

# Let the Nations Hear

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## Introductions

*“God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son.....”* John 3:16

This is the most important verse in the Word of God (Bible) that reflects the love of God with sinful and lost people. This love needed to be known by all the people around the globe. People have man-made ideas about God and His attributes. Most of the people are entangled with worldly things and they claim openly that there is no God. Psalms 14:1. People have gods made by their own. Money, familiarity, art, honor, personal ambitions and position in the community and many more are their gods. The gods of this world have turned off their eyes and made them blind that most of the world cannot see God, who is the Creator of heaven and earth.

Born again Christians know and they have tasted the Love of God. They know that we need to share this love with those who are heading towards death. The world population has their own imagination that they are on the straight way, but they do not know that death is waiting for them at the end of this journey of life. Most of the religious people around the world are in a cover of religion, but their lives do not reflect that they are godly people. If you ask someone, “What would be your eternal destiny if you die today?” Except those who are born again believers, no one will give you the right and honest

answer. The answer given by non-believers makes it clear that they do not know and even their religions do not give them any surety for their future.

The purpose of writing this book was basically to create the spirit of awareness for evangelism in the Church of our land. The first book was written in Urdu language and because of its great demand, I reprinted it. This book has been used among Christians as well as among none Christians. There are very encouraging remarks by the readers from both sides. One of my friend asked me that do you have a English copy?. I said not but at the same time the Lord has given me burden to write it in English. Although it was a great job but for the sake of the extension of His Kingdome, I accepted this challenge. Praise the Lord that now this book is in your hands. I believe the Lord will bless you while you will go through it.

I would like to pass my words of thanks to those who helped me in editing this book and correcting my language. I am very much thank full for Pastor Paul and His dear wife Teresa Hereon who gave their time to go through this book. I would like to say special thanks for Mrs. Paul because she gave much time to help me in editing it. I pray that may the Lord bless them abundantly and use them for His glory.

If you are a Christian, then I want to share with you a few challenges. I request that you read these challenges very carefully and, hopefully, you will feel the great need of sharing the Good News with lost people. I believe the

Lord will give you spiritual insight to have compassion and a burden to reach these hopeless people with the Gospel of Power. I pray that the Lord will speak to you through these important truths. May He restore your first love with your Lord. May He grant you wisdom to sow the seed of the Word of God. Amen.

I will share great truths in this book “**Let the Nations Hear.**” Please bear with me. I believe the spirit of the Lord will touch your heart and soul and you will never be the same. I believe your ministry will be prosperous and effective and you will be bold in sharing the Good News wherever you are in the world today. These teachings will help you to expand His kingdom on this earth.

*Author*



## Challenges:

1. In my beloved Country Pakistan there are 97.95% people without Christ. They are dying without any hope. Out of the total population 2.5% are not Christians. These are all minorities. Someone said there are 0.1% Christians in this land. Out of this 0.1% there are only a few who are born again Christian. Most of the Christians are like the prodigal son. They feel that they are at home, but actually they are out very far from their Father's house in the valley of death.

I use to say, “Having only feelings about being Christian does not make us Christian.” We have to go through the process of new birth by confession, repentance and believing that someone who was sinless became sin for us. This someone laid His life on the cross of Calvary and after rising up from the grave on the third day, according to the prophecies and his own predictions, completed the work of our salvation. Then we need to open our heart for the Holy Spirit and need to show fruit of the spirit as it is mentioned in Galatians 5:22-23.

Dear church, isn't it a great challenge for you and me to preach the Gospel of Power among these lost people of our nation? Do you think the Great Commission is only to read from the pulpit? Why are you making limited the unlimited love of God? Do you not know that one day you have to be

accountable for these souls at the throne of God Almighty? Do you know the blood of these souls is on our heads? Why have you forgotten the Great Commission to preach the Gospel among all the nations and make disciples? Do you not have passion for these souls who are heading to the lake of fire? Would you like to see these people in heaven who collect papers from the garbage and would you like to see in heaven those who fill their bellies with pieces of bread fallen under the tables? Do you have love only for those who loves you? Do you present cakes on the birthday of Jesus Christ only to those who present cakes to you? If the Spirit of the Lord touches your heart and you are feeling guilty, then don't delay. Kneel down in your closet and ask the Lord to forgive you and open your eyes to see the lost multitudes of our nation. Ask Him to help you reach them with the life saving knowledge of Christ Jesus. I believe He will restore you right now.

2. Around the World: According to a speculation, there are more than 8000 people around the world die without Christ every minute. Now, think for a while. What are you doing for those people? We have not reached yet our Jerusalem. And what about the whole province of Judea and then Samaria and the uttermost parts of the world? When will our church send missionaries? When will our Church have seminars for reaching out? When will we share the Gospel with our Muslim brothers and sisters?
3. Every Fourth Person: A few years ago, I was privileged to translate for a great man of God, Irwin Ruthaford, in our city of Karachi. He said, "If all the

people of the world stand in one line then every sixth person is Muslim. If one Christian shares the Good News with only six people, then the whole world could be evangelized.” I am not talking about conversion, but about evangelization. Now I hear that “if a Christian shares the Gospel with only four people then the whole world could be evangelized.” But the Christians need to be as Christians for doing this. We have talked a lot around the tables, but how many believers are doers? Answer yourself and make ready your answer for the Lord. Isn't it sad that most of the church members are spiritually paralyzed? Most of the church members are spectators. They come to make the church leader happy and leave without any blessings. Some come to snore in the church and some to pass someone's message to someone else. There are many who feel it is our duty to attend church only once in a week. Let me say “our faith must have to be fresh twenty-four hours a day and not once a week only.”

4. Second largest religion in the world is Islam. Islam is growing rapidly, especially in European and African Countries. Believers need to know the reason for this. Let me make a suggestion for the church to please study Islam and especially the Quran, with translation in your mother tongue. Unless we study Islam, we cannot be effective witnesses among our Muslim brothers.

There are two main reasons of growing Islam today. First, Islam is growing biologically more than the rate

of conversions. Wherever Christians are in the majority, Muslims count them as Christian Countries. We know it is not true. For example there are only 5% people in European countries who go to church. There are many who say, "Where is God and what God?" Their lusts are their god. Out of these 5%, there are only a few who are born again Christian. I don't think there is any Christian country in the world. All countries are secular where Christians are in majority.

Most Muslims are thinking to dominate those states as Islamic states. For this, they call their biological growth a blessing. On other hand, Christians think that family planning is important.

A second reason that Islam is growing is due to increasing ethnic conflicts around the world. Some are turning to religion as a way of identity and defiance against the white man's religion. Often, there is nothing spiritual that changes them.

5. In Islamic Countries if the door for the Gospel is opened, then it is opened only in Pakistan. In the rest of the Islamic Republic, Christians are not allowed to do open air meetings as we do here in our land. They can, but only in their closed rooms. Praise the Lord there is no problem yet in our land. We distribute literature in bazaars and we have a lot of contacts with which we meet and share the Gospel. I think the church has to take courage for evangelism while the door is opened. Jesus said in the Gospel of John, "As

*long as it is day we must do the work of Him who sent me, night is coming when no one can work.” John 9:4*

I think this “night” is the time when the door will be closed for evangelism in our land. The church shall be persecuted in the near future. This will be the time when we will pay the price for our faith as early Christians paid the price and in this way we will see revival in our land.

Once, one of my Urdu students who was Korean said, “Naveed, if the Pakistani church wants to see revival in Pakistan, then The key leaders of the church will have to lay their lives for the sake of the Gospel.” He said that before revival comes, this would happen. It is true from the very beginning that the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church. He said when revival came in Korea, Christians were burnt in their church buildings and they were not allowed to come out from the church buildings. If someone tried, then they would shoot him. That is the reason we see revival in Korea. The Lord purified His people with the flame of fire and then it happened. We are not ready to pay the price.

6. Praying and fasting is good and I agree that we could be empowered by this. But ONLY prayer and fasting will never work unless we go and obey the Lord for sharing the Good News. Prayer and fasting is like watering the seed to grow. We pray, “Your Kingdom come, Your will be done.” The Kingdom will never come or His will never done if we are not

ready to do His will. May be this pill will be bitter and hard for some of us to swallow, but let me say, as Nathan said boldly to David, “It is sad to say that instead of prayer and fasting we gave place to hatred, conflicts and divisions within the church”.

"Our attitude reflects that we call the other sects of Christianity infidels, though we don't say this openly. Each sect of Christianity shows that I have taken contract of Heaven, We preach to love one another but we don't, we preach to forgive one another but we don't want to become humble. This is not Christianity and I have to say that we need to change our thinking and take the right track if we want to be followers of Christ Jesus, who was a great role model of meekness.

7. Spirit of Antichrist: I want to bring your attention to the word of God. John says, *“Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the spirit if God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.”* 1-John 4:1-3.

Then he says, *“Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist.”* 2 John 1:7

Those who are not Christian do they believe that Jesus came in flesh? Of course, they don't believe. Then you can see a spirit of antichrist is manifesting itself. We need to reach these lost people with loving concern and care. We do not have bad news but we have a good news to share with them. I already said "After knowing their belief is very important and vital for us to evangelize them".

8. Only Way: Jesus said, "*I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me.*" John 14:6 In the world there are a lot of people who say, "We all are right. You are right and we are right too. Although our ways are different, all of us will go to the same place." Have you ever heard this statement? If yes, then may I ask what was your answer or response to this question please? Do you agree with this statement or do you disagree?

If you agree, then it means you yourself are not sure about the way of salvation. You do not know about the plan of salvation. You are rejecting Christ's death on the cross. Because you are agree that, "Yes, there are many other ways to access our Holy God. Jesus is not the only way." You need to talk about this problem with any born again or evangelical Christian.

If you disagree with this statement, then it means you are on the right track. Keep on following the footsteps of Jesus Christ who is the only way. There are a lot of islands in the world where the Gospel has not reached

yet. There are a lot of parts of our country where there is famine of the Word of God. The Gospel needs to be preached over there. I will urge you, dear church, to rise up in the name of Jesus Christ and reach the unreached world with the Gospel of salvation. Share with the world that there is only ONE way that leads to heaven; all other ways leads to destruction and hell. Let the nations hear about this message of eternal life.

I would like to share with you that when I was 20 years old, I saw the sign of the cross because Christians were not in my area. An idiom that is very familiar in our territory: “A frog of a pond does not know how great is the ocean.” I was like that frog. I was thinking that there are a very few Christians in our land and they are infidels, drinkers, idolaters, and adulterers. But *“For the son of man came to seek and to save what was lost.”* Luke 19:10. So the Lord gave me spiritual insight in 1984 and now, Praise the Lord, I am not lost anymore. I have an eternal hope and I have surety that I have eternal life through Jesus Christ. I will never die, but I will sleep in the Lord. There is no death for believers. I am sorry for bringing you off track, but it was necessary for me to share this testimony with you.

### Our Responsibility?

Jesus gave us a command before ascending to heaven. *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the father, and of the son and of the Holy Spirit.”* Matthew 28:19 *“Go into all the world and*



*preach the good news to all creation.” Mark 16:15. “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8.*

A brief answer to this question is to share the Good News with the lost. But let us look for a while at that. What is the Good News that people need to hear? What is the Good News that saves lives and brings sinners out of death into the Life? How can we come out of hell into the presence of the Lord? How can we have forgiveness of our sins? These questions are very important and we all need to know the answers to these questions.

### What is the Good News?

I would like to bring your attention to a reference. Paul wrote to the Corinthian church that which is Good News. He said, *“For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance; that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the scriptures.”* 1-Cor 15:3-4.

If you ask me to summarize it then I will state it like this: “Good News is that Jesus died for our sins and was risen after three days according to the scriptures.” This is the message in the Good News that people need to hear.

Sharing this message with the lost or sinners is called, “evangelism.” If you want to see it in detail, then read this

statement of the archbishops' committee in 1919, which was held in England. They stated that:

*“Evangelism is  
to present the gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit  
that men should come and put their trust in God through  
Jesus Christ,  
accept Him as their savior and serve Him as their  
Lord in the fellowship of His church”.*  
(Quoted from a book, Fishers of Men, written by  
Prakash Yesuadian)

Now think once again, who are our targeted people? Think for a while about their beliefs? Then look on these verses again. There are a few points and let me write them down.

- Scriptures (Word of God)
- Atonement for our sins
- Death and resurrection of Jesus Christ
- Son of God (although it is not mentioned directly, but without the Son, there is no plan of salvation).

Now: Let me ask you a question. Think about our targeted people and answer my question. Do they believe these four points as they are mentioned above?

I don't know what is your answer but my answer is, “They don't believe as we believe.” Then what do they say? They say, “The Bible is the word of God, but Christian people make a lot of changes in it and now it is not a perfect book, as it was originally. The original Bible was taken up in heaven.” We will talk on these subjects one by

one. Before that I would like to tell you, this message has four points.

- This message is based on the Scriptures
- This message is based on Historical events
- This is an apostolic message
- This message is based on our personal experience.

I want to explain it in a few paragraphs on these points as they are mentioned above.

### This message is based on the Scriptures

Whatever happened to Jesus, his unique birth from a virgin, his miracles, his birth place, his sufferings, his crucifixion, death and resurrection and much more were already predicted in prophecies by the prophets in the Old Testament. In this sentence, Scripture means the Old Testament because the New Testament was not in written form at that time. I want to summarize about that the Good News (death and resurrection of Jesus Christ) is based on God's inspired Word, not on self-made stories or myths.

### This Message is Based on Historical Events

It means that human history proves this great event of death and resurrection (Gospel, Good News) of Jesus Christ. If you want to see the Jewish history, then it will prove that someone named Christ was crucified who was claiming to be the Son of God. Then they heard that he was raised from the death after three days. Their religious

Scholars will prove that it happened. Although they didn't accept him as their savior, they say that this man was crucified because of his claims.

Roman history shows that, yes, this man (Jesus) was crucified under our authority. It is not to kill a fly or a cockroach, to kill a human life is not a normal thing nor to make a decree to execute someone. It must be in written form in Roman papers. I am saying that both Jewish history and Roman history prove that it happen in their time.

### This is an Apostolic Message

An apostolic message means that the Apostles have preached this message. These were the people whom Jesus sent out to go and preach the Gospel around the globe. The word "apostle" means "the one who has been sent out."

If we divide the Acts of the Apostles into two parts, then in the first part is "Peter" and in the second part is "Paul." Both of them were preachers. If we see their preaching then we will see that they both gave priority to share the Good News with their audience. They pointed to their listeners (Israelites) that "you are the one who crucified him but God has raise him from death." They never missed the chance to share the Gospel.

One of my teachers in Bible School, Mr. Donald Stoddard, said. "If your message is filled with very good examples, vocabulary of nice words and philosophy; if it is well accurate as it should be and your wording, presentation

and eye contact is excellent; after the message people appreciate you a lot. But, if you missed presenting the Good News in your sermon then you have not done anything. You wasted time. Philosophy does not save anyone. Only the Good News saves people.” So none of our sermons should be without presenting the Good News. May be there is someone to whom Lord is breaking through during your sermon and his need is to hear the Gospel and accept it. Take this time as very valuable. It could be the last time for you to present the Gospel and it could be the last time for some of your listeners to hear it.

### This message is based on our personal experience

We who are born again Christians conclude that by believing the Gospel, we have been forgiven and now have eternal life through accepting Jesus Christ’s death and resurrection. Now we have surety of our salvation. Now we have our destiny. Now we are not wandering spiritually like many in this world. We believe that if we die today, we will go to heaven because Jesus said. *“I am the way and the truth and the life, no one comes to the father except through me.”* John 14:6. There are a lot of people who were lost and without any hope because they were without Christ and when they heard the Gospel then they accepted Christ Jesus as their personal Savior. Now they have eternal hope and they are not lost. Their testimony is that they are not lost now. They have eternal life in Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world.

