

The Story of Allah and His al Masi

Rev 5a

Adam

The greatest story ever told begins with Allah creating Adam and Hawa. Because you are a Muslim, I will show you where I believe Mohammad fits into this great story. Allah created Adam and Hawa in His image to be *“like Him”* so we could enjoy Him. He did this so we could enter into a close, intimate relationship with Him, so close Allah sometimes describes it as ... a *marriage*. Allah often calls to us, whispering to our hearts, *“I am here. I am the source of all the beauty that stirs you. I am just this good! Come to Me. I want you with Me and I want you to enjoy Me, the source of all that is good.*

What’s more Allah created us in His image to rule over all the rest of His creation. According to the Tawrat, Allah created mankind to *“have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth”* (Genesis 1:26). The Qur’an describes Adam as a *“Kalif,”* a *“Vicegerent”* (Al Baqara 2:30) because Adam was to serve as Allah’s Vicegerent to administer Allah’s justice and goodness for all the rest of His creation.

But there was another voice in that garden. Paradise was invaded by Satan who whispered to Hawa *“Allah is not completely good or He would not forbid you to eat of that tree. You can’t trust Him. Eat, and your eyes will be opened to know good and evil.”* And she did. And Adam did.

At that moment, everything changed. The intimate relationship that we were created to enjoy with Allah was shattered. Adam and Hawa were driven from Paradise. Gone were the days of bliss when Allah and man enjoyed such intimacy. The two humans left their beloved, alone and defeated. They also left naked, except for leaves with which they tried to cover their shame.

But Allah simply would not leave it that way. He wants us. He wants to be intimate with us, to satisfy us and rule through us. So, on their way out, Allah did something that demonstrated His mercy and grace. He clothed Adam and Hawa. He cared for them but He did so through the slaying of innocent animals. Their skins were given to provide clothing for this rebellious couple. In effect, this was the very first corbani (sacrifice).

What’s more, before they left, Allah told Hawa something very precious and wonderful. He said *“Hawa, a Great Provision is coming. Some day, through one of your male offspring, I am going to defeat Satan (Genesis 3:15). I’m not telling you how, not now, but be assured the day is coming when Satan will no longer tempt you and keep you away from Me. One of your male offspring will accomplish this for Me.”*

According to the Qur’an, Allah spoke gracious words to Adam and Hawa as they departed the garden. Allah said *“We have bestowed raiment upon you to cover your shame, as well as to be an adornment to you. But the Robe of Righteousness (walibasul al-taqwa), that is the best (Al-Araf 7:26).*

So from the very beginning it appears that Allah still wants us back. Though Adam and Hawa rebelled against Allah, He devised a Great Plan, a Great Provision for the future that would take Satan out of our lives and clothe us in righteousness (Isaiah 61:10).

Ibrahim

Years passed. The children of Adam and Hawa were as rebellious as their parents. Not only did they kill and steal, they would not live intimately with Allah or serve alongside of Him. Still, Allah wanted them. He wanted people to love and enjoy Him, serve Him and declare Him to others. So, Allah chose one man, another Vicegerent, to lead His people. He chose Ibrahim.

Allah told Ibrahim, *“I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing ... and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed”* (Genesis 12:1-3). Allah intended to establish His rule, His Kingdom, on earth, so that His Kingdom blessings would reach the entire world. Allah wanted all mankind to know there is

only one God (*lā 'ilāha 'ilá l-Lāh*) and that He is very good. So He chose Ibrahim and his descendants to be the ones to carry this great message to all the world.

But first Ibrahim had to be tested. When he was very old, Allah finally gave Ibrahim a son and then tested Ibrahim by commanding that he offers his son as a sacrifice. You remember the story: just as Ibrahim was about to lower the knife, Allah called out for Ibrahim to stop. In place of his son, Allah provided a ram, which Ibrahim offered as a substitute for his son. This little ram became another corbani (sacrifice).

The Qur'an describes this event succinctly; "*We ransomed him with a momentous sacrifice.*" To ransom a person is to buy them back, to pay a price to redeem them. The ram was a substitute for the boy. What's more, the Qur'an calls this little ram a "momentous sacrifice." The Arabic word is "*Aatheem.*" Aatheem is one of the 99 names of Allah and it signifies His greatness.

