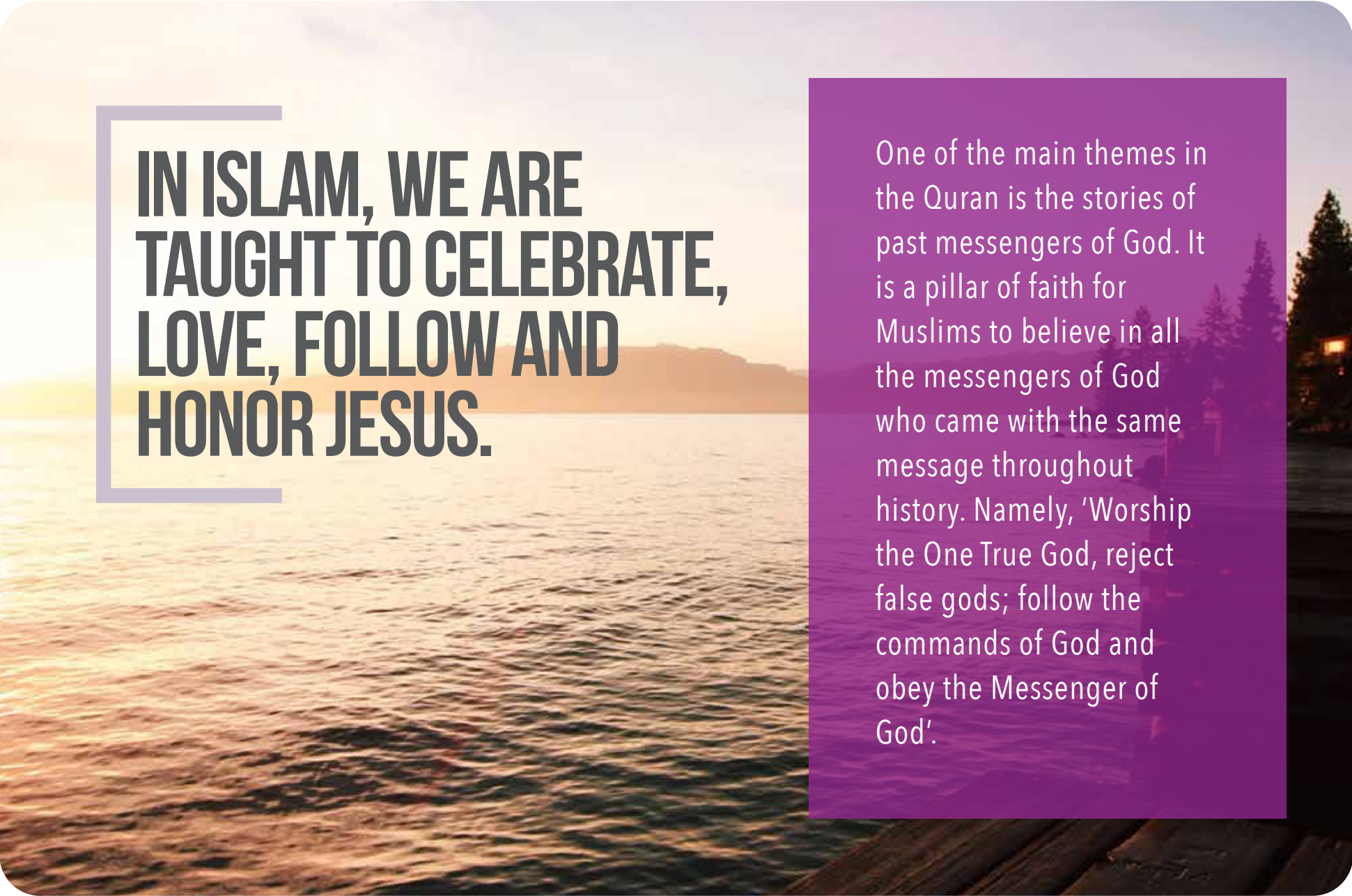




NEW MUSLIM
ACADEMY

THE MESSAGE OF JESUS

JESUS IN HIS OWN WORDS
IN THE QURAN



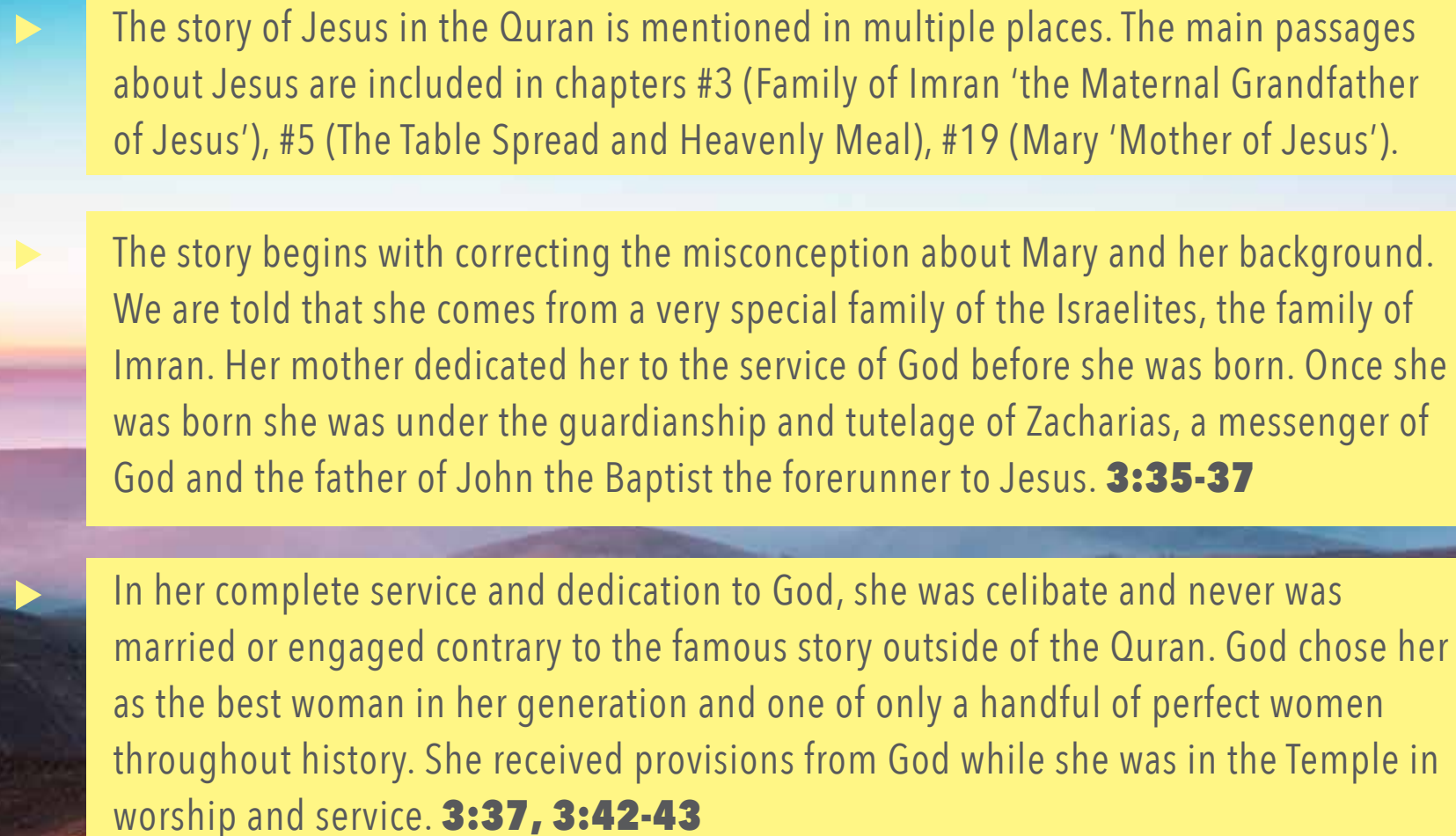
**IN ISLAM, WE ARE
TAUGHT TO CELEBRATE,
LOVE, FOLLOW AND
HONOR JESUS.**

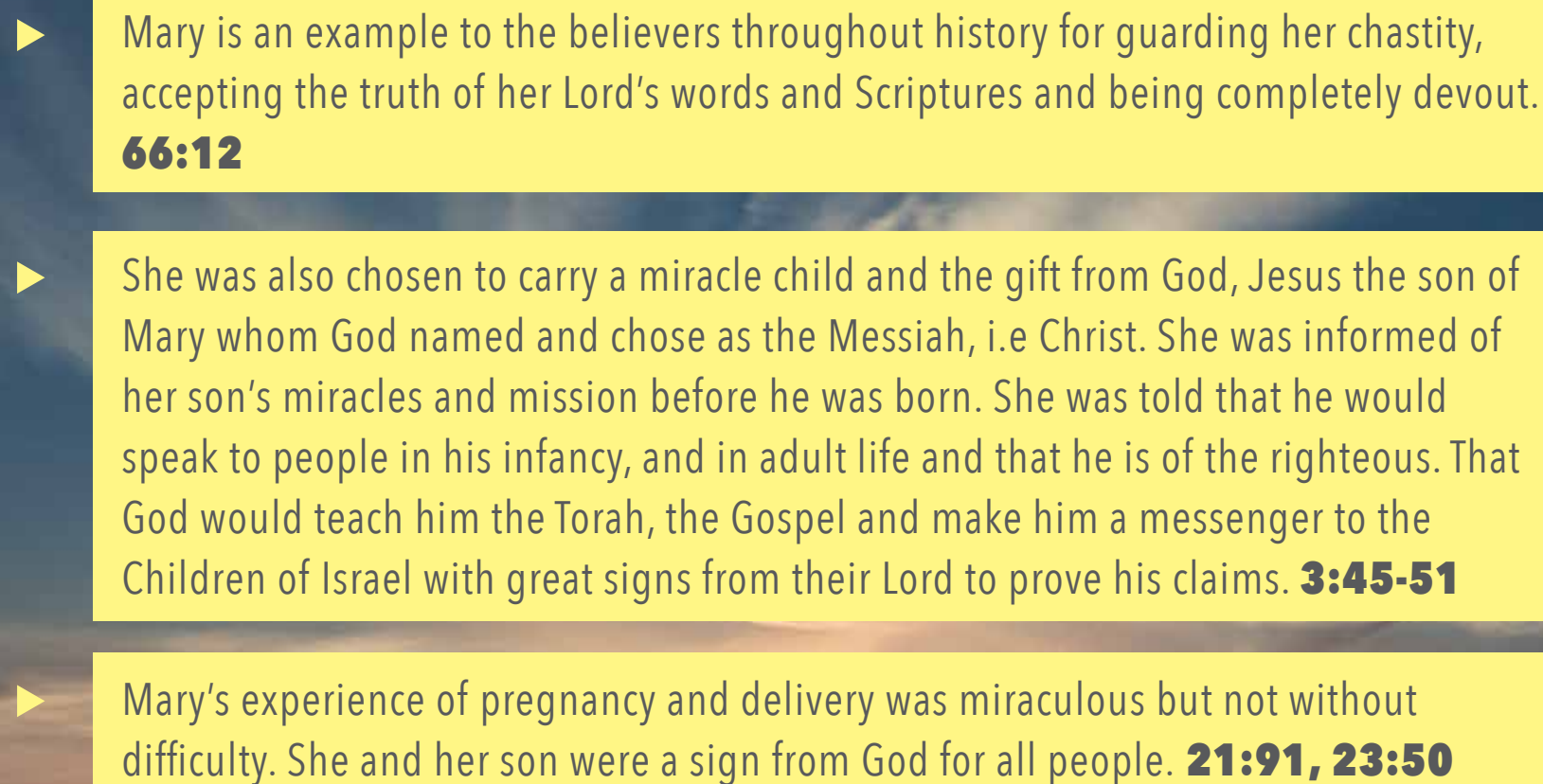
One of the main themes in the Quran is the stories of past messengers of God. It is a pillar of faith for Muslims to believe in all the messengers of God who came with the same message throughout history. Namely, 'Worship the One True God, reject false gods; follow the commands of God and obey the Messenger of God'.

