

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Surah Aal-e-'Imran

وَمَنْ يَبْتَغِ غَيْرَ الْإِسْلَامِ دِينًا فَلَنْ يُقْبَلَ مِنْهُ ۗ وَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنَ الْخَسِرِينَ ﴿٨٥﴾

85. If anyone desires a religion other than Islam (submission to Allah), never will it be accepted of him; and in the Hereafter He will be in the ranks of those who have lost (All spiritual good).

The Muslim position is clear. The Muslim does not claim to have a religion peculiar to himself. Islam is not a sect or an ethnic religion. In its view all Religion is one, for the Truth is one. It was the religion preached by all the earlier prophets. It was the truth taught by all the inspired Books. In essence it amounts to a consciousness of the Will and Plan of Allah and a joyful submission to that Will and Plan. If anyone wants a religion other than that, he is false to his own nature, as he is false to Allah's Will and Plan. Such a one cannot expect guidance, for he has deliberately renounced guidance.

The Noble Quran/Yusuf Ali

...Mujāhid and as-Suddī said, 'This āyah was revealed about al-Hārith ibn Suwayd, the brother of al-Hulās ibn Suwayd. He was one of the Anṣār. He apostatised from Islam along with twelve men, and they joined the unbelievers in Makkah and this āyah was revealed about them. Then he sent to his brother desiring to repent.' That was related from Ibn 'Abbās and others. Ibn 'Abbās said he became Muslim after this was revealed...

Tafsir Qurtubi

...Whoever desires a religion other than Islam, it shall not be accepted from him and in the Hereafter he shall be among the losers, because he will end up in the Fire, made everlasting for him.

Tafsir Jalalayn

هُوَ سَمَّاكُمْ الْمُسْلِمِينَ مِنْ قَبْلُ وَفِي هَذَا (22:78) In short, every Divine religion which came through a prophet is also called 'Islam'...As for the 'Islam' given through the last Prophet ﷺ it ...will serve as a permanent code right up to the Day of Judgment. And... all previous religions stand abrogated after the Holy Prophet ﷺ as been sent. Now, they are not Islam as such anymore. Instead, Islam is the name of that particular religion which has reached us through the Holy Prophet, Muhammad al-Mustafa ﷺ. Therefore, it appears in authentic ahadith that the Holy Prophet ﷺ said: 'Had Musa been living this day, following me would have been incumbent upon him too.' In yet another hadith, he has been reported to have said that `Isa (عليه السلام) when he appears close to the Day of Resurrection, he too, in spite of holding his distinction and office of prophethood, would follow no other religious code except that of his (the Prophet ﷺ of Islam. Therefore, at this place, no matter what sense is taken of Islam - the general or the particular - the outcome of both is the same, that is, after the coming of the Last of the Prophet (عليهم السلام) only that religion...will be termed as Islam...

Mariful Quran

Compilers' notes:

- See also 3: 19