### Apostle Paul’s Testimony about this Gospel

Paul was one of the apostles of Jesus Christ, although he was not one of the twelve. The Lord changed his life on the road to Damascus. Prior to this, he represented anti-Christianity, one of the persecutors of Christianity. The Lord used him in a mighty way to be a witness among the Gentiles. Paul played a great role in the New Testament's writings. In writing to the Roman Church he said:

*"I am not ashamed of the gospel,  
because it is the power of God for the  
salvation for every one who believes;  
first for the Jew, then for the Gentile."  
Romans 1:16.*

Paul calls it the power of God. He was thinking, "It's my privilege to preach the Gospel." He also said to the same church:

*"That if you confess with your mouth "Jesus is Lord"  
and believe in your heart that God raised him from the  
dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you  
believe and are justified and it is with your  
mouth that you confess and are saved."  
Romans 10:9-10*

Paul says, Salvation is only by accepting Christ as our personal savior and there is no other way to be saved. You can also read 1 Timothy 1:15 about Paul's own personal testimony. We see in the Word of God and in the world that people heard the Gospel, they accepted, they were saved and they lived according this Gospel.

Now we come to our main topic. As I have mentioned, our targeted people do not believe that the Scripture is in its original condition. What is our answer to this question? I do not know what you would like to say, but what I will say is following in the article. Bear with me and I think you will be blessed and it will increase your knowledge, too.

## Scriptures (Word of God) The Bible has been Changed

In the name of God the Almighty, who is the Creator of heaven and earth and who is the Lord of the Lords and the King of the Kings and who is Alpha and Omega and who is same yesterday today and forever. I would like to address this critical and most important subject. I pray from the bottom of my heart, “Oh God grant me wisdom and enable me with your Holy Spirit to write clearly the realities, authenticities and truths about your Holy and infallible Word.” I pray, “Oh God, may these words be a source of change of the negative thoughts and attitude of my dear readers and change their lives totally from the darkness into light. Oh God, give me the spirit of boldness to write each thought and truth, as it is (Amen).”

Dear Brothers and Sisters, I approach this topic above, given “*The Bible has been Changed*” from God with a deeper thought, search and in the spirit of prayer. If you are Christian then it’s possible that you have been amazed or shocked to see this topic. But I do not know why you would be surprised, because our Muslim brothers claim

this objection against the Bible daily. They make this objection that your "*Bible has been changed*". Have you heard that from someone? If your answer is "NO" then it means that you have compromised with this world and you have hidden your faith because there is no oil in your lamp. If there is oil, then there is no excuse for a Christian to be quiet. As a result it seems you do not know the answer to this question and you have never spoken with someone about the love of God. Am I right?

Remember that the robbers rob only the house where there is something to steal. Robbers don't come in a house to rob where there is nothing. Therefore it means that you haven't yet become the salt of the earth, light of the world and living epistle written in the blood of the lamb. But don't be discouraged. This day is yours. Tomorrow is not yours. Who can say that I will see tomorrow? Today you need to repent from your lazy behavior and disobedient spirit and, after receiving forgiveness, do those things that you could not do in the past. I am sure that if you are honest in your heart, then the Lord will give you courage to repent and seek forgiveness. I pray to God. "Oh God make alive the dead conscience of my brother and sister. Give them the gift of living faith like apostles to be a light in this dark age and a living hope for those who are without hope and a messenger of the Good news for the Crushed ones."

And if you are not a Christian, then my dear ones, this article has been written especially and only for you, to share with you what reality is. But before we go ahead, why don't we have a spirit of a learner and throw out all



the prejudice from our heart. Let's put aside hatred and come near to one another. We are not the enemy of one another. Remember that there is one enemy against both of us and that is the devil, "Iblees". It is his desire that we don't meet. Let's defeat him together. Let's demolish all those walls which are a stumbling stone between you and me and let's do research and be single minded. Let's not follow the shadow; because human history is witness that no one has caught the shadow. I just want you to take your time to read this article and again research it. Let us pray together to God almighty for help to understand this truth without any prejudice and that we would be able to accept the manifested truths. Amen.

I want to introduce my self to you as a student and I will be a student while I am alive. A student is always desiring or searching to learn something. The reason I study books about Christianity and Islam is because of my research and interest in reading religious books. I have many Islamic books in my study and I learn a lot from this treasure. It was my burning desire to not be greedy and selfish by keeping these truths only for myself. So, I planned to write these truths for the good of others.

The printing quantity of the Holy Bible is, by far, the highest among all books ever written. There is not any other book that has been printed like this in the whole world. If there are objections against any book in the world, then that book is the Bible. The most effective and life changing book in the world is only the Bible. The Bible has been translated in many languages and there is not any other book that has been translated into as many

languages. According to a census, the Bible has been translated in more than 2100 languages. If there is any book that gives eternal hope or shows the way to heaven to any lost and hopeless person, that Book is only the Bible.

It is true for any objection, that when a person becomes against any other person or thing and begins to see the truth with a doubting mind and has hatred towards it, then each aspect of that truth will be doubtful to him. But this book is not a normal book; this is the Word of living God. There is no way we should doubt it. Even if someone has this attitude, still it has no effect on the authenticity of the Bible. There are very few people who will be against any evil or lie. If there is any objection or enmity in our Mid-eastern culture then usually it is against the truth.

World history is witness to what happens to the enemies of the Bible. At the time of the early church there was a Roman emperor named Diocletian. He was one of the worst enemies of the Bible and Christianity. He said that whoever had a Bible would be killed. When his time passed, another Roman emperor came. His name was Constantine and he said that whoever had a Bible would be rewarded. At that time, within two to three hours people bought 55 Bibles. As much as Christianity has been suppressed, it has only become stronger and stronger. That's the reason that someone said that the blood of the (Christian) martyrs is the seed of the Church (Assembly of believers.)

In the 18<sup>th</sup> Century there was a French atheist named Voltaire. He claimed that after 100 years the name of the Bible would be totally finished from the face of the earth. In 1776, he himself died and the printing press where he used to print books against the Bible is now used for the printing of Bibles.

A famous lawless American man, Robert Engersole, claimed that in 25 years the Bible and Christianity would be finished from the world. So at the end of 25 years Robert himself was in his grave and today his house is the office of Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA).

History is witness that every instrument that has been raised against the Bible has been broken badly. Every plan has been foiled. The demolisher's of the Bible have been demolished and no one was mourned over them. Different Cultures have come to the earth, several kingdoms have arisen, and storms have come against the Bible. But nothing could harm the Bible. Because the Essa (Jesus Christ) said with His own blessed tongue, "*Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets;*" Matthew 5:17a. It is because in Injeel Shareef (the Gospel) is written, "*For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth forever*" 1 Pet 1:24,25a.

So, my dear ones, do not call the wrath of God upon you by doubting His word the Bible. Study it with your full faith, live according to it, share it and teach it to others that

things go well for you. You can't (Wa naozobillah) resist against God and you do not have to do that.

Now I want to share with you concerning the Holy Bible and what is the answer of the fiery darts of the enemies.

The Holy Bible is a comprehensive book. There are 66 Books (spara's) in it. Different people have written it through inspiration in a period of 1600 years. The Bible has been divided in two main parts. One is the Old Testament and the other is the New Testament. In Old Testament there are 39 (spara's) books and in New Testament there are 27 books (spara's). In these 66 books there is Torah, Psalm (Zaboor), Scriptures (Sahaef-Ul-Anbbeia) and the Gospel (Injeel Shareef).

The Old Testament starts with a story of Hazard Adam & Eve (Hava). It continues with the account creation and the history of Jews and prophecies. Most of the prophecies are about the birth, teaching and suffering of Christ. Many of the prophecies have been fulfilled.

The real author of these 66 books (spara's) of the Bible is God himself. God himself inspired his word upon 40 different people of different areas and different cultures to write it in the language of their own people. God didn't recite it word by word. But He gave them the message of awareness for the people of their age and for the people of future. They wrote it in their own language. The miracle in writing of this book is that, although this book has been written in a period of 1600 years, each of its points is linked with the other. Without God's inspirational power it

would be impossible to have this kind of consistency. Today it looks like only one book. But in reality it's a comprehension of 66 books.

The Bible was written originally in three main languages: Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.

Usually our Muslim brothers make objection that the Torah, Psalms (Zaboor) and the Gospel (Injeel) are not in their original condition. They claim that these books have been changed. Some people say that after "Quran Shareef" came, these books were canceled. Some say that the Christians themselves changed these books for their own benefit.

Being a Christian witness I feel a great responsibility and a privilege to answer this question to our brothers. First of all I would like to point out what the Bible says about itself. Then I will try my best to give an answer to my brothers from their own religion. I hope that at the end of this lesson every wise man or woman would be satisfied as to whether the Bible is changed, cancelled or it is in original condition or not. I am not like one of those who throw mud at others. My religion also teaches me not kill someone with your words or tongue. If I use that language which my non-Christian brothers usually use against Christianity then first of all there is no difference between them and me.

Second thing is this that we Christian's are like a dove in our country Pakistan. We are like a dove who wants to fly but can't because his wings have been cut. In our own

country where we pay our taxes, we are like foreigners. Therefore, I will try to answer very carefully in a very simple way.

Christian Scholars have already written a lot of material on this subject. This material is available from our Christian Bookshops.

When Jews were making copies of the manuscripts of Torah Shareef, Zaboor Shareef or Sahaef-ul-Anbeia with their own hands, they were very careful. The copies had to be written by hand because, at that time, there were no printing presses. They were counting pages, then they were counting each line of a page, then they were counting each word of the line, and even they were counting the letters as well. The purpose was to make perfect copies from the original manuscripts. If they were satisfied that the copy was perfect then they kept it. Otherwise, they destroyed that copy.

Whenever they were writing the name “God” in their own Hebrew language, they used a new nib or pen for writing his name. They were very careful in this matter. There are thousands of these old manuscripts and scrolls in our Museums, all of which were written by hand at that time. They are word by word recording our translations of the Bible, which we have today in our hands.

Some of these old manuscripts were even found in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. They, too, are word by word recording our Bible that we have today in our hands. There is no difference or errors in their text.

In the fifth book (Surah) of the Taurah, God is Commanding Israel through Prophet Moses that *“Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the Lord your God that I give you.”* Deuteronomy 4:2

He says again in Deuteronomy 12:32 *“See that you do all I command you; do not add to it or take away from it.”*

Then Solomon, son of David, says in the book of Proverbs (Wisdom) 30:5,6 through the spirit of inspiration that, *“Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar”.*

Then again Lord God almighty says through the prophet Isaiah, *“The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.”* Isaiah 40:8

Prophet Paul says to his spiritual son Timothy through the spirit of inspiration, *“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”* 2-Tim 3:16-17

Through the spirit of inspiration Peter the Apostle says, *“Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”* 2 Peter 1:20-21

John the prophet says in the Book of Revelation through inspiration, *“I warn everyone who hears the words of prophecy of this book: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.”* Rev 22:18-19

Now the reality is this: God himself is the Guard of his Holy Word. Do we not hear this phrase often? I cannot understand the concept: If God is the guard and then the Robber robs His Word. The God of the Bible is not so weak that he would become so busy or ignorant to not notice that the Bible has been changed. An Eastern poet said in his own language of poetry, “Who can extinguish the light of truth and the lamp of God and who can demolish someone if God be with him.”

Who is he that is more powerful than the God Almighty? Truly there is no one. It will be so amazing that after reading the references that have been given above, a Christian would have committed this evil act of changing the Word of God. If we accept and say that it has happened in the past, then we need to know the proof that it has been changed and why. Who was the person who committed this evil act and when did it happen? Who has proof that they have the original Bible and the Bible that the Christians have in their hands is the changed one?



If there is no proof, then do not invite the wrath of God by saying the defiling words, “The Bible has been changed.” Comments based on a lie have no head and feet; so, do not transfer these kinds of false statements to others. Otherwise get ready for accountability in front of judgment seat of God.

Actually this objection is by our Muslim brothers so I would like to give answer to them from their own Holy Book.

As I have already mentioned, in being a student I usually study Christianity and Islam. I learn much from books related to this subject. As I have studied the Holy Quran, I have not found any statements that suggest that the Bible has been changed or cancelled. As I read the Qurran, it says that,

*“He has sent down to thee the book containing the truth and fulfilling that which precedes it; and He sent down the Torah and the Gospel before this, as a guidance to the people; and He has sent down the discrimination.”*  
(2:42,92,98,102: 3:4,5)

*“And who believe in what has been sent down to thee and what had sent down before thee and know the hereafter as sure as certain. These people are upon guidance from their Lord and they are the winners of goal.”* (2:4,5)

*“Say yes, we believe in God and what is sent down to us and what was revealed to Abraham and Ishmael and Ishaq and Yaqub and his children and what was delivered to*

*Moosa and Eisa and what was given to other Prophets from their Lord. We make no division between any one of them and we are to that Lord obedient (surrendering).” (2:136)*

*“And before it there was the Book of Moses, a guide and a mercy; and this is a Book in Arabic language fulfilling previous prophecies, that it may warn those who do wrong; and as glad tidings to those who do good.” (46:13, 31)*

*“And argue not with the people of the book....” (29:47)*

*“Nothing is said to thee but what was said to the messengers before thee....” (41:44)*

*“And the word of thy Lord is perfect in truth and justice. No one is the changer of His Word, and He is the hearer, Knower.” (6:116; 10:65; 18:28)*

*“...Those who rejected the verses of God, for them is terrible chastisement, and Allah is Almighty, Vengeful.” (3:3)*

*“Say: people of the book! You are not on any way until you establish the Taurat and the Gospel and what is sent down to you from your lord, and many of them will increase by the word which has sent upon thee from thy Lord in insolence and unbelief; so grieve not for this people of the unbelievers.” (6:68)*

*“And the word of thy Lord is perfect in truth and in justice. No one is the changer of His word, and he is the hearer, knower.” (6:116; 10: 65; 18:28)*

Time and space do not allow me to write all the references related this topic from Quran Shareef. But there are many more such references in Quran Shareef.

The creed or the statement of Faith “Iman-E-Majmal and Mufassal” of our Muslim brothers says that *“I believe on the Holy Books.”*

The Prophet Muhammed (MPBUH) came in 570AD. There is no doubt that Quran Shareef and Islam came approximately 6 centuries after Christianity. Both Muslims and Christians accept and understand this reality. We believe that the Torah came many years before Christianity.

Six centuries after Christianity, Quran Shareef came and testified to the previous books. This means that when Quran Shareef and Islam came these previous books were in their original condition and were acceptable and trustworthy. That’s the reason that Quran Shareef testifies about them. If these books were corrupted, cancelled or changed then it was not possible for Quran Shareef to be a witness for these books. If I say to you to be a witness for a person who is not trustworthy, then you will never accept my suggestion because it can be a great problem for you. You will be a witness for a person who is trustworthy.

Quran Shareef does not say that these books are not trustworthy. Quran Sareef is witnessing about them. We can't say from the base of Quran that the Bible has been changed, cancelled or corrupted.

Now the bottom line is this that when Islam came, these previous books were in their original condition, trustworthy, and without corruption or changes.

Is there any possibility that these books could have been changed or corrupted by someone after the coming of Islam? Quran Shareef witnessed about these books. But, is it possible that after the coming of Islam someone committed this evil act?

If it did happen, then when and where did it happen? Who was the person who committed this act?

