

Jehovah or Allah or a Golden Calf?

By Kent Heaton

In our compromising world of political correctness, great efforts are made to defuse any difference between various faiths and religions in the world. Often the conclusions are drawn that all men worship the same God but call Him by a different name. According to the dictionary, "Allah" is the Islamic name of God. Is the God of Islam the same God found in the Bible? According to the word of God the God found in the Bible is nothing like the God of Islam. The apostle Paul affirms, "For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live" (1Cor. 8:5-6).

The worship of many gods is nearly as old as the DNA of man. Even in the early history of the Jewish nation the people turned to something other than the one God. When the Lord delivered the Hebrews from the slavery of Egypt; blessed them through his miraculous powers and benevolent giving of food and water; the people became discouraged at Mt. Sinai and begged Aaron to make them a god (Ex. 32). "So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron. And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, 'This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!' So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, 'Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord'" (Ex. 32:3-5).

Aaron said the feast would be to honor "the Lord" but the golden calf was not the one true God. What stood before the people could be called "God" but it was not the same God that delivered them and fed them and protected them. This god they worshipped was nothing more than their selfish imagination. Jehovah warned the people in the giving of the Law: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me" (Ex. 20:2-3). What made the difference between Jehovah God and the golden calf? Who they were!

Is "Allah" the same as Jehovah? One verse will show that Allah and Jehovah are not the same: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:16-17). Islam rejects Jesus as being the Son of God. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). Allah did not send his son – Jehovah God did. Jesus came to be the only way, the only truth and the only life. Everlasting life can only be found with Jehovah and His Son. Salvation comes only through the blood of God's Son; Jehovah's Son.

"For thus saith Jehovah that created the heavens, the God that formed the earth and made it, that established it and created it not a waste, that formed it to be inhabited: I am Jehovah; and there is none else" (Isa. 45:18 – ASV). When the Creator says there is "none else" – He means there is no other one who can stand where He stands and receive honor as He receives honor. Praise Jehovah – only!

Finished Packing

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God..." (Eph. 6:17). "Is not My word like a fire? says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?" (Jer. 23:29).

A young Christian packing his bag for a journey said to a friend, "I have nearly finished packing. All I have to put in are a guidebook, a lamp, a mirror, a microscope, a telescope, a volume of fine poetry, a few biographies, a package of old letters, a book of songs, a sword, a hammer, and a set of tools." "But you cannot put all that into your bag," objected the friend. "Oh, yes," said the Christian. "Here it is." And he placed his Bible in the corner of the suitcase and closed the lid. (Author Unknown)

What They Could Carry

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother,' which is the first commandment with promise: 'that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth'" (Eph. 6:1-3).

Ancient history records that a certain city was besieged, and at length was obliged to surrender. In the city there were two brothers who had, in some way, obligated the conquering general and, consequently, received permission to leave the city before it was set on fire. They were instructed that they could take with them as much of their property as each could carry. Accordingly, the two young men appeared at the gates of the city, one of them carrying their father, and the other their mother.

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"Fret not thyself because of evil-doers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity" (Psalm 37:1).

If someone levels a criticism against you, it may be evidence you have done something worthwhile.

If someone opposes you, consider his objections; His opposition may be justified.

If someone fails to speak to you, it could have been unintentional -- maybe he didn't see you.

If someone has defrauded you, remember that there are more than two hundred sixty million people in America who have never done you a wrong.

If the burdens of the day seem unusually heavy, go to the Father in heaven; He can lighten your load.

If you tried to do something worthwhile and failed, try again tomorrow: Maybe you can succeed. ---Jesse Kelly

A Gentleman

A middle-aged business executive approached the front entrance of the office building in which he worked. A young feminist came up at the same moment, so he stepped back and held the door open for her to pass on through. She looked at him and said with annoyance, "Don't hold the door for me just because I'm a woman." To her surprise, he looked right back and replied, "Of course not. I'm holding it open because I'm a gentleman."

Likewise, we as Christians must always act toward others on the basis of what we are in Christ Jesus, and not on the basis of what they may or may not be. "Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous..." (1Peter. 3:8).