

Isaac and Ishmael: The Origin of Middle East Conflict and the Foundation for Understanding Eschatology

By [p2alm](#) 10.04.2014 ([20](#))

The Middle East is swelling with violence and turmoil. Christian persecution is on the rise and all the while the enemies of Israel are closing ranks around her borders. Our current Western leadership views religion as an archaic coping mechanism unfit for the modern-day world and so denies that any kind of religious theology could possibly be the reason for these things. Western thinking is that the peoples of the Middle East only need a little freedom from oppressive regimes and then they'll voluntarily want to shed their religious dogma and join the rest of the enlightened global community. Of course, as a show of good faith it's necessary for the West to be somewhat disassembled and reorganized to create a sort of equilibrium while we welcome our brothers and sisters into the 21st century. Does it seem to you this approach is working? Why is our Western leadership under a sort of delusion concerning Islam? How are we to make sense of these things from our biblical worldview? There are answers in God's Word.

The biblical origin of the modern-day conflict in the Middle East



What do Isaac and Ishmael have to do with the conflict in the Middle East? What does the conflict in the Middle East have to do with eschatology, or end-time Bible prophecy? Let's begin in Genesis chapters 12-21. Most of you probably know the story. God promised Abraham a son through whom He would make a great nation and redeem the earth. (Drawing: The Family of Abraham by RT Radke)

The promise of the redemption of the peoples of the earth:

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you; And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed." [Genesis 12:1-3 NASB]

The promise of a son:

And Abram said, "Since You have given no offspring to me, one born in my house is my heir." Then behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir." And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." [Genesis 15:3-5 NASB]

The promise of the land of Israel:

On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, From the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates: [Genesis 15:18 NASB]

The promise of the land of Israel and the redemption of the peoples of the earth through his son with Sarah:

Then God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and indeed I will give you a son by her. Then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her." [Genesis 17:15-16 NASB]

This is important. God's promise to Abraham was directly connected to the land of Israel. It was to be fulfilled through his son, Isaac, the firstborn of Sarah through

who came the nation of Israel, the Jewish people and the redeeming Savior of the peoples of the earth, Jesus Christ. But what had Abraham and Sarah already done before Isaac was born?

The birth of Ishmael



Back in chapter 16, Sarah, lamenting her barrenness, told Abraham to go in to her maid, Hagar, and conceive by her. Perhaps because he doubted, perhaps he became impatient, Abraham, after listening to the voice of God for so many years, took things into his own hands and listened to the voice of his wife. (Painting: Hagar and Ishmael by Abel Pan)

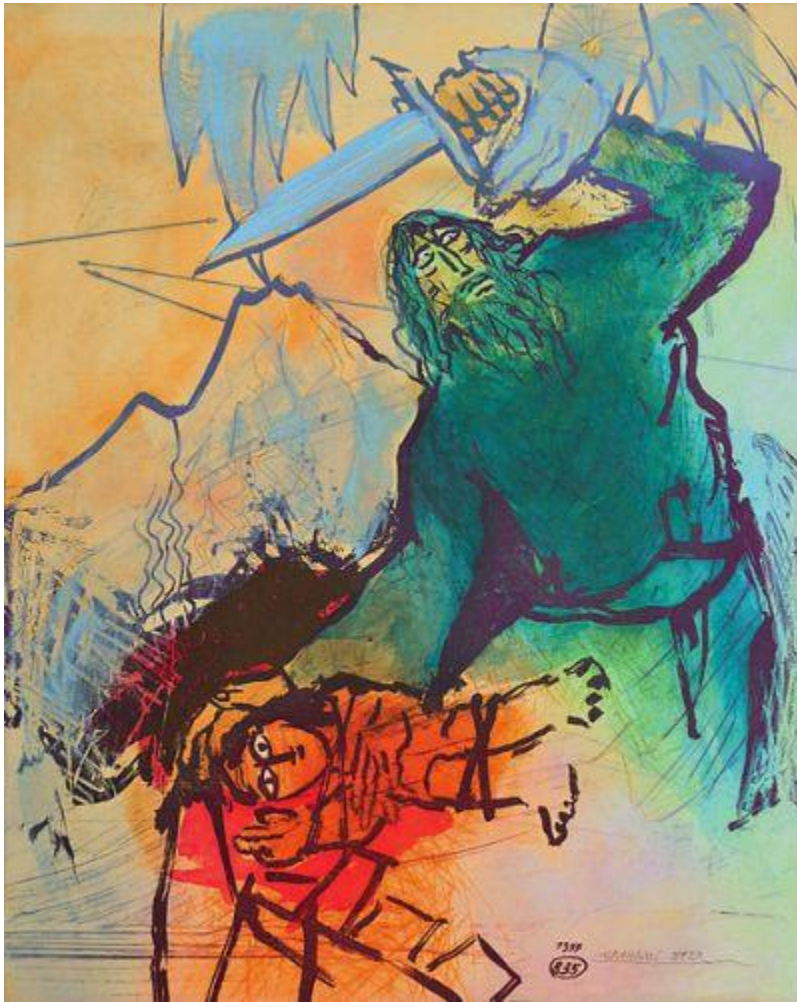
Now Sarai, Abram's wife had borne him no children, and she had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar. So Sarai said to Abram, "Now behold, the Lord has prevented me from bearing children. Please go in to my maid; perhaps I will obtain children through her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. [Genesis 16:1-2 NASB]

