

# Christian Action Ministry Newsletter

Involving the Christian in Community Action

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# Inside

## It *IS* About Islam A review of Glenn Beck's newest book

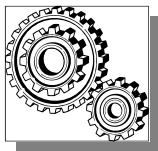
By  
Dick Trudell

### Book Review

More of the review of  
It *IS* About Islam

Pages 2-3

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please call 655-0280, email, or contact our website (see back page)



**In the Works**

### Legislative Session Fall 2016 Speaker Candidate Scorecard

Are you interested in becoming involved? CAM is looking for interested and active people to act as liaisons to their church, helping to keep the Christian community informed. Contact CAM at 372-6442.

**A**re you confused about Islam? Do you know the difference between the Sunni and Shiite branches? Is Allah the same as Jehovah? How does Islam fit into the end times? What is Wahhabism and Salafism? What is this Caliphate we hear about? Doesn't jihad mean a peaceful inner struggle? What is Sharia? What is radical Islam? What do these terms mean: abrogation, dhimmi, jizya, zakat, hajj?

If you are asking yourself any of these questions, you need to be informed, and you need to do it sooner rather than later. There is no doubt that you will be hearing more about Islam, more about Christian persecution, more about savagery, and more from those who say Islam is a religion of peace. You can't pretend the controversy doesn't exist, or that it doesn't affect you, because it does and it will. The Christian Action Ministry has had several articles on these topics. On our website you can review these articles in our past issues:

[christianactionministry.com](http://christianactionministry.com)

Sept - Oct 2007

May-June 2012

July-Aug 2012

Mar-Apr 2015

Recently a very informative and timely book by Glenn Beck entitled *It IS About Islam* has been published. Beck is the nationally syndicated host of *The Blaze* and is a 12-time #1 best selling author. I read this book and then re-read it two more times because there was so much information in it. It has become a handy reference for me when questions arise about Islam. This CAM article draws heavily on the facts presented in that book, and all credit is given to Glenn Beck and his research team.

The book begins with anecdotes about Thomas Jefferson, the first American President to go to war against radical Islam. It was Jefferson who laid the groundwork to ensure there was no mandated religion in the United States (freedom of religion in the First Amendment), in contrast to Muslim countries where religion and government go hand in hand (theocracy).

Beck prefaces his statements: "Is every Muslim in the world predisposed to violence or thinking that America is the Great Satan? Of course not. Does every Muslim in the world share a belief in spreading a Caliphate or support the mandatory implementation of Sharia law? Absolutely not. Here in the United States, many Muslims disagree with the radical beliefs of Islamists around the world." He continues, "Terminology is critical. Islam is the faith of 1.5 billion people around the world. Islamism is the supremacist political ideology that insists on imposing Sharia, or Islamic holy law, on the world."

Beck states that according to a June 2015 survey by the Center for Security Policy, 51% of Muslims in the United States would embrace Sharia over the U.S. Constitution, one in four Muslims believe that "it is legitimate to use violence to punish those who give offense to Islam," and one in five agreed that "the use of violence is justified in order to make Sharia the law of the land in this country, while only 39% believed that Muslims in

**"Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom. As nations become corrupt and vicious, they have more need of masters."** Benjamin Franklin

the U.S. should be subjected to American courts.”

The Pew Research Center has estimated there are 3 million Muslims in America. Using these numbers, Beck concludes, “...there are 500,000 Muslims who believe acts of terror and murder are legitimate tools in order to replace the U. S. Constitution with Sharia law.”

The book then proceeds to prove by use of the Quran itself, statements of Muslim leaders, actions by ISIS (Islamic State or Caliphate), and a litany of facts that we do indeed have a problem with Islamism, and Beck does it by “using their own words.”

Islam is composed of two major sects. Sunnis comprise 85 to 90% of Muslims, Shiites (think Iran) is the other major division. They agree on most teachings of Islam but differ on the end times, with the Shias believing it is imminent. Thousands of Muslims of both sects have been slaughtered by the other sect.

Chapter 1 describes the Islamist agenda. They believe the “end times” will occur in Dabiq (which the Bible describes as Armageddon), and that the unbelievers in Islam (infidels) will be defeated there, leaving a Caliphate (global governance of Muslims) to impose Sharia on any survivors. Shiites believe it is their duty to bring it about, and

any means, including violence, are justified to do so.

In their Hadith (oral traditions of sayings and acts of Muhammed, Islam’s prophet), the Dajjal (Antichrist) will fight the true Muslims who are led by a successor of Muhammad called the Mahdi (Twelfth Imam) and be assisted by Jesus Christ (Isa in the Quran - a prophet second only to Muhammad, sent to impose Islamic law) in the war with infidels.

