A BIBLICAL ANALYSIS OF RELIGIOUS & SECULAR MEDIA

SPECIAL REPORT

THE ISLAMIZING OF AMERICA'S CHURCHES

HOW SOME PASTORS ARE SELLING OUT THE FAITH

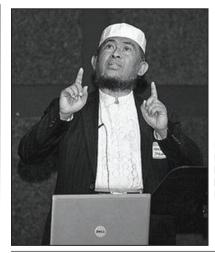
By Albert James Dager

t started with Bill Hybels, pastor of Willowcreek Community Church in Barrington, Illinois. Shortly after the 9-11 attacks, Hybels brought Egyptian Muslim imam, Fisal Mammauda onto his church's stage as an opportunity for his congregation to exercise "discernment" in understanding Islam. Islam, of course, was the real victim of 9-11, at least from Hybel's perspective. Prior to giving ear to Mammauda, Hybels preached a sermon entitled, "Religion Gone Awry." The message was that Christianity is the religion that has gone awry because of backlashes against the Muslim community in America. He stressed that Islam is not a violent religion, and that Christians should get their facts straight before airing their views on the subject.

The performance was a defense of Islam, with Hybels lobbing softballs to Hammauda, asking him to explain what Islam really teaches. The answer, in short, was that true Muslims are peaceful and were against what took place on 9-11. In the process, Hybels allowed Hammauda without protest to preach his gospel of salvation by good deeds in the name of Allah. Hybels appealed to Christians that they should respect and understand Islam. (See "Hybels appeals for tolerance toward Muslims," *Media Spotlight*, Vol. 24 – No. 3)

Next came Rick Warren, a disciple of Hybels, and internationally recognized as the pastors' pastor. Warren has called for cooperation between Muslims and Christians to implement his P.E.A.C.E. plan.

Little-by-little, church-by-church, Muslims are purposefully gaining access to Christians in order to propagate their faith and to disarm Christians to the reality of Islam's violent nature—a nature that was spawned with the emergence of their "prophet" Mohammed in the early seventh century. Mohammed and his later disciples have spread Islam across the world through the power of the sword. But that is not allowed to be mentioned. Instead Christians are treated to the earlier, more benign suras of the Koran that spoke well of Christians and Jews while Mohammed was trying to convert them to Islam; his later call for Christians and Jews to be killed for rejecting Islam are never mentioned.



IMAM MOHAMAD JOBAN PROMOTES ISLAM AND DENIGRATES JESUS AT HARAMBEE CHURCH IN RENTON, WA

Nor are the countless wars in the name of Allah occurring all over the world today ever spoken of.

The Islamizing of the churches has been a relatively silent process. But with each inroad into a church the Muslims have become more bold in proclaiming their false teachings that denigrate Jesus and blaspheme the true God, YHWH.

The putsch from Islam is largely being carried out by the Muslim Brotherhood, the Sunni Muslim movement founded in Egypt in 1928. The Muslim Brotherhood is the motivation behind most of the terrorist movements in the world including al-Qaeda and Hamas. Its goal is world domination by Islam. Working closely with the Muslim Brotherhood is the Center for Christian and Muslim Understanding at Georgetown University, and the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR). CAIR is the non-profit fund-raising organization that has been documented financing Islamic terrorism. Former Muslim, Brigitte Gabriel, states in her book, Because They Hate: A Survivor of Islamic Terror Warns America:

Of all the Islamic organizations in America, CAIR has risen to the top as the most visible, most outspoken defender of Muslims in the United States. Masquerading as a civil rights organization, CAIR has had a hidden

agenda to Islamize America from the start. Its cofounder and chairman, Omar Ahmad, a Palestinian American, told a Muslim audience in Fremont, California, in 1998: "Islam isn't in America to be equal to any other faith, but to become dominant. The Koran should be the highest authority in America, and Islam the only accepted religion on Earth....

Despite its links to terrorism or providing support to terrorists, CAIR grew to become a major player in Islamic American politics. The organization is lobbying in Washington, D.C., and working hard in fighting the United States government under the name of civil rights and civil liberty while complaining against every security measure our government is trying to take to fight terrorism at home.

