

Notes from:

**“The Last Trumpet” – A Comparative Study in Christian-Islamic Eschatology**

- by Samuel Shahid, Ph.D.

- A. Many Islamic documents are mutually contradictory p. 9
- B. Muslim scholars cannot objectively study the Qur’an and Eschatological material without facing retribution from Islamic law and being considered an enemy of Islam
- C. Islamic eschatological information is borrowed and communicated orally
- D. Sources that were used to create Islamic eschatology include:
  - a. Zoroastrianism –
    - i. example is the Islamic view of paradise comes from Zoroastrianism’s image of a paradise where sensual pleasures are fulfilled.
    - ii. Zoroastrianism had developed highly detailed eschatology
  - b. Christian apocryphal sources
  - c. Apocalyptic studies
  - d. Ancient Christian legends
  - e. The Bible
- E. It is very clear (obvious, undeniable, universally accepted) that Islam has incorporated Christian information into Islamic eschatology. This will be obvious.
  - a. NOTES: Either Muhammad did receive divine revelation that corrected and clarified the falsified and deviant information of the Jews and Christians, or Muhammad (and, those who followed writing by the Hadiths) were merely reworking Scripture, Christian legends of the time or pagan views. And, it was reworked in a very inconsistent and unorganized manner.
  - b. Muhammad acquired information about the second coming of Christ from heretical Christians he met during the first 12 years of his mission (p. 25). These non-orthodox Christians verbally passed onto Muhammad their understanding of their corrupted eschatology.
    - i. Gnostic books were available and popular among the educated Arab Christians
    - ii. Pseudo-canonical literature was available to him
  - c. Much of Muhammad’s eschatological knowledge acquired from Christianity and Zoroastrianism was transferred to him verbally and was not authentic or accurate.
  - d. Muhammad molded these partial accounts into a religion deep in eschatology in a way that would appeal to Arabic understanding and the mood of the general Arab in Mecca and Madina.
- F. Example: Jesus (Isa) Christ himself is not rejected, but reworked to fit the new Islamic concept. Jesus is one of the prophets of God who was taken away from the Jews before they could kill him. Jesus is in heaven with God waiting to return to finish his life on earth. When he arrives Jesus will rebuke the Jews and Christians by proclaiming that Islam is the true religion.
- G. Sunnis and Shi’ites concepts of the second coming of Christ are incongruent. Because the Sunnis and Shi’ites embrace two extremely contrasting worldview perspectives their interpretation of the end times are incompatible. (page 21)
- H. In Islamic eschatology the second advent of Christ synchronizes with the advent of the Mahdi (the rightly guided Imam).
- I. Together the Mahdi and Jesus Christ join their forces and defeat the Antichrist.

- J. It is known that a large part of Islamic Traditions are artificial, questionable and not authentic although they are assigned to statements made by Muhammad's friends, family, companions, etc. (details p. 15.)
- K. Muhammad spoke the Qur'an
- L. Books of the Hadith (or, the books of Islamic Traditions)
- M. Quote from Samuel Shahid book: "Muslim scholars admit that a sizeable volume of the Hadith is a spurious, despite the meticulous and tremendous efforts of the famous compilers.
- N. Muhammad's companions (friends, family, wives, etc.) handed down memories of Muhammad's teaching, stories, practices, etc. These were eventually written down and called Hadiths. The six most authentic collections of Hadith by the six famous imams are together called Sihah Sitta or 'the authentic six'.
1. **Muhammad bin Ismail al-Bukhari**, the author of Sahih Bukhari. He was born on July 19, 810 at Bukhara in Central Asia and died on August 31, 870 at a place known as Khartank, near Samarkhand.
  2. **Muslim bin Hajjah al-Nishapuri** who was born in Nishapur in Iran, in 206 AH/821 CE and died in the same city in 261 AH or 874 CE. His Sahih Muslim is second in authenticity, next to that of Bukhari.
  3. **Abu Dawood, Sulaiman bin Al-Ash'ath bin Ishaq Al-Azdi As-Sijistani**, who was one of the eminent Imam of Hadeeth, was born in 202 AH. He was a Persian but of Arab descent. He died at Basra on Friday in the month of Shawwal 275 H or 888/9 CE.
  4. **Imaam Tirmizi** was born in the year 209 AH during the reign of the Abbasid Khalifa Mamoon al Rasheed. He died in the year 279 AH (892 CE) in a village called Bawag at the ripe age of 70.
  5. **Abu Abd al-Rahman Ahmad ibn Shu'ayb al-Nasa'i** was born in Nasa in Nishapur region in 215 AH. He died in Makkah and was buried in a place between the Safa and Marwah. The year of his death was 303 AH.
  6. **Abu Abdullah Muhammad ibn Yazid ibn Majah al-Rab'i al-Qazwini**, commonly known as **Imam Ibn Majah** who was born in Qazwin in Persia in 209 AH or 824 CE. He was a hafiz of hadith and the author of Kitab as-Sunnah, one of the six most authentic collections of ahadith. He died on 22 Ramadan 273 AH or 887 CE in Qazwin. He is the author of a famous collection of Hadith Sunan Ibn Majah.
- O. Ibn Arabi, held to mystical views, but, still rejected spiritualizing Islamic eschatology. Ibn Arabi sees no reason to interpret or explain the Qur'anic verses and the hadith just so it fits into a rational system of thought . :
- a. "Far from rejecting such articles of faith as the two angels who question the soul in the grave, the blast of Seraphiel's trumpet that awakens the dead, the Balance set up to weigh human deeds at the Resurrection, and the division of human beings into the inhabitants of paradise and hell, Ibn Arabi maintains that anyone who attempts to turn these doctrines into allegories through 'rational hermeneutics' only proves that his intelligence is corrupt and his faith is imperfect."
- P. P 21 - Quran's only reference mentioning Jesus and the Hour at the same place Chapter 43:61:
- a. "And (Jesus) shall be a sign (for the coming of) the Hour (of Judgment)" therefore have no doubt about the (Hour) but follow ye me: this is a Straight Way."
  - b. A correct interpretation of this verse requires a choice between "it is" or "he is" which is used to refer to Jesus