This is important, too. This child was Ishmael through who came the nations of the Arab peoples and, eventually, Islam and the greater Islamic world.

Moreover, the angel of the Lord said to her, "I will greatly multiply your descendants so that they will be too many to count." The angel of the Lord said to her further, "Behold, you are with child, And you will bear a son; And you shall call his name Ishmael, Because the Lord has given heed to your affliction. "He will be a wild donkey of a man, His hand will be against everyone, And everyone's hand will be against him; And he will live to the east of all his brothers." [Genesis 16:10-12]

Hagar conceived Ishmael and, immediately after this, we read that she began to despise Sarah [Genesis 16:5]. Sarah, also, despised Hagar because she had conceived a child [Genesis 16:6]. After this, Sarah treated her so badly that Hagar attempted to flee. This enmity between Hagar and Sarah because of Abraham's very bad decision is the beginning of all the enmity that exists to this day between their descendants.

The birth of Isaac



Fourteen years after the birth of Ishmael, Isaac is born fulfilling God's promise to Abraham through Sarah [Genesis 21:1-3]. Ishmael begins mocking Isaac's birth so Sarah tells Abraham to send Hagar and Ishmael away. (Painting: The Sacrifice of Isaac by Adi Holzer)

Therefore she said to Abraham, "Drive out this maid and her son, for the son of this maid shall not be an heir with my son Isaac." [Genesis 21:10]

Abraham was greatly troubled by this but God told him not to worry and to do what Sarah said reminding him the promise was to be through Isaac [Genesis 21:12]. Ishmael was not to be heir with Isaac, however, out of His mercy, God also promised to make Ishmael a great nation because he was a son of Abraham. And it is from this nation that Islam eventually came.

And of the son of the maid I will make a nation also, because he is your descendant." [Genesis 21:13]

The biblical definition of Islam

I'm going to refer you to a respected scholar to pull this all together because I simply can't state it any better. Joel Richardson, author and teacher of eschatology, describes it this way:

"So now we have this story: Ishmael and Isaac. Ishmael is a fourteen year old boy. He's kicked out into the desert but the Lord is faithful. He preserves him. He promises to make him into a great nation. So we read these things and they're interesting Bible stories but what I'm asking you to do is to put yourself in the position and recognize the fact that in history, in real time, this was a real boy... with real emotions, with a real life. This happened to a little kid named Ishmael. And so what we need to understand is you have this little boy and... he had a dad. He had a mother. He had a family. He had a life. He had an inheritance. And in one day he loses all of these things. He loses his dad. He loses his inheritance. He's out in the desert. He's on his own. And that brokenness, that woundedness, that rejection that took place in this little child, today, has been passed on into the religion of Islam.

What do I mean? ... Mohammed, the founder of Islam... claims to be a direct descendant of Ishmael and Muslims, today, view themselves as both the physical and the spiritual descendants of Ishmael. And so here you have this story, this incredible event that took place in this child's life. Two thousand six hundred years after these events took place, a direct descendant of Ishmael named Mohammed birthed forth a new religion into the world. And what does the religion teach? ... It teaches God is not a father. God has no Son. And, thirdly, Ishmael, not Isaac, is the heir with regard to the promises of God to the earth. The very things that those issues of rejection and woundedness and brokenness that took place in Ishmael's

life were preserved in that line and two thousand six hundred years later, a man named Mohammed goes into a cave, has an incredibly dark encounter with some sort of spiritual being. It literally chokes the life out of him to where he feels as though he's going to die, three times this presence comes over him and it demands of him to recite... On the third time, the words of the Qur'an begin to flow forth from his mouth.

