

## Militant Islam and Militant Atheism

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### Militant Islam

The newly formed offspring of ISIS, ("the Islamic State") in Syria and Iraq has given all minority groups, including Christians the option to "convert to their version of Islam or die." They have circulated horrific pictures on the internet showing the brutal killing of either Shia or minority groups.

Because historical Christian records are not free of similar intolerant actions towards other segments of the church or Muslims it could be argued that, "He that is without sin, let him cast the first stone." Can we then with a clear conscience now condemn ISIS?

The message of Christ and His true disciples is one of "good news to all men" with love, mercy and forgiveness" at its heart but Islam's founder left instructions "To kill the infidel and unbeliever;" the spirit of the founder of each of these religions oppose one another and the proof of it carries through to its disciples...

What Islam is doing is following the pattern set by Muhammad. When Christians have shown intolerance, murder and hate as in the Inquisition they are not following the life and teaching of Christ and it is from this standpoint that we can accuse Islam of brutal behaviour. They for their part are only acting in accordance with their beliefs.

All western nations have an open and free society that is tolerant of all religious beliefs but what is the consequence of allowing a religion that is intolerant of conflicting religions or lifestyles to flourish? We see the brutal reality of what happens to the tolerant when the intolerant that are growing in number are equipped with arms and money. Remember, most of the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey was "Christianised" over a period of 300 hundred years. Islam however, reversed that position with the sword in just twenty short years and it's remained that way for 1,400 years.

With Muslim immigration and the Islamic position of multiple wives and no birth control the numbers are against western nations who are "tolerant" of all in their midst including the Muslims. If this continues the balance of "tolerance to intolerance" will shift with the numbers.

When asked about the carnage of the Second World War Churchill was quoted as saying, "there are some things that are worse than war." This could be one of them. History is not on our side in the numbers game and democracy has now become our enemy; witness the Muslim Brotherhood experience in Egypt, the anarchy in Libya, Somalia, Syria, Sudan, Yemen, and Nigeria. History also proves that you cannot fight an idea with military might, particularly a religious one.

What can we do then as we face the potential of the intolerant consuming the tolerant? The normal answer would be, "With a superior idea or religion." Christianity fits that role perfectly but it seems as if the spirit behind Islam anticipated such a challenge and instructed the Muslim faithful to "kill all apostates." Don't dare question, do not in any way defile the book or challenge the Koran because that also carries the charge of blasphemy and a death sentence to the perpetrators. All bases are now covered and the followers are trapped behind walls of control and the fear of death.

What options do we have as societies and countries? Will we be engulfed by Islamic intolerance?

### Militant Atheism

Militant atheism has declared war on all religions, particularly Christianity and will not tolerate any form of belief that holds ideas contradicting their philosophy. Recently a member of Parliament was forced to resign his

place in the Conservative Party because as a Christian he did not believe in the theory of evolution. Evolution, the atheists say is “fact” and any who challenge this doctrine cannot hold public office. They intend to remove all reference to Christianity from our society, tax churches, stop all forms of public prayer, and deny the rights of doctors to abstain from performing abortions or potentially euthanasia.

We have heard all this before. Hitler, Stalin, Mao and every dictator in history follows the same pattern of intolerance to anything or anyone challenging their philosophy or power. Both Militant Islam and Militant Atheism come from the same source. It is the work of the Destroyer, Lucifer himself.

It is time for the “Church Militant” to arise from its comfort zone and engage both of these enemies of God and His Christ. Whether we are called to confront their intolerance in the political realm or with the weapons Paul outlines in Ephesians; we are facing “principalities and powers” from the pit and we recognise the author.

As Christians we have “weapons of mass destruction and blessing” in prayer. We are told of the source of the power behind such evil; “For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against persons without bodies – evil rulers of the unseen world, those mighty satanic beings and great evil princes of darkness who rule this world, against huge numbers of wicked spirits in the spirit world. So use every piece of God’s armour to resist the enemy when he attacks, and when it is all over you will be still standing up... And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayer and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for the saints.”

Shalom.

*Ron Harris*

