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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gBIjURJmk6s&t=1319s>

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Discussion points

- Islam's problematic origins
- Islam's expansion Westward
- Islam vs. Christian Theology



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Genesis 17:4-7

Then the LORD said to him, "No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own who will be your heir."

Then the LORD took Abram outside and said to him, "Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That's how many descendants you will have!"

And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith.

Then the LORD told him, "I am the LORD who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as your possession."

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Key facts in Genesis

- Ishmael was a child of Abraham, but his spiritual lineage was Egyptian (*of the flesh, not faith*)
- Hagar and Ishmael resented their inferior status in Abraham's household and were a source of conflict
- Because he was Abraham's son, God also blessed him as a father of many peoples



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Nature of Ishmael

Gen 16:20-21

This son of yours will be a wild man, as untamed as a wild donkey! He will raise his fist against everyone, and everyone will be against him. Yes, he will live in open hostility against all his relatives."

Gen 21:20

And God was with the boy as he grew up in the wilderness. He became a skillful archer, and he settled in the wilderness of Paran....

- A hunter/fighter
- Fiercely independent
- Hard to subdue
- Difficult to "civilize"
- A nomadic wanderer
- Lives in the desert
- Life centered on Tribal loyalties

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_3KtFbfoClg&t=541s

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Divine Messianic prophecies

Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. ...

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Divine Messianic prophecies

Isaiah 7:14

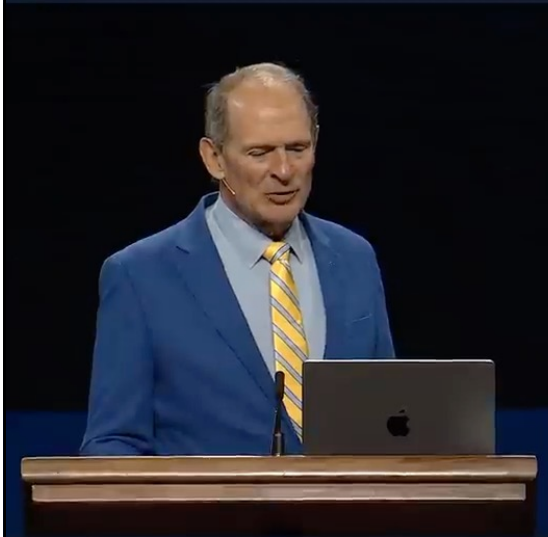
Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him *Immanuel*

Micah 5:2

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel *whose origins are from of old*, from ancient times.”

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*Who can tell us
what
is
true Islam?*

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Examples of religious parallels

Earlier tradition	Qur'anic or Islamic parallel	Important qualification
Jewish biblical and interpretive traditions	Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Solomon	Many accounts are retold with distinctive changes
Christian canonical and apocryphal traditions	Virgin birth, Jesus' miracles, Jesus speaking as an infant	Some parallels are closer to noncanonical Christian traditions
Zoroastrian and Iranian traditions	Judgment, afterlife imagery, the bridge of Sirat	Direct influence on the Qur'an is uncertain; some details are post-Qur'anic
Pre-Islamic Arabian religion	Kaaba pilgrimage, Safa and Marwa, sacred months	Practices were retained, modified, or rejected under monotheism

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