans' wealth and orders Muslims to guard against any such thing from happening. On the other hand raising children is a problem for a man who has to leave home for earning

money. Naturally, he needs help but his one wife may not be willing to help him. In such case it is advisable to marry mothers of the orphans and support them but the limit is four.

- c. The condition was placed on practicing polygyny that all wives should be treated equally but if it is not possible marry only one.
- d. The verse 4:129 emphasizes that equal treatment is not possible however much one tries. Scholars interpret this verse in terms of love in the heart for one of them and the others become less loved. In such a case do not leave others in suspension but treat them equally as commanded in the verse 4:3.
- e. Equal treatment means dividing time and material resources equally.
- f. It is implied that men can take more than one wife under certain other conditions besides marrying widows and divorcees. Sometimes, there is excess of women over men, other cases of a woman's disabilities preventing her from fulfilling wifely performance; another case may be a person is overly sex-driven and he cannot be content with one wife. The idea is that no man should be allowed to go around having sex outside of marriage, which creates a huge social problem.

Bible and the social issues.

1. Legal system turned upside down, that is, laws are suspended or abrogated.
Matt 5:38-44; Romans 10:4
2. Slavery: God gives nations into slavery,
 - a. Gen 9:25-27, Canaanites (Palestinians) were given into slavery of Bani Israel.
 - b. Judges 3:7-8, God gave Israel in the slavery of Cu'shanrithath'im for 8 years.
 - c. Judges 3:12-14, God sold Israel into the service of Eglon for 18 years.
 - d. Judges 4:1-3, This time Israel was in the slavery of Jabin for 20 years.
 - e. Judges 6:1-2, Lord sold Israel into the slavery of Mid'ian for 7 years.
 - f. Judges 10:7-9, Lord sold Israel in to the slavery of Philistines and Ammonites for 18 years.
 - g. Judges 13:1, God gave Israel in to the service of Philistines again for 40 years.
 - h. Hab 1:1-17 God brought destruction of Israel by the hands of Chaldeans.
3. Intoxication. The God, the prophets and theologians promote intoxication.
 - a. Ps 78:65 God woke up from sleep as a drunk. What a role model!
 - b. 1 Tim 5:23 Paul advises not to drink just water but mix with wine.
 - c. Prov 31:6-7 Give strong drinks (alcoholic drinks) to the dying and the poor.
 - d. John 2:3-10 Jesus turned water in to wine for a wedding party.
4. Polygamy. The Bible does not prohibit polygamy and presents prophets as polygamists.
 - a. 2 Sam 12:8 & 2 Sam 5:13 King David had many wives and concubines.
 - b. 1 Kings 11:3 King Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines.
 - c. Gen 29:15-30 Jacob took two sisters as co-wives and took a slave girl.
 - d. Gen 25:1 and Gen 16:3 Abraham had three wives Sara, Hager and Keturah.
5. Divorce:
 - a. Mark 10:2-12 Mosaic Law allowed divorce but Jesus forbids it.
 - b. Luke 16:18 & Matt 5:32 it is adultery to marry a divorced woman.
 - c. 1 Corin 7:10 Paul makes a declaration against divorce.
6. Adultery: Many prophets have been accused adultery.
 - a. Jer 29:22-23 Prophets Ahab and Zedekiah committed adultery.
 - b. 2 Sam 11:2,4 King David committed adultery with a neighbor's wife.

7. Incest: Bible sets great role models for the Christian society. In America nearly 10% of homes have incest.
 - a. Gen 38:8-18 had sex with his brother's wife but spilled semen on the ground.
 - b. 2 Sam 13:2-15 Amnon lured his sister and raped her then he hated her.
 - c. Gen 19:33, 35 The Prophet Lot (Lut) had sex with his two daughters.
 - d. Gen 11:27-29 Nahor had sex with his niece.
 - e. Gen 35:22, and Gen 49:4 Reuben had sex with his father's concubine.
 - f. Exod 6:20 Amran had sex with his aunt.
 - g. Gen 20:12 Abraham marries his half-sister.
 - h. Mark 6:17-18 Herod marries his brother's wife.
 - i. Amos 2:7 A man and his father had sex with the same maiden.
 - j. 1 Corin 5:1 Men having regular sex with their stepmothers.