The last Caliphate ended in 1924 by a democratic vote in the parliament of Turkey. ISIS is claiming to have reestablished it in 2014 with their victories in Iraq.

In Chapter 2 we are introduced to the history of Islam, from Muhammad through the spread of Islamic empires. Muhammad lived in the Arabian desert from AD 570 to 632. He was a merchant and according to tradition received a revelation in 609 AD in a cave overlooking Mecca. Returning home to Mecca he began preaching. At that time Mecca was an oasis in the middle of the desert that had a large black stone shrine containing idols of the many gods of Arabia. One of the hundreds of gods was one called Allah. Muhammad’s preaching depicted a monotheistic religion with Allah being the only God. During the ensuing 22 years Muhammad would receive additional revelations from the “angel” Gabriel. Decades later these revelations were written out as the Quran.

Muhammad was not well received in Mecca, as the polytheistic shrine attracted visitors and their money. The Meccan leaders made a deal with Muhammad. If he would worship the Meccan gods for a year, they would worship Allah for a year. Mohammad prayed and received a revelation that the three main gods of Mecca could be worshipped because they had a special relationship with Allah. The Quran states that Allah was angered and the revelation became known as the “Satanic Verses”. Mohammad later rescinded his offer, straining his relations with Mecca. By 622 AD, relations were getting worse and Mohammad moved to Medina and consolidated power there.

He continued to receive revelations in Medina but the tone of the messages changes. In Mecca his revelations stressed peaceful coexistence, but in Medina they began to change to open warfare against enemies. Jihad was prescribed to defend the faith and defeat enemies. During this period Jews and Christians were singled out as inferior. Muhammad exiled two Jewish tribes, executed the males in another, and seized all their property. He began to establish an Islamic community in Medina and set out five pillars of faith: salat (ritual prayer five times a day), zakat (almsgiving), hajj (pilgrimage), fasting for Ramadan, and shahadah (Allah alone is God and Muhammad is his prophet).

Muhammad was now both a religious and a political leader. As his power grew in Medina, he took his revenge on those in Mecca who rejected him. He led raids on Meccan caravans that were not Muslim, promising his troops paradise for anyone killed fighting for Allah. That concept continues today.

Muhammad amassed wealth from his raids, but not wanting to stop the trade in Mecca (upon which his wealth was based), made a compromise that the polytheistic black stone shrine in Mecca (Ka'ba) would become a holy shrine for Islam and he would require a pilgrimage there by every Muslim.

Continuing his battles in the Arabian Peninsula, he brought most of them under him. Atheists and polytheists had to convert or be executed; Jews and Christians (people of the Book) were allowed to remain if they paid a tax (jizya), and were considered dhimmis (protected or guilty people). Islam changed to what its direct translation means - submission.

Muhammad died in 632 AD with no plans for succession. The first four caliphs were assassinated and by 661 AD a permanent division between two factions became the Sunni (people of the tradition) and Shia (party of Ali - the 4th caliph) sects. At this time the Roman empire was crumbling and Baghdad and Damascus became wealthy. The Caliphate extended from Spain to India.



**“What is the greatest threat to religious freedom in America today?  
The unwillingness of many Christians to take a stand - whether out of fear or complacency.”**

***Tony Perkins - Family Research Council***

With Muhammad's death and the fact that the Quran was still being codified and the Hadith (oral tradition) still alive, different interpretations of Islam highlighted contradictions. Since the Quran was the unchangeable word of Allah, a way to reconcile the differences was needed. The term abrogation refers to an earlier verse (usually more peaceful in the Mecca period) being replaced by a later verse (more warlike in the Medina period). This is reflected when people insist that Islam is a religion of peace by quoting the earlier verse and neglecting the latter verse. Those involved in jihad do the opposite by noting that the violent verses abrogated the peaceful ones. During this period Sharia law became codified.

Countries that were Muslim were known as dar al-Islam (house of Islam). Those non-Muslim nations having peace treaties and paying tribute were called dar al-sulh; the rest were termed dar al-harb (house of war). There has been constant conflict between the factions right up to the present day.

Islamic conquest continued through 1200 AD; and 700 AD to 1250 AD are termed Islam's Golden Age. Muslim invasion of the Holy Lands led to the Crusades, but the Muslim Caliphate remained strong due to its military strength and its trade. In 1248 Mongol raiders attacked Baghdad and destroyed the seat of the Cali-

phate. The Ottoman Turks inherited the Caliphate, but it was not as large and powerful now as it had been. European nations, particularly Britain, Spain, and France, began to occupy former Muslim controlled areas. By 1300 AD the Caliphate was crumbling.

