

Messengers 14 – Final Prophet?

Based on the works of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan (حفظه الله)

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

QUESTION: Was Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) the final Prophet?¹

ANSWER:

Obviously Muslims believe that the answer is yes, but there are reasons for mentioning this issue.

The Qur'aan states:

Muhammad is not the father any one of your men, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the seal of the Prophets.

[Soorah al Ahzaab (the 33rd chapter) verse 40]

And Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) stated:

“There will come after me thirty great liars, each of them claiming that he is a Prophet. And I am the seal of the Prophets. There is no Prophet after me.”

Throughout history since the death of Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), people have claimed to be Prophets – and people have believed them, followed them and (usually) given them money or other possessions. But Islam teaches that there are no more Prophets after Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), so these false Prophets are liars.

Why should the Prophethood have ended with him? Islam teaches that there is no need for any more Prophets because the Qur'aan is present with us nowadays, as is the Prophet's Sunnah, and in addition, the scholars who teach the people Islam and correct their mistakes are also present. All of these will remain until the end of time, protected and preserved.

However Muslims also believe that Jesus (peace and blessings be upon him) will return before the end to time. So should he be considered the last prophet instead?

¹ Refer to al irshaad ilaa saheeh il i'tiqaad of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan p210 for more information

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The answer is no, because he will follow the legislation of Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him). Jesus will not follow the legislation of the Bible because this was abrogated by the legislation of Islam. So he will therefore be a successor to Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) and a ruler, but not a new Prophet.

Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) stated:

“My likeness in comparison with the other Prophets is like that of a man who has built a house completely and with excellence, except for the place of one brick. So the people begin to enter it, they marvel at it and say: But for a place of a brick (i.e. how perfect the house would be)!”

And in another version of the hadeeth, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

“And I am the brick, and I am the seal of the Prophets.”