

# Jesus was not Crucified

*Narrated Abu Hurairah: Allah's Messenger said, "The most perfidious (awful) name with Allah, on the Day of Resurrection, will be (that of) a man calling himself Malik Al-Amlak (king of the kings)."*

*Sahih Al-Bukhari, No. 6205*

Islam teaches that Jesus ('Isa) was only a prophet and not the Son of God. Islam also teaches that Jesus was not crucified; instead, someone took his place on the cross. This is explicitly stated in the Koran:

Chapter 4, Verses 157-158

*And because of their saying (in boast), "We killed Messiah 'Isa (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary), the Messenger of Allah," - but they killed him not nor crucified him, but it appeared so to them [the resemblance of 'Isa (Jesus) was put over another man (and they killed that man)], and those who differ therein are full of doubts. They have no (certain) knowledge, they follow nothing but conjecture. For surely, they killed him not [i.e. 'Isa (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary)]; But Allah raised him ['Isa (Jesus)] up (with his body and soul) to Himself (and he is in the heavens). And Allah is Ever All-Powerful, All-Wise.*

Ibn Kathir provided the background for these verses:

*Ibn Abi Hatim recorded that Ibn 'Abbas said, "Just before Allah raised 'Isa to the heavens, 'Isa went to his companions, who were twelve inside the house. When he arrived, his hair was dripping water and he said, 'There are those among you who will disbelieve in me twelve times after he had believed in me.' He then asked, 'Who volunteers that his image appear as mine, and be killed in my place. He will be with me (in Paradise)?' One of the youngest ones among them volunteered and 'Isa asked him to sit down. 'Isa again asked for a volunteer, and the young man kept volunteering and 'Isa asking him to sit down. Then the young man volunteered again and 'Isa said, 'You will be that man,' and the resemblance of 'Isa was cast over that man while 'Isa ascended to heaven from a hole in the house. When the Jews came looking for 'Isa, they found that young man and crucified him..."*

*Tafsir Ibn Kathir, Vol. 3, p. 28*

Ibn Kathir pointed out that afterwards the Jews

*boasted that they killed 'Isa and some Christians accepted their false claim, due to their ignorance and lack of reason.*

*Tafsir Ibn Kathir, Vol. 3, p. 27*

The *Tafsir Al-Jalalayn* provided a similar explanation:

*The person killed and crucified was a companion of 'Isa who was made to look like him so that they thought it was him.*

*Those who argue about him ('Isa) are in doubt about it, about killing him, as one of them said when he saw the body of the person who had been killed, "It is the face of 'Isa but not his body. It is not him." Others said, "It is him." They have no real knowledge of it (his killing), just conjecture. They follow the supposition which they imagine to be the case. But they certainly did not kill him.*

*Tafsir Al-Jalalayn, p. 228*

Here are the implications of this teaching:

1. The Resurrection of Jesus is a myth.
2. The other disciples of Jesus were inside the house and knew that it was an imposter who had been crucified. Nevertheless, they went out and preached Christianity, knowing it was a false religion based on a fraud.
3. Muslims who know their religion look at a crucifix or a painting of the Crucifixion and see an imposter hanging on the cross.

But Muslims and Christians believe that Jesus will return to earth. Here is how Muhammad described that return:

*Imam Ahmad recorded that Abu Hurayrah said that the Prophet said, The Prophets are paternal brothers; their mothers are different, but their religion is one. I, more than any of mankind, have more right to 'Isa, son of Maryam, for there was no Prophet between him and I. He will descend, and if you see him, know him. He is a well-built man, (the color of*

*his skin) between red and white. He will descend while wearing two long, light yellow garments. His head appears to be dripping water, even though no moisture touched it. He will break the cross, kill the pig, and banish the Jizyah and will call the people to Islam. During his time, Allah will destroy all religions except Islam and Allah will destroy Al-Masih Ad-Dajjal (the False Messiah). Safety will then fill the earth... 'Isa will remain for forty years and then will die, and Muslims will offer the funeral prayer for him.*

*Tafsir Ibn Kathir, Vol. 3, pp. 31-32*

So during those forty years after Jesus returned, Allah would destroy all religions except Islam. And at the same time, Jesus would be breaking the cross of Christianity and calling the people to Islam.