On top of the mountain, that ram did not appear very 'momentous' for it was only a little animal. But it was momentous, for that ram was a symbol, a sign. It *signified* some later Sacrifice that would be considered 'momentous' for it would ransom many people and ransom them permanently.

And so we learn from this sign of Ibrahim's Sacrifice that Allah is the kind of gracious and merciful Allah who ransoms His people by sacrifice so that He doesn't lose them. His Great Provision will someday defeat Satan and cover our shame with a Robe of Righteousness.

Musa

Centuries passed. The descendants of Ibrahim were supposed to be Allah's Vicegerents to inform the world "*there is only one God and He is very good. Let Him be your God.*" But the children of Ibrahim faced a problem. They were slaves living in Egypt. They served Firon, building pyramids and palaces.

So, Allah rescued them. This great rescue declared Allah's glory to the Egyptians and freed Allah's people to fulfill their mission to represent Him to the nations around. And He chose to do this through Musa. Musa was sent by Allah to command Firon to set Ibrahim's children free. To help persuade Firon, Allah demonstrated many great signs. The last and most devastating plague was what the Qur'an calls the plague of "*blood*" (Al-Anfal 7:133).

Here's the story. Allah promised to pass through the land of Egypt and kill the firstborn of every family that did not apply blood to the door of their home. Each family was to take a lamb without blemish, a perfect lamb, and kill it. They were to take the blood of that lamb and sprinkle it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of every house. Wherever blood was applied, His angel of death would pass over. Wherever blood was lacking, there the angel would enter and kill every firstborn.

That blood, applied to the door of each home, was intended by Allah as a sign for all people. This sign signifies that Allah's Great Provision which will defeat Satan and clothe us in righteousness, a Momentous sacrifice that ransoms mankind from his sin and shame, this sacrifice would have to be perfect and the blood of this sacrifice would need to be applied to every family.

Do you notice any themes thus far in this story? There are two. First, Allah really wants us around. He keeps doing amazing things to rescue us, to free us. He wants us to live with Him and He wants us to represent Him, to rule for Him. He wants to use us to bless the world by showing us off as His model people. Our abundantly blessed lives should prove to the world that Allah, the only God, is very good. We should all trust Him to rule in justice.

But there is a second theme, the Great Provision theme that involves a corbani (sacrifice). Allah wants us and so offers the first sacrifice to provide covering for Adam and Hawa. A small ram was offered as a sacrifice to ransom Ibrahim's son from the knife. And when Allah wanted the Bani-Israel to be free of Firon He rescued them through the great Passover sacrifice. It becomes more and more obvious that Allah's Great Provision will be some kind of a momentous sacrifice that ransoms us from sin and shame and frees us from Satan once and for all.

Daud

But, what is Allah's Great Provision? And when will Allah provide this Momentous Sacrifice that will defeat Satan and cover our shame? The Sign of Daud brings us closer to the answer.

Daud was not only a prophet. He was a great king. Under his rule, Bani-Israel became a great nation, capable of declaring to all the other nations, "there is only one God and He is very good; trust Him to rule in justice." Instead the people refused to follow King Daud and at times actually opposed his rule. Though Daud was one of the greatest Kings, even great human kings cannot rule the hearts of people and help them walk the Straight Path.

So what could Allah do to rule His people in justice, to help them become the great blessing to the World He intended them to be and to walk obediently along the Straight Path?

Allah be praised, He has a plan, a Great Plan! Because of His grace and mercy, He announced to Daud that He would give Daud a son, a great, great grandson. This descendant of Daud could accomplish what the other prophets had failed to do. This grandson would be no ordinary grandson; he would be anointed. The Spirit of Allah would come upon him so that he could be the Vicegerent Allah wanted to lead us and through us to bless the whole world.

Allah said to Daud, "*Your throne shall be established forever*" (2 Samuel 7:16). Wow, what a promise, an eternal kingdom. But what kind of a kingdom lasts forever? And who can rule over such an eternal Kingdom? Only a heavenly Kingdom and only a heavenly King. And so Allah promised Daud that his great, great grandson would be *anointed* by Allah's Spirit to reign over the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. The Zabur refers to this descendant of Daud as al Masi, meaning "*The Anointed One*" (Psalm 2:2). So, there would be an Anointed King to rule over the Kingdom of Heaven.

