

CHRISTIAN ANSWERS

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NATION OF ISLAM: UNDERSTANDING THE BLACK MUSLIMS OF LOUIS FARRAKHAN & ELIJAH MUHAMMAD



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The Bible, Qur'an, and the God(s) of the Nation of Islam (NOI)

Theology is the study of God and in a wider sense the study of subjects related to the doctrine of God. Since one normally forms theology from a source other than oneself, it is wise to begin with the NOI's view of the Bible and the Qur'an and its doctrine of God.

In one sense all theology, no matter what the system or religion, starts with the doctrine of God. In another sense, with the "Lost Found" Nation of Islam (NOI), theology starts with the social conditions in which its theology was birthed. Suffice it now to say that the doctrines of the NOI arouse out of the social soil prepared by the black nationalist movements and leaders that preceded it.

Add to this the fact that human beings are religious and spiritual by nature. The inevitable result, therefore, is that certain theologies are created not only to explain the social maladies that plagued blacks in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries but also to serve as a tool for polemics against the white structure responsible for those maladies. For this reason one cannot

stand the theology of the NOI without at least an awareness of the people, movements, and circumstances that paved the way for its existence. Thus the NOI's theology is an expression of protest. It protests against the white establishment.

Further, while we must not forget that NOI theology is a mixture mainly of Christianity and Islam, it is neither Christianity nor Islam. Though it utilizes Christian and Islamic terms and draws from the Bible and the Qur'an, its definitions of many of those terms are not those of the Bible or the Qur'an. For this reason it has drawn the protests of both Christians and orthodox Muslims. This phenomenon of "same terms, different definitions" arises immediately in the study of the NOI's doctrine of God.

The Bible and Qur'an

NOI literature evidences a strange hermeneutic. Elijah Muhammad and his disciples have no regard for the historical contexts of either the Bible or the Qur'an, nor do they concern themselves with the meaning of words as explained in secondary scholarly works. Further, they say the Bible is a corrupt book, while the Qur'an is perfect. Yet the Bible and the Qur'an in practice are secondary in authority to W.D. Fard and Elijah Muhammad and will one day be replaced by "a new book."

Most likely drawing upon his experiences of the actions of Christians who used the Bible to dominate blacks and to authorize slavery, Elijah Muhammad scorns, "From the first day that the white race received the Divine Scripture they started tampering with its truth to make it to suit themselves and blind the black man. It is their nature to do evil and the book cannot be recognized as the pure and Holy Word of God....The Bible is the graveyard of my people....What a poison book!"(1)

Muhammad then admits that the Bible has "plenty of truth, if understood." (2)

The statement by Muhammad that the white race has tampered with its truth does not necessarily mean that translations themselves have changed the actual text. Muhammad's statement could be read to mean only that the interpretation offered by the white race is false. Further statements by the messenger, however, reveal that the actual text is not what it originally was:

"The Bible is not all holy, nor is it all the word of God...The second verse of the first chapter of Genesis reads: *"And the earth was without form and void; darkness was upon the deep and the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters."* What was the water on, since there was no form

"exhort in sound doctrine and refute those who contradict" (Titus 1:9)

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THE GOSPEL IN BRIEF

There is one, and only one, eternal, true, holy God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Matt 28:19). He created everything by His word. God has told us the truth about Himself in the word He has given us, the Bible, which He commands us to obey. God is compassionate and just to all. God is pure and Holy; sin is destroyed in His presence (Numbers 14:18). However, we have all sinned, falling short in the evil we do, and the good we fail to do. Yet our problem is not just what we do, but also who we are; we are selfish, corrupt, and estranged from God. Because God is just, He will punish sin impartially, yet God still bestows his love to all men. So our Savior, Jesus, the only begotten Son of God (the God-man, John 1:1,14), was graciously sent to suffer and die on the cross for our sins and to purify us from all unrighteousness by the sacrifice of His body and blood. He was born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, and was physically raised from the dead and ascended into heaven. Jesus will physically return to judge the world. God commands everyone to repent and to believe in Him. God's Spirit lives in each of us who believe in Him to guide us into truth, convict us of our sins, and to work in us to sanctify us to live a more holy life, pleasing our Lord. God's children will dwell forever with God, and those who reject Jesus will suffer eternal torment. There is no other way for anyone to come to God except through Jesus (Jn. 14:6). Please do not depend on anyone else, your own efforts, your religion, but simply put your faith in Christ our Master. So as Rom. 10:9 says, "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart the God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." You are urged not to despise God's mercy but call out to the Lord and trust ONLY in Him.

THOUGHTS FROM THE DIRECTOR



Larry Wessels

Welcome to another addition of our "Christian Debater Guide." It has been a while since we last published one due to the fact that we have been extremely busy on other projects, particularly on the internet. In fact, the internet has been taking up much of my available free time besides the two secular jobs that I work. Since there is no subscription charge for this newsletter (it's free to anyone who wants one), there is no pressure to have to produce one a regular basis.

At the time of this writing we now have over 410 Christian videos posted on YouTube at our channel CANSWERSTV (we have 91 videos posted on Vimeo Video and 37 posted on TubeWatcher –just type "Larry Wessels" in their respective search boxes to find them). Currently our top viewing count video on Youtube is "UFOs: Ancient Aliens or Beings of the Fourth Dimension #1: Fact or Fiction?" with over 46,000 viewings while the top video on TubeWatcher is "Nation of Islam Revisited #1: Fard or Farrakhan– Who is God?" with 97,000 viewings. Overall we currently (at the time of this writing) have 117,353 viewings of our YouTube channel page and 365,068 viewings of all our videos on YouTube while TubeWatcher statistics show 2,307,478 viewings of our videos posted there.

As you can see we are dealing with the Nation of Islam in this issue. Dr. Steve Tsoukalas has done a great service to the Christian community in writing the book, "The Nation of Islam –Understanding the Black Muslims" and was kind enough to grant us permission to reprint an excerpt from it here for the newsletter. By the way, we have a video with Dr. Tsoukalas on YouTube on another topic entitled, "Freemasonry is Unbiblical: Masonic Rites & Wrongs."

Please type "Larry Wessels Nation of Islam" in the YouTube search box to access our multiple videos on this subject. Before YouTube allowed us to post our full length videos (they had limited us to 10 minute videos for years) we used to use "Berean Beacon" to post our shows also. For example, "Louis Farrakhan: Hitler was Great" garnered over 34,000 viewings, "Louis Farrakhan: Mad Scientist Creates White Men / UFOs" took over 30,500 viewings, "Yakub Makes White Men" over 15,000 viewings.

WHAT IS CHRISTIAN ANSWERS ?

Our ministry name is derived in part from Peter 3:15 which states, "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." (KJV). This is the goal of **Christian Answers** in an increasingly anti-Christian society here in America and throughout the world; giving answers and reasons why the Christian faith can be trusted and believed.

The Biblical commands to "fight the good fight of faith" (1 Tim. 6:12), to be "set for the defense of the gospel" (Phil. 1:17), to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3), to "be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict" (Titus 1:9), to "put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not" (Rev. 2:2), to "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves." (Matt. 7:15), to "examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good" (1 Thess. 5:21), "with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth" (2 Tim. 2:25), to follow the example of Paul and Apollos who "vigorously refuted the Jews in public debate, proving from the Scriptures that Jesus was Christ." (Acts 18:28). These are but a few of the marching orders for the call to ministry, discernment and evangelism.