CAIR has refused to come out and condemn terrorist organizations such as Hamas, Islamic Jihad, al Qaeda, al Gamaat al Islamiya, the Muslim Brotherhood, and Hezbollah by name. (pp. 137-138)

These same facts are confirmed by the daughter of a Muslim shahid (jihadist martyr for Islam), Noni Darwish, in her book, Now They Call Me Infidel: Why I Rejected the Jihad for America, Israel, and the War on Terror, (Sentinel, 2006).

CAIR's statements against terrorism are so vague as to be meaningless. They never call out Islamic terrorism by name, and never speak ill of any Islamic terrorist organization.

CAIR is essentially an unofficial arm of the Muslim Brother-hood. These organizations are attaining increasing inroads into churches in America under the pretense of dialogue for greater understanding of Islam and Christianity. The problem is that the programs presented as "dialogue" are totally one-sided promotions of Islam and denigrations of biblical faith, designed to disarm Christians and lay a guilt trip on anyone who would think ill of Islam—even its most radical elements.

Hitting close to home was a recent "dialogue" at a Renton, Washington, church on March 30. Harambee Church, which identifies itself as "Reformed," partnered with the Washington state chapter of CAIR to host such a dialogue in which three pastors and one minister from this area took the stage with a number of Muslims to instruct the congregation on the teachings of Islam and how they differ with what that church teaches. Attending were some 300 people—a mixture of Christians and Muslims.

(Harambee is a Swahili term that means, "Together pushing forward." The idea is to join with diverse groups in a common cause. The stated common cause of Harambee Church is "the Glory of God, and the living, embodied proclamation of His Son through His Spirit living within the community.")

Somehow, in this dialogue with Muslims, the glory of God and the proclamation of His Son through His Spirit, were miserably lost.

The Koran is one of the holy books:

In his twenty-minute opening presentation, Michael Ly, a pastor at Harambee Church, de facto equated the Koran with the

Bible by calling them both "the holy books." While introducing the Christian leaders on the stage for the Question-and-Answer session following presentations by Ly and Muslim imam Mohamad Joban, Ly referred to "the holy books" and described himself as an avid reader:

Let me introduce real quick the Christian leaders here with me: Dave Childers, here. He's a friend of mine. He's a member at Highlands Community Church in Renton, long-time member and long-time Christian minister. Obviously me, Michael Ly; I'm a young, avid learner of the holy books and I'm a leader here; considered an elder and a pastor at this church. John Prince, Pastor John Prince; he's the lead pastor of this church body, Harambee. And Mike Gunn who is the founding pastor of Harambee. He founded this church several years ago, and many of you may know another church—a big church—named Mars Hill. Mike was one of the founding pastors of that church as well. So that's the Christian leaders here. At the close of the session Ly offered free Korans to the people:

All the books—all the holy books on the tables are for you to take home. So if you want a Bible, an Arabic-English Koran, take home, they're here for you to take home and enjoy.

In an appeal to stop the attempts by Christians to convert Muslims to Christ and Muslims to stop trying to convert Christians to Islam, Ly stated:

This is what I've learned—and I've learned this by studying the holy books. And I've learned this by studying the lives of the prophets: that Allah created this kingdom for us to live in. He created a kingdom for humanity to live in. And he wants humanity to be with him in it. And the two largest faiths in the world-Christianity and Islam—the two largest faiths in the world that represent more than 50 percent, maybe over 70 percent of the human race on earth, okay? For centuries—for centuries— Christians have been coming to Muslims and telling them, "You need to convert to Christianity in order to be part of the kingdom of Allah. For centuries Christians have come to—and maybe some of you have experienced that-Christians have come to you and said, "You need to be part of the 2 billion that claim to be Christians, and you need to come over to our circle and leave Islam, stop being a Muslim, pray like we pray, eat what we eat, in order to follow Allah; in order to enter into his kingdom.

