DO WE ALL WORSHIP THE SAME GOD?

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During President Bush's recent trip to England, a journalist asked him if he considered his reference to the "Almighty" to be the same almighty in whom the Muslims believe. The President replied, "I believe we [Bush and Muslims] worship the same god." It is becoming increasingly clear that President Bush may profess to be a "Born-Again Christian," but his words appear to reveal otherwise.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). Anyone who has read the Qur'an and compared it to the Bible knows that the Muslims do not believe in this statement by Jesus, nor in the God of the Old and New Testaments; therefore, it is quite clear that the Islamic faith does not pay homage to the God of Christianity.

So why do President Bush, Condelesa Rice, Colin Powell, and other well educated leaders of the world continue to proclaim that Islam is a religion of peace, even though the Qur'an and the history of Islam's militant expansion prove this statement to be a lie? And why do many claim that the "Almighty" of Bush and other officials is the same as the "almighty" of Islam? The President and his advisors should be the ones to answer, but let me hazard a guess, which is based on biblical prophecies pertaining to the last days.

Assume the world leaders are planning to establish a global government, as the prophecies of Daniel and the Book of Revelation say will occur in the last days. A worldwide government needs a universal religion, which is also predicted in the Book of Revelation. The presiding authorities know that fundamentalists of all religions, especially followers of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, must be eliminated in order to establish a global religion that embraces "unity." Even Mikhail Gorbechev has said that *unity* is the Alpha and Omega of the New World Order (NWO). If we are living in the days leading up to the establishment of an all-encompassing religion, then we should be able to witness the world leaders making carefully calculated chess moves which will, as an end result, remove the radicals and placate the moderates in these three major faiths, and I believe it is becoming increasingly obvious that they are making these moves.

If a well thought out plan could take the vital wind out of the sails of religious fundamentalists, then only "peaceful Muslims," "tolerant Jews,"

and "compromising Christians" will remain afloat. These compromising worshipers will have *their* truth, and other non-fundamentalist "Christians," Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, etc., will have *their* brand of truth. Of course, no one will be allowed to proclaim they have "*The* Truth" since that type of "narrow-mindedness" would result in conflicts and wars. With a global religion and worldwide government established, the religious and politically motivated wars that have plagued the world for centuries will cease—or so the leaders of the NWO think. Such a plan sounds flawless, until one remembers that this is exactly what Stalin did on a national level in the Soviet Union, yet it took 20 million corpses to reach this goal, with many survivors wishing they'd been part of that statistic. Jesus warned that man's final attempt to establish world government will result in unparalleled human misery (Matthew 24:21-22).

If this is the objective of world leaders, how could they accomplish such a heinous task? How do they remove the fundamentalist minority from Islam? Any miscues in dealing with the Muslim contingent of the aforementioned trio could rapidly shift the moderates into the fundamentalist's camp, which would summons in catastrophic results. When you are talking about a billion Muslims, there is little room for error.

Since September 11th, President Bush and many others have frequently asserted that we are not at war against Muslims, who worship the same "God" as we do, dubbing Islam as a religion of peace that has been hijacked by murderers and thugs. Through these proclamations, the Chief of State is effectively pacifying the moderates of Islam, and keeping them from joining the fundamentalists in their Jihad against the West.

Although great strides are being made in the war on terror to exterminate or confine the existing Islamic extremists, how can the global authorities ensure that they can preclude any new recruits, when it only took 19 faithful warriors of Allah to change the world as we knew it before 9-11? And how do they silence the fundamentalists of Judaism and Christianity, who in their minds are complicit in the religious tensions around the world, particularly in the Middle East? The following is a conjectured guess that seems to fit the otherwise unexplainable global rhetoric and sweeping governmental policy shifts that are occurring at a staggering rate.

