#### Session 6

### **Common Camel Questions and Answers**

# Part 1: The Bible Has Been Changed

There are more than a billion Muslims in the world today, the majority are Sunni. But there are millions of Shiah, Suphise and even those in folk Islam. However in each set of Islam, there are some common questions and objections that you will face as you talk to Muslims about Jesus. You need have an idea how to respond to this. Remember your goal is not to win the argument, but simply to present truth, let the Holy Spirit work in the hearts any man of peace who maybe listening. I cannot emphasize the importance of knowing how to answer this first objection about the Terah and the Injil being changed. Almost every time you begin to talk about the before scriptures, someone will say that they have been changed or corrupted, because that is what they had been taught. Fortunately, the Qur'an itself affirms the truth before scriptures. Time and again I've heard Muslims who have been confronted with what the Qur'an says agree that the Bible must be true.

#### **OBJECTION #1**

The Bible (Taurat and Injil ) is not true because it has been changed.

**Mohammed:** But the Taurat and the Injil, they had been corrupted; the Christians and Jews have changed them.

**John:** Yes, I have heard that said before, but could you read Surah 6:115.

**Mohammed:** Surah 6:115 "Perfected is the Word of the Lord in truth and justice. There is nothing that can change His words. He is Hearer, the Knower."

**John:** Allah says He is the Hearer and the Knower. He is watching over his word. We know the Taurat and Injil are the words of the Lord. The Qur'an tells us this, is there someone more powerful than Allah? Who is able to change His words?

**Mohammed:** No one is more powerful than Allah.

**John:** Could you also read Surah 10:94, I think this is Surah unise.

**Mohammed:** Surah 10:94 "If you are in doubt concerning that which we reveal unto you, then question those who read the scripture before you. Verily the truth from your Lord has come onto you so be not among the waverers."

John: The Qur'an says that if we have doubts we are supposed to see what the before scriptures have to say. Why would Allah tell us to consult the scriptures if they were not true or if have been changed? The Taurat and Injil that we read today are translated from copies that were valuable long before Mohammed was born. Mohammed himself affirmed they were true. If the Taurat and Injil were true, then and no one can change Allah's words. They must be just as true for us today as well.

"Follow Along and Make Notes" pages 88-89 in the Camel Rider's Journal

Part 2: Jesus Is Not the Son of God

**OBJECTION #2** 

Jesus is not the Son of God.

Mohammed: Isa is not the Son of God.

**John:** Son of God does not mean that Allah had physical relation with Maryam, then had a child. Of course not! That's blasphemies! But we do see that the Qur'an says in Surah Al-Imran 45 that Isa is Word from Allah.

Mohammed: Yes that's true!

**John:** In the Injil it says this also. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Allah, and the word was made flesh, and dwelt among us. We also see in the Qur'an in Surah Nabiya 21:91, that Allah breathed his spirit into Maryam's womb and Isa was conceived. Isn't that true?

Mohammed: Yes that's true!

**John:** Again the Injil affirmed this. Gabriel came to Maryam and told her: "the Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the highest shall over shadow you." Therefore also, that Holy one who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Let me ask you a question, a Muslim boy goes to the first day of school, they ask them two questions. You know this, they ask him: what is your name, and what is your father's name?

Mohammed: Yes of course!

**John:** Isa goes to school on the first day, they ask him: "what's your name?" he says:"Isa." they ask him:" what's your father 's name?" what did he says?

**Mohammed:** That is an interesting question!

**John:** Allah has designed this world in such a way that no woman will ever spontaneously conceive a child, in every instance but one. When the child has been conceived it was by the physical seed of man, but Maryam did not spontaneously conceive a child either. In the case of Isa, Maryam conceive by the Spirit of Allah. Isa came from Allah, not from a man on this earth, therefore the Injil called Isa "the Son of God".

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"Follow Along and Make Notes" pages 89-90 in the Camel Rider's Journal

#### Part 3: Jesus Did Not Die on the Cross

#### **OBJECTION #3**

Jesus did not die on the cross.

**Mohammed:** Christians say that Isa died on the cross, Isa did not die, but only someone who look like him.

**John:** That's very interesting! And I heard that before. Can you show me where is says that in the Qur'an?

Mohammed: yes it is here in surah 4:157

John: Could you read that to me?

