

Jesus in the Qur'an

Bismillah al-Rahman al-Rahim

Who is Isa al-Masih ibn Maryam (Jesus Christ the Messiah)? What are his origins? Why was he sent to this earth? Was he a prophet? What do the Qur'an and the Bible have to say about him?

In the Qur'an, Allah is called "the Sovereign, the holy one." Sura 62.1. Isa al-Masih—Jesus the Messiah—is called "the holy son." Sura 19.19 Maryam. He is the only one called by that name in the Qur'an, which also calls him "Straight Way" and the "Sign of the coming of the Hour of Judgment." Sura 43.61 Az-Zukhruf. It is most significant that Jesus is directly linked with the Judgment, to the extent that he is the "Sign for the Hour of Judgment"!

How did Isa al-Masih become a Son?

Isa al-Masih is an extremely unique person. No other person in earth's history has been like Him. Who else in this world was born without an earthly father? We all know both the mother and father are needed in order to conceive a child, yet it is clearly recorded of Jesus, or Isa al-Masih, in both the Qur'an and the Scripture, that he did not have an earthly father. How was Isa al-Masih conceived, then?

The Honored Qur'an reveals that he was conceived supernaturally in the womb of Maryam (Mary) through the Holy Spirit of Allah. He truly was a miracle from Allah!

"She [Maryam] said: 'O my Lord! How shall I have a son when no man hath touched me?' He [Angel] said: 'even so: Allah createth what He willeth: When He hath decreed a plan, He but saith to it, "Be" and it is!'" Sura 3.47 Aal-E-Imran

"And remember her [Maryam] who guarded her chastity: **We breathed into her of Our spirit**, and We made her and her son a sign for all peoples." Sura 21.91 Al-Anbiya

And again in Sura 66.12 At-Tahrim, one can read, "And Mary ... who guarded her chastity: and **We breathed into (her body) of Our spirit**...."

Thus does the Qur'an consistently state that Isa came about through the Spirit of Allah, or *Ruh* Allah. But what do the Holy Books of Scripture say?

"Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be,

seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, **The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee**, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee.... For with God nothing shall be impossible." Injeel Luke 1:34-35, 37

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, **before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.**" Injeel Matthew 1:18

Amazingly, long before Isa was born, an ancient prophet of Allah had already prophesied details of his birth. That prophet, whose name was Isaiah, was given information 700 years before Isa arrived. Isaiah foretold that Isa would be born of a virgin.

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you **a sign**; Behold, **a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son**, and shall call his name Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14

The fulfillment of just that one prophecy tells us that Jesus, or Isa al-Masih, is **a sign from Allah**—a very remarkable person, indeed! According to the Bible, he was somehow a blend of Mary, on the human side, and the Holy Spirit of Allah, on the Divine side.

Not only was Isa al-Masih conceived by the Holy Spirit of Allah, but he was also given the Holy Spirit and strengthened by Him. "...We gave Jesus the son of Mary Clear (Signs) and **strengthened him with the holy spirit**...." Sura 2.87 Al-Baqara

"...To Jesus the son of Mary We gave clear (Signs), and **strengthened him with the holy spirit**...." Sura 2.253 Al-Baqara

"Then will Allah say: 'Jesus the son of Mary! Recount My favour to thee and to thy mother. Behold! **I strengthened thee with the holy spirit**.... I taught thee the Book and Wisdom, the Law and the Gospel.... Thou healest those born blind, and the lepers, by My leave. And behold! thou bringest forth the dead by My leave...." Sura 5.110 Al-Maeda

Allah gave the Holy Spirit (*Ruh* Allah) to Jesus, and He will also give us the gift of His Holy Spirit, if we desire to be strengthened and guided as Isa was by the Holy Spirit. Allah's hand is always open to us, to give us what we need.

Isa al-Masih, the Mercy of Allah

Isa al-Masih is termed a Mercy from Allah.

"He said: 'So (it will be): Thy Lord saith, "that is easy for Me: and (We wish) to appoint him [Isa] as a Sign unto men and **a Mercy** from Us": It is a matter (so)

decreed.'" Sura 19.21 Maryam

Why was mercy needed? Early in human history, in the garden of Eden, man had fallen from his lofty position. Adam, our race's representative, had eaten the fruit of the forbidden tree, which meant that he had disobeyed the simplest of requirements of Allah. The holy law of God had been violated, and now man must face judgment. A judgment, of course, is necessary only when a law has been violated. In the case of Adam, the first pair were guilty of violating the holy and just laws of Allah. And clearly, the wages, or payment, for sin against Allah is death.

