

Comparative Religion

Did the Bible ever prophesy about the coming of any prophet after the Lord Jesus Christ?

Part 8

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Question

In this part, I will continue answering the questions:

The Old Testament is full of killing of men, women and children, so why do we condemn other brutal killing of ISIS, Al Qaida, etc.? Is God of the Old Testament different than God of the New Testament? Is He God of War or Love?

يذكر العهد القديم العديد من أحداث القتل للرجال والنساء والأطفال، فلماذا ندين أحداث القتل البشعة التي يقوم بها إرهابيين مثل داعش والقاعدة وغيرهم؟ هل إله العهد القديم يختلف عن إله العهد الجديد؟ هل هو إله حرب وليس إله حب؟

Who is God of the Old Testament?

FALSE CLAIMS

Here, I will discuss three more of their false claims about violence in the Old Testament as commanded by **God of the Old Testament**. I will address all these claims with its right understanding; as the Lord of Glory commanded.

الادعاءات الكاذبة

في هذه المحاضرة، سوف أناقش ثلاثة ادعاءات أخرى أن إله العهد القديم أوصي بالعنف. سأجيب علي كل تساؤلاتهم بالفهم الصحيح، كما أوصاه رب المجد.

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CLAIM 4:

Charges of genocide are very common among the critics of God with Israel's charge of what to do with existing people in the Promised Land being called out as an example:

“When The Lord your God brings you into the land which you go to possess, and has cast out many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you, and when The Lord your God delivers them over to you, you shall conquer them and utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them nor show mercy to them” (Deuteronomy 7:1-2)

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الادعاء 4:

ولا يقف نقاد العهد القديم عند أي حد، بل يستمروا في الهجوم علي الله بأنه يقتل ويحرق الناس بكل مدنهم في الأماكن التي يعيش فيها الشعب الإسرائيلي.

"متى أتى بك الرب الهك الى الأرض التي أنت داخل إليها لتمتلكها وطرد شعوباً كثيرة من أمامك الحثيين والجرجاشيين والأموريين والكنعانيين والفرزيين والحويين واليبوسيين، سبع شعوب أكثر وأعظم منك. ودفعهم الرب الهك أمامك وضربتهم، فانك تحرمهم. لا تقطع لهم عهداً ولا تشفق عليهم" (تثنية 7: 1 - 2)

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CLAIM 4 (cont'd):

To the skeptic, it seems plain that God is ordering the deaths of innocent people whose only crime is living in the land that He wants Israel to possess. This is reiterated several chapters later in the same Old Testament book:

"But of the cities of these peoples which The Lord your God gives you as an inheritance, you shall let nothing that breathes remain alive, but you shall utterly destroy them: the Hittite and the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite, just as The Lord your God has commanded you"
(Deuteronomy 20:16-17)

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الادعاء 4 (تكملة):

في نقدهم يصفون الله بأنه يأمر بموت أناساً أبرياء بسبب جريمة واحدة، وهي "انهم يسكنون في هذه الأراضي" التي سيمتلکها الشعب الإسرائيلي:

"وأما مدن هولاة الشعوب التي يعطيك الرب إلهك نصيباً، فلا تستبق منها نسمة ما بل تحرمها تحريماً: الحثيين والاموريين والكنعانيين والفرزيين والحويين واليبوسيين، كما أمرك الرب إلهك"

(تثنية 20: 16 - 17)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

CLAIM 4 (cont'd):

Critics also point to the overthrow of **Jericho** and the violent nature of how it was carried out:

"And they (Israel) **utterly destroyed all that was in the city**, both man and woman, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword" (Joshua 6:21)

ويشيرون بالطبع إلى أريحا وكيفية استخدام العنف في قتل الناس والحيوانات:

"وحرموا كل ما في المدينة من رجل وامرأة من طفل وشيخ حتى البقر والغنم والحمير بحد السيف" (يشوع 6: 21)

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CLAIM 4 (cont'd):

Why, the critic asks, did the children and even animals have to be killed in the Jericho campaigns? Certainly such treatment appears extreme and ruthless, doesn't it?