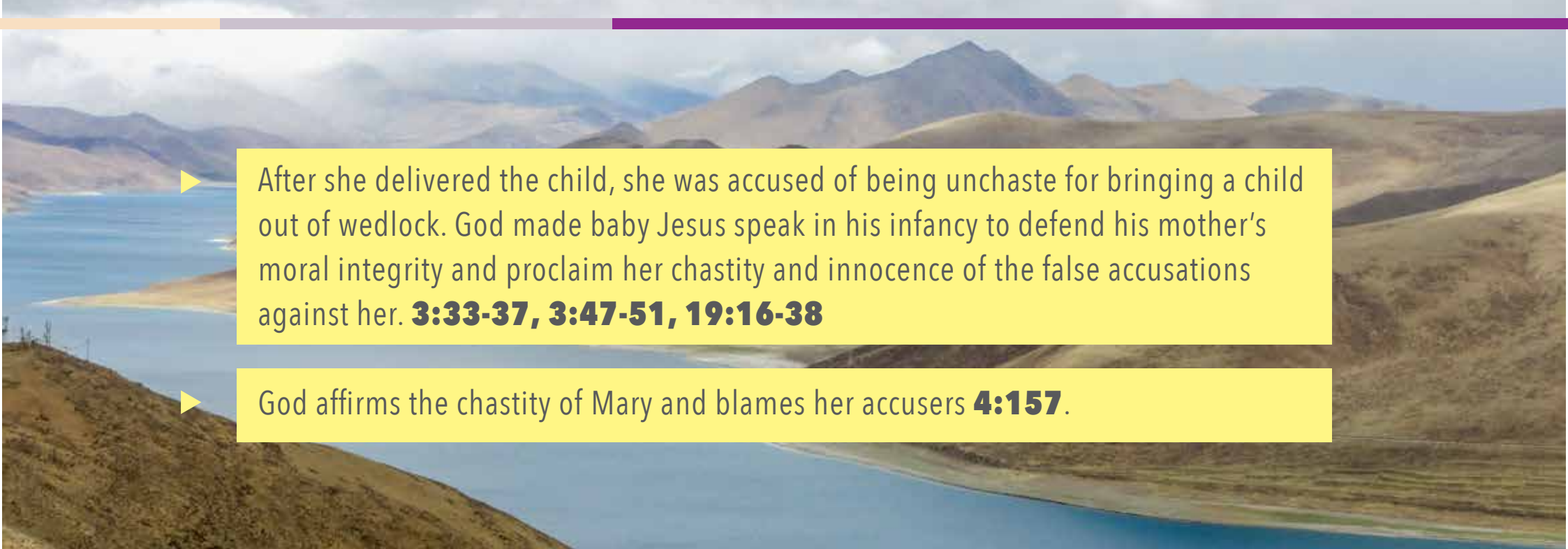
We are told that every nation throughout history has had a messenger. There are specific messengers which are mentioned by name in the Quran and among those, some are more prominent.

The stories of these prominent messengers are mentioned for many reasons, one of which is to correct the misconceptions associated with those past events. Misconceptions caused by adulteration and alteration to the original scriptures that God sent.

One of the most important figures in the Quran is Jesus. The passages in the Quran about Jesus are meant to confirm the True Message of this great man and chosen messenger of God and to correct the misconceptions about him. In this ebook we will focus on the main themes of the message of Jesus and the quotes attributed to Jesus in the Quran. These quotes sum up the mission of Jesus and clarify the truth about him.

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- ▶ The story of Jesus in the Quran is mentioned in multiple places. The main passages about Jesus are included in chapters #3 (Family of Imran 'the Maternal Grandfather of Jesus'), #5 (The Table Spread and Heavenly Meal), #19 (Mary 'Mother of Jesus').
 - ▶ The story begins with correcting the misconception about Mary and her background. We are told that she comes from a very special family of the Israelites, the family of Imran. Her mother dedicated her to the service of God before she was born. Once she was born she was under the guardianship and tutelage of Zacharias, a messenger of God and the father of John the Baptist the forerunner to Jesus. **3:35-37**
 - ▶ In her complete service and dedication to God, she was celibate and never was married or engaged contrary to the famous story outside of the Quran. God chose her as the best woman in her generation and one of only a handful of perfect women throughout history. She received provisions from God while she was in the Temple in worship and service. **3:37, 3:42-43**