My answer is this that these corruptions or changes were not possible after the coming of Islam. Six centuries, or six hundred years, is not a short period. During this period, different Kingdoms came and passed away. Different cultures arose and passed. Different people groups and languages appeared on the face of the earth and then disappeared.

Do you think during those six hundred years that Christianity was only limited to a house or inside of the boundary wall of Jerusalem? Of course the answer is "NO". At that time Christianity was spread out around the globe and in every continent of the world.

For instance, (God forbid me) if there were any benefit for me in changing the Bible, then I would have to be successful in convincing my family and friends to change the Bible. This would not only be difficult but impossible. How can I convince everyone else throughout the world to change the Bible while his or her culture, language, countries, states, color, and understanding are all different from mine?

The reality is that the Bible is God's unchangeable Word. As it was before Islam, so it is the same today. It is in its original condition and, as I mentioned above, it has been translated in many different languages for the betterment of the people to understand God's plan of salvation for mankind.

It has been said that God's Word never changes. As He is the same yesterday today and forever, so is His word unchangeable. Christians and Muslims accept this truth and reality as it is. Further proofs can be found in Museums around the world. Please visit them if you can afford it. Learn Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic and study the old Scrolls and Manuscripts if you can. You know that it has been said to us, "*for study even if you need to go to China, you must go.*" Let's apply that in our lives and sacrifice for study.

It is possible and acceptable that there are some printing mistakes in our translations. But these translations are from the original Manuscripts. While there has not been any written Book descended from heaven, God gave the message and His chosen ones have written it in their own

languages and words through the power of Holy Spirit. That is the inspiration also. Please see the references I have already mentioned in previous pages.

Even if your mind is not clear after I have expressed all these realities and truths, then my prayer for you is that, “Oh God, please heal my brother and sister psychologically and open their inner eyes to see and find the great treasure in your word. Amen.”

It is not my work to make arguments with you or to say that you must accept whatever I am saying. Rather, my work is to proclaim the truth openly. I cannot convince you and this is not my job. It is God’s work and I do not want to take His work into my hands. When He restores eyesight, then the blind will see.

If I say that the color of a Crow is white or that the color of Milk is usually green or that Cat is a name of a Sweet Melon, then what will you say to me? Would you not say that you are foolish! You will say to me get lost, I do not know who you are and I don’t want to talk with you. You might explain, “Brother Ahmed listen, Cat is always a animal, not a Melon. Milk is always white, not green. Crow is always black not white. If I don’t accept your explanations and still say that you are wrong and I am right, then finally you would require me to bring a sample of a Crow that is white, a Cat that is a Melon, and Milk that is green.

You ask me from where will I bring these things? I am wrong and making vain and false arguments with you. It is

same with those who say that the Bible has been changed. They don't have any proof and make arguments in vain.

## Injeel-E-Bernabas

Regarding this topic, some have mentioned a “gospel of Barnabas” {Injeel-E-Bernabas}. While it is not my topic of specialty, it would not be good if I did not mention here some explanation of what the “gospel of Barnabas” is. It will help many of you to understand the falsehoods regarding this “gospel of Barnabas”.

If I say the “false gospel of Barnabas,” then it will be more good, perfect and clear to make a base, just as one of our great Christian scholars, Professor Yousaf Jaleel (Garden College, R. Pindi, Pakistan) gave this title to one of his books (Jahli (not real) Injeel-E-Barnabas). The professor is now in eternal rest with the Lord, but he speaks today through his written material. Also, one of our famous friends, “Master Berkat A. Khan” (from Sialkot, Pakistan), has also written a very effective book (Tabsera-E-Injeele-Bernabas). I took help from these two Urdu books for your understanding in a more constructive manner.

There are different opinions of scholars about this false gospel of when it was written and who the author was of this book. The first thought is that a Spanish Muslim man wrote it. How do we know this? The answer is that if you study this false gospel of Barnabas, then automatically you will know how much the author of this book is familiar with the Quran Shareef and Hadees.

A second thought is the author of this false gospel is a Jew who became Christian and then Muslim. Later he became the snake of sleeves and tried to put enmity within Muslims and Christians. However, he succeeded in his purpose.

How do we know that the author of this false gospel was first Jew and then he became Muslim? The answer is that he was familiar with and had deep understanding of the Old Testament. He was also familiar with Talmood because he is pressing on circumcision in this false gospel.

A third thought is that the author of this false gospel was a Christian and later he became Muslim. His name was Fermareno. He was familiar with the Old and New Testament, but he wasn't familiar with Islam.

In 1963, a Christian Priest, Fr. M.D Afelza, said in an article that the author of this false Gospel was a Christian who became Muslim later. Remember that there was not any Apostle of Jesus Christ (Eisa) whose name was Barnabas and there was not any man of this name among the eyewitnesses of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Barnabas was a young man and co-worker of Apostle Paul. He played a great role for Christianity. When we see the attitude of this great man of God, then we cannot expect there to be two swords in one case. The other reality is that this Barnabas, the co-worker of Apostle Paul, passed away 1500 years before the writing of this false gospel.



There was not any book of this name before 1492. It's a later evil effort of someone. From the date of its Spanish translation and from its binding, we come to the conclusion that this false gospel of Barnabas has been written between 1550 -1590. It has been written in Spain, because the coin, which is mentioned in this book, was being used in Spain. This false gospel has been written in Europe not in the East. This book has 222 Chapters and 308 pages.

This false gospel has been found between 1585-1590 in the book room of Pope VI. Lansdale. Larog translated it later from the Italian language to English in 1907. Then, on 15<sup>th</sup> of March 1908, an Egyptian Christian Scholar, Dr. Khaleel Sa-Adit, translated it in Arabic from the English language. Then, in 1916, Molvi Muhammed Haleem Insari translated this book into the Urdu language. On 28<sup>th</sup> December 1961, Malik Kashmeer Book Depot, Okarha, Pakistan, published it for the first time from the Lahore Art Press Anarkali, Lahore, Pakistan.

Professor Asi Ziai, Murray College, Sialkot translated this book for the second time in the Urdu language. Islamic Publications limited from Shah Alim Market, Lahore, Pakistan, published it. In the sense of translation, Molvi Muhammed Haleem Insari has done a wonderful work.

There are several reasons to say that that there is a Muslim man behind its translation. In this book, it is mentioned about Ibraheem and Ishmael, stating that the Ishmael was given as the sacrifice. If this false gospel of Barnabas was

a true Gospel then why is it not mentioned that his father, Ibraheem, gave Isaac as a sacrifice? Because in the Torah and in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Isaac was given as the sacrifice by his father Ibraheem.

The second reason is that the gospel of Barnabas states that “Ibles” did not worship Adam so he became Satan. This theology does not belong to the Torah and to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Rather, it is Islamic theology. If there was a Christian author of this Gospel, then he would have never tried to write that.

The third reason is that the book mentions how Adam & Eve came out from paradise. Whatever is written here is not according to the Torah or Gospel of Jesus Christ. It’s based on Islamic theology.

The fourth reason is this book states that when Adam & Eve came out from paradise they said a wording (Kalma-E-Tayyaba) written on the door of Paradise. This teaching also does not belong to the Torah and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Rather it belongs to Islamic traditions.

The fifth reason is that in this false gospel of Barnabas, it is mention again and again about swearing. Jesus Christ forbids swearing for anything. This teaching also contradicts with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and that’s the reason that the writer of this gospel cannot be any disciple of Jesus Christ.

The sixth reason is it’s topics and teachings do not belong to Christianity. Those teachings belong to Islamic teaching. For example:

Saying that Jesus is the Son of God is blasphemy.  
Saying that the Jesus is the Christ is blasphemy.

Jesus Christ was only a prophet not more than that.

Jesus was preparing the way for the real Christ who was going to come.

But the great and amazing thing is that Prophet Muhammed (MPBUH) never mentioned anything anywhere about this gospel of Barnabas.

The bottom line is that this false gospel of Barnabas is neither relating with the Bible nor with the Quran Shareef. The main reason is that whatever instances are mentioned in this false gospel contradicts historically and geographically with the Bible and the Quran. I am surprised and I cannot understand how our Muslim Brothers accept that the gospel of Barnabas is true because it contradicts with Quran Shareef also and they are using it against Christianity. I urge you to please don't be the instrument of Satan (Iblees) and do not try to put enmity and hatred within one another. Then we'll be too far from one another. I pray to God almighty to help us understand the reality, revelations and secret things of His Holy Word. (Amen).

## The Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ (Atonement)

We discussed a lot about the authenticity of the word of God (The Bible). Now we would like to study one another great objection made by those who are not Christian. I would like to explore it to make it understandable for you. So it is my plea to you to please pay attention while you are studying this great topic.

Death and resurrection of Christ Jesus is a very important part of our Christian faith. Because it reflects divine love towards all human beings. In other words we call “atonement” to this great pillar of our Christian faith. This topic is deeper than ocean and I don’t feel worthy to explore it as I should but

under the leadership of the Holy Spirit I will try my best to write it in details. Atonement reminds us that you have been paid. Without this great and central truth the teaching of our faith is empty and uncomplete. Without this teaching

our Christian faith is like a human body without heart or like a car without engine. Denying this great truth is like committing our self to the fire of hell.

This great truth or topic is under attack by anti Christianity for centuries. All the time Christian scholars tried their best to defend these truths by debating and by their writings. In result of this effort the Lord God has opened

spiritual eyes of thousand and thousands who accepted this truth and the Lord has given them spiritual eye sight. Still there are many who rejected this truth and still their hearts are hardened. I know a truth that a person who has prejudice in his heart can not understand these truths. That is the reason the word of God says that a carnal person can not understand the spiritual things. So who ever you are, I would like to ask you dear reader that before taking any further step in this study stop here for a while and ask the Lord God to make it understandable for you.

In Arabic language there is a word “Kafer” means “hiding” or “to cover”. A person who hides the truth called “Kaffir”. It refers to a plain of God to cover sins of all human beings. Its beneficial are only those who accept this atonement for them selves.

The teaching of atonement is not a new teaching. God arranges for atonement from the very beginning. God told to Adam and Eve to do not eat the fruit of good and evil. But the evil one, Satan has deceived to Adam and Eve and they disobeyed God in eating fruit of good and evil. Before eating this fruit they were sinless but now they were sinners because of their disobedient. There is no use of debating each other that what was the name of that fruit. Torah does not tell us about the name of the fruit. Torah is the most ancient inspired book by God for us. I know that they committed sin by disobeying God.

Now Adam and Eve were covering their bodies with the leaves of fig tree. But it was worthless to do so. It is according to my own imaginations that one side God was

a angry with them because they disobeyed God and the other side He was moved by his unfailing love with them. Its possible that God has given a smile when He saw that Adam and Eve are covering their bodies with leaves. Now God takes step ahead and He arranges animals skin to cover their bodies because they were naked. After clothing then God has sent them our of the Garden.

Think for a while please that where from this skin came to make their garments? It s true that God can do any thing except sin. There is a great truth behind the screen. This skin gives a lesson that definitely an animal laid his life. The sin was committed by Adam and Eve and an animal lays its life. This was not an animal's sin but a human being. Can you see a reflection of atonement in this seen?. In other words atonement means substitute.

An another picture of atonement. In Human history later Abraham comes on screen. Well known person in most of the religions. God has asked Abraham to offer your beloved son Isaac as a sacrifice. Abraham was obedient to God, so He has taken Isaac to sacrifice him. Now when Abraham tide up Isaac on woods at the altar and took knife to kill Isaac a voice comes from heaven that "Stop your hand Abraham, I have seen that you are pass in this exam. Look behind, there is a ram in the bush and sacrifice him in replacement of your son Isaac and Abraham obeyed God. Although this story is very long but I want to bring its conclusion that actual death was of Isaac but ram became his substitute. It was God's plan. This ram became atonement for Abraham's son Isaac. I

will urge you to please read Genesis chapter 22 for further details.

All scriptures are testifying that it was God's requirement for the Children of Israel to offer sacrifices against their sins (Leviticus 1-7 and then 16 Chapter). This sacrifice was required of a blameless animal. Leviticus 17:11 says *"For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for your selves on the altar. It is the blood that makes atonement for one's life"*. In Jewish calendar there was a "Day of Atonement" once in a year.

Now a question: What was the need of an animal to be atonement of our sins? Wasn't it possible for God to forgive human beings with out these means or atonement?

Dear reader, human history is witness that men tried their best to make themselves good enough to be acceptable in the eyesight of God but he was fail. But there is no one who does right always and not bad. In Christianity even we think wrong that counts sin. There is no smaller or greater sin in Christianity. Sin is sin. Stealing a rupee or one hundred thousand rupee both are sins. So the wages of sin is death. Hell was destiny of every human being.

There was no one in the world to be the atonement of all men. Paul says in Roman 3:23 *"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"*. So God takes step ahead and His word becomes flesh according to John 1:1-14. He takes birth from Virgin Mary at the right time and becomes the savior of the world by laying His life on a

ugly cross of mount Calvary. He becomes atonement for the world. He gave His life voluntarily. It was plan of God before the foundations of the world.

He says in the gospel that I came to serve not to be served and to lay my life for many. Be with me for a while, a small child can not clean himself, he need help of some one. In a same way it was not possible to maintain God's standard of holiness so God himself made a plan to make us holy.

Prophet Jeremiah says in **Jeremiah 23:23** *“Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the Leopard its spots? Neither can you do good who are accustomed to doing evil”*. **Roman 5:12** says *“Therefore just sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men because I sinned”*. **Roman 5:19** says *“For just as through the disobedient of the one the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous”*. In **1-John 2:2** is *“ He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world”*. In **Gospel of John 1:29** is *“ The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and said, Look the lamb of God , who takes away the sin of the world”*.

The concept of sacrifices of animals is in many religions even today. This concept is based on atonement of their sins. Those who sacrifice once a year are not only Jews. If these sacrifices were sufficient for the forgiveness of our sins then there was no need to make sacrifices again and again every year. Jewish history is testifying that every



year of the “Day of Atonement” the streams of blood were used to flow in the temple area.

Now if these sacrifices were not enough to be atonement of our sin then what is the reality and truth? Read carefully and pay your whole attention please.

Actually the sacrifice for my sins must have to be equal of mine. I am a human being not an animal and more than this, I am a supreme creation. For this reason it was very important to be a perfect and blameless sacrifice for my sins. It is not my desire to be like this but it is God’s plan for all human beings. Animals sacrifices were not enough for forgiveness of my sins. There is no comparison between animal and human being. It was also very important for that sacrifice to be of a human being (Man) and he was God’s son Jesus Christ. He was sinless, blameless and holy among all men. Being a man he is like me but there is no other comparison between me and Jesus. He is higher than all human beings.

New Testament says in Hebrew 10:1-12

*“The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never by same sacrifices endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. If it could, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshippers would have been cleansed once for all and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. But those sacrifices are annual reminder of sins, because it is impossible for*

*the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Therefore when Christ came into the world, He said:*

*“sacrifice and offering you did not desire,  
but a body you prepared for me; with burnt offerings and  
sin offerings you were not pleased. Then I said here I am,  
it is written about me in the scroll,  
I have come to do your will oh God”.*

*First He said, sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire nor were you pleased with them, (although the law required them to be made). Then He said “Here I have come to do your will”. He sets aside the first to establish the second. And by that will we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all”.*

Therefore by believing God’s plan for our salvation through Jesus Christ we become righteous. We become free from the judgment of God because our judgment has been taken place in Jesus Christ. When we make a confession that “Oh righteous God because of my sins I can not come in your presence but it is your grace that you sent your son Jesus Christ who died for my sins. I believe His supreme atonement on the cross of Calvary. Thank you for your grace Oh, God and accept me in your presence as your child according to your promise.

