Christian Eschatology

Tract C16

The reason there are only four approaches to eschatology is because interpretation of the figurative language of apocalyptic dreams and visions in prophecy cannot stand alone, but must be integrated with the entirety of scripture to arrive at a consistent and chronological whole.

All Jews and Christians are familiar with the traditional approach of historicism since it is the context through which we all understand Old Testament prophecy was fulfilled.

From Wikipedia: "Historicism is a method of interpretation in Christian eschatology which attempts to associate biblical prophecies with actual historical events and identify symbolic beings with historical persons or societies. The main texts of interest are apocalyptic literature, such as the Book of Daniel and the Book of Revelation, and historicist methods have been applied to ancient Jewish history, the Roman Empire, Mohammedism, the Papacy, the Modern era and even into the End time."

Historicism is also the approach through which the church, up until a couple centuries ago, understood New Testament prophecy was being fulfilled. Then in the 19th century the approaches of partial-preterism and futurism began to come into vogue. While adherents of any eschatology can search the early church fathers and find bits and pieces that suggest support for their approach, some credit the presence of these doctrines in the modern church to 16th and 17th century Roman Catholic Jesuits, who may have penned these eschatological schemes in counter-reformation efforts.

Interestingly, preterists and futurists must each believe the other to be virtually 100% in error, regarding their interpretations of the book of Revelation after chapter three, because a gulf of 1900 years separates the two views. Perterists believing that the book of Revelation was fulfilled by the end of the first century, while futurists believe that virtually none of the book of Revelation will be fulfilled until some seven-year period yet in the future. Thus both approaches to prophecy essentially ignore 1900 years of Christian era history as well as present-day reality, regarding preterist expectation of the kingdoms of this world being fixed by fallen mankind even as John's "whole world" has already fallen to Islam, or futurist expectation of a "revived Roman Empire" even as we witness Europe fall to Islam:

From Soeren Kern at the Gatestone Institute: "As Islam replaces Christianity as the dominant religion in Europe, more and more churches are set to become mosques, which increasingly serve

not only as religious institutions but also function as the foundational political building blocks for the establishment of separate, parallel Muslim communities in Europe that are based on Islamic Sharia law."

Both futurism and preterism necessarily require "that man of sin", "the false prophet" and the "beast" for example, to be subjects that were either over and done with in the first century, or are to be fulfilled during some future someday. Perhaps even more interesting than each having to consider the other to be virtually 100% in error, is that **both** approaches to the book of Revelation necessarily preclude devotees from even considering that Muhammad could be THE false prophet, or his Islamic kingdom "beast" the final foe of God's people. This even though a billion and a half people - one quarter of mankind in the world today - deny the Son of God and reject His shed blood, as articles of faith in the false prophet Muhammad.

Sura 19:88 They say: "(Allah) Most Gracious has begotten a son!" 89 Indeed ye have put forth a thing most monstrous!

Surah 9.29 Fight those who believe not in Allah nor the Last Day, nor hold that forbidden which hath been forbidden by Allah and His Messenger, nor acknowledge the religion of Truth, (even if they are) of the People of the Book, until they pay the Jizya with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued. 30 The Jews call 'Uzair a son of Allah, and the Christians call Christ the son of Allah. That is a saying from their mouth; (in this) they but imitate what the

unbelievers of old used to say. Allah's curse be on them: how they are deluded away from the Truth!

Indeed if a Muslim were to confess that Jesus is the Son of God, or even **pray in Jesus name, he will have committed the most egregious, and only unforgivable sin** according to the false prophet Muhammad. A sin worse than, for example, cold-blooded mass murder or raping a child.

According to Muhammad his "Allah" may forgive all sins except "shirk".

Sura 4.48 Allah forgiveth not that partners should be set up with Him; but He forgiveth anything else, to whom He pleaseth; to set up partners with Allah is to devise a sin Most heinous indeed.

Yet: 1John 4:15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

Muslim responses to this Christian confession, while being asked as to whether "shirk" is a sin worse than child rape or murder include:

"Enough of the condescension -OF COURSE I - and even you and anybody else making that 'confession' would be committing the one HEINOUS sin that God does not forgive."

I had to press pretty hard for that reply, as it seems this subject may be very convicting to followers of Muhammad, since even they may be able to recognize what an unjust god it would indicate that they serve. Thus a billion and a half people in the world today are antichrist as an article of their faith in Muhammad alone:

1 John 2:22He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. 23 Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father:.....

Since Islam is antichrist - indeed is to Christianity as the negative is to a photograph - the only anti-a-specific-religion, cult, on earth - it should come as no surprise that each and every Muslim must reject the crucifixion of Christ and His shed blood as another article of their faith in the false prophet Muhammad:

Surah 4:157 That they said (in boast), "We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah";- but they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no (certain) knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not:-

Thus the enemy, Satan, through his prophet Muhammad fills his followers with complete resolve as to what to DISbelieve, DENY and REJECT.

Since the enemy is the opposer of God, it should also not be a surprise to find that Muhammad's followers are commanded to fight, even the "People of the Book" that is Jews and Christians - until all people on earth are bent into submission to Muhammad's followers. Indeed for 1400 years the followers of Muhammad have been commanded to conquer all kingdoms of the world, and subjugate all people, to denying the Son of God and rejecting His shed blood. It is the "dar al Salaam" (house of peace - Islam) at war against the "dar al Harb" (house of war - non-Muslims). While you

may not be at war against Islam, if you are a non-Muslim, Islam has been at war against you for 1400 years.

From Islam's most highly respected Hadith collection: Bukhari, B2 #24 Narrated Ibn 'Umar: Allah's Apostle said: "I have been ordered (by Allah) to fight against the people until they testify that none has the right to be worshipped but Allah and that Muhammad is Allah's Apostle....."

Of course it would be pure blasphemy for a Christian to testify to that since Muhammad proclaimed the exact opposite of the whole subject of the Gospel. Indeed with the exception of the tiny strip of land of Israel protected by the democracy of the Jewish State, Muhammad's Islamic kingdom beast has already conquered the prophet John's "whole world", where virtually everyone is marked by the name of the beast - Islam.

Quran Sura 9.111 Allah they fight in His cause, and slay and are slain: a promise binding on Him in truth, through the Law, the Gospel, and the Qur'an.....

Of course a lie in regard to the Gospel binding anyone to fight and slay others, however fighting and slaying non-Muslims is binding on Muhammad's followers, in the Ouran.

Does it seem peculiar that your chosen eschatology **necessarily excludes even considering** that Muhammad could be THE false prophet? Please join us in the Islam-Christian Forum for discussion, and visit:

ChristianEschatology.com