And many Muslims have come to me as well, and they come to our Christian friends here, and said, "You must leave the Christian circle; you must leave the 2 billion and join Islam, and take on our customs, and take on our prayer styles in order to enter into the kingdom of Allah.

Well, from my perspective from the holy books, and from what I've learned from the prophets, I feel this conversation needs to stop. This kind of conversation needs to stop. Instead, we need to go back to the holy books, and we need to read the holy books together. And we need to study the lives of the prophets together, and learn what they teach us about what it means to go into the kingdom—what it means to stay on what we call, "the straight path."

So I want to go back to some of the major prophets; I'm not going to cover all of them tonight. We don't have time; we only have twenty more minutes to cover some of the major prophets that are talked about in both the Koran and the Bible, but I'm going to talk about it from a biblical perspective. And what we believe as a church—what we believe the prophets teach about the straight path and about entering the kingdom, and this is what we believe as far as we would believe.

Speaking of "the prophets" within the context of studying both the Bible and the Koran leaves the impression that Mohammed was a true prophet of God. At the very least it solidifies that belief for the Muslims hearing it. Worse, it may cause new believers in Jesus to start studying the Koran with the misunderstanding that it is a holy book—a book inspired by God—and that Mohammed's words are truth. No matter that Mohammed denies that Jesus is the Word of God incarnate, or insists that He didn't die for our sins—that He didn't die at all, but someone else took His place on the cross.

The problem isn't the simplistic scenario Ly expressed—trying to convert people to change their diets or the way they pray. The two belief systems are 180 degrees removed from each other. The Gospel of the Kingdom proclaimed by Jesus is not the same message Mohammed imposed by force. The nature of God, of Jesus, and of the Holy Spirit as taught by Islam are in diametric opposition to biblical faith. Every essential tenet of biblical faith is not only denied in the Koran, it is attacked.

And since when did the Lord tell us to abandon the command to go into all the world and make disciples for Him? When did He say we should stop proclaiming the Gospel to Muslims? That is what Ly implies by his words even though he merely stresses not trying to change their diets or manners of prayer. By equating the Koran with the Bible as "holy," Ly puts a stumbling block in the paths of not only Muslims but Christians.

There is only one truly holy book. The word "holy" means sanctified—separated by God for God. The writings of Israel's prophets and those of Jesus' apostles comprise the only holy book—singular—the Bible. There are no other holy books.

Islam Call to Prayer

It has been reported by several sources that the Muslims invoked the Islamic call to prayer during the gathering, which praises Allah. It was reported to have been on the church's Web site, but either the report is in error, or the call to prayer has been removed.

Allah invoked by pastors

Yes, you read correctly in the section above. Ly called God "Allah." In fact, throughout the evening all three pastors referred to the God of the Bible as "Allah." They chose to use that name no doubt out of deference to their honored guests. So we learned that, according to these Christian pastors, Allah created the

universe; Jesus is the son of Allah; Allah is to be glorified; Allah is the Almighty God, *ad nauseum*. The rationalization is that Allah is just the word for "God" in Arabic, and that it is used by Arabic-speaking Christians when referring to God. It is no different than using the word "god" in English, which has its etymological roots in pagan Germanic myth.

The etymology of the word "god" has been lost to generations over the centuries. No one associates the word with Germanic myth. The word, "Allah," however, is uniquely peculiar to Islam. Anyone hearing that word will think the speaker honoring the name Allah is either a Muslim or a Muslim sympathizer.

So maybe Arabic-speaking Christians do use the name Allah, but that's because that name was imposed upon all Arabs centuries ago. Besides, these pastors were speaking English, not Arabic; we don't call the true God "Allah" in English.