Some time people ask us questions that if Jesus became the atonement of our sins then does it mean that, whatever we want we are free to do because our sins has been

forgiven? Remember, this question is not made by Christians but by those who are not Christians.

Dear friend: There is only one way which leads to heaven and that is Jesus Christ. In John 14:6 Jesus says *“I am the way and the truth and the life, no one comes to the father except me”*. In John 10:9 Jesus says *“I am the gate...”*. There are many who claim that we all will go at the same place, although our ways are different. But it is not true. According the word of God there is only one way leads to heaven and that is Jesus Christ. All other ways leads to hell and destruction. So it is very important for you to do not reject the love of God but accept it for the redemption of your sins.

I would like to give a few examples to make this truth more understandable for you. These examples are not in the Bible but we can see a glimpse of the truth as has been mentioned above. I do not know that how much these examples are true but we can not deny the truth which is reflecting in these examples. Let me say that whatever the example be it is not perfect. Examples only help us to understand the truth.

History tells us that in the days of Mughals, Akber and Humayoun were father and son. The son was suffering fever and father prayed like this that “ Oh God, please transfer the fever of my son unto me and save my son’s life. History is witness that the fever of the son transferred to the father and he died because of it but the son was spared. It is same with us too. The sins were ours but some one who was sinless became sin for us. He has taken our

sins on himself and died on the ugly cross of Calvary. It is the expression of the Love of God almighty for all human beings.

There were two real brothers. Elder brother was a man of God but the younger was evil man. The younger one adopted a company of gamblers. One day his friend won a lot of money from him in gambling. When the younger one came at home he was very upset and depressed because he lost a huge money. So he takes Revolver out of the draw and goes back where his friend was and asked him to give me my money other wise I will count till three and then I will shoot you. His friend has not taken it serious. He thought that may be he is kidding him but actually this boy was serious. At the last this younger one shoots this person and police heard this the sound of fire.

After killing this person he ran to his house while his shirt was bloody. Elder brother was at home and he asked his younger brother that what happen to you. He said brother I have killed a person so police is chasing me so please hide me some where. Elder brother was very upset and depressed. He asked him to put of your bloody shirt and here is my white and clean shirt and you must wear it. So the elder brother has worn his bloody shirt.

In a mean while police came in and obviously elder brother has been caught out because his shirt was bloody. Case has been filed in the court. On the day of last hearing, people were gather together in the court and Judge made a decision that being a responsible person by the law and government, because Mr., so and so killed a

person so he should be hanged up. A day before of his death It has been asked to him that have you any last desire? He said yes, here is a letter and please pass it to my younger brother. The content of the letter was this:

*“Dear brother you know that I haven’t killed that person, you killed him but because I love you so I am laying my life instead of you.*

*It was your death, not mine, but I am taking it voluntarily on my self that you may have a long life. Now there is a plea of mine to you, Don’t be engaged with those who are evil doers because if you will commit evil again then you do not have any other brother who will lay his life for you, so protect your self and your dignity”.*

Word of God says that while we were sinners Christ died for our sins. *“God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God”.* 2;Cor 5:21.

There are a lot of examples but I think these two examples are enough for the wise person to understand this great truth. I will put it in this way that, as I am under burden of loan of several lakes of dollars and there is no way or hope to pay it back.

So suddenly I have seen that you were on the gate of my house and stepped in. When you have asked me that why are you depressed today? Then I share with you all of my headache. After hearing my problem you say “Ok, here is a blank cheque with my signs and you can

take the money as much as you need from my account and forget to pay it back”.

Now I would not have words to say thanks because it is beyond of my expectations. You solved my problem and I will be very careful in future to take loan. In a same way those who has been paid spiritually by Christ Jesus, they are thankful to him and they do not engage in sin knowingly.

### Sin and it's Consequences

In the Garden of Eden there was a good fellowship within God and man (Adam). Before committing sin man was immortal, sinless, perfect, free will and a steward of God, but after sin they were no more in the fellowship of God. After fall of Adam this relationship with God was broken and death stepped in and ruled over the lives of all human beings. Then God sent them out of Eden with announcing a punishment.

First of all I would like to share with you that “when sin has taken place”?. “Does man takes birth in sin”?. I am writing answer of these questions because it will help us to understand the rest of the subject.

Man was God's final creation and after his creation, God's complements for him were “it is very good” Genesis 1:31. Man is superior than all other creation because he has been created on His own image. So the Lord God said, it is not good for man to be alone. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept: and He took one of his ribs and made a women (Eve) out of this rib and kept

them in the garden of Eden. According the students of the Word of God Eden was in present Iraq and still there are a few memories of that time. How ever they were sinless, innocent and with God until Satan corrupt this relationship.

Actually sin has taken place in heaven first and not on earth. If you do not know reality then you must be surprised that how it is possible?. I want to give you the answer, based on the Word of God. Angels worship God for twenty four hours. There was an angel greater than all others. His name was Lucifer. He became proud and thought to make his throne more higher than the Lord God. There were a lot of other angels who followed Lucifer and the Lord God thrown them out of heaven on this earth. You can read it in Ezekiel 28:11-19 and Isaiah 14: 12-15. So the one who is Satan today was an angle of God. Pride always causes fall and it happened.

After His fall Satan became an enemy of God and His superior creation human beings. He is active in His mission through the ages to be cause of fall for all human beings and to turn against them to God. You must be agreeing with me that he is very successful in his mission in all the nations.

First of all Satan tried to turn man against God. You know that the Lord God commanded Adam to not eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you will eat then you shall surely die. Here the meaning of death is "Separation". This separation could be the physical and spiritual. According to our eastern culture some time

people say to their disobedient son or relatives that “now you are died for us”. It does not mean physical death but this word has been used to declare that now we do not have any relationship with you. If you want to know more about this all then you can read the first three chapters of the Book of Genesis.

Because the women is a weaken vessels, so Satan tried to trap her first and then he used her to trap her Husband (Adam). So both were found disobedient to the Lord God and the wall, gulf of separation occurred between God and man because of this disobedient. So Satan was succeeded in His purpose.

Sin always makes naked to human beings. Adam and Eve felt that we are naked so they tried to cover them selves with the leaves of fig tree. When God called them, they tried to hide themselves. Do you think a man can hide from the eye side to God? Please read Psalms 139. So when the Lord God asked Adam that have you eaten that fruit of the knowledge of good and evil?. In responding to God, Adam has not made accuse only to his wife but to God also and he never confessed that yes I have done so. When the Lord God asked the same question from Eve then what was her response? She also never confessed and made accuse to Satan. I know that confession is not an easy act, it asks for boldness and humble spirit. So with a declaration of punishment to all three of them, God sent them out of Eden.

The punishment for Adam was that because of your sin, I curse the ground so, you shall eat of it all the days of your



life in sorrow. Punishment for women was, that I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception, in sorrow you shall bring forth the children; and your desire shall be to your husband. He shall rule over you The punishment for the devil was that you are cursed over all animals, upon your belly shall you go, and dust shall you eat all the days of your life. Now how the Satan was walking before? The Bible is quiet toward this question. So I would not wrestle to tell you that how he walked earlier. I am not wise than God.

Now because of the seed of Adam, sin was passing through one generation to the another generation and all man kind became slave of sin. Adams son murdered his brother. So the ground became curse because of this first murder. Now the time of Noah there was no need to send a flood if the man kind was good. Abraham has spoken half truth about his wife that she is my sister. Although Abraham was "*Khaleel Allah*" but he also slipped. Moses killed an Egyptian man. David was caught in adultery with Beth Sheba as well as murderer of her husband too for his sex satisfaction. Lot drinks and falls in sin unconsciencley. For bringing it to the conclusion I would like to ask you to please read carefully "*For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God*" Roman 3:23.

Sin has ruled over human lives that the human history has been written by the blood of human being. Injeel says: "*....much more the grace of God, and the gift of grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ has abounded to many.*" Roman 5:15. Apostle Paul says: "*how wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from the body of this*

*death?*” Roman 7:24. There is no doubt in it that if the foundation is not proper then rest of the building must be corrupted. As the seed is same is its fruit. We can not get tomato out of watermelon. A Goat can not give birth to a camel. In a same with us. When there is a seed of sin in our nature then it is impossible for us to be perfect and righteous in our own selves. We can not make good enough to ourselves through our own efforts. We tried enough but we were failed. Sin has manipulated not only individuals but to the families, nations and even whole world.

Our present is a proof that no where in the world is peace today. Man is inventing new instruments for his own destruction and we call it modern age. Selfish spirit is ruling all over the world. Most of the people want to be millionaires and most famous person in the world within a night, without doing any thing. Most of our neighboring people are dying in hunger without any food and we do our celebrations. Isn't it proof of our sinful nature?. Even if two small children play together with a colored toy, then you will see a war among them, because one will say it is mine and the other will claim no, it is mine. No one taught them to do so. It is because of their inherited sin. When these children grow a little and you see them coming out of the kitchen and their faces show that they eat sugar and if you ask them that have you eaten sugar? Then most of the answers are negative. There are a lot of children who make fool to their parents. That is the reason in society and culture, it is common to snatch or rob some ones belongings. It is not a big deal even. But we know it is a

great deal in God's eye sight. These all are the consequences of our sinful nature.

There are many who say: "That it is wrong, a child is innocent but our culture is bad and our culture effect to our children that they do wrongs but man is sinless by birth". But if you ask these people that who made bad to our culture? Then there is no answer of it. Do not forget this reality that we are not sinners because we do sin but because we are born in sin. We are inheriting sin in our nature. Let me share with you a statement of David.

*"Have mercy upon me oh God according to your loving kindness: according the multitude of tender mercies. Blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleans me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is even before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done this evil in your sight: that you might justified when you speak, and be clear when you judge. Behold I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold you desire truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden parts you shall make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which you have broken may rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence; and take not your Holy Spirit from me". Psalms 51:1-11.*

One of my friends said that Adam and Eve confessed their sin and their sin was forgiven. First of all there is no proof of it in the book of Torah. Second the consequences of sin are still there in human lives. There was no need of our confession and there was no need of Atom Bomb to fight against the nations.

In Christianity, sin is not only to go through the process of evil deed. Jesus Christ said *“but I say to you, that who ever looks on a women to lust after her has committed adultery with her already in his heart”* Matthew 5:28. It means that evil thinking is the same as going through that process. Remember that according to the Word of God sin’s penalty is death and it is eternal hell burning with brimstone and fire. It would never end.

Nations tried and they try to control sin and corruption in every age. They make plans and programs and laws to come over it but they are not succeeding. In Moses law there is a theory for not committing sin but man is fail to apply this theory in his life. It has been tried to control sin by force but we are fail. Man has tried to do religious rehearsal and perform many religious activities and duties but still he is feeling accuse to himself. Psalmist says that *“If you Lord should mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand”*. Psalms 130:3.

If this is the condition of man then how he could enter in the presence of the Lord or in the Kingdom of God. It’s a most important question. Think about its answer and come to any conclusion. Think that if you depart from this world today then where you will go after death?. If your answer

is that I do not know then keep on studying continually and the Lord God will reveal its answer upon you during these studies. I also pray for you that may the Lord God help you to understand and accept the truth. By the way I gave the answer of this question in my previous articles. Knowingly I tried to ask this question again and again in my articles that if you die today then where will you go? I was thinking that your answer must be heaven or hell? There is not any other place between heaven and earth. I ask this question to many of my Muslim friends. If some one do not have its answer then I help him, but its true that there is no any other way to heaven without Jesus Christ. But most of the answers are that I don't know only God knows about this and no one else knows. If our deeds are good then we will be in heaven and if not then in hell.

You who are reading this article, if I ask you this question then what is your answer? If you do not know the answer as many others then you are sailing with them in a same boat. Then it is very important for you to read these articles to get right answer. I want to give you the answer, I want to show you the way and I want to tell you the truth, you have to make decision now that where do you want to go. My job is to show you the way and your job is to take step on that way.

In 1984 some one asked me the same question and my answer was the same that only Allah knows where I will go after death. In responding to my answer this man asked me that what kind of passenger are you?. You are on the bus you do not know where this bus is leading you. If you know your destiny then you have to be sure that this bus is

will take you there or not? Or may be the driver could be an untrained person. Not investigating or searching not is a foolish act. The man said that I will investigate in every way that this bus will take me there or not and then I will ride on it.

Because of my limited knowledge I was unable to understand and I asked the question to this man that “Sir what do you mean by al of this?”. He said that is there any guarantee in your religion that you will go to heaven after death?. I said “no sir, I do not know where I will go” because it depends on our deeds. He corrected me and said “please do not use plural form, use singular form and “I will or I won’t etc”. Again I said I do not know”. I was hopeless. The finally he asked me to read this verse by laying his finger upon that verse. It was John 14:6. “*I am the way the truth and the life, no man comes to the father but by me*”. I said, I am sorry there is not any claim like this in my religion. Then he said: you are right there is not any other way than this and it is to accept Christ Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior.

He said that there are many who say that although there are different ways but we all will go at the same place. In other way they say that all other religions are true and there is salvation in those religions too, but actually it is not true. There is no other way and there is no guarantee in any other religion except Christianity. There is only one way and that is Jesus Christ as it has been mentioned in John 14:6. It is divine plain of salvation for whole human beings of this earth.

Our good deeds are not guarantee of our salvation and we can not make holy to ourselves by our own. God is a righteous judge and He will judge righteously. That is the reason He made a plain for the salvation for all human beings. Now what is that plain?. You can read about this in my articles of “Crucifixion of Christ part I & II”. If you do the revision of those articles then it will help you to know more in a better way about this subject.

When I use the word “heaven” of course I mean “Jannah” (in Arabic language). It is a place where is no sin or evil. It is a holy place because of the presence of the Lord God. His eyes are so holy that He can not see evil. Habakkuk 1:13. If the worldly things re there then there is no difference in heaven and earth. So it is a place where we will be with the Lord and there won't be any worldly desire. In a same way “hell” is a lake of fire burning with the fire and brimstone. There is no way to come out of it or return.

## Jesus is Son of God

Dear reader! If you are a Christian, then you have no problem accepting this teaching that Jesus is the Son of God. Neither is it a problem for any Christian to accept this truth whether or not he has studied this teaching. Most Christians think that because their ancestors were Christian and accepted this truth that they also accept it, but they have never done any personal study about this great truth. Only a few Christians can explain how Jesus is the Son of God. Because of this, most Christians are not

able to answer the questions of our Muslim **friends**. Therefore, they are not a good witness to them. I would like to say, with a broken heart, woe unto those church leaders who do not teach in their churches how to be a good witness among the Muslims. They do not even invite someone who already knows how to witness effectively to Muslims to come and share their knowledge and expertise.

The attitude of church members is likewise the same. They attend church as a tradition, an obligation and a duty. They think they have worshipped whether they have understood the sermon or not. The reality is that worship is not only for half an hour but for every part of our lives. Our lives should be a living sacrifice to God (Romans 12:1-2).

I would now like to bring to your attention the topic of Jesus the Son of God and to explain it to our Muslim friends. Although believing this great truth is not a big issue for us, it is a big issue for non-Christians. There is no Christianity without this truth, but non-Christians count it a sin and say that it is defiling God's name.

For non-Christians it is not easy to accept this great truth because they believe that no one has been procreated by God and that, likewise, God has not been procreated by any one. They then ask how Christian people can claim that Jesus is the Son of God. Their thinking is human, not divine at this point. Let me put it this way. Non-Christians take the term "Son of God" to mean that in a physical way Jesus is the Son of God. We Christians do not believe that Jesus is the physical Son of God. Also, let me make it



clear that we do agree with our Muslim friends that God is not a human being but is spirit, that no one is born physically from God, and that God Himself was not born of any one.

