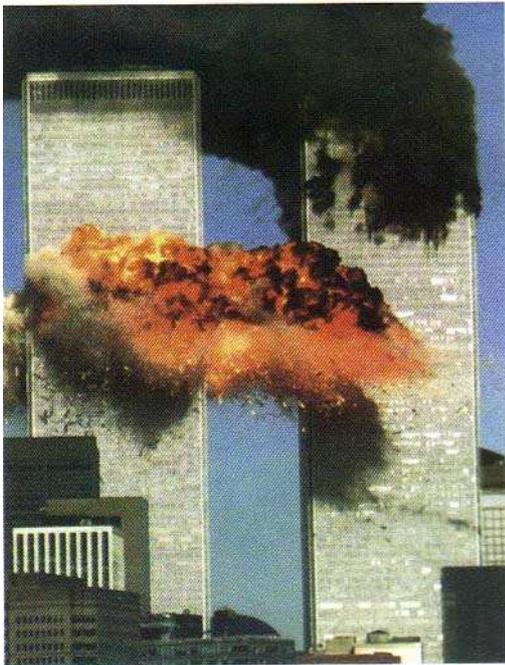


THE RELIGION OF ISLAM IN THE LIGHT OF THE PRESENT WORLD EVENTS



The whole world witnessed the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York. The 11th September, 2001, will go down in history for the USA, just as the attack on Pearl Harbor on 7th December, 1941, already has.

By Ewald Frank

Following the terrible attack on the World Trade Center on September 11th, 2001, the mass media made the Islam their main subject. Books that deal with that subject were sold out within days. Select countries arranged for a special day, holding an "open house" in their mosques to inform the non-Muslims about the Islamic beliefs. They had never before seen that many people attend. Most people say and realise that the world will never be the same since that remarkable day. The air traffic suffers worldwide and also all the business branches which are connected internationally. The day of October 7th, 2001, when the USA started their military retaliation in Afghanistan, will also go down in history. Many are convinced that a better reaction would have been to follow the example **Christ** set for us, >>Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.<< And: >>Recompense to no man evil for evil ... Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves but rather give place

unto wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the LORD. <<

The terrorist attack on the USA as well as the attack by the USA on the terrorists in Afghanistan, with innocent people suffering every time, are still unbelievable, they are incomprehensible. Osama Bin Laden and his terror organisation carried out their well-planned attack and destroyed the World Trade Center in New York. The proud twin-towers were brought to the ground, reduced to dust and ashes in just 105 minutes. There were people from about 60 nations among the thousands who died in that incomparable inferno. The White House, the Home of the President of the United States of America, the greatest nation on earth, was the main target. Missing its intended target, the plane crashed into the Pentagon instead. There 189 people - military personnel, civilian clerks and passengers - found a sudden death. The intended hit on Camp David failed, because the passengers interfered with the hijackers. Up till that day the term >>terror<< was mainly used for the various Islamic terrorist organisations aiming their attacks on Israel. Now they have also made their way across the Atlantic Ocean. Only after that event did the whole world realise their evil existence. Their capability for causing terror in various countries was known, but with the attack on the USA the entire matter has taken on a new dimension.

What had the thousands of innocent people done who were just earning their daily bread by doing their jobs in the World Trade Center? What has the USA done to Bin Laden, the Taliban or to any of the other Islamic terrorist organisations? Anyone who is acquainted with the recent history knows that after World War II we were left with two super powers. The British Empire no longer existed and the German Empire was shattered, with all of Europe in ruins. The world was divided into East and West, the Soviet Union here, the USA there. The dividing line extended its reach throughout the whole world. Germany and even the German capital Berlin were partitioned into the East and West Sector and Europe was split up.

The four decades that followed were known as the time of the >>Cold War<<. The super powers clashed repeatedly during those years, like they did in 1961 and 1962, for example, when we had the crisis in Berlin, where the opposing tanks were facing each other, and also the Cuba-crisis. In December 1979 the Soviet troops occupied Afghanistan. The US government in June 1980 found it necessary to place an embargo upon the USSR. At that time the CIA began to train Bin Laden and his Taliban group to resist the occupying forces. Altogether, 35,000 men from 43 Islamic countries were recruited. At first the entire action was directed against the Soviet troops, and the US government spent 3 billion dollars during this action in the 1980ies.