There are many more cases of incest, some condemned but others not.
8. Prostitution or harlotry: Officially and religiously allowed.
 - a. Hosea 4:14 No punishment for prostitution, harlotry and adultery.
 - b. Ezek 16:17 Woman had sex with golden images of men.
 - c. Ezek 16:35 the punishment for harlots and their lovers is that God will make them naked.
9. Public nakedness:
 - a. Isaiah 47:2 Women are ordered to become naked in public.
 - b. Isaiah 3:17 The Lord will expose their nakedness for all to see.
10. Death punishment:

Exod 22:18-20 Kill the sorceress, one who has sex with animals and anyone who sacrifices in the name of a god other than the Lord.
11. Cannibalism:

2 Kings 6:29 So we boiled my son and did eat him.
12. War teachings in the Bible:
 - a. Exod 32:27-28 Moses ordered the Levites to go around the camp and kill their brothers, friends and neighbors. Levites did as it was ordered.
 - b. Num 31:1-18 God ordered Moses to take all Midianite women, children flocks and goods as plunder. Then they were ordered to burn down all towns and villages, kill all boys and girls but save virgin girls for the killers' use.
 - c. Luke 19:27 Jesus ordered to his disciples to bring those who do not accept him as their king and kill them in front of him.
 - d. Luke 22:36 Jesus ordered his disciples to use their money or sell their clothes and other goods and buy a sword.

Authenticity of the Qur'an. "Muhammad wrote the Bible!" How to respond to this allegation?

1. External evidence.
 - a. Prophet Muhammad was unlettered, therefore, he could not write the Qur'an.
 - b. He was not a student of any learned man and had no resources to learn what went in to the Qur'an.
 - c. Prophet had no access to libraries, as there was no library system in the world.
 - d. He was known to be Al-Amin meaning trustworthy, truthful who never lied. When he said that he was not the author, he had to be believed.
 - e. His contemporaries including his enemies did not accuse him of writing the Qur'an.
 - f. Great poets of his time admitted that the Qur'an was a greatest of all literary pieces and the Prophet was not alleged to have written it.

- g. Writers love to take credit for writing masterpieces but the Prophet did not claim any such credit.
 - h. Preservation of the Qur'an over 14 centuries is unparalleled.
 - i. Preservation and propagation of the Arabic language.
 - j. Profoundness of the Qur'an, a book for all people of all ages and all levels of educational background.
 - k. Recitation of the Qur'an is enjoyable for all people even those who do not speak Arabic language.
 - l. Memorizability of the Qur'an. No book has been memorized as millions around the world do it.
2. Internal evidence.
- a. The unique literary style. See MIRACLES OF THE QUR'AN by Sheikh Muhammad Mitawalli.
 - b. Scientific contents of the Qur'an: See the book, THE QUR'AN, THE BIBLE AND SCIENCE by Maurice Bucaille. Some examples: (i) Big Bang theory in the verse 21:30, (ii) creation of life from water in 21:30, (iii) embryology in 23:12-14. Also see the book by Harun Yahya, MIRACLES OF THE QUR'AN.
 - c. Prophecies, which have already been fulfilled, such as Romans victory in 30:2-5, disgrace of Bani Israel in 2:84-85, domination of the Muslims in 24:55.
 - d. Prophecies, which are being fulfilled, disgrace of the Muslims in 2:85, growth and spread of Islam during the last 14 centuries in 108:1-3, enemies of Islam cannot overcome Muslim in 3:111 and 61:8.
 - e. Prophecies yet to be fulfilled: domination of Islam 61:9, 24:55, annihilation of Bani Israel 17:104, end of life on earth 99:1-5, 101:1-5 and many more verses. And the life of paradise and hell.
 - f. Historical accuracies.
 - (i) Haman was perhaps a minister of Pharaoh of Egypt during the time of Moses. Haman is also mentioned in the Bible as a prime minister of a Babylonian king. Christians attacked Prophet Muhammad for this "inaccuracy." During the 20th century excavation the name of Haman was found on the tablets in Egypt as an official of Pharaoh.
 - (ii) Qur'an never uses the term Pharaoh for the king during the time of Prophet Yusuf (see Surah Yusuf #12) but Allah uses the term Pharaoh for the king of Egypt during the time of Moses. Again 20th century excavations revealed that the king during the time of Yusuf (AS) was a monotheist and did not use the title of Pharaoh. The Bible uses the title Pharaoh for kings in both eras.

Evidently Prophet had no knowledge of these matters but Allah gave it to him.
