

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Submitters Perspective

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Community of Submitters

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CHRISTMAS MORNING

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem. To be taxed with Mary, his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; you shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

New Testament, King James version,
St. Luke 2:4-14

This was the story I heard every Christmas eve at church. It has a stirring ring to it; it's very visual. We pictured poor Mary, "great with child," being turned away from the inn. It was a lesson to be careful to help everyone in need—they might grow up to be someone important.

We saw the baby Jesus lying on a bed of straw, not wrapped in fine garments but in "swaddling clothes." (And what the heck were swaddling clothes anyway? Turns out it was a common practice just to wrap the baby snugly!). But we learned that someone from very humble beginnings can rise to greatness.

We see the shepherds being awed by this sign from God (but what were shepherds doing in the fields in December?) I pushed aside the discrepancies because it was a moving story and it was part of my heritage. It didn't have to make sense; it just was. And probably the most important line of all—"Glory to God in the highest"—got lost in all the tragic and touching details.

Then came Christmas morning. Growing up in a Christian society, Christmas had very special meaning for me. It didn't have much to do with Jesus (we left all that at church Christmas eve). It was about presents wrapped in bright paper, a tree on which we lovingly placed ornaments—some very old with a long history; it was singing carols, sitting in front of a fire while snow swirled around outside, visiting friends and family. But mostly, it was the presents—what you gave and what you got.

As a kid, I would wake up early, too excited to sleep, too filled with a lovely anticipation of what awaited me under the tree. Even as a young adult when I would go home for Christmas, there was a sense of anticipation on that Christmas morning, sharing time and gifts with my family.

Now I realize that I wake up every morning with that sense of elation. Every morning is a chance to repent, reform, and come closer to God.

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Every morning I begin in the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful. Every morning I make contact with my Creator, and I have a chance to ask His forgiveness. Every morning is full of anticipation for the blessings that day will bring.

Christmas—December 25—*should* be a day of joy and celebration. But so should every single morning that God gives us—January 10 or April 23 or August 30.

As Christmas comes around again, let's look at the true story of the birth of Jesus, recorded by God in the Quran. It's a miraculous story, even more so than the distorted one in the New Testament. It shows the greatness of God and His gift of sending messengers to instruct us on how to worship God Alone.

The Birth of Jesus

[19:22-33] *When she bore him, she isolated herself to a faraway place. The birth process came to her by the trunk of a palm tree. She said, "(I am so ashamed;) I wish I were dead before this happened, and completely forgotten." (The infant) called her from beneath her, saying, "Do not grieve. Your Lord has provided you with a stream. If you shake the trunk of this palm tree, it will drop ripe dates for you. Eat and drink, and be happy. When you see anyone, say, 'I have made a vow of silence; I am not talking today to anyone.'"*

She came to her family, carrying him. They said, "O Mary, you have committed something that is totally unexpected. O descendant of Aaron, your father was not a bad man, nor was your mother unchaste." She pointed to him. They said, "How can we talk with an infant in the crib?" (The infant spoke and) said, "I am a servant of GOD. He has given me the scripture, and has appointed me a prophet.

He made me blessed wherever I go, and enjoined me to observe the Contact Prayers (Salat) and the obligatory charity (Zakat) for as long as I live. I am to honor my mother; He did not make me a disobedient rebel. And peace be upon me the day I was born, the day I die, and the day I get resurrected."

That was Jesus, the son of Mary, and this is the truth of this matter, about which they continue to doubt. It does not befit GOD that He begets a son, be He glorified. To have anything done, He simply says to it, "Be," and it is. He also proclaimed, "GOD is my Lord and your Lord; you shall worship Him alone. This is the right path." The various parties disputed among themselves (regarding the identity of Jesus). Therefore, woe to those who disbelieve from the sight of a terrible day.

Lydia

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Your Comments...

From USA

As salaam alaykum,

My name is M. A. and I am an American and I was raised Muslim. I was happy to find out about Dr. Khalifa and the teaching of the Quran only.

I have been intensely interested in Islamic sects and movements. I must admit that I often found it difficult to reconcile the Quran with what was being taught by *Hadith* and as Islamic theology. I found it difficult to read and admire the Quran because it seemed so remote from what I had learned as "Islam." I realize that I had it backwards. I now realize that I must judge all things Islamic by the Quran alone and anything that contradicts it must be discarded.

It seems so easy to understand now that of course, the words of Allah should take precedence, but we are indoctrinated by tradition and *Fiqh* (Islamic jurisprudence) and *Hadith*. Anyhow, I thank you for your commitment and I would love to talk with someone by phone to learn more.