Christians believe that Jesus is the Son of God. We believe that Jesus is not physically the Son of God. Sometimes I tell my Muslim friends that if they find a Christian who says that God came to this world, married a woman named Mary, and that from this relationship Jesus was born, then let me know about this person. I will stand with you against this person because he is defiling and dishonoring God Almighty. Also, it is not according to the Word of God Almighty, the Bible. It is absolutely a lie. When I say this, my friends listen more closely to the truth.

But still I would like to state that according to the Word of God and to our Christian faith, Jesus is the Son of God, and I count it a great privilege to explain this great truth.

The problem is that we limit this term “Son”. This one word has various meanings which we need to study. In linguistic matters there are various meanings of any word. We know there is a glass for drinking, glass windows, and wind glass, side glass, glass towers, and various other glasses. So what I am trying to say is that we cannot bind “words” to be used only for one purpose. Even poets play with words. In the same way, the word “Son” has several meanings. If we use this term for Jesus then we must prove it from the word of God. In Galatians 4:4 it says *when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman.*

To explain this term more clearly, we need to think about God for a moment. God is eternal. He is the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last. Our knowledge, mind, thinking and information are limited, but God is unlimited and beyond our understanding. With our limited mind and knowledge we cannot understand everything about God. If it were possible to know everything about God, then He is not God. That is the reason why He is very different and unique from anyone else in the universe.

The Word (Jesus Christ) was with God from the very beginning of creation. All the universe and whatever is in it came into being because of this Word. John 1:1-3. God spoke, and everything came into existence (Genesis 1). Finally, the hour came when this Word became flesh because there was no other substitute who could be the atonement for the sins of all human beings. We have studied already that it was essential for the substitute to be human in order to be the atonement for the sins of the world. It was also essential that the human be perfect and sinless. However, there is no righteous human being, not even one. All are sinners and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23. Since no one is righteous, it was necessary for the Word to become flesh and come to this world (John 1:14). All Scriptures testify about the sinless life of Jesus.

Now we need to see how this Word became flesh. The Bible says that God sent a message through Gabriel to Mary, who was a virgin. He told her, *The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will*

*overshadow you. So the Holy One to be born will be called the Son of God* Luke 1:35. This means that no male had any part in the conception of Jesus Christ.

When Mary replied to Gabriel (Luke 1:38), *I am the Lord's servant, may it be to me as you have said*, the miraculous conception of Jesus took place.

If I do not say He is the Son of God, it will not affect His Son-ship in any way because God Himself said to Jesus, "You are my beloved son in whom I am well pleased". In the Gospels, God says that Jesus is His Son (Matthew 3:17; Mark 1:11; Luke 3:22). Consider for a moment that if God Himself says that Jesus is His Son, then who am I to deny that He is the Son of God? If I deny it, then I am bringing myself under the wrath of God. I will put it this way: if all the world says that Jesus is not the Son of God, He will still be the Son of God forever. Our acceptance or denial will not affect His being the Son of God.

Now I would like to give a few examples to make it more understandable for you.

The first example is this: if you visit my family at our home, and you say to my daughter, "Come here, daughter," is she really your daughter? No, she is not your daughter, she is mine. Then why do you call her daughter? On what basis do you call her your daughter? I know you would say this out of your loving relationship. This relationship is spiritual, not physical. Remember that the relationship of God and Jesus is not human or physical, but it is a spiritual relationship. Remember, please, that

there is no perfect example to explain this, but you can just see a reflection of this truth in these examples.

The second example is our Muslim friends from all over the world performing Haj in Saudi Arabia. Newspapers, television, and radios report all of the details about Haj. In our Islamic Republic of Pakistan, we read in newspapers, hear on the radio, and watch on television that this year so many lakh “Ferzandan-E-Toheed” went to Saudi Arabia to perform Haj. The word “Ferzand” is a Persian word for “son,” and Tauheed is an Arabic term for the “One” God. The meaning of this term “Ferzandan-E-Toheed” is “Sons of God.” We all know that Muslims do not take this term to have a human or physical meaning but a spiritual meaning. To leave family, job, or place and go to perform Haj in a far country is not without sacrifice. Because of this great sacrifice and faith, those who perform Haj are called ““Ferzandan-E-Toheed”. The term “Ferzandan-E-Islam” has the same concept and does not refer to the physical but to the spiritual.

The third example is a word used by our Muslim friends for those ladies who are called “ladies of Jannah”. This term in Arabic is “Um-Al-Momineen.” In the Arabic language, the word “Um” means “mother,” and the word “Momin” means “believer.” So we can say that these ladies are called “mothers of all believers.” It does not mean that all believers are born from these ladies, but because of their great faith they are given the title of “Um-Al-Momineen”.

The fourth example used by our Muslim friends is “Abu Hurairrah.” In the Arabic language, the word “Abu” means “father,” and “Hurairrah” means “cats.” It means “the father of cats.” Now, biologically and medically there is no way that someone human could be the father of cats. Of course, we know that this term does not give the physical meaning but the spiritual meaning. There was a companion of Prophet Muhammad (MPBUH) whose name was something else, but he was given the title of “Abu Hurairrah,” which means “father of cats” because he cared for and nourished many cats. He was a lover of cats.

There are many more examples I could give to explain this great truth, such as Ibn-Al-sabeel, Ibn-al-Waqt and Abu Bakker, etc. All of these terms do not give physical meanings but spiritual meanings. In the same manner, Christ is the spiritual Son of God not the physical Son.

Now I want to make it very clear so that I do not create any misunderstanding. Please do not think that Christians believe that the Son-ship of Jesus is exactly the same as these concepts which I have mentioned above. No, there is a great difference.

Jesus was unique among all people who have ever lived on this earth because He was innocent and sinless. He was holy. He was born by the power of God as no one has ever been born. There is no comparison of His birth with any other birth of any human being. He was the Word of God. He was the only One whose conception and birth did not involve any man.

The Holy Bible also teaches that Jesus was the *only begotten* Son of God, John 1:18; 3:16. This designation, *only begotten*, means that Jesus was the “unique” Son of God. As a son has the same attributes or characteristics with his father, Jesus has the same attributes as God. In Christ is *all the fullness (attributes)* of God (Colossians 2:9). He is the *exact representation* of God (Hebrews 1:3).

Through His atonement He has redeemed the true believers so that we become sons of God in the spiritual sense. *God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons*, Galatians 4:4-5. But only Jesus is the unique Son of God in the sense that He possesses the same attributes as God. No other man can have those divine attributes.

Let me make one more thing very clear. Some people say, “It is true that Jesus has no human father. If, in this way Jesus is the Son of God, then what about Adam? Adam had no parents, either.” My answer is that Adam was not the Son of God for several reasons. Adam was made out of the dust of the earth, but Jesus was born from God. Jesus was a heavenly person while Adam was an earthly person. God never told Adam that he was His son, but He only called Jesus His Son. Adam is not the Word of God, but Jesus is the Word of God. Adam was disobedient, but Christ was faithful. Death came because of Adam’s disobedience, but by the obedience of Jesus’ sacrifice, the streams of life started to flow for all human beings of this earth. Because of Adam’s sin, the doors of Heaven

(Jannah) were closed and locked for all human beings because they were sinners, but Jesus opened those rusty locks of heaven for all human beings by His sacrificial death on the cross. Therefore, I can say that spiritually the cross was the key to open the doors of heaven for all human beings. Adam died, but praise the Lord, Jesus arose on the third day after His death and overcame death and the grave. I believe that those who were unable to see any difference between Adam and Christ must now have had their eyes opened by reading this paragraph. I hope this article helps you to understand the Son-ship of Jesus Christ. May God bless you.

A sinner and unsaved person will be there forever in the torment. A sinner should not think that he will be there for a short time and then he will be free. It is his eternal destiny.

In summarizing this I would like to say that Christ takes your and mine place to save us. Word of God say's that *"he has made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him"*. 2-Corinthians 5:21. Now the good news for you is this that some one paid your debt?. He has taken your punishment, died in your place. Now you need to accept him as an atonement of your sins and then you need to tell others about this good news.

Finally I would like to urge you that if you have not accepted Christ Jesus as your personal Lord and savior then this is the time to repent and to be acceptable in the

eye sight of the Lord. Do not delay make your relationship right with the Lord right now.

This is the day that the Lord has made. So make decision today. We do not know about tomorrow. I pray for you that may the Lord God help you take step of the way of righteousness.

## Bible and Evangelism

The work of evangelism can be seen throughout the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. In fact, the plan of salvation for the human race was prepared even before the creation of the universe. Evangelism began soon after the creation of mankind when Adam and Eve rebelled against God. In Genesis 3:15, God gave the first announcement about how he would overcome sin: he would send a savior.

In Genesis 6:6 we see that God was grieved because of the evil deeds of mankind. Then in Genesis 12 God chose a man named Abraham to be the father of a nation, Israel. From that nation, God was going to bring the Savior of the world. Two thousand and four years ago, that Savior came into the world, and he became a perfect sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. God has been continually doing his work for the redemption of mankind throughout all of human history. It is the burden of God to reconcile with mankind and to redeem mankind from the punishment of his sin, and God's burden is the same today as it has always been.



The coming of Jesus in the flesh into this sinful world was the result of his burden and compassion for the lost world. This burden brought him down from heaven to earth, and this same burden took him to the cross of Calvary. The compassion of Christ is mentioned in Matthew 9:36. Philippians 2 speaks of the love, humility, and humbleness of the Lord Jesus Christ. Out of his compassion, he forgave those who persecuted him and took the punishment of sinful man onto himself.

Jesus prepared and trained missionaries to continue his ministry after his ascension into heaven. Before his ascension, he commanded these missionaries to go and preach the gospel to the uttermost parts of this world. This command was not only for that time, but it applies to every believer in Christ Jesus, too. See Matthew 24:14; 28:19-20; Mark 16:15 and Acts 1:8.

It is the great responsibility of every believer to introduce Christ to others. The reason for this responsibility is that there is no name under heaven except for Jesus by whom we can receive salvation. It is an act or expression of our sympathy toward a sinner to introduce him to Christ, Acts 4:12.

Paul thought of himself as a debtor who must share the good news with others. He said that he was not ashamed to preach this good news but was proud to share it, Romans 1:14-17. He said that for those whose hearts are hardened, this message of the cross is foolishness. But for us (believers) it is the power of God for salvation, 1

Corinthians 1:17-18. He felt that he was under a burden to share the good news with lost people and that if he did not share the good news, then woe unto him, 1 Corinthians 9:16. Furthermore, he said that the love of Christ compelled him to share the good news with those who have never heard it, 2 Corinthians 5:14.

According to the Old and New Testaments, it is very important for believers to be aware of the spiritual needs of other people. If a believer does not perform his duty of evangelism, and people die without hearing the gospel, then the believer is accountable to the Lord God, Ezekiel 3:16-21 and Ecclesiastic 9:10. If a Christian acts as a Christian should, it is impossible for him not to share the good news with others, Acts 4:20. He will say as Jeremiah said in Jeremiah 20:9.....

“but if I say, I will not mention him or speak  
any more in his name, his word is in my heart like a  
fire, a fire shut up with my bones I am weary of  
holding it in, indeed I can not”.

There is a great need for people to hear the good news. There is no other good news for them to hear except this good news of the redemption from their sins, Acts 4:12. People need to know about the only true way of salvation, John 14:6. In Revelation 20:15 it is written....

“If any one’s name was not found written in the book of  
life, he was thrown into the lake of fire”.

Names cannot be written in the book of life unless someone preaches the gospel and people believe it from their hearts. Remember that in this process, whatever our work is, we should do it faithfully and let the Lord do his work. Sharing the gospel with lost people is our work, but bringing fruit out of it is the work of the Holy Spirit. We are just the stone-removers from the door of Lazarus' grave, but raising him up is not our job. It is totally the work of the Lord, and he never asks us to do his work. Our converts will not remain firm, but if the Lord converts someone then that person will remain firm in his faith.

The gospel is like a very precious treasure in the hands of believers. Let us not keep it to ourselves, please. We need to realize how precious it is and use it for the betterment of all mankind. The more seed you sow, the more fruit you will see.

One of my friends was teaching in a seminar, and he shared a story about a poor, old woman and her son. The Lord opened the door for her son to go abroad to work and earn money. Both the mother and son were illiterate. After a few months, the mother became sick, and a doctor came to see her and prescribed some medicines for her. The mother told the doctor that she did not have money to pay his fee. The doctor told her it did not matter and not to worry about the fee. He said he had heard that her son was abroad, and he wanted to know if her son was sending money to her or not. The mother said that he had not sent money or even a letter except some small pieces of paper that he sent every month and that there was not much written on the papers. She explained that she had kept all

those small pieces and that when her son returned, she would give the papers back to him and would ask him why he was kidding her by sending pieces of paper. The doctor asked to see those pieces of paper. When the doctor had checked them, he said to the woman, "These are not pieces of paper, but they are checks. If you deposit them in the bank, then you can have a lot of money in your account. These papers are money."

In the same way, there are many Christians who do not know the value of the gospel. They think that it is only a religious thing and that it is the job of the pastor or elders in the church. However, the gospel is not an ordinary thing, but it is very important. It is good news, and by accepting or believing it, the Lord opens the door of heaven for us which has been closed since Adam's time. Human beings have tried their best to come near to God, but they have failed. If you want to know the value of this good news then read the testimonies and biographies of Paul, Peter, Stephen, and other martyrs. We do not fully know its value because we have never had to pay the price for it. We have never been crucified or suffered. We have never been stoned or thrown into prison or into a lion's den. If we had experienced these persecutions, then we definitely would have known the full value of the gospel.

One of my friends said that he was privileged to go abroad for the first time in his life. Before he left he did not know much about his journey. He said that his flight included a layover of more than 24 hours and that he did not know what to do or where to go during that time. After a few hours he went to the flight inquiry counter and explained

his situation to a woman there. He told her that he could not sit in the airport for 24 hours because he needed rest. He then asked her what he could do. She asked to see his ticket. After checking the ticket she told my friend that his ticket included a 24-hour stay in a hotel and that food was also included. She directed him to the hotel's location and told him to go there and that the staff would help him get a room in which he could rest.

My friend said that the ticket was in his hand and that everything was included in it but he did not know it. The voucher for a room in a hotel was in his pocket, but he did not know what to do. Likewise, there are many Christians who do not realize what they have in Christ and are like a light that is hidden. We need to revive them and tell them about the great treasure that they have. This work can only be done by a person who knows the value of the good news. It is very important for us to share with others the good news about Christ.

## The Role of Evangelist?

If you asked this question in a church, what answers would you receive? In our land, this title is used in a very wrong way. In my previous chapter, I said that every believer's responsibility is to share the good news with others. But sad to say, there are many who say that sharing the good news is only the work of pastors, elders, bishops or church fathers. I am not saying that it is not their responsibility, but it is also the responsibility of every believer in Christ Jesus.

**1- An evangelist is one who believes the good news.**

A blind man cannot show the way to another blind man. Otherwise, both will fall into a trench. The Psalmist says, "...but to the wicked God says: what right have you to recite my laws or take my covenant, on your lips," Psalm 50:16.

I cannot forget the story of a doctor who checked the food supplied to high-level army officers but who later died of food poisoning. This illustrates the fact that no one should preach among others if he himself has never accepted the good news. Whatever we teach others should first be reflected in our own lives.