At the opportune time, radical Islam could be brought down with relative ease. All it would take is the bombing (nuclear or otherwise) of the Ka'aba in Mecca (the birthplace of Mohammad); however, this must be done as a politically correct retaliatory response to another terrorist attack, which would warrant such an assault on the heart of the Muslims' most holy religious site. The bombing of Mecca would take out three of the five pillars of Islam. It appears the leaders are not willing to hazard this action until the current radicals, who could immediately counterattack in the name of Jihad, are effectively defeated during the current war on terror. If over half of Islam's pillars collapsed, would this bring down the radical Islamic insurgents along with them?

With the Ka'aba destroyed, devoted Muslims would be unable to hold to the second and fifth pillars of Islam, which call on them to bow toward the sacred site of their shrine in Mecca and make pilgrimage at least once in their life to this holy place. During the pilgrimage they are currently required to kiss or touch the sacred black rock that is currently housed in the Ka'aba. This would be impossible if the sacred rock was gone. Worshipers would also be greatly inhibited from praying toward the desolate Ka'aba of Mecca five times a day, as it would remind them of the desecration fashioned by the great "Satan", whether it is Israel, America, the west, or any other foe. Also, how could a fundamentalist Muslim recite the first and foremost pillar of Islam, the "shahadataan," which declares that there is no god but Allah, and that Mohammed is his prophet, if this god and his true servants were unable to thwart the bombs from obliterating his holy place? Those who tried to chant this mantra would be ridiculed in the same way that Elijah mocked the prophets of Baal in 1 Kings 18:27.

For sake of comparison to Christianity, the destruction of the Ka'aba would be the equivalent of discovering the undisputed remains of the dead and decayed body of Jesus. People who loved the teaching of Jesus might still call themselves Christians, but only the clinically insane would be preaching that the "pagan" must believe in Jesus or they will forever suffer in the lake of fire.

After the decimation of the Ka'aba, this would leave only the two pillars of **Charity** and **Ramadan fasting** still standing for the Muslim to observe, ultimately converting Islam into a controllable and peaceful religion.

Maybe President Bush isn't as uninformed as many Christian fundamentalists think, including me. There could be a very deliberate reason for his lie that Islam is a religion of peace. Not a reason based on any professed "born again Christian" convictions, but rather based on his associations with global leaders who are formulating a global master plan that will directly align the events of this world to fulfill major biblical prophecies pertaining to the last days.

With one down (Islam), there are still two to go. Radical Judaism, like Islam, has a sacred site. The land of Israel, and particularly the Temple Mount of Jerusalem, symbolizes to the orthodox Jew what Mecca represents to the Muslim. The destruction of one or both could have the same effect as the annihilation of Mecca. The orthodox Jews have been praying for centuries that God would bring them back into the land of Israel, as it is prophesied in the Tanach (Jewish Scriptures, called the Old Testament by Christians) dozens of times. They viewed it as a miraculous fulfillment of these prophecies when Israel was re-established in 1948. Isaiah foretold that the rebirth of their nation would happen in one day (Isaiah 66:8-9), and it did. Ezekiel 36-37 says this rebirth will happen in the last days, and that the Jews will never again be forced out of the land.

There are also dozens of prophecies in the Jewish scriptures which promise a Third and final Temple on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem housing the throne of the Jewish Messiah as He rules over the nations of the world. Both the fundamentalist Christians and orthodox Jews are aware of these prophecies. The Christians believe these scriptures will be ultimately fulfilled in the second coming of Christ, while the Jews who reject Jesus as a first advent of their Messiah believe that these prophecies will come to pass through a future Messiah.

Fundamentalist Jews, as well as bible-believing Christians, will be equally shaken in their faiths if the Temple Mount of Jerusalem were to be permanently turned over to a non-Jewish sovereign. Even more shattering would be the defeat of Israel, and the scattering of the Jews throughout the nations for the third time in history. It can be easily extrapolated that the Jewish people would soon after cease to exist apart from their land, and the Bible would have been proven to be a lie. Indeed, I for one have told my congregation that if the Jews are completely displaced from the land of Israel, then I will stop teaching the Bible. The prophecies stating that some of the land of Israel and Jerusalem will remain in Jewish hands until the second coming of Jesus are too clear and numerous to make allowances for, should another Jewish Diaspora occur.