A thousand years later, a very unusual child is born, born to a virgin, the Virgin *Marium*, a descendant of Daud. That child was given the title, "Isa al Masi" (Al-Imran 3:45). And prior to his birth, the angel Jibreel announced to *Marium*, "*The Lord God will give him (Isa) the throne of his father Daud, and he will reign over the house of Yaqub forever; his kingdom will never end*" (Luke 1:32-33). So, Allah's al Masi, the anointed son of Daud, would be Isa sent to establish the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and help us walk the *Straight Path*.

So far, we have seen that Allah's Great Provision will defeat Satan and cover our shame with a Robe of Righteousness. It will be some kind of Momentous Sacrifice, which will ransom Allah's people from their shame, whose perfect blood must be applied to each family. And now we learn that it will be none other than the Anointed al Masi Isa, the great King who establishes Allah's Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

Yunus

Many other prophets were sent by Allah to proclaim this good news to the nations. One of those prophets was Yunus. He was assigned to the people of Nineveh to warn them, "There is only one God." Instead of fulfilling his role as Allah's Vicegerent, Yunus fled. He tried to run away. And so Allah ordered a large fish to swallow him. There in the belly of the fish, Yunus repented and Allah, in His great mercy, gave Yunus a second chance. Three days later the fish spit him out on dry land and Yunus went to Nineveh to warn the people to turn from their idols to the one true God.

This is more than an interesting story. It is a sign. Allah wanted us to understand that His Great Provision would experience something like Yunus did. He would be under the earth for three days, and then he would return. al Masi Isa told us this sign pointed to him. His words are recorded in the Injil, "*just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so will the Son of Man (the title Isa chose for Himself) be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth*" (Matthew 12:40).

And so, we learn from yet another sign, Allah's Great Provision, which will also be a perfect sacrifice, will be born a descendant of Daud, and will remain for three days in the heart of the earth, much like Yunus was three days in the belly of the fish, and then He will return.

Yahya

Many, many years passed. Many prophets announced the coming of Allah's al Masi. But it was Yahya's honor to be the one to bear witness, "*Here He is!*"

The Qur'an reminds us, "*While Zakariya [Yahya's father] was standing in prayer in the chamber, the angels called to him: 'Allah gives you the glad tidings of Yahya, witnessing the truth of a Word from Allah (Al-Imran 3:39). The identity of this Word of Allah becomes clear when, according to the Qur'an, the angel announces to Marium, 'O Marium, Allah gives you glad tidings of a Word from Him (that's the Word of Allah): his name will be al Masi Isa, the son of Marium, held in honor in this world and the Hereafter and of (the company of) those nearest to Allah' (Al-Imran 3:45). Yahya was sent to direct attention to al Masi so the world would not miss him.*

All the Prophets

Yahya's mission was very important. Why? Almost 1000 years passed since Allah promised through Daud that He was sending al Masi to earth. During those years, Allah announced many important details about al Masi. Around 700 BC Prophet Isaiah prophesied that al Masi would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14), the only person since Adam and Hawa were created to be born without an earthly father. Prophet Micah announced al Masi would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). A little later Prophet Jeremiah announced al Masi would "*execute justice and righteousness on the earth*" (Jeremiah 33:15-18). Daniel predicted he would bear the title "*Son of Man*" and that his kingdom would be *everlasting* (Daniel 7:13-14). And several prophets, especially Isaiah, announced that Allah's al Masi would suffer. Isaiah called Him a suffering Servant who would suffer on our behalf (Isaiah 53).

So the prophets kept prophesying and the Bani-Israel kept waiting. But they also grew impatient and eventually turned to other gods. This brought Allah's discipline down on them; Bani-Israel were taken captive to Babylon. There they waited yet again, waited for Allah's al Masi, hoping *he* would come and deliver them. During the long wait, they mistakenly concluded al Masi would appear as a powerful warrior and conquer Israel's enemies. They were expecting a warrior king, al Masi with a sword. But no savior appeared. In fact, the Jews suffered one oppressor after another. After Babylon came Persia. After Persia, Greece. And just when freedom seemed within grasp, Pompey invaded Palestine and a new empire, Rome, dominated the world.

