

GOD HAS NO WIFE

According to the Qur'an (Sura 53:19-23), it appears that during Muhammad's time, the Pagan Meccans believed that God had daughters. Eventually, Muhammad opposed this belief and preached the unity of God. This led him to reject the Biblical term 'Son of God,' too, using the following argument in the Qur'an:-

*'The Originator of the heavens and the earth!
How can He have a child when there is for Him
no consort (Sura 6:102)?
'And (we believe) that He exalted be the glory
of our Lord hath taken neither wife nor son'
(Sura 72:3).*

In these verses, it is not God's ability to miraculously produce a son without copulation that is in question. Even so, Muslims believe that words like father and son necessarily mean that the Father must have a wife to have a son. So they ask, How could Jesus be the son of God when God has no wife?

CAN GOD HAVE A WIFE?

Most Muslims do not appreciate that no Christian believes that Jesus was God's son by copulation. The Bible nowhere speaks of God having a wife. In it, there is not the slightest suggestion of any sexual relationship between God and his creatures. Such an idea is as utterly blasphemous and repulsive to Christians, just as it is to Muslims. Christians are deeply horrified and grieved to discover this Muslim conjecture about their innermost faith. have of their innermost faith.

FATHER AND SON

Taken aback by our protestations, Muslims inquire: Why use the term "Son of God" if you do not wish to be misunderstood? Would it be wise to abandon terminology which has Christ's full approval?

Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Jesus responded, "Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my father in Heaven" (Matthew 16:15-17).

The words 'father' and 'son' need not be construed in a base way. Otherwise, consistency would oblige us to draw some improper conclusions from statements like the following:-

Muhammad had an uncle named Abd al-Uza, but in the Qur'an, he is called Abu Lahab - the father of a flame. This does not mean that he sired a flame (Sura 111:1).

A wayfarer is called *Ibn as-Sabeel* - son of the road. This does not mean the road has a wife (Sura 2:177).

There are many similar examples, such as these:-

Om ul-Kitab - the mother of the book (Sura 3:7; 13:39; 43:3).

Mecca is called *Om ul-Qurah* - the mother of villages (Sura 6:93; 42:8).

The wives of Muhammad are called the mothers of the Muslim believers.

Muhammad's cousin Ali was called *Abu Turab* - the father of dust.

One of Muhammad's disciples was named Abu Hurairah - the father of a cat, because he was very fond of cats.

It is quite common, particularly in Eastern societies, for elderly men and women to call any young person their daughter or their son even though they are not their real father or mother.

Just as it is not necessary to force an offensive interpretation of the preceding, it is also not needed to move an offensive interpretation of the Bible statements about Jesus being the Son of God, assuming a physical relationship.

JESUS' CLAIM TO BE 'SON OF GOD'

When the angel gave Mary glad tidings of a son, she said, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God" (Luke 1:34-35).

What difference is there then between Jesus and Adam? Jesus was no ordinary man. He was superior to all his physical forefathers, including Adam! On one occasion, Jesus asked the Jews, "What do you think about Christ? Whose son is he?" They replied, "The Son of David." Jesus responded, "If then David calls him 'Lord,' how can he be his son?" (Matthew 22:41; Psalm 110:1). To prove His eternal existence, he declared, 'Before Abraham existed, I am!' (John 8:58). He revealed to us what God is like, 'Anyone having seen me has seen the Father' (John 14:9).

WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT GOD IS LIKE

We must understand what God is like. Is He stern? Is He kind? Does He care about you and me? How may we find answers to these important questions? The Injil tells us, "No-one has seen God; but God's only Son, He who is nearest to the Father's heart, he has made him known" (John 1:18). Thus, He reveals what God is like: "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9).

Therefore, learning about Jesus will help us to understand what God is like. "The word became flesh and lived for a while among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only son, who came from the Father, full of grace and

truth” (John 1:14). This passage tells us that Jesus is the eternal Word of God. He is the one who can reveal God to us because “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning”(John 1:1-2).

It is easy to understand that since God is eternal, His Word must also be eternal. No one on this earth has been called the Word of God other than Jesus. If Muslims can accept that the eternal God gave expression to His eternal Word, and it became the eternal Qur’an, then why should it not be possible to embrace that God gave expression to His eternal Word in the Messiah, the Christ? Why hesitate to accept that the Word was revealed in the flesh, that is, He became the Son of Man? Even the Qur’an 600 years later, after Jesus acknowledged that Jesus was the Word from God (Sura 3:45).

THIS IS THE EVIDENCE?

“(He) was declared with power to be Son of God, by his resurrection from the dead”(Romans 1:4). This testimony to the death, burial, resurrection, and son-ship of Christ Jesus has been with us right from the beginning.

“He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent Him” (John 5:23). If we disobey Him, we risk God’s anger: “Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on him” (John 3:36). However, “God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him” (John 3:17).

GOD CARES ABOUT YOU AND ME

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). “God demonstrates his own love for us in

this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

According to the prophecies made before Isa al-Masih came on earth, He had to sacrifice His sinless life for our sins (e.g., Isaiah 53:10, 12). Being executed did not mean that He was a failure. If He had not both died and risen, He would not have been the Messiah.

We urge you not to spurn His Love. Heed what King David said beforehand about him: “Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you be destroyed in your way, for His wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in Him” (Psalm 2:12).

WHY?

“The Father judges no one but has entrusted all judgment to the Son” (John 5:22).

(Steven Masood) sm@itl-usa.org

For further information:



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Jesus to Muslims

P.O. Box 1555,
Summerfield, FL 34492

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