For that matter, the idea that Allah is just the Arabic word for "God" is not true. Allah is the name of the god of Islam before anything else. Allah was originally the pagan Arabs' moon god which Mohammed randomly took to be the one, true god of Islam. He might just as well have picked the name of the Arabs' sun god or any other god. The authoritative *Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics* states this about the name Allah:

ALLÁH is the proper name of God among Muslims, corresponding in usage to Jehovah (Jahweh) among the Hebrews. Thus it is not to be regarded as a common noun meaning 'God' (or 'god'), and the Muslim must use another word or form if he wishes to indicate any other than his own peculiar deity. Similarly, no plural can be formed from it, and though the liberal Muslim may admit that Christians or Jews call upon Alláh, he could never speak of the Alláh of the Christians or the Alláh of the Jews. Among Christians, too, a similar usage holds. In the current Arabic Bible versions, 'God' is uniformly rendered Alláh, but when 'the Lord God' occurs, it is rendered arrabbuliláhu, 'the Lord, the Iláh,' where 'the Iláh' is an uncontracted form, retaining its force of a common noun with the article, from which Alláh has been shortened through usage. The Muslim, too, who usually derives and explains Illáh as meaning 'worshipped,' uses it and its plural Aliha in the broadest way, of any god, explaining that such is possible because worshippers believe that their god has a claim to worship, and 'names follow beliefs, not what the thing is in itself' (Lisán, xvii. 358). But more ordinarily, in referring to the gods of the heathen, a Muslim speaks simply of their images or idols, asnám, authán.

The origin of this goes back to pre-Muslim times, as Prof. Nöldeke has shown... Muhammad found the Meccans believing in a supreme God whom they called Alláh, thus already contracted. With Alláh, however, they associated other minor deities, some evidently tribal, others called daughters of Alláh. Muhammad's reform was to assert the solitary existence of Alláh. The first article of the Muslim creed, therefore—La iláha illá-lláhu

-means only, as addressed by him to the Meccans, 'There exists no God except the one whom you already call Alláh.'

Naturally, this precise historical origin is not clear to the Muslim exegetes and theologians, But that Alláh is a proper name, applicable only to their peculiar God, they are certain, and they mostly recognize that its force as a proper name has arisen through contraction in form and limitation in usage.

This is a work of scholarship, not a polemic against Islam. It was published in 1951, long before the current conflict between Islam and the West, and long before some compromising Christians in the West began to use "Allah" in place of "God." Consider some salient points:

- "Allah" has no plural form, whereas "god" does: "gods." Therefore, there can be no "allahs," as there can be "gods";
- There is no "Allah of the Christians," or "Allah" of the Jews." Allah is peculiar to Islam, even though out of ignorance or compulsion, Christians in some Muslim countries use the name "Allah." This is not a logical or worldwide practice;
- If Muslims in the West were truly honest, they would refer to Jesus and YHWH as *authan*, idols or false gods. They won't do this because they want everyone to convert to Islam, if not totally, at least in acknowledging their god, Allah, by name, as the only god;
- Allah was the name of the pagan Arabs' supreme god. He
 was never known as such outside of the tribal confines of
 the Arabs. Mohammed merely had the Arabs drop the
 worship of their other false gods, and retain worship of their
 supreme false god. Is it fitting, therefore, to refer to YHWH
 by the name of a false god? Never.

By referring to the true God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Jesus as "Allah," the pastors were invoking a false god. And just because the Muslims claim to worship the God of Abraham doesn't make it so. Jesus said:

"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no man comes to the Father except by Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also. And from now on you know Him, and have seen Him." (John 14:6-7).

Whoever denies the Son, the same does not have the Father; he who acknowledges the Son also has the Father. (1 John 2:23)

Muslims do not have the Son because they deny that Jesus is the Son of God; they say "Allah has no son." If Allah has no son, then Allah is not the God of the Bible.

We'll allow that these Christian pastors may have used "Allah" in place of "God" ignorantly. But this is such an elementary truth, even a novice believer should be able to counter the idea that Allah is the God of the Bible.

As pastors and leaders in the Christian community they should have done their homework before attempting to placate the anti-Christ Muslims on their church stage. The blasphemies that came forth in that building they call a church should have

been met with indignation, not with cloying acceptance. In truth, they never should have been given an opportunity to be said in the first place.