Mohammed, himself, literally believed that he was demon-possessed. He was suicidal. He was terrified.”¹

After this, he runs home to his wife who eventually convinced him he was a prophet of God. This is the origin of Islam.

“In a spiritual sense, Islam is the broken, bitter cry of Ishmael.”²

Did you notice the compassion in his definition of Islam? This is how we as the Church should approach Muslims who God also desires to be saved [1 Timothy 2:4]. These are people just as lost as you and I once were. I don't want you to miss this because the implications of this original conflict in Genesis when played out through Scripture to the time of the end is shocking and may be considered by some as quite harsh especially in a day when we are taught that Christians and Muslims both worship the same God and a redefining of Christian love as powerless, non-judgmental tolerance is pervading the Church. We are to love Muslims but this doesn't mean we don't, also, let the truth be known. Rather, it is against this backdrop of compassion, of Christian love, that we must tell the truth and warn others. In other words, we must love people enough to tell them the truth about Islam.

“You have in Islam the greatest anti-Christ religion that the world will ever know... And, in fact, the greatest spiritual challenge the Church will ever face particularly in the days ahead. The Church, today, is still in denial.”³

I echo these last sentiments and, with the exception of Adam's sin necessitating the death and resurrection of Christ for the salvation of all mankind, I don't think there has been any one sin in the Bible that has been so felt around the world as Abraham's. The consequences rage on to this very day between the descendants of Isaac and Ishmael and it will only be resolved upon Christ's return.

What is anti-Christ? How does the Bible define it?

Although the world system can generally be defined as anti-Christ, what we're looking for is a uniting religion that will sweep over the world eventually bringing people together under the authority of one man. That hasn't been the end result of all the various factions (and factions within factions) of religious beliefs today. In this day of relativism, one might successfully argue that people are only becoming more divided through their individual, specialized beliefs. The fact of the matter is the Bible says there will be a time when the religion of the Antichrist will sweep over the world unifying people *before* the man called the Antichrist will come to power and seize his kingdom [Daniel 7:24]. How do we recognize it? Thankfully, John tells us:

Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also. [1 John 2:22-23 NASB]

For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist. [2 John 1:7 NASB]

Someone who is anti-Christ denies Jesus is the Savior, denies God is His Father and denies Jesus came in the flesh. The religion of the Antichrist will do the same.

Now, compare these Bible verses with verses from the Qur'an:

They say: "(Allah) Most Gracious has begotten a son!" Indeed ye have put forth a thing most monstrous! At it the skies are ready to burst, the earth to split asunder, and the mountains to fall down in utter ruin. That they should invoke a son for (Allah) Most Gracious. For it is not consonant with the majesty of (Allah) Most Gracious that He should beget a son. [Surah 19:88-92]

The Jews call Uzayr a son of Allah and the Christians call Christ the son of Allah. That is a saying from their mouths; (in this) they but imitate what the Unbelievers of old used to say. Allah's curse be on them: how they are deluded away from the Truth! [Surah 9:30]

In blasphemy indeed are those that say that Allah is Christ, the son of Mary. Say: "Who then hath the least power against Allah, if His Will were to destroy Christ the son of Mary, his mother, and all— everyone that is on the earth? For to Allah

belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth and all that is between. He createth what He pleaseth. For Allah hath power over all things.” [Surah 5:17]

They disbelieve who say: Allah is one of three in a Trinity: for there is no god except One God. If they desist not from their word (of blasphemy), verily a grievous penalty will befall the blasphemers among them. [Surah 5:73]

That they said (in boast), “We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah”;— but they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no (certain) knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not.— Nay, Allah raised him up unto Himself; and Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise. [Surah 4:157-158]

Remember, we’re looking for specific answers not general ones. The adamant specificity within these verses from the Qur’an goes way beyond any kind of general denying of Christ as the Son of God as all other religions outside of Christianity do (in which I include Atheism). Islam is teaching over two billion people around the globe what the Bible says are the specific doctrines of the Antichrist.

Consider, also, what’s inscribed encircling the inside of the Islamic Dome of the Rock. It’s known as the Shahada:

“There is no god but Allah and Mohammed is his prophet.”

Let’s not forget the Dome of the Rock sits right at the spot where it is believed the Jewish Temple was, the very place where Abraham was prepared to offer Isaac as a sacrifice to God [Genesis 22]. It’s a land grab.