It is incomprehensible, how Osama Bin Laden, the protégé of the USA, would grow to hate the United States. Is it not beyond any reason, that he, who

himself most certainly is not ready to die, is training young people at the same time, promising them paradise and their bereaved families' financial security before sending them into death? The first attempt was made by blasting the American embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in East Africa in 1998. This time the targets were the political capital of the USA and the commercial headquarters of this world. It cannot be imagined what kind of character and brutality it takes to murder the pilots and to navigate the planes with all the passengers on board directly into those buildings.

Nobody can fathom the torment those passengers in the aircrafts went through in the last moments of their lives. Altogether, several thousand children were left without one or both of their parents. There is no excuse for the actions of those who bear the responsibility. The Secret Service, busy internationally, found among the documents of the 19 hijackers - 11 of them were from Saudi Arabia, the birth country of Mohammed and the Islam -their last, religiously motivated statements. For example, **"This life is terrible, but that in paradise into which we shall go tomorrow is full of flowers, rivers and glory to enjoy life for ever."** Even while reading the last words written by some of the "Pilots of death" during their last night, the question arises about what Mohammed actually said, the one who all these murderers believed to be their prophet.

On October 8th, 2001, the whole world could see the video with the statement Osama bin Laden made, **>>The holy war against the Jews and the Christians has begun! ... God has prepared a group of the Muslim avant-garde to destroy America. God bless them and give them a place in heaven!** << Thereby it was confirmed that the Islamic terrorist organisation Al Khaida was responsible for the attacks. The entire world is asking what is going to happen next. Therefore it comes as no surprise that now Muslims and non-Muslims are searching in Islamic literature, to know what is being taught about the >>Holy War<<. In Germany, for instance, the Koran was sold out within days after the attack. Also Mohammed as a person and his teachings have become the focal point of interest.

In view of what is happening now, many people even fear that the apocalyptic events of the Bible are coming upon them. Only those who really know the Scriptures are aware that the "holy wars" are actually mentioned in biblical prophecies. Due to the current events, the necessity for a biblical explanation of the role the Islam plays in the present and in the near future, the way it is written in the Book of all books, seems self-evident for those who can see.

In this brief exposition I shall try to stay with the golden rule, *>>Therefore, all things whatever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them, for that is the law and the prophets.* << (Mt. 7: 12). Actually, we are all in search for the truth, which must be shared with all people of good will. Truth is

not found with human beings, but only with the true God (Rom. 3: 4). The highest commandment for us should be that we do not touch the dignity of God and do not ascribe to Him the actions of men. With the respect towards any faith and religion, the whole world does have a right to be informed about Islam, considering the recent events. There is nothing on earth or in the universe, be it good or bad, right or wrong, that does not have the right to exist. This also applies to all religions. We have to entrust the entire creation to the responsibility of the Creator. The spiritual/religious realm we must also leave to the ultimate Judge, who will pronounce the verdict according to his word.

The time of Mohammed

Mohammed was born in 570 A.D., so he lived hundreds of years after Christ. In 613 A.D. he began his mission in Mecca. After his death in 632 A.D., his followers, especially Abu Bakr, began to propagate his teachings even more forcefully, which the >>messenger<< Mohammed claimed to have received from the Angel Gabriel. Mohammed himself was illiterate, he could not read nor write. When Mohammed, the camel herder and salesman, was 25 years old, he married the forty-year old wealthy businesswoman Chadidscha. Her first husband had died, leaving her with children. Chadidscha's second husband had separated from her, also leaving behind more children. This marriage gave Mohammed an instant family at a relatively young age.