Critics even, with all sadness, describe God as a mass murderer.

Why don't they, even for once, open their heart and mind to understand what these incidences are all about?

And why don't they; as "civilized" nations, look at what they did in the last many years to Japan (Hiroshima), Iraq, Syria, Vietnam, etc., just to name a few.

Who is God of the Old Testament?

الادعاء 4 (تكملة):

لماذا، يسأل هؤلاء النقاد، يأمر الله بقتل الأطفال والحيوانات في أريحا؟ أليس هذا قتلاً وحشياً؟
فلماذا يتهمون الله بأن قتال ومدمر للشعوب؟
ولماذا لا يحاولوا، ولو حتي مرة واحدة، أن يفتحوا قلوبهم وعقولهم وأذهانهم ليفهموا كيف وقعت هذه الأحداث العنيفة؟
لماذا لا ينظروا الي ما فعلته البلاد المتحضرة والمتقدمة مدنياً وعلمياً في قتل وتدمير وحرق بلاد كثيرة مثل اليابان (هيروشيما) والعراق وسوريا وفيتنام... الخ.

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REPLY 4:

Now, let's talk about the Destruction of Jericho. Critics of God's actions in the Old Testament specifically cite the following verse as a perfect example of 'overkill' in how God dealt with Israel's enemies:

"And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword"
(Joshua 6:21)

How, they ask, could God approve the death of men, women, children and even animals?

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الرد 4:

ولنتحدث قليلاً عن أحداث ودمار أريحا. يشن النقاد هجومهم علي الكتاب المقدس بسبب الآية التالية:

"وحرموا كل ما في المدينة من رجل وامرأة، من طفل وشيخ، حتى البقر والغنم والحمير بحد السيف" (يشوع 6: 21)

وبالطبع، كل هجومهم، كالمعتاد ينصب علي قتل الأطفال والنساء والشيوخ والحيوانات.

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REPLY 4 (cont'd):

The answer to that question and the overall justification for the destruction of Jericho becomes more clear when one does a little research on the Canaanites who populated the city. Canaan (*as discussed earlier in Part 6, Principle 4*), was a descendant of Ham:

“The sons of Ham were Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan” (Genesis 10:6)

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REPLY 4 (cont'd):

He was cursed by Noah for his sinful acts and his descendants became an incredibly sinful people who practiced extreme cruelty, incest, idolatry, **bestiality**, homosexuality, cultic prostitution, and child sacrifice (by throwing their own children into altars of fire):

“Then he [Noah] said: Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants He shall be to his brethren” (Genesis 9:25)

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الرد 4 (تكملة):

الرد هنا لا ولم ولن يختلف عن ما قلناه سابقاً لأن الله " هو هو أمس واليوم وإلى الأبد". لنعود مرة أخرى لما ذكرناه سابقاً عن كنعان، ابن حام، في الأساس 4 في فهم الكتاب المقدس.

"وبنو حام: كوش ومصرايم وفوط وكنعان" (تكوين 10: 6)

يقول الكتاب أن نوح لعن كنعان وكل نسله بسبب شره وقسوته كما قلنا وسنشرح أكثر عن عنف الكنعانيين في قتل وتعذيب الناس والقاء ابناءهم في النار من اجل آلهتهم واصنامهم:

"فقال: ملعون كنعان عبد العبيد يكون لإخوته" (تكوين 9: 25)

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REPLY 4 (cont'd):

The evil life and wicked deeds of the Canaanites at that time was unimaginable to the extent that God warned Israel to not mimic Canaan's ways:

"When you come into the land which The Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer" (Deuteronomy 18:9-10)

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الرد 4 (تكملة):

وقد كان شر الكنعانيين ونجاستهم تفوق الوصف لدرجة أن الله حذر الشعب الإسرائيلي من فعل أي رجس من أرجاسهم، فأوصاهم قائلاً:

