



WHO
DESERVES
to be
WORSHIPPED

Majed S. Al-Rassi



DARUSSALAM
GLOBAL LEADER IN ISLAMIC BOOKS

Who Deserves To Be Worshipped

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Who Deserves To Be Worshipped

An open call to the sincere followers of Moses & Jesus, true prophets sent by Allah, to encourage dialogue & understanding amongst people of different faiths in the spirit of tolerance and respect.

In this book, you will read:

Islam's basic principles and characteristics

11 facts about Jesus (may peace be upon him)

19 abandoned biblical teachings revived by Islam

11 proofs from the Bible of Jesus' humanness and prophethood

16 biblical proofs of God's unity in His essence (negating trinity)

20 arguments refuting the doctrines of 'original sin' and redemption (absolution of sins through Jesus' sacrifice)

26 proofs from the Bible of Muhammad's prophethood

Proof that Islam is a sound ideology

Compiled by : **Majed S. Al-Rassi**

Revised and Expanded 2009

*NO DOUBT THIS LIFE IS AN EXAMINATION
WHICH NEEDS YOUR FULL CONSIDERATION
AS TO WHAT YOU WILL TAKE TO YOUR FINAL
DESTINATION ONLY TRUE BELIEF AND GOOD DEEDS
ARE YOUR WAY TO SALVATION*

(Muhammad Sherif)

Publisher's Note



All praise belongs to Allah (SWT). We praise Him, seek His forgiveness, and seek refuge in Him from evil inclinations and from the evil of bad deeds.

As our Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had said that every child is born on its nature, it is his parents that make him a Jew or a Christian, and we observe that the followers of different faiths use to consider their own faith to be the truest one in comparison to other faiths.

In fact the matter of adopting a religion is a birthright of every person, and when someone attains the age of understanding, he should look into the matter of his religion. As there are many religions in the world and each claiming to be the only true one, the wise person should check whether the religion he is following is the religion which God accepts to be worshipped through it or not.

In this book, the author has discussed some vital questions that arise in the mind of a person when he looks upon the religions for a critical study:

Is it necessary to adopt a religion?

What are the criteria to judge a religion?

How to differentiate between a false and a true religion?

How to check the pure teachings of a religion against the additions that took place by the passage of time and by the misbehavior of irresponsible clerics and the so-called scholars?

We hope that this book will help a lot to a person who gives serious attention to a matter such as religion, and he must do so because religion is a matter that should be given serious attention.

We end our talk with the prayers: May mercy and blessings of Allah be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his noble family, Companions and all who follow him.

Abdul Malik Mujahid

General Manager, Darussalam

About the word ‘Lord’

The word lord in English has several related meanings. The original meaning is ‘master’ or ‘ruler’ and in this sense it is often used to refer to human beings: ‘the lord of the mansion’ or ‘Lord So-and-So’ (in the United Kingdom, for example). The word Lord with a capital L is used in the lexicon of Islam to refer to the One and Only God – Allah. In Islam, there is no ambiguity about the meaning of this word. While it is true that one may occasionally use the word lord (whether capitalized or not) to refer to a human being, in Islamic discourse the reference of this term is always clear from the context. Whereas for Christians, Hindus and other polytheists, the word Lord with a capital L may refer to Allah, to Jesus or to some imagined deity, for Muslims, there can be no plurality of meaning. Allah alone is the Lord, and the Lord is Allah – not Jesus, not Rama, not other being.

The Editor

About the word ‘Allah’

Although the English word ‘God’ is often used interchangeably in this book with the word Allah, there is a difference. ‘Allah’ is the word in Arabic that is translated as ‘God’. However, ‘Allah’ has a much more precise meaning than ‘God’. ‘Allah’ is not merely an Arabic term for the word “god”. Actually, the root word of the word ‘Allah’ is ‘ilah’, which means ‘a god’, and there are countless numbers of made-up ‘gods’, but only One True God whose name is Allah. The word ‘Allah’ literally means ‘the worshipped’. Allah is thus the proper name for the only Being that is worthy of worship, the True Creator of the universe. By saying “Allah”, Muslims are, in essence, negating every other entity which people wrongfully worship. The name ‘Allah’ is how God Almighty refers to Himself in the Qur’an, and how the prophet Muhammad (peace and blessing be upon him) also referred to Him. Therefore, in this work, the term ‘Allah’ will often be used in reference to this One and Only God who is worthy of worship.

Preface

The wise man or woman knows that he/she is in existence for a purpose and a final destination, whether he/she knows that destination or not. Also, the wise man or woman knows that if he/she does not know where he/she is going then he/she will never arrive.

In this little book, light is focused on:

Why human beings were created?

What is their final destination?

How to reach 'safely' to that destination?

I would like to thank those respected scholars who gave me the chance to learn and quote extensively from their books, especially Dr. Jamal Badawi, Dr. Bilal Philips, Dr. Ahmed Deedat, Dr. Naji Arfaj and Brother Muhammad bin Abdullah Caraballo. My small contribution is mainly a compilation of passages from their wonderful works.

With this short preface I leave you with the book.

Kind regards

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Introduction

Each person is born into a religious environment that is not of his or her own choice; a child is raised in the religion or ideology of his or her family, society or culture. Even as a newborn, he or she is assigned the religion of his family or the ideology of the state; in some countries the child's assigned religion is even recorded on his or her birth certificate. By the time individuals reach their teens they usually have accepted the beliefs of their parents or that of their particular society, feeling that they have little choice in the matter.