During that epoch Christianity had spread throughout the Arabic peninsula. The Jewish faith had also been known in the entire region, including Mecca and Medina, the former >>Yathrib<<. Every Sabbath, the Jewish Rabbis were reading the Thora - the five books of Moses, but they were teaching from the Talmud. The Jerusalem Talmud was published in the year 375 A.D. and the Babylonian Talmud around 500 A.D. However, in neither one can we find God's Word in Its original form, but rather the various explanations and interpretations about His Word provided by several different Rabbis. Unfortunately, neither of the Talmuds includes the New Testament events concerning the Saviour. Not one time do we find a mention of the fact that by the coming of the Messiah, as recorded in the New Testament, 109 prophecies from the Old Testament had been fulfilled. The Jews did not accept Christ as their Redeemer, therefore they rejected the New Testament, not recognising that Old Testament scriptures are mentioned therein 845 times. The Jews remained true to the Thora teaching, believing in the existence of only one God. The credo for Israel has top priority for them. It is a command, **>>Hear, o Israel: the LORD our God is one God. And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.** << (Dt. 6: 4-5).

At the time of Mohammed, the Jews were emphasising two scriptures very strongly. The first one is Dt. 18: 15: *>>The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a*

prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me, unto him ye shall hearken.<< This was in reference to the coming of the Messiah, Whom they eagerly expect even today. In the New Testament we find the fulfilment thereof documented (Acts 3: 22-23; Acts 7: 37). The second scripture is found in Mal. 4, especially verse 5, >>*Behold, I will send you Elijah, the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.* << This day is predicted as the Day of Judgement, which will come after the time of grace and the Day of Salvation end. Back in those days Isa. 40: 3 and Mal. 3:1 were fulfilled, as we find confirmed in the New Testament (Mt. 3. 1-3; Mk. 1: 1-3; Lk. 3: 2-6; Jn. 1: 19-23).

The Jews had always believed it and were convinced that the time had come for these prophecies to be fulfilled, namely the prophecy for Elijah to appear as a messenger, followed by the one for the coming of the Messiah. This is the belief of Jews even today.

Mohammed's first contact was with the respected Rabbis in the large Jewish congregation in Mecca. He listened to what they had to say and came to know what they believed, calling them >>the people of the Scriptures<< or >>the people of the Book<<. Then, all of a sudden, the idea came to him that *he* could be that messenger who was to appear on the scene before the great day of the LORD would come, which the Jews associated with the coming of the Messiah. Therefore he frequently used the terms >>the last day<<, >>the day of judgement<<, >>the day of resurrection<<, coming up with the statement, >>Allah is God and I am his prophet- messenger!<< Since he could not read Hebrew, he could not have had any personal knowledge of what God had said and promised in the Old Testament. Unable to read Greek, he had no way of knowing what God had done according to His Word since the beginning of the New Testament. Many a times he recited from memory what the prophets had said in the Old Testament, but not a single time did he repeat the Bible text correctly. It is actually a pity and painful to read the distorted statements he made. Also when he mentioned New Testament verses, not once did he state them in the way they were written. Mary is being honoured in the Koran, spoken of as Miriam, the mother of Jesus, and is mentioned thirty-four times. That is precisely the number of times a true Muslim must bow to the ground before Allah facing Mecca during his five daily prayers.

Jesus, Who is called Isa, is mentioned therein only, twenty-five times. Mary is the only woman whose name is stated in the Koran. Out of the fourteen wives Mohammed had, only his first one, Chadidscha, is mentioned in the foreword. His daughter Fatima, who got married to Ali, his nephew, seems to have been important to the prophet, but she also is only mentioned in other writings, not in the Koran. Chadidscha is spoken of because she was the first one who believed in Mohammed as a messenger and supported him therein. Although he was in doubt and felt tormented by that spirit, she declared it to be a good spirit. Mohammed himself and many who knew

him as a person had their doubts. Some who knew him well were even accusing him of practising magic powers, especially because his three sons died mysteriously.

It also must be mentioned that it is a myth that Mohammed made a nocturnal journey on his horse Buraq - the heavenly Pegasus -from Mecca to the Temple of Jerusalem and from there into the seventh heaven straight to Allah. This legend, which the Muslims consider to be one of their most important ones, has made Jerusalem - El Kuds, the holy city - a place of utmost importance to them, ranked right after Mecca and Medina. However, the Temple in Jerusalem did not exist anymore since the year 70 A.D. and furthermore, Jerusalem is not mentioned a single time in the Koran.

