

Review: Hilmer von Elenburg, *Islam From the Viewpoint of the Bible*, Lichtzeichen Verlag GmbH, 2017 (German), 2018 (English)

Pages: 192

Fills Some Important Gaps About Islam

The author incisively covers a range of topics including historical fruits of Islam (i.e. terror and destruction), the dilemma of the post-Christian West in confronting its unyielding nature, what the Qur'an says of Jesus, the irreconcilable differences with Christianity, and a never-ending requirement for Jihad.

Unfortunately, it is light on strong points such as the haphazard nature of the Qur'anic transmission (i.e., the first compilation about six months after Muhammad's death, followed by confusion for twenty years until Uthman's Recension to 'standardise' the text by burning any competing manuscripts to Hafsa's copy), internal inconsistencies, total absence of fulfilled prophecies, and no mentioning of Muhammad in the Old or New Testaments.

Foreword (pp. 9-12)

There are over a thousand religions across the world.

I) General Considerations (pp. 13-38)

Fetishism is the worship and reverence of lifeless objects.

On aging it is said "old age is a massacre".

II) Who Is Jesus? (pp. 39-83)

When someone is infinitely intelligent, the time needed to solve problems shrinks to nothing.

Sura 2.106 contains the “doctrine of abrogation”.

‘Shirk’ means “association” in Arabic.

III) Who Is Isa? (pp. 85-97)

Sura 5.72 says, “They...who say” Lo! Allah is the Messiah, son of Mary...His abode is the Fire.”

The Islamic Jesus does miracles for no apparent reason, e.g., creating a living bird from clay.

IV) A Worthwhile Comparison: Jesus in the Bible and Isa in the Koran (pp. 99-117)

V) Islam-Peaceful or Radical? (pp. 119-156)

One of the supposed suicide pilots of 9/11, Muhammad Atta, wrote, “I do not want any unclean creatures at my funeral, that means animals and women”.

Muslims killed 199 in Madrid on 11 March, 2004.

The [willing] lack of the West to understand Islam has created repression and paralysis.

“Kifah” means a war of ideas and is *not* used in the Qur’an. Muhammad did not tolerate purely ideological debates.

“Qital” means to fight with a weapon.

Hiaraba and “fi sabil Allah” are other words associated with Jihad.

Most Muslims believe those who do jihad are disobedient cowards.

Radical Muslims are estimated at 15-25%, or 240-400M.

Muslims can kill on internet command.

Only one who dies as a martyr is assured of Paradise.

Indian Muslims speak Urdu.

Eritrean Christians are put in shipping containers for months.

The main response of the world to terrorism is: they are merely individual acts, and Christians are no better.

In Islamic paradise servant boys serve wine from silver vessels.

Osama bin Laden said, "A Muslim is by nature a terrorist."

Huris comes from the Syrian-Aramaic for "white grapes". Every paradisaical virgin also has seventy beautiful servant-girls which makes 5,112 women in total! Islamic heaven is a pornotopia.

225 ayat are said to be abrogated by later Meccan verses.

VI) What the Koran Does Not Have (pp. 157-164)

Surprisingly, Allah has never directly spoken with anyone!

VII) Selected Topics of the Bible and the Koran in Comparison (pp. 165-192)

A religion must be internally consistent. Astrology for example fails this due to the procession of the equinoxes. It also must be externally verifiable.

The Five Pillars of Islam are:

1. Saying the Shahada [copy of the Jewish *Shema*).

2. Praying five times a day including 34 prostrations (per prayer?)
3. Fasting during Ramadan.
4. Giving *Zakat* (2.5% of their income).
5. Do the Hajj.

On 18 April 2007, 'Tarikat' Muslims murdered three Christians in Malatya, Turkey (which is 450km northeast of Antioch).