Sincerely,

M. A.

From Germany

Dear Submitters,

Hello from Germany! I've just been studying your site and I feel very drawn to you. I've been trying to live a life of submission for many years now.

Sometimes it is very, very lonely. Could you please advise me if there are any Submitters here in Germany with whom I could make contact? I would be most grateful.

With all best wishes,

Paul K. S.

* * * * *

From France

Hello fellow submitters!!

I am a new convert to a complete submission to God from being an avid Jesus worshipper, blindly following the non-denominational Christian religion. For about ten years now I have been searching for the right path to God. And I am confident when I say that I have finally found it this past year. Worshipping God and Him alone is the right path.

I had searched and searched many religions and by-passed the Quran each time because I refused to believe that my God could be a God who encourages men to beat their wives and forces me to call him Allah and to learn Arabic and recite His word in Arabic and forces me to follow a million and one Hadiths and Sunnas that I panic and have an anxiety attack each time I breathe in the wrong direction in order to get to heaven.

When I stumbled upon the website from the Monotheist Group I appreciated their arguments and their translated version(s) of the Quran. I bought both the version with the comments and the version without the personal commentary. (The comments kind of get in the way when I want to just read God's word.)

I am an American living in France and my fiancé was Catholic converted to Christian non-denominational after our discussions on religion and my arguments about worshipping Mary, the Saints etc. After further research on my part and my conversion to submission and worship to only God and the end of

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my worshipping Jesus, my fiancé is slowly but surely coming to the same agreement that only God alone is to be worshipped. He is very interested in learning more but my Qurans are in English and his level of English is limited.

So after that somewhat long introduction, my questions are these:

1. Do you know of or are/is there a Quran written in the French language that translates Allah as God (or Dieu in French) and does NOT translate verse 4:34 as allowing husbands to beat their wives but instead suggests that they separate from them?

My fiancé, like I did, refuses to submit to a God or religion who allows the mistreatment of women but discourages the mistreatment of animals.

2. Secondly, do you know of or are/is there a mosque or someplace to gather together and fellowship with other true submitters here in France, where the believers encouraged to follow only the Quran and aren't forced to follow the Hadiths and Sunnas?

We are getting married in October (inshallah, God willing) and we will be living in the city Nancy (inshallah, God willing) in the Meurte-et Moselle region, France. It gets really lonely here in a very Catholic country (where 1/2 of the Catholics practice but 1/4 of those actually believe).

There are mosques everywhere but they all force the Hadiths and Sunna and each time I try to make a point that even in the Quran it states that all that we need to know is in the Quran, I am met with such anger and hatred that I no longer bother trying to make this point to my Muslim acquaintances.

So with all that being said, I hope my letter isn't to long and bothersome. I would really sincerely appreciate any help on these two matters. I look forward with hope to hearing from someone on these issues.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

T. G.

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From Incarceration

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

As-salamu alaikum,

My dearly beloved brothers and sisters in faith, I have yet again found myself writing

with the hopes that this letter reaches you, as your many newsletters have reached me. I would like to humbly and sincerely thank you for extending to me the rope (3:103), that Allah (God) has extended to you.

It is now apparent to me that I, as with countless others, have been so led astray. Though, it is also apparent, as with countless others, that Allah placed me back on the path. The verity of the matter is that it is as much our responsibility now, as it was for those who come before us to propagate Allah's message as it was intended to be propagated, with truth and nothing but the truth.

It just goes to show that for many who possess the divine faculties, for which man has been bestowed, counts for nothing if not properly utilized. I have been capable of sight as far back as I can remember, though I have not always been able to see in which lied ahead.

Reading the many newsletters has opened my eyes to the fact that I am not along in my search for truth. Not only that, it has opened my eyes in which Allah has been trying to show me all along.

My dearly beloved brothers and sisters in faith, I pray that you and I both continue to strive in and for the cause of Allah, and always help those who want to strive in that cause.

Your brother in faith

Christopher

* * * * *

Dear Masjid Tucson,

As-salamu alaikum,

First and foremost I bear witness that there is no god, but Allah. I have received the Quran that has been sent to me. I have found that it has been hard for me to put it down. And just as hard to share the knowledge enclosed therein.

The truth has indeed come, but falsehood has a strong hand in the minds of those who refuse to accept it. It amazes me that I have read and studied the Quran as many times as I have. And have yet to piece the puzzle together. I would have been unable to do so if not for Allah's mercy and grace upon me through the help of the United Submitters International. I have often misled by the teaching of others. But Allah will not mislead those whom He has guided.

After studying the many ayats (verses) given in the appendices, and checking

them against other Quran, the evidence is clear... But of course Allah veils many hearts and minds for which the eyes are included.