Mohammed and the Christians

The discussions with the Christians were more difficult for Mohammed than those with the Jews. At that time, the mainstream of Christianity, not only in the Roman Empire, but everywhere, had adopted the invented dogma of a >>trinity<<, which all the citizens were ordered to believe since the year 380 A.D. That dogma states that God exists in three divine persons in heaven. The Son was supposedly begotten by the Father and became a different person within the same Godhead. Mohammed's main argument was, that it is absolutely impossible for God to have a Son in heaven who was also declared to be God. He asked who in that case was the mother in heaven who had given birth to him. Mohammed, who originally had been acquainted with the teaching of the Jews that God is only ONE, *Elohim-Jahweh*, besides whom there exists no other, did already believe in his own way in *one* God - Allah.

The belief of the Jews in one God he could accept. However, now he was confronted with a completely different teaching, claiming that three divine persons coexisted in heaven. In his state of confusion regarding the entire matter he then cursed the Jews and also the Christians twenty times, stating they would be punished in this world and hereafter. Only those who accepted Islam would escape the fires of hell. Mohammed classified humanity into four types of people: Believers, Jews, Christians, and Heathens (S. III, 57; S. III, 110; S. IV, 146). He declared that those who Allah curses would be changed into monkeys and pigs (S. V, 61). From the Koran itself Bin Laden and all the various groups who operate in the different countries derive justification for their terrorist actions and murders. From their point of view they are only killing unbelievers - monkeys and pigs according to what their prophet said. In Mohammed's eyes only those were believers who accepted his teachings and followed him. That is the conviction of every devote Muslim, even to this day.

The argument that God can never have a Son in heaven must be taken seriously. According to the Bible, the Son was promised and announced as the Redeemer throughout the entire Old Testament. When the time

was fulfilled, He was begotten by the Holy Ghost and born by the chosen virgin Mary in Bethlehem in Judea, as it was predicted in Isa 7: 14 and Micah 5: 1-3 and as shown forth in its fulfilment in Mt. 1 and in Lk. 1. Then, as the discussions went on, Mohammed made the ridiculous statement about Jesus, the son of Mary, **>>they slew him not nor crucified him, but it appeared so unto them...But Allah took him up unto himself.<<** (S IV, 157-158). Such a statement is blasphemous, because it contradicts God Himself, Who made the promises in the Old Testament about the death and resurrection of the Saviour, as confirmed in the New Testament. The Apostle Peter proclaimed on the Day of Pentecost, *>>Ye have taken and by wicked hands have crucified and slain him; whom God has raised up, having loosed the pains of death because it was not possible that he should be held by it.<<* (Acts 2: 22-28). The Apostle Paul made the statement, *>>... that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.<<* (I Cor. 15: 3-4).

Should the Saviour have gone to heaven without accomplishing our redemption, not conquering death and hell, we would still be without hope, without God and without eternal life. We also need to consider all the witnesses, starting with the apostles and the thousands of people who lived when the LORD Jesus walked on this earth, the many people who saw Him on the cross. Even Joseph of Arimathea can be called upon to be a witness, because he took the dead body and laid it into his grave. We can call upon the writers of the four gospels, as well as the women who went to the grave, and also those who afterwards saw the empty tomb and met the LORD after His resurrection, especially the disciples who spent forty days with Him until His ascension to heaven (Acts 1: 3). Now we shall hear the testimony of the LORD Himself. *>>These things saith the First and the Last, who was dead, and is alive.<<* (Rev. 2: 8).

Please, ask yourselves if we should believe what God's Word so clearly and overwhelmingly declares to have happened, or if we ought to believe a man who did not know the Old nor the New Testament, who obviously knew nothing about God's plan of salvation, someone who was born into heathen traditions and not once spoke about having experienced a conversion? May everyone judge for himself what is better: to believe the Bible or the Koran, Christ or Mohammed. Unable to read the Scriptures, he was completely unaware that the term *>>Elohim<<* for God is found in the Old Testament 2,600 times and His name YAHWEH -LORD is found therein 6,828 times. Even the Christian scholars did not know that God is not a name, just as Father is not a name, but thereby is expressed what He is and that His covenant name is YAHWEH, as revealed to Moses, His prophet (Ex. 6: 2-8). In the Old Testament He had not yet manifested Himself as Father in heaven and in the Son on earth. His New Testament covenant name *>>Yahshuah<<* does not need to be explained, it means in itself *>>YAHWEH-Saviour<<*, just like Emmanuel signifies

>>God with us<<. Mohammed had absolutely no knowledge about this. On the contrary, with his own statements he denies the true and only God, all the prophets, the entire Old Testament. He denies Christ in His death and resurrection as the Holy Scriptures present Him; he denies what the apostles taught in the New Testament.