The inerrant Word of God (2 Tim. 3:16-17) whereby the gospel is preached, which is "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth" (Rom. 1:16), is the weapon of our evangelism. As Hebrews 4:12 states, "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow: it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." This is the evangelical missionary methodology of **Christian Answers**— to bring the Biblical perspective to a culture that is almost completely ignorant of it; to bring Christian truth, Christian answers to those who, as the prophet Isaiah said, have made "lies...and falsehood" their refuge (Isa. 28:15); to smash lies and falsehoods with the "hammer" of God's word (Jer. 23:29); see also Proverbs 30:5-6, Psalm 138:2b, Isaiah 40:8, John 5:39-47, 1 Cor. 14:37, and Acts 17:11.

Christian Answers utilizes all outreach that God allows us including television, radio, audio CDs, video DVDs, speaking engagements, and the printed page. The materials we have been able to produce have been used by churches, Bible teachers, Christian apologists, laymen and others as well as those seeking life in Christ.

We are not afraid to stand up for Jesus Christ in public forums or wherever the Lord leads. Of course this type of ministry is not for the faint of heart and very often leads to the same type of suffering and persecution that we find in the book of Acts. But as the old saying goes, "one life will soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last," and as Paul said, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:14), knowing this mortal life is short and God's eternity is only a moment away for all.

Our ministry is "exempt from federal income tax under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501 (c) (3) by the Internal Revenue Service". Donations to our ministry are tax deductible, therefore those who contribute will receive a donation receipt good on your US income tax. This applies to donations only, not sales. We are legally registered in the state of Texas.

earth? As I see it, the Bible is very questionable.” (3)

For the Qur’an it is a different story. The Qur’an is “very holy” and, unlike the Bible, comes directly from God:

“The Holy Qur’an-it is holy because it is the Word of Allah (God), who speaks directly to His servant (the prophet Muhammad). “Holy” means something that is PERFECTLY PURE, and this we just can’t say of the poison Bible.” (4)

*A NEW BOOK TO COME

Despite the fact that the NOI has the Qur’an and the Bible, Elijah Muhammad tells of a new book that will one day be revealed. This book will be written by Allah [Fard] and will be for the people of the black Asiatic race who have turned to Fard and his Messenger. It is known as the Last Book and will be used to escort NOI believers into the hereafter. (5) Muhammad says that even the Qur’an must eventually step aside (a view that is unorthodox in the eyes of traditional Islam) to make way for this new book that will take them into the afterlife:

“The Holy Qur’an, the Glorious Book, should be read and studied by us (the so-called Negroes). Both the present Bible and the holy Qur’an must soon give way to that holy book which no man as yet but Allah has seen. The teachings (prophecies) of the present Bible and Qur’an take us up to the resurrection and judgment of this world but not into the next life. That which is in that holy book is for the righteous and their future only, not for the mixed world of the righteous and evil.” (6)

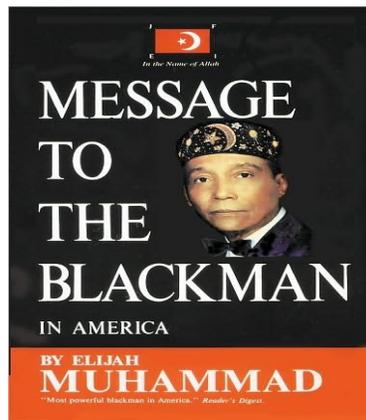
*ON WHOSE AUTHORITY?

How, then, should members of the NOI understand the Bible? They need to look to Elijah Muhammad, who sat under the tutelage of W.D. Fard from 1931 to 1934: “The Bible means good if you can rightly understand it. My interpretation of it is given to me from the Lord of the Worlds [Fard].” (7) We might also

assume that the correct understanding of the perfectly holy Qur’an can come only through Elijah Muhammad, who was taught by Allah in the person of W.D. Fard.

But the Messenger of Allah portrays a strange understanding of many Biblical texts and pays no attention to secondary scholarly works such as word studies, lexicons, historical background studies. For example, “Christ,” says Elijah means “Crusher.” Thus Christ is the one coming in the last day to crush the wicked. The Christ could not be Jesus, because the wicked are still around. The Christ is W.D. Fard. (8)

Muhammad’s practice of disregarding secondary sources and historical and cultural contexts seems strange to the serious student of the Bible, but the debate with him centers not around the text itself. Rather, the debate must begin with what Muhammad claims as his ultimate court of appeal-W.D. Fard, Allah in the flesh.



Elijah Muhammad’s book:
A Message to the Black Man

The Nation of Islam’s Doctrine of God(s)

W.D. Fard taught the NOI doctrine of God to Elijah Muhammad. Elijah further claims that what he teaches is from the same source from which Moses and Jesus taught-Allah. (9) Elijah also affirms belief in one God, Allah, and that the one God is the God of the universe who created all things. On the surface, this seems to be in line with traditional Islam. Upon closer inspection,

however, there are significant differences.

Contained in NOI literature is *What the Muslims Believe*, which is a twelve-point doctrinal statement. The first article reads, “We believe in One God whose proper name is Allah.” However, in the discussion of the NOI’s doctrine of God we encounter “on the one hand...on the other hand” several times. Therefore it is wise to look at the movement’s doctrine of God in three areas-Allah in the beginning (as the original black man), Allah as the black man (collectively), and Allah as W.D. Fard. Though we shall see that the NOI’s doctrine of God is confusing and contradictory, fluctuating between monotheism and polytheism, it nonetheless lives with the contradictions.

*ALLAH IN THE BEGINNING

Straying very far away from traditional Islam, the NOI claims that God is a finite being. In the beginning the black God created himself out of total darkness. He came from darkness, and so he himself is dark. In the beginning he was the only being in the universe. (10) This God came from a single atom in total darkness. (11)

The first God was a man— he is the original black man, the first God and the first human being ever to exist. Alluding to Genesis 1:26, Elijah Muhammad reasons that since God created man in his own image and likeness, God must then be a man. (12) Muhammad reasons further that in the scriptures God acts with all five senses, and more— he talks, walks, stands, and sits. God, then, must be a human being. (13)

When was the first black man (God) created? Muhammad claims to be agnostic as to the question, but due to his cosmology, which has the earth created about seventy-six trillion years ago, (14) God would have to be older than that. But not by much, for Muhammad says that it was seventy-six trillion years ago when the first atom (that birthed God) moved in

time. "The beginning of time," he says, "was the beginning of God." (15)

Muhammad claims to be in possession of a somewhat esoteric knowledge when it comes to knowing who God really is. Since man was created, only twelve men at each time have been in possession of the knowledge of God. They in turn have twelve men under them and are known as "scientists." The first twelve are the greater scientists, and the other twelve are the lesser scientists. Together they make up the twenty-four elders of the Book of Revelation (4:4). They pass this knowledge on to their sons, who pass it on to their sons, and so on. But there are never more than twelve adepts at any time in the whole history of the world possessing this knowledge. Men therefore, have formed their opinions of God, but they are wrong because they have not been given the knowledge. (16) Elijah, the Messenger of God, has revealed this truth to the masses for the first time. (17)

What God is Not. Elijah Muhammad has been given the knowledge of God, for God himself taught Muhammad. And when Muhammad teaches on the nature of God, he does so not only in the positive. He is quick to teach us what God is not. In doing so he attacks both the Christian and the traditional Islamic conceptions of God.