By the time of Yahya, Bani-Israel had suffered under Roman cruelty for almost a century. The people were desperate, certain al Masi would come in the way of Daud, much like the future prophet Muhammad, as a strong military leader who would take up sword and shield, command powerful armies and defeat the enemy of Rome.

But al Masi Isa failed to deliver what the Jews expected.

First, Isa's birth was not what they expected. It was ignoble; most concluded he was illegitimate, born to a loose woman claiming virginity. At the time of his birth, the only Jews to welcome this unlikely al Masi were dirty shepherds. They were startled by an angel appearing in the night sky while they watched over their sheep. The angel announced, "*Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of Daud a Savior, who is al Masi the Lord*" (Luke 2:10-12).

Second, Isa's message was very different than the message people expected. Instead of fiery sermons calling for jihad against Rome, Isa al Masi "*went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom*" (Matthew 4:23). And Isa's message about this kingdom was amazing! Never had humanity heard such words. The Injil records one of his messages:

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, 'Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile [Roman soldiers could demand that Jews carry their gear one mile], go with him two miles. Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you ... Love your enemies [even the

Romans] and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven” (Mathew 5:38-45).

Third, Isa’s way of life was totally opposite to that of any other king. Isa, the *true al Masi King*, conquered no one’s city, forced no one’s allegiance and taxed no one’s money. Rather, he *“healed all who were sick”* (Matthew 8:16), befriended *“tax collectors and sinners”* (Matthew 9:11), fed *“thousands”* of hungry people (Matthew 14:13-21) and *“washed the disciples’ feet”* (John 13:1-11). The only kingdom he established was invisible and the only thing he conquered was the heart. For so it had been prophesied 700 years earlier. Allah spoke through Prophet Isaiah, saying:

“Behold, my servant [Isa] whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations. He will not quarrel or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets; a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory; and in his name the nations will hope” (Matthew 12:18-21).

And fourth, Isa’s Kingdom was very different. Yes, he came to establish the kingdom of heaven and to bring justice to victory. But not in the way people expected. The true al Masi would not deliver by sword. He chose the humble path of suffering.

And lest the people miss this very unexpected humble servant, Allah sent Yahya to announce his arrival.

So, who is this Isa? True, he is a prophet. But no ordinary prophet. According to the Injil he is called the Word. The Qur’an refers to him as the Word of Allah. No other prophet is so honored. And according to the Injil, this *“Word became flesh and dwelt among us”* (Al-Imran 3:39; John 1:1-14).

But Isa the Word of Allah was also the Lamb of Allah (1 Peter 1:19, Marium 19:21 calls him the Mercy of Allah), the one who would ransom us from hell, cover our shame and clothe us in the Robe of Righteousness (Isaiah 61:10).

And so, when Yahya first saw al Masi Isa, he bore witness to the whole world, *“behold the **Lamb of Allah** who takes away the sin of the World”* (John 1:29).

Isa

al Masi Isa is the promised King. He went everywhere preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing people’s diseases, thus demonstrating the availability of the Kingdom (Matthew 4:23). He demonstrated by his many miracles (al Imran 3:49) that he had unquestioned authority to command the forces of nature, the powers of evil and the force of life itself. With a word, he stilled a storm (Luke 8:22-25), cast out a legion of demons (Luke 8:26-39), healed all who were sick (Luke 8:40-48, Matthew 8:16) and raised the dead (Luke 8:49-56). And, best of all, he has authority to forgive sin! Once when confronted with a paralytic he said,

“that you [religious leaders who opposed him] may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the paralytic—“I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home.” And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw anything like this!” (Mark 2:1-12).

However, though he was Allah’s al Masi and King who brought the goodness of Allah’s kingdom to earth, he was also Allah’s Lamb, Allah’s corbani, sacrifice. And so, by the will of Allah (al Imran 3:55 where *mutawaffeeka* should be translated “I will kill you” – see original translation by M. W. Khan), al Masi Isa was put to death. Not by Jews, as the Qur’an records (An-Nisa 4:155-157); He was crucified *by the Romans*. Though Jews had tried for years to end his life, Roman law forbade them from taking matters into their own hands. Thus, with the help of Judas the betrayer, al Masi Isa was led away to be hung on a Roman cross.