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- ▶ Mary is an example to the believers throughout history for guarding her chastity, accepting the truth of her Lord's words and Scriptures and being completely devout. **66:12**
 - ▶ She was also chosen to carry a miracle child and the gift from God, Jesus the son of Mary whom God named and chose as the Messiah, i.e Christ. She was informed of her son's miracles and mission before he was born. She was told that he would speak to people in his infancy, and in adult life and that he is of the righteous. That God would teach him the Torah, the Gospel and make him a messenger to the Children of Israel with great signs from their Lord to prove his claims. **3:45-51**
 - ▶ Mary's experience of pregnancy and delivery was miraculous but not without difficulty. She and her son were a sign from God for all people. **21:91, 23:50**

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- ▶ After she delivered the child, she was accused of being unchaste for bringing a child out of wedlock. God made baby Jesus speak in his infancy to defend his mother's moral integrity and proclaim her chastity and innocence of the false accusations against her. **3:33-37, 3:47-51, 19:16-38**
 - ▶ God affirms the chastity of Mary and blames her accusers **4:157**.

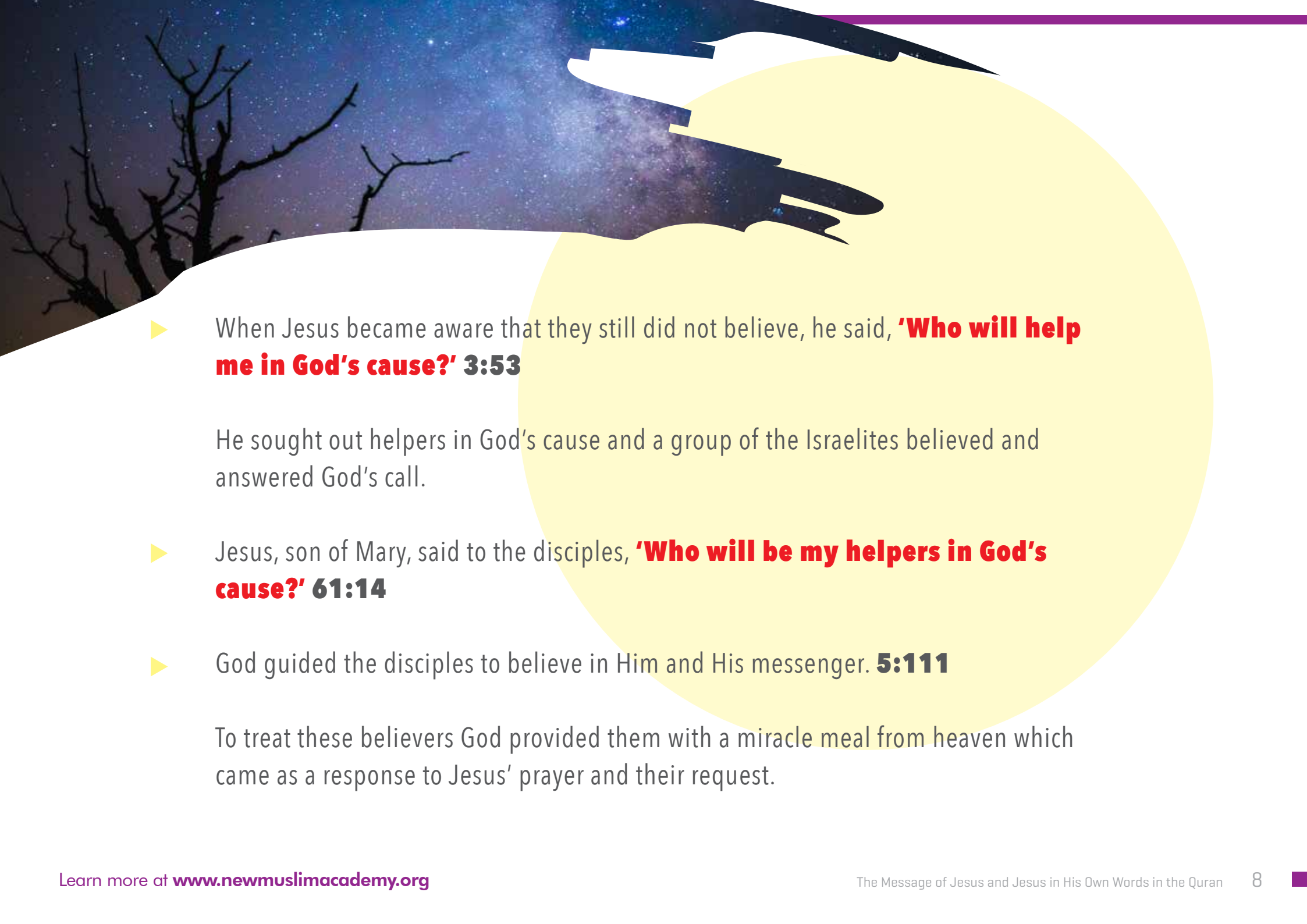
Jesus begins his ministry and announces his mission in infancy as he introduces himself as God's servant and messenger.