With the promise of the land comes the promise of a savior



I've endeavored to be as thorough as your attention might allow simply for this reason: the Church needs to wake up and recognize what it's dealing with. You see, the longer Islam doesn't occupy the Promised Land, the more it's proven untrue. And, if Islam teaches that the promise to the land is theirs then with that comes the promise of a savior, a deliverer, through Islam as well. (Art: Imam Mahdi 2010 by Amwag)

Did you know Muslims are, in fact, waiting for a savior? They call him the Mahdi, or Imam Mahdi. Who might this Islamic savior be that will embody all of this anti-Christian enmity toward Jews and Christians? Who might this Islamic savior be that he might be willing to lead armies against Israel to claim the promise of the land upon which it sits and, thereby, legitimize Islam as the only true religion? I'm sure by now you have a very good idea and I'm sure you can see why it is entirely necessary to start at the beginning to know the end.

"Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from

ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure'; [Isaiah 46:9-10 NASB]

Just as God's chosen people are the Jews, Satan's chosen people are the Middle Eastern gentiles. Just as Jesus came through the Jews, the Antichrist will come through the Middle Eastern gentiles. This conflict has been highlighted throughout the Bible starting in the Book of Genesis and continues to this day [Genesis 3:15].

^{1,2,3} The Return Is Near: Strategic Insights Into the Most Important Moment In History. Richardson, Joel. 2011. DVD.

NEXT >>> [Daniel 11 Reveals the Geographic Location of the Antichrist's Rise to Power](#)

THE SEED OF ISHMAEL - ISHMAELITES

Genesis 15:18 In the same day **the LORD made a covenant with Abram**, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

Genesis 17:7 And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for **an everlasting covenant**, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. 8 And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, **all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession**; and I will be their God.

Genesis 21:1 And the LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did unto Sarah as he had spoken. 2 For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. 3 And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac. 4 And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac being eight days old, as God had commanded him. 5 And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him. 6 And Sarah said, God hath made me to laugh, [so that] all that hear will laugh with me. 7 And she said, Who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should have given children suck? for I have born [him] a son in his old age. 8 And the child grew, and was weaned: and **Abraham made a great feast the [same] day that Isaac was weaned**. 9 **And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian**, which she had born unto Abraham, **mocking**. 10 Wherefore she said unto Abraham, **Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son**, [even] with Isaac. 11 And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son. 12 **And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight** because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; **in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called**. 13 And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he [is] thy seed. 14 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread, and a bottle of water, and gave [it] unto Hagar, putting [it] on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away: and she departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

More Old Testament scripture on Yahweh's everlasting covenants with the seed of Isaac is explored at IsraelinBibleProphecy.com. As confirmed in the New Testament:

Romans 9:7 **Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, [are they] all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called.** 8 That is, **They which are the children of the flesh, these [are] not the children of God:** but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

Galatians 4:22 For it is written, that **Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman.** 23 But he [who was] of the bondwoman **was born after the flesh;** but he of the freewoman [was] by promise. 24 Which things are an allegory: for these are the **two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar.** 25 **For this Agar** is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and **is in bondage with her children.** 26 But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

It would seem the seed of Ishmael today are just as prophesied:

Genesis 16:11 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, [Hagar] Behold, thou [art] with child, and shalt bear a son, and **shalt call his name Ishmael;** because the LORD hath heard thy affliction. 12 And **he will be a wild man; his hand [will be] against every man,** and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.

Can it be reasonably argued, as we review the "[JIHAD AND ISLAMIC TERRORISM](#)" page, and those who ***proclaim themselves*** to be of the seed of Ishmael?

Surah 9.29 **Fight those** who believe not in Allah nor the Last Day, nor hold that forbidden which hath been forbidden by Allah and His Messenger, nor acknowledge the religion of Truth, (even if they are) of the **People of the Book,** until they pay the Jizya with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued. 30 **The Jews call 'Uzair a son of Allah, and the Christians call Christ the son of Allah.** That is a saying from their mouth; (in this) they but imitate what the unbelievers of old used to say. **Allah's curse be on them: how they are deluded away from the Truth!**

A repeat, but this time with the emphasis on geography:

Genesis 21:14 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread, and a bottle of water, and gave [it] unto Hagar, putting [it] on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away: and she departed, and **wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba**.

Please note the approximate location of the wilderness of Beersheba on the map.



Map (prior to modification) attributed to the [Wikimedia uploader at this link](#).