**Mohammed:** surah 4:157 "And because of their saying: we slew the Messiah, Isa, the son of Maryam, Allah's messenger'- they slew him not nor crucified, but it appeared so unto them; Lo! Those who disagree concerning it are in doubt thereof; they slew him not for certain.

John: Those who said they slew Isa are the Jews. Is that correct?

Mohammed: That's right!

John: Tell me! How many times in that passage, did it say Jesus did not die? Actually it never says that Isa did not die, does it? It only says that Jews did not kill him, it's interesting that the Injil says the same thing. The Jews in Jesus' day had been conquered by the Romans. Only the Romans had the authority to put someone to death, and only the Romans crucify people. The Jews could't kill him; they had to bring him to Romans to do it. The Jewish leaders certainly plotted against Isa, but it was the Roman who actually crucified and killed Isa. Also in surah 15: 5 Allah said: "I am gathering Isa and causing him to ascend to me." The word that is translated "gather" is motawafica in Arabic. I've asked Muslims who know Arabic, and they all told me that it means to die. In one place the Qur'an says only that Jews didn't kill Isa, and in other place the Qur'an seems plainly say Isa died and was raise to heaven with Allah, but how can we know for sure? Could you read surah 10:94?

**Mohammed:** Surah 10:94 "If you are in doubt concerning that which we reveal unto you, question those who know the scriptures that were before you verily, the truth has come to you from the lord, so be not among the waverers.

**John:** What is the Qur'an saying to do if something is unclear in the Qur'an?

**Mohammed:** he said to question those who know the before scriptures.

**John:** When we read Injil, it is very clear, over and over again the injail confirms that Isa died on the cross and was raised again from death.

## Part 4: Muhammad Is the Greatest Prophet

"Follow Along and Make Notes" page 91 in the Camel Rider's Journal

#### **OBJECTION** #4

Mohammed is the greatest prophet.

Be aware that the Qur'an never specifically says that Mohammed is the greatest of all the prophets. In Surah 33:40 it does say that he is the seer of the prophet that simply try to say he is the last prophet but the Muslims do hold him to be the greatest of prophet.

**Mohammed:** Of course Isa was a great prophet. So he did many miracles and was born in the very special way. But, Mohammed is the last and greatest prophet. So, we should follow him.

**John:** what did Mohammed himself claim to be? What did he say about himself? Could you read Surah 46:9.

**Mohammed:** Surah 46:9 "I am no new thing among the messengers, nor do I know what will be done with me or with you...I am but a plain Warner.

**John:** Life is very short and eternity lays ahead, so what do you think is the greatest question in life?

**Mohammed:** I suppose, what will happen to me when I die, will I go to paradise or to hell.

**John:** I agree. A prophet is one who brings the truth from Allah. Allah certainly knows the answer to the greatest question, so the greatest prophet should have the answer to the greatest question, shouldn't he?

Mohammed: Yes? That is true.

**John:** Mohammed said that he did not know what would happen to him or his followers. He did not claim to have a sure answer to life's greatest question, but Isa did claim have the answer to life greatest question. In the Injil he said "truly, truly he who believes in me has eternal life."

#### Part: 5 Muhammad Has Superseded Jesus

"Follow Along and Make Notes" pages 91-92 in the Camel Rider's Journal

#### **OBJECTION #5**

Mohammed has superseded Jesus.

**Mohammed:** Jesus came to Jews and Christians. He was there for their time, but now that Mohammed has come we should follow Mohammed.

**John:** I've heard that said but the Qur'an seems to say something different. In Surah 21: 91, I read that Isa is to be a sign and token for all people, then in Surah al-Imran I

read that Allah would raise those believe in Isa, above those who disbelieve until the day of resurrection. Allah did not say just until Mohammed comes but all the way to the last day.

There is a variation on this. Muslims would say that Isa is for Christians or westerners, but Mohammed is for the Muslims or usually found in the non-western world. We were born there so we are Christians; they were born there so they are Muslims. The response you've just heard would fit this objection as well.

# Part 6: The Qur'an Is Only Understandable in Arabic

"Fellow Along and Make Notes" pages 92-93 in the Camel Rider's Journal

#### **OBJECTION #6**

The Qur'an can only be understood in Arabic.