"I am a servant of God. He has granted me the Scripture, made me a prophet; made me blessed wherever I may be. He commanded me to perform devotional worship, and to give alms as long as I live. To honor and cherish my mother. He did not make me domineering or graceless. God's protection was on me the day I was born, and will be on me the day I die and the day I am raised to life again."
19:30-33



As it was prophesized
to his mother he
would grow up and
declare further

"I have come to you with a sign from your Lord; I will make the shape of a bird for you out of clay, then breath into it and, with God's permission, it will become a real bird; I will heal the blind and the leper, and bring the dead back to life with God's permission; I will tell you what you eat and what you store up in your houses. There truly is a sign for you in this, if you are believers. I have come to confirm the truth of the Torah which preceded me, and to make some things lawful to you which used to be forbidden. I have come to you with a sign from your Lord. Be mindful of God, obey me; God is my Lord and your Lord, so serve Him-that is a straight path." 3:49-51

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- ▶ When Jesus became aware that they still did not believe, he said, **'Who will help me in God's cause?' 3:53**

He sought out helpers in God's cause and a group of the Israelites believed and answered God's call.

- ▶ Jesus, son of Mary, said to the disciples, **'Who will be my helpers in God's cause?' 61:14**

- ▶ God guided the disciples to believe in Him and His messenger. **5:111**

To treat these believers God provided them with a miracle meal from heaven which came as a response to Jesus' prayer and their request.



Jesus, son of Mary, said

"Lord, send down to us a feast from heaven so that we can have a festival- the first and the last of us- and a sign from You. Provide for us; You are the best provider." 5:114

Jesus was supported by God throughout his life, from birth, in childhood, in adulthood and ministry. One of the means God supported him was to provide him the assistance of the mighty Angel Gabriel, The Holy and Pure Spirit, who is created by God, who brings revelation from God and who supports the messengers and the believers. God reminds Jesus of these favors.

One of the primary roles of Jesus during his ministry was to confirm the Law and the

Torah of Moses and to foretell the coming of the next messenger of God, Muhammad. This was actually a teaching of all the messengers before (as per 3:81)¹ but Jesus specifically was the last messenger before Muhammad so he emphasized it in his ministry.

¹ God took a covenant with all the messengers 'throughout history' to believe in Muhammad if he was to come to them and they all agreed and testified to this, they also taught their nations and people the same. Quran 3:81

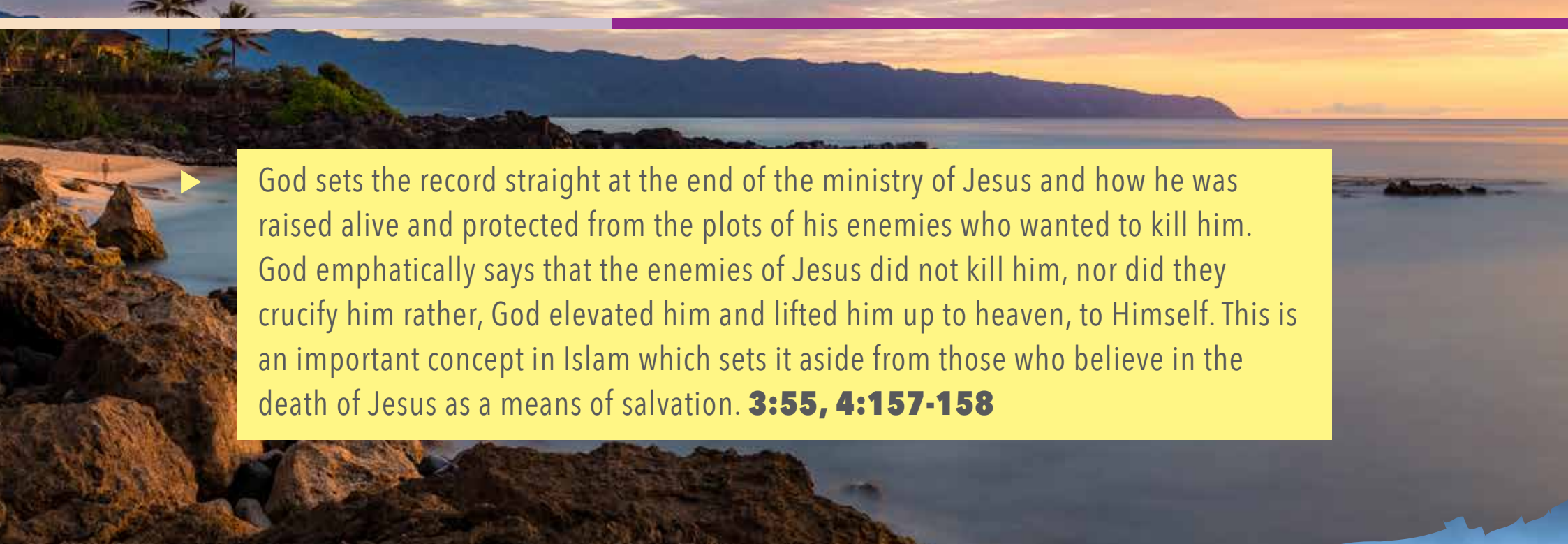


Jesus, son of Mary, said

"Children of Israel, I am sent to you by God, confirming the Torah that came before me and bringing good news of a messenger to follow me whose name will be the Most Praised (Ahmad)." 61:6

▶ God denies Jesus the false beliefs that some people attribute to him. Namely, being God 5:17 and 5:72 , being the son of God 9:30, 19:88-95, 18:4 and 10:68, or being one of three in a Trinity 5:73. God declares that such statements and beliefs are blasphemous, a rejection of God and denial of His sole right to Divinity.