I have a great treasure of books in my home. I love my books. I have placed a sticker, written by me, on the glass of my cupboard. This sticker says, "Do not teach if it is not reflected in your life." This sticker is not for our visitors, but it is for me. The Lord has given me the privilege of preaching in various churches, so I have to cook spiritual food in my kitchen (in my personal library) in order to serve others. Whenever I select a book out of this cupboard, this sticker says this to me: "Where are you going and what are you going to preach? Examine your life first to see whether or not this teaching is reflected in your life." It is necessary for an evangelist to apply the good news to his own life. There are many people who call themselves Christians and hang a cross on their

necks, but they do not know the one who has been crucified for them.

- 2- An evangelist evangelizes new people in new areas:**  
 Remember that an evangelist's ministry is not among Christians but among non-Christians in a new area where the gospel has not been preached. The Christian's work is to share the good news, but we cannot compel someone to accept this good news. Some one has said that we can bring a horse near the water tank, but we cannot compel the horse to drink. If someone calls himself an evangelist but preaches the gospel among Christians, then it means that he is a money-maker and not an evangelist since an evangelist's ministry is not among Christians. Please do not misunderstand me. I am not saying that an evangelist cannot go among Christians. He can go if he is invited, but he should not make it his field of labour.

Often someone who does not have a fruitful ministry dreams of being an evangelist, but he preaches in Christian communities. This is especially true in Pakistan and India. We need to correct these evangelists and set them on the right track. We need to show them those who have never heard the gospel. An evangelist should not worry about his own physical needs because the Lord Jesus Christ promised to supply everything we need, Matthew 6:33. I am not saying that all evangelists are like this. There are a few

committed men of God who serve Him faithfully according to their call and commitment.

A servant of the Lord, a pastor, who was called out of the darkness into the light by the power of the Holy Spirit from the majority people of our land, said that one day he was very busy in a meeting in his home. Suddenly someone knocked at the door, and when he opened the door, a man was standing there. The man said that he was an evangelist and that he had come to share the word of God with him. The pastor did not know this man and told him that he was very busy in a meeting and that it was plainly written on the name plate on the door post that he was a pastor. The pastor explained that he had been evangelized by someone approximately 25 years back. The pastor then gave the evangelist a few rupees, took hold of his wrist, took him to the corner of the street, and asked the evangelist if he could see the mosque at the end of the street. He told the evangelist that in 5 minutes many people would come out of that mosque and that he was sure that none of them had ever heard the good news. The pastor told the evangelist to please go and evangelize them. The evangelist became very angry with the pastor.

We need to correct this type of person who does not have any vision and comes for money, not for lost souls.



Acts 1:8 is also a key verse for evangelism. It says that when the Holy Spirit comes upon believers, they will receive power. Here, the word “power” means that the believer will become bold to preach the gospel. Now the sign of the Holy Spirit is that a believer will be God’s witness all around the world. The Bible tells us that the early Christians were obedient to this. They sent apostles for this purpose with their prayer support. Paul planted many churches in the Roman provinces of Macedonia and Galatia. Paul was a chosen vessel of the Lord to preach the gospel among gentiles.

### 3- An evangelist is an example for others.

An evangelist should not be only a preacher of the Word but a doer as well. It is surprising that most church leaders preach Jesus, but they do not show Jesus in their lives. Today people do not want to hear, but rather they want to see Jesus in our lives. When we show Christ by our lifestyles, then we become the fifth gospel. In this way, we will give proof from our lives that we are not idolaters, adulterers, drinkers, etc.

Jesus said that we are the salt of the earth. Therefore, since we are the salt of the earth, then where is our taste? We need to ask ourselves how many people we have helped to become salt. If I am light in this dark world, how many people have become lights through me?

The conclusion is this: without living a practical life, a Christian cannot be the living epistles written by the blood of the lamb. If there is a letter, then there must be a message in it. Without a message, there is no letter.

There was a large revival meeting in Karachi, and I was privileged to translate the preacher's message into our language. The organizers printed song sheets to distribute to the participants. They gave a copy to me and also to my daughter, who was five years old at that time. After the meeting, my daughter came to me and she was making a roll of the song sheets. I told her that these were very beautiful song sheets and to please not make them into a roll. She said ok, and she obeyed me.

At the meeting the next day, my daughter was with me, again. After the meeting I came down from the stage to talk to many pastors who expressed to me how much they were blessed by the preaching. As I stood there listening to them, can you guess what I did? I made a roll of the song sheets that I held without realizing what I was doing. Suddenly my daughter appeared and gave me a strange smile. I did not know why she was smiling, but she kept looking at me and smiling. I continued to roll those sheets. I asked my daughter what had happened, and she laughed loudly and only said that nothing had happened. I told her that something must have happened to make her smile like that. Finally, she said, "Dad you are making a roll of these song

sheets and are doing the same thing I was doing yesterday, and you asked me not to do it.” I was really very embarrassed at the time. This shows that people watch our every action and deed and that they take notice of them.

Jesus said, “In the same way let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your father in heaven,” Matthew 5:16. Remember that the most beautiful people are those who reflect Christ through their lives. Some one has said, “Actions speak louder than words.”

I would like to give you the example of Zacchaeus from Luke 19. You know how anxious he was to see Jesus. Then Jesus told him that he would visit in his home that day. When Jesus visited Zacchaeus’ house, what did Zacchaeus do? When Zacchaeus heard that salvation had come in this house that day, Zacchaeus did not present a long lecture or testimony about how bad he was and how Jesus had saved him. He gave his testimony through his attitude and life. Whatever he had taken illegally, he returned. That was his practical testimony. Today, why do people not want to hear us? It is because we say one thing but do the opposite. That is not a Christian attitude.

- 4- **Every Christian is called to be an evangelist.**  
 No one can say that they are not able to do evangelism because they do not have that gift.

Actually, it is not the matter of whether we have a gift or not, but it is a matter of our call and obedience to the great commission of our Lord. Yes, sometimes God calls a person to a full-time work, and sometimes he calls others to be part-time workers. When God calls a person, then he uses that person. When God called Moses, Moses knew that he was weak and had a problem speaking. When God called Jeremiah, Jeremiah knew that he was young and inexperienced. When God called Amos, Amos acknowledged that he was an unimportant person. Each of them was feeling that they were not worthy to do a great work of the Lord, but when the Lord used them, they were great and excellent instruments for him. God must be the one to choose His servants, but today many people think that if God does not choose them that it does not matter and that they can choose themselves. Because of this, there is no fruit in their ministry, and they become sheep stealers. They cannot see outside of their tiny world. They look down and do not lift their eyes up to the field where the crop is ready but where laborers are few. They see only Christian communities. In this way, different denominations have torn up the body of Christ into pieces. There are various churches on each street in these communities. Everyone claims to be right and that all others are wrong. Hatred has taken place instead of love.

**5- An evangelist should make sure to what he is called.**

He should not be entangled with worldly things. The best example for this is found in Acts 6. We all know that when traffic increases, the family grows, or the church grows, then there is a need to make some rules and regulations. The Christians in the book of Acts experienced problems, too, that resulted from growth. Believers asked the apostles to help in caring for the widows. When the apostles heard this, they gave a very surprising and unexpected answer. If someone were to ask this question today, then there would be many church leaders who would like to be the chairman of this widow's organization. But, the apostles said "no" because it was not their work. They said their work was to pray and preach and that they would continue this work. Their solution to this problem was that the church should choose from among themselves honest and spirit-filled believers to minister to the widows. The apostles were sure of the work they had been called to do and what their ministry was.

**6- An evangelist should be a spiritual warrior.**

It is never easy to set free those who are in the paw of our ancient enemy. He is like a roaring and devouring lion who wants to tear down believers. There is a spiritual warfare going on, and we can fight it only on our knees in prayer. Through prayer an evangelist can know the will of God, he can be bold to share the gospel, and he can be the

means of bringing God's will on this earth. Without prayer, an evangelist cannot do His work effectively. Jesus prayed for a whole night. If Jesus felt the need to pray, then how much more we need to pray. We are not more powerful than Jesus.

God has done many wonderful things for those who have known the secret of prayer. Furnaces were extinguished. Lions shut their mouths. The sun stopped in its course. The heavens were closed and then, because of prayer, the heavens were opened for rain. Because of prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed alters. Prayer shook the foundations of prisons, calmed storms, and healed the sick.

More is said in the Word of God about prayer than about any other topic. James, the human author of the epistle of James, has been called the "Apostle of prayer" and the "camel-knees man" because of his prayer life. He said much about prayer in his epistle. He said that if anyone lacks wisdom, He should ask God who gives generously to everyone. If anyone is happy then he should praise the Lord. If someone is sick, he should call the elders of the church to lay hands on him by applying oil and praying for him. James also gives Elijah as an example of a man of prayer.

I read a book about the life of James in which it is said that those who washed the body of James after

his death gave testimony that they saw an unusual thing. His toes, knees and elbows were like the knees of camels. So you can see how great a man of prayer he was. Is there a lesson in this for us today?

According to Pakistani church history, there was a missionary named John Hyde who was also a man of prayer. The famous Christian convention in Sialkot (Punjab) was started by him. Before starting the convention, he told some fellow servants of the Lord that he had received a vision from the Lord about this convention. A man who was also a servant of the Lord asked how this could be done since the location for the convention was so far from other parts of the city. He and his fellow workers discouraged John, but John said it was not his work, but it was the work of God who had given the vision. He said that the One who gave him this vision will do His work but that he had to do his own work. His fellow workers left him alone, and John prayed about it, not only for hours but for days, weeks, and months. So John set a date for the convention, and so many people came that there was no place to accommodate the crowd. The convention was very effective and successful. People came to Christ by confessing their sins, repenting, and believing the gospel. Those who were fallen spiritually were restored by the mighty power of Jesus.

Later, those who had discouraged John came and asked him what the secret was of this very effective and successful convention. John took them out into the yard that was covered with grass. He showed them the place where he had knelt and prayed. Out of his prayer had come the success and effectiveness of the convention. The God of John Hyde is our God, and he wants to work in our lives, too, if we surrender ourselves to him.

In 2003, a seminar for national leaders was held in Lahore, Punjab. The topic of the seminar was prayer. Koreans had come to teach in the seminar. A man from Karachi attended the seminar, and when he returned, I asked him what the most thrilling teaching was for him. He told me that one of the teachers asked the participants how many of them give ten percent of their time to the Lord. In response of this question, there were only four leaders out of three hundred who raised their hands.

Later, a female teacher said, “Now you have seen how few of you pray for revival in Pakistan. Perhaps there is a question in your mind at this moment about how the things that are happening in Pakistan can take place if you are not praying. She then said that the things that are happening were not the result of Pakistani’s prayers, but they were the result of the prayers of Koreans who maintain a prayer chain for Pakistan twenty-four hours a day. As a result, the participants at the seminar took it



as a challenge to make time to pray. We need to repent for not praying. By praying for other men and women of God, as the Korean do for us, we can support them in their ministries in which we cannot take part because of the great distances. Through prayer we can do these things for the glory of God.

Still, prayer by itself is not enough. We need to go into the harvest field as well. There must be a balance between our prayer life and our ministry.

It is very important to pray for the wining of souls. In Matthew 9:35-36, Jesus said that we should ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest. We should be giving birth to spiritual children and praying like Rachel. In Genesis 30:1, she said to Jacob "...give me children or I will die." John Knox prayed, "Lord give me Scotland or I die." How often do we pray like this for spiritual children? If we do not pray, then spiritually we are empty and fruitless people.

## 7- An evangelist is a teacher and trainer.

Jesus is the best example of this. He trained and sent his disciples to preach the gospel to the ends of the world. Paul is another example. He was not just teaching theoretically but practically, too. In 2 Tim 2:2 he encouraged young Timothy to share with people what he had learned from him and others. Whatever Paul himself heard directly from God, he shared with others, 1 Cor 11:23.

There is little evangelism done in our nation because of the lack of teaching and training on how to reach our cousins with the gospel of power. I was privileged to meet a servant of the Lord in Singapore. He started 600 churches out of one mother church within 6 months. I asked him how it was possible in such a very short time for 600 churches to be planted. He answered that every member of his church was an evangelist and spirit-filled Christian, so wherever his church members are, they start a local church.

If we teach and train our people to plant churches among our cousins and remind them of their responsibility, then we will see positive results soon. But, sorry to say, there is no end to our disputes, either personal or in churches. We fight for the bishop's seat year after year, but there is no result according to his divine will.

One of my teachers in Singapore said that Indian and Pakistani churches are not growing because our churches are like a playground where eleven players play and eleven thousand watch. Our churches are filled with spectators. There are only a few who work in our churches on the front line, while other members come just to sit and refresh their faith once a week. They do not feel any responsibility for the ministries of the church. The teacher said, "There is no place for spectators in the church or in heaven."

## 8- **An evangelist should be bold and patient in suffering:**

Anyone who is not a born again Christian will not have the attributes of boldness and patience in his life, Acts 1:8. There are many in churches today who claim to be born again Christians, but their lives are lived in opposition to the Word of God. To be bold, it is very important that we open our hearts and allow the Holy Spirit to enter so that our selves may be crucified. Sufferings and persecutions are waiting for us in each step of our lives. It is impossible for a man of God to avoid suffering.

A Roman Catholic father named Thomas Aquinas wrote a book about humility. It is called The Imitation of Christ. He asked the question, "If in the last week you have not suffered, then you must examine your spiritual life. Maybe God is angry with you or you have compromised with the world." We will experience problems and persecutions in this life, but when our selves are crucified with Christ, we will not do evil to others. We will do good to evil-doers, we will love our enemies, and we will pray for those who persecute us. Paul says in Galatians 2:20 "*I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me.*" In Galatians 6:14, he also says: "*May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord*

*Jesus Christ , through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.”*

When our selves have been crucified, we will not shy away from sharing the good news. Christ suffered for us on the cross without shying away. He prayed that the Father would forgive those who were persecuting him because they did not know what they were doing. The first opportunity I had to do evangelism after my conversion was with one of my elder friends whose name is Titus. Stickers with verses written on them were on his bag, waistcoat, and hat. He usually has the Torah (first five books of Old Testament) the New Testament and a Bible in his hands. He says that when he sells these books in the bazaars that people must think he is mad. Many people ask him questions about the books and stickers which gives him the opportunity to share the good news with them. Two of his front teeth have been broken by fundamentalists of our land. I am not saying that everyone should look like Titus, but you should have a sorrow and burden to bring lost souls out of the darkness and into the kingdom of light.

The Lord called me here to this great city of Karachi in 1987. Usually a placard hung around my neck on which were written two verses in both Urdu and English: Ecclesiastes 11:9 and 12:13-14. I also held a Bible, a New Testament and Torah in my hands. Praise the Lord, by doing this, the Word of God went out into the hands of non-Christians,

and every day He was being glorified through this ministry. I use a different approach today.

If you are an evangelist, then suffering is not your choice but is of the Lord. Remember that rose petals can be crushed with our fingers and will soon die, but the fragrance of the petals will remain on our fingers for a long time. We should be willing to suffer for the sake of the gospel, suffering wisely and without complaint to God. We need to offer our lives as living sacrifices for the one who laid down his life for us.

The first recorded martyr in Christianity was Stephen. People stoned him, but as they did, he prayed for them. In doing this, he engraved impressions on the heart and mind of the chief persecutor of Christians, Saul, who later became known as the Apostle Paul who preached the gospel in a mighty way. At first, he was the persecutor but then he became the persecuted for the sake of the gospel. Likewise, we can also leave impressions on others without realizing it. I am the result of this kind of Christian attitude.

