

A look of faith at the Qur'an

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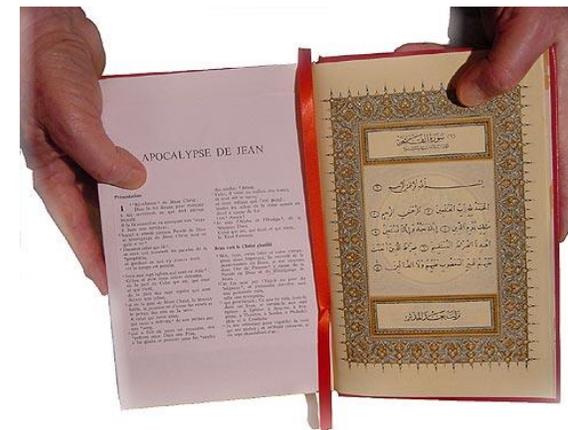
The divine inspiration is one

The divine inspiration is one in the Bible and the Qur'an. God, who inspired the Bible, has equally inspired the Qur'an

- *“O people to whom the Book (the Bible) has been revealed, believe in what We have revealed (the Qur'an), confirming the truth of that which you already have before (the Bible)...”*
(Qur'an IV; The Women,47)

Today God desires to assemble believers together by discovering the unity of the Biblical-Qur'anic Inspiration. God is the only Inspirer. The Qur'an confirms it

- *“...Our God and yours is One God, and to Him we submit.”*
(Qur'an XXIX; The Spider,46)



To be based on a luminous book

To avoid personal interpretations, controversies and inherited ideas that divide

- *“Among people is one who argues about God, without knowledge, and follows thereby every rebel demon... Among people is one who argues about God, without knowledge, without a Luminous Book.”*
(Qur’an XXII; The Pilgrimage, 3 & 8)

To return to the purity of the sacred text and to free oneself from narrow traditional interpretations. No one has the monopoly of the interpretation

- *“The time will come for men when the only thing left of the Qur’an will be its picture and from Islam its name. They claim to belong to Islam, yet they are most far from it.”*
(Noble Discussions of the Prophet)

This also applies to Christianity



The Qur'an is an Arabic text of the Bible

The Qur'an presents itself as a resume of the Biblical message in "manifest Arabic Speech"

- *"It (the Qur'an) is indeed a Revelation from the Lord of the Worlds, brought down (from Heaven) by the Trustworthy Spirit, upon your heart (Muhammad), so that you may be a warner, in manifest Arabic speech. It (the Qur'an) is also in the Books of the Ancients (the Bible, of the Jews and Christians)." (Qur'an XXVI; The Poets,192-196)*

The Qur'an, therefore, does not differ from the Bible, since it emanates from it

- *"Thus have We revealed to you an Arabic Qur'an, in order that you warn Mecca, the Mother of Cities, and its surroundings" (Qur'an XLII; Deliberation,7)*
- *"Rather, it (the Qur'an) is the Truth from your Lord, to warn a people to whom no Warner had been sent before you, that they may be guided." (Qur'an XXXII; The Prostration,3)*

Muhammad, like all the prophets, was sent as a universal guide, well beyond the religious confessions of today.

To discuss with the “best” of arguments

The Qur’an commands Muslims:

- *“Do not argue with the People of the Book (the Bible) except with the best (of arguments), save the wicked among them, and say: ‘We believe in what has been sent down upon us (the Qur’an), and sent down upon you (the Bible). Our God and yours is One God, and to Him we submit.’”*
(Qur’an XXIX; *The Spider*,46)

A Muslim therefore, must believe in the Bible. He must strive, incessantly, with a pure heart, in discovering the “best of arguments” to support this faith. This is the “Straight Path” (Qur’an I; *Al-Fatiha*,6)

The Qur’an pushes the Arabs themselves in knowing the Bible:

- *“Time was when you knew not what the Book was (the Bible), nor faith, but We brought it forth as a light by which We guide whomever We will.”*
(Qur’an XLII; *Deliberation*,52)



To catch the divine Spirit in the Qur'an

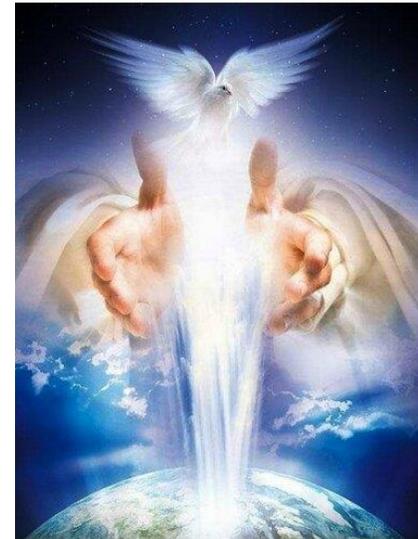
In the spirit of what was said to the people of the Bible, today we say to the people of the Qur'an:

- *“O People of the Book (Bible), you follow no religion unless you practice the Torah and the Gospel.” (Qur'an V; The Table,68)*

Indeed, the fullness of the Qur'anic Spirit cannot be understood without recourse to the Bible, which is its source. The Muslim:

- *“Whoever surrenders his face to God, and acts righteously, has held fast to a Handle most secure.” (Qur'an XXXI; Luqman,22)*

We believe that the Judaism of the Torah, the Christianity of the Gospel and the Islam of the Qur'an have one and the same essence.