The vast majority of the Muslims in the world, says Muhammad, have a wrong theology. He states that "99% of the old world Muslims think that Allah is only a 'Spirit' and is not a man...They too need to be taught today the reality of Allah." (18) As for Christianity, Muhammad builds a straw man (accusing Christians of believing something they do not believe) and then just as quickly dismisses it: "The devil's teaching is a division of gods-three gods into one god." (19)

A String of Gods. Fard taught the Messenger that no god lives forever.

The first god is finite, not infinite. Thus there is in NOI thinking a string of finite gods who each exist for about one to two hundred years, though Muhammad says there is record of a god who lived for around a thousand years. (20)

How, then, can Muhammad claim belief in one God and further claim to fall in line with Islam? He can, if the phrase "at a time" is implied. Apparently there is some "essence" that continues from one god to another as they incarnate as finite, black men-gods. Speaking of the first god, Muhammad says, "We know again that from that God the person of God continued until today in His people." (21) This is how Muhammad can teach his modified monotheism, which is actually *finite* monotheism. In answer to the question "What is your concept of God?" Louis Farrakhan once stated, "Elijah Muhammad teaches us that God was a man, he is a man and shall always be a man." (22)

Moreover, these finite gods are also finite in knowledge. In other words, they are not omniscient. There are cycles of history says Muhammad, the last for about twenty-five thousand years. Each god shows his wisdom for this time period (though paradoxically, each god does not live that long) and knows nothing of the knowledge or history of the god existing before him. Thus the theology each god creates is different from that of the preceding gods. (23) This has gone on for at least sixty-six trillion years, says Muhammad, when a great explosion caused by a black scientist severed the earth into two parts. The smaller part is our moon today. (24)

Allah as the Black Man

On the other hand, Allah is the "Black Man" in a collective sense; that is, the black race is Allah. The same may be said of the phrase "Original Man." On the one hand it refers to the first god, a black man who came into existence out of the darkness. On the other hand, the

original man is the black race. Elijah Muhammad further departs from orthodox Islam with this doctrine.

In 1959 a television news series title "The Hate That Hate Produced" (produced by Mike Wallace and Louis Lomax) relates the following exchange:

Lomax: "Now if I have understood your teachings correctly, you teach that all of the members of Islam are God, and that one among you is supreme, and that that one is Allah. Now have I understood you correctly?"

Elijah Muhammad: *That's right.* (25)

Elijah Muhammad would later verify that answer. Speaking to the black man (collectively), he admonished, "You are walking around looking for a God to bow to and worship. You are the God!" (26)

To further confuse things, it seems that within this collective sense of God there is a hint of polytheism. NOI followers believe themselves to be gods. (27) Elijah Muhammad's loyal student, Louis Farrakhan has taken Muhammad's teaching one step further than the "You are the God!" statement (unless, of course, Muhammad taught the following to Farrakhan). The current leader of the NOI has taught his people how the gods of the NOI are conceived. In a videotaped series titled "How to Give Birth to a God," Louis Farrakhan instructs his male disciples: **"How to produce a God has to be thought of in preconception times. Right now, before you have a baby, you must begin to prepare your body and your mind for what will ultimately become a reality in your life. Listen, Now! As a young boy you must begin to prepare yourself to father a powerful sperm! The sperm is fathered by the thought that is present in the brain that [makes repeated round and upward gestures with closed fist] empowers the sperm**

and becomes the *force* in the head of the sperm that will finally germinate and fertilize the egg. So, you can't walk around *mindless* and produce mental giants, though it happens accidentally! But if you *think* about what you are and who you are, you can do it every time. There ain't no missin'. And the condition that we're in—we don't want to hit and miss! We want to produce a giant! Every time the womb opens, let a God come forth!" (28)

As for the phrase "Original Man" meaning the black man, as well as the first god who "activated" himself out of the darkness, Muhammad states, "The Original Man, Allah has declared, is none other than the black man." (29) The original man—the black race of the Asiatic tribe of Shabazz (30) —in this sense means that the blacks are the original race created directly out of God himself. (31)

Allah is W.D. Fard

By far the most popular reference to Allah has to do with W.D. Fard (Master Fard Muhammad). Elijah Muhammad calls him the "present God." (32) Despite the fact that this doctrine is considered blasphemy in the eyes of orthodox Islam, Fard is nonetheless called the present god of this cycle, and we are in the sixteen-thousandth year of this cycle. (33) His wisdom is infinite (another paradox, given that each god's knowledge is finite), and he came to end the six-thousand-year rule of the white race. Today's NOI worships "Almighty God, Allah, who appeared in the person of Master Fard Muhammad." (34) In *What the Muslims Believe*, article 12 in part reads,

We believe that Allah (God) appeared in the Person of Master W. Fard Muhammad, July, 1930; the long-awaited "Messiah" of the Christians and the "Madhi" of the Muslims. We believe further and lastly that Allah is God and besides HIM there is no God.

Though with the last part of this

statement Muhammad sounds like he is in the fold of traditional Islam, what he means is that presently there is no God besides Allah. Muhammad cannot say that there are no gods before Fard, for he proclaims Fard as the superior god over all other gods who existed before him. (35)

God is Born Incognito. God was born half original (black) and half white in the holy city of Mecca on February 26, 1877. "his father," says Louis Farrakhan, "was an original Black man and His mother was a woman from the Caucasus Mountains region." (36)



Louis Farrakhan, Minister of the NOI or Minister of "strange gods"?

According to the NOI, the apostle Paul wrote of Fard coming "in the likeness of sinful flesh" (Rom. 8:3). He came this way for at least two reasons. First, his resulting color would allow him to walk among us unnoticed. This afforded him the opportunity to undergo preparation for his mission (he studied for forty years) and to teach without drawing attention to himself. Second, Fard, having the two natures in him, mastered the two and was victorious over the lower (white) nature. Fard was able to destroy the lower nature. This is vital to NOI soteriology, for Fard's victory gains for his people the knowledge that they can destroy their lower natures and bring the true nature to perfection, gaining heaven (37) on this earth. Consequently, the NOI's teachings on morality feature this doctrine

as an example to admonish believers to a high standard of living.

Fard's Ministry and Jesus. The NOI draws parallels between W.D. Fard's ministry and Jesus' ministry. First on the list is the birth of Fard. Since in the eyes of the NOI Jesus was a prophet and only a man (a black man), (38) any interpretations of Jesus being the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies predicting his birth and ministry are removed and replaced with Fard. On Saviour's Day, February 25, 1996, Louis Farrakhan preached:

"The Bible teaches that One would come in the last days...Isaiah, the prophet, saw Him coming...For unto us a child is born, and unto us a son is given, and a government shall be upon His shoulder; and He shall be called wonderful, counselor, the mighty God, the prince of peace, the everlasting Father; and of the increase of His government of peace there would be no end. Yet, He is a child born of a woman....He was born February 26, 1877." (39)

The NOI does not believe that Jesus is God and Christ. Fard, rather, is God and Christ. Because "Christ" means "Crusher," says Muhammad, it means that someone must come in the last days to crush the wicked. Jesus did not do this, so Jesus was not a Christ. (40) For Muhammad, the phrase "God in the flesh" is reserved only for W.D. Fard.