It appears that the American NWO plan for peace in the Middle East (the "Road Map") is intended to remove the fundamentalist aspect of Judaism by dashing their aspirations of a Third Temple on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem while at the same time allowing the Jews to live in the land of Israel with defensible borders. The European NWO plan on the other hand, as reflected in the just signed "Geneva Accords," appears to have the goal of setting the stage for the ultimate defeat of the Nation of Israel. It is also clear that other so-called peace plans are brewing behind the scenes, and no matter what is ultimately embraced as the "final status" agreement between the Arabs and Jews, the ultimate goal will be to eliminate fundamentalist Judaism, if not the state of Israel.

Their plan could even include forcing a peace plan that is actually intended to light the flames of another all-out Middle East war, with the intent to produce the mutual destruction of the two antagonists. Isaiah 17 prophesies that Damascus will cease from being a city and that the glory of Jacob (Israel) will wane. This prophecy has never been fulfilled, but easily could be if a conflict involving the use of weapons of mass destruction by both sides occurs. It is important to note that Isaiah 17 says the glory of Israel wanes, but is not destroyed.

Even though we know Israel will not be defeated, and the Third Temple will be built in Jerusalem as the Bible reveals, the godless world leaders are oblivious to this. Psalms 2 clearly teaches that they plot **in vain** against the Lord and His Anointed (Jesus). World leaders are assuming that they will be successful in their schemes of dealing a death blow to fundamentalist Judaism, a blow that would also weaken but not eliminate fundamentalist Christianity.

How do you silence the bible believing Christian who has no holy place that can be bombed or sieged? How can you get them to abandon their faith when it is impossible to produce the body of Jesus, who in fact has risen from the dead, ascended to the Father, and is waiting to return? It appears to me that their plan is revealed in the application of Hate Crime and Hate Speech legislation.

Nearly everyone is against hate, making it easy to pass hate crime and hate speech laws in most Western Democracies. Over the last several months, these laws have been used almost exclusively to target Christians trying to share their faith with the unsaved, and who are voicing Biblical warnings against the homosexual agenda, and other social sins that the Bible warns will bring the judgment of God. These Christian fundamentalist convictions create religious social tensions and disrupt the all-important "unity" and must therefore be silenced.

The plan to silence these radicals seems obvious. First pass laws against hate, define hate as being a vocal Christian, then fundamentalist Christians are criminals. Criminals can loose their jobs, go to jail and be fined. How many Christians in the West are willing to preach the truth with these threats over their heads? The pressure to compromise is made even greater when false teachers, who are willing to water down the Gospel, have created a comfortable alternative to persecution in the counterfeit Church, which is a user-friendly, purpose-driven social club?

Christians have died at the hands of their persecutors throughout the centuries. Maybe more are soon to follow, this time from Western Countries whose leaders are dedicated to forcing their subjects into their planed NWO utopia. Time will tell, but the apostasy predicted in 2 Thes. 2:3 seems to be upon us and the winds of persecution are blowing into the West.

In summary, I realize the above is highly speculative, but something has to clarify the otherwise unexplainable statements and actions by world leaders. What else but the planned destruction of Israel can explain the Geneva peace plan, which has been formulated without elected Israeli or Palestinian official taking part in the signing ceremony? How can established governments recognize this so-called peace plan when they know its creation was criminal?

If these events are the workings of sinister people committing heinous acts, then we **are** in the "last days" and major changes are about to occur in the Middle East, possibly as a result of major conflict. Being aware of this possibility can help Christians understand these events and also why hate crime legislation is being used against us, so we can prepare our hearts to obey the Lord Jesus, even if intense persecution is truly coming to America. The world leaders want us to stop preaching the exclusive Gospel, but preach it we must. The authorities in Peter's day made the same threats (Acts 3-4), but Peter responded by asking God for boldness. In times like this, true Christians in America need to encourage each other, remembering the words of the Apostle Paul, as stated in the New King James Version of *The Holy Bible:*

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. (2 Tim. 4:7-8)

If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen. (1 Cor. 16:22-24)