Then while Hagar was wandering in the wilderness of Beersheba:

Genesis 21:19 And God opened her eyes, and **she saw a well of water**; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink. 20 And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer. 21 And **he dwelt in the wilderness of Paran: and his mother took him a wife out of the land of Egypt.**

Does it make sense that the "well of water" Hagar "saw" was in Beersheba, near Abraham's home in Hebron and not far from the wilderness of Paran, where she and Ishmael eventually settled? Or is it more reasonable to believe that Hagar and her (infant according to Islam) son Ishmael wandered across 1,200 kilometers of harsh, barren, uninhabited, uncharted, unknown Arabian desert wasteland (to where Mecca was eventually settled in the 4th century AD), before Hagar ever spotted that well? What did she drink on her journey?

Islamic "Tradition" ([URL](#))

Here's a typical account, of Islam's unhistorical "tradition", from the website "[The Key to Understanding Islam](#)":

"Abraham took Hagar and her son, Ishmael to a place near the Kabah; he left them under a tree at the site of Zamzam. No one lived in Makkah back then, yet Abraham made them sit there, leaving them with some dates, and a small water-skin. Thereafter he set out towards home."

Does that site provide a "key to understanding" what Islam is *really* all about? Consider again the map above, as the site suggests that Abraham was supposed to have abandoned his wife Sarah and son Isaac (whom God made his everlasting covenant with) in Hebron.

Then he wandered with Sarah's bondservant Hagar and her (infant according to Islam) son Ishmael, across 1200 kilometers of harsh barren, unexplored, untraveled desert, a thousand years before the actual historical record informs us a caravan route was established along the Red Sea.

Then Abraham was supposed to have abandoned Hagar and Ishmael in an uninhabited desert place, with no food except some dates, and no water except that in a small water-skin he gave them - in other words he left them with no chance for survival - and then Abraham set out to wander the 1200 kilometers back to his home in Hebron! Makes perfect sense, doesn't it? So did he leave them the water

that was left in the "small water-skin", that they didn't drink during their 1200 kilometer journey? What did he drink on his way home? What did any of them eat?

As for the well that the scriptures inform us Hagar spotted, which would have been in the wilderness of Beersheba, that Islamic website further describes:

"Ibn Ab'bas said: The Prophet said, 'This is the origin of the tradition of Sa'ee (walking and running) between the hillocks of as-Safa and al-Marwa. When she reached al-Marwa (for the last time) she heard a voice and she calmed herself and listened attentively. She heard the voice again and said, 'O, (whoever you may be)! You have made me hear your voice; have you got something to help me?' And behold! **She saw an angel at the place of Zamzam tapping the earth with its wing till water gushed from that place.** Hagar quickly contained the water by making a barrier around it. She filled her water-skin. The Prophet added, 'May Allah bestow mercy on Ishmael's mother! **Had she let the Zamzam flow without trying to control it or had she not scooped from that water to fill her water skin, Zamzam would have been a stream flowing on the surface of the earth.'** (Bukhari)"

Come on, really??!! So Hagar didn't see a well as scripture informs us, but instead another 7th century Islamic fiction is advanced, to further embellish a geographically impossible history of Mecca, as a substitute for the perfectly reasonable historical account that we are given through scripture - that is entirely consistent with physical geography as mapped out above. It should come as no surprise then that the **actual historical record** informs us, that what became the Islamic tradition of the Sa'ee - or running back and forth [between al-Safa and al-Marwah](#) seven times - was actually a ritual of Arabian jinn-devil worship that was practiced before Muhammad was ever born, when two idols occupied the two hills, that represented the most venerated priest and priestess of the Arabian jinn-devil worship religion.

Yet even as scripture explains that Yahweh's covenants are with the seed of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and that the seed of Hagar are in [bondage to the flesh](#) and specifically not included in the covenants Yahweh made with His people, many Muslims proudly proclaim to be of the seed of Sarah's bondservant Hagar's son Ishmael who was cut out of those covenants!

However Yahweh did console Abraham by saying he would make a large nation of the seed of Ishmael, even though Ishmael was not to be an heir and was specifically cut out of the covenants Yahweh made with the seed of Isaac:

Genesis 17:20 And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. 21 **But my covenant will I establish with Isaac**, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.

Genesis 21:13 And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, **because he [is] thy seed**.

