Last Day 5 - Return of Jesus before the Last Hour

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Last Day 5 – Return of Jesus before the Last Hour

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

QUESTION: Does Islam teach that Jesus will return before the Last Hour?

ANSWER:

This is an issue which is commonly referred to by Christians as "The Second Coming". Islam agrees that Jesus (peace and blessings be upon him) will indeed return before the Last Hour, but differs radically from Christianity in the events surrounding his return.

As has been mentioned before, Muslims believe that Jesus was a Muslim and a noble prophet who called to Tawheed (the right of Allaah to have all worship directed to him alone). In common with all the Prophets, he did not ask anyone to worship him or say that he was God. Nor was killed on a cross, nor did he say in his final moments, "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" as the Christians teach.

Islam teaches that Jesus was a Prophet of firm belief, a man of patience and kindness and that he was raised to the heavens and will return to the Earth before the Last Hour.

The Qur'aan mentions:

And there is none from the People of the Book (i.e. the Jews and Christians) except that he will surely believe in him (Jesus) before his death.

[Soorah an Nisaa (the 4th chapter) verse 159]

When Jesus returns, he will rule by Islam – the legislation of his fellow Prophet and successor Muhammad (may perfect peace and security be upon him).

Muhammad (may perfect peace and security be upon him) said:

"By Him in whose Hand is my soul (i.e. by Allaah), (Jesus) the son of Mary will shortly descend amongst you as a just ruler, so he will break the Cross and he will kill the pigs..."

Islam teaches that Jesus will descend in the east of Damascus (in Syria), and he will kill the Dajjaal (the Anti Christ). He will remain on the Earth for forty years, then he will die and the Muslims will pray the Funeral Prayer.

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Some of the philosophical groups that emerged amongst the Muslims deny that Jesus will return before the Day of Judgement. The reason for their becoming muddled in this issue is that they misunderstand the verse of the Qur'aan where Muhammad (may perfect peace and security be upon him) is described as:

...the seal of the Prophets.
[Soorah al Ahzaab (the 33rd chapter) verse 40]

And the statement of Muhammad (may perfect peace and security be upon him):

"And I am the seal of the Prophets. There is no Prophet after me."

However, Jesus will not come as a new Prophet with a new legislation; he will be returning to Earth, having been there before and he will be ruling with the legislation of the Muslims, reviving some of the Islamic practices which had been abandoned by the people.