- Q. "The Hour" in the Qur'an is referred to frequently in the suras (chapters)
- Return of Christ is one of the major signs from the Qur'an.
  - In the Qur'an The Hour is caused by God and the coming of The Hour is sure.
  - 15:85
  - 15:99
  - 16:77
  - 22:1-2, 11, 55
  - 81:1-14 – "When the sun with its spacious light) is folded up; when the stars fall, losing their luster; when the mountains vanish (like a mirage); when the she-camels, ten month with young, are left untended; when the wild beasts are herded together (in human habitations); when the oceans boil over with a swell; when the souls are sorted out, (being joined, like with like)' when the female (infant) is questioned for what crime she was killed' when the scrolls are laid open; when the world on high is unveiled; when the blazing fire is kindled to fierce heat; when the Garden is brought near; (then) shall each soul know what it has put forward."
- R. Muhammad made the belief in the Day of Judgment as one of the fundamentals of Islam
- S. The Quran teaches that only God knows the hour...if The Hour is delayed then God has done this in order to punish the disbelievers and the wicked (19:75). This matches Matthew 24:36 where no one knows the day or hour, but only the Father. Yet, it contradicts the reason for God delaying the Day. Peter says if God delays it is for salvation
- T. In Muhammad's messages he continuously warned of the The Hour and commanded to watch for the signs of The Hour.
- U. Page 24 - 'Abdullah b. Hawala al-Azdi (one of Muhammad's intimate companions) passed down as a tradition that Muhammad had said to him:
- "he placed his hand on my head and said, 'Ibn Hawala, when you see the caliphate has settled in the holy land, earthquake, sorrows, and serious matters will have drawn near, and on that say the last Hour will be nearer to mankind than m=the hand of mine is to your head."
    - What is the "holy land"? Arabia? Israel?
    - The Caliphate was established in Yathrib (al-Madina) in Arabia 1400 years ago
    - There has never been a seat for the caliph yet in Jerusalem, Israel
- V. Samuel Shahid in this book describes the Christian view of the second Coming in these events:
- Jesus comes in a majestic visible way
  - Jesus comes with a shout
  - There is the voice of an angel that is heard by everyone
  - There is a call of the trumpet of the Lord that will be heard everywhere
  - The dead in Christ will rise from the graves
  - The living Believers will be raptured to join the rising dead in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.
- W. In Christian eschatology there is a second resurrection on the Day of Judgment (a general resurrection) which seems to be the resurrection of the condemned (Rev. 20:6)
- X. In Islam there is only one resurrection compared to the two in Christianity:
- The Hadith says that after Jesus dies after his second coming all Muslim believers will miraculously die, also. They will die by a divine "pleasant wind that soothes people even under their armpits, and will be spared the agony that will afflict the wicked before The Hour.
  - The wicked who are still alive.....???? (I did not understand bottom of page 26)

- Y. Quote from Samuel Shahid book: "It is not sufficient to acknowledge Allah and to worship Him in order to be a Muslim. Muhammad has to be acknowledged, as well, as the last messenger of Allah.
- a. In Mecca it was not hard to accept Muhammad's concept of "God" or "Allah", but the two things that separated the Muslims and made it difficult for the general population to accept Islam was:
    - iv. The concept of the Resurrection
    - v. The prophethood of Muhammad

## The Minor Signs

These are the signs that take place in a continuous series over time.

