



## **Are Christians At War With Islam?** by [John T Polk II](#)

*All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.*

### **Question:**

**Are we in a "holy war"? Are Christians really at war with Islam?**

### **Answer:**

The Old Testament surely shows us that:

1. Abram did good in rescuing Lot and his people and goods from the hands of the marauding kings (**Genesis 14:1-16**);
2. God responded to the outcries of His people in Egypt because of oppressive government intervention (including "live birth abortion"- **Exodus 1:8-22**; **Exodus 2:23-25**; **Exodus 3:7-10**);
3. God responded with leadership against the oppressive forces in the Promised Land when His people sought relief (**Judges 2:7-23**).

In the New Testament:

1. John the Baptist condemned the king for immorality (**Matthew 14:3-5**);
2. Jesus denounced the provincial king (Herod) and stressed that God's will for the Gospel was "separate" from the efforts of "government" to stop it (**Luke 13:31-35**);
3. The Apostle Paul used his Roman citizenship to advantage when necessary, but also taught that government is "appointed by God" (**Acts 16:35-39**; **Acts 22:23-29**; **Romans 13:1**)

To live in the world, God's people have always respected the "law of the land" but were bound by covenant with God to observe God's rules above all else!

Before Jesus Christ, *God had an earthly kingdom, governed by God's Law through Moses, led by judges and then kings, but always God's Prophets had the final say regarding kingdom affairs. With the advent of Jesus' kingdom, there was separation between the spiritual kingdom of God and carnal kingdoms of men* (**John 18:36-37**). Since then, **THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A CARNAL WAR BETWEEN CHRIST'S KINGDOM AND ANY GOVERNMENT OF MEN**, because of the spiritual nature of the kingdom of Christ and the carnal nature of the kingdoms of men. According to the Bible, there never would have been anything like physical conflicts between "Christians and Jews," Christians and Muslims," "Christians and Governments." ALL of

these have warred against "Christians," but never will Christians physically war against any of them (**2 Corinthians 10:1-6**).

Anyone who believes the Catholics and the Church of England represent "Christianity" needs to re-read the New Testament slowly and clearly to see they do nothing of the kind. From 1st Century Roman Caesars to 21st Century Muslims, true Christians are mistakenly attacked, for no government or religion has a just grievance against followers of Jesus Christ. When Jesus' kingdom is perverted into just another religion of men's making, then it is lowered to a human level, and is no longer fulfilling its Divine plan.

However, Christians today must uphold "truth" (**John 8:32**), correct principalities, powers, rulers of darkness (**Ephesians 6:10-20**) and cast "down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God" (**2 Corinthians 10:5**). That God appointed government should not be denied, but that God also appointed Christians to constantly be teaching against the force of evil in the world also cannot be denied!

I know that whatever God does, it shall be forever. Nothing can be added to it, and nothing taken from it. God does it, that men should fear before Him (**Ecclesiastes 3:14**)

But I also know that God can change (and has changed) the political scene many times in response to the needs of His people.

[We should] not envy the oppressor, and choose none of his ways (**Proverbs 3:31**).

In order to do this, Scripture requires educating Christians (and non-Christians) with the truth about "the oppressor" and the principles of Christ that cannot be changed (**1 Peter 5:8-9**; **2 Peter 3:1-18**). Now more than ever in the U.S.A., Christians "ought to obey God rather than men" (**Acts 5:21-33**). ***And that's not a conflict of interest; that IS the interest!***

It is true that:

We do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal (**2 Corinthians 4:16-18**).

But it is also true that:

You should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. But you have not so learned Christ, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your

former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, putting away lying, Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil. Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers (**Ephesians 4:17-29**).

Exposing the sins and perversions of God-ordained things does not mean a Christian cannot pray for their conversion and try to teach them "a more excellent way" (**I Corinthians 12:31**). People who pervert their God-ordained sexuality (**Matthew 19:4**), God-ordained marriage (**Matthew 19:5-6**), God-ordained power to govern (**Romans 13:1-10**), or God-ordained people (**Acts 2:38-47**; **Acts 11:26**; **Titus 2:11:1-14**), must have their deeds reprov'd by the Word of God while at the same time praying for them to learn to be acceptable to God (**Acts 10:34-35**).

In **Romans 12:20**, there is a quotation of **Proverbs 25:21-22**. In the context of **Romans 12:20** (**verses 17-21**), Christians should extend grace even to enemies in the hopes that:

- a. the enemy's conscience will wish to respond with a kinder disposition because of the Christian example;
- b. the Christian will do good regardless of circumstances or opposition;
- c. trust in God will be shown that He will repay whatever evil has been done to the Christian; and
- d. the enemy's heart will be melted and reshaped in their thinking about good.

It has always been about hurting the enemy's conscience in an effort to stimulate their sense of goodness, if it hasn't been "seared" (**1 Timothy 4:1-3**). Christians appeal to conscience, not conquest, for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ (**Matthew 28:18-20**).

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