However, individuals often encounter or are exposed to various beliefs and ideologies throughout the course of their lives leading many to question long-held beliefs, traditions or philosophical ideas. They begin to question the validity of their own beliefs. Seekers of the truth often reach a point of confusion upon realizing that believers of every religion, sect, ideology and philosophy all claim to have the one and only truth.

There are only three possibilities. They are either all correct; all incorrect or only one is correct and the rest are incorrect. They cannot all be right since all religions are different in their fundamentals. Furthermore, the majority claim that they alone are correct and the rest are incorrect. On the other hand, to claim that they are all incorrect is to deny that Allah revealed His will to humankind. This proposition is absurd to those who believe in a Wise Creator. After all, why would Allah create human beings and then abstain from revealing a way to the truth? So, which religion is the right one and how can the seeker of truth know it? This is the main subject of this work.

In beginning one's search for which religion is true, one should keep four things in mind:

First, Allah gave us the ability and intellect to discover the answer to this crucial question, which is also a life-changing decision: WHAT IS THE TRUE RELIGION?

Second, Allah, the Most Compassionate, did not leave us to go astray without any guidance. Indeed, He sent us prophets with scriptures to show us the right path.

Third, always remember the reason for this search: the everlasting life to come depends on finding the true religion in this life. This should be your ultimate motivation, and a driving force to keep you searching until you are completely satisfied.

Fourth, one can determine the true path and make a rational and correct decision only if emotions and prejudices, which often blind one to reality, are put aside.

1. Proof of Allah's Existence

This Great Universe and everything that is in it cannot be the product of chance, and could not have created itself. Signs testifying that Allah is the only Creator can be seen throughout the earth and in the very soul of each person. Allah (SWT) says in the Qur'an:

It is Allah who created the sky and the earth, and sent down from the sky water by which He brought forth fruits for your sustenance. He subjected for you the ships to sail upon the sea at His command, and He subjected for you the rivers. And He subjected for you the sun and moon in continuous cycles, and He subjected for you the night and day. And He gave you all you asked Him for...) (Qur'an 14: 32-34)

In the Qur'an, Allah mentions Prophet Abraham's search for truth as an example of how those who follow Allah's signs will be rightly guided to the worship of Him alone; Allah says:

[In this way I showed Abraham the kingdom of the heavens and the earth so that he would have faith with understanding and certainty. When the night covered him with darkness, he saw a star and said: This is my Lord, but when it set, he said: I do not like those that set. When he saw the moon rising up, he said: This is my Lord, but when it set, he said: Unless my Lord guides me, I will certainly be among the people who have gone astray. When he saw the sun rising up he said: This is my Lord, this is the greatest of all. But when it set, he said: O my people! I am indeed free from what you join as partners with Allah. Verily, I have turned my face towards Allah who created the heavens and the earth and I reject those who associate partners with Allah (in worship).] (Qur'an 6: 75-79)

The strongest proof for Allah's existence is through the creation itself. Thus, one will see that Allah continuously instructs humankind to look to the universe, as this will affirm the divine truth of His existence, His greatness and that He alone should be worshipped.

Another obvious fact: He answers our prayers. Sometimes once the individual prays (supplicates) to Allah; He answers his prayer, and this is an indication of Allah's existence. Allah says in the Qur'an:

[Your Lord says: 'supplicate to me, and I will answer your supplication'.] (Qur'an 40: 60)

2. The Purpose of Creation

Have you ever wondered about the reason for our existence? Have you ever wondered why we die, and where we go after death? What will happen to us in the end? Have you ever asked yourself why Allah made the earth and all that is in it under the human being's dominion? Why were the night and the day, and the sun and the moon created? What are we supposed to do during our lifetime? Were we created just to eat, drink, and enjoy ourselves before we die? A poet summarizes this timeless question:

I do not know whence I have come.

I saw my feet walking on the road.

As they please I go and stop.

What am I doing here?

How did the road find me?

I do not know! I do not know! I do not know!

Allah has emphasized in many verses of the Qur'an that He did not create people without purpose. He says:

What! Do you think that I created you simply in jest? And that you would not be returned to Me?
(Qur'an 23: 115)

He also says:

[What! Does man think that he will be left to roam at his will?] (Qur'an 75: 36)

In addition, He says:

Do people think that they will be left to say: We believe, and they will not be held accountable? (Qur'an 29: 2)

It is clear from these verses that human beings were not created without a purpose, and this purpose is mentioned clearly in another verse which says:

I have not created the Jinn and humankind except to worship Me. (Qur'an 51: 56)

Hence, the main purpose of creation is TO WORSHIP THE CREATOR ALONE. This is called Monotheism.

Islam sets a vision for humans which is strikingly simple yet completely logical. Indeed, why would the Creator of the universe leave the one main message He wanted humankind to understand, the one key to redemption, a total mystery? How, then, would He expect humankind to arrive at the truth? It is clear that humankind must revert to its basic instinct regarding the Creator of the Universe, shedding the layers of indoctrinated ideologies and man-made teachings he has been covered with. He must reclaim his birthright: He must reclaim Islam.