Additionally, Fard is the "Son of Man" of the New Testament, who is to come like lightning from the east (Matt. 24:27). (41) Fifty-three years after his birth Allah came to Detroit "from the East"—Mecca. Elijah Muhammad states that after Allah's appearance his ministry lasted for three and one-half years, a fact reminiscent of Jesus' ministry. Though he could have saved himself from suffering, Allah (Fard) submitted humbly to his persecutors so that the scriptures could be fulfilled. Lastly, if people followed Fard, they

too would be persecuted but would wait for his return to bring them to paradise, (42) heaven on the present earth.

But unlike Jesus-who, according to Elijah Muhammad, died and stayed dead-Fard never died. To elevate Fard and devalue Christ, Elijah Muhammad writes, "*God is here in person, so stop looking for a dead Jesus for help and pray to HIM whom Jesus prophesied that would come after him. My people pray to the One who is ALIVE and not a spook!*" (43)

Since for the NOI there is no afterlife in the Christian sense of the term and Fard the present god for this cycle of time, Fard only disappeared in 1934. He is on the earth today (44) but apparently is walking around unnoticed "in the likeness of sinful flesh" waiting for his appointed time to destroy the white devils in the great war of Armageddon and usher in a new existence for his chosen black people.

Elijah Muhammad put succinctly into words much of what has been discussed regarding the NOI's doctrine of God (s):

Allah is all of us. But we have a Supreme One....He is Allah, the One over all of us; The Most Supreme one....Every righteous person is a god. We are all God." (45)

Summary

The Bible is a poison book, and the Qur'an is holy, but both can teach truth if interpreted by Elijah Muhammad, who in turn received proper interpretation from Allah (Fard). Somehow these books convey that there is an original, finite god, he being one of many culminating with the Supreme God (Fard). Further, the black race is collectively God, and at times many gods make up the black race. With these teaching of the "Original Man" comes the NOI's central myth and explanation of the scourge of blacks-Yakub and the white race.

Yakub and the White Race

Allah in the person of W.D. Fard

taught the Messenger Elijah Muhammad that the history of the gods and the black man goes back about seventy-six trillion years and that blacks are the original man, coming directly from God. Throughout this history we find experiments performed by rebellious gods and other personages. For example, sixty-six trillion years ago one of the gods attempted to destroy the earth with a mighty explosion. The experiment failed to destroy all of the earth but did crack off a huge chunk, which became the moon. During this time, taught Fard, the Asian black nation called the tribe of Shabazz discovered the rich valley of the Nile River and settled there. In another example, Elijah Muhammad explains the "kinky hair" of the "Asiatics." Fifty thousand years ago another god wanted to make the Asiatics of Africa tougher in order to endure life in the jungle. The god could not get everyone to agree with him and so became dissatisfied and rebelled by giving the Asiatics kinky hair. (46)

Yakub

The most popular character in the history of rebellious personages is the one responsible for the production of the white race-the infamous evil scientist Yakub. As is the case with other NOI doctrines, the Qur'an and other traditional orthodox Islamic literature will not substantiate the Yakub myth. This does not worry the NOI. The fact that the source of the myth is W.D. Fard is proof enough that it is true.

Prophecy and Birth

According to Master Fard Muhammad (Allah), Mr. Yakub was born sixty-six hundred years ago. Approximately eighty-four hundred years before Yakub's birth the twenty-four scientists (47) of that era (48) predicted the birth of Mr. Yakub. They were also aware that he was going to create a new race of people out of the original black man. He would be born twenty miles outside of Mecca. (49)

Born with an unusually large head, Yakub had a special capacity for learning, a trait not common among others of the tribe of Shabazz. By eighteen years of age he had finished with all the schools of higher learning the nation had to offer. Yakub was a great scientist and learned that the originals had two people in them-black and brown. He then realized through more experiments that he could filter down the brown nature into white and that obviously the white, filtered-out nature would be weaker than the black. (50)

The Making of the White Race

To obtain people for his experiments, Yakub began preaching Islam in Mecca and drawing converts under the lie that he would make other people serve them. They became so huge in number that the authorities worried about his popularity. Persecutions set in, and Yakub's followers were put in prisons, but there were so many followers that the jails were unable to contain all of them. Finally the king visited Yakub's prison cell and made a bargain with him. Yakub said that he and his followers would leave Mecca if the government gave them twenty years worth of supplies. The king agreed and sent Yakub and his 59,999 followers to Patmos in boats (some were found unworthy before departure and were thrown overboard). (51)

Yakub lived for 150 years, but before he died he left orders to continue the experiment. The people followed the orders because Yakub told them there was a reward if they did so. Upon completion of the experiment they could return to Mecca.

The Rule of the White Race

Little did Yakub know, he was a pawn in the hands of Allah, who allowed him to get the education needed to create a race of people that Allah had ordained to rule the original race, including the brown, red, and yellow peoples. The rule of the new devil white race over the

original and the intermediate peoples was to last six thousand years and was a testing period for the Asiatic tribe of Shabazz, the original race. After the six-thousand-year reign ended in 1914, (52) the most powerful and mighty god of them all came onto the scene to deliver the black race, the Asiatics. That was W.D. Fard.

In the eyes of the NOI the whites are simply no good. They are by nature inferior to the original black Asiatics because they are a hybrid and liars and murderers from the beginning of their existence. They would, however, use their evil-based inferiority to their advantage.

By using tricknology, the back-to-Mecca whites fooled the originals by causing disputes among them through gossip. Once the originals started killing each other, the whites offered to help them settle disputes. This allowed the whites to gain power over the originals. Elijah Muhammad says it is like this to this day. The blacks, he says, cannot agree among themselves for what is best for them and need the whites to help them with their disputes that were caused by the whites in the first place! (53) (One now can interpret through Muahmmad's eyes the disagreement between his philosophy of separation and integration of Martin Luther King Jr.)

Christianity-The White Man's Religion

The anthropology of the NOI arises from the basic premise that anything black is good and anything white is evil. This premise rests upon the foundation of the Yakub myth. The whites came from the originals. The originals had everything good and are by nature good and divine. Once one accepts the further premise that Christianity came from the white man, it then cannot be the original, true religion. Like the white man, it was a "made" religion. It was a religion born from the white race and a priori must be evil.

The Religion of Jesus

This is not to say that the religion

of the real Jesus was evil. Jesus was black, says the NOI. The white man can only corrupt what is good, and so the Bible that we have now does not teach the religion of the black Moses, Abraham, Jesus, and other black Asiatic prophets of Allah. Their religion was Islam, not Christianity of the white devil, who used this white religion to enslave blacks. As a matter of fact, Elijah Muhammad openly challenges anyone to prove to him that the Christianity of today is the religion of Jesus, Moses, David, Noah, and Abraham. (54) Muhammad says that if there is a true Christianity, a religion that follows the teachings of Jesus, it is Fardian Islam. (55)

Christianity is the white man's religion, and Islam belongs to the black Asiatics. Muhammad advocates that blacks cannot be Christians. One cannot be Christian unless one is white. Despite the fact that millions of blacks are Christians, Muhammad is after something much deeper when he makes this claim. In the eyes of Allah, blacks are born from Allah. Allah is their true father. Allah was birthing them for scores of trillions of years. How, then, can they be of the religion of the grafted man, the unnatural man? It is simply a surface claim when a black man says he is a Christian. In reality-that is, in the eyes of Allah-he is not Christian. Allah's will, then, is that black brothers and sisters will awaken from the sleep and come to know who they truly are by nature.