Mohammed and Allah

Not only the more than one billion inhabitants on earth who embrace the religion of Islam, but the whole world is of the opinion that Allah is equal to the God of the Jews and the Christians. Long before Mohammed, in Arabia Allah was in ancient times believed to be the moon god who gave fertility to all of nature. From the beginning, the half-moon became the symbol of Islam. According to the legend, this moon god Allah had married the sun goddess Al-Lat and had three daughters with her, al-Lat, al-Uzza and Manat. These were worshipped as goddesses, as confirmed by many authors and various encyclopaedias. Mohammed himself admitted to having been under the wrong influence when he still gave consent to this pagan worship. The three corresponding verses were originally part of the Koran, as shown forth in Sura LIII, 19-21 and XXII, 52-53.

Also the Ka'aba with the black stone, which is still there today, was in ancient times a place of idol worship, where also the three goddesses were being honoured besides Allah, the moon god. Then the Ka'aba was torn down and later it was rebuilt, Mohammed himself tolerated the black stone as object of worship according to the old tradition. Also the superstition about stoning the devil is being continued up to this time. Every faithful Muslim should at least once in his lifetime participate in stoning the evil one. On February 23rd and 24th, 2002, two million people participated in this ceremony once again. So the same old cults continued in the new religion, just in a different form. After Mohammed had conquered all his adversaries by the sword, he then declared Allah to be the only one to be worshipped and announced him to be the God of Creation. Before that time Allah was not considered to be the Creator the Bible speaks of, but rather the ancient Babylonian moon god. Therefore all who believe that the god of the Islam Allah - is the same God of the Jews and the Christians have fallen victim to a fatal misconception. Only the Bible testifies about the eternal God Elohim-Yahweh, the LORD GOD as the only Creator, Saviour and King. The Jews and the Christians at that time knew exactly who the moon god Allah was and therefore could not even under force accept him and worship him, but rather preferred death.

Never up till now did any Muslim scholar show any interest in dealing with this subject. Also those who translated the Bible into their languages in Arabic and Islamic countries use the word "Allah" for "God". What are they going to do now, after it has been revealed that they do not worship the true God but Allah, the ancient moon god, even in their songs? The only true eternal

God is Spirit and those who worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in truth (Jn. 4: 23-24).

During the time I spent in Egypt in 1983, I read the Koran from cover to cover. The Arabic script was on the right side throughout the book and I was reading the English translation on the left side. After having read the 114 Sures containing 6,348 verses and also the introduction to each of them, I finally had to ask myself, as I did so many times while reading it, >>Where is God's message found in this book?<< Therein is continuously repeated what the prophet had said, but not a single promise of God can be found in reference to salvation or reconciliation with the Almighty.

The Holy War

All who know history are aware that the Islamic religion began with force, using the sword most cruelly in the Djihad, subjecting cities, tribes and entire nations. Up until his death in the year 632, Mohammed fought 28 battles. All who did not submit to this new religion were declared to be unbelievers who needed to be killed as idol worshippers (S 11, 273; S IV, 90; S IV, 96; S IV, 101; S IX, 5). >>**And fight them until persecution is no more, and religion is for Allah...**<< (S II, 193). One hundred and twenty-three verses in the Koran speak about fighting for Allah and, if necessary, even killing for him. For the cause of Allah, as Mohammed understood it, property and life must be sacrificed in the holy war - Djihad. Whosoever finds death while fighting has the assurance of going directly to paradise.

According to Islamic writings, the Djihad is the sixth and last pillar upon which the faith of the Islam is founded. In Sura LXVI: 9 the unbelievers are branded as the hypocrites and are declared to be the direct targets of the >>Djihad<<.