"متى دخلت الارض التي يعطيك الرب الهك لا تتعلم ان تفعل مثل رجس اولئك الامم. لا يوجد فيك من يجيز ابنه او ابنته في النار ولا من يعرف عرافة ولا عائف ولا متفائل ولا ساحر" (تثنية 18: 9 - 10)

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REPLY 4 (cont'd):

The only ones saved were Rahab and her household, which helped Israel in the attack on Jericho. This is an interesting point in that Rahab acknowledged Israel's victories and the blessings of God upon the nation; as she said to the men:

"I know that the Lord has given you the land, that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are fainthearted because of you. **For we have heard how the Lord** dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. **And as soon as we heard these things**, our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, **for the Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath**" (Joshua 2:9-11)

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REPLY 4 (cont'd):

You see, she knew of Israel's fame and all Jericho heard it as well "For we have heard how the Lord... And as soon as we heard these things".

Therefore, they could have easily escaped their destruction. However, they stubbornly chose to remain and fight against Israel instead and against God; as people in ISIS, El-Qaeda, Muslim Brotherhood, etc., still do.

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الرد 4 (تكملة):

الإنسانة الوحيدة التي نجت من دمار هذه المدينة هي راحاب وأهل بيتها لأنها ساعدت إسرائيل لاعترافها بالإله الحقيقي وقوته، حسب قولها: "قالت للرجلين علمت ان الرب قد اعطاكم الارض وان رعبكم قد وقع علينا وأن جميع سكان الارض نابوا من اجلكم. لأننا قد سمعنا كيف يبس الرب مياه بحر سوف قدامكم عند خروجكم من مصر وما عملتموه بملكي الاموريين اللذين في عبر الاردن سيحون وعوج اللذين حرمتموهما. سمعنا فذابت قلوبنا ولم تبقى بعد روح في انسان بسببكم لان الرب الهكم هو الله في السماء من فوق وعلى الارض من تحت" (يشوع 2: 9 – 11)

هنا نري أنهم يعرفون إسرائيل وسمعوا عن الاله الحقيقي ولم يتعظوا.

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CLAIM 5:

Critics also point to the seemingly merciless nature of God's similar forms of extermination as decried in God's command to Saul in the Old Testament to wipe out the people of Amalek:

"Now go and attack Amalek, and **utterly destroy all that they have**, and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey" (1 Samuel 15:3)

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الادعاء 5:

ويشيرون أيضاً إلي عماليق وكيف أمر الله شاول بقتل
وتحريم كل الناس والحيوانات ومحوها من علي وجه
الأرض:

"فالآن اذهب واضرب عماليق وحرموا كل ما له ولا
تعف عنهم. بل اقتل رجلاً وامرأة، طفلاً ورضيعاً، بقرًا
وغنماً، جملاً وحماراً" (1 صموئيل 15: 3)

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Reply 5:

Now, the First Book of Samuel explains the account of God's orders for Saul to destroy the people of Amalek. The Amalekites were descended from Amalek (whose name means 'plunderer'), who was the son of Eliphaz and grandson of Esau. They were a wicked and warlike people and were the first to oppose Israel after her liberation from Egypt.

**"Now Amalek came and fought with Israel in Rephidim"
(Exodus 17:8)**

As descendants of Esau, they were definitely aware of God's promises to Jacob, but rather than honor God's choice of Israel, they instead elected to be their enemy.

Who is God of the Old Testament?

الرد 5:

يشرح لنا سفر صموئيل الأول عن أوامر الله لشاول بالحرب ضد عماليق. والمعروف أن عماليق هو ابن أليفاز وحفيد عيسو. لقد كانوا رجال حرب وكانوا أول شعب يواجه إسرائيل ويقف ضدهم في مسيرتهم إلى أرض الموعد. وحيث أنهم أحفاد عيسو، فمن المؤكد أنهم يعرفون وعد الله ليعقوب وكان يجب أن يكونوا فرحين لرؤية أبناء العم والوقوف بجانبهم.

