

## “Saving Muslims”

Genesis 12:1-3

Introduction—How might Muslims be saved today?

- God’s promise to Abraham
  - **Genesis 12:1-3**
  - **Genesis 15:1-6**
  - Make his descendants a great nation and they would bless the world.
- Abraham’s promise extended to his son, Ishmael
  - **Genesis 16:10-12**—promised a nation from him
  - **Genesis 17:22-27**—covenant confirmed w/him
  - **Genesis 21:13-18**—Commission to him
- What happened to Ishmael after this?
  - **Genesis 25:12-18**
    - 12 tribes
    - Arabia
  - Geneticists tell us that the Middle Eastern nations and the Jews have a common ancestor.
  - This would be Abraham.
- The promise for Abraham was that through his family, God would bless all the nations.
  - This emphasized salvation.
  - Ishmael was part of his family and was part of the covenant and the promise.
- How then did God bless nations through Ishmael?
  - In 610 AD, the angel Gabriel appeared to a descendant of Ishmael named Muhammed.
  - He gave him a revelation of God’s Word.
  - God was providing a way for the Arabian peoples to come to God.
  - **1 Timothy 2:4**
- Illus.—Elephant
- Application
  - If the Lord reached out to the Arabian people through Muhammed, and Islam, then why wouldn’t he reach out in his love to other cultures through other religious expressions?
  - A loving God would definitely do just that.
  - So, regardless of tradition, God has revealed himself to these other nations, providing multiple ways for them to get to Heaven.
  - We just don’t have the background on how.

Conclusion—Prove me wrong!

I broke several hermeneutical principles.

- Took things out of context—Skipped verses.
  - **Genesis 17:7-8**—Covenant offspring would possess the land of Canaan.
  - **Genesis 17:19-20**
  - God’s intent was to establish the Abrahamic covenant and promises through Sarah’s son, Isaac only.
- Ignored other texts of Scripture
  - **John 3:16-18**
  - **John 5:23**

## “Saving Muslims”

Genesis 12:1-3

- **John 14:6**
- **Acts 4:11-12**
- **1 Timothy 2:3-6**
- **Ephesians 4:14**

Conclusion

- If there were another way for salvation, then why send His only Son to the cross?
- There is a way for Muslims to be saved: Jesus!

**John 3:16** For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. <sup>18</sup> Anyone who believes in him is not condemned, but anyone who does not believe is already condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the one and only Son of God. (Jn. 3:16 CSB17)

**John 5:23** so that all people may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. (Jn. 5:23 CSB17)

**John 14:6** Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (Jn. 14:6 CSB17)

**Acts 4:11** This Jesus is the stone rejected by you builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup> There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:11 CSB17)

**1 Timothy 2:3** This is good, and it pleases God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who wants everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God and one mediator between God and humanity, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who gave himself as a ransom for all, a testimony at the proper time. (1 Tim. 2:3 CSB17)

**Ephesians 4:14** Then we will no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, by human cunning with cleverness in the techniques of deceit. (Eph. 4:14 CSB17)