Jesus is not the Son of God

Joban often stated the belief that Jesus is not the Son of God:

Muslims do not believe that Jesus was the Son of God. God is so powerful and self-sufficient that he does not need a son, or any kind of partner. Yeah?

This was stated near the end of his presentation. He then screened a Muslim propaganda movie that allegedly re-enacts a confrontation between a Christian and a Muslim before a benevolent king of Abyssinia who wants to hear what the Muslim has to say. The Christian is angry, obnoxious, and hateful; the Muslim is calm, rational, and kind. Here are just a few samples of the film's dialogue beginning with the Muslim's claim that "The miracle of Mohammed is the holy Koran."

Christian: A book! A book! Written by an illiterate! Attributed to God!

Muslim: I think the emperor has heard enough. I'm mindful of Pentecost when God sent down tongues of fire upon the heads of Christ's apostles, so they could speak the many languages of the world that they knew not before.

Christian: But do such miracles happen in our times? I've heard enough! You've made a poor case!

Muslim: When we suffered persecution in Mecca, Mohammed told us, "Go to Abyssinia, the land of the righteous king where no man is wronged!"

Christian: What they call persecution was fair punishment! Why did your prophet send you to me?

Muslim: Because you believe in the book of the one god as we do. He sent us because he knew our heart, god would protect us.

Christian: Talking to him is like drawing water from a mirage.

King: But they've now laid a duty on me to listen to them, my friend.

Christian: Go on!

Muslim: For years, we worshipped wood and stone—images of our own manufacture. We lived in ignorance of god. We had few earthly laws and no heavenly laws. The rich neglect the poor! The poor, from the natural pity of man, whereby he lifts his brother up when he is fallen, this is seen by them as upsetting social order. To this inhumanity has come a man whom god chose. And in that we believe!

King: You're overcome. I beg you to collect yourself."
Muslim: "I speak of the messenger of god. Mohammed teaches us to worship one god; to speak truth; to love our neighbors as ourselves; to give charity. Even a smile can be charity. To protect women from misuse. To shelter orphans. And to turn away from gods of wood and stone!

Christian: I cannot keep still and hear this blasphemy! We are an ancient civilization! To call our gods wood and

stone is to speak ignorantly of them! The idol—the form—is not what we worship, but the spirit which resides within the form.

King: I agree that idolatry is not always fully understood. Thank you.

Christian: Now let me bring him back to the women. **Muslim:** God made woman to be the proper companion to man! She is different, but equal.

Christian: Equal!? We buy them; feed them; clothe them; use them; discard them! Women equal to us!?

Muslim: God created man from one male and one female! You must respect in all women the womb that bore you!

King, to Christian: Why are your 300 gods so tongue-tied? Why, his only god is eloquent.

Muslim: God has spoken to us before, through Abraham, Noah, Moses, and through Jesus Christ! Why should we be so surprised that god speaks to us now through Mohammed.

Christian: Who taught you those names?

Muslim: They are names in the Koran.

Christian: (unintelligible) when he was an orphan minding sheep!

Muslim: And when your Christ was a carpenter. But Christ says, "You are (unintelligible)." Mohammed says, "It is like two rays from the same lamp."

Christian: They are lying to you. They deny Christ. "You worships three gods," they say! "Father, Son and Holy Ghost," they say! They say, "God cannot have a son; Christ is not the Son of God!"

King: Speak to me of Christ.

Muslim: We say of Christ what our prophet has taught us: that god cast his holy spirit into the womb of a virgin named Mary, and that she conceived Christ, the apostle of god.

Christian: "The apostle," he said. Not the Son! Not the Son!

Not one of the slanders against Jesus was met with rebuttal by the Christian leaders. Nor did these Christian leaders dare state where Islam is in error, or say anything Muslims don't already know about what Christians believe. To iterate what someone already believes while the other person consistently rejects and ridicules those truths does not constitute a true dialogue.

Although the Muslims consistently denied that Jesus is the Son of God, only one time did one of the Christian leaders allude to the truth, and that was merely in passing while explaining something else. Mike Gunn offered this faltering tidbit while answering the question from a Muslim, "In Islam, we don't inherit any shame sin from Adam. Why in Christianity we're responsible for sin we didn't make, but Adam and Eve did?"