I am regretful to say that many may indeed fall victim to the pits of hell.

I thank you for all the material that you have sent me.

Cordially,

Christopher

* * * * *

Dear Masjid Tucson,

As Salaam Alaikum... My dearly beloved brothers and sisters in faith.

As I have found myself writing this letter, my thoughts continue to cross my mind. Since coming in contact with Masjid Tucson / United Submitters International, it's as if my life has drastically changed all for the better of course. As it has, I have noticed that many of the Creator's (God) works as well as words have literally come to life.

Many individuals whom I once worshipped with, now look upon me as being a non-believer, hypocrite, etc., when in reality according to God's word (Qur'an), it is them who meet such criteria... I have attempted on numerous occasions to literally show them through Qur'an the many errors that are being committed by their deeds and actions.

Not at all am I professing to be perfect in my work. For I too have made many errors, getting as far as I have within the deen (religion) that being one of the many beautiful things about submission... seeking that of forgiveness.

Prior to making contact with the Masjid, I can't say for certain that I was completely blind. Many things often stood out within the Qur'an that led me questioning certain things that were done and being done by the worshippers of God

My way of thinking has always led to me getting into some sort of trouble. And, my understanding of Sunnah has never been what the majority thinks it is. Much clarity have I received through the Masjid, and the material provided.

I shall continue to propagate the words of God, through my deeds and actions. I end this letter by thanking you for all that you have done

Cordially

Christopher

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From S. Africa

Salaams

I found your website accidently while searching for Salaat (Contact Prayers), a few days ago. What I have read thus far is most interesting.

I am a Muslim who has been taught to recite the *salawat* of prophet Muhammed and Abraham in the sitting position of my Saalat.

I was told that the prophet himself sent *salawat* on himself as he wanted to teach his followers to do so. I have done this all my life without it making sense to me.

What you say about Salaat is making sense to me. This is why I have replaced the *salawat* with the *shahada*. This change does feel kind of uncomfortable. How can I be sure I am doing the right thing?

We were taught that Allah and the angels sends salaams to the prophet so all those who believe must do it too. (from Quran). Can you give me more info to make me more comfortable, please?

Today is the 10 Muharram, when the hypocrites massacred the prophet's family. I have always wondered what else they destroyed that we are not aware of?

I have always been disturbed by certain hadith, just the other day I read in Quran that the punishment for adultery is flogging. I could not understand why they need to be stoned? Ar Rahman, The Most Forgiving would not be so harsh. I could not accept the stoning especially as it was not in Quran.

I was also very angered that people are still mutilating female genitals in the name of Islam. I saw in a documentary some *Ulema* are still condoning it! (not all).

Every time I have questioned about matters like this, I never get satisfactory answers. This is why I was really excited to have found your website by chance. I am 55 years old and I have not heard of Rashad Khalifa before.

I live in Cape Town. South Africa. Are there any submitters here? Do you have any contact details? I would love to have discussion with them.

Thanks

Bibi

* * * * *

From Australia

Hi

I always felt that monotheism was the case regardless of what I read, I guess it's instinct, common sense.

I've struggled with my ego and insecurities for the last 7 years. I lost faith in myself yet my instinct hasn't died. It's just pathetic non entities that keep feeding me to fail. I feel like I'm alone in my trail of thought of 19 (meaning God Alone).

I wasn't raised a Muslim, whatever that concept means I mean not in a Muslim environment, I guess it's good because I may have fallen into belief of Hadith and Sunna.

I'm biracial, my dad's white and from Australia and my mother is Melanesian from Papua New Guinea, they're pretty supportive of me, I mean they don't revere me indifferent but everything else surrounding me handicaps me. I guess it's my test.

I just find it hard to discipline myself in basic things that are very important, like praying. It's so hard for me to even remember how I prayed and fell asleep with the Qu'ran every night by my side once I had finally found it. It's like life got in the way and my old habits came into effect and I'm living in another type of Hadith and Sunna, like the western world's concept of life.

It's really hard for me to find faith in myself to remember who God is because I'm shamed of my actions so daily. It's like this, I can't even look at the Qu'ran because I'm ashamed.

I know it's just the sneaky whisperer and my indulging of him but I don't know if I'm strong enough.

Regards and thanks for listening.

Nini

Join the email list for Weekly Reminders

God willing please join the list by sending an email to info@masjiduntucson.org. If you want to make it a really short email, just write "weekly reminder" in the subject line and send it.

God willing we are planning use the list also to connect the submitters in their local areas, if they so wish. It is our experience that most submitters are unaware of each other's presence.

The only solution is to speak up that you are in the look for other submitters. So help us help you, God willing.