Genesis 25:13 And these [are] the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, according to their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebajoth; and Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam, 14 And Mishma, and Dumah, and Massa, 15 Hadar, and Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah: 16 These [are] the sons of Ishmael, and these [are] their names, by their towns, and by their castles; twelve princes according to their nations. 17 And these [are] the years of the life of Ishmael, an hundred and thirty and seven years: and he gave up the ghost and died; and was gathered unto his people. 18 And they dwelt from Havilah unto Shur, that [is] before Egypt, as thou goest toward Assyria: [and] he died in the presence of all his brethren.

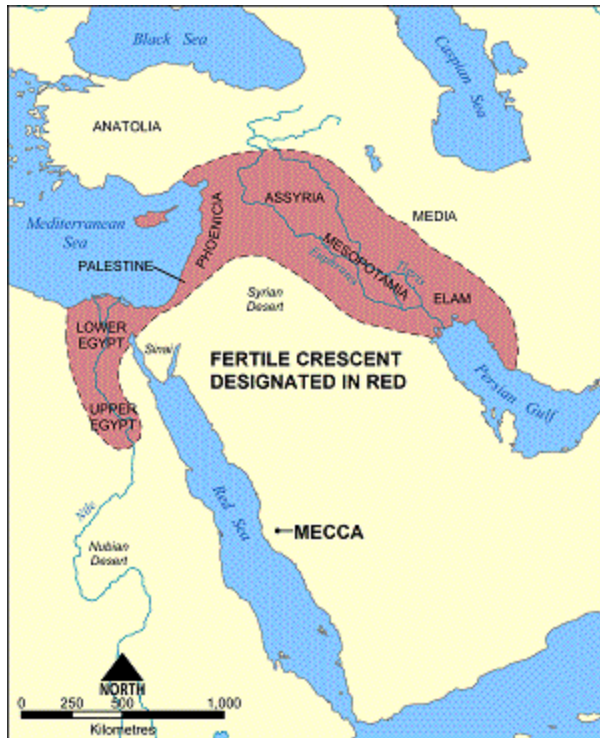
The **tribes of Ishmael** inhabited a region "... **from Havilah unto Shur**, that [is] before Egypt, **as thou goest toward Assyria**..."



Map (prior to modification) attributed to the Wikimedia [uploader at this link](#).

The territory is described "....as thou goest toward Assyria..." that is, between those two points, but "toward Assyria".

This is a direction specifically away from where Mecca was eventually settled in the 4th century AD. Thus the Ishmaelites most likely inhabited the lower portion of the "fertile crescent":



Map (prior to modification) attributed to the Wikimedia [uploader at this link](#).

Inhabiting an area north of the harsh Syrian and Arabian deserts.