>>**O Prophet! Strive against the disbelievers and the hypocrites, and be stern with them. Hell will be their home, a hapless journey's end.**<< (Surah LXVI, 9; IX, 41).

According to Sura XLIX, 15 the willingness to fight the >>Djihad<< is a sign of a truly dedicated Muslim. It is placed in the same category as the belief in Allah and the Prophet Mohammed.

>>**The true believers are those only who believe in Allah and His messenger and afterward doubt not, but strive with their wealth and their lives for the cause of Allah. Such are the sincere.**<< (XLIX, 15).

The >>Christian-Islamic Dialog<< on the Internet presents the following statement: >>**Also tradition praises the >>Djihad<< in saying, "The >>Djihad<< is one of the gates to paradise!" or, "The >>Djihad<< is a pure dedication to Allah!"**<<

The last words of Mohammed, "On the Arabian peninsula there cannot be two religions" led to the dispersion and persecution of the Christian and Jewish tribes by his successor Abu Bakr. In just one hundred years the Muslims had conquered a territory larger than Europe.

In the 11th century began the conquest of the non-Muslim world known as >>Dâr al-harb<<=>>land of war<<. Al-Mâwardî divided the world into two domains, >>house of Islam<< = >>Dâr al-Islam<< and >>house of war<< = >>Dar al-harb<<. To the house of Islam belonged all the subdued tribes and nations and to the house of war all tribes and nations which were yet to be conquered.

As the scholars of Islam understand the matter, the Djihad must continue, especially against the Jews and Christians, until they no longer exist and Islam sets up its order.

A most cruel example for the hatred against the Jews was the recent assassination of the US-journalist Daniel Pearl, who had been kidnapped by Islamic terrorists in Karachi, Pakistan, on January 24th, 2002. With the video camera being focused on him he had to say, "Yes, I am a Jew. Yes, my Father is a Jew." The very next moment his throat was cut. Sheikh Omar, who was arrested in Pakistan in February 2002 and is connected to the terrorist organisation El Khaida of Osama Bin Laden, had a statement published by his lawyers, stating, Pearl had to die, for he, "being a Jew worked against Islam". The LORD predicted this enmity against the Jews and the Christians, who from the Arab point of view have to be destroyed. Thus it is written, *...whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth, God service.* (Jn. 16: 2).

The Djihad in its fundamental form has devastating effects even in Islamic countries, which present themselves as "governments of Allah" or "Islamic republics". There those who believe differently have no rights, they are being suppressed and persecuted. The religious rights that Muslims enjoy in Western countries are not granted to other religions and faiths in most of the Islamic countries, most certainly not in countries with Islamic governments.

According to Al-Ghazzali (1059-1111), one of the main theologians and thinkers of the Islam, also the lie is permitted in the battle against the unbelievers. In reference to the peace-process in Israel, we must be aware of the following Islam peace treaty known as the >>peace of al-Hudaybiya<<, dating back to the year 628 A.D. This is a military tactic, to make peace with the enemy with one hand, in order to stab him in the back with the other. Yassir Arafat used the same phrase >>peace of al-Hudaybiya<< when speaking of the peace process between the PLO and Israel.

When we consider the increasing terrorist activities which have been carried out for years in Israel and in many other places by various fanatical Islamic groups, then the only logical conclusion is that the Islam

cannot be regarded as a faith that is subject to the living God, Who is nothing but love and righteousness for ever, but rather a complete submission under the teachings of a man. A Muslim does not have any personal freedom. His whole life is ruled by religious dictatorship, to which each individual must submit in all aspects of life. The free will to believe and to do what one considers to be right, the free moral agency allotted to us by God from the beginning, does not apply for a devote Muslim.

The scholars of Islam say that Moses gave the Thora to the Jews and Jesus gave the Gospel to the Christians. However, they also believe that Allah gave the final revelation through Mohammed, because he was, according to their beliefs, the last prophet. Now, may we ask what that final revelation is? We certainly do not find it in the Koran. The wrong assessment is that whoever rejects the Islam in their view blasphemes Allah and therefore is worthy of death. Through the holy war, the Jihad, all blasphemy must be brought to an end. Only when the Islamic half moon becomes a full moon will the world have peace. The Islamic scholars believe and teach that the whole world of unbelievers must be subdued to their beliefs, otherwise the earth will have no peace. Whoever is acquainted with the Islamic literature knows about the intentions of that religion.