Satan's deception at the tree had been successful. Mankind, now in a fallen, sinful condition and facing death, needed mercy. In response to this crisis, God — so unwilling that any should perish—sent "Mercy" in the form of Jesus (Isa al-Masih). Isa would bear the penalty for the sin that our race's ancestors had committed, so that Adam and his descendants could have another chance to choose love and loyalty to God, rather than rebellion against Him.

Jesus was sent as a "Mercy" of God—not only to endure our deserved death penalty, but also, equally important, to redeem man from his fallen condition. Both were vitally necessary. Without a heart or nature restored with a desire to obey, mankind would still be eternally lost, for man had no way to return to God by himself. He now had a rebellious will and a heart prone to disobedience. And yet...

Those "...who have transgressed.... Despair not of the Mercy of Allah: for Allah forgives all sins: for He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful." Sura 39.53 Az-Zumar

Yes, through Isa al-Masih, the "Mercy" of Allah, Allah forgives us our sins and we receive cleansing of heart and will.

Isa al-Masih the Righteous

It is extremely important to note something else that reveals Isa al-Masih to be a very unique, remarkable person. It is that he is termed "Righteous."

Isa is of the "company of the Righteous." Sura 3.46 Aal-E-Imran. He is "in the ranks of the righteous." Sura 6.85 Al-Anaam

Among the ancients it had been asked, "What is man that he should be clean? And he born of a woman, that he should be righteous?" Job 15:14 LITV. Indeed, fallen man cannot be righteous by himself. Therefore, he needs outside help from

Someone sympathetic to his plight.

“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, **Jesus Christ the righteous.**” Injeel John 2:1

“He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall **my righteous servant** justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.” Isaiah 53:11

It is evident that both the Qur'an and the Scriptures identify Isa (Jesus the Messiah) as “righteous.” He is the only One born righteous in human history—and obviously born that way for a purpose.

“Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this **through Christ Jesus** when He freed us from the penalty for our sins.”

Romans 3:24 NLT

To be judged “not guilty” in the Judgment, we must be righteous—judged obedient instead of sinful. Yet because of Adam's fall, we have rebellious natures. We all have sinned against Allah; none of us has any righteousness in ourselves to offer. Guilty, we have no hope unless Allah mercifully covers us with His own righteousness, which has been manifested in the sinless life of Isa al-Masih (Jesus). Isa alone is our covering for sin; He is our righteousness.

Isa al-Masih, Sign of Supreme Submission

Jesus is a “Sign unto men....” Sura 19:21 Maryam.

No greater sign or example of submission to God was ever given to mankind than the submission of Isa al-Masih to the will of God.

“For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.” Injeel John 6:38

“Then He [Isa al-Masih] said, ‘Look, I have come to do Your will.’ ...for God's will was for us to be made holy **by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ**, once for all time.” Hebrews 10:9-10 NLT

This “sacrifice” is vividly brought to our view in the story of Ibrahim being called to sacrifice his very own son. “And we ransomed him [Ibrahim's son] with a momentous sacrifice.” Sura 37:107 As-Saaffat

This account foreshadowed and foretold the “momentous sacrifice” that Allah would give to this world in the sacrifice of Isa al-Masih for the sins of all humanity. Helpless, sinful humanity had no possibility to save themselves, not even by many good deeds. The only way forgiveness and cleansing from sin can

occur is for Allah Himself to provide the payment for sin and the way to cleanse us from our sinful natures. Allah's “momentous sacrifice” is Isa dying in our places—the Innocent for the guilty. The moment we believe and accept that sacrifice as a gift of “Mercy” from Allah—the moment we see our hopeless state, desire that cleansing, and accept that sacrifice that makes it possible— at that very moment, Isa's righteousness will cover us in the Judgment. His innocent life will stand for ours, and we will be judged according to His innocence. What peace Allah has provided for us!

The Redeemer or Deliverer

God is known as the Redeemer or Deliverer. The One whom He sent to redeem/ransom us was Isa.

“O our people, hearken to the one who invites (you) to Allah, and believe in him: He will forgive you your faults, and **deliver you** from a Penalty Grievous.”

Sura 46:31 Al-Ahqaf

“Redeemer” is also the name given to Jesus the Messiah. When He would come to earth, He would be known as “the Redeemer.”

“‘The Redeemer will come ... to buy back those ... who have turned from their sins,’ says the LORD.”

Isaiah 59:20 NLT

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and **to give His life as a ransom** for many.” Injeel Mark 10:45 MKJV

Give Isa consent today, that He may redeem you and ransom you from the grievous penalty of sin.

Text Copied from DivinelIslam's Qur'an Viewer software v2.913;
Bible texts copied from the King James version unless cited.

For further study: www.salahallah.com

the Qur'an

Sura 3.45

Maryam

R. M. Harnisch



Series no. 30

Jesus in