And thus, al Masi Isa fulfilled the Sign of Yahya. On the cross Isa became *“the Lamb of Allah that takes away the sin of the world”* (John 1:29).

In fact, al Masi Isa fulfilled all the Signs. He fulfilled the Sign of Yunus. According to the Injil, *“just as Yunus was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in*

the heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:40). When al Masi Isa was taken from the cross, his body was laid in a tomb. But on the third day al Masi Isa rose victorious from that grave and is alive even to this day. No wonder the Qur'an refers to him as *"held in honor in this world and the Hereafter"* (Al-Imran 3:45).

al Masi Isa fulfilled the Sign of Daud. Eleven times the Qur'an refers to Isa as al Masi (An-Nisa 4:172 etc.). This means he is the descendent of King Daud and Allah would *"establish the throne of his kingdom forever"* (1 Samuel 7:13).

al Masi Isa fulfilled the Sign of Musa. By the decree of Allah, the Romans actually crucified Isa on the weekend of the Jewish Passover celebration. The Injil declares *"Messiah [is] our Passover Lamb"* (1 Corinthians 5:7). Just as the angel of death "passed over" those whose homes were covered by the blood of the Passover lamb, so Allah will pass over (forgive) all whose sin and shame is covered by the blood of His Great Provision, the sacrifice of al Masi Isa.

al Masi Isa fulfilled the Sign of Ibrahim. The little ram that Allah provided as a *"ransom"* for his son was truly *a momentous sacrifice* (Al-Saffat 37:107) for it pointed to Allah's Great Provision, the Lamb of Allah *"who gave himself as a ransom for all"* (1 Timothy 2:6).

And al Masi Isa fulfilled the Sign of Adam. When Allah took the skin of an animal to provide clothing for the first couple, He provided us with the first corbani, sacrifice. It appears from the beginning He was teaching humanity that His Great Provision would eventually be a sacrifice. Like those first garments, Isa al Masi became the Robe of Righteousness that Allah promised to cover our shame. What's more, Isa al Masi defeated Satan so that now all in his Kingdom are protected from the evil one.

Alhamdulillah - all the Signs of Allah point to Isa al Masi (Al-Imran 3:45).

And so, it was that when Isa came, He did not announce any other signs pointing to someone else who would bless the world. Instead He said *"COME to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light"* (Matthew 11:28-30). al Masi Isa was inviting humanity to be intimate with him, to partner with him, to rule in the Kingdom of Heaven with him, thus bringing the blessings of Allah's Kingdom to all mankind.

Mohammad

Some 600 years later the Qur'an came through the voice of a great Arab leader, Mohammad, believed by millions to be the final prophet of Allah.

Mohammad brought two important announcements: One, he said *lā 'ilāha ilá l-Lāh* (there is one God).

But Mohammad had another important announcement. Again, and again he announced *'pay attention to the Signs of Allah!'* Over 300 times the Qur'an repeats similar warnings:

*"Who could do more wrong than one who **rejects Allah's Signs** (Al-Anam 6:157)*

*"Those who do not **believe in the Signs of Allah**, - Allah will not guide them, and theirs will be a grievous Penalty (An Nahl 16:104).*

Mohammad did not come announcing a new religion. Repeatedly the Qur'an tells us *"The same religion He (Allah) has established for you (Muhammad) as that which He enjoined on Nuh ... and that which He enjoined on Ibrahim, Musa and Isa"* (Al Shura 42:13). Mohammad called Arabs *back* to all the previous Signs of Allah.

Conclusion

All the Signs were given so we would follow them. All of them, every Sign, points to one person, the “Word and Spirit of Allah,” Isa al Masi, the Lamb of Allah who takes away the sin of the world.

Allah sent us His Word who took on flesh and became one of us as Allah’s al Masi Isa (Al-Imran 3:45; John 1:1-14). He did this because Allah loves mankind and wants us very much to be with Him, to be intimate with Him, to love, enjoy and rule with Him forever. Because Allah is perfectly holy, He wants very much to clothe us in His *Robe of Righteousness* so that we can be with Him intimately now and forever. Allah offers to ransom all of us, to buy us back, not from the knife, but from cosmic separation from Allah that should be our lot. He offers to cover our shame with His Robe of Righteousness, al Masi Isa. Humanity is invited to accept Allah’s wonderful offer.