"وأتى عماليق وحارب إسرائيل في رفيديم" (خروج 17: 8)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 5 (cont'd):

The Amalekites were particularly cowardly in their attacks on Israel and would deliberately murder the weak and elderly who sometimes lagged behind the core group of Israelites who were making their way to the land promised them by God:

"Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you were coming out of Egypt, how he met you on the way and attacked your rear ranks, all the stragglers at your rear, when you were tired and weary; and he did not fear God. Therefore it shall be, when The Lord your God has given you rest from your enemies all around, in the land which The Lord your God is giving you to possess as an inheritance, that you will blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. You shall not forget"

(Deuteronomy 25:17-19)

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الرد 5 (تكملة):

وقد كان عماليق في جبن وخوف لدرجة أنهم هاجموا المتعبين مثل الكبار في السن والنساء والأطفال والضعفاء الذين كانوا يسيرون في المؤخرة.

"اذكر ما فعله بك عماليق في الطريق عند خروجك من مصر. كيف لاقاك في الطريق وقطع من مؤخرتك كل المستضعفين ورائك وأنت كليل ومتعب ولم يخف الله. فمتى اراحك الرب الهك من جميع اعدائك حولك في الارض التي يعطيك الرب الهك نصيبا لكي تمتلكها تمحو ذكر عماليق من تحت السماء لا تنسى" (تثنية 25: 17 - 19)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 5 (cont'd):

The Book of Judges records that they consistently allied themselves with other nations to commit genocide against Israel.

“So it was, whenever Israel had sown, **Midianites** would come up; also **Amalekites** and the people of the East would come up against them. *Then they would encamp against them and destroy the produce of the earth as far as Gaza, and leave no sustenance for Israel, neither sheep nor ox nor donkey.* For they would come up with their livestock and their tents, coming in *as numerous as locusts*; both they and their camels were without number; and *they would enter the land to destroy it*” (Judges 6:3-5)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

الرد 5 (تكملة):

ويشرح لنا سفر القضاة كيف كان يتحالف عماليق مع أمم أخرى ليقتلوا الإسرائيليين وينهبوا مواشيهم ويتلفوا غلة أرضهم:

"وإذا زرع إسرائيل، كان يصعد المديانيون والعماليق وبنو المشرق يصعدون عليهم. وينزلون عليهم ويتلفون غلة الأرض الى مجيئك الى غزة ولا يتركون لإسرائيل قوت الحياة ولا غنماً ولا بقرأً ولا حميراً. لانهم كانوا يصعدون بمواشيهم وخيامهم ويجيئون كالجراد في الكثرة وليس لهم ولجمالهم عدد ودخلوا الارض لكي يخربوها"
(قضاة 6: 3 - 5)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 5 (cont'd):

Amazingly, God chose not to destroy the Amalekites until some 400 years had elapsed from their first sinful acts against His people. Such an incredibly long period of time shows the patience of God and dispels any notion that God is quick-tempered and rushes to judgment against those who are sinning before Him.

Scripture also contains God's warnings to the Kenites, who were a people living among the Amalekites, to depart so they would not be caught up in the coming judgment:

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 5 (cont'd):

“Then Saul said to the Kenites, ‘Go, depart, get down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them. For you showed kindness to all the children of Israel when they came up out of Egypt.’ So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites”
(1 Samuel 15:6)

Such a warning had to have also been heard by the Amalekites, and it is reasonable to assume they could have fled the land as well, but they chose not to.

Who is God of the Old Testament?

الرد 5 (تكملة):

والشيء العجيب ان الله لم يقضي علي عماليق في الحال، بل صبر عليهم 400 سنة من وقت خطيتهم ضده وضد شعبه. هذه السنين الطويلة تظهر صبر ربنا وطول أناتهم وليس كما يزعم الناقدون أنه سريع الغضب والحكم علي الخطاة.

