(Episode 54)

Sources of Islam

The Christian sources

The author : Father Zakaria Boutros The publisher: <u>www.fatherzakaria.com</u> The Christian sources of Islam are divided into two parts:

1) **Quotations from the Holy Bible**: the examples for that are:

1) The annunciation of the angel to Zakaria:

Mentioned in Mary chapter (Surat Maryam) in the quran and in the gospel of Luke in the Holy Bible

2) Virgin Mary and the annunciation of the angel to her:

Mentioned in the Family of Imran chapter (Surat Aal-'Imran) in the quran and in the gospel of Luke in the Holy Bible

3) Difficulty of getting the wickedest into heaven:

In the Holy Bible it is mentioned in the gospel of Luke 18:25: "For it is easier for <u>a camel to enter in through a needle's eye</u>, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God".

In the quran in The Heights chapter (Surat Al-A'raf) 40:" Verily, those who belie Our verses and treat them with arrogance, for them the gates of heaven will not be opened, and they will not enter Paradise until the <u>camel goes through the eye of the needle</u>"

4) <u>The recompense of the pious, righteous people in heaven:</u>

In the Holy Bible it is mentioned in 1Corinthians 2:9 "<u>Things which an eye didn't see, and</u> <u>an ear didn't hear</u>, which didn't enter into the heart of man, these God has prepared for those who love him."

In Meshkat Almasabih, page 487, there is a holy converse: narrated Abu-Hurairah that Muhammad said: God said that I prepared for my righteous worshipers <u>Things which an</u> <u>eye didn't see, and an ear didn't hear</u>

5) Miracles of the Christ:

As creation, giving sight to the blind and reviving from death

In the gospel of Matthew: "healing every disease and every sickness among the people"

In the quran in the Family of Imran chapter (Surat Aal-'Imran) 49: I heal him who was born blind, and the leper, and I bring the dead to life"

6) The Jewish' denial of the Christ:

In the gospel of Matthew 26:4:" They took counsel together that they might take Jesus by deceit, and kill him"

In the quran in the Family of Imran chapter (Surat Aal-'Imran) 54:"And they plotted and Allah plotted too. And Allah is the Best of the plotters"

With the difference that in the Holy Bible it was not said that God is plotter, as this could never be

7) The Christ' ascension up to the sky:

In the gospel of Mark:" So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was received up into heaven"

In the quran, in the women chapter (Surat An-Nisa') 158:" But Allah raised him up unto Himself"

2) The popular legendaries and the books of heretics:

Among the sources of Islam were the popular legendaries and quotations from the books of heretics, as examples for that:

1) Maryam (Mary) the daughter of Imran:

In the Holy Bible it was mentioned that Maryam (Mary) was the daughter of Yoakum

But in the quran it was mentioned that Maryam was the daughter of Imran, and the sister of Moses and Hârûn, although there is a difference in time between them about fifteen centuries

Maryam the daughter of Imran was present in a popular book that was assimilating Virgin Mary with Mary the sister of Moses and Hârûn and daughter of Imran, as just an assimilation for extracting contemplations, but the quran considered that as a fact and quoted that, so Virgin Mary became the daughter of Imran

God can't mistake in a fact like this to be included in his saying

2) The angel bringing food to Maryam while she was in Al-Mihrâb (seclusion)

In the quran, in the Family of Imran chapter (Surat Aal-'Imran) 37:" Every time Zakaria entered *Al-Mihrâb* (seclusion) to visit her, he found her supplied with sustenance. "

That does not exist in the Holy bible at all, but that story was literally present in a popular book named" The birth of Mary and the childhood of the savior", chapter 20

3) The Christ speaking in the cradle:

The quran mentioned that the Christ spoke while he was in the cradle, in Mary chapter (Surat Maryam) 29, 30:" Then she pointed to him. They said: "how can we talk to one who is a child in the cradle?'lesa (Jesus) said: Verily! I am a slave of Allah; He has given me the Scripture and made me a Prophet"

This story doesn't exit in The Holy Bible, but was literally present in a popular book named" The birth of Mary and the childhood of the savior", chapter 20, and the quran quoted it from that book

This story was originally derived from Indian legendary about the birth of Buddha, 559 years before the Christ and was present in an Indian book named" Midana Kataha " chapter 1, page 5, it was taken by those lay people who wanted to glorify the Christ making him speaking while he was still in the cradle, so Muhammad quoted it, thus was mentioned in the quran

4) The creation of birds by the Christ:

This doesn't exist in The Holy Bible, but was present in the book" Narration about the childhood of the Christ ", chapter 36

5) The table descending from the sky:

This story mentioned in the quran in table chapter (Surat Al-Ma'idah') 112-115 doesn't exit in The Holy Bible, but was quoted from the popular books

6) The story of the Cave people:

It is a story mentioned in the quran in:

<u>The Cave chapter (Surat Al-Kahf)22</u>:"Some say they were three, the dog being the fourth among them, others say they were five, the dog being the sixth, guessing at the unseen, yet others say they were seven, the dog being the eighth, My Lord knows best their number; none knows them but a few, So debate not "

Amazingly God doesn't know their exact number saying : Some say they were three, the dog being the fourth among them, others say they were five, the dog being the sixth, others say they were seven, the dog being the eighth, <u>My Lord knows best</u>, so why he was telling those guesses while he would know the truth, and he doesn't want also the people to ask about the saying" <u>debate not</u>"

This story of people of the cave was quoted from the book of "the life story of the Christian saints and martyrs" named "<u>AI-Sineksar</u>"

In it, they mentioned" under the readings of the 20 Th of Mesra" (one of the Coptic months):

"In that day, on the year 252 Gregorian, the seven young saints martyred, those were in Ephesus and their names are documented they are: Melkhis, Martinyanus John, Maximus, Dionasius, Serabion and Kostantinius

When the king provoked the paganism, they went to a cave to hide in it, fearing that they may fall under the threatening of the king, and deny the Christ, but the king knew about that, and he commanded to close the gate of the cave on them, one of the guards who was executing that commandment was a Christian, so he engraved their life story on a brass sheet he found in the cave

So those saints slender their pure souls and died, when the lord wished to honor those honest believers, he revealed to the bishop of the city to go and open the door of the cave, he went and found them dead but their bodies were conserved and intact, he knew from the brass sheet he found in the cave that they died two hundred years ago, and he knew from the coins they had that they were during the reign of king Dakius

The story was quoted by Muhammad and was put into the quran

As many Christian were present in the Arabic peninsula, that story reached the Arabic peninsula and was altered

Ibn Hesham said in his book 'the prophetical life story", part one page 217:

"Christianity was widely spread in Najran in the north of Yemen and the south of Hijaz, the king of Yemen was a Christian, also Waraqa Ibn Nofal became a Christian in Makkah and so many others

So those popular stories were reaching to people and hence were included in the quran