



Prophet Muhammad in the Bible

“Those unto whom We gave the Scripture recognize him (Muhammad) as they recognize their sons. But verily, a party of them conceal the truth while they know it” The Qur’an, al-Baqarah(2):146

The Emigration (The Hijra):¹

Habakkuk 3:3 **“God (his guidance) came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.”**

The wilderness of **Paran** is where Abraham's wife Hagar and his eldest son Ishmael, the father of the Arabs, settled (Genesis 21:21) in the Arabian desert. Specifically, Makkah². Makkah is, of course, the capital of Islam in Arabia and the birthplace of Muhammad (pbuh). Indeed, it was Hagar and Ishmael themselves who transformed a barren patch of desert into what is now the capital of Islam, “Makkah.” **Mount Paran** is the chain of mountains in that same region which the Arabs call the “Sarawat mountains.”

Muhammad (pbuh) first became the prophet of Islam in the cave of “Hira’a” located in the highest part of these mountains. Jesus (pbuh) never in his life traveled to Paran nor Teman. Muhammad, however, was born in Paran, he died there, and it was the capital of the Islamic religion in that day and this. No man from Paran, throughout history, has had his praise sung in so many nations throughout creation as has Muhammad (pbuh). The name “Muhammad” itself literally means in Arabic “The praised one.” Through the teachings of Muhammad, God is now being praised by over one billion Muslims around the world.

According to J. Hasting's Dictionary of the Bible, **Teman** is an Oasis just North of Madinah. Muhammad (pbuh) did indeed come from Paran. About 622 AD, he and his followers were forced to migrate from Makkah to Madinah where he spent the major portion of his prophetic life teaching it's people the guidance of God (the Qur'an). These

¹ Taken from the Book: “What Did Jesus Really Say” by Misha'al al-Khadi

² Some difference of opinion has arisen as to where “Paran” actually is with some people mistakenly concluding that it is in Sinai. However, this is resolved very simply by recognizing the following two facts:

1) The Bible tells us in Genesis 21:21 that Ishmael, the son of prophet Abraham, settled in “Paran.” This is where he would live and die and this is where he raised all of his children. Ishmael was the father of the Arabs. Thus, we would be justified in assuming that the Arabs should be better acquainted with where their father (and them themselves) lived than any other nation, and it is a well established fact among the Arabs that their father Ishmael was the founder of the city of Makkah, as well as the one who, with the help of prophet Abraham (pbut) built the holy house of God, the Ka'aba, in that city.

2) The Arabs and Jews are Semetic cousins. They descend from the same father, prophet Abraham (pbuh). Their languages, Arabic and Hebrew, are very similar in many respects since they have a common ancestry. In Arabic, the word Paran is pronounced “Faran” which means “Two who migrated”. This word is used in the Qur’an to convey the meaning of “imigrating to your Lord” or “escaping to your Lord”. This can be found in the verse of Al-Thariat(51):50. Indeed, Ishmael and his mother, Hagar, did in fact imigrate to this location which would later become the city of Makkah.

two cities, Makkah and Madinah, are such critical importance to a Muslims faith that every single chapter of the Qur'an is classified as either "Makkia" (revealed in Makkah) or "Madaniyyah" (revealed in Madinah).

Truthfulness of Muhammad (pbuh)

Deuteronomy 18:21-22 ***"And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that [is] the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, [but] the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him."***

So if the statements made in the Qur'an were not true then this would prove that it is not the word of God. However, there is not a single claim made in the Qur'an that has been scientifically and objectively refuted as false. Quite the contrary, there is not one, but tens of scientific and historical statements to be found in the Qur'an which have just begun to be scrutinized by (non-Muslim) modern scientists and which, according to these same world renowned, pioneering scientists of the United States, Germany, Canada, Japan, Taiwan, India and many other nations, could not have been known by an illiterate man of the desert fourteen hundred years ago (see chapter eleven). They themselves have only discovered these facts through the use of microscopes, telescopes, satellites, and various other scientific equipment that was not available to Muhammad (pbuh). These statements range from Embryology, to Oceanography, to Geology, to Astronomy, to Anatomy, to Physics, and on and on. Some of them have only been discovered during the last twenty years. These facts could not even have been copied from the Bible because many of them are either completely missing from the Bible or totally oppose similar verses in the Bible. If Muhammad (pbuh) had plagiarized the Bible, then did he also selectively correct incorrect scientific statements in it? It is also interesting to note that Christian scholars readily acknowledge that the Bible was not translated into Arabic until at least the eighth century AD, long after the death of Muhammad (pbuh) in 632AD. You may get a side-by-side comparison of the Biblical vs. the Quranic versions of many scientific facts by referring to Dr. Maurice Bucaille's books: "The Bible, the Qur'an, and Science."