- 9- An evangelist should be sweet and humble. Years ago I read a statement that said it is better to cut your own tongue first before it cuts someone else. A thinker has said that a man commits sins with his tongue more than with any other part of the body. He also said that Satan uses the tongue more than any other part of the body. In the New

Testament in his epistle, James says that the tongue is full of deadly poison. He is saying that murders are not committed only with weapons but that you can kill with your tongue, too. You can imagine how many doors are closed to us because of our tongue. I am referring to the doors of hearts. If the doors of our houses are opened, but the doors of our hearts are not, then there is no benefit.

### **10- An evangelist should be familiar with the Bible first & then Islam.**

The Word of God says that if someone asks you the reason of your faith that you should be prepared to have a proper answer for him. It is very important for a Christian to be able to answer the arrows of questions of non-Christians. An evangelist should have the knowledge to answer questions and to be able to explain the plan of salvation.

As evangelists among non-Christians, we not only need to know the Bible but we must also know Islam. Unless we have knowledge of Islam, we cannot be effective witnesses to them.

It is very good for an evangelist to have his own personal library. Knowledge is like an evergreen tree which never changes colour in the autumn. Knowledge is like a rose because as often as it opens its petals, it gives fragrance to others. Knowledge is like a safe treasure which a thief cannot steal. Knowledge is good, but it is of no

benefit if we do not apply it in our lives. It is very important to add a humble spirit to our knowledge. The Psalmist says, "*Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to the false God,*" Psalms 40:4. God gives grace to the humble but resists the proud.

It is good for an evangelist to be educated, but education is not required for witnessing. It is possible for the ministry of an uneducated evangelist to be more successful than the ministry of an educated one. I have met several ministers like this who are not educated, but the Lord is using them very effectively because of their faithfulness to him. If education is required for witnessing then the uneducated will feel that they have no responsibility to witness to others. However, every born again Christian is responsible to witness to others. I have heard people recommending certain doctors because they can cure a health problem or because their fees are not too high. Have you grasped a truth in this statement? We recommend doctors who heal our physical problems, but we do not recommend the Lord Jesus Christ who washed us with his own precious blood and heals us spiritually.

**11- An evangelist should not be a debater.**

He should not be a debater but should be honest in answering questions. There are many in our land

who have the disease of debating, and they need healing. A debater does not have a spirit of learning.

A teacher in Bible school taught us that there are three kinds of debates:

- 1- Debate for debate: Nothing will come out of it except fights.
- 2- Debate for criticism: It is very bad to criticize someone.
- 3- Debate to learn: This is good because both parties can learn. In Acts 17:10-11, it is written about the people of Berea that they were more noble than the Thessalonians because they received the message with great eagerness and examined the scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

I have read many personal testimonies of the scholars in which they said that they had debated for years, but at the end of their ministry they confessed that they had won debates but had lost the souls forever. Those who do not want to learn and do not have proper answers to questions debate. If we do not have the answer then it is better to say we do not know and that we will research and find the answer. That is an honest answer. Please do not try to sow the seed of a wrong answer. Please read Proverbs 15:1-2. It is not necessary that we should have the answers to



all questions. I have not met anyone who claims to know everything. We are all students and learners.

- 12- **An evangelist should have a burden for the lost.**  
 I have already written about this topic when I shared with you about the burden of Christ (Matthew 9:35-38). We should love a sinner but not his deeds. We should reach those who need to hear the gospel. We should not try to catch a fish by putting a hook in a small pond, but we have to go where the fish are. May God grant us the same burden Jeremiah had, Jeremiah 9:1; 20:9. Please read these verses.

## Methods of Evangelism

No matter what method of evangelism is used, it will not be effective unless it is under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. So much time is wasted on searching for methods that we never go into the harvest field. Man searches for new or different methods that will succeed, but God looks for men who will work in accordance with His will. Neither will a method of evangelism be effective unless it is based on the needs of the targeted people group. And, no method of evangelism can be implemented unless there is someone willing to evangelize. Someone must be willing to go into the harvest field. Therefore, methods, in and of themselves, do not guarantee the production of fruit

to the glory of God. Methods are only valuable and effective if God directs us in the selection and use of them.

Listed below are several methods of evangelism. Included with each is an explanation of how to use them effectively. Please study them carefully and use them, as God leads. Storing knowledge but never using that knowledge is a serious matter. However, using knowledge brings many blessings, and the more we use our knowledge, the more knowledge we will gain.

Personal Evangelism

Mass evangelism

Evangelism by Bible Correspondence Schools

Evangelism by Radio

Evangelism by Television

Evangelism by Internet

Evangelism by Film Ministry

Evangelism by News Papers

Evangelism by Christian Life Style

Evangelism by Financial Help

Evangelism by Social Works

Let us look at these methods in detail.

### **I- Personal Evangelism:**

Personal evangelism means to share the gospel with one or a very few people in a face-to-face format. Personal evangelism is not lecturing or preaching from the pulpit. It is a personal sharing with individuals, not with a group.

A witnessing opportunity could be launched with personal greetings and a conversation on any subject which you can then channel into a conversation about spiritual matters by asking either of these two questions. As you ask the questions, have a smile and an expression of sympathy on your face. Your facial expressions can influence people positively to listen to what you say.

**The two questions are:**

- 1- I hope that you will have a long life in this world, but sooner or later, we will all die. It is possible that today could be the last day for any one of us, and if today is your last day, where will you go after death? God has prepared two places for existence after death. One is paradise and the other is hell. To which will you go when you die?
  
- 2- Why are you a Christian (Hindu, Sikh, Muslim, etc)?

May I just interrupt the discussion here for a moment to say that you who are ask these questions should have already answered them at some point in your own heart and mind. If you cannot say definitely that you will go to heaven and why you are a Christian, then you may not be a born again Christian. Please make sure of your eternal destiny without delay. This is the time to make the decision. Confess your sins and repent. Then accept Jesus as your Lord and personal Savior right now. It is important for your own eternal soul as well as the souls of others

because a blind man cannot show the way to another blind man.

If you do not have time for a lengthy conversation, be sure to leave a pamphlet with those to whom you have talked. Never waste an opportunity to share the good news.

### **Terminology used in personal evangelism:**

To be effective in personal evangelism, terminology must be used that is well-known to the person to whom you witness. For example, if you say “**hallelujah**,” to a Muslim, he will not understand what you mean since his religion is different from yours, and it is a purely Christian word. If your friend is Muslim, then you can replace “hallelujah” with “**Al-hamdulillah**” since they both mean “**Praise God.**”

Also do not use the word “**Lamb**” in reference to Jesus in your first conversations with non-Christians. Otherwise, they will think that Christians worship animals. They will not understand the spirit of the word.

In Pakistan and India, Christians most often use the term “***Salam Jee***” to greet one another. These two words, however, do not give a full meaning of what you are saying. ***Salam*** means “***Peace.***” So, when we use the word “***Salam Jee,***” what are we actually saying? Does it mean that peace should go or come? These words do not express clearly what is meant. However, if we use the words “***Assalam-o-Alaikum,***” then the full meaning is conveyed in the Arabic. It means “***Peace be upon you.***”

The resurrected Christ addressed these same words to his disciples. I personally use these words to greet anyone, whether Christian or Muslim. However, be careful in using this term with Pakistani Christians because they may think that you have become a Muslim.

We usually use the word "*Bible*," but we need to know that most of our Muslim friends are not familiar with this title. They hear the titles "*Taurait Shareef*," "*Zaboor Sharif*," "*Sahaef Al-Anbya*," and "*Injeel Sharif*." Therefore, it is very important to use one of these titles that are familiar to them.

Many Christians debate about whether or not to use the word "*Allah*." My personal suggestion is that it is better to use this term at first in order to make your conversations more understandable for your friend.

Likewise, there is a debate concerning names used for Christ. Since there is a difference of opinion between Christians and Muslims as to who Jesus Christ is, many think that a Christian must not use the Muslim name of "*Hazret Essa Alaissalam*" when referring to Christ because that implies that the Christian is agreeing with Islamic beliefs about Christ. Also, the term "*Aleissalam*" means "*peace be upon him*," and I know that there is no need to say "*peace be upon Jesus*" since He himself is the Prince of Peace. However, I do think, though, that since these terms do refer to Christ in the minds of Muslims that we can use them in initial conversations to bridge the gap between Christianity and Islam. It is our responsibility, then, to teach Muslims the

correct doctrines about Christ. I personally use *Almasih*, which is better, but *Rabbana Almasih*, *Hazoor al masih*, *masih-e-Ibn-e Meriam* and the term "*Alai-e-Islam*" are also acceptable for use during initial conversations. Therefore, if we use these terms in the beginning, there is no problem.

We sing songs in our worship services, but the term "*song*" gives a different idea to our Muslim friends. When they hear this term, they think of national or movie songs because they do not use this term in their worship services. They use "*Naat*" (Praise for the Holy Prophet Muhammad MPBUH). Their praise to God is called "*Hammd.*" Music is forbidden in their worship, so they have no concept of worshipping God through song. If we use "*Hammd*" (praise God) in our conversations with them, then they will definitely understand. I would urge you not to use songs in any meetings with them in the beginning.

The word "*sermon*" is also a term which is not understandable to a Muslim. When we use this term we are talking about the preaching of the Word of God. They use the words "*Khutba*," "*Waaz*," or "*Biaan*."

These terms are just a few examples of how to use their terminology so that they can understand better what you are saying.

### Proper Seating during Fellowship:

When you talk with your Muslim friends, put them at ease by making them as comfortable as possible. In a small

gathering, you can sit in a half circle on the floor, providing a carpet, rug, or a simple sheet of cloth. Have a smile on your face and speak humbly, which will attract them to Christ just as Stephen's attitude became a testimony to Saul of Tarsus. Listen to them first, and then boldly share with them the gospel, using references from the Bible or Quran to substantiate your message. Show them the references to prove that what you are saying is in the Bible. It will help you to talk straight to the point and that will help them to understand that it is very important for each person to study the Bible for themselves. Then later after becoming believers, they will not share with others what they have heard but what they have actually studied in the Scriptures.

### Positions of Prayer:

Among Muslims, prayer is very strictly regulated. Certain positions must be maintained at all times, and exact words must be spoken at the correct time. Many Christians, also, have adopted a style of prayer which they believe is the correct way in which to pray. However, God's Word does not specify any style or position of prayer, therefore we cannot compel anyone, Christian or non-Christian, to pray in the same way we pray. When instructing others about prayer, the point should be made that a particular position (closing eyes, clasping hands, etc) does not guarantee that the prayer will be answered according to our desires. Explain that God considers our hearts, not the position in which we pray. If prayer does not come from our hearts, then no matter what position we use, our prayers will be fruitless. If our hearts are not in harmony with the Lord,

then position provides no benefits. It is very important to explain to any non-Christian what is meant by prayer and the importance of prayer so he will understand the spirit of prayer.

### Beware:

Honor the Word of God. God's Word must first be honored in our hearts by obedience to its commands. Then, we must be careful to honor the Word of God in the presence of non-Christians. Please do not leave the Word of God on or under a chair, a pew, a car seat or on a carpet or floor. It is against eastern culture to do this. Do you know how much our Muslim friends honor the Qurran? Many Muslims honor the Bible even more than many Christians do, and we should learn this lesson from them.

Wearing a cap to cover the head during conversations or worship with Muslims is acceptable. Wearing a cap will make no difference in my faith because I am saved through faith in Christ's atoning death and resurrection, not by any works of my own. Paul became a Jew to reach the Jews and a Greek to reach the Greeks in order to bring them to a saving knowledge of Christ Jesus. We should not compromise biblical teachings, but we can adopt any acceptable style of the culture that does not contradict the Scriptures so that people may come to Christ Jesus. We must remove all man-made barriers, walls, and stumbling stones which prevent people from coming to Christ.

*Here are a few other suggestions.*



- 1) Watch carefully the facial expressions of your non-Christian friend. If you notice that he is becoming angry, then it is better to end the conversation and arrange another time when you can return.
- 2) It is best to avoid political discussions in the meeting.
- 3) Talk about one topic and do not preach as if you are in the pulpit.
- 4) Give your friend the opportunity to speak first.
- 5) Do not stay past the allotted time.
- 6) Do not try to convert someone by your own power and ability. Conversion is the work of the Holy Spirit, so let him do his job. Our work is to remove the grave stone, but the Lord's work is to raise Lazarus.
- 7) Your worship services with Muslims should be in accordance with eastern culture, not with imported culture.
- 8) Be tolerant of mistakes made by your non-Christian friends and have sympathy for them in your heart.

## II- Mass Evangelism:

Mass evangelism is very effective if done in the proper way. Jesus is our role model for mass evangelism. He taught the Sermon on the Mount from the Mount of Olives (Matthew 5-7). Peter preached on the day of Pentecost, and approximately 3,000 men came to Christ (Acts 2:41 and 2:47). Paul preached from the Areopagus (Acts 17:22-31).

Mass evangelism is a good method because, at one time, the good news can be shared with many people. Whether or not people accept the good news is not the issue. The importance of mass evangelism is that many people hear the gospel. Both Christians and non-Christians will attend this kind of program.

In 2001 in Karachi, Pakistan, Peter Youngren held a meeting at the YMCA grounds. Organizers say that on the last day, more than 100,000 people attended, and one fourth of them were non-Christians. Because I was Mr. Youngren's interpreter, I know that he presented the gospel very clearly.

However, there are many difficulties associated with mass evangelism. Months in advance, a great deal of pre-planning and preparation must be done. Expenditures for such events are very high. A good choir, qualified co-workers, venue, and extensive advertising are required. The organizers must seek the Lord's guidance in the selection of a speaker who will really convict people. Also of great importance is the need of several prayer partners who will daily uphold every aspect of the meeting.

The greatest failure in the use of mass evangelism is that usually there is no follow-up of those who express interest or who have accepted Christ as their Savior during the meeting. The people fill out cards, but then those cards are not used in follow-up contacts. No means is designed to determine whether or not those who claimed to trust the Lord truly did understand about trusting Christ. No effort

is made to channel them into Bible-believing churches. Another ramification of the lack of post-meeting contacts is that many people will later attend meetings in which they make more professions of faith because they have not been taught and nourished spiritually following previous meetings.

The failure of follow-up is not the fault of the method of mass evangelism. The failure is the fault of the organizers who do not plan and facilitate follow-up. One good way to do follow-up is to give thee commitment cards to Bible-believing churches or to Bible correspondence institutes. Personal contacts can be made by churches, and correspondence institutes can send lessons free of cost and can stay in contact for many years with those who express interest in the lessons. It is very important in every mass evangelism outreach to arrange for the spiritual care and nourishment of those who profess Christ in the meetings or who express interest in knowing more about Christ.

### III- Evangelism by literature:

Literature can be a great source of help to bring someone to a saving knowledge of Christ. A case in point is a young man from a non-Christian background who was very upset with the circumstances of his life, and he was planning to commit suicide. While riding on a train, an evangelist gave him a pamphlet. Not interested in the pamphlet, he wadded it up and threw it away. Later, he saw the pamphlet on the floor. The only word he could see written on the paper was "love." That word interested

him so he picked up the paper, opened it, and read John 3:16. “For God so loved the world.....” He read the rest of the story and learned that there was hope for him through Jesus Christ. An address was written on the pamphlet, so he went to that address, met a man who explained more about Christ, and then the young man received Christ as his Lord and Savior.

Of great importance is the kind of literature you use. In order to be effective, literature must be designed to relate to the group of people you want to reach. Most of the literature available here is understandable to those whose background is Christian, but it does not relate to our Muslim friends because the terminology used is Christian, not Muslim. Non-Christians do not know or understand Christian terminology, a point I emphasized earlier.