**Mohammed:** But you cannot really understand the Qur'an? It was written in Arabic and can only be clearly understood in Arabic.

**John:** Most people on the earth do not speak or read Arabic. In fact, most Muslims do not speak and read Arabic. Surly Allah is not hiding his words from most people in the world. In fact Surrah 427 tells us that Qur'an was in Arabic, so that the people around Mecca could understand the warning not so that it would be hidden from them. Are you saying that the meaning of one language cannot be transformed into another language?

**Mohammed:** No, of course not! I am not saying that.

John: I have English translation of Qur'an by Mohammed's Pictal. He is an Arabic scholar, so he is telling me in my language with Qur'an really means. I have other translations by other Arabic scholars. If something is not clear, I can compare one with the other. With these translations I can understand very clearly what the Qur'an is saying. King Farde in his lifetime of Saudi Arabia, Spent millions of dollars to have the Qur'an translated into all of the languages which Muslim speak. Why did he do that? If the Qur'an can only be understood in Arabic, Obviously he believed that the Qur'an can be understood in other languages, just as it can be understood in Arabic.

#### Part 7: The Hadith and the MVQ

"Follow Along and Make Notes" pages 93-94 in the Camel Rider's Journal

As you are going through Al-Imran with Muslims, they would often come up with stories and beliefs that you may never have heard of, even if you are familiar with the Qur'an. Most of these stories and beliefs come from what are called hadith, not from the Qur'an.

THF HADITH

A WEITTEN COLLECTION OF THOUSANDS OF THINGS THAT MUHAMMAD SUPPOSEDLY DID AND SAID.

However they were not actually written down until over two hundred fifty years after Mohammed died. Muslims base most of their beliefs and practices on the hadith even though they insisted only the Qur'an is the completely final and perfect revelation of Allah. There is a simple way to respond to these stories and beliefs. I ask this question: is that in the Qur'an or the hadith? I called my INVQ most valuable questions. let's continue talking to a Muslim friends to find out how to handle these unexpected stories and beliefs.

**John:** Adam disobeyed Allah and was sent out of The Garden and he could never go back.

**Mohammed:** But after Adam and Eve were sent out of The Garden, Adam to Saudi Arabia and Eve to Sri Lanka. They developed continually for forty years and after that Allah forgave them.

**John:** That's very interesting! Tell me is that in the Qur'an or is that in the hadith?

**Mohammed:** They are in the hadith.

**John:** So you believe that the Qur'an is the complete and final revelation of Allah, don't you?

**Mohammed:** Yes of course!

**John:** But the hadith, they were not written down until two over 250 years after Mohammed died. In places the hadith actually contradicts the Qur'an. I've heard that the Muslim scholars still debate over which of the hadith are reliable which or not? Now you believe the Qur'an is the complete in final revelation of Allah. Let's focus on what we see in the Qur'an, I am really more interested in what the Qur'an says.

This is usually effective in bringing the Muslim back to what the Qur'an actually says, but what if he says that the story or belief is actually in the Qur'an.

**Mohammed:** Yes surely the prophet turned a mountain into a camel.

**John:** That is very interesting I would like you to read that. Could you tell me where that is in the Qur'an?

**Mohammed:** It is in there somewhere but I am not sure where it is.

**John:** Well maybe I can find that later, but for now, we see here in Surrah Al-Imran that Isa healed people, and even raised the dead. He was very powerful, wasn't he?

You simply ask your Muslim friends to show you where it is in the Qur'an. Most of the time, he won't be able to show you. Quiet often, because it is not in the Qur'an. In this example, you just heard there is a solid prophet mentioned several times in the Qur'an, but there is no evidence of him turning a mountain into a camel. But what if it takes you to a passage in the Qur'an, what do you do then? Again it's very

simple. Asking them to read it, and then ask them what it actually says. Usually you will find that the Qur'an itself doesn't support the belief that he is just expressed.

John: According to the Qur'an, here in Surrah Al-Imran, where is Isa right now?

**Mohammed:** Isa is in heaven. In fact Mohammed says Isa in the lowest level of heaven. It was being Allah took Mohammed on a white horse to the highest heaven in the night journey from Jerusalem.

**John:** that is very interesting! Could you tell me is that in the Koran or that in the hadith?

Mohammed: Oh that is in the Qur'an.

