

Peacemakers versus Peacekeepers

Dear Friend of Jesus to Muslims! In the name of multiculturalism, interfaith and co-existence, some 'Christians' often tell me to stop rocking the boat by attacking Islamic ideologies. They say that unless someone asks, we should not 'impose' the Bible or the values we may have derived from it on the person. Let's be peaceful with all and leave the things of the hereafter to the Lord.

Some believe that God has already decreed who will follow Jesus. They go to the extent that Jesus and the apostles themselves have asked us to be peaceable. In fact, in one conversation, these Bible verses were their justification for this (Matthew 5:9; Romans 12:8; Titus 3:2; Hebrews 12:14).

When I study these passages, I do not draw the same conclusion that my interfaith and co-existing loving Christian friends draw. In fact, I see their view as having a worldly few days or years of peace at the expense of the eternal destruction of friends who do not know Christ. I wonder, why did Jesus not make peace with the Pharisees and Sadducees by leaving them alone to follow what they believed? Or why Jesus would give a command to share the Gospel with all people (Matthew 28:19-20), if He had already decreed who will accept the peace Jesus gives?

The difference between peacemakers & peacekeepers: Jesus said, 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God' (Matthew 5:9). There is a big difference between these two types of Christians: peacemakers and peacekeepers. Peacekeepers sympathetically work hard to keep tensions between two parties from rising by pretending that nothing is wrong and that nothing is bothering them. Peacekeepers avoid conflict at any cost trying to unite Muslims, Jews and Christians assuming we all share one God with many paths to Him.

The peacekeepers may endure the façade of peace for decades while the tension erodes their well-being. They keep the status quo in order to keep the peace. They tag along and compromise their standard. Peacekeepers are often portrayed as deeply spiritual because they can endure so much without 'saying anything'. They often see their suffering, not as an expression of being misguided, but as a product of faithfulness to being a 'Christian'.

To avoid rejection, such Christian peacekeepers do not share the Gospel with people around them. Most are afraid of offending the unsaved and embrace political correctness. Some of them even claim that God has already decided who are His and He will touch them in His own way and time. They avoid being confrontational or in the forefront to talk about the eternal peace that comes through faith in Christ. In the name of peacekeeping, they compromise and thus lose their integrity in the process by not realizing that we are not called to be peacekeepers; we are called to be peacemakers. **True peace only exists where the**

'Prince of Peace' is allowed in to establish His kingdom.

A Christian peacemaker empathetically brings the 'problem' to the table between the two parties presenting a biblical answer. Peacemakers encourage and allow tensions to surface, inviting necessary conflict, because they know there is no other pathway to the increase of understanding between warring people and groups. Conflict resolution comes when we love our neighbor enough to care more about their eternal soul than their temporary approval. Peacemakers value authentic peace more than its distorted parody. The peace that exists between

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people with the courage to endure conflict, for the sake of lasting peace, is like gold when compared to its counterfeit cousin brother (peacekeeping).

Evangelism and ministry are the inevitable results of being true disciples and true peacemakers. As Christians, we must reach people to be reconciled to the peace through Jesus (Ephesians 2:10-18; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20). We cannot be true peacemakers unless we wear Jesus and share Him. Human words and human strategies cannot change human hearts. Yes, only the Holy Spirit can transform human hearts, leading them to truth, however, how can people change if we do not share the Jesus of the Bible with them (Romans 10:14-15)?

As for those Christian friends who want to have friendships with Muslims towards peace without confronting lies with truth in love, they should know that it is false peace. Jesus reminds us, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid' (John 14:27). In contrast, the Qur'an does not once mention the word 'peace' as corresponding to the Biblical vision of divinely ordered peace. The idea of peace according to Islam refers to the entire world becoming Islamic, only then will there be peace.

How do we live peaceably? We will not be able to live in peace with others until we live in peace with God (Romans 5:1). If we find ourselves enemies of the Creator we are not at peace. Peace is found in salvation. Salvation is found in the Savior. He brings peace. Enemies are reconciled to Him by His blood (Ephesians 2: 13-14). There is no peace with God apart from Jesus. He is the Prince of Peace. As for peace on earth, Jesus said we will have many troubles but He reminds us, '... I have overcome the world' (John 16:33).

PRAYER AND PRAISE POINTS

- ❖ We pray for the Lord to turn the hearts of terrorist groups to know Christ as the only way to paradise for eternal life.
- ❖ We pray for Muslim contacts whose hearts have been stirred to know about the peace Jesus grants. Pray with us that we will be able to share with them why and how Jesus and His Spirit are the only source of peace. Pray they will not be confused by what they see in the liberal media.
- ❖ We pray for Christians facing persecution day and night. We pray for those who have come out from Islam but are living in predominantly Muslim communities.
- ❖ We pray for missionaries and workers in outreach to Muslims for their safety and fellowship.
- ❖ We ask the Lord for the right topics and words for use in the audio and video programs we prepare. We thank Him for using these resources all around the world in several languages through internet, radio and Satellite links.
- ❖ We thank the Lord for our evangelistic leaflets now available in Spanish in pdf and other formats. We thank Him for providing

funds for sending our printed resources far and wide. We praise Him for friends who help this ministry through their prayerful and financial support.

- ❖ We praise Him for the 6 hour, 12 lesson DVD study with workbook on *Jesus or Muhammad: A Question of Assurance*. Please pray with us that many Christians in churches nationwide will be strengthened in their faith and also share the gospel with Muslims through it.
- ❖ We pray for God to send a skilled Administrator with a servant heart for God's Kingdom to take over while our wonderful summer help goes to college!

JESUS TO MUSLIMS: FINANCIAL ASPECTS

Jesus to Muslims relies solely on God through the generosity of our donors: to reach Muslims with the Gospel, to expand our outreach, to hold seminars to equip Christians, as well as to research and publish material for truth seekers.

Funds in total received:

August 2016: \$32,338.00

September 2016: \$12,355.00

Monthly Need is \$15,000. We praise God for His provision for long awaited projects to be accomplished according to His will. If you are mailing your gift, please use the envelope provided.

For online giving, please go to: www.JesusToMuslims.org and click on "Support". Donations are tax deductible.

See something, Say something!

Philip Haney, one of the pioneers of Homeland Security through investigation discovered how Islamic agenda has infiltrated through the back door into governmental spheres of the USA. Although several Christian ministries including *Jesus to Muslims* have been warning since 2005, perhaps people will listen to the warning coming from those working for Security Services (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJ5B4RRicag>)