Why would Jesus banish the *Jizyah* (the tax imposed on non-Muslims living under the protection of an Islamic government)? Sheikh 'Umar Barakat ibn al-Sayyid provided an interesting explanation:

*...After his final coming, nothing but Islam will be accepted from them, for taking the poll tax [Jizyah] is only effective until Jesus' descent (upon him and our Prophet be peace), which is the divinely revealed law of Muhammad. The coming of Jesus does not entail a separate divinely revealed law, for he will rule by the law of Muhammad.*

*Reliance of the Traveller, o9.8. Barakat was a noted 19<sup>th</sup> century Shafi'i scholar who wrote the commentary for Reliance of the Traveller.*

So Barakat explained that there would no longer be a need for the *Jizyah* because after Jesus descended back to earth, only conversion to Islam would be accepted from the Jews and Christians.

And, according to Muhammad, Jesus would also be judging mankind by the laws of the Koran:

*Narrated Abu Hurairah: Allah's Messenger said, "How will you be when the son of Maryam (Mary) ['Isa (Jesus)] descends amongst you, and he will judge people by the law of the Qur'an and not by the law of the Gospel."*

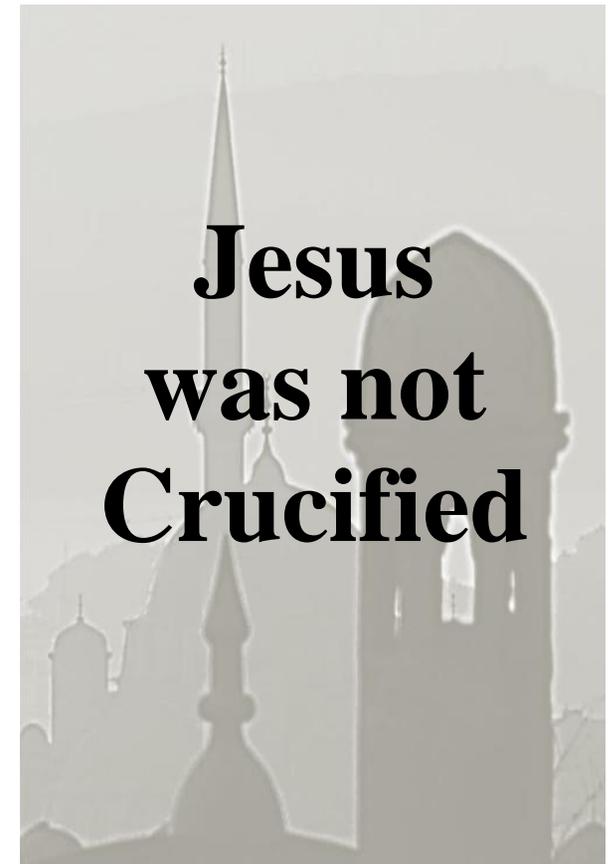
*Sahih Al-Bukhari, No. 3449*

One of our modern *tafsirs* summed it up:

*...Muslims believe unanimously that 'Isa is alive in al-barzakh, that he descend [sic] to the earth before the Day of Resurrection, that he will kill the Dajjal [the False Messiah] and wipe out all of the religions except Islam...*

*Tafsir Ahsanul-Bayan, Vol. 1, p. 550. Al-Barzakh is the interval between death and resurrection.*

Dr. Kirby is the author of six books on Islam. His latest book is *Islamic Doctrine versus the U.S. Constitution: The Dilemma for Muslim Public Officials*. His books are available on Amazon.com.



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