

Islam Question & Answer

General Supervisor:
Shaykh Muhammad Saalih al-Munajjid

1400 - Muslim view of Ibraaheem (upon whom be peace) and the Tawraat (Torah)

the question

Why does Islam ,believing that its roots lie with abraham ,nonetheless not believe in the veracity of hebrew scriptures?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Muslims believe in all the Prophets and Messengers without exception; whoever denies any Prophet is a disbeliever. Muslims believe in all the Books that were revealed by Allaah to His Prophets, without exception; whoever denies any Book is a disbeliever.

On this basis, Muslims believe in Moosa (Moses) as a Prophet from Allaah, and in the original Torah as a Book from Allaah, and in 'Eesa (Jesus) as a Prophet from Allaah, and in the original Gospel as a Book from Allaah.

When the previous books were distorted and altered because of men's desires and division among the Jews and Christians, it was no longer possible to rely on them. Allaah abrogated all previous laws (sharee'ahs) when Islam came, and all previous Books when the Qur'aan was revealed. When He sent Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) as the final Messenger and Seal of the Prophets, it became obligatory to believe in and follow the Qur'aan which was revealed to him, especially since Allaah has guaranteed to preserve the Qur'aan and protect it from alteration and distortion, as He says (interpretation of the meaning): "Verily We: it is We Who have sent down the Dhikr (i.e., the Qur'aan) and surely, We will guard it (from corruption)." [al-Hijr 15:9]

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Ibraaheem (peace be upon him) is the Khaleel (Friend) of Allaah, the Father of the Prophets and the pride of the Muslims. Allaah sent him with the message of Tawheed (Divine unity) just as He sent Moosa, 'Eesa and Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon them all). The happiest of mankind is one who follows his way, which is Tawheed (belief in Divine unity).

Because both the Jews and Christians claimed that Ibraaheem belonged to them, Allaah explained that they were both wrong, giving decisive historical evidence in the aayaat (interpretation of the meaning):

“O People of the Scripture (Jews and Christians)! Why do you dispute about Ibraaheem, while the Tawraat and the Injeel were not revealed till after him? Have you then no sense?

Verily, you are those who have disputed about that of which you have no knowledge. Why do you then dispute concerning that which you have no knowledge? It is Allaah Who knows, and you know not.

Ibraaheem was neither a Jew nor a Christian, but he was a true Muslim haneefa (Islamic monotheism – worshipping none but Allaah alone), and he was not of al-mushrikoon (polytheists).

Verily, among mankind who have the best claim to Ibraaheem are those who followed him, and this Prophet (Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) and those who have believed (Muslims). And Allaah is the Wali (Protector and Helper) of the believers.”[Aal 'Imraan 3:65-68]

Become Muslim and you will be saved. Praise be to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds.