

PROPHETS OF ISLAM SERIES



THE BIOGRAPHY OF

ISA

عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ



SHAIKH MIR ASEDULLAH QUADRI

# **BIOGRAPHY OF ISA**

(عليه السلام)

Written By

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الحمد لله رب العالمين، والصلاة والسلام على  
سيدنا محمد وعلى آله وصحبه أجمعين

## 1. THE FAMILY OF IMRAN (عليه السلام)

Prophet Yaqoob (عليه السلام) had 12 sons, 10 from one wife and 2 from another. Prophets Yusuf and Binyameen (عليهم السلام) were born to Raheel (عليها السلام), the second wife of Yaqoob (عليه السلام) who died after the birth of Binyameen (عليه السلام). It is reported that Prophet Yusuf (عليه السلام) and his mother were the most beautiful people on planet Earth. The 10 step brothers of Yusuf (عليه السلام), namely, (i) Rubeel (Reuben), who was the eldest of them, (ii) Sham'oon (Simeon), (iii) Laawi (Levi), (iv) Yahoodha (Judah), (v) Zayaaloon (Zebulon), (vi) Yashjir (Issachar), (vii) Daan (Dan), (viii) Naftaali (Naphtali), (ix) Jaad (Gad), and (x) Aashir (Asher) were not prophets.

It is reported that after the conquest of Palestine, the entire land was divided among the tribes of the descendants of Prophet Yaqoob's (عليه السلام) as their inheritance. Among them, there was a tribe called Levites, who were entrusted with religious services. The Levites were from the descendants of Prophet Haroon (عليه السلام). They used to serve the house of worship (Temple Mount) and look after its maintenance.

The Levites were divided into 24 families, who used to serve the House of worship (Temple Mount) by turn. One of these families was of Abiah whose head was Prophet Zakariya (عليه السلام). It was Prophet Zakariya's (عليه السلام) duty to go into the House on his family's turn for service and take care of its maintenance.

The family of Imran (عليه السلام) were from Levites. Imran (عليه السلام) was not a prophet but his family was the last among Israelis in which 3 prophets were born, (i) Zakariya (عليه السلام) (ii) Yahya (عليه السلام) and (iii) Isa (عليهم السلام). After Prophet Isa (عليه السلام), the prophet-hood ended among the people of Israel.

## 2. MARYAM (عليها السلام)

It is reported that Imran (عليه السلام) and his wife Hanna (عليها السلام) had two daughters. The eldest one was the wife of Prophet Zakariya (عليه السلام). The younger daughter Maryam (عليها السلام) was born long after the birth of her elder sister.

When Hanna (عليها السلام) was pregnant the second time, she expected to deliver a baby boy. She vowed that after the birth she will dedicate her son into the service of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). However, she delivered a baby girl. She named her Maryam (عليها السلام) and as per her vow she decided to dedicate her to the service of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and supplicated Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) to protect her from the damned Satan.

When Imran (عليه السلام) died, Maryam (عليها السلام) was an unmarried adolescent. And as per her mother's vow, was to serve the house of worship. For this purpose, she needed a male guardian to support and guide her in her task. The family discussed this issue and finally Prophet Zakariya (عليه السلام) was chosen to be her Guardian for this task. A room was reserved within the house of worship for her for this purpose where she would stay to serve the House. Each day Zakariya (عليه السلام) would visit Maryam (عليها السلام) to make sure that all her needs were met.

When Zakariya (عليه السلام) saw Maryam's (عليها السلام) devotion to Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), he was very impressed. Later he saw all types of fruits were available in her room, he was surprised to see these fruits as even the unseasoned fruits were available for her to eat in her room. He asked her as to who provided these fruits to her. She replied it is Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ).

**It is in Quran -** فَتَقَبَّلَهَا رَبُّهَا بِقَبُولٍ حَسَنٍ وَأَنْبَتَهَا نَبَاتًا حَسَنًا وَكَفَّلَهَا زَكَرِيَّا كُلَّمَا دَخَلَ عَلَيْهَا زَكَرِيَّا الْمِحْرَابَ وَجَدَ عِنْدَهَا رِزْقًا قَالَ يَا مَرْيَمُ أَنَّى لَكِ هَذَا قَالَتْ هُوَ مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَرْزُقُ مَنْ يَشَاءُ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ [ Her Lord accepted her graciously, and she grew up with excellence, and was given into the care of Zakariya (عليه السلام). Whenever Zakariya (عليه السلام) came to see her in the chamber, he found her with new food, and he asked, 'where has this come from, O' Maryam (عليها السلام)?' And she said, 'from Allah who gives food in abundance to whomsoever He wills.' (Aal-i-Imran - 37)

When Zakariya (عليه السلام) saw the bounties of Allah, he also prayed for a son for himself who could take his responsibilities of after him.

**It is in Quran** - إِذْ نَادَى رَبَّهُ يَدَاءَ حَقِيًّا - قَالَ رَبِّ إِنِّي وَهَنَ الْعَظْمُ مِنِّي وَاشْتَعَلَ الرَّأْسُ شَيْبًا وَلَمْ أَكُنْ بِدُعَائِكَ رَبِّ شَقِيًّا - وَإِنِّي خِفْتُ الْمَوَالِيَ مِنْ وَرَائِي وَكَانَتِ امْرَأَتِي عَاقِرًا فَهَبْ لِي مِنْ مَرْحَمَةٍ رَبِّ رَحِيمَةٍ وَاجْعَلْ لِي وَارثًا بِرَثًا - وَإِنَّ رَبِّي لَسَمِيعٌ غَنِيٌّ [ (This is) the narration of your Lord's Mercy on His servant Zakariya (عليه السلام). When he called out to his Lord in seclusion. (He said) My Lord, my bones have weakened, and my hairs are grey, but never, have I ever prayed to You in vain. 'I have fears about (how) my kinsmen (will act in respect of continuing my mission and safeguarding the future of Maryam (عليها السلام), and my wife is barren. So, bestow upon me a successor from Your grace, who will inherit (prophet-hood) from me and the family of Yaqoob (عليه السلام), and make him, O' Lord, pleasing (to You)!'] **(Maryam - 2-6)**

The supplication of Zakariya (عليه السلام) was answered and Prophet Yahya (عليه السلام) was born.

**It is in Quran** - يَا زَكَرِيَّا إِنَّا نُبَشِّرُكَ بِغُلَامٍ اسْمُهُ يَحْيَى لَمْ نَجْعَلْ لَهُ مِنْ قَبْلُ سَمِيًّا - (عليه السلام), (it was) said, 'We give you good news of a son whose name is Yahya (عليه السلام).! To none have We attributed this name before.' **(Maryam - 7)**

Meanwhile, Maryam (عليها السلام) continued in her devotion to Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and the service of the sacred house.

Once, when she was busy praying along in her room, she heard angel Jibreel's (عليه السلام) voice who told her about the command of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ).

**It is in Quran** - وَإِذْ قَالَتِ الْمَلَائِكَةُ يَا مَرْيَمُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ اصْطَفَاكِ وَطَهَّرَكِ وَاصْطَفَاكِ عَلَى نِسَاءِ الْعَالَمِينَ - يَا مَرْيَمُ [ The angels (Jibreel - عليه السلام) said, "O Maryam (عليها السلام), indeed Allah has chosen you and purified you, and exalted you from all the women in the world. O' Maryam (عليها السلام)! Stand in reverence before your Lord, prostrate and bow along with those who bow.] **(Aal-i-Imran - 42-43)**

### 3. BLESSED BIRTH OF ISA (عليه السلام)

Maryam (عليها السلام) was living separately from her family in a chamber in the sacred house and used to spend her time in devotion and reflection towards Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). She used to keep herself in seclusion by screening herself from people. One day when she was alone in her chamber, Jibreel (عليه السلام) appeared in front of her in the form of a perfect human being. She was scared to see him and sought the refuge of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) from him. He said, he is the messenger from Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) to give her a pure son. This episode is described in the Quran in detail.

**It is in Quran** - وَأَذْكُرُ فِي الْكِتَابِ مَرْيَمَ إِذِ اتَّيَبَتْ مِنْ أَهْلِهَا مَكَانًا شَرْقِيًّا - فَاتَّخَذَتْ مِنْ دُونِهِمْ حِجَابًا فَأَرْسَلْنَا إِلَيْهَا رُوحَنَا فَتَمَثَّلَ لَهَا بَشَرًا سَوِيًّا - قَالَتْ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِالرَّحْمَنِ مِنْكَ إِنْ كُنْتَ تَقِيًّا - قَالَ إِنَّمَا أَنَا رَسُولُ رَبِّكِ لِأَهَبَ لَكِ غُلَامًا زَكِيًّا - قَالَتْ أَنَّى يَكُونُ لِي غُلَامٌ وَلَمْ يَمَسُّنِي بَشَرٌ وَلَمْ أَكُ بَغِيًّا - قَالَ كَذَلِكَ قَالَ رَبُّكِ هُوَ عَلَيَّ هَيِّنٌ وَلِنَجْعَلَهُ آيَةً لِلنَّاسِ وَرَحْمَةً مِنَّا وَكَانَ أَمْرًا مَفْضِيًّا [ And mention, in the Book about Maryam (عليها السلام) when she withdrew from her family to a chamber facing east (to devote herself to worship and reflection). She kept herself in seclusion (by screening herself) from people. Then We sent to her Our Angel (Jibreel عليه السلام), who appeared before her in the form of a perfect human being. She said, 'I seek refuge in the Merciful Almighty from you, if you fear Him.' (Jibreel عليه السلام) said : 'I am only a messenger from your Lord. (I have come) to bestow upon you a pure son.' She said, 'How can I have a son? No man has ever touched me, nor am I of poor conduct!' He replied, 'so will it be! Your Lord says, 'it is easy for We. And so, will We make him (your son) a sign for humanity and a mercy from Us. It is a matter (already) decreed.' (Maryam - 16-21)

After the glad tiding from Jibreel (عليه السلام), Maryam (عليها السلام) conceived the child miraculously. When the child grew in her womb, she left the chamber and went to a remote place to give birth to the child.



**It is in Quran** - فَأَجَاءَهَا الْمَخَاضُ إِلَى جِذْعِ النَّخْلَةِ قَالَتْ يَا لَيْتَنِي مِتُّ قَبْلَ هَذَا - وَكُنْتُ نَسِيًّا مَنْسِيًّا - فَنَادَاهَا مِنْ تَحْتِهَا أَلَّا تَحْزَنِي قَدْ جَعَلَ رَبُّكِ تَحْتَكِ سَرِيًّا - وَهَزَيْ إِلَيْكَ الْجِدْعَ النَّخْلَةَ تُسَاقِطُ عَلَيْكَ رُطْبًا حَلِيمًا - فَكَلِمِي وَاشْرَبِي وَفَرِي عَيْنًا قَامًا تَرِيَنَّ مِنَ الْبَشْرِ أَحَدًا فَقُولِي إِنِّي نَذَرْتُ لِلرَّحْمَنِ صَوْمًا فَلَنْ أَكَلِمَ الْيَوْمَ إِنْسِيًّا [ So she conceived him, and withdrew to a remote place to have him (delivered). Then the labor pains of childbirth brought her to the base of the palm-tree; she said, 'Oh, if only I had died before this and had become forgotten, unremembered. But a voice (angel) called her from below, 'Do not grieve; your Lord has provided a stream beneath you. Shake the trunk of the date-palm tree, and it will drop ripe dates for you. So, eat and drink, and put your heart at ease. But if you see any of the people, say, 'I have vowed silence to the Most Compassionate, so I am not talking to anyone today.']( **Maryam - 22-26**)

Later she came back to her people along with the child. When people saw her, they were surprised and what they told her is described in the following verse.

**It is in Quran** - فَأَتَتْ بِهِ قَوْمَهَا تَحْمِلُهُ قَالُوا يَا مَرْيَمُ لَقَدْ جِئْتِ شَيْئًا فَرِيًّا - يَا أُخْتَ هَارُونَ مَا كَانَ أَبُوكِ امْرَأً سَاءً وَمَا كَانَتْ أُمُّكَ بَعْثًا [ She came to her people, carrying the child. They exclaimed! 'O Maryam (عليها السلام)! You have come indeed with mighty thing, unheard of. (They said) 'O sister of Haroon, neither your father was a bad man, nor your mother was of poor conduct.']( **Maryam - 27-28**)

She is referred to as 'the sister of Haroon' in the above verse. It may either mean that Maryam (عليها السلام) had a brother/cousin by the name of Haroon, or it may mean that she belonged to the family of Prophet Haroon (عليه السلام).

**It is in Hadith** - When the Christians of Najran criticized the Quranic version of stating Maryam (عليها السلام) as the sister of Haroon before Mughirah bin Shubah (رضى الله تعالى عنه), he was not able to convince them, because Prophet Haroon (عليه السلام) had passed away centuries earlier. When he presented that issue before the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم), he replied, why didn't you say that the Israelis named their children after their Prophets and other pious men (**Muslim, Nasai, Tirmidhi**).

## 4. MIRACLES OF ISA (عليه السلام)

When people persisted to know about the child, Maryam (عليها السلام) pointed her finger towards the infant telling them to ask the child himself.

**It is in Quran** - فَأَشَارَتْ إِلَيْهِ قَالُوا كَيْفَ نُكَلِّمُ مَنْ كَانَ فِي الْمَهْدِ صَبِيًّا - قَالَ إِنِّي عَبْدُ اللَّهِ آتَانِيَ الْكِتَابَ وَجَعَلَنِي نَبِيًّا - وَجَعَلَنِي مُبَارَكًا أَيْنَ مَا كُنْتُ وَأَوْصَانِي بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالزَّكَاةِ مَا دُمْتُ حَيًّا - وَبَرًّا بِوَالِدَتِي وَلَمْ يَجْعَلْنِي جَبَّارًا شَقِيًّا - [But she pointed to the child. They said, 'How can we talk to one who is a child in the cradle?' (The child spoke and) said, 'I am servant of Allah. He has given me a Book and made me a Prophet, 'and He has made me blessed wherever I be; and ordained upon me Salah and Zakat, as long as I live.' '(He) has made me kind to my mother, and not overbearing or miserable'; 'and (Allah's) peace is upon me the day I was born, and on the day I shall die, and on the day I will be raised alive.' ] (**Maryam - 29-33**)

When they saw this miracle, some of them were so impressed that they started associating divinity with the person of Isa (عليه السلام) and started calling him as the divine son of God.

**(i) It is in Quran** - [ The example of Isa (عليه السلام) with Allah is like that of Adam (عليه السلام); He created him (Adam) from clay and then said to him, 'Be' and there he is! (**Aal-i-Imran - 59**)

**(ii) It is in Quran** - لَقَدْ كَفَرَ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ قُلْ فَمَنْ يَمْلِكُ مِنَ اللَّهِ شَيْئًا إِنْ أَرَادَ أَنْ يُهْلِكَ الْمَسِيحَ ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ وَأُمَّهُ وَمَنْ فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا وَلِلَّهِ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا مَا يَشَاءُ اللَّهُ يَفْعَلْ [ They have indeed become disbelievers who say, 'Messiah, the son of Maryam (عليه السلام) is certainly Allah; say, 'Who can do anything if He wills the Messiah, the son of Maryam (عليه السلام), and his mother and everyone else are destroyed on earth? And for Allah is the kingship of the heavens and the earth and all that is between them. He creates whatever He wills. Allah has power over all the things.] (**Al-Ma'idah - 17**)

**(iii) It is in Quran** - لَقَدْ كَفَرَ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ وَقَالَ الْمَسِيحُ يَا بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ - [ They are surely infidels who say: 'Isa Ibn Maryam (عليه السلام) is Allah'. But Isa (عليه السلام) himself had said, O' children of Israel, worship Allah who is my Lord and your Lord.' Whosoever associates a partner with Allah, will have Paradise denied to him by Allah, and his abode will be Hell; and these oppressors will have none to help them. (**Al-Ma'idah -72**)

**(iv) It is in Quran -** مَا الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ إِلَّا رَسُولٌ قَدْ خَلَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِهِ الرُّسُلُ وَأُمُّهُ صِدِّيقَةٌ كَانَا يَأْكُلَانِ الطَّعَامَ ۗ [The Messiah Ibn Maryam (عليه السلام) is an Apostle. Many Apostles have come before him. His mother was a truthful woman. They both used to eat food. See how We make the signs clear for them and see how they turn away.] **(Al-Ma'idah -75)**

**(v) It is in Quran -** وَفَقَيْنَا عَلَى آثَارِهِم بِعِيسَى ابْنِ مَرْيَمَ مُصَدِّقًا لِمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ مِنَ التَّوْرَةِ وَأَتَيْنَاهُ الْإِنْجِيلَ فِيهِ هُدًى وَنُورٌ وَمُصَدِّقًا لِمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ مِنَ التَّوْرَةِ وَهُدًى وَمَوْعِظَةً لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ [ And We brought Prophet Isa Ibn Maryam (عليه السلام), following the footsteps of those Prophets, confirming the Taurat which preceded him, and We bestowed upon him the Injeel (Gospel) in which is guidance and light, and confirms the Taurat which preceded it, and guidance and instruction for the righteous. ] **(Al-Ma'idah -46)**

Allah (رَّ وَجَلَّ) says that on the day of Judgement, Isa (عليه السلام) will be questioned about the beliefs of certain persons (Christians) who belief him to be the son of God and what will be his reply.

**It is in Quran -** إِذْ قَالَ اللَّهُ يَا عِيسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ ادْكُرْ نِعْمَتِي عَلَيْكَ وَعَلَىٰ وَالِدَتِكَ إِذْ أَبَدْنَاكَ بِرُوحِ الْقُدُسِ تُكَلِّمُ النَّاسَ فِي الْمَهْدِ وَكَهْلًا وَإِذْ عَلَّمْنَاكَ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَالتَّوْرَةَ وَالْإِنْجِيلَ وَإِذْ تَخْلُقُ مِنَ الطِّينِ كَهَيْئَةِ الطَّيْرِ بِإِذْنِي فَتَنفُخُ فِيهَا فَتَكُونُ طَيْرًا بِإِذْنِي وَتُبْرِئُ الْأَكْمَةَ وَالْأَبْرَصَ بِإِذْنِي وَإِذْ تُخْرِجُ الْمَوْتَىٰ بِإِذْنِي وَإِذْ كَفَفْتُ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ عَنْكَ إِذْ جِئْتَهُم بِالْبَيِّنَاتِ فَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْهُمْ إِنْ هَذَا إِلَّا سِحْرٌ مُّبِينٌ [ When Allah will say, "O' Isa Ibn Maryam (عليه السلام), remember My favor upon you and upon your mother when I supported you with the holy Spirit (Jibreel عليه السلام) and you spoke to the people in the cradle and in maturity; and (remember) when I taught you the book and wisdom and the Taurait (Torah) and the Injeel (Gospel); and when you designed from clay (what was) like the form of a bird with My permission, then you breathed into it, and it became a flying bird with My permission; and you healed the blind and the leper with My permission; and when you made alive the dead with My permission; and when I restrained the children of Israel from (harming) you when you came to them with clear proofs and those who disbelieved among them said, 'this is not but an obvious magic.'] **(Al-Ma'idah - 110)**

**It is in Quran** - وَإِذْ قَالَ اللَّهُ يَا عِيسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ أَأَنْتَ قُلْتَ لِلنَّاسِ اتَّخِذُونِي وَأُمَّيَ إِلَهَيْنِ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ فَقَالَ سُبْحَانَكَ مَا يَكُونُ لِي أَنْ أَقُولَ مَا لَيْسَ لِي بِحَقِّ وَإِنْ كُنْتُ فُلْتُهُ فَقَدْ عَلِمْتَهُ تَعَلَّمَ مَا فِي نَفْسِي وَلَا أَعْلَمُ مَا فِي نَفْسِكَ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ - مَا قُلْتُ لَهُمْ إِلَّا مَا أَمَرْتَنِي بِهِ أَنْ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ رَبِّي وَرَبَّكُمْ وَكُنْتُ عَلَيْهِمْ شَهِيدًا مَا دُمْتُ فِيهِمْ فَلَمَّا تَوَفَّيْتَنِي كُنْتُ أَنْتَ الرَّقِيبَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَأَنْتَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ - إِنْ تُعَذِّبُهُمْ فَإِنَّهُمْ عَبْدُكَ وَإِنْ تُعْفِرْ لَهُمْ فَإِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ - قَالَ اللَّهُ هَذَا يَوْمُ يَنْفَعُ الصَّادِقِينَ صِدْقُهُمْ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتٌ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا أَبَدًا رَضِيَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ - قَالَ اللَّهُ هَذَا يَوْمُ يَنْفَعُ الصَّادِقِينَ صِدْقُهُمْ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتٌ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا أَبَدًا رَضِيَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ [ And when Allah will ask, 'O Isa Ibn Maryam (عليه السلام), did you say to the people, 'worship me and my mother as two deities besides Allah?' He will submit, 'exalted You are. It is not proper for me to say something for which I do not have a right; if I had said that, then surely You know about it; You know what is in my heart, and I do not know what is in Your knowledge; indeed You only know all that is hidden.' 'I have not told them except what You commanded me, that 'Worship Allah, Who is my Lord and is your Lord'; I was aware of them till I was among them; and when You raised me (alive over the skies), only You watched over them; and all things are evident to You.' If You punish them, indeed they are Your servants; if You pardon them, indeed You are Almighty and All wise. Allah will say, 'This is the Day when the truthful will benefit from their truthfulness. For them are gardens beneath which rivers flow, wherein they will abide forever; Allah being pleased with them, and they with Him. That is indeed the great attainment.' ] (Al-Ma'idah -116-19)

The above verses describe the details of the dialogue Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) will have with Isa (عليه السلام) on the day of Judgment. The dialogue confirms that Isa (عليه السلام) is indeed the Apostle of Allah and not the son of God as wrongfully believed by the Christians. Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) mentions the miracles of Isa (عليه السلام). His birth was a miracle as he was created without the male intervention. His mother was chosen one who had Prophet Zakariya (عليه السلام) as her teacher. She was nourished with the food from Heaven. And Jibreel (عليه السلام) spoke with her.

Isa (عليه السلام) spoke with people in his cradle and when he attained maturity. He was taught Taurat and Injeel and was blessed with wisdom. He was given exclusive miracles. He would sculpt a bird with clay and breathe into it. It would then become a real bird and fly. He would heal the blind and lepers. He would also bring back the dead from their graves.

When Jews plotted to kill him, Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) saved him by making the situation doubtful to them. A man having the semblance of Isa (عليه السلام) was crucified while he was lifted by Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) alive to the heavens.

## 5. THE FOLLOWERS OF ISA (عليه السلام)

Isa (عليه السلام) lived among Israelis his people for many years, calling them back to the worship of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). Many miracles are associated with him which were occurred by the Will of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). Despite all, people kept on rejecting him till he lived with them.

**It is in Quran** - فَلَمَّا أَحَسَّ عِيسَىٰ مِنْهُمُ الْكُفْرَ قَالَ مَنْ أَنْصَارِي إِلَى اللَّهِ قَالَ الْحَوَارِيُّونَ نَحْنُ أَنْصَارُ اللَّهِ آمَنَّا - (عليه السلام) [ When Isa (عليه السلام) sensed their (the Jews) insistence on disbelief, he asked, who will help me in the way of Allah? The disciples answered, we shall be the helpers of Allah. We believe in Allah; and you. Be our witness that we submit and obey. (They said) O' our Lord, we believe in Your revelations and follow this Apostle. Write us among the witnesses.] (Al-Ma'idah - 52-53)

The followers of Isa (عليه السلام) are referred as Hawariyeen (the disciples) in the Quran.

**It is in Quran** - وَإِذْ أَوْحَيْتُ إِلَى الْحَوَارِيِّينَ أَنْ آمِنُوا بِي وَبِرَسُولِي قَالُوا آمَنَّا وَاشْهَدْ بِأَنَّا مُسْلِمُونَ [ And when I inspired into the hearts of the disciples that, 'Believe in Me and in My Apostle (Isa - عليه السلام)'; they said, 'We accept faith, and be witness that we are Muslims.']( Al-Ma'idah -111)

In order to strengthen their hearts with Iman, the disciples of Isa (عليه السلام) once requested him to pray Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) to send a table full of food from the heavens so that they eat from it and their hearts are strengthened in belief. This incident has been described in the Quran.

**It is in Quran** - إِذْ قَالَ الْحَوَارِيُّونَ يَا عِيسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ هَلْ يَسْتَطِيعُ رَبُّكَ أَنْ يُنْزِلَ عَلَيْنَا مَائِدَةً مِنَ السَّمَاءِ قَالَ - اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ مُؤْمِنِينَ - قَالُوا نُرِيدُ أَنْ نَأْكُلَ مِنْهَا وَتَطْمَئِنَّ قُلُوبُنَا وَنَعْلَمَ أَنْ قَدْ صَدَّقْتَنَا وَنَكُونَ عَلَيْهَا مِنَ الشَّاهِدِينَ - قَالَ عِيسَى ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ اللَّهُمَّ رَبَّنَا أَنْزِلْ عَلَيْنَا مَائِدَةً مِنَ السَّمَاءِ تَكُونُ لَنَا عِيدًا لِأَوَّلِنَا وَآخِرِنَا وَآيَةً مِنْكَ وَارْزُقْنَا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرَّازِقِينَ - قَالَ اللَّهُ إِنِّي مُنزِلُهَا عَلَيْكُمْ طَيِّبًا يَكْفُرُ بَعْدُ مِنْكُمْ فَإِنِّي أُعَذِّبُهُ عَذَابًا لَا أُعَذِّبُهُ أَحَدًا مِنَ الْعَالَمِينَ [ When the disciples said : O' Isa Ibn Maryam (عليه السلام), could your Lord send down for us a table spread with food? He said: 'Fear Allah if you honestly believe.' They said, 'we would like to eat of it to reassure our hearts and to know that it's the truth you have told us, and that we should be witness to it.' Isa Ibn Maryam (عليه السلام) supplicated, O' Allah, O' our Lord, send down a table spread with food from the Heavens so that this day may be a day of feast for the earlier among us and the later, and a token from You. Provide us sustenance, for You are the Best Provider of Sustenance.' And Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) said: 'I shall send it down to you; but if any of you disbelieve after this, I shall inflict a punishment on him with which no one else shall be punished in the whole worlds.']( Al-Ma'idah -112-14)

## 6. ISA (عليه السلام) WAS RAISED ALIVE

The followers of Isa (عليه السلام) were a small group of people who were known as his disciples. His teachings were rejected by the Romans who were in power at that time, as well his own community consisting of Israelis. It is reported that after a prolonged denial, they decided to do away with Isa (عليه السلام). For this purpose, they planned to execute him in public by crucifixion. Crucifixion was considered a shameful death those days and by law the Romans were exempt from this kind of punishment. The Israelis hatred for Isa (عليه السلام) can be gauged from their plot to kill him on the cross by crucifixion.

**It is in Quran** - وَمَكَرُوا وَمَكَرَ اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ خَيْرُ الْمَاكِرِينَ - إِذْ قَالَ اللَّهُ يَا عِيسَى ابْنِ مَرْيَمَ ارْقُطْ إِلَيَّ فَاصْبِرْ إِنَّكَ مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ [ And the disbelievers plotted (to eliminate Prophet Isa - (عليه السلام), and Allah planned to punish and destroy them. And Allah is the best planner. When Allah said : "O' Isa (عليه السلام), I will take (raise) you towards Me (and you will be kept alive to complete your age on Earth) and will exalt you, and rid you of the infidels, and keep those who follow you above those who disbelieve till the Day of Resurrection. You all then must return back to Me when I will judge between you concerning the matter in which they dispute.] (Aal-i-Imran - 54-55)

The Arabic word Wafaat (وفاة) carries two meanings, (i) to take away, and (ii) death. In death, Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) takes us away from this world.

In the above verse it is (إِنِّي مُتَوَفِّيكَ) which means 'I will take you'. Those who do not understand this, translate it 'I will make you die'.

This is sheer ignorance on their part and with this understanding they deny the truthful teachings of Islam about Isa (عليه السلام).

**It is in Quran** - وَهُوَ الَّذِي يَتَوَفَّاكُم بِاللَّيْلِ وَيَعْلَمُ مَا جَرَحْتُم بِالنَّهَارِ ثُمَّ يَبْعَثُكُمْ فِيهِ لِيُقْضَىٰ أَجَلٌ مُّسَمًّى ثُمَّ إِلَيْهِ يَرْجَعُكُمْ [ It is He indeed 'who sends you to sleep at night' (يَتَوَفَّاكُم بِاللَّيْلِ), and knows what you do in the day, then makes you rise with it again in order that the fixed term of life be fulfilled. Then to Him you will be returned when He will tell you what you did.] (Al-An'aam - 60)

This can also be understood from the following verse in which Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) says, 'angels take him' (تَوَفَّيْتَهُ رُسُلُنَا).

**It is in Quran** - وَهُوَ الْقَاهِرُ فَوْقَ عِبَادِهِ وَيُرْسِلُ عَلَيْكُمْ حَفَظَةً حَتَّىٰ إِذَا جَاءَ أَحَدَكُمْ الْمَوْتُ تَوَفَّتْهُ رُسُلُنَا وَهُمْ لَا يُفِرُّونَ [He has power over His creatures and appoints guardians to watch over them. When death comes to one of you Our angels take him, and do not falter.]  
(Al-An'aam - 61)

Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) clarifies the whole issue in the following verses.

**It is in Quran** - وَقَوْلِهِمْ إِنَّا قَتَلْنَا الْمَسِيحَ عِيسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَمَا قَتَلُوهُ وَمَا صَلَبُوهُ وَلَكِنْ شُبِّهَ لَهُمْ وَإِنَّ الَّذِينَ اخْتَلَفُوا فِيهِ لَفِي شَكٍّ مِنْهُ مَا لَهُمْ بِهِ مِنْ عِلْمٍ إِلَّا اتِّبَاعَ الظَّنِّ وَمَا قَتَلُوهُ يَقِينًا - بَلْ رَفَعَهُ اللَّهُ إِلَيْهِ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ عَزِيزًا حَكِيمًا [ and for saying : 'We killed Isa Ibn Maryam (عليه السلام), who was an Apostle of Allah;' but they neither killed nor crucified him, though it so appeared to them. Those who disagree in the matter are only lost in doubt. They have no knowledge about it other than conjecture, for surely, they did not kill him. In fact, Allah raised him towards Him; and Allah is Almighty, All Wise.] (An-Nisa - 157-58)

Raising of Isa (عليه السلام) alive on the sky is a factual truth established from the above verses. Some people try to misinterpret these verses to prove that Isa (عليه السلام) has died. Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) says, 'they neither killed nor crucified him, though it so appeared to them, and in fact Allah raised Isa (عليه السلام) towards Him. Those who disagree in the matter are only lost in doubt.' They interpret the meaning of raising Isa (عليه السلام) as raising his status after his death. Obviously, their understanding is wrong and they need to correct it.

Human being is provided with intelligence to understand and deduce things. Therefore, he is made responsible for all his actions and is also subject to torment (عذاب) or recompense (ثواب) depending upon his deeds. Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) has provided mind and heart to every human being and it is imperative that they use them properly, ponder over the facts of the Cosmos and walk on the right path.

**It is in Quran** - كَذَلِكَ يَجْعَلُ اللَّهُ الرِّجْسَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ [ So Allah places degradation (subject them to torment) on those who do not believe. (Al-An'aam - 125)

**It is in Quran** - وَيَجْعَلُ الرِّجْسَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ لَا يَعْقِلُونَ [ And He places degradation on those (subjects them to torment) who have no understanding.] (Yunus - 100)

The above Quranic verses clarify that the punishment for rejection and punishment for 'not trying to understand', is the same.

**It is in Quran** - وَإِنْ مِنْ أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ إِلَّا لِيُؤْمِنَنَّ بِهِ قَبْلَ مَوْتِهِ وَيَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ يَكُونُ عَلَيْهِمْ شَهِيدًا [ And there is none from the People of the Scripture but that he will surely believe in Isa (عليه السلام) before his death. And on the Day of Resurrection he will stand against them a witness.] (An-Nisa - 159)

The above verse describes the second coming of Isa (عليه السلام) in the end times. The Jews, Christians and some Muslim sects believe that Prophet Isa (عليه السلام) had been killed. This is a wrong understanding and a false belief. Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) will send him in the end time to prove that he is alive. He will come after the appearance of Dajjal. Prophet Isa (عليه السلام) will descend from the heaven, pursue, and kill Dajjal. He will also destroy Yajooj and Majooj.

Christians will recognize the truth and accept Isa (عليه السلام) as an Apostle of Allah (and not as son of God) and will come under the fold of Islam. The religion of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), which is Islam, will rule the world. There will be no oppression or conflicts. Peace will prevail all over the world. There will be no need to collect Jizya, the specific tax for protectorates (أهل الذمة), as Islamic Zakat will be paid by all. Christianity and Judaism and all other religions will end. Isa (عليه السلام) will perform Hajj, get married and will have children. He will die after living his full life on Earth. His death will mark the beginning of the last days of humanity before the Day of Judgment.

**It is in Quran** - إِنَّهُ لَعَلَّمٌ لِلسَّاعَةِ فَلَا تَمْتَرُنَّ بِهَا وَاتَّبِعُون ۗ هَذَا صِرَاطٌ مُسْتَقِيمٌ [ And indeed, Isa (عليه السلام) will be (a sign for) of the Hour, so be not in doubt about it, and follow Me. This is a straight path.] **(Az-Zukhruf - 61)**

**It is in Hadith** - It is narrated on the authority of Abu Huraira (رضي الله تعالى عنه) that the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) said: There is no prophet between me and him (Isa - عليه السلام). He shall descend, and you will recognize him when you see him. He is a man of medium height, between reddish and white complexion. He will be dressed in two slightly yellowish garments. His head looks as if it is dripping water even though it is not wet. He will fight people for the sake of Islam, will break the Cross, kill the swine, and abolish Jizya. Allah will put an end to all religions and sects except Islam during his time. He will kill the Dajjal. He will stay in the World for 40 years before his death. Muslims will perform the funeral prayer for him. **(Abu Dawood, Ahmad)**

**It is in Hadith** - The Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) said, 'Allah will send Masih Ibn Maryam (عليه السلام). Thus, he will descend near the white eastern minaret of Damascus, clad in two yellow sheets, leaning on the shoulders of two angels.'  
**(Muslim)**