**John:** I am learning about the Qur'an I would like read that. Could you tell where that story is found in the Qur'an?

Mohammed: Oh yes, it's in Surah Beni Isreal 17.1.

John: Could you find that and read to me?

**Mohammed:** Oh yes. Surah Beni Isreal 17.1 "Glorified be He who carried His servant by night from the inviolable place of worship to the far distant place of worship, the neighborhood of which we have blessed, that we might show him of our tokens."

**John:** That's interesting! But it doesn't really say who is taken? How He was taken or even where he was taken from or to, doesn't it?

**Mohammed:** No I suppose it doesn't .that's why we need hadith to help us understand what the Qur'an is saying.

**John:** Ok, then help me understand, the Qur'an then is not the complete and final revelation of Allah, since we cannot understand it without the hadith?

**Mohammed:** No, that's not true! The Qur'an is complete; it's the final words from Allah.

John: Well then should we stay with Qur'an and focus on what it actually says?

Mohammed: Yes? That's right!

Your goal it's to get your Muslim friends to focus on what the Qur'an actually says, not what is heard that it's says or what he thinks might say. You must encourage him to be consisted with what he says he believes. He says the Qur'an is the complete and final revelation of Allah. The hadith came two hundred fifty years later. They cannot both be complete and final revelation of Allah. If he believes the hadith is the final revelation of Allah he should admit and call it that. If not he should focus on the Our'an and base what he believes on it.

## Part 8: What do you say about Muhammad?

There is a very important question that might come up in the conversation with a Muslim. Who do you say Muhammad is? Oddly enough, this question seldom comes up when using the camel method, probably because you and the al-Imran passage are focusing on Jesus. But you need to know how to handle this question, you should be very careful not to say anything that degrades Muhammad. This could be dangerous, and would take the focus off of Jesus, simply let the Qur'an answer for you.

Muhammad: what do you think about Muhammad? Who do you say he is?

John: I say what the Qur'an says, could you read surah 46:9.

**Muhammad:** "I am no new thing among the messengers; nor do I know what will be done with me or with you. I do but follow that which is inspired in me, and I am only a plain Warner."

**John:** I agree, he was a Warner, he warned that there was a day of judgment coming, and that we must be ready to stand before him who created us. But just he said. He was nothing beyond those messengers before him. I noticed that he himself said that he did not know what would happen to him, or to his followers.

Surah 46:9 offers a wonderful opportunity to point out the most important difference between the claims of Jesus and claim of Muhammad. By using passages like John 6:47 and John 14:1-6, You can point out to your Muslim friends that Jesus was very certain what would happen to his followers.

**Muhammad:** and it says, that Muhammad did not know what would happen to him or to his followers.

**John:** but in the Injill, Isa boldly claimd to know what would happen to his followers, just before he died on the cross, he said, "Let not your heart be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house, there are many dwelling places, if there were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you onto myself, that where I am, there you maybe also. I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me. And in another places said, he that believes in me, has eternal life."

Isa says that he knows what would happen to his followers, they will be with him in heaven, because they believe in him. Isa knew where he was going. He knew where his followers were going; they were going to heaven to be with Allah. And he told us exactly how to get there, by believing in Isa.

## Part 9: Four to know before you go

When dealing with questions and suggestions we have found that there are four particular verses that in addition surah imran 42 through 55. We use over and over again.

First of these, is surah 46:9 Muhammad is speaking "I am no new thing among the messengers (of Allah) nor do I know what will be done with me or with you. I do but follow that which is inspired in me and I am but a plain warner."

late one night, two young Muslim men came to the house where I was stay. They had heard that I was in town and wanted to talk with me. The one who did most talking was named Gujar, after we've talked for a while, I ask Gujar, if he knew for certain, if he would go to heaven when he died. He said, he thought he would, I asking him why? He responded that he thought all Muslim eventually go to heaven, I asked them to turn to surah 46:9 and he read it, when he finish reading, he looked up me with absolutely stunned look on his face. He said, Muhammad doesn't know what will happen to his followers.

