

Pressezentrum

Sperrfrist: 21.05.2009; 9:30 Uhr

Programmbereich:

Veranstaltung: Dialogbibelarbeit

Referent/in: Saeeda Ahmed, Bradford/Großbritannien

Ort: Halle 7, Messegelände

Programm Seite: 28

Dokument: BAB_60_1452

Bibelarbeit zu 1. Mose 3

Wissen, was gut und böse ist

The Condition of Human Beings

In the name of God, Most Merciful Most Kind

As a Muslim but (non-scholar), I have attempted to address the issues in the paper by Canon Andrew Wingate. These issues are personalised to my understanding not necessarily what a scholarly interpretation may be.

Adam and Eve

Even as an average Muslim, I have been brought up generally to believe that Satan misled both Adam and Eve and that he continues trying to mislead humans until the last day. He tries to influence our thoughts, actions and make that sound good which is bad for us. When I went to hajj, pilgrims such as myself, supplicated on a mountain called jabb'el e rehmat(mountain of mercy) and this is where we believe Adam (Peace be Upon Him) first contact with earth was after being dismissed from heaven.

Al-Baqara (The Cow)

AND LO! Thy Sustainer said unto the angels: "Behold, I am about to establish upon earth one who shall inherit it." They said: "Wilt Thou place on it such as will spread corruption thereon and shed blood -whereas it is we who extol Thy limitless glory, and praise Thee, and hallow Thy name?" [God] answered: "Verily, I know that which you do not know."

Al-Isra (The Journey by Night)

AND LO! We said unto the angels, "Prostrate yourselves before adam"-whereupon they all prostrated themselves, save Iblis. [75] Said he: "Shall I prostrate myself before one whom Thou hast created out of clay?"

Ta-Ha

and thereupon We said: "O adam! Verily, this is a foe unto thee and thy wife: so let him not drive the two of you out of this garden and render thee unhappy."

Al-A'raf (The Heights)

Thereupon Satan whispered unto the two with a view to making them conscious of their nakedness, of which [hitherto] they had been unaware; and he said: "Your Sustainer has but forbidden you this tree lest you two become [as] angels, or lest you live forever."

Ta-Ha

And so the two ate [of the fruit] thereof: and thereupon they became conscious of their nakedness and began to cover themselves with pieced-together leaves from the garden. And [thus] did adam disobey his Sustainer, and thus did he fall into grievous error.

The Human Condition

As a Muslim, I have been taught throughout my life that both we and I have a responsibility to be agents of change. This links from smaller pursuits to those that are substantial in nature.

Relationship between Men and Women

As a Muslim, I have always understood that men and women were made for each other and their true state would match. Therefore outwardly people may seem very different but in true state would match each other.

Islam is an independent value system and I feel that the religion applies itself consistently to men and women. However the difference is when the religion has been manipulated and adapted to fit into cultures and traditions which do not support the same views and those distortions manifest themselves as inequalities and unfairness. As a British person I feel my Islamic values are more in line with my British identity than my Asian roots. One the basis of this, there is a clash occurring between those cultural interpretations of Islam and my beliefs and actions require constant reappraisal.

Social Responsibility

One of my favourite topic areas and one least known to outside the Muslim world is that of social responsibility. Ritual worship is only one part of applying our faith and just as important is the rights of people. As a Muslim we are accountable to god and through this we have responsibility to others. This includes our parents, relations, community, companions (whether of Islam faith or not), poor, needy, travellers or infirm. we were further brought up to believe God forgives any transgressions that we make against him but the transgressions that are made against people, only the wronged can forgive you. We are encouraged to ask for forgiveness regularly particularly at times of religious significance such as ramadhan and hajj. The social responsibility angle goes wider than the concept of charity (financial) but relates to giving resources, time, energy and assets.

Al-Baqara (The Cow)

True piety does not consist in turning your faces towards the east or the west - but truly pious is he who believes in God, and the Last Day; and the angels, and revelation, and the prophets; and spends his substance - however much he himself may cherish - it - upon his near of kin, and the orphans, and the needy, and the wayfarer, and the beggars, and for the freeing of human beings from bondage; and is constant in prayer, and renders the purifying dues; and [truly pious are] they who keep their promises whenever they promise, and are patient in misfortune and hardship and in time of peril: it is they that have proved themselves true, and it is they, they who are conscious of God.

You shall worship GOD alone- do not associate anything with Him. You shall regard the parents, the relatives, the orphans, the poor, the related neighbor, the unrelated neighbor, the close associate, the traveling alien, and your servants. GOD does not like the arrogant show-offs.

The Position of Prophets

I was taught by my parents that there was over 120,000 prophets from Adam, Noah, Jonah, Lot, Abraham, Isaac, Solomon, Ismael, Moses, Jesus to Muhammed (peace be upon them all)I have always understood as Messengers of God and of utmost character. I have been brought up to believe they were chosen by God as people with exceptional character and were here to give the same message. However they are the creation of the creator and this includes our understanding of Jesus (peace be upon him too. This is where the fundamental difference occurs to Christianity.

Heaven

Heaven is a place that we have believed to be for believers. God will hold us to account for what we do before can be admitted.