This did not sit well with Muslim believers. They had Allah and were supposed to take over the world. Something was wrong. A Sunni cleric, Muhammad ibn Abdul Wahhab, believed that Islam had become corrupted by Western influence, and he had to cleanse it and return it to what it was in the time of the prophet Muhammad. This became the Salafist movement, a return to earlier precedents. Finding a kindred spirit in the Saud tribe, an alliance was formed where by Saud provided an army and Wahhab the religious faith (Wahhabism). They agreed to unite Arabia and reinstall a righteous Caliphate. They denied the authority of the Turkish sultan as caliph and as guardian of the holy cities of Mecca and Medina. For the next several hundred years the reclamation of Islam to its seventh century beliefs evolved into an inseparable religious and political union we now call Islamism.

The Ottoman Empire, no longer one of the leaders of the world, was being eclipsed by the industrial revolution and the new world in the west. Looking for a scapegoat they

targeted Christians living in their land, culminating in the slaughter of 1.5 million Armenians. During World War I they sided with Germany and Austria, sealing their fate. The Allies divided up the empire in the Sykes-Picot Agreement in 1916, creating new borders and nations.

The British had convinced the Arabian powers, the Hashemites and the Saudis, to unite against the Ottomans, and promised the Jewish people a national home in Palestine (Balfour Declaration). The international community through the League of Nations formed administrative territories called mandates controlled by Britain and France. The British mandate included Palestine and Jordan. Jews were allowed to return to the land promised to them by God.

As noted earlier, in 1924 the Caliphate was dissolved. Islamists consider this a great tragedy. The British Mandate expired in 1947 and the United Nations proposed a partition plan for Palestine with a Jewish State (Israel) and Arab State, with Jerusalem having international administration. The Israelis readily accepted this, but the Arab Palestinians and surrounding Arab States rejected it and invaded Israel. Although outnumbered and outgunned, Jewish forces drove the Arabs out of Israel and captured land beyond the original boundaries. This is known as the War of Independence in Israel, where-

as the Arabs call it catastrophe. In 1948 the United Nations declared Israel a State (fulfilling Bible prophecy). This period also gave rise to Saudi Arabia, a powerful Muslim nation in control of Mecca and Medina.

Beck states in his book, "In the eyes of many Muslims, the solution to this upheaval was to revive Islam. The radicals believed that too many Muslims saw their faith as something that was practiced privately, by prayer and personal communication between the individual and God, or by attending mosques once a week on Fridays. But some now believed that this was why the Islamic world had fallen so quickly behind the West and, with the end of the Caliphate, was falling even further behind. Islam, they believed, was a complete and total system that prescribed political vision and social order. Sharia was the only body of law worth recognizing."

Islamists today are still seeking a return to their former glory and a new Caliphate that will rule the world.

There is much more information in *It IS About Islam*, and I strongly encourage you to pick up a copy and read it. It is information you need to know.

*Dick Trudell is President of the Christian Action Ministry and attends Community Bible Church in So. Burlington*

**"To the kindly influence of Christianity we owe that degree of civil freedom, and political and social happiness which mankind now enjoys. . . . Whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican forms of government, and all blessings which flow from them, must fall with them.**

*Pastor Jedidiah Morse, 1799*



*What can I do?*



*Faith without  
works is dead  
James 2:17*

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[www.christianactionministry.com](http://www.christianactionministry.com)

**It is with a great deal of sadness and a deep feeling of loss that we announce the passing of Robert C. Garvey, Jr. Bob was an active Director and former President of the Christian Action Ministry and a tireless advocate for the unborn. His friendly smile and humor will be missed, but after 88 years on earth, he now shares a new home in heaven with his Lord and we can rejoice in that.**



**Bob went to be with the Lord on Dec. 6, 2015. Bob was born February 12, 1927, in Brockton, Mass. Bob, his wife of 65 years, Shirley (Lee) Hughes and family were residents of Burlington, Vermont since 1973. Bob is survived by 7 children, 20 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.**

**Bob was a WWII Navy Veteran and a graduate of Syracuse University. Most of Bob's career was spent in the insurance industry. He was active in scouting and local sports, was a Minister of the Eucharist in his church, and was involved in politics and the Christian Action Ministry. Bob loved children and worked tirelessly to protect the unborn. He loved music and was an avid participant in the choir at St. Marks. Rest in peace, Bob.**

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### **Next Meetings**

*April 12, 7:00 pm*

*Parkinson home*

*Burlington, Vt.*

*May 17, 7:00 pm*

*Community Bible Church*

*South Burlington, Vt.*

**Making A Difference  
In  
Vermont!**