I began to show him passages in the injill like John 6:47 and John 14:1-6. And others that speak about the certainly of eternal life in Jesus, after I would read a passage, he would look at me and say: yeah! Muhammad doesn't know. Gujar and his friend left that night, each with a Bible in their own language, they were going to begin to meet with a follower of Isa where I was staying, because they wanted to know more about this Isa who knows what will happen to his followers.

Surah 21:91 is another important verse. It's says "and she who was pure (Maryam), therefore we breathed into her of our Spirit and made her and her son a token for all people." That the "her" is referring to Mary. I would have to try out the camel with Mat who has been in the camel training with me; he has never done this before.

In the city park we found a young man name Belao and began to work through the camel with him. Belao said, Isa is not the son of God, Mad agree that Allah had not entered into a physical relationship with Mary and had a son, but he showed Belao this verse, surah 21:91, then they ask Belao, is that if Isa went to school the first day, they would ask him his name, he would say "Isa", but when they ask Isa who his father was. What would he say? Belao thought for moment and he said "I suppose he would have to say Allah. Before he left, Belao agree to begin to meet with Mat to receive the Bible and begin to learn about Isa, who is the son of God.

The next passage is surah 6:115 it says "perfected is the word of the lord in truth and justice. There is nothing that can change his words. He is the hearer and the knower." a group of four of us went to a small town; we were invited to talk to the head master of mazhuasa. Which is a Muslim school; we sat down with him and two of his teachers. They opened the Qur'an and we started through the camel methods, when I talked about reading the injil, so they could know the commands of Isa. They head master said, the taurat and injil have been corrupted, and the popes have changed it. I said, I heard that before, but you know the Qur'an says something different. Could you read surah 6:115, they read it, and head master Paul, he looked very thoughtful for a few moments, and then he said they must be true.

We finish the camel and I asked him if you would like a copy of the Torah and injill, he hesitated again, and then said, all of them have been changed. I said, could we read

surah 6:115 again, he smiling, we've decided said no, that's not necessary. You are right, they must be true, I would like to read the Torah and the injil, we have two copies, So that we can put one in their library at the school.

The next passage surah 10:94, "and if you are in doubt concerning that which we reveal unto you, then question those who read the scripture before you. Verily the truth from the lord has come unto you. So be not among the waverers."

We met Alip in a small internet café, Alip asked me a question. He said I must know which son Abraham offered as a sacrifices to Allah. Was it Ishmael or was it Isaac. This is very important. I agreed, then I ask him to turn his Qur'an to surah 37:110 through 113, after he read it, I ask him, in the Qur'an, does it say the name of the son that Abraham offer. He said "no", then I ask them to turn to surah 10:94 read it, I ask him, what it said to do if he did not understand something in the Qur'an. He said, he says if I find someone who knows these scriptures there was before. I open my Bible to the Taurat, to the Genesis chapter 22, I asked him to read this story of Abraham offering his son. Then I asked him, "did this scripture tell the name of the son that Abraham offer?" Alip said, "Yes, it is Isaac." I guess that answers is my question. If you become very familiar with surah imran 42 through 55 and these four passages from the Qur'an, you'll find that you are well able to handle a wide range of objections from your Muslim friends as well as being able to direct him to the Bible.

# Part 10: begin the journey!

The camel method is working all around the world, and God is using this bridge to lead thousands of Muslims to faith in him. Listen to how this volunteer team boldly stepped out of their "comfort zone" to reach out in the name of Christ to this Muslim community.

Recently, some volunteers came and they were looking for a mosque to go into and instead they found a young boy, this Muslim boy said: you don't want to go into a mosque, you want to speak to my father. And this boy took our team to his father's house, and his father, who has translated the Qur'an into the local language; he read 22 books of Islam. Our team sat with him and asked him to read particular verses in the Qur'an about Jesus, who they call Isa, even though he had translated the Qur'an, he never realized about the verses of the Qur'an that lift Jesus out of prophetic status. and declare him as being holy, and so when the team showed him that Isa is holy. Few days later, he was baptized. And now, he has given his life to going to as many Mosques as he can find, telling them they need to follow Jesus. We need these types of volunteers who aren't afraid and will come and march boldly into mosques, and speak to Muslims about Jesus.

God is granting access to thousands of Muslim hearts through the camel method. Your knowledge of this method places you in the strategic position of helping many more come into the kingdom.

For more information, or to obtain teaching materials

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