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The Qur’an Vs. Holy Bible

The argument of religion has been an ongoing controversy for centuries. People have compared similarities as well as differences between the Holy Bible and the Qur’an relentlessly over time. The believers of the religions often assume that the Holy Bible and the Qur’an do not have any similarities and are for two completely opposite faiths. While Muslim and Christianity have different views, both faiths believe in an afterlife, a God and spiritual healing. Each of the text, guide believers towards spirituality and moral righteousness. The believers of each book trust that they have to follow the many rules and laws that are written in the books in order to fulfil their ultimate spiritual goal.

The Bible is an assortment of writings from multiple authors while the Qur’an is a recitation. The Qur’an is believed to have been received by Muhammad from the angel, Gabriel for over two decades. The Qur’an was supposedly recited by only one prophet, Muhammad. Muhammad did not write down any of the Qur’an, instead he orally recited it over and over again. The Muslims followed Mohammad and also recited the Qur’an. After Muhammad passed away the Qur’an was finally put into a written form. As time passes, stories tend to slightly change, promises are forgotten, important facts fade and before we know it, the over all story has been completely transformed. Therefore, to prevent this happening to the Qur’an, the Muslim people put it into a written form for the first time.

The Bible is believed to have been written by multiple authors, which is quite opposite from the Qur’an. The two books share similarities as well as differences in their beliefs of God, but many facts as to how the books were created are completely different. Christian’s believe that God spoke to many prophets for centuries. Throughout that time, supposedly God instructed the many prophets to share His messages with the world, by recording everything. This is how the Bible came about. By doing so, the Christian’s would rely on the Bible as their compass in life. However, the believers of the Qur’an believe that God spoke to one prophet only, Mohammad. Mohammad supposedly was given the responsibility to relay the information to the world. Mohammad shared God’s messages by reciting the Qur’an to others.

The Bible means “the books”, which is fitting because it contains many books of the bible as well as an Old and New Testament (Eva, “Difference Between The Bible and The Quran”. “The word Qur’an literally means “the recitation” (Puchner 71), which is very appropriate. It is very interesting that both books were created because God spoke to a prophet(s). The Bible is one overall book, separated by books of the Bible. However, “the Qur’an presents itself as the last of a sequence of revealed holy books” (Puchner 71).

Having faith can sometimes feel like jumping out on a limb. It can be a gamble whether we land or fall, but the outcome is sometimes worth the risk. Muslims and Christians are very similar in the aspect of being strong in their faith. They each believe that their version is accurate and the other is not. Because the Bible and Qur’an were written so long ago, we now have to base our religious beliefs on faith. “Muslims begin to memorize the Qur’an at a young age” (Puchner 72). Christian parents typically begin taking their child to church at a young age. Between going to church and reading the Bible at home, the child begins to memorize verses in the Bible at a young age. Both Muslims and Christians want to spread their faith with the world, and the best place to start is at home with the younger generations. A person’s faith is similar to a family tradition. If the younger generations do not know about the family tradition, or choose not to continue with it, future generations will not continue it either. However, if the younger generations are taught the importance of the tradition and participate in the tradition, they will most likely pass it on to future generations. The Muslim and Christian people want to pass on their beliefs to as many people as possible because that is what they were told to do by the Prophet(s).

I have grown up in a community that faith is strong in believing God is the Lord of Lords, and King of Kings. I cannot say that my beliefs as a Christian are more valid than those beliefs of a Muslim. However, I can say that Christians and Muslims each have a very strong belief in God and all of His power. I have never taken the time to look into other faiths and dictate the difference between Christianity and those. I was born into a Christian home and have continued on the same path of faith because that is what I have always been taught is correct. But, after reading *The Qur’an* I cannot help but question if Mohammad was truly another prophet that God spoke to. Everyone has their own opinion and interpretation of a story. To me, it’s very possible that Mohammad was actually a prophet like he claimed to be. It could very well be that Muhammad interpreted God’s words differently than the prophets that wrote the Bible. This could be the reason for the two separate translations, but that it is not for me to determine. The stories that are in the Qur’an and the Bible are very similar, but I believe on Judgment day all faiths will know the truth once and for all.

Eva. "Difference Between The Bible and The Quran." DifferenceBetween.net. May 19, 2011 < http://www.differencebetween.net/miscellaneous/religion-miscellaneous/difference-between-the-bible-and-the-quran/ >.

Puchner, Martin. *The Norton Anthology of World Literature*. Third ed., B, W.W. Norton & Co., 2012, pp. 71-97.