Many Muslims do not want to read any Christian literature because they are prejudiced against it. If a Muslim reads a title that contains Christian terminology, he probably will not read it. Therefore, titles used in literature must be interesting to and relate to the targeted people. Never forget that the message should be the Gospel, but the terminology should relate to them so that they may understand the truth. I have written four tracts directed toward Muslims: “Love Your Enemy” (Dushman say Muhabbet), “Super Power is Only One” (Super power sirf aik hee hai), and “Good News for Freedom” (Naveed-E-Azadi) and “Independent day and me” (Youm-E-Azadi aur main).

The use of literature for evangelism is neglected in Pakistan for several reasons. First, there are few good writers. Second, there is a lack of funding for literature because we Christians fail to give tithes and offerings. We need to financially support the printing of literature. Third, men who do write tracts are criticized by others and so do not continue in this type of outreach, and as a result, his writing skills and his desire to reach the lost through literature die and are not used for the glory of God. We need to encourage and help those who do write literature. One way in which we can do that is to critique their writings (assess, evaluate, review, analyze, offer helpful suggestions) but not criticize (disapprove of, condemn, censure) them or their writings.

#### IV- Evangelism through Bible Correspondence Institutes :

All literature produced for evangelism should display the address of a Bible correspondence institute so that the reader can contact the institute for more information. In this way, contact with the reader can be maintained for several years. It gives the reader an opportunity to study God's Word, ask questions, or meet with a Bible teacher personally.

#### V- Evangelism by Radio:

A Christian radio ministry is also a very effective means of evangelism. At a conference in Singapore, one of the speakers, J. Perakash Yesuadian, explained the effectiveness of a radio ministry. As an example, he said that he had preached a message on the radio called "The Blessings of God." A year later, he preached at a convention in a village. At the conclusion of the program, a couple came to him and asked him to bless their child. He asked them what the name of the child was. They answered by giving the speaker's name. The speaker said he was surprised and asked them again, saying, "Yes, that is my name, but I am asking you what the child's name is." Again their answer was the same.

Then this couple told him their story. They said that they had heard him on the radio preaching about the blessings of God. The message was so effective that they both gave their hearts to God, who is the giver of all blessings. Up to that time, they had no child, and they told God that if he gave them a child, they would name the child after this speaker. The Lord did bless them with a child whom they named after the speaker, and they had brought the child to be blessed in Jesus' name. The speaker said that after hearing this he praised God for His mighty works.

This example shows that where we cannot go, our voices can go on the air. Thanks be to God for modern technology.

God is reaching the unreached through radio ministries. I am thankful for FEBA's radio ministry which makes it possible for people all over Pakistan to hear the gospel. I

give thanks to the Lord for those who prepare the programs, using the languages and the terminology which non-Christians can understand clearly.

## **VI- Evangelism by Television:**

Not too long ago, only a few Christian programs were on television, and they were aired for only a few minutes on special occasions, such as on the birthday of Jesus Christ and on the day of his resurrection. Now, however, several channels present Christian programming which the Christians enjoy. We praise God for this. However, these programs are appropriate for Christians but not for non-Christians. Since Christians already know the importance and meaning of Christian special days, television programs should be directed toward the non-Christians. Television evangelism is a great tool to spread the gospel, but we have failed to utilize golden opportunities to explain to non-Christians the meanings of these events. Another way in which Christians have failed is in the quality of the speakers used on the programs. Often they have been very poor speakers who acted too tired to deliver the good news with excitement and enthusiasm.

## **VII- Evangelism by Internet:**

Computers are the growing media mechanisms today. Many people are computer literate now, and their numbers increase daily at a great rate. Web sites are available where you can learn more about Christ, but they also

afford the opportunity for sharing the gospel. Chat rooms are available to disseminate information about Christ and to answer questions from others in the chat room. Below is a list of some web sites, including some that were published in 2001 in “Ummat” newspaper, our national newspaper. Remember that a Christian represents Christ, so please use the sites in a godly manner to glorify Christ and not for the purpose of criticizing others.

[www.answering-is-lam.com](http://www.answering-is-lam.com)

[www.the-good-way.com](http://www.the-good-way.com)

[www.call-of-hope.com](http://www.call-of-hope.com)

[www.debate.org.uk](http://www.debate.org.uk)

[www.abrahamic-faith.com](http://www.abrahamic-faith.com)

[www.openmysite.com/firmanallah](http://www.openmysite.com/firmanallah)

<http://isaalamasih-net>

[www.bible.com](http://www.bible.com)

[www.jesus.org](http://www.jesus.org)

[www.gospel.com](http://www.gospel.com)



[www.crossdaily.com](http://www.crossdaily.com)

### **VIII- Evangelism by film ministry:**

Muslims believe it is a sin to make pictures or films of any prophet because, they say, it defiles the prophet's status. Therefore, they will be offended if shown films such as the "Jesus" film. Please do not misunderstand. I am not saying that the "Jesus" film is not fruitful, because, of course, it is to western audiences and to westernized Pakistanis. However, the culture of this movie is not our culture. The actors are white-skinned people, and people here hate western white-skinned people. Another example of a film which is offensive to Muslims is "Deya Sagir," made in a neighboring country. It is offensive to them because it contains a dance by a young woman. In the Islamic religion, dancing is strictly forbidden. These kinds of films cannot be effective for our targeted people. Our eastern culture should be presented in films. We need to change our strategy to make the films effective. When designing or showing films for evangelistic purposes, our eastern culture should be presented, anything offensive to the religion of non-Christians should be excluded, and terminology used by the targeted group should be used.

Two films that depict Pakistani culture are "Allah Hai Muhabbet" (God is love) and "Musrif Beta" (Prodigal Son). They are based on the teachings of Christ Jesus, but Jesus is not portrayed. You can show them to your friends and even give them as gifts. I kindly request you not to show or give films to Muslims that include pictures of

those (including Jesus) whom the Muslims consider prophets.

### **IX- Evangelism through Newspapers:**

There are various ways of using newspapers for evangelism. One is to place advertisements in newspapers for Bible correspondence schools. Praise God that there have been good responses from people who have seen the advertisements. Another way to use newspapers in evangelism is to supply a good tract to newspaper sellers that they can fold inside newspapers that are delivered to homes. Articles can also be written that can be published in newspapers on the birthday and resurrection day of our Lord Jesus Christ. In your articles, always include your P.O Box address so that you can be contacted for further information. The amount of advertising you are able to do in newspapers depends on the country in which you live.

### **X- Evangelism by Financial help:**

We Pakistanis must confess that the majority of our Christians do not faithfully give their tithes and offerings. Too many of us depend on financial help from outside the country instead of depending upon God and fulfilling our God-given responsibility to tithe. This should not happen. Churches in which Christians do not give faithfully are not strong and healthy churches. This is the reason why their pastors are forced to minister in several places in order to meet their financial needs. As a result, no strong church is established because the pastor has to divide his time and

energy among too many works. A church should provide enough financial support for its pastor so that he will be able to concentrate his efforts to evangelize the lost and strengthen the believers in that church instead of diluting his efforts among many churches.

If church members would tithe as they should, the church would be strong financially and spiritually and could think more about evangelism instead of thinking only of itself. A spiritually and financially weak church will not pray for the extension of its boundaries in the way that Jabez prayed. Most church members know what the Great Commission is and have even memorized Matthew 28:18-20, but they do not obey it or give priority to it. Churches that are composed of spectators instead of participants, in which there is no revival and which do not meet the needs of the pastors, do not understand what the Great Commission is, and you cannot expect that they will not do the work of evangelism. Therefore, church members need to be instructed on what evangelism is and on their responsibility to evangelize. Every time I have the opportunity to teach on evangelism, I have seen that people are eager to learn. How many churches do you know of that are involved in reaching the unreached with the gospel? What about you personally? Are you involved in evangelism?

## **XI- Evangelism by Social Works:**

Social work means to help people medically, educationally, and in other such ways. These certainly are

worthwhile projects, but we must remember that Jesus never asked us to establish social work institutions, but he did command us to evangelize. There certainly is a need for social work, but it should be used only as a means to reach the lost. The emphasis must be on evangelism, not on social work. Institutions of social work should not be the business institutions as they most commonly are today, but they must be evangelistic institutions that deal with the physical in order to deal with the spiritual. We should be thankful for these institutions, but the management of these institutions needs to assess where their emphasis is placed. If the emphasis is not on evangelism, then decisions need to be made to make changes that harmonize with Scripture. God does not want anyone to perish but to have eternal life. Please read Matthew 24:14. Is your desire the same as the Lord's?

## **The Hindrances to Evangelism:**

You can see how needy the harvest field of Pakistan is by realizing that approximately 98% of the country is unreached. The harvest field becomes even larger when we factor in the very small number of people who are working in the harvest field. Why are there so few workers?

- 1) **Lack of instruction in how to witness:** In this section, let us honestly face some sensitive issues that need to be brought to our attention.

- a) **In churches.** Our enemy, Satan, does not want us to learn about evangelism. There is no teaching in our churches about how to answer the questions of non-Christian people and how to reach them with the gospel. Even pastors do not know, so they refer seekers to those who are already busy in this kind of ministry. I am not saying that we do not want to help seekers, but I am asking why pastors do not learn themselves to witness to seekers. The problem is not only that they do not know how to answer questions from seekers, but they are not willing to suffer trials and troubles as a result of witnessing to them. Seminars, conventions and crusades are held in churches, but have any of them dealt with reaching non-Christians with the gospel? I know that none have been held; therefore, our people do not know how to evangelize. I would urge you to have a burden for the lost and reach them with the gospel and hold seminars like this in your churches. In this way our people will know how to answer the questions of seekers.
- b) **In Bible colleges and seminaries.** If Bible schools and seminaries continue to function as many have been here in Pakistan, then they should be closed because they are not fulfilling their obligations before God to train preachers and pastors properly. There are several reasons for saying this.
- (1) Most Bible schools and seminaries teach many subjects, but they do

not provide courses in which students are specifically taught how to reach the unreached with the gospel of Christ. Courses of this nature would not only impact the eternal lives of the lost but would also greatly benefit the future of our churches.

- (2) Most Bible schools and seminaries promote the idea of superiority. This breeds hatred and competition between Christian churches and groups. Every Bible college and seminary thinks it holds the key to heaven.
- (3) Most Bible schools and seminaries send their graduates into Christian communities instead of to the unreached. They are factories that produce “sheep-stealers” instead of “sheep-makers.” They produce reverends but no evangelists to the unreached. After completing time in Bible college or seminary, some attending for 10 years, some for 4 years, 3 years, or less, 99.99 % of the students go among Christians to preach, and they steal members from other churches and fight against one another. This is not biblical evangelism nor is it Christian in spirit. Bible colleges and seminaries claim that they prepare servants, but mostly they prepare robbers and thieves who steal the other’s sheep. These people call themselves evangelists, but they reach those who have

already been reached. We routinely read Matthew 28:19-20, but we do not understand what it means. There is no lack of workers in Christian communities, so please do not send more workers to them. Instead, prepare and equip servants for work among non-Christian people. Evangelism to the unreached is not a matter of choice but a matter of obedience. To obey is better than sacrifice.

I am actively involved in teaching evangelism of the unreached in various places, and I have found that there are many people who have appreciated the instruction and are willing to learn more. They are eager to learn, but they need more pastors who will instruct them and will be examples to them in ministering to non-Christians.

- 2) **There is no material:** The purpose of this book is to encourage and challenge every Christian to be a bold witness for Christ Jesus. I do not think there is a book in Pakistan that explains the various methods of evangelism. So I dedicated myself to write this book in Urdu, and now it is also available in English to help revive, equip, and remind pastors and church members of their responsibility to evangelize.

- 3) **The spirit of fear:** Fear is another reason why believers do not witness. They think it is too dangerous to preach among non-Christians. This is a weakness in their faith. No doubt there is danger since non-Christians think that killing an infidel is a way to gain the favor of God. In their thinking, it is a sin to kill a cat or a dog but to kill a Christian is no sin at all. Persecution and danger, though, are not new because our Lord has already told us that since He was persecuted His followers would also be persecuted, John 15:20. Jesus never gave us permission to use persecution as a reason for not witnessing. In spite of danger, we need to follow the teachings of the Word of God. *“For God did not given us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of the power of God,”* (2 Timothy 1:7). So we have to be ready at all times because the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church.
- 4) **Incorrect thinking:** How sad it is that many Christians believe that evangelism is solely the work of pastors. They think this because they are never taught what the Word of God says about it. God commands every believer to present the gospel to others. There were no fathers, bishops or reverends among the disciples of Jesus Christ to do the witnessing. They all were disciples (followers), and as such they were commanded to share the gospel.

Another way in which many Christians think incorrectly is that they believe that non-Christians



are like swine. They claim that the Bible teaches that pearls should not be thrown to the swine, so they do not preach the gospel among non-Christians. Actually, the biblical picture is the opposite of that. The Bible does not call non-Christians “swine,” but it does use the word swine to refer to people who have heard the gospel again and again but never trust the Lord for salvation, 2 Peter 2:21-22. We must be careful what we say because swine are not non-Christian people.

- 5) **Lack of financial support:** One of my teachers said that if we do not teach the principle of giving to our people from the book of Malachi chapter 3, then we ourselves are making them robbers and thieves since God says in that Scripture that a person robs God when they do not give offerings and tithes. Pastors have never learned the great blessing of tithing and giving in their own lives and so they never teach it in their churches. Failure to follow God’s financial plan for churches is the reason we look to man for help and not to God. We do not care about the teachings of a missionary who comes from abroad, but we do care about his purse, and that is very bad.

Some Christians think that the giving of tithes and offerings is an Old Testament commandment and not a New Testament teaching, so they do not tithe. If that statement were true about everything in the Old Testament, then there is no need to read Psalms 23 since it is also in the Old Testament.

Many Christians can give testimony to the fact that when they started giving their 10% to the Lord that the Lord blessed them greatly. There are even those who give 90% and keep only 10% for themselves. William Colgate is an example of one such tither.

- 6) **The lack of practical Christian lives:** According to the teachings of Christ (Matthew 5:16) and Paul, if we do not have love for others, a fruit of the Spirit, then we are not the Christian that God wants us to be. Our first responsibility is to love God and then to love fellow believers, neighbors, non-Christians, and those who persecute us. Because of God's love in us we are even to pray for our enemies, but today most Christians practice the opposite of this. We claim to speak numerous languages, but we do not know the language of love. We want others to love us, but we do not love them.

*The End*

*A few words about the author*

The author of this book was born in 1962 in the north part of Islamic republic of Pakistan. He was born spiritually in 1984. For religious study he attended (ZBI) Zarephat Bible Institute in his land. He was graduated in 1987 and got diploma in Theology. For further education he got Bth from (OTS) Open Theological Seminary in his land. After his graduation, the Lord has leaded him to minister with a Baptist Church in a great city of his land. It is Karachi where he ministering now. In 1992 the Lord has called gave him a vision to reach un-reached of his land. He started a Bible Correspondence School; its name is (NLI) New Life Institute.

As a translator he translated more than 27 books and as an author it is his fourth book. Author of this book is a good preacher, teacher and translator. He translates for very famous men of God on the stage in Crusades and seminars. Author is a great heritage of the Church of our land. He was privileged to share his testimony in a few countries in Asia. Author has got 18 Awards from by various Churches and he is waiting for a greater reward to get it in heaven. He is a well-known person in our land. Author is also a poet in two main languages of his land.

***Br, Glen Potter***