Is Jesus the Christ?

For Elijah Muhammad, Louis Farrakhan, and the NOI, the answer is no. Fard is the Christ, for Christ means Crusher—one who will come in the last day to crush the wicked (the devil white race). Jesus, reasons Muhammad, did not crush the wicked. Jesus therefore is not the Christ. Nor is Jesus the Son of Man. Two Biblical passages suffice to show that Jesus is both the Son of Man and the Christ.

Compare Elijah Muhammad's

words with those of Matthew's Gospel. Muhammad states, "Jesus wasn't even a Christ back then." (56) Matthew states, "Jesus, who is called Christ" (1:16). As to Christ meaning "crusher," the standard Greek-English lexicon in New Testament studies nowhere mentions "crusher" under the entry of *Christos*. (57)

In Matthew 16:13, Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" The disciples respond that some say the Son of Man is Elijah, others say Jeremiah or one of the prophets (v. 14). Then Jesus asks, "But who do you say that I am?" (v. 15). Notice that Jesus does not once again use the phrase "Son of Man" but this time replaces it with "I," making himself the Son of Man. Peter then answers, "Thou are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (v. 16)./ Jesus responds by stating that Peter is blessed because the Father in heaven has revealed this to him.

Some Do's and Don'ts

* Do know why you believe what you believe. Know the essentials of the Christian faith. This is a must and will equip you in sharing the truth of Christ with members of the NOI.

* Do pray. Pray that the Holy Spirit will open the eyes and ears of your NOI contact.

* Do show love. Scripture commands us to love our neighbor. Based on the supreme example of Christ, this is giving to others in sacrificial service. Of course, how and what one gives is different in every situation. The best advice we can give you is to be sensitive to the Spirit's leading of how you might show Christ's love to your contact.

* Do listen. If you are not genuinely interested in what your contact has to say, you should seriously question your motive. For the sake of Christ and his work on the cross to save sinners we should be interested! So listen. When it's your turn to speak, ask that the favor be returned to you.

* Do share the uniqueness of Christ. Jesus is uniquely God in the flesh (John 1:14, 18). This, obviously, means that no one else is, including

W.D. Fard. Additionally, Jesus is the only way of salvation (John 14:6). Remind your NOI contact that according to the Qur'an, "No true prophet of God can lie." If, as they say, Jesus is a prophet, why do they not believe Jesus who said, "No one comes to the Father, except through Me?"

* *Do share that righteousness comes only through Christ.* Righteousness does not come through our own works but only through Christ's righteousness being declared by God upon those who believe in Christ (Rom. 3:21-22).

* *Don't play the role of the Spirit.* We cannot convert members of the NOI with our own strength. But the Holy Spirit can! Our job is to share the gospel. It is God who converts sinners into a relationship with Christ (I Timothy 2:24-26).

* *Don't overwhelm with Scripture.* In other words, don't use Scripture like a machine gun. Use Scripture intelligently, carefully explaining it as you progress in conversation.

* *Don't use a King James Bible.* If you do, NOI members will not listen. Rather, we recommend using the New American Standard Bible (NASB).

* *Don't use a marked Bible.* Members of the NOI consider it degrading to the Bible and a mark of disrespect on the Christian's part if the Bible has been marked with personal notes and highlighting.

* *Don't unwittingly use the word "Trinity."* To the NOI this word connotes the worship of three gods. We recommend stating that God is one Being existing eternally in three persons. If you must use the word, be careful to define it as so.

* *Don't offend-let the cross offend.* In telling the truth in love, we must not be the offense. If anything should offend, let it be the message of the cross of Christ.

Footnotes

- 1) Elijah Muhammad, "The Supreme Wisdom: Solution to the So-Called Negroes' Problem" (Chicago: University of Islam, 1957) 12, 13
- 2) Ibid. 13
- 3) Ibid. See Also Elijah Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America" (Chicago: Muhammad's Temple No. 2, 1965), 95.
- 4) Muhammad, "The Supreme Wisdom" 20.
- 5) Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America" 87,91
- 6) Muhammad, "The Supreme Wisdom" 15.
- 7) Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America" 88
- 8) Elijah Muhammad, "Our Saviour Has Arrived" (Chicago: Muhammad's Temple of Islam No. 2, 1974) 50-51, 176.
- 9) Ibid. 16
- 10) Ibid. 39, 40, 41
- 11) Abass Rassoull, "The Theology of Time: By the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, the Messenger of Allah" (Hampton, Va.:UBUS Communications Systems, 1992), 95
- 12) Muhammad, "Our Saviour Has Arrived" 66
- 13) Ibid. 63
- 14) Ibid. 115; see also 96.
- 15) Rassoull, "The Theology of Time", 94.
- 16) Muhammad, "Our Saviour Has Arrived", 61.
- 17) Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America", 9.
- 18) Muhammad, "Our Saviour Has Arrived", 67.
- 19) Ibid.
- 20) Ibid. 96
- 21) Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America" 9
- 22) The Ministry Class of Muhammad's Temple No. 7, "Seven Speeches by Minister Louis Farrakhan" (Chicago: WKU and the Final Call, Inc. 1992) 141
- 23) Muhammad, "Our Saviour Has Arrived" 119
- 24) Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America" 31, and "Our Saviour Has Arrived" 98
- 25) Quoted in C. Eric Lincoln, "The Black Muslims in America" (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994) 69
- 26) Muhammad, "Our Saviour Has Arrived" 35
- 27) Malcolm X may have been alluding to this teaching when he publicly took Elijah Muhammad to task for ordering the bombing of his home where his babies were asleep. Malcolm retaliated with the words, "When you attack sleeping babies, why, you are lower than a god."
- 28) The Honorable Louis Farrakhan, "How To Give Birth to a God" four-part video-tape series (Chicago: Final Call, Inc.) part I. Delivered on July 26, 1987, at the Final Call Building in Chicago
- 29) Muhammad, "The Supreme Wisdom," 38
- 30) Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America," 31
- 31) This is not so for the white race. The white race is a hybrid of the original race. The white race was

