

## 7. Reciprocity of Warfare

### GOD WOULD FIGHT AGAINST ISRAEL

If the Israelites were disobedient, God said: "I myself will fight against you with outstretched hand and strong arm, in anger, and in fury, and in great wrath." (Jeremiah 21:5) God said to them: "I will kill you with the sword" if you mistreat widows & orphans." (Exodus 22:22-24)

### ALLAH ALWAYS SUPPORTS ISLAM

Allah always fights on behalf of the Muslims, and against their enemies. (Qur'an 3:13,160; 33:25; 33:26; 8:17; 59:2; 63:4; 110:1-3), although he may forsake them (Qur'an 3:160).

## 8. Personal Result of Warfare

### NO ETERNAL REPERCUSSIONS

The consequences of warfare were limited to earthly outcomes. When the Israelites were attacked, Nehemiah told them: "Fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes." (Nehemiah 4:14).

### JIHAD HAS ETERNAL IMPLICATIONS

According to the Qur'an, losing one's life for Allah ensured entry into gardens of delight (Qur'an 2:154; 3:157, 158; 3:169, 170; 3:195; 4:66, 67; 4:74; 4:100; 22:58; 47:4-6). "On the day of the battle of Uhud, a man came to the Prophet and said, 'Can you tell me where I will be if I should get martyred?' The Prophet replied, 'In Paradise.' The man threw away some dates he was carrying in his hand, and fought till he was martyred. (alBukhari 5:388). Muhammad said, "If anyone meets Allah with no mark of jihad, he will meet Allah with a flaw in him." (Tirmidhi no. 3835), and "Allah guarantees that He will admit the *mujahid* ('jihad fighter') in His cause into Paradise if he is killed." (Hadith alBukhari 4:46)

## 9. Motivation for Warfare

### TO FACILITATE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Moses said to Pharaoh: "Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to [God] in the desert." (Exodus 5:1) When the Temple was ultimately built in Jerusalem, the expectation was that people from all nations would freely come to worship there (Isaiah 60:3).

### TO EXPAND RELIGIOUS DOMINANCE

A man asked, "O Allah's Apostle! What kind of fighting is in Allah's cause? ...[Muhammad] said, "He who fights so that Allah's Word (Islam) should be superior, then he fights in Allah's cause." (AlBukhari 1:125; 4:65, 355; 9:550) When asked "What is the best deed?" Muhammad replied, "To believe in Allah and to fight for His cause." (Hadith AlBukhari 3:694).

## 10. Continuing relevance of Warfare

### OLD TESTAMENT WARFARE HAS ENDED !!!

The commands to fight were given to a specific nation, Israel, (Deuteronomy 20:3), at a particular point of its history, to those who God "brought up out of Egypt" (Deuteronomy 20:1). They were never intended for universal and repeated application. The Israelites looked forward to a time when they could "hammer their swords into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore." (Isaiah 2:4; Micah 4:3) . The Prince of Peace was coming.

### ISLAMIC JIHAD CONTINUES TO THE END

Muhammad said: "Jihad will be performed continuously since the day Allah sent me as a prophet until the day the last member of my community will fight with the Dajjal (Antichrist)." Hadith Abu Dawud no.1051 Muslims must fight "until there is no more disbelief and worship is for Allah". (Q.2:193) Muhammad said, "If you are called (by the Muslim ruler) for fighting, go forth immediately." (alBukhari 4:42)

**CONCLUSION:** Some people cite events of 3000 years ago to avoid today's issues. We must face up to the clear and current danger and results of jihadism.

# Islamic Jihad & Wars in the Bible

When asked about Jihad, people often reply with:  
**“What about the violence in the Bible?”**

*Inside are ten key differences between the warfare described in the Bible & Islamic Jihad*

Not all the wars described in the Old Testament (there are none in the New Testament) were divinely-sanctioned. Some were politically-motivated fights between different tribes. This will mostly assess Israel's conquest of Canaan.

## 1. Purpose of Warfare

### THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN BY ISRAEL PROVIDED A SANCTUARY FOR A REFUGEE NATION

The people of Israel had been slaves in Egypt for 400 years (Genesis 15:13; Acts 7:6), so "they cried out to God and He heard them." (Exodus 2:23-25). They had nowhere to live. So God said that the territory of Canaan was "the land I am giving to you as a home." (Numbers 15:1), not as a place for booty.