والكتاب المقدس يوضح لنا كيف أنذر الله القينيين، الذين كانوا يعيشون بين عماليق علي يد شاول، بأن يرحلوا من هناك لئلا يصيبهم أي ضرر. وبالطبع سمع عماليق عن كل هذه الإنذارات:

"وقال شاول للقينيين: أذهبوا حيدوا انزلوا من وسط العمالقة لئلا اهلككم معهم وانتم قد فعلتم معروفا مع جميع بني اسرائيل عند صعودهم من مصر. فحاد القيني من وسط عماليق" (1 صموئيل 15: 6)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 5 (cont'd):

Although God commanded Saul to completely destroy the Amalekites, he disobeyed and did not completely do as he was told:

"But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were unwilling to utterly destroy them. But everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed" (1 Samuel 15:9)

Some were allowed to live, an outcome that ultimately resulted in another attempt of genocide upon Israel.

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 5 (cont'd):

The Book of Esther records that a man named **Haman--who was of Amalek descent**--tried to have all the Jews killed in the land of Persia, but he was ultimately stopped by Queen Esther herself.

"Because **Haman, the son of Hammedatha the Agagite**, the enemy of all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews to annihilate them, and had cast Pur (that [is,] the lot), to consume them and destroy them" (Esther 9:24)

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الرد 5 (تكملة):

ولكن علي الرغم من أمر الله لشاول بالقضاء على عماليق، فهو لم يسمع وينفذ الأمر كما ينبغي:

"وعفا شاول والشعب عن اجاج وعن خيار الغنم والبقر والثبان والخراف وعن كل الجيد ولم يرضوا ان يحرموها. وكل الاملاك المحترقة والمهزولة حرموها" (1 صموئيل 15 : 9)

هذا الأمر نتج عنه حرب وأمر بقتل جماعي لشعب إسرائيل علي يد هامان الذي هو من أبناء عماليق، كما هو واضح في سفر استير.

"لأن هامان بن همدانثا الاجاجي، عدو اليهود جميعاً، تفكر على اليهود ليبيدهم وألقى فوراً، أي قرعة، لإفنائهم وابدانهم" (استير 9 : 24)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 5 (cont'd):

And yet, unfortunately, Scripture records that Israel failed to remove Canaan fully from the land given to her by God and suffered the consequences of their disobedience:

“They did not destroy the peoples, concerning whom The Lord had commanded them, but they **mingled** with the Gentiles and learned their works. They **served their idols**, which became a snare to them. **They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons**, and shed innocent blood, **the blood of their sons and daughters**, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; and **the land was polluted with blood**. Thus they were **defiled** by their own works, and played the harlot by their own deeds” (Psalm 106:34-39)

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الرد 5 (تكملة):

وللأسف يحكي لنا الكتاب المقدس أن إسرائيل لم يستأصلوا كنعان والأمم من أمامهم، الأمر الذي نتج عنه أنهم ارتكبوا نفس الخطايا والجرائم، حتى ذبحوا أولادهم للأوثان. ويتجاهل النقاد هذا الأمر تماماً، علي الرغم من أنهم يحذروا شعوبهم من الاختلاط بمثل هؤلاء:

"لم يستأصلوا الامم الذين قال لهم الرب عنهم. بل **اختلطوا** بالأمم **وتعلموا اعمالهم**. **وعبدوا اصنامهم فصارت لهم شركاً**. **وذبحوا بنينهم وبناتهم للأوثان**. **وأهرقوا** دما زكيا دم بنينهم وبناتهم الذين ذبحوهم لأصنام كنعان **وتدنست الارض بالدماء**. **وتنجسوا** بأعمالهم وزنوا بأفعالهم" (مزمو 106: 34 – 39)

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CLAIM 6:

In addition to these claims, various Old Testament personalities--ones who God seemingly approved of and helped--are targeted by the Bible's detractors. For example, in the Book of Judges, **the story of Samson** is relayed, including an episode where Samson is about to be married and makes a bet with thirty men who are to be part of the event. After he loses the bet and is forced to make good on it (he must provide thirty sets of clothes to them), Samson goes down to Ashkelon and kills thirty '**innocent**' men for their garments: As will be seen in the following verses, God's Spirit enables Samson to carry out this act--how could such a thing be empowered by a God of mercy and love; asks the critic?