- "grafted" from the originals lower nature.
- 32) See Muhammad, "Our Saviour Has Arrived" 98. On the other hand, Muhammad makes reference to "our God, Who is the Originator of the universe" (ibid. 13). Again, this is confusing, for according to Muhammad's scheme the first god who created himself out of darkness more than seventy-six trillion years ago cannot be Fard.
- 33) Muhammad, "Our Saviour has Arrived" 12, 98
- 34) Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America" 242
- 35) Muhammad, "Our Saviour has Arrived" 125.
- 36) Minister Louis Farrakhan, "After the Million Man March, Now What? Guidance and Instruction to the Year 2000" *The Final Call*, March 20, 1996, 20
- 37) Clifton E. Marsh, "From Black Muslims to Muslims: The Resurrection, Transformation, and Change of the Lost-Found Nation of Islam in America" 1930-1995, 2d ed. (Lanham, Md: Scarecrow Press, 1996) 195; from an interview with Abdul Alim Muhammad, national spokesperson for Louis Farrakhan.
- 38) Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman" 68
- 39) Farrakhjan, "After the Million Man March, Now What?" 20
- 40) Muhammad, "Our Saviour Has Arrived" 50
- 41) Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America" 10, 20
- 42) Ibid 24-25
- 43) Muhammad, "The Supreme Wisdom" 43
- 44) The Ministry class of Muhammad's Temple No. 7 "Seven Speeches by Minister Louis Farrakhan" 149-150
- 45) Elijah Muhammad, "I want to Teach You" *The Final call* June 20, 2000, 19; reprinted from Muhammad "Our Saviour Has Arrived"
- 46) Elijah Muhhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America" (Chicago: Muhammad's Temple No. 2, 1965) 31
- 47) Muhammad elsewhere states that there are twenty-five scientists, the twenty-fifth being a judge of the history writings of the other twenty-four (See Elijah Muhammad "Our Saviour Has Arrived" [Chicago: Muhammad's Temple of Islam No. 2, 1974] 12)
- 48) See subtitle "Allah in the Beginning"
- 49) Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America" 110-111
- 50) Ibid. 112
- 51) Ibid. 113-114
- 52) The Jehovah's Witnesses influenced W.D. Fard. Fard used to encourage his students to listen to the radio speeches of Judge Joseph Rutherford, at that time the president of the Jehovah's Witnesses. The Witnesses said that 1914 signaled the time of the end of all earthly governments
- 53) Muhammad, "Message to the Blackman in America" 116-117
- 54) Muhammad, "Our Saviour Has Arrived" 50
- 55) Ibid 49-50
- 56) Muhammad, "Our Saviour Has Arrived" 50
- 57) Bauer, Arndt, and Gingrich, "A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature" 886-887

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BLACK MUSLIMS— NATION OF ISLAM

Malcolm X, subject of a popular movie, was a black Muslim who was gunned down by three black men after he left the Black Muslim movement. Most people have heard of this religion, but few really know the core of who they are and what they teach.

The Black Muslim movement was founded by Wallace Fard. Elijah Mohammad joined the movement in 1930, and assumed leadership after Fard's mysterious disappearance in 1934. Almost all regular Muslims consider Black Muslims to be blasphemous heretics.

Islamic Prophet Mohammed Was A White Man

The Hadiths are recorded sayings and doings of the prophet Mohammed. They are accepted almost as highly as the Qur'an by most Muslims. The longest and most highly regarded Hadith was collected by Al-Bukhari. Here is what it says.

* "He [the Prophet] uncovered his thigh and I saw the whiteness of the thigh of the Prophet." Bukhari 1:367 (p. 224)

* "Whenever the Prophet used to offer prayers he used to keep his arms away (from his body) so that the whiteness of his arm pits was visible." Bukhari 1:771, (p. 430). Bukhari 2:140, 141 (p. 77,78) are both similar. See also Bukhari 1:63 and 2:122.

(The Hadith quotes are from *The Translation of the Meanings of Sahih Al-Bukhari* by Muhammad Muhsin Khan.)

Being red, yellow, black, or white does not make a person any better or worse. However the Black Muslim religion labels all whites as "devils," and claims to follow Mohammed's Qur'an. Since he was a white man, the Black Muslim follows a white devil and his white man's book.

Mohammed's Black Slaves

"Narrated 'Umar. I came and behold, Allah's Apostle [Mohammed] as staying on a Mashroba (balcony room) and a black slave of Allah's Apostle was at the top of its stairs. I said to him, '(Tell the Prophet) that here is 'Umar bin Al-Khattab (asking entry permission.)'" Bukhari Hadith vol. 9 no. 368.

"He [Mohammed] was staying in an upper room of his to which he ascended by ladder, and a black slave of Allah's Apostle [Mohammed] was (sitting) on the first step." Bukhari hadith vol. 6 no. 435.

Mohammed even auctioned off a slave in Bukhari vol. 3 no. 711 p. 427; vol. 9 no. 296.

Elijah Muhammad's History

* "I am the first man since the death of Yakub commissioned by God directly. I say no more than Jesus said. He said that He came from God. I say that I am missioned by God." p. 171. (Message to the Black Man)

* In 1964 Malcolm X left Nation of Islam to found Muslim Mosque, Inc. Elijah Muhammad called him a traitor that should be killed.

* One likely reason for Malcolm X to leave is that Elijah Muhammad admitted to the rumors of the sexual goings on with his secretaries.

* 2/21/1965 Malcolm X, then 39, was assassinated by three black men in New York City.

* 2/26/1975 Elijah died of a bad heart.

Elijah Muhammad's Teachings

* "...You will agree with me that the whole Caucasian race is a race of devils." p. 23 (Message to the Black Man)

* "The devils have tried to deceive the people all over the earth with Christianity; that is God the Father, Jesus the Son, the Holy Ghost-three Gods in one God—the resurrection of the Son and His return to judge the world." p. 11 (Ibid)

* "The Bible is called a poison book by God Himself" p. 94 (Ibid)

* "...it is best that they throw the Bible in the waste pail, since they cannot understand it." p. 90 (Ibid)

* "The things of which I have spoken will come upon America and its people within the next 6 years." p. 172 (Still unfulfilled after 45 yrs.)

* "Allah came to us from the Holy City, Mecca, Arabia in 1930. He used the name Wallace D. Fard." p. 16 (Ibid)

* One God but Polytheistic-25,000 years. Bible and Qur'an are written by 24 scientists-one scientist was appointed to be God. P. 108 (Ibid)

* The black race created the heavens and the earth and created themselves. P. 42 (Ibid)

* The black race gave birth to Mr. Yakub, p. 110, He lived only 150 years. P. 116 (Ibid)

* Yakub, a crazed black scientist, created the white race. P. 9 (Ibid)

* 6,000 years ago the black race gave birth to Allah, He is the mightiest God since creation born after Yakub. P. 111 (Ibid)

* Orthodox Islam must bow to Black Islam (God's choice) p. 50. (Ibid) Arabs misunderstand the Holy Qur'an when they don't accept me [Elijah Muhammad] as a prophet. P. 250 (Ibid)

* Moses used dynamite with a fuse to kill 300 of his followers. P. 120.

(Ibid) - An amazing miracle; dynamite wasn't invented until 2400 years later!

* Jesus is not God. P. 9, 140 (Ibid)

* Black preachers' mouths are controlled by the devils; they are a great hindrance to the truth of our people. P. 18, 47, 84, 89, 96. (Ibid)

* The mountains were created by bombs from spaceships circling the earth. P. 90 (Ibid)

* Wallace D. Fard is God [Allah]. P. 1, 11, 27, 46, 52, 141, 155, 172. (Ibid)

Louis Farrakhan

"The Honorable Elijah Muhammad, I am here to declare, is risen. The Jesus you have been seeking and waiting for His return has been in your midst for 40 years, "but you knew not who He was." (public record)

Concerning Jewish people, Farrakhan said:

"Hitler was a great man." 3/1984

"Judaism is a gutter religion." 7/1984

Yet Farrakhan denies he is anti-Semitic or anti-white. (Austin American Statesman 3/13/94 section C)

Immediately after the uproar over Black Muslim Khalid Abdul Muhammad's extremely racist speech, Farrakhan said, "I stand by the truths that he spoke." (Human Events 2/4/94 p. 5).