The double reward

The Qur'an presents itself as a summarized Inspiration of the Bible

- *“We sent messengers before you, some of whose stories We narrated to you, and some We have not...”*
(Qur'an XL; Forgiver,78)

During the time of Muhammad, some Muslims asked some Christians to become Muslims, and the former answered that they were Muslims before the Qur'an

- *“They to whom We brought the Book (The Bible) before this present Revelation (the Qur'an) believe in it (the Qur'an). And when it is recited to them, they say: ‘We believe in It; It is the truth (that comes) from our Lord. We had indeed been Muslims before it. These shall be paid their wages twice...”*
(Qur'an XXVIII; The Narrative,52-54)

Islam, in the Qur'an's view, is nothing but another name for Christianity. This is confirmed by the Qur'an Itself

- *“He (God) did not burden you in Religion; it is the Religion of your father Abraham, and it was he (Abraham) who before now (in the Qur'an) called you ‘Muslims’, in order that the Prophet might witness on your behalf...”* (Qur'an XXII; The Pilgrimage,78)



The principles of this study

Reference to the Qur'anic text itself

- *“Among people is one who argues about God, without knowledge, without guidance, without a Luminous Book.” (Qur’an XXII; Pilgrimage,8)*

Research of the spiritual meaning of the text

- *“Among people is one who worships God to the letter... but if an ordeal befalls him, he turns his face about, losing this world and the next. This is the most manifest bereavement.” (Qur’an XXII; The Pilgrimage,11)*

The divine pedagogy in the Inspiration

- *The Arabs of the Arabian Peninsula had no knowledge of spiritual life because of their ignorance of the revealed divine truths. God acted with wisdom when He revealed Himself to the Arabs in progression*

Unity of the Inspiration

- *“O believers, believe in God and in His Messenger (Muhammad), and in the Book He revealed to His Messenger (the Qur’an) and the Book He revealed before (the Torah and the Gospel)...” (Qur’an IV; Women,136)*



The litigation points

1) The divine Trinity, the three Aspects of the One and Only God

- *“In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things came into being, not one thing came into being except through Him... The Word became flesh, He lived among us.” (John 1,1-14)*
- *“Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptize them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 28,19)*
- *“I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Consoler to be with you for ever, that Spirit of Truth (the Holy Spirit)... I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you.” (John 14,16-18)*
- *“The Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, is the Apostle of God and His Word, which He cast to Mary: a Spirit from Him.” (Qur’an IV; The Women,171)*



We are with the Qur’an to reject the tritheism proclaimed by some sects at the time of Muhammad.

The litigation points

2) The title of Son of God attributed to the Messiah

Jesus has no human father. The Qur'an and the Bible agree on it. No man knew Mary. Jesus has been conceived by divine intervention.

- *“Mary said to the Angel, ‘But how can this come about, since I have no knowledge of man?’ The Angel answered, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God.’” (Luke 1,34-35)*
- *“Mary said to the Angel: ‘How can I have a son’ ... He said: ‘Thus did your Lord speak’, ‘It is a matter easy for Me... A decree ordained.’ So she conceived him and retired with him to a distant place.” (Qur’an XIX; Mary,20-22)*

The mythological gods of Mecca married and procreated children. The Qur'an dispels this mentality:

- *“Say: ‘He is God, Unique, God, Lord Supreme! Neither begetting nor begotten, and none can be His peer’.” (Qur’an CXII; True Devotion,1-4)*



The litigation points

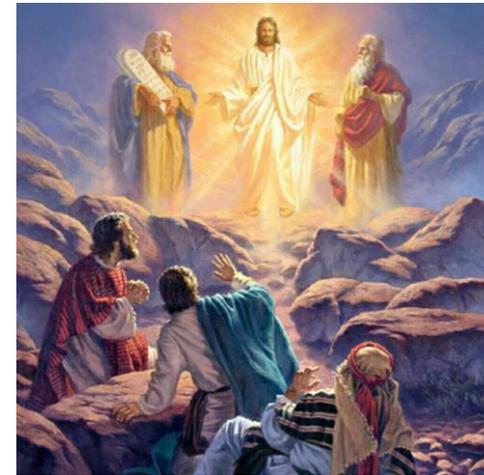
3) The divinity of the Messiah

- *Isaiah 7 centuries before the Messiah announced: “...For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: ‘Wonder Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace’.” (Isaiah 9,5)*
- *Jesus told the Father: “I have glorified You on earth... Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me with that glory I had with You before ever the world was.” (John 17,4-5)*

In the Qur’an:

- *“The Angels said to Mary: ‘Oh Mary, God bids you rejoice in a Word from Him: His name is the Messiah Jesus, son of Mary’.” (Qur’an III; The Family of Imran,45)*
- *“The Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, is the Apostle of God and His Word, which He cast to Mary: a Spirit from Him.” (Qur’an IV; The Women,171)*

The Word of God is God Himself, the Spirit of God is also God, it is the divine Trinity reported by the Gospel Inspiration.



