



Life of Muhammad^{sa}

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TEACHINGS OF JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY ABOUT WAR

Moses (as) is commanded to enter the land of Canaan by force, to defeat its population and to settle his own people in it (Deut. 20: 10-18).

In spite of this teaching in the Book of Moses (as), and in spite of its reinforcement by practical example of the Prophets Joshua (as) , David (as) and others, Jews and Christians continue to hold their Prophets in reverence and to regard their books as the Books of God

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At the end of the Mosaic tradition, we had Jesus (as)...; **But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also** (*Matthew 5: 39*).

Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword (*Matthew 10: 34*).

Then said he unto them. But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one (*Luke 22: 36*).

Of the three verse, last two contradict the first

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If Jesus (as) came for war, why did he teach about turning the other cheek?

...throughout their long history, no Christian people have ever hesitated to make war.

When two Christian powers go to war, each claims to be the protector of Christian ideals. The power which wins is canonized as the true Christian power.

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The practical verdict of the Christian peoples, therefore, is that war is the real teaching of the New Testament,

-turning the other cheek was either an opportunist teaching dictated by the helplessness of early Christians...
- ...or it is meant to apply only to individuals, not to States and peoples.

Secondly, even if we assume that Jesus (as) taught peace and not war, it does not follow that those who do not act upon this teaching are not holy and honoured.

- For Christendom has ever revered exponents of war such as Moses (as), Joshua (as) and David (as).
- Not only this, the Church itself has canonized national heroes who suffered in wars. They were made saints by the Popes.