Whether we come before al Masi Isa or afterwards, all the Signs point to Him and we must enter the Kingdom of Heaven through Him, whether as Jews, Christians, Muslims or any other.

Listen again to these gracious words of al Masi Isa. What an invitation!

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30).

When we come, Isa al Masi promises to yoke himself to us, to walk this life with us into the Kingdom of Allah. In the Invisible Kingdom of Heaven, we experience divine **Joy** and satisfaction. Isa said of Himself, **“I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty”** (John 6:35). To a rejected woman He once said **“whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life”** (John 4:14). That’s because only al Masi Isa can satisfy those deep longings as only a Creator can.

In the Kingdom of Heaven, we experience divine **Direction**. Life is amazingly complex. Our best attempts to order life often end in little more than chaos. We ache for a “Cosmic Wayfinder,” someone great enough to handle our unimaginable confusion. That’s a Messiah Specialty! He provides divine Direction. He claimed to be **“the Way and the Truth and the Life”** (John 14:6). He boldly announced that He is **“the light of the world. Whoever follows Me, will break out of the darkness and walk in the light of life”** (John 8:12).

In His Invisible Kingdom, we discover divine **Power**, power to heal, to restore and to reconcile. Once when his disciples were struggling to row across a lake in a storm, Jesus came walking towards them on the water. When the disciples saw Him, they were terrified and, in fear, cried out “It’s a ghost!” Jesus called out to them, **“Don’t be afraid ... take courage, I AM”** (Matthew 14:27). Not every storm is stilled, not every disease is healed. But many today are experiencing the healing and delivering power of Isa available to us through His Kingdom.

In His Invisible Kingdom, we also experience divine **Protection**, protection from the powers of darkness. Jesus spoke of Himself as the Gate that protects His sheep. **“I am the Door”** He said, **“If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture”** (John 10:9). Satan is our very real enemy but Jesus the Door protects us from Him. Isa al Masi defeated Satan when He rose from the grave and so in the Kingdom of Heaven we experience divine protection from all his schemes.

In the Invisible Kingdom of Allah we also experience divine **Pardon**, forgiveness for all we’ve done to offend our gracious Allah. Jesus once said **“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep”** (John 10:11). As Yahya announced, Jesus is the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. Allah removes our shame and replaces it with Isa al Masi’s honor. We do not need to pay Allah to remove our shame. Isa, Allah’s sacrifice, takes away our sin and shame, weather Muslim, Christian or Jew.

With that forgiveness comes the divine **Promise** of Life Eternal, abundant life which begins right here and now and continues into eternity, forever. Isa said **“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever”** (John 6:51). On another occasion, He said to a woman who had just lost her brother, **“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he dies, yet shall he live, and**

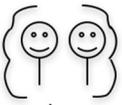
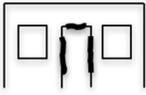
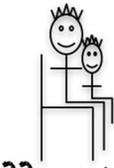
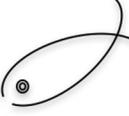
everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die" (John 11:25-26). Finally, we are allowed back into Paradise from which Adam and Hawa were first expelled.

And, as though that were not enough, we are restored to our divine **Position** as those created in Allah's image to rule intimately with Him and on His behalf. Jesus said "**I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing**" (John 15:5). We can't fulfill our role as "kalifs" without Jesus, but we can work with Jesus to bring the justice of His Kingdom to all mankind. And all this because of Allah's Great Provision, Isa al Masi.

The great invitation of Jesus still stands:

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

Allah has a question for you: will you come yoke yourself to al Masi Isa.

RULE	BLESS	FREE	REIGN	SERVANT	KING	COME TO ME	
				Everlasting Kingdom Son of Man Justice for all Bethlehem Virgin	Different Kingdom Lifestyle Message Birth	Position Promise Pardon Protection Power Direction Joy	
							
Adam	Ibrahim	Musa	?? Daud	Yunus	Yahya	Isa	Mohammad
Provision	Corban	Blood	Son	Fish	Witness	Word Lamb	Qur'an
Saban Robe	Ransoms Momentous	Perfect Every	Anointed Kingdom	3 Days	Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world	All Signs point to Jesus	Lā 'ilāha ' ilā l-Lāh Signs