A Summary and An Answer

Black Muslim leaders seem to say anything, even silly things, to get blacks to join their ignorance and look to whites as not even friends; only devils to hate.

Racism is wrong, regardless of who the target is, and regardless of who the evil racists are. Black racism is just as bad as the malicious evil of white supremacists. If you fight evil with evil, and copy evil, then you will wake up to find you are not much different from them. Racism is stupid, and racism is evil. There is already enough stupidity and evil in the world. Seek what is wise and good. Read the book of Proverbs for more on wisdom.

In contrast to all this evil, the Bible in Galatians 3:28 says, "*There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*"

We are to help the oppressed. Proverbs 24:11-12; 29:7; 31:9; Isaiah 1:17; Jer 22:16; Ps 41:1)

As for interracial marriage, Moses married a black (Cushite) lady in Numbers 12. God did not rebuke Moses, but rebuked Miriam, who criticized Moses' marriage (Christians are to only marry Christians though, as 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 and I Corinthians 7:39 say).

For All, Regardless of Race or Color There Is:

No other God-Exodus 20:3; I Timothy 1:17

No other Savior but Jesus-Ac. 4:12; Phil. 2:10-11

No other way but Jesus-John 14:6; I Tim. 4:10

**THIS IS GRACE.
NOT RACE.**

Steve's Q & A



Steve Morrison
Christian Answers
Director of Research

APOCRYPHA?

Q: Hello and may God continue to bless and guide you in your efforts to make His Gospel known.

I have written a quote from your book "What About the Apocrypha?" at biblequery.org. I have been blessed with all the information as I share with my brother, a devout Catholic, and I thank you. You state that, "Even the Catholic Encyclopedia admits it has errors on details." I have searched through much of that site to find where it admits that to share with my brother. I would appreciate any help you can give to find that.

Rebuttal: Even the Catholic Encyclopedia admits it has errors on details.

Inference: Writers of Sirach (prologue) and 2 Mac (2:24-43; 15:38-40) indicate they were not inspired.

Rebuttal: A writer might not know he was inspired.

Bottom Line: When we have to choose between a human viewpoint and the truth of God, we follow God. We, who together are the True Church, must not cease to recognize and follow God's truth. Thank you. -D.O.

A: The Catholic Encyclopedia I saw this in was the printed version, not the online version. Also, there are two Catholic Encyclopedias, a new one and the older one. What I saw specifically was in the context of the book of Judith. Would your brother really try to defend that Nebuchadnezzar was king of Assyria, ruling from Nineveh, and that he sacked Ecbatana and Ragae, deep in Median territory? The Medes helped destroy the Assyrians, and later the Babylonians; the Babylonians and Assyrians did not destroy the Medes.

Do you remember, it was less than 70 years ago, that the leader of France tried to conquer all of Europe? You don't? -I don't remember that Adolph Hitler was French either. In fact, French people would be offended at that, because 100's of thousands of Frenchmen died fighting Hitler. I think it would be more proper and correct to say that Hitler was the German leader.

It is the same way with Nebuchadnezzar. You can say Nebuchadnezzar was Israel's king with as much accuracy as you can Nebuchadnezzar was King of Assyria. But 100% of scholars agree that Nebuchadnezzar was Babylonian/Chaldean, not Assyrian.

-Steve

Q: Thank you so much for getting back to me. I love my brother so much but, coming myself out of the deep bonds of Catholicism, I have only love and understanding for where my brother is. Leaving my family religion, one I was deeply in love with, was so painful. Now over 2 decades later, all but possibly my oldest brother out of our family of 7 have our names in the Lamb's Book of Life. God has blessed us with a loving relationship but our beliefs still separate us. I didn't want to quote that the Catholic Encyclopedia even made note of what we know to be true without being able to give him the reference which he will surely request. I am trying to stay with the provable, factual errors such as you mention on Judith that are in the Apocrypha, rather than the subjective errors in verse interpretation that Catholics will rationalize and defend. I know, I was once there.

You have a wonderful and Biblically accurate website and I thank you. I have a deep love for those trapped in religions as I once was, and my brother still is. Please pray for the deceived and give thanks that the Lord has chosen to reveal Himself to those who seek Him.

I will pray for you as you continue to bring Biblical truth forward to those seeking. Please join me in praying that those of us released from the bondage of religion will have a loving heart, speaking always in truth and love to those still trapped. Thanks again and God bless you and your loved ones. -D.O.

A: I found some quotes from Catholic sources on the book of Judith you and your brother might be interested in.

***Notes from the New Jerusalem Bible: This is published by Doubleday.** It has the Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur. These are Catholic terms that declare the book to be free from doctrinal or moral error. It does not mean the censors agreed with everything in it though.

The New Jerusalem Bible p. 622 "The Book of Judith in particular shows a bland indifference to history and geography. The scene is set in the time of 'Nebuchadnezzar who reigned over the Assyrians in the great city of Nineveh.' Jdt. 1:1 but Nebuchadnezzar was king of Babylonia and Nineveh had been destroyed by Nabopolassar, his father. Despite this, the return from exile under Cyrus is regarded as having taken place already, Jdt. 4:3; 5:19...We may add that the itinerary of the army of Holofernes, 2:21-28 is a geographical impossibility."

The footnote on Judith 1a (p.641) says, "Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon (605-562

B.C.) was never styled 'king of Assyria' and never had his capital at Nineveh, which had been destroyed."

P. 623 "The author [of Judith] seems deliberately to have defied history to distract the readers attention from the historical context and focus exclusively on the religious conflict and outcome."

***Notes from "The Catholic Bible: Personal Study Edition" (NAB)**

P. 161 "There have been several attempts to classify this Book of Judith according to its literary type. Clearly it is not history. It is useless to try to read it against the backdrop of Jewish history or that of other nations in the ancient world. There are just too many historical errors. Is it then a historical novel, Midrash, or a fictional drama? None of these is completely satisfactory."

***Notes from the Jerusalem Bible**

"b. Nebuchadnezzar stands for the enemy of God's people, Israel; historically he was king of Babylon and was never styled 'king of Assyria,' and Nineveh was not his capital city." (Note on 1a p.539) [This is right after Judith 1:1 "It was in the twelfth year of Nebuchadnezzar who reigned over the Assyrians in the great city of Nineveh." Judith 1:7 also says "Nebuchadnezzar king of the Assyrians"]

"3A. Neither Assyrian nor Babylonian kings claimed divine honors." Note on Judith 3:8 p.541 [This is right after carrying out his commission to destroy all local gods and to force the nations to worship Nebuchadnezzar alone and to compel men of every language and nationality to hail him as a god.]"