Who is God of the Old Testament?

CLAIM 6 (cont'd):

"Then Samson said to them, 'Let me pose a riddle to you. If you can correctly solve and explain it to me within the seven days of the feast, then I will give you thirty linen garments and thirty changes of clothing. But if you cannot explain it to me, then you shall give me thirty linen garments and thirty changes of clothing.' And they said to him, 'Pose your riddle, that we may hear it. So he said to them: "Out of the eater came something to eat, And out of the strong came something sweet.' Now for three days they could not explain the riddle... Then the Spirit of The Lord came upon him mightily, and he went down to Ashkelon and killed thirty of their men, took their apparel, and gave the changes of clothing to those who had explained the riddle. So his anger was aroused, and he went back up to his father's house" (Judges 14:12-19)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

الادعاء 6:

وبالإضافة إلى الادعاءات السابقة، فهم يهاجمون شخصيات في الكتاب المقدس يحاولوا أن يظهروا فيها أن الله يقبل ويساعد مثل هؤلاء في قتل ناس ابرياء، مثلما حدث في حفل زواج شمشون الجبار:

"فقال لهم شمشون لاحابينكم أحجية فإذا حللتموها لي في سبعة أيام الوليمة واصبتموها اعطيكم ثلاثين قميصا وثلاثين حلة ثياب. وان لم تقدروا ان تحلوها لي تعطوني انتم ثلاثين قميصا وثلاثين حلة ثياب. فقالوا له: حاج احجيتك فنسمعها. فقال لهم: من الاكل خرج اكل ومن الجافي خرجت حلاوة فلم يستطيعوا ان يحلوا الاحجية في ثلاثة أيام... **وحل عليه روح الرب فنزل** الى أشقلون **وقتل** منهم ثلاثين رجلاً وأخذ سلبهم وأعطى الحلل لمظهري الأحجية وحمي غضبه وصعد إلى بيت أبيه" (قضاة 14: 12 - 19)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 6:

Now, about Samson and the Sons of Ashkelon? The Bible critics decry Samson's murder of 30 men of Ashkelon descent, which is recorded in Judges 14. However, they overlook a number of important things.

First, Ashkelon was a city of the Philistines, a people who persistently oppressed and brutalized Israel. The Philistines were notorious for their idol worship of the false gods Dagon, Ashtoreth (the spouse of the false god Baal), and Baalzebub. The rituals of Ashtoreth typically included temple prostitution.

Who is God of the Old Testament?

الرد 6:

ولنتحدث الآن عن شمشون وما حدث مع أبناء أشقلون. فمعارضي ونقاد الكتاب المقدس يصيحون بأصوات عالية ضد قتل شمشون لثلاثين رجلاً بريئاً من أبناء أشقلون، كما ذكر في قضاة 14، متناسين بعض الأمور الهامة.

أولاً: أشقلون كانت احدي مدن الفلسطينيين المعروفون في ذلك الزمان بالبطش والعنف ضد الإسرائيليين. وقد كانوا أيضاً معروفون بعبادتهم للأصنام مثل داجون وعشتاروث (زوجة الإله الصنم بعل) وبعزبوب. وطقوس عبادتهم كانت تشمل الزناة في معابدهم.

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 6 (cont'd):

The 30 'companions' of Samson were of Ashkelon descent and clearly lived up to their reputation for violence and cruelty. When challenged by Samson's riddle and bet, they threatened to murder his fiancée and destroy her father's home by fire if she did not get Samson to reveal the riddle's answer to them (which she did).

