

The Descriptive Titles of Jesus in the Quran (part 1 of 2): oeThe Messiah” and oea Miracle”

Description: A discussion of the name, titles, and description of Jesus in the Quran. Part 1: A look at the concept of the Messiah in the Judeo-Christian thought as well as Islam, and the title oeMiracle” which God gives to Jesus in the Quran.

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Islam, besides Christianity, is the only major world religion that recognizes Jesus. A Muslim’s belief is incomplete without Jesus. Prophet Muhammad said:



"If anyone testifies that none has the right to be worshipped but God alone who has no partners, and that Muhammad is His servant and His Messenger, and that Jesus is God’s servant and His Messenger and His Word which He bestowed on Mary and a Spirit from Him, and that Paradise is true, and Hell is true, God will admit him into Paradise with the deeds which he has done even if those deeds were few."[\[1\]](#)

In other words, without sound belief in Jesus, one can never earn God’s Paradise. As with other prophets of God, Muslims add to his name, *alai his-salam*, which means, ‘Peace be upon him.’[\[2\]](#) Even though Jesus said, "**Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you,**"[\[3\]](#) in the Gospel, Christians rarely use any honorific term but ‘Christ’, and this as part of his name. Though this may be due to the idea that the Christian does not pray for him, but to him, it shows that Muslims have a great deal of respect for him despite not sharing such a viewpoint.

Quran is the sacred scripture of Islam, and in it, more than ninety verses spread across fifteen chapters of the Quran discuss Jesus. Three chapters of the Quran are named after their reference to Jesus: the third chapter of Quran, ‘The Family of Imran,’ is named after the father of Mary; the fifth chapter, ‘The Table,’ is likely named after the last supper. Lastly, the nineteenth chapter is named after Mary.

His Name in the Quran

In Arabic, Jesus is known as *Eesa*. In sixteen of the 25 places in the Quran where *Eesa* is used, he is called "the son of Mary" (*Ibn Maryam*). Since he had no father, he was named so after his mother.[\[4\]](#)

The Descriptive Titles of Jesus in the Quran:

(1) The Messiah

Prior to the appearance of Jesus, belief in the coming of the Messiah has been a basic and fundamental part of traditional Judaism. It is part of Maimonides' Thirteen Articles of Faith which are considered the minimum requirements of Jewish belief.[\[5\]](#) In the Shemoneh Esrei prayer