

Is the Bible the Direct Word of God?

Written by K B Napier

Wednesday, 11 March 2015 12:20

“Or does the Koran alone have this distinction?”

One excuse used by Muslims for the recent spate of violence and murders in Afghanistan and the burning of Bibles (because an American pastor burned a Koran), was that, according to a Muslim spokesman, the Koran is the direct word of God, whereas the Bible is not. This is an absurd claim to make.

The Koran is heavily based on both Old and New Testaments, and was written by Mohammed and his followers. So, what did the spokesman mean? The Old and New Testaments were both written by men, who were given the words by God. So, *in Muslim terms*, neither the Bible *nor* the Koran are the ‘direct’ words of God!

In fact, *in Muslim terms*, the only words directly given by God were the Decalogue, written with God’s ‘finger’ on tablets of stone. So, what did the spokesman really mean? Did he mean God wrote the Koran Himself with His own ‘hand’? If he meant that, where is his proof? Or, did he mean it was written by Mohammed *et al* under the direction of God? If the latter, then his claim has no significance.

He said that the Bible was written by mere men. But, the Koran was also written by mere men! It is interesting that he claims more for the Koran than for the Bible, even though most of the Koran is rooted in the Old and New Testaments! So, if he claims the Bible was only written by men, with no direct divine input, then he is condemning his own Koran, which contains words written by mere men!

Let us assume he meant God *inspired* Mohammed *et al* to write the Koran. Is this true? We could spend a lot of time refuting the claim, but this is not the purpose of the paper. The purpose is simply to make a counter-claim – that the Bible *is*

the direct word of God, so it may not be burned or given lower status than the Koran. Any Muslim who does so automatically refutes and condemns his own ‘holy book’!

Proverbs 30:5 says: “Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.” Remember – Islam accepts the Old Testament as true. In that same Testament we are told that EVERY word of God is pure. The word, ‘imrah, is the utterances of

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God, the Torah. If these are the utterances of God, then it means they came FROM God AS the direct words of God. In 1 Chronicles 17:3, we find the “word of God” came to Nathan, saying...” In this text, ‘word’ is *dabar*, meaning words spoken

by God to Nathan.

They

were directly spoken to him by God the Person

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In Luke 3:2, the “word of God came unto John the Son of Zacharias...”. The word is the *rhēma*... ‘that which is uttered by a living voice’! We could thus accurately say: ‘God spoke to John’... a direct communication with a man. And when massive crowds closed in on Jesus, they wanted to hear the “word of God” from His lips – because He was and is God! The words of God were His own.

Paul wrote: “Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God.” (Colossians 1:25). That is, God commanded Paul to be a minister and teacher of His divine word. Not only did Paul teach what God had told others before him, recorded in the Old Testament, but he also taught what God told him personally. The direct word of God!

And, when Paul was still known as Saul, he was stopped on the road to Damascus by Christ the Son of God – God Himself. That same Jesus “is called the Word of God”, and so the commands of God were, and are, Jesus Christ. And it was Jesus Christ, the risen Lord God, Who personally taught the now saved Paul. In Acts 9 we see that when Jesus stopped Paul on the road, Paul asked who He was. Jesus replied “I am Jesus”. We are also told that He was “the Lord”, *kyrios*... and one interpretation of this word is – God, the Messiah. Ananias, who visited Saul, recognised Jesus and called him *kyrios* – God, the Messiah. And the same Lord, Jesus, said that Paul was to carry His name to everyone on earth. After he received his sight, Paul then preached that Christ was indeed the “Son of God”; this means ‘God’. Paul, then, was taught directly by God Himself.

Proverbs 4:2 is a promise from God, given directly to men: “I will give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law”. Jesus taught the very same doctrine, because it was He who gave doctrine in the first place to men and women, as documented in the Torah. And right towards the end of scripture, God commanded John to place on record that no man may add to, or take away from, the words He had given in the New Testament. (In strict terms, this applied to the words of The Revelation, but can be applied to all of scripture by ready implication and deduction). This means that no words uttered after that time could be considered to be from God – including the non-scriptural portions of the Koran, because God cannot lie or change His

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mind.

Then: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God..." (2 Timothy 3:16). The phrase "inspired by God" is one word, theopneustos. It means God is the author of the content of the scriptures. That is, the Bible is God's direct word to mankind. To be 'inspired' means to be breathed by God, which is a better translation. Thus, it came direct from God to men, who then wrote it all down.

It is an error to think God merely spoke to men, who then used their own discretion in how to write it. No, they wrote down the exact words given to them by God. In other words, the Bible is the direct word of God, as spoken by God. The humans who wrote it down were only the instruments used. They had no part in the words themselves. The Muslim spokesman, then, was wrong.

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