They are normal events that characterize **any** society that is experiencing cultural change.

Typically these cultures become more materialistic, more individualistic and more irreligious.

Muhammad's "righteous society" was the model of the Islamic community.

According to the understanding of Islamic ethics the Islamic societies have suffered the manifestation of these minor signs since the rise of the Umayyad Dynasty. This materialistic, individualistic irreligious slide of the Islamic community continued the slide downward in urban areas through out the Abbasid Dynasty.

### Caliphates

1. The Rashidun Caliphate (632-661)
2. The Umayyad Caliphate (661-750)
3. The Abbasid Caliphate (750-1258)
4. The Fatimid Caliphate (910-1171)
5. The Mamluk Caliphate (Bahri dynasty then preceded by Burji dynasty) (1250-1517)
6. The Ottoman Caliphate (1517-1923)

But, all great societies move through these same phases as they decline.

We saw the same thing happen in Greek, Roman, Persian and Egyptian cultures.

Most of these Minor Signs are normal events that plague any declining society in the course of their history.

But, some of these Minor Signs are extraordinary and simply make no sense. The Hour will not come until these things happen:

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1. Increase of ignorance
  2. Prevalence of drinking alcohol and illegal sexual intercourse
  3. Apostasy
  4. Earthquakes, plagues, murder, overflowing money, time will pass very quickly
  5. Women will outnumber men
  6. Power of authority is entrusted to unfit people or unqualified people
  7. Building luxurious mosques
  8. Desire death
  9. Copy the misdeeds of the previous nations
  10. The Hour will not be established until: "There is a war between two groups among whom there will be a great number of casualties, though the religion of both of them will be the same.
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11. The Hour will not come until a man from Qahtan appears who would drive the people with his staff. This refers to the Mahdi of the pre-Islamic Himyarite era "whose duty is that of herding his people together preparatory to the resurrection and Day of Judgment."
12. Thirty (or, thirty-one) false prophets (among them are four women) will come forth
13. Muslims murder their leader, fight among themselves and the worst of the people will inherit all their worldly possessions.
14. Commotions that cause a man to be a believer in the morning but become an infidel in the evening and an infidel in the evening becoming a believer in the morning.
15. The Caliphate has been established in the holy land
16. The destruction of the Arabs
17. Habitations of Medina would extend to Ihab or Yahab (location of the tomb of Muhammad)
18. People follow the stars and reject their preordained destiny established by Allah.
19. Muslims will fight people whose shoes are made of hair and until they fight the Turks whose eyes are small, their faces are red, the tips of their noses are flat, and their faces as stricken shields.
20. The best of the Muslims, the people of Hijaz, will march against the Byzantine and they will conquer Constantinople
21. The believers of that time will die peacefully and gracefully and leave the wicked alive to indulge in their lust until the appointed hour of the resurrection. (similar to the Rapture)
22. City of Mecca is turned into ruins by an obscure Ethiopian man named Thu al-Suwayqatayn

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### **THE EXTRAORDINARY MINOR SIGNS**

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23. People come forth who eat with their tongues as cows do. (Gog and Magog?)
24. Time contracts a year being like a month, a month like a week, a week like a day, a day like an hour and an hour like the kindling of the fire. (sounds like Matthew 24:22, "Unless those days had been cut short...")
25. Wild beasts speak to men and the man's ship and the thong of his sandals would talk to him, and his thigh would inform him about what his family has done since he left them.
26. The Euphrates uncovers a mountain of gold. People will fight to death to possess it. Ninety-nine out of one hundred will die hoping that one of them survives to possess it.

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Story of Jassasa - Jassasa, Al (or *the Spy*), a Mohammedan name for a beast which is to be one of their signs of the approach of the day of judgment: *When the sentence shall be ready to fall upon them, we will cause a beast to come forth unto them out of the earth, which shall speak unto them.*

It is supposed by them that it will appear first in the temple of Mecca, or on Mount Safa, or in the territory of Tayef. She is to be a monster in size, and so swift that no human being shall be able to pursue her in her rapid flight through this world, marking the believers from the unbelievers, "that every person may be known at the day of judgment for what he really is." (FROM - <http://www.biblicalcyclopedia.com/J/jassasa-al.html> )

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Episode of the imprisoned Antichrist, fettered with chains in an island that was found by Muslim/Arab sailors

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Websites:

<http://www.whenthepiecesfit.org/>

<http://shoebat.com/2014/04/01/empire-antichrist-near/>

<http://blogs.christianpost.com/geopolitics-and-bible-prophecy/myths-of-a-muslim-antichrist-12641/>