I also highly recommend the following books: "Qur'an and modern science Correlation Studies," by Keith L. Moore, Abdul-Majeed A. Zindani, Mustafa A. Ahmed, and "The developing Human," By Dr. Keith Moore. These books speak about embryology in the Qur'an, and other topics.

Isaiah's vision:

Isaiah saw a vision of two riders.

Isaiah 21:7 ***"And he saw a chariot [with] a couple of horsemen, a chariot of asses, [and] a chariot of camels.."***

Who was the rider upon the ass? Every Sunday school student will tell us that this was a prophecy of Jesus (pbuh), as stated in John 12:14 ***"And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written,"*** but who is the promised prophet who would ride the camel? If it is not Muhammad (pbuh) then this prophecy has yet to be fulfilled. Let us read on...

Isaiah 21:13 ***"The burden upon Arabia ..."***

So the Muslims of Arabia (and subsequently Muslims everywhere) would be assigned the burden of God's message.

Isaiah 21:14-15 ***“The inhabitants of the land of Tema brought water to him that was thirsty, they prevented with their bread him that fled. For they fled from the swords, from the drawn sword, and from the bent bow, and from the grievousness of war”***

Tema, according to John McKenzie's dictionary of the Bible is “a place name and tribal name of Arabia; a son of Ishmael... The name survives in Teima, an oasis of the part of the Arabian desert called the Nefud in N Central Arabia.” This word, Tema, is the name of the ninth son of Ishmael (the father of the Arabs), in Genesis 25:13-15 we read: ***“And these are the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, according to their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebajoth; and Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam, And Mishma, and Dumah, and Massa, Hadar, and Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah”***

Strong's concordance tells us that this name was also applied to the land settled by Tema the son of Ishmael. It goes on to explain how this word is “probably of foreign derivation”. Indeed, this word, Teima, تيماء is an Arabic word which means “Barren desert”. It remains the name of a city in the Arabian peninsula just north of “Al-Madinah Al-Munawarah,” or “Madinah” for short. Muhammad (pbuh) and his companions were forced under fear of death to flee Makkah during the night and leave all of their possessions behind. Upon reaching Madinah they were greeted by it's citizens with open arms and Muhammad (pbuh) assigned each one of the Muhajireen (citizens of Makkah) to one of the Ansar (citizens of Madinah) to house and feed them until they could strike out on their own. This became the first year of the Arab “Hijra” (Emigration) calendar used in Islamic countries to this day.

Isaiah 21:16-17 ***“For thus hath the LORD said unto me, Within a year, according to the years of an hireling, and all the glory of Kedar shall fail. And the residue of the number of archers, the mighty men of the children of Kedar, shall be diminished: for the LORD God of Israel hath spoken [it].”***

Kedar is the second son of Ishmael, the father of the Arabs, Genesis 25:13: ***“And these are the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, according to their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebajoth; and Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam.”*** Kedar is also synonymous with all of Arabia in general, as in Ezekiel 27:21: ***“Arabia, and all the princes of Kedar.”*** The Arabs of Makkah, the capital of the paganistic tribes of Arabia of the day, were indeed defeated by the Muslims in the second year after their forced immigration from Makkah to Madinah (The Hijra). This victory signaled the turning point for Islam and a transition from a position of weakness to one of power and victory (for more, please read chapter 9).

It should be pointed out here that, as mentioned at the beginning of this chapter, the children of Israel, from the tribe of Levi, were distinctly aware of this prophesy. Indeed this is the very reason why they had begun to immigrate from the lush and fertile pastures of their Holy land of Israel to the barren deserts of Arabia, specifically to Madinah and the surrounding areas of Khaibar, Tema, and others. Because they knew that this is where the final prophet would appear. As mentioned above, these children of Levi were constantly threatening the Arab inhabitants of Madinah (the tribes of Al-Aws and Al-Kazraj) with his impending arrival and how they would follow him and, through his leadership, they would utterly destroy these Arabs. They had hoped that this prophet would be from their tribe and that their presence in this location might facilitate this hope.