"4a. Historically, the return from Exile and the repopulation of Jerusalem were in 539-400. Nebuchadnezzar died in 562." (Note on Judith 4:3 p. 541 [This is right after "They had returned from captivity only a short time before, and the resettlement of the people in Judea and the reconstruction of the sacred furnishings, of the altar, and the Temple, which had been profaned, were of recent date.]" -Steve

Response:

Hello Steve, I appreciate so much your remembering me and my brother and forwarding this information. He is so convinced as I once was, that his understanding as presented through his religion is the truth and I am in great error. What brings me the most hope is knowing that our Savior loves him so much more than I. I continue to pray, faithfully seeking the Holy Spirit's leading and I trust fully in His power. These specific pages that you have forwarded continue to encourage me in the leading of the Spirit as they are in perfect timing for where we are right now.

Thank you for your heart. I know God is at work in that He has so blessed me with a patience concerning my brother. God's Word is truly alive and living.

May God richly bless you as you continue in His work. -D.O.

LETTERS FROM THE FRONTLINE



Dear Christian Answers,

Just a heartfelt thank-you for your article: **Proving to Muslims that Jesus is God and Lord**. I have read a number of articles on the topic but none were so clear and well-written as this one. THIS is what we need: clear, sound arguments which are not merely based on a couple of select scriptures (although even one would be enough) but on a correct interpretation of the Old and new Testaments, showing how interwoven these two books are. -J.S.
(from the web)

some thoughtful responses to these blasphemous remarks about our Holy Bible and God has used this site to bless me in that way tonight! Continue your fantastic work and please continue to expand the website as God leads, I believe that there is much to learn about Islam and how to reach misguided Muslims. May God bless you and make possible the furthering of your ministry to help other Christians called to share the Gospel with Muslims especially! Yours in Christ,

-J.B. (from the web)

there is one thing I'm sure of, is that God has always been with me. Though I've had ups and downs, He has never left me as He promised. Because I know that He is who He says He is and because I know that my redeemer lives, I can say "Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines. Though the labor of the olive may fail... Yet I will rejoice in the Lord. I will joy in the God of my Salvation. He is my strength."

Thank you. My prayers are with you and your ministry. Thank you again and God Bless you in Jesus' name.

-A (Vacaville, CA)

Hi Larry,

Thank You! I sure am aware of your ministry on YouTube and I have watched a few of your programs. You're a great blessing and your programs are very good and sound. I was delivered out of a cult once and I do appreciate the importance of the true gospel and sound doctrine. May God bless you richly.

-A.S. (from the web)

Hi Guys,

I am just writing you to say thank you. I have challenges with missionaries from the Mormon church and your website helped me find the answers. I was a member of an Evangelical church and accidentally found myself in a Mormon one. I feel their words are incoherent, and I told them that I believe in the Bible only but they insisted on Joseph Smith. It seems like aberrant. Anyway, thank you so much. Respectfully yours.

-A. (from the web)

Hi Larry and Christian Answers Staff,

How great it has been to discover your videos! I am a former Catholic whom God in His mercy brought out of an empty apostate system. I am a trial lawyer in San Jose, CA and I have done a lot of studying about Romanism and have been shocked to see how it brazenly contradicts and nullifies the Holy Scriptures. Mike Gendron has helped me and of course Richard Bennett and his very informative website have been great. (www.BereanBeacon.org) Your videos have been so great, but they stop every 2 or 3 minutes because the connection is too slow. I have high speed dsl, so it has to be something about how they are stored.

Anyway, I was mesmerized by Monsignor Ed and his calm and confident disregard of the bible and the words of Jesus Christ. Wow! Also, the younger guy who almost got out of his seat to strangle Larry! That moment was profoundly revealing!

\ I am out of patience with waiting 2 minutes to get 2 more minutes of video. How can I order a set of your debates? Maybe I should just call. I think I will do that. Thanks and blessings and keep up the good work.

-S. (from the web)

Hi Christian Answers,

I was searching for something on the web, when I came across a website by the name of "biblequery.org" and it has your email address. Is that really you?

Gosh, I am overwhelmed with so much info that you have posted. From now on I will check your info before I bother you directly. But I still wanted to thank you for all the help you have given me. In Christ and Bless You.

-M.A. (from the web)

Dear Larry,

I pray this letter will find you in good health and full of joy and peace from our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you for the package you sent. It's a great deal of knowledge and information. Unfortunately I can't contribute to your ministry economically. But my prayers are with you. I love every single article you sent me. Especially "Spiritual Warfare" by Dr. Tommy Ice. I love the way he puts it. What you send me is not only helpful to me but our brothers in Christ, the ones I fellowship with. I was recently entrusted with leading the Bible study in my unit, and I can use the material you sent me to share it with the brothers. Thank you so much. I praise God for men and ministries like you. I've been in prison now for a little over 17 years and if

Christian Answers,

I'm so Blessed by this website—Muslimhope.com! God bless you my friend and co-heirs of Christ's Kingdom.

I stumbled upon your website and am so blessed by it. I was out evangelizing to Muslims in my hometown of Philadelphia today and I heard some discouraging blasphemy. I purchased a Quran and read even more blasphemy written in articles in the back of it. It was such a blessing to hear

DONATIONS TO THIS MINISTRY ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Video production for the internet (see our YouTube channel ANSWERSTV) is an expensive undertaking. Likewise, printing and postage costs for our newsletters and other free mailouts. Larry Wessels and Steve Morrison work regular secular jobs and receive no financial compensation for ministry work therefore all financial donations will go to help us with normal expenses. Please help if you can. (II Corinthians

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“exhort in sound doctrine and refute those who contradict” (Titus1:9)

We now have over 410 Christian videos on YouTube!

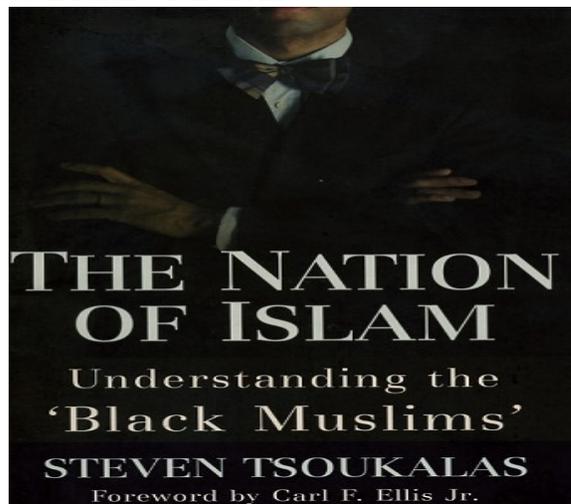
Since February 2011 YouTube finally allowed us to begin uploading full length videos and we haven't wasted any time taking advantage of this. At the time of this printing our videos now have over 365,000 viewings with an average of 1,500 to 2,000 viewings per day. All the videos we have produced over the last 27 years for Austin Public Access TV are now being uploaded onto the internet for all to see. Not only are we uploading all our TV shows but also all our radio shows on all types of subjects from a Biblical perspective. Video viewing is free of charge with no strings attached. Simply type “Larry Wessels” in the YouTube search box. If you want videos on a certain subject such as Jehovah's Witnesses, type “Larry Wessels Jehovah's Witnesses” in the YouTube search box.

If you don't have a computer then get one and join us on our YouTube channel:

CANSWERSTV

THE NATION OF ISLAM

The Nation of Islam promises African Americans a new identity and purpose. But can it deliver? By better understanding Black Nationalism Christians have an improved opportunity to share their Christian faith with them.



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Who Are The
**Black
Muslims?**