The acts that Samson carried out were simply an act of judgment by God upon the people of Ashkelon and are part of a larger sweeping story of God using Samson (and others) as His weapons of justice against a blasphemous and evil people.

Who is God of the Old Testament?

الرد 6 (تكملة):

إذن فالثلاثين رجلاً من أبناء أشقلون كانوا يعيشون ويسلكون في طرق آباءهم مستخدمين البطش والعنف ضد الإسرائيليين، بل وضد أي إنسان لا يخضع لهم. وابتسط مثل أقدامه هنا هو تهديدهم لعروسة شمشون بالقتل وحرق بيت أبيها إن لم تعرفهم حل أحجية شمشون، الأمر الذي فعلته بخدعة شمشون.

لو أخذنا هذه النقطة في اعتبارنا نجد أن شمشون كان ينفذ أمر الهي عادل بالقضاء علي أبناء أشقلون الأشرار، كما يحدث من القضاة في أيامنا هذه الذين يحكمون علي القتلة والأشرار بأحكام الموت أو السجن...الخ.

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 6 (cont'd):

Another simple proof of the cruel and brutal way of the people of Ashkelon is their burning of innocent people, Samson's bride and her father household, after Samson's revenge:

“When he had set the torches on fire, he let the foxes go into the standing grain of the Philistines, and burned up both the shocks and the standing grain, as well as the vineyards and olive groves. Then the Philistines said, ‘Who has done this?’ And they answered, ‘Samson, the son-in-law of the Timnite, because he has taken his wife and given her to his companion.’ So the Philistines came up and burned her and her father with fire” (Judges 15: 5-6)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

الرد 6 (تكملة):

ولكي نعطي برهان آخر بسيط عن قسوة وعنف أشقلون
والفلسطينيين، فإتينا نقرأ عن حرقهم لأناس أبرياء (امرأة شمشون
وأباها بالنار) بعدما سمعا عن ما فعله شمشون في حقولهم:

"ثم اضرم المشاعل نارا واطلقها بين زروع الفلسطينيين فاحرق
الاكداس والزرع وكروم الزيتون. فقال الفلسطينيون: من فعل هذا؟
فقالوا: شمشون صهر التمني لأنه اخذ امراته واعطاها لصاحبه.
فصعد الفلسطينيون واحرقوها واباها بالنار
(قضاة 15: 5 - 6)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 6 (cont'd):

The story of Samson ends with his killing thousands of Philistines by causing the building they were in to collapse.
"Then Samson called to The Lord , saying, 'O Lord God, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once, O God, that I may with one blow take vengeance on the Philistines for my two eyes!' And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars which supported the temple, and he braced himself against them, one on his right and the other on his left. Then Samson said, 'Let me die with the Philistines!' And he pushed with all his might, and the temple fell on the lords and all the people who were in it. So the dead that he killed at his death were more than he had killed in his life."

(Judges 16: 28-30)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

REPLY 6 (cont'd):

Samson was also killed in the act although he himself was saved by God as evidenced by the fact that he is recorded in the 'heroes of faith' section:

"And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets" (Hebrews 11:32)

Who is God of the Old Testament?

الرد 6 (تكملة):

وتنتهي قصة شمشون بقتل آلاف الفلسطينيين:

"فدعا شمشون الرب وقال: يا سيدي الرب اذكرني وشددني يا الله هذه المرة فقط فانتقم نعمة واحدة عن عيني من الفلسطينيين. وقبض شمشون على العمودين المتوسطين اللذين كان البيت قائما عليهما واستند عليهما الواحد بيمينه واخر بيساره. وقال شمشون لمت نفسي مع الفلسطينيين وانحنى بقوة فسقط البيت على الاقطاب وعلى كل الشعب الذي فيه. فكان الموتى الذين اماتهم في موته اكثر من الذين اماتهم في حياته" (قصة 16: 28 - 30)