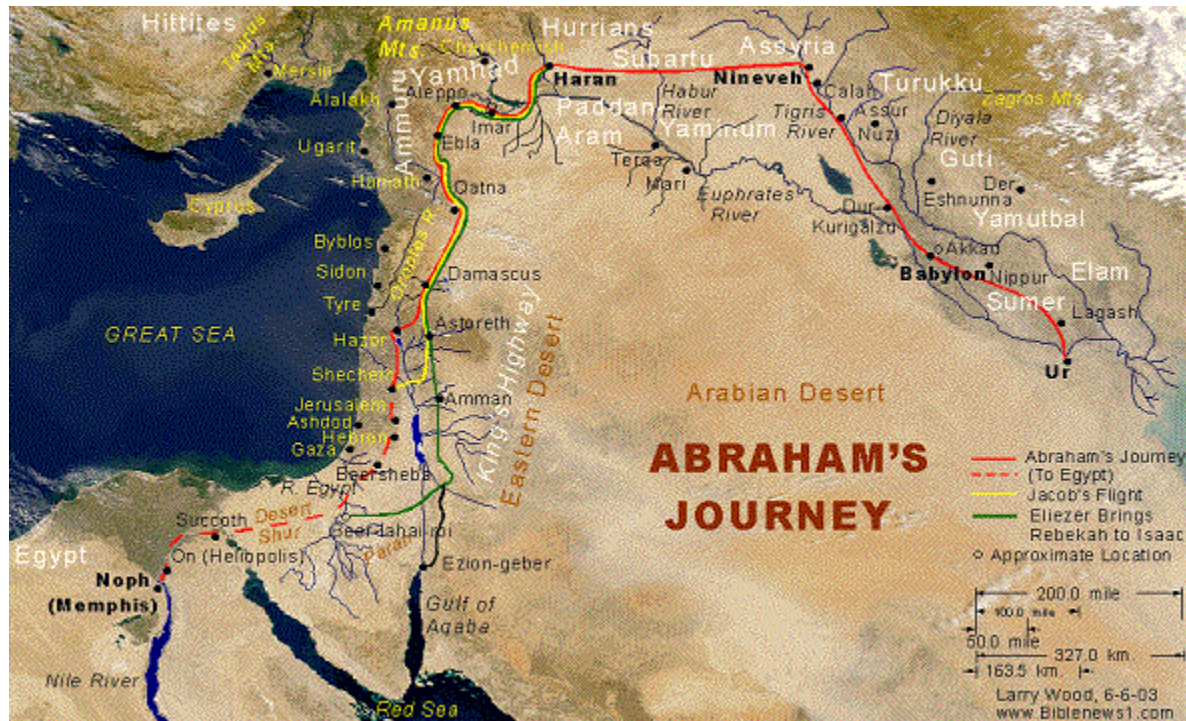


Photo attributed to the Wikimedia [uploader at this link](#)

Particularly since the Ishmaelite tribes of Kedar and Nebaioth were known for their flocks of sheep.

Isaiah 60:7 All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together unto thee, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister unto thee: they shall come up with acceptance on mine altar, and I will glorify the house of my glory.

Abraham's journey was also within the Fertile Crescent where civilization, as well as essentials for survival were available, *like water!*



[Map attributed to this source](#)

So did Ishmael and Abraham ride back and forth from THE Holy Land to Mecca on flying donkey-mules, [as Ibn Ishak embellished](#), in an effort to explain away the geographical impossibility of Islamic so-called tradition?

From Wikipedia: "The Buraq was also said to transport Abraham (Ibrahim) when he visited his wife Hagar and son Ishmael. According to tradition, Abraham lived with one wife in Syria, but the Buraq would transport him in the morning to Mecca to see his family there, and take him back in the evening to his Syrian wife.[5]"

Did he leave his brethren to wander across 1,000 kilometers of unexplored, uncharted, uninhabited Arabian desert? How could Ishmael have been associated with Mecca, [a couple thousand years before](#) it was settled, and 1,200 kilometers

away from where his brethren lived in **THE** Holy Land of the prophets and patriarchs?

Genesis 16:11 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, [Hagar] Behold, thou [art] with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name **Ishmael**; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction. 12 And he will be a wild man; his hand [will be] against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he **shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.**

How did Ishmael travel across 1200 kilometers of harsh barren Arabian desert, to [Hebron](#), in time to join Isaac in burying their father Abraham?

Genesis 25:9 And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, which is before Mamre;

The historical record informs us there was no overland connection between northern and southern Arabia prior to [about the 7th century B.C.](#), let alone that [Medina wasn't even established until the 6th century B.C.](#), over [a thousand years after Abraham](#) roamed the earth.

The Tribe of Nabajoth

A couple thousand years after Ishmael roamed the earth and 1200 kilometers away from **the** Holy Land of the prophets and patriarchs, a Meccan named Ibn Ishak, the earliest reporter of Muhammad's life, declared that Muhammad came from the Ishmaelite tribe of Nabajoth. While many of Muhammad's Middle Eastern followers may have traces of the seed of the lost tribes of Ishmael in their ancestry, since Muhammad's tribe the Quraish [migrated to Mecca from Yemen](#), Muhammad himself was more likely Hamitic or Cushitic, since the historical and linguistic evidence suggests that Southern Arabia was settled by migrants from Ethiopia that traveled across the strait to Yemen.

Let alone that Muhammad himself said that anyone who genealogized him past his relative al-Nather bin Kinaneh lied:

Amru bin al-As wrote: 'Mohammed genealogized himself regarding his ancestors until he reached al-Nather bin Kinaneh, then he said '**anyone who claimed otherwise or added further ancestors, has lied.**'"

For more on Muhammad's genealogy please visit the dedicated page "[MUHAMMAD'S ANCESTORS](#)".

[From soyouwanna](#): "Like all other Semitic languages, Arabic is the descendant of a so-called "Proto-Semitic" language, which is currently believed to have developed in East Africa and which never evolved in a written form. Arabic and Amharic, the two most recent Semitic languages, both arose in the mid-300s."