### ISLAMIC JIHAD FOCUSED ON IDEOLOGICALLY- BASED EXPANSION from the Arabian Peninsula for BOOTY

Allah "has sent His Apostle with Guidance and the Religion of Truth to prevail over all religion." (Q.9:33; 48:28; 61:9). "Allah made the Prophet wealthy through conquests" (alBukhari 3:495). and Allah made [Muslims] rich through [Muhammad]." (alBukhari 5:619). & Q.93:8 & 9:74) Muhammad had "the keys of the treasures of the earth (or the keys of the world)" (Hadith alBukhari 4:795; 2:428; 5:411, 660; 8:434, 590; 9:160).

Jihad aimed to extend Islam's political, economic, legal, religious & military rule

## 2. Impetus for Warfare

SOMETIMES THE ISRAELITES FOUGHT IN SELF-DEFENCE. They were attacked by Sihon king of Heshbon (Exodus 17:8), the Amalekites (Exodus 17:8), the five kings (Joshua 10:5), and the Negev Canaanite

king (Numbers 21:1-3). There were revenge attacks on the Canaanite king of Arad (Numbers 21:1-3), the Midianites (Num.31:1,2) due to Num.25:16-18, and the Edomites who refused passage & threatened Israel (Num.20:20)

### JIHAD WAS ALWAYS OFFENSIVE

Muhammad unilaterally threatened non-hostile nations with an ultimatum: "If you accept Islam you will be safe" [from attack] - the Byzantines (al-Bukhari 1:6; 4:191), Persians (al-Bukhari 1:64; 4:190), and Bahrainis (al-Bukhari 1:64; 4:190)

## 3. The Goal of Warfare

### CONQUEST OF CANAAN WAS DIVINE JUDGEMENT ON AN UNJUST NATION

God said that Abraham's descendants would return to Canaan once the sins "of the Amorites had reached their full measure". (Genesis 15:16). The actions of the Israelite armies were a retribution for widespread evil Canaanite practices such as child sacrifice (Deuteronomy 12:31; 18:9,10) . The Canaanites had defiled the land and it vomited them out (Leviticus 18:24-28)

### DEFEATING CHRISTIANS AND THE JEWS

According to the Qur'an, Christians are the best friends of Muslims; they are not proud, but are compassionate (Quran 5:82; 57:27). Christians, along with Muslims and Jews, have a law and a clear way to follow, attaining salvation (Q.5:47; 2:62; 5:69) Christians and Jews are said to worship the same God as Muslims (Q.29:46). Yet Muslims are told to "fight against the people of the Book [Jews & Christians] until they feel themselves subdued and pay *jizya*" (Q.9:29)

## 4. The Scope of Warfare

### GEOGRAPHICALLY RESTRICTED

God said to the Israelites: "I will establish your borders from the Red Sea to the Sea of the Philistines, and from the desert to the River." (Exodus 23:31). It was a specific region.

## ISLAMIC JIHAD HAD A UNIVERSAL MANDATE – ALL LANDS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO ISLAMIC CONQUEST

"And fight them until there is no more disbelief and polytheism and the religion will all be for Allah Alone [in the whole of the world].(Q.8:39)

## 5. The Targets of Warfare

### ISRAELITE WARFARE WAS FORBIDDEN AGAINST CERTAIN ETHNIC GROUPS

The Israelites were told by God that they could not fight the tribe of Esau (Deuteronomy2:5); Moabites (Deuteronomy 2:9); Ammonites (Deuteronomy 2:19) or the land along the course of the Jabbok nor around the towns in the hills (Deuteronomy 2:37), other Israelites (2.Chronicles 11:4; 2.Kings 12:24), or the Chaldeans (Jeremiah 32:5)

### ISLAMIC JIHAD WAS AGAINST ALL

Muhammad said: "I have been ordered (by Allah) to fight against the people until they testify that none has the right to be worshipped but Allah and that Muhammad is Allah's Apostle." (alBukhari 1:24).

## 6. Environmental Issues

### DESTRUCTION OF TREES FORBIDDEN

The Israelites were told by God: "When you lay siege to a city for a long time, fighting against it to capture it, do not destroy its trees by putting an ax to them, because you can eat their fruit. Do not cut them down." (Deuteronomy 20:19)

### MUSLIMS DESTROYED TREES

In battles led by Muhammad, "the Jews [of Bani Nadir] took refuge in their forts and the apostle ordered that the palm-trees should be cut down and burnt" and to cut down the vineyards of Thaqif during the siege of Tā'if (Ibn Ishaq , *Sira*, p.Ibn Ishaq *Sirat Rasul Allah* trans. as *The Life of Muhammad* (tr. A. Guillaume), (Karachi: Oxford University Press, 1998) pp.437, 589) Muhammad received permission from Allah to do this (Qur'an 59:5).