

GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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“Strike off their heads...”

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The horrific sight and blood curdling screams of Nicolas Berg being beheaded by terrorists in Iraq have traveled world wide over the public airwaves this past week. Shocked minds and sickened hearts characterize Americans as we grapple with the gruesome murder of a fellow American.

As the media characterizes the murderers of Mr. Berg as “militants”, the truth is that they are “Muslims” following the teaching of the Koran. Mohammad commands his followers, “*Therefore strike off their heads, and strike off all the ends of their fingers. This shall they suffer; because they have resisted God and his apostle: and whosoever shall oppose God and his apostle, verily God will be severe in punishing him*” (Koran 8:12). Allah is God to the Muslims, and Mohammad is Allah’s apostle to the practitioners of Islam. In the eyes of these Muslims reeking havoc in Iraq, those worthy of being beheaded and having the ends of their fingers cut off are unbelievers, the Jews and Christians.

In another passage of the

Koran regarding the treatment of unbelievers Mohammad commands, “*...strike off their heads until ye have made a great slaughter among them; and bind them in bonds and either give them a free dismissal afterwards, or exact a ransom; until the war shall have laid down its arms.*” (Koran 47:4)

Those responsible of beheading Mr. Berg let it be known before killing him that they were willing to trade Mr. Berg for captured terrorists. In their minds, a ransom was offered. If a bargain was actually offered, and they in turn were rebuffed, they no doubt thought nothing about carrying out the other command of Mohammad of striking off Mr. Berg’s head.

While beheading is strange to our modern culture in the West, it is still prevalent in the Arab culture in the Middle East. Beheading is still a method of capital punishment in Saudia Arabia and Jordan. Cutting off fingers and hands is a common practice as well.

The clear teachings of the Koran, coupled with present practice in the culture may answer the

question of why we do not see the outcry from Arab leaders over this gruesome and unlawful killing of an innocent business man. How can the Arab leaders cry out too loudly when Mohammad himself through the Holy Book of the Muslim world encourages such practice towards Jews and Christians?

These Muslim terrorists are seeking to spread the theocracy of Islam over all the world. It is a holy war, or a Jihad to them, and they have no problem employing carnal means to achieve their goal.

I wonder if it were not for our secular government fighting the terrorists to preserve all of our freedoms, would “Christians”, who claim Jesus Christ attends to set up a world wide government headquartered in Jerusalem, be willing to equip some type of Christian army to fight these Muslim terrorists to preserve “Christianity” on earth? Remember, Jesus’ kingdom has always been a spiritual kingdom, not of this world (John 18:36). Christians’ weapons are not carnal (2 Cor. 10:3-5).