

The Qur'an Selections from Surah 3, "The Im'rans" 8 Dealing with Christianity

According to Islam, the Quran is the revealed word of God as given to Muhammad. The following excerpts offer Muslims guidelines in their encounters with Christians.

From Surah 3, "The Im'rans" 8

The day that every soul shall find what it has done of good present before it and what it has done of evil, it would rather that there were a vast interval between itself and that day! God bids you to beware of Himself, but God is gentle with His servants.

Say: "If you would love God then follow me, and God will love you and forgive you your sins, for God is forgiving and merciful."

Say: "Obey God and the Apostle; but if you turn your backs, remember that God does not love unbelievers."

Indeed, God has chosen Adam, and Noah, and Abraham's people, and Im'ran's people above all the world...

When Im'ran's wife said, "Lord! I have vowed to Thee what is within my womb, to be dedicated unto Thee, receive it then from me. . . ." And when she brought it forth she said, "Behold, I have brought forth a female," but God knew best what she brought forth; and a male is not like a female. "I have called her Mary, and I seek refuge in Thee for her and for her seed from Satan the pelted."

And her Lord received her with a good reception and made her grow up with a good growth, and Zachariah took care of her. Whenever Zachariah entered the chamber to her he found beside her a provision, and said, "Mary, how have you come by this?" She said, "It is from God, for God provides for whom He pleases without count." Therefore Zachariah prayed to his Lord and said, "Lord, grant me good offspring. Truly, you hear all prayers." And an angel cried out to him as he was standing praying in the chamber and said that "God gives you glad tidings of John, to confirm the Word from God, about a chief and chaste man, and a prophet from among the righteous."

He said, "My Lord, how can there be to me a boy when old age has reached me, and my wife is barren?" Said he, "Thus God does what He pleases." Zachariah said, "My Lord, make for me a sign." The angel said, "Your sign is that you shall not speak to men for three days, save by gesture; but remember your Lord and celebrate His praises in the evening and the morning."

And when the angels said, "O Mary! Truly, God has chosen you and has purified you, and has chosen you above the women of the world. O Mary! Be devout in the face of your Lord, and adore and bow down with those who bow. That is one of the declarations of the unseen world which we reveal to you . . ."

Then the angel said, "O Mary! Truly, God gives you the glad tidings of a Word from Him; his name shall be the Messiah Jesus the son of Mary, regarded in this world and the next and of those whose place is near to God. And he shall speak to people in his cradle,

and when grown up, he shall be among the righteous."

She said, "Lord! How can I have a son, when no man has ever touched me?"

The angel said, "Thus God creates what He pleases. When He decrees a matter, He only says 'BE' and it is. He will teach him the Book, and wisdom, and the law, and the gospel, and he shall be a prophet to the people of Israel, saying, 'I have come to you, with a sign from God, namely, that I will create for you out of clay as though it were the form of a bird, and I will blow thereon and it shall become a bird by God's permission; and I will heal the blind from birth, and lepers; and I will bring the dead to life by God's permission; and I will tell you what you eat and what you store up in your houses.

Behold! In all this is a sign for you if you are believers! And I will confirm what is before you of the law, and will surely make lawful for you some of that which was prohibited from you. I have come to you with a sign from your Lord, so fear God and follow me, for God is my Lord, and your Lord, so worship Him: this alone is the right path."

And when Jesus perceived that they were unbelievers, he said, "Who are my helpers for God?" The apostles said, "We are God's helpers. We believe in God, so bear witness that we submit. Lord, we have believed in what you have revealed, and we have followed you, so write us down with those which bear witness." but they (the Israelites) were crafty, and God was crafty, for God is the best of the crafty ones!

When God said, "O Jesus! I will make you die and take you up again to me and will clear you away from the unbelievers, and will make those who follow you above those unbelievers at the day of judgement when you shall return. I will decide between you concerning that wherein you disagree. And for those unbelievers, I will punish them with grievous punishment in this world and the next, and they shall have none to help them. But as for those who believe and do what is right, He will pay them their reward, for God loves not the unjust.

That is why we recite to you all these signs and tell you of the wise reminder. Indeed, the likeness of Jesus to God is as the likeness of Adam.

From Surah 4, "Women"

(The Jews are to be blamed) for saying, "Behold! We have killed the Messiah, Jesus, the Son of Mary, the apostle of God," but in truth they did not kill him, and they did not crucify him, but a similitude was made for them. And in truth those who contend in this matter are in doubt concerning him, for they have no knowledge concerning him but only follow opinion. They certainly did not kill him; God raised him up unto Himself, for God is mighty and wise.

And there shall not be one of the people of the Book but shall believe in him before his death. And on the day of judgement he shall be a witness against them.

From Surah 1, "The Heifer"

Whoever believes, whether they are Jews or Christians or Sabaeans, whoever believes in God and the last day and acts righteously, they have their reward at their Lord's hand, and there is no fear for them, nor shall they grieve.

"The Afterlife"
From Surah 3, "The Im'rans"

Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and the earth, and in the succession of night and day, are signs to those possessed of minds; who remember God while they are standing and sitting or lying on their sides, and reflect on the creation of the heavens and the earth: O Lord! You have not created all this in vain! We celebrate your praise. Keep us, then, from the torment of the fire! Lord! Whomever You make to enter into the fire, You have disgraced him. The unjust shall have no-one to help them.

"Lord! We heard one crying out, calling all people to the faith: 'Believe in your Lord,' and we believed. Lord! Forgive us our sins and cover our offenses, and let us die among the righteous. Lord! Give us what You have promised us through Your apostles, and disgrace us not upon the resurrection day, for behold! You do not break Your promises." And the Lord shall answer them, "I waste not the works of a worker among you, be it male or female, for one of you is from the other. Those who fled, and were turned out of their houses, and were harmed for my sake, who fought and were killed, I will cover their offenses and I will make them to enter into gardens beneath which rivers flow." A reward from God; with God are the best rewards.

Let it not deceive you that those who don't believe go to and fro in the earth. It is a slight possession, and then their resort is Hell; an evil couch shall it be. But those who fear their Lord, for them are gardens beneath which rivers flow, and they shall dwell therein forever: an entertainment from God. That which is with God is best for the righteous. Truly, among the people of the Book 12 are some who do believe in God, and in what has been revealed to you as well as what was revealed to them; they humble themselves before God; they do not sell the signs of God for a little price. These shall have their reward with their Lord. . . .