Conclusion

In recent years, since the Reformation and especially since the time of enlightenment, we have been informed about the atrocities committed in the name of the Christian religion, especially during the epoch when Christianity was forced upon the nations. We came to know about the seven crusades (1095-1291 A.D.), when 22 million Jews, Muslims and others were murdered by the Catholic crusaders. We also learned about all the cruelties the church was responsible for in the Dark Ages By the writings of historians we found out about the many people who could not submit to that religion and therefore were declared witches and heretics, they were tortured, tormented to death and burned at the stake - in one concentrated raid 50,000 were murdered! We also know about the inquisition, the slaughtering of the Huguenots and much more. Millions upon millions of people were put to death by the Church of Rome, after she attained worldly power. The earth is saturated with the blood of the martyrs.

The instant a religion receives worldly power it becomes an instrument of Satan who is the God of this world. Jesus Christ said, *"My Kingdom is not of this world."* When the Christian religion became the State Church she exercised the murderous power of Satan without mercy. She looked upon herself as the established "Kingdom of God", which does not exist on earth in the natural realm at all. Indeed the church has practised the most terrible injustice on earth in the name of Christ. Salvation was being preached and the contrary was practised. For all who chose to inform themselves, the church became for ever untrustworthy.

We also find that the history of Islam from the very beginning left behind a trail of violence and aggression, right to the collapse of the Osmanic Kingdom at the end of World War I. We are now actually experiencing what is increasingly being done in the name of Allah, the merciful and the one full of grace, but the atrocities are committed in his name without any grace or mercy.

For all who can see it is obvious that religions who assume worldly power and exercise the same do not act in the will of God, but rather under the influence of Satan who presents himself in the image of an angel of light, or as the Archangel Gabriel. Who gives anyone the right to subdue the nations and to force them into their religion? We now have the Christian nations, the nations of Islam, the ones with Hinduism, with Buddhism, with Confucianism, with Shintoism etc. Indeed, the world is split into many religious and political parts. All claim to be on the right way.

I, the writer of this brochure, have acquired personal knowledge about all these religions. For 40 years I have travelled non-stop to over 120 nations on every continent, have come to know people of all religions and faiths and know that the majority of them are against violence and wish to live in peace. On the other hand I observed the fanaticism,, especially in connection with religion, which increasingly manifests itself in cruel and most abominable actions.

What happened on September 11", 2001, has shocked the Western World, especially the USA, to the core. With the collapse of the World Trade Center came the loss of the false sense of security. Whosoever knows the Holy Scriptures and the prophetic predictions therein is able to place the present political and religious developments correctly. For it is written: *>>Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? Shall there be evil in a city and the LORD hath not done it?<<*

>>Surely the LORD GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants, the prophets.<< (Amos 3: 6-7). The extraordinary developments in Europe since the peaceful change in 1989 as well as the current political events are in connection with the fulfilment of Bible prophecy. In the midst of ways, terrorism and catastrophes of all kinds which have been predicted for this time, the call for peace and safety is getting even louder.

When the tower of Babel collapsed the people who were one and spoke one common language were confused and scattered. Now as a result of the collapse of the twin towers the many nations and languages stand united. The beginning of the *>>New World Order<<* is in effect since January 1st, 2002. The peoples of Europe, starting with twelve nations, a total of 305 million, now pay with one common currency. On January 24th, 2002, the next important step followed. The Pope personally invited the representatives of the twelve main religions on earth to participate in a peace procession in the Italian city of Assisi. The declarations followed, that in the past

religions were guilty of waging wars, but now all world religions must unite in peace against terror and demand worldwide justice. Now the world must speak, with one voice. The Pope is the only man on earth with worldwide authority. The highest authority on earth is being united with political and religious might and will achieve the so-called peace the world is longing for. Those who know their Bibles are attentive and take notice once again, for it is written that at the moment when peace is being proclaimed the destruction will come upon humanity suddenly and without extra warning. This time is now very near.

