502 - What Do Muslims Believe about Jesus?

the question

What do Muslims believe about Jesus (peace be upon him)?

Summary of answer

Muslims respect and revere Jesus (peace be upon him), and await his second coming. They consider him one of the greatest of God's messengers to mankind. A Muslim never refers to him simply as `Jesus', but always adds the phrase "peace be upon him." For more, see the detailed answer.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

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Creation of Jesus

The Quran confirms his virgin birth (a chapter of the Quran is entitled `Mary') in her time, and Mary is considered the purest woman in all creation.

The Quran describes the creation of Jesus as follows (interpretation of the meaning):

"Behold! the Angel said, `God has chosen you, and purified you, and chosen you above the women of all nations. O Mary, God gives you glad tidings of a word from Him, whose name shall be the ×

Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, honored in this world and the Hereafter, and one that shall speak to the people from his cradle and in maturity, and shall be of the righteous.' She said: `O my Lord! How shall I have a son when no man has touched me?' He said: `Even so; God creates what He wills. When He decrees a thing, He but says to it, "Be!" and it is." (Al Imran 3:42-7)

Jesus (peace be upon him) was born miraculously through the same power which had brought Adam (peace be upon him) into being without a father: "Truly, the likeness of Jesus unto Allah is as the likeness of Adam. He created him of dust, and then said to him, `Be!' and he was." (Al Imran 3:59)

Miracles of Jesus

During his prophetic mission, Jesus (peace be upon him) was granted and performed many miracles. The Quran tells us that he said (interpretation of meaning):

"I have come to you with a sign from your Lord: I make for you out of the clay, as it were, the figure of a bird, and breathe into it and it becomes a bird by Allah's leave. And I heal the blind and the lepers, and I raise the dead by Allah's leave." (Al Imran 3:49)

Other miracles include speaking soon after birth in defense of his mother's piety. God's other gifts to him included healing the blind and the sick, reviving the dead, and, most importantly, the message he was carrying.

Was Jesus crucified?

These miracles were granted to him by God to establish him as a prophet. According to the Quran, he was not crucified , but it only appeared so; instead, Allah raised him unto Heaven. (An-Nisa 4:157)

Neither Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), nor Jesus (peace be upon him), came to change the basic doctrine of the belief in one God , brought by earlier prophets, but to confirm and renew it.

In the Quran Jesus (peace be upon him), is reported as saying that he came: "To attest the law which was before me. And to make lawful to you part of what was forbidden you; I have come to you with a sign from your Lord, so fear God and obey me." (al Imran 3:50)

And Allah knows best.