When their awaited prophet finally did come, they rejected him. They wanted a Jewish prophet from their own tribe and not an Arab from the sons of Ishmael. Thus, they

allowed their pride to come between them and the truth which they recognized. However, their efforts were not totally in vain. So continuous were their efforts in threatening the inhabitants of Madinah with the final prophet's imminent arrival that when Muhammad (pbuh) finally did come, the inhabitants of Madinah immediately recognized him and hastened to follow him before the Jews. These inhabitants of Madinah would later become among those very first followers of Muhammad (pbuh) who would one year later go on to fulfill the prophesy of Isaiah by defeating the "mighty men of Kedar" in the very first battle of the Islamic nation, the battle of Badr.

One year after prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and his followers escaped from the torture and persecution of the people of Kedar and emigrated to Madinah, the men of Makkah decided to once and for all put an end to Muhammad (pbuh) and his followers. They assembled an army consisting of 750 footmen and 200 horsemen, all of their very best fighters, and all very well armed. The leaders of this army consisted of all of the leaders of Kedar except one, Abu Lahab. They were confident of victory and bragged that after this massacre they would be feared throughout all of Arabia.

The Muslims heard of this amassing of troops and prepared as best they could. They collected 313 footmen with two horses and seventy camels. They then filled six of the seven wells in the area with stones, and when the army of Kedar came upon the seventh, the Muslims fought long and hard with the men of Kedar and were finally granted victory. This battle ended in the death of *all* of the leaders of Kedar and a resounding victory for the Muslims.

In this battle, only fourteen Muslims and seventy pagans from Kedar were killed. Twenty four of those who died from Kedar were their leaders. In addition, seventy others from Kedar were taken as prisoners and later ransomed back to their people (for more see chapter 9).

This was the great turning point for the Islamic nation. This battle could be said to have been the beginning of the end for the reign of idolatry and paganism within the land of Arabia. This Muslim nation would then go on to expand to many other nations until it spread from Spain to China, fulfilling many more prophesies in the Bible, including Daniel 2:44, Genesis 15:18-21, and many others.

An unfortunate misconception which has managed to creep into many Western beliefs is that Islam was only spread through force and the sword. Today, however, this notion is beginning to be recognized for the absurdity that it was. A Christian missionary, Sir Thomas W. Arnold says:

"...of any organized attempt to force the acceptance of Islam on the non-Muslim population, or of any systematic persecution intended to stamp out the Christian religion, we hear nothing. Had the caliphs chosen to adopt either course of action, they might have swept away Christianity as easily as Ferdinand and Isabella drove Islam out of Spain, or Louis XIV made Protestantism penal in France, or the Jews were kept out of England for 350 years. The Eastern Churches in Asia were entirely cut off from communion with the rest of Christendom throughout which no one would have been found to lift a finger on their behalf, as heretical communions. So that the very survival of these Churches to the present day is a strong proof of the generally tolerant attitude of Mohammedan [sic] governments towards them" (Sir Thomas W. Arnold, *The Preaching of Islam, A History of the Propagation of the Muslim Faith*, Westminster A. Constable & Co., London, 1896, p. 80.).

Muslims did indeed wage many wars, just as many Jews before them did so as well as many Christians. However, Muslims waged their wars in self-defense or in order to

abolish idolatry, tyranny, slavery, and oppression. Muslims were commanded to not attack those who did not attack them, to not cut down a fruit tree, to not kill the animals, to not harm women or children or old people so long as they did not fight with them, and to not burn crops.

When they were victorious, the Muslims were commanded not to destroy the churches nor the synagogues, nor to force the people to convert to Islam. The people were allowed to continue to practice their religion in peace and without persecution.

“There is no compulsion in religion. The right path is henceforth distinct from misguidance” The Qur’an, Al-Bakarah(2):256.

“The extinction of race consciousness as between Muslims is one of the outstanding achievements of Islam and in the contemporary world there is, as it happens, a crying need for the propagation of this Islamic virtue.” George Bernard Shaw, The Genuine Islam, Vol. 1, No. 81936.

“I have always held the religion of Muhammad in high estimation because of its wonderful vitality. It is the only religion which appears to me to possess that assimilating capacity to the changing phase of existence which can make itself appeal to every age. I have studied him-the wonderful man and in my opinion far from being an anti-Christ, he must be called the Savior of Humanity. I believe that if a man like him were to assume the dictatorship of the modern world, he would succeed in solving its problems in a way that would bring it the much needed peace and happiness: I have prophesied about the faith of Muhammad that it would be acceptable to the Europe of tomorrow as it is beginning to be acceptable to the Europe of today.” Hamilton Gibb, Whither Islam, London, 1932, p. 379.