

Shayla: Can Muslims be good Americans? Is this mass email valid?

Sample:

CAN MUSLIMS BE GOOD AMERICANS?

Can a good Muslim be a good American? This question was forwarded to a friend who worked in Saudi Arabia for 20 years. The following is his reply:

1. Theologically - no. . . . Because his allegiance is to Allah, The moon God of Arabia.
2. Religiously - no. . . . Because no other religion is accepted by His Allah except Islam (Quran, 2:256) (Koran).
3. Scripturally - no. . . . Because his allegiance is to the five Pillars of Islam and the Quran.
4. Geographically - no. . . . Because his allegiance is to Mecca , to which he turns in prayer five times a day.
5. Socially - no. . . . Because his allegiance to Islam forbids him to make friends with Christians or Jews.
6. Politically - no. . . . Because he must submit to the mullahs (spiritual leaders), who teach annihilation of Israel and destruction of America , the great Satan.
7. Domestically - no. . . . Because he is instructed to marry four women and beat and scourge his wife when she disobeys him (Quran 4:34).
8. Intellectually - no. . . . Because he cannot accept the American Constitution since it is based on Biblical principles, and he believes the Bible to be corrupt.
9. Philosophically - no. . . . Because Islam, Muhammad, and the Quran do not allow freedom of religion and expression. Democracy and Islam cannot co-exist. Every Muslim government is either dictatorial or autocratic.
10. Spiritually - no. . . . Because when we declare "one nation under God," the Christian's God is loving and kind, while Allah is NEVER referred to as Heavenly father, nor is he ever called love in The Quran's 99 excellent names.

Therefore after much study and deliberation, perhaps we should be very suspicious of ALL MUSLIMS in this country. They obviously cannot be both "good" Muslims and good Americans.

Meforshim:

1. The same could be said of me. My primary allegiance is to Yeshua who is the King of kings and Lord of lords¹ – not the president of the United States.
2. The same could be said of me. I believe all religions except for Christianity to be false to one degree or another. I even believe many branches of Christianity to be corrupt!²
3. The same could be said of me. My allegiance to the Scriptures supersede my allegiance to the Constitution.³
4. That is true of me. I consider myself to be first and foremost to be a citizen of the heavenly Jerusalem.⁴ The United States is simply my current host nation.⁵
5. This statement is not true of me. I am specifically commanded by my Master to befriend all men who will allow it. However, it is equally untrue of many Muslims. I have had Muslim friends with whom I have politely debated religious, economic and political issues. This is true of both Muslims in America and Muslims in Africa that I have known. I believe it is too sweeping a generalization. I would consider this

¹ Revelation 17:14; 19:16; Philippians 2:9-10

² Peter 2:1

³ Isaiah 8:20; John 12:48; Acts 5:29

⁴ Hebrews 11:10; 12:22

⁵ Hebrews 11:13-14

statement to be motzi shem ra (slanderous) because it is not only lashon hara but goes so far as to portray a false image.⁶

6. I agree with this statement in so far as it relates to the Muslims in the Near, Middle and Far East. It cannot be stated that the American Mullahs are equally fomenting anti-American hatred. Again – it is a very broad, sweeping statement based on a person's experience in Saudi Arabia. Again I would characterize this as motzi shem ra.
7. Depends on the branch of Islam. They have hyper-fundamentalists, orthodox and liberals just like Christians do.
8. On this point I agree. I cannot see how a devout Muslim could be fully devoted to the principles of the Constitution and be intellectually honest. The single issue of the equality of mankind including women should cast doubt. The fact that every nation controlled by a Muslim government not only allows but encourages the ownership of slaves sheds further light.
9. Again – I fully agree. The Quran is not a book upon which one could successfully found a democratic nation; witness the founding and subsequent lack of success of Pakistan. Consider the general poverty and lack of education that characterizes the general population of any country under Shariah⁷ – even when that country possesses oil in abundance.
10. I disagree – not on the person's characterization of Allah as an angry, vengeful god. Out of Allah's 99 attributes not one is love; not one is "father" or has a personal, intimate connotation. I differ on the characterization of the Christian God as merely love. The depiction is cartoonish and shallow. God is most certainly love⁸ but that love drives Him to hate many things!⁹ And it would be hypocritical to state that as a problem unique to Islam when our God has demanded genocide,¹⁰ wiped out humanity with a flood,¹¹ declares Himself happy to destroy His own people should they sin¹² and will with perfect equanimity send souls into an eternal torment. If that's a problem for Islam then it could become an equal problem for fundamental Christians! I can already see this type of email sent around about devout disciples of Yeshua!

I would caution the originator of this email that it is lashon hara to speak against a community, race, ethnic group, gender, or age group as a whole.¹³ I would caution anyone else against spreading this email any further and participating in sin.

⁶ Exodus 23:1; Leviticus 19:16-17; Psalm 15:1-3; Proverbs 10:18; 25:18

⁷ The combined set of individual and social duties prescribed on every believer by the Islamic faith is Shari'ah, or the sacred law.

⁸ 1 John 4:8, 16; John 3:16

⁹ Psalm 5:4-5; 31:5-6; 45:6-7; Malachi 2:16; Hebrews 1:8-9; Revelation 2:6-7

¹⁰ Deuteronomy 7:16; 1 Samuel 15:3

¹¹ Genesis 6:7

¹² Deuteronomy 28:63

¹³ Exodus 12:48-49; 20:10; 23:9; Leviticus 19:33-34; Numbers 9:14; Galatians 3:28-29; Colossians 3:11