

The Wednesday Word in Chinese, September 6, 2017: Are Allah and The Christian God one and the Same?

安拉和基督教的神是同一位吗？

There was a measure of shock recently when Pope Francis announced that Allah and Yahweh were one and the same. But there was no need for anyone to be surprised. This has been the official Roman Catholic position for quite some time.

天主教宗方济各宣称安拉与耶和华是同一位的当时引发了不小的震动。但是这并不值得每个人都感到吃惊，因为这是罗马天主教会很久以来的官方立场了。

So, are Allah and Yahweh one and the same? Could this be the case? The Koran, for example, claims that Allah is forgiving because he is merciful, (The Cow: 2:199). In the Bible, we read that Yahweh is also a God of forgiveness (Ps 130:4). Then, in Exodus 20:6, we read that Yahweh shows mercy. Thus, we observe that both Allah and the Father are forgiving and merciful. Does this then mean they are one and the same God?

那么，安拉和耶和华真的是同一位吗？这会是一个问题吗？古兰经也宣称安拉是满有恩慈和宽容（黄牛章2：199）在圣经里，我们都知道耶和华是有赦免之恩的神（诗篇130：4）在出埃及纪20：6，我们更读到耶和华展示恩慈。如此，我们看到安拉和天父都是恩慈和宽容的，这意味着他们是同一位神吗？

A good question!

问得好！

If Yahweh and Allah are one and the same, we would expect them to have the same view of sin and forgiveness. So let's ask, on what basis does Allah forgive sins?

如果耶和华与安拉是同一位神，他们对罪和饶恕应该有相同的观点。那么请问，安拉是如何饶恕罪的？

According to the Koran, He forgives sins because of the repentance of the penitent (S: 9:104). In addition to this, he is merciful and kind (S 3:89). Allah is, therefore, to be likened to a Judge, who clears a vile, guilty criminal because the guilty party asks for forgiveness. The criminal repents and says he has changed his mind about having done the crime and won't do it again. The judge is a kind and forgiving man so he releases the accused.

根据古兰经的解释，安拉会因为人的悔改而饶恕（S: 9:104），另外，他满有恩慈和友善。（S3：89）安拉，更像一位法官，因为罪犯的求饶而饶恕了他的罪。罪犯忏悔说，我已回心转意，不再犯罪了，法官因此而饶恕了，不再定他的罪。

Sweet!

很好啊！

But, this verdict contains an alarming disregard for justice. Who will pay for the man's crime? Who indeed will be punished for it? The man may have repented, but the crime still stands. It seems, therefore, that Allah holds justice and the seriousness of sin in an exceedingly low esteem.

但是，在这个判决里面缺乏对公义的尊重。谁来偿还人的罪？谁来承受刑罚呢？那个人也许已经悔改，可是罪依然在那里。这样看来，安拉对正义和罪的严重性缺乏一个严肃的态度。

Conversely, the Christian God, Yahweh, forgives, not only because He is merciful, but also because He is Just. He has dealt with us, not merely out of kindness but out of Justice. To ensure that our sins have been justly done away with, He has set forth Christ Jesus as our sin offering (Romans 3:25-26). Christ, as our representative and substitute, took the wrath of outraged majesty and justice.

相反的，基督教的神，耶和華，他的怜悯并不是单单他的恩慈，也因为他是公义的神。他不仅以恩受待我们，更以公义待我们。他为了我们的罪得赦免，派耶稣基督作为我们的罪的挽回祭（罗马书3：25-26）。基督，作为我们的代表和替代，担当了神的忿怒和公义。

The Father's forgiveness is thus rooted in both love and justice: Allah's is not. Thus, they are not one and the same.

天父的怜悯源于他的爱和公义。安拉并非如此。他们不是同一位。

In the gospel, our right standing and acceptance with God do not rest on our decision to repent. Nor does it lie in our personal moral renewal whereby we pledge to do better. Our right standing before God is discovered exclusively in the doing, dying and rising again of the Lord Jesus. Punishment for sins is demanded by God's unchangeable nature of holy justice. He could not and would not set aside His lawful and righteous demand that the sinner is punished (Romans 6:23). So in love, Christ, God manifest in the flesh, came and was punished for the sins of His people. Our salvation is thus rooted in both the love and justice of God.

在福音书里，我们被神接纳并不是因为我们悔改的决定。也不是因为我们的品德有多高，行为有多好，而是因为主耶稣的作为，因为他的死和复活。对罪的刑罚并没有改变，因为我们的神是公义的神，他不会把对罪的刑罚放在一边，我们的拯救乃是出于这一位爱并公义的神。

With respect, we note that Allah has not provided an atonement for his followers. No one has paid for their sins. Thus, we must conclude that Allah is not the God of Justice. He has provided no just way to righteously deal with sin.

对应的，我们没有看到安拉为他的跟随者提供罪的替代。没有人需要为他的罪而付代价。我们可以据此认定安拉并不是一位公义的神。他并没有一条应付罪的公义之路。

When we put on our Gospel Glasses, we see that Yahweh and Allah are most definitely not the same God. They are diametrically opposed to each other. The god of the Koran forgives when he feels merciful, but it's a forgiveness divorced from Justice.

当我们透过福音的眼镜来看，我们就可以看见耶和华和安拉根本就不是同一位神。他们甚至截然不同的。安拉因为恩慈饶恕人，但是这样的饶恕里没有公义。

Yahweh, on the other hand, gave and presented Christ, the God/Man, the very righteousness of God. He was numbered with the transgressors (Isaiah 53:12). Justice dealt with Him, not because He was a wretch, but because He was the substitute for His people. He was treated like a filthy sinner, or let's say it another way, He was treated as though he were us.

耶和华，与之不同，他是公义的神，把基督赐给了我们。他被列入罪犯当中（以赛亚书 53:12），这不是因为他有罪，而是因为担当了我们的罪。他承担刑罚，如同一个罪犯，换句话说，他承担刑罚，如同他是我们的一员。

And that's the Gospel Truth!

这就是福音书的真理!