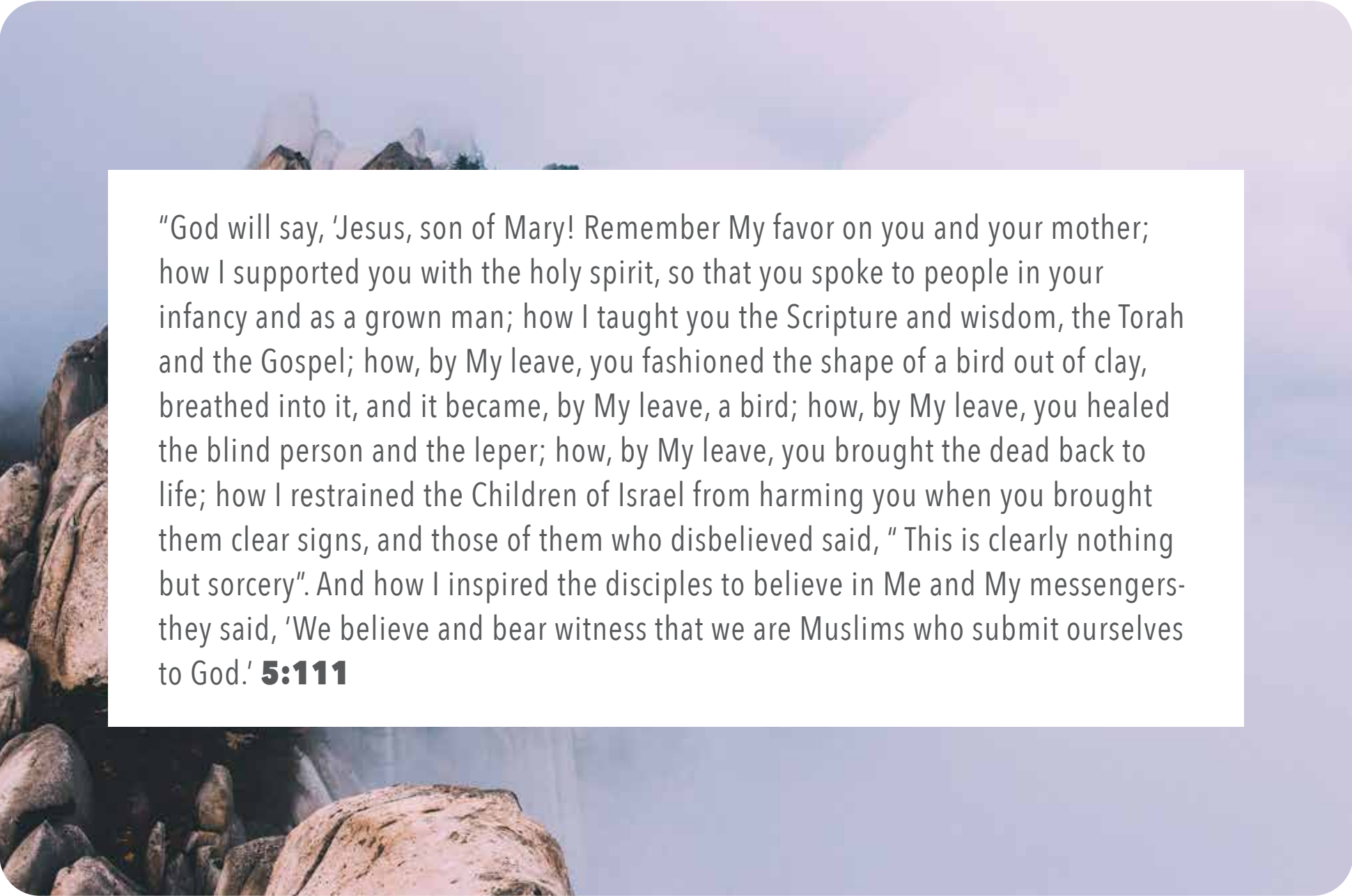
▶ To further illustrate and deny Jesus' divinity, God tells us that the creation of Jesus is not more special than the creation of Adam the first man who was created from dirt without a mother or a father. **3:59**

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- God sets the record straight at the end of the ministry of Jesus and how he was raised alive and protected from the plots of his enemies who wanted to kill him. God emphatically says that the enemies of Jesus did not kill him, nor did they crucify him rather, God elevated him and lifted him up to heaven, to Himself. This is an important concept in Islam which sets it aside from those who believe in the death of Jesus as a means of salvation. **3:55, 4:157-158**