Uh, yeah, uh, in Christianity we teach inherited sin—Adamic sin—uh, that man is born into a sinful-base, and it's not just based on actions. Actions are external; they're not necessarily, uh, a result of anything particular—

just an action. And there's issues of the heart. The Bible talks a lot about heart issues and how sins can be very much part of our thought life, and who we are as humans. Jesus Himself spoke about that it's not what goes into a man's mouth that defiles a man, but that which goes, comes out of a man's mouth which defiles him-things of hatred, and bitterness, and so on. As a matter of fact, I'd answer the question of why do we have this tension, I would tell you it's an issue of sin is why we have this tension. And I think we all know in this room, that deep down we are sinful, and deep down, you are sinful, and I am sinful, and I think we know that. And Jesus really brought this out in His, His reality in saying that, that you heard it's wrong to look, to commit adultery, but I tell you if a man has looked at a woman with lust in his heart he's already committed adultery. So it's not the action itself, but the actual-the problem's an issue of our heart, because it's the bitterness and hatred that we have in our heart that ultimately works itself out into the actions. And sometimes I think that some humans work those actions out a little bit worse in public than others, but in reality we're holding bitterness and hatred in our heart. We are not different, really, than the murderer, and Jesus Himself says that. And so when we think about this, this idea, and particularly as it relates to Christ's death, as we understand it, is that, uh, the sacrifice of anything—but particularly of our Lord and Savior Jesus shows us the heinousness of sin next to the holiness of Allah. And I think that that's what we really need to understand—that our righteousness, and our actions, good or bad-don't reach the holiness of Allah in any way. And so there's a gap that still remains between us and Allah as far as being holy. And so we really believe that Allah is merciful, but he's also just. And justice calls for the greatest justice to be done. And if somebody murders somebody, that justice is to be the death penalty. And we know, all through the Law, including sharia law, that the death penalty is given to some people for justice. But the difference is—and that's true of the Law of Musa [Arabic for Moses]—is the death penalty is true for those that are deserving of the fiery hell. But the beauty, and the mercy, and the grace of god is sending his own son to pay that penalty on our behalf as the great sacrifice, which means that Allah felt the pain of that sin and sacrifice in such a way that, I think, if he didn't, that he would not know even what evil is completely about. But Allah understands evil from a truly Christian perspective because the evil of humanity was placed on the cross on the back of Jesus Christ to pay that penalty.

This was the only mention by any of these men about Jesus being the Son of God. But even in this, Gunn exposed a woeful lack of qualification to teach.

In his mind he is referring to the God of the Bible as Allah. So when he says that except for the sacrifice of Jesus, "Allah" [God] "would not know even what evil is completely about," he

indicts God as clueless. God had already dealt with Satan and his angelic followers; He had already witnessed the destruction of the cosmos through that spiritual battle. He set aside a garden in the midst of that chaos and created a man to guard it. He placed the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the midst of the garden (how could He have created that tree if He didn't fully understand evil?); He had witnessed the sin of Adam and its effect upon humanity to the point of having to destroy all but eight souls to start over again. He was the one who established the need for the sacrifice in the first place. Had He not fully understood evil, why would He have done so?

Even more incredible, Gunn says that "Allah understands evil from a truly Christian perspective."

Okay, let's allow for a mental lapse. But we can't let a comment like that go unchallenged. The truth is just the opposite. Christians understand (or should understand) evil from God's perspective, because His Word tells us what evil is. And one evil revealed in Scripture is to deny Jesus Christ as the Son of God. By allowing the anti-Christ Muslims to spout that evil to their congregation these men clearly show that either they don't understand evil from God's perspective, or they just don't care to think about it. Their agenda to "dialogue" with Muslims takes precedence over God's Word.

I'm sorry, but there is no other conclusion that can be drawn from this disgraceful event. In the face of the onslaught against the nature of our Lord and Savior, they could manage to speak of Him as the Son of God only once, and even that got botched.