The points of agreement

1) Muhammad testifies that Jesus is the Messiah:

- *“The Angels said to Mary: ‘Oh Mary, God bids you rejoice in a Word from Him: His name is the Messiah Jesus, son of Mary.’” (Qur’an III; The Family of Imran,45)*
- *“Whoever believes that Jesus is the Messiah is a child of God.” (1 John 5,1)*

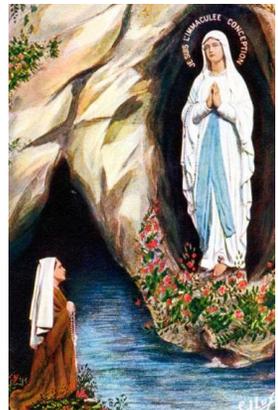
2) The Qur’an confirms the virginity of Mary

- *“Remember the one who guarded her virginity... We breathed into her from Our Spirit and made her and her son a Sign for the worlds.” (Qur’an XXI; The Prophets,91)*

3) Muhammad reveals the Immaculate Conception of Mary

- *“No man is born without the devil reaching him from birth and he screams because of this satanic attack (tarnish of original sin), except Mary and her Son.” (Noble Discussions)*

These words, accepted by the whole Muslim world, are an acknowledgement of Mary’s Immaculate Conception.



1858, Lourdes

The points of agreement

4) The Heavenly Table

The Qur'an speaks about Jesus' Supper

- *“Said Jesus son of Mary: ‘Lord, send down upon us a (spread) Table from Heaven, and it shall be a feast day for first and last among us, and a miracle from You, and grant us Your bounty (nourish us) – You are the best of Providers.’ God said: ‘I shall send it down upon you.” (Qur’an V; The Table,112-115)*

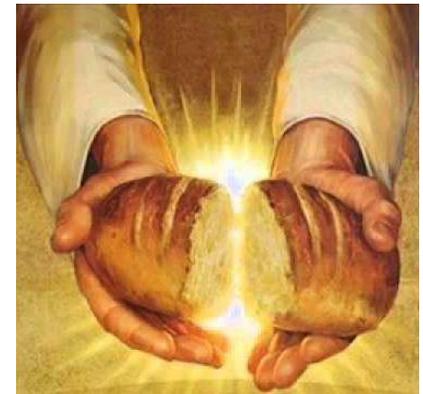
In the Gospel

- *“Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise that person up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.” (John 6,54-55)*

During the Last Easter Supper

- *“‘Take it and eat’, He said, ‘this is my Body’. Then he took a cup, and when He had given thanks He handed it to them saying, ‘Drink from this, all of you, for this is my Blood, the Blood of the New Covenant, poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins’.” (Matthew 26,26-29)*

Blessed are those who nourish themselves with this divine Bread which gives the eternal Life.



The points of agreement

5) The Spirit

- *“They ask you about the Spirit. Say: ‘The Spirit belongs to the realm of My Lord, and of knowledge you have been granted but little (in the Qur’an)’.” (Qur’an XVII; The Night Journey,85)*

As for the “spread Table”, the believer can understand the Spirit only by resorting to the Bible

- *“If you (Muhammad) are in doubt concerning what We revealed to you, ask those who have read the Book (the Bible) before you. Truth has come to you from your Lord so do not be among those who doubt.” (Qur’an X; Jonah,94)*

Thus, the Qur’an appears as a passage towards the Bible. Here, believers find the clarifications of what has been partly revealed in the Qur’an. God wanted it that way.

The Holy Spirit is God Himself, Who has been sent to the prophets and then became incarnate in the womb of the Virgin Mary.



Conclusion

The Qur'an and the Bible are nobody's monopoly. The Qur'an is a Divine Inspiration addressed to all those who love spiritual Life and aspire to sublimate their thoughts to sit with the Creator, in His company and live eternally with His life-giving Breath and Spirit.

We believe in God, in Abraham, in Jesus, the Messiah of God, and in Muhammad, the Prophet of God.

We are independent believers. We are neither Jewish, nor Christian, nor Muslim. And yet we are altogether Jewish, Christian and Muslim, because we believe that there are only two communities: the community of blessed believers, and the community of banished fanatics, belonging to all peoples, nations and religions.



For more information
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