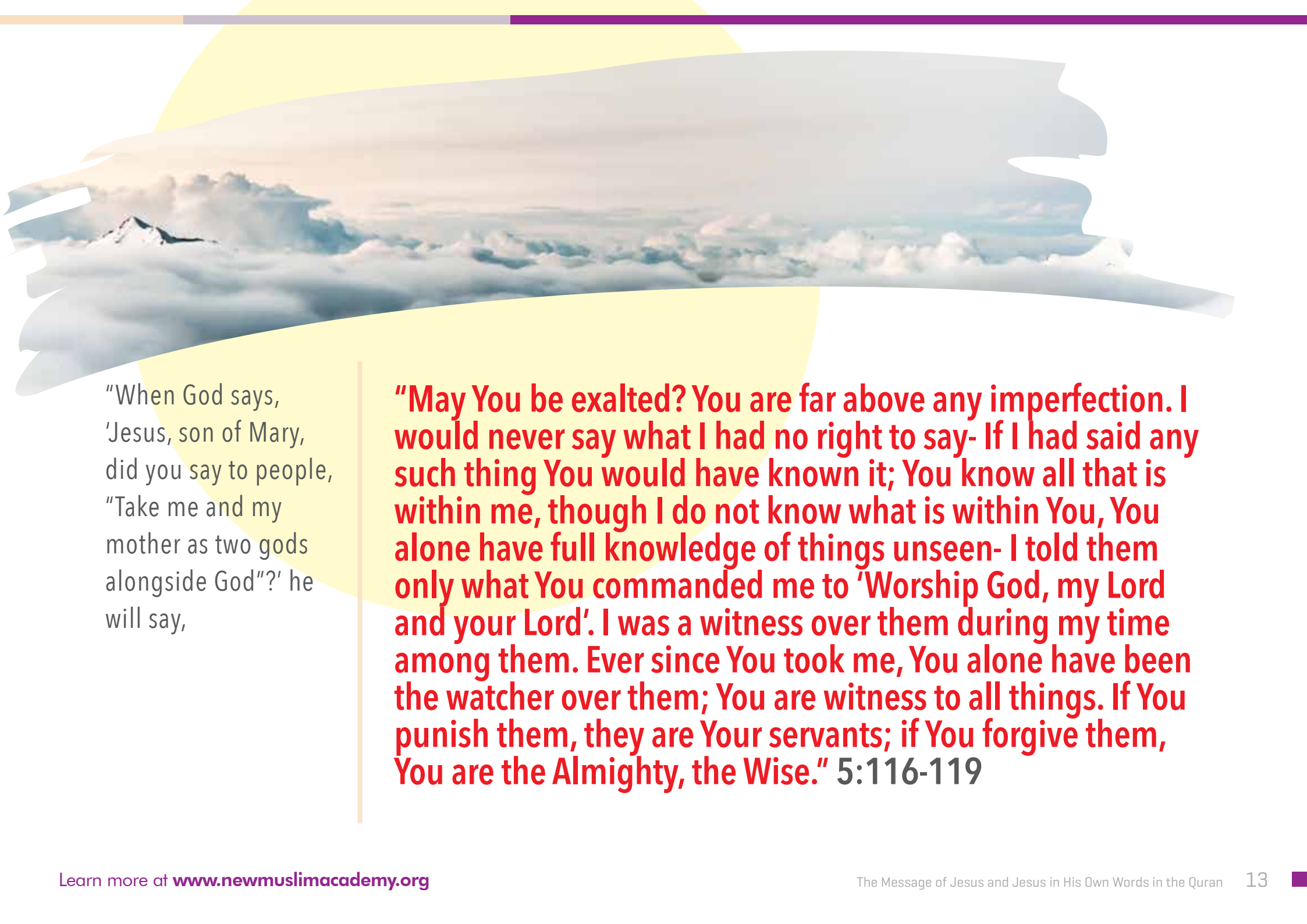
God finally tells us about an event from the future during the Day of Recompense and Judgement where Jesus will be questioned by God about what people did to his message.

In this future conversation, Jesus disowns the claims of those who falsely attribute divinity to him.





"God will say, 'Jesus, son of Mary! Remember My favor on you and your mother; how I supported you with the holy spirit, so that you spoke to people in your infancy and as a grown man; how I taught you the Scripture and wisdom, the Torah and the Gospel; how, by My leave, you fashioned the shape of a bird out of clay, breathed into it, and it became, by My leave, a bird; how, by My leave, you healed the blind person and the leper; how, by My leave, you brought the dead back to life; how I restrained the Children of Israel from harming you when you brought them clear signs, and those of them who disbelieved said, " This is clearly nothing but sorcery". And how I inspired the disciples to believe in Me and My messengers- they said, 'We believe and bear witness that we are Muslims who submit ourselves to God.' **5:111**



"When God says,
'Jesus, son of Mary,
did you say to people,
"Take me and my
mother as two gods
alongside God"?' he
will say,

"May You be exalted? You are far above any imperfection. I would never say what I had no right to say- If I had said any such thing You would have known it; You know all that is within me, though I do not know what is within You, You alone have full knowledge of things unseen- I told them only what You commanded me to 'Worship God, my Lord and your Lord'. I was a witness over them during my time among them. Ever since You took me, You alone have been the watcher over them; You are witness to all things. If You punish them, they are Your servants; if You forgive them, You are the Almighty, the Wise." 5:116-119



SPECIAL TITLES

God in his final revelation to mankind, in the Quran, gives Jesus the following special titles which were not given to other prophets. These all direct to the One God that sent Jesus. Islam explains what is meant by these titles

1

THE MESSIAH (CHRIST)

The Quran refers to Jesus as the Messiah.

Messiah is a Semitic word which means "anointed" or "chosen". The English version of the word is Christ which comes from the Greek "Christos".

One of the many explanations given by Muslim lexicographers is that Jesus was the Messiah because he anointed the eyes of the blind, and lay hands on the sick to cure them. The word in Arabic also has several other meanings:

- **Well-traveled in the land as his mission was not based in one place rather he was on the move so he would traverse the land.**
- **Was anointed with oil as he came out of his mother's womb.**
- **Truthful servant of God.**
- **Flat footed with falling arches in his feet.**

2

A SIGN/MIRACLE

The Quran describes Jesus to be a 'Sign'. In the terminology of the Quran a miracle is a 'sign' of God to display Divine might and unrestricted ability to do acts outside the chain of cause and effect. The virgin birth of Jesus is a miracle; a wonderful show of God's mighty power to do as He pleases.

The Quran declares Jesus' second coming to be a 'sign,' an announcement that Judgment Day is coming close.

3

GOD'S "WORD"

Jesus is referred to as God's "Word" in three passages in the Quran.