Tribe of Kedar ([URL](#))

Muhammad's followers will sometimes lay claim to Kedar, but from investigation of the Kedarites it may not be anything to boast. From [The Twelve Lost Tribes of Ishmael](#):

"Nehemiah's opponent, 'Geshem the Arab' has been identified as one of the kings of Kedar from the mid fifth century BC. (based on a number of North Arabian inscriptions)

Regarding their religion, Assyrian inscriptions tell us that Sennacherib captured of several Arabian deities in the Kedarite city of Dumah. The chief deity was Atarsamain, or the morning star of heaven. (the counterpart of Mesopotamian Ishtar). The tribal league led by the Kedarites was known as "the confederation of Atarsamain, and their cult was led by a series of queen-priestesses in Dumah. The rest of their pantheon of gods consisted of Dai, Nuhai (Nuhay), Ruldai (Ruda), Abirillu, and Atarquruma. Rock graffiti in the Thamudic language reveals that Ruda was known as the evening star, and Nuhay was the sun-god, and they were worshiped in addition to Atarsamain 'the morning star.' Herodotus, in the fifth century BC identified two deities worshiped among the Arabs, as a fertility god called Orotalt (perhaps Ruda, as identified by Macdonald in North Arabian in the First Millennium BC, 1360), and **a sky goddess know as Allat**. (Herodotus III,3.) **Later Allat became referred to in the masculine form as Allah)"**

Once again exposing Islamic so-called "tradition", that masquerades as thousands of years of pre-Muhammad history, the entirety of which was put to the pen in the 7th through 10th centuries AD, without reference to any actual historical record from before the 6th century AD. Yet Muhammad's followers believe it as though it were actual history - even including notions like [Muhammad's unwitnessed night journey](#) - even though a bunch of 7th - 10th century SW Arabian desert dwellers could not have had the first clue, as to what went on thousands of years before them, and over a thousand kilometers away, in **the** Holy Land of the prophets and patriarchs.

It isn't too late. You can begin a relationship with the one true God of love [YHWH](#), as He expressed Himself through His Messiah like [these former followers of Muhammad](#), who simply asked God for the truth. All you have to do is ask [Yeshua](#) (which means Yahweh saves), Jesus Christ, to come into your heart and into your life today!

Matthew 7:7 **Ask**, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For **every one** that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

Why not watch a few videos on the [Muslim Journey to Hope website](#), of folks that have come to know the love of the one true God Yahweh, through a relationship with Yeshua, the Christ? If you have some apprehension of doing so, might that indicate a fear of truth?

What could make the bondage to the flesh of the seed of Ishmael more apparent than prostrating and praying toward the Quraish pagan's black stone idol in Mecca five times a day, and engaging in the adopted, adapted and thinly veneered Quraysh pagan moon, sun, star and jinn devil worship rituals of [the Hajj and Umrah](#)?

Indeed the pagans and Muslims performed these rituals side by side until the year before Muhammad's last Hajj when the pagans were kicked out of their own rituals.

Sahih Bukhari Volume 2, Book 26, Number 689: Narrated Abu Huraira: **In the year prior to the last Hajj of the Prophet** when Allah's Apostle made Abu Bakr the leader of the pilgrims, the latter **(Abu Bakr) sent me in the company of a group of people to make a public announcement: 'No pagan is allowed to perform Hajj after this year, and no naked person is allowed to perform Tawaf of the Kaba.'**

Muslims pray repetitive prayers five times a day, practice ablution, wear long white robes, and fast during the month of [Ramadan](#), as the record suggests [the Sabians](#) did. Even more amazingly, Muhammad's followers are taught that the reason they pray five times a day, because Muhammad claimed he learned the ordinance on a trip up to "paradise" one night while riding on a [flying donkey-mule](#). Yet the scriptures instruct how to pray:

1Th 5:17 [Pray without ceasing.](#)

Which describes relationship, not ritual. The scriptures also warn about specifically how not to pray:

Matthew 6:7 [But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen \[do\]: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.](#)

Perhaps not coincidentally to Muhammad's flying donkey-mule, the Zoroastrians believed their fabled prophet rode on a mythical flying steed, or "baraq", to the dwelling place of his immortal ancestors as well. Since Zoroastrianism was widespread by the 7th century, was it really a great leap for an illiterate SW Arabian desert dweller, to make the claim that he himself did the same? Did it even require imagination?

Yet Muslims believe Muhammad's tall tale purely because Muhammad claimed it, without a single witness to his flying steed, let alone his journey. This while history tells us that the "mosque" or temple that he claimed he prayed in, in Jerusalem, had been torn down over 500 years before Muhammad's claim of having prayed in it. Even most of the hundred or so illiterate SW Arabian desert dwellers Muhammad was able to attract in the first 13 years of Islam, left his "religion", after

he told this tall tale. So what's with his followers in this 21st century information age?