The judgement angels, according to Rev. 9, from verse 13, are held back for the day and the hour at the river Euphrates in the land of Saddam Hussein, but at the predicted big confrontation - the climax of the >>holy war<< - the third part of mankind will lose their lives. US governments have bombed Iraq, irritated and angered Saddam Hussein for years. Now they continue to do so in Afghanistan and other Islamic countries. These actions are looked upon by the Arabic world as being directed against the Islam itself. Everything leads to the final goal, so the prophetic scripture about the holy war might soon be fulfilled: >>*Proclaim this among the nations, Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up...*<<(Joel 3: 9). As other scriptures also point out, the final war will be mainly against Israel, which is becoming more and more the focal point in that region, but there will also be a military strike against the United States, not against Europe. The European Union is keeping its distance from the aggressive military policy of the USA and taking over the lead in the peace process in the Middle East.

It is clear for those who can see: not only the great commission in general has to find its fulfilment now, but also what our LORD commanded for the end-time. >>*And this gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.*<< (Mt. 24: 14). This is happening in our time, before the end will come. All peoples, nations and tongues, also those belonging to the Islam and to any other religions have the right to hear the divine message of salvation. Only then can they make the right decision. The ushering in of the final phase of the endtime has begun on all levels.

Epilogue

I have chosen to go by the golden rule right from the beginning and I would like to end in the same manner. I myself desire to know the truth. I longed to know the right way. I do not want to cross over from time into eternity deceived. That is also my wish for everyone reading this brief exposition. However, to say it very clearly, only God is the one Who truly means well with all of us. Every human being, regardless of religion, is born into this deceiving world.

The evidence shown forth in all the literatures and in the lived history is speaking for itself. Whoever believes what Noah, Abraham, Moses, and all the

prophets who were sent by God Himself said in perfect harmony, cannot, under any circumstances, believe any of the teachings of Mohammed. The Bible contains all God had to say, whereunto nothing can be added (Deut. 4: 2; Rev. 22: 19). In the Old Testament God has declared His will, in the course of the New Testament He accomplishes the same. The true prophets of God lived during different times, but were all under the same inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The apostles who lived hundreds of years later confirmed the fulfilment of all the prophetic statements recorded in the Old Testament. There is not a single contradiction between the Old and the New Testament. How could the same God ever change His Word, His plan or His teachings?

Hopefully, many eyes will be opened throughout the world by this publication. May all the scholars of Islam take note of the fact, that Mohammed completely bypassed God and His Word in his thinking, his teachings and actions and that the Islam religion, as all the others, is man-made. True faith is always directly connected to God and His promises and establishes a personal relationship with God. It must be said in love, but in all clarity, that Mohammed and his religion had nothing in common with the God of the Bible, with the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Mohammed did not believe at all that God manifested Himself as our heavenly Father in His only begotten Son as our Saviour on earth for our salvation. With utmost certainty it can be said that under no circumstances can he be looked upon as a messenger from God, because all he said is contrary to everything the prophets of God and apostles of the LORD were teaching and all the things the Holy Scripture testifies about.

Actually, the religion of Islam does not originate from God, just as all the others do not, it is without any real hope and therefore a hopeless religion. All claims of finality are not based upon the foundation of God's Word and therefore not valid. God has revealed Himself and His council sufficiently in the Holy Scriptures. All other things are just claims which are void of any legitimisation.

The goal of this brief exposition is to assist all those who do not wish to go into eternity misled and deceived. If we die without the Saviour, we are lost for ever. Hopefully, everybody will see the hand reaching out through this publication and will turn to the true God, Who is a Spirit being and manifested Himself personally as Saviour in Jesus Christ, our LORD. Let it be announced to all the inhabitants of the earth, that salvation cannot be found in any religion, but only in the Saviour Who brought us salvation.

God Himself has founded no religion, He reconciled the world with Himself in Jesus Christ, our LORD. His message is the only message of true salvation. Eternal life, which one must have in order to live eternally, can only be found in the Eternal One. God's way in Christ to us is our only way to Him. To have part in God's Plan of salvation we must turn from all religions to the

Almighty, in Whose image we were created for an eternal purpose.

The grace and peace of God be with every reader of this small brochure in the name of Jesus Christ, our LORD.