Whenever God decides to do something, He simply says the word "Be" and it happens. Islam provides a clear explanation of how Jesus was a "Word" from God. Jesus is God's 'Word' because he came into existence by God's Word - 'Be' -

4

"SPIRIT" FROM GOD

In the Quran, God attributes certain creations to Himself to give them special status of respect and honor, not divinity. Things like the House of God, The Month of God, etc.

The Quran describes Jesus to be a 'Spirit' created by God.

Jesus was a spirit, or more correctly, a soul created by God, brought by Gabriel, a mighty angel of God, and breathed into Mary.

Jesus was not a 'part,' 'person,' or 'activity' of God that separated and dwelled inside Mary. He is called a 'Spirit' from God as a symbol of respect and honor, not divinity.

JESUS IN ISLAM

Isa is the name of Jesus in Arabic. Jesus, the son of Mary was a Messenger and a Prophet of God. He was a Muslim and so was every messenger of God. Jesus like all other messengers of God was a human. He taught, "Worship God and follow the commandments".

Jesus furthermore was the Messiah (the chosen messenger of God) for the Children of Israel. He came to confirm the Law and the Torah of Moses and he foretold about the coming of Muhammad.



Muhammad the messenger said, that he is the closest to Jesus as they have the same faith; they are brothers from different mothers; and that no prophet came between them. There was a 600 year break in messenger-ship between Jesus and Muhammad.

People are extreme in relation to Jesus, a group rejected him while another worshiped Him. Islam is the balanced path which sets the record straight through its Scripture. Islam teaches its adherents to believe in Jesus properly but without exceeding the bounds and worshiping him.



BRIEF COMPARISON BETWEEN MUHAMMAD AND JESUS

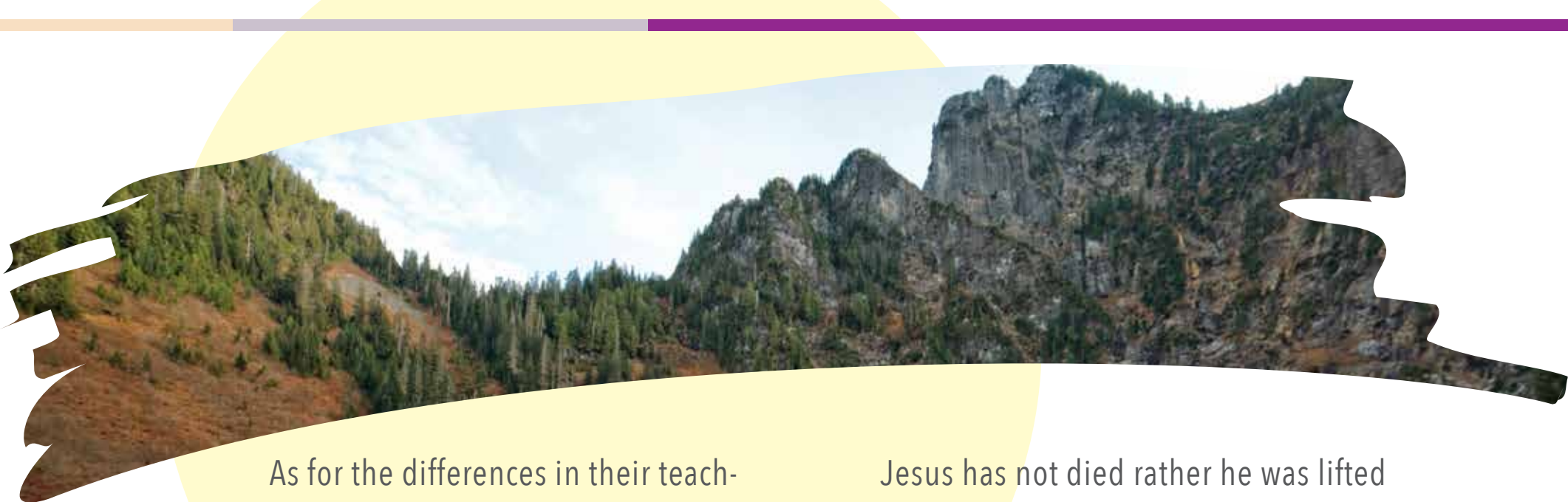
Both Jesus and Muhammad were human beings with no share of Divinity with God. They were brothers in faith. They were both Muslims who submitted to God and followed His commandments. They obeyed God with sincerity. They were both sent by God to guide people as messengers and prophets. They came with the same message as all the other messenger and prophets of God from the time of Adam. That message was 'Worship God and follow the Commandments'. Jesus prophesied the coming of Muhammad. He was preparing the way for the coming of Muhammad.

The main difference in physical life is that Jesus did not have a father whereas Muhammad did although he too grew up an orphan since his father died before he was born.

Jesus had a miracle birth which is recorded in the Quran. His mother, the Virgin Mary gave birth to him as a sign for humanity and a miracle. Both Jesus and Muhammad were descendants of Abraham through his

two sons Isaac and Ishmael. Jesus was from the offspring of Jacob son of Isaac whereas Muhammad was from the offspring of Ishmael. Jesus was an Israelite and Muhammad was an Ishmaelite.

Jesus was sent to the Children of Israel only. As for Muhammad, he was sent to all of humanity as the final messenger of God.



As for the differences in their teachings, both Jesus and Muhammad brought the same fundamental message of worship of one true God and following His commandments. There were some differences in details of the law that they brought because Jesus was only sent for a particular people and for a limited time and place whereas Muhammad was sent for all people and all times and places.

Jesus has not died rather he was lifted up to the heavens whereas Muhammad experienced death. Jesus will have a second coming prior to the Day of Judgment and Muhammad will not.

Finally, Jesus will come back