It struck me that, although there were some 150 Christians in attendance, there was applause for a number of Muslim anti-Christ statements, but no one applauded these statements that came the closest to proclaiming the Gospel. Utter silence. It's as if there was greater love for error that place than for even a modicum of truth.

Jesus is Messiah to the Jews only

During the Q&A session, the question was asked, "Is Mohammed considered the Messiah?"

The Muslim answering stated that, no Mohammed is not the Messiah. He went on to say that Jesus was the Messiah, but only to the Jews. He is not the Messiah for mankind.

Another Jesus

So what did the Muslims say about Jesus? In a nutshell, Islam teaches that Jesus was merely one of the prophets of Allah, but that He is not divine; He is not the Son of God; He is not the Word of God who became a man; He was born to a virgin, Mary, but He did not die on the cross. He was rescued to "the heaven." Someone else was crucified in Jesus' place. Jesus will come back to earth and set foot in Damascus; His purpose in coming back will be to show the world that He is only a human being, and that He is not the only-begotten Son of God; Afterwards He will die to show that He is not God in the flesh. These were all clearly stated by the Muslim representatives. There were no direct challenges to these false teachings. Nor were there ever any challenges to anything Islam teaches. It was all a one-sided denigration of faith in Jesus Christ.

This truly fulfills the Scripture:

If he who comes proclaims another Jesus, whom we have not proclaimed, or if you receive another spirit, which you have not received, or another gospel, which you have not accepted, you might well bear with him. (2 Corinthians 11:4)

The "Jesus" that the Muslims proclaim is another Jesus; he is not the Jesus we have received. Yet these Christians bear with the people who proclaim that different Jesus. And they not only bear with them; they applaed them.

Mohammed is the promised Comforter

During his answer to the question whether Mohammed is considered the Messiah, the Muslim speaker went on to speak of Mohammed, beginning with a recitation from the Koran:

"Oh children of Israel," so his message was for the Jews, "Oh children of Israel, I am come as a messenger unto you, believing in what you already have," which is the Torah, which is the book of Musa. He's not coming for any new laws, He's coming to confirm what you already have. "And I'm giving glad tidings of a messenger to come after me, whose name shall be Akhmed." And Akhmed in Arabic is another name for Mohammed, the name of our prophet.

We believe that in the Bible this particular verse transpires in John 12 where He says—Jesus says to His apostles—He says, "For I have many things to teach unto you. I have many things to continue to teach you, but ye cannot bear them now—ye cannot hear them now. How so be it, when he, the spirit of truth, shall come, he will guide you into all truth. Whatever he will hear he will utter. And He will honor Me."

So we believe that the spirit of truth translated in some of the Bibles that I saw on the tables today is "comforter," or "helper," the [unintelligible] presentation had *paracletos*, which is the Greek word for the blessed one, refers to our prophet—refers to our prophet. So we believe that the Messiah is Jesus, however, we also believe that in the Bible as well as in the Koran consistently, Jesus spoke of another messenger to come after Him, to complete the revelations that He could not complete with His disciples. Thank you.

Michael Ly merely went on to the next question. There was no "dialogue" with this or any other perversion of Scripture these people spouted.

Would it have been so difficult to clarify of whom Jesus was speaking? Is Scripture not clear that He was speaking of the Holy Spirit? We can start with the verse alluded to by the Muslim, which is in John 16, not John 12:

"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of Truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth, for He shall not speak of Himself, but whatever He shall hear, that He shall speak. And He will show you things to come. He shall glorify Me, for He shall receive from mine, and shall show it to you. "All things that the Father has are mine. Therefore I said that He shall take from mine, and shall show it to you." (John 16:12-15)

Mohammed did not glorify Jesus. That would be abhorrent to Muslims. At best Mohammed tried to honor Jesus in order to please the Christians he was attempting to convert to Islam. He may even have believed that Jesus was a prophet, but he denied the true Jesus and substituted "another Jesus." Nor did Mohammed show the disciples "things to come." There are no prophecies in the Koran other than, perhaps, predictions that Islam is destined to rule the world.