وحروبه ضد الأشرار وأعداء الله والإنسانية، جعلته واحداً من أبطال الايمان:
"وماذا اقول ايضا لأنه يعوزني الوقت ان اخبرت عن جدعون وباراق وشمشون ويفتاح وداود وصموئيل والانبيا" (عبرانيين 11: 32)

Remember:

Our Loving God of the Old Testament

From the above examples, we see a distinct pattern emerging from the judgments brought by God upon various peoples:

- ❖ God declares an annihilation form of judgment to stamp out a cancer.
- ❖ The judgments are for public recognition of extreme sin.
- ❖ Judgment is preceded by warning and/or long periods of exposure to the truth and time to repent.
- ❖ Remember how parents, teachers, government and even countries send instructions and/or warning before applying any type of punishment or rewards.

Remember:

Our Loving God of the Old Testament

This is what God did from day one of creation and to the end.
Remember what the Lord said:

“But if a wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed, keeps all My statutes, and does what is lawful and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die. None of the transgressions which he has committed shall be remembered against him; because of the righteousness which he has done, he shall live. Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?’ says the Lord God, ‘and not that he should turn from his ways and live? But when a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and does according to all the abominations that the wicked man does, shall he live? All the righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; because of the unfaithfulness of which he is guilty and the sin which he has committed, because of them he shall die” (Ezekiel 18:21-24)

Remember:

Our Loving God of the Old Testament

وهذا ما يفعله السيد الرب من بدئ الخليقة والى الأبد، حيث ينذر ويحذر ويعلم:

"فاذا رجع الشرير عن جميع خطاياہ التي فعلها وحفظ كل فرائضي وفعل حقا وعدلا فحياة يحيا. لا يموت. كل معاصيه التي فعلها لا تذكر عليه. في بره الذي عمل يحيا. هل مسرة اسر بموت الشرير يقول السيد الرب. ألا برجوعه عن طريقه فيحيا. واذا رجع البار عن بره وعمل اثما وفعل مثل كل الرجاسات التي يفعلها الشرير افيحيا. كل بره الذي عمله لا يذكر. في خيانتہ التي خانها وفي خطيته التي اخطأ بها يموت" (حزقيال 18: 21 – 24)

Remember:

Our Loving God of the Old Testament

- ❖ Any and all 'innocent' adults are given a way of escape with their families; sometimes all given a way to avoid judgment via repentance or leaving a particular region. It should also be noted that expulsion from a land was the most common judgment, not extermination.
- ❖ This pattern goes all the way back to the ejection of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden: **"So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life"** (Genesis 3:24).
- ❖ Someone is almost always saved (redeemed) from the evil culture.

Remember:

“Then **many false prophets** will rise up and deceive many” (Matthew 24: 11)

“For **false christs and false prophets** will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect” (Matthew 24: 24)

“For **false christs and false prophets** will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect” (Mark 13: 22)

“But there were also **false prophets** among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying The Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction” (2 Peter 2: 1)

Remember:

The truth is: God warned us from false prophets

"ويقوم **انبياء كذبة كثيرون** ويضلون كثيرين" (متي 24: 11)
"لأنه سيقوم **مسحاء كذبة** (كما يسمي الأحمديين ان ميرزا غلام أحمد هو المسيح الرابع) و**انبياء كذبة** ويعطون آيات عظيمة وعجائب حتى يضلوا لو أمكن المختارين أيضاً" (متي 24: 24)
"لأنه سيقوم **مسحاء كذبة** و**انبياء كذبة** ويعطون آيات وعجائب لكي يضلوا لو أمكن المختارين أيضاً" (مرقس 13: 22)
"ولكن كان ايضا في الشعب **انبياء كذبة** كما سيكون فيكم ايضا معلمون كذبة الذين يدسون بدع هلاك واذ هم ينكرون الرب الذي اشتراهم يجلبون على أنفسهم هلاكاً سريعاً" (2 بطرس 2: 1)