John earlier quoted Jesus about who would be sent after Him:

"But the Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit—whom the Father will send in My name—He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said to you." (John 14:26)

Mohammed has not been faithful to bring to remembrance everything that Jesus said to His disciples. Nor did he come during that time, but centuries later. In the meantime, the Gospel went forth in the power of the Holy Spirit, not Mohammed.

The claim that Mohammed was the "paraclete" borders on blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, but we must leave room for the truth that Muslims may still come to Christ even after believing this lie. It is blasphemous, but it is evidently not the unforgivable sin Jesus mentions in Matthew 12:31-32.

Even so, we should reasonably expect such a blasphemy to be countered by men entrusted with the care of the Lord's people, not met with silence or, worse, thanks for sharing.

More about Mohammed

Here is one incredible "dialogue" between Joban and Ly:

Joban: Mohammed continued, went to the heaven. He met also with Adam, and Abraham brought him, until he was met god (*sic*), and he came back to Mecca, and he brought a gift. And that gift was a prayer [unintelligible].

Michael Ly: And, uh, from a Christian perspective we don't know if Mohammed did, but we want to trust our Muslim friends, and history, and so if Mohammed did, that's great, and I'm sure he learned many things there.

Joban: The story can be read, number one, in chapter 17 of (unintelligible) and also in chapter sura, I think it was, 52.

Ly: Wonderful.

This is "wonderful"? And Ly doesn't know if Mohammed went to "the heaven" and met with "god," but if he did, "that's great"?

A convert to Islam

One of the panelists was a woman who had converted to Islam from Evangelical Christianity. She spoke of how she and her family continue to love each other, and that the best way to get along is to "stay away from the hard issues."

After her "testimony" of conversion the audience applauded her. Earlier, when it was mentioned that she was there as a convert to Islam, Ly merely said, "Wonderful" in response. Are we to believe it is "wonderful" that someone converted from faith in Christ to a satanic deception? Or that a boy learning the Koran is to be admired?

Where are these people's hearts? Where is the zeal for Jesus Christ that at one time characterized Evangelicalism?

Excuses

Of course, there were the obligatory comments that not all Muslims are terrorists (we know that), and that the severe aspects of sharia law, such as honor killing of women, are not Islamic, but "cultural." This is typical of CAIR propaganda.

The likewise obligatory guilt trip is dumped on the Christian audience with statements that imply Muslims are the real victims of misunderstanding. After all, terrorists are merely a small faction within Islam. And the media present Muslims in a bad light. Also typical of CAIR propaganda.

The media have for the most part been painting Muslims in a good light. Major networks and movie studios now have Muslim "advisors" to advocate against any possibility of Islam being viewed poorly, thanks also to CAIR. Whenever Muslims are seen as terrorists it comes to light that they are merely pawns in the nefarious designs of either Russian or German overlords, or some such thing.

We are also told that Christians need to stop fearing Muslims, and fear only God.

There is truth to that. But it does not negate the threat Islam poses to the faith and to the nation. Do these naïve Christians really think that these same Muslims would be so beneficent were Islam the controlling force in America? The fact that they work with organizations that funnel funds to terrorists should be a clue to the clueless. Wherever Islam controls, people of other religious beliefs suffer, more in some countries than others.

Conclusion

As for true give-and-take in these "dialogues," would any Muslim imam invite Christians into his mosque to say that Mohammed is not a true prophet of God? Or to say that he was a false prophet, or that Islam is a satanic religion? Would anyone ever be able to say anything negative about any aspect of Islam, no matter how small? Never.

These Christian leaders who kowtow to Islam are not even good enough to be called hirelings as described by Jesus, who run when they see the wolves coming to feed on the flock. They open the gates and invite the wolves in, then stand there smiling while the flock is being devoured. Then they tell the wolves to come back at a later date; they'll have more lambs for them to eat. **MS**

Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with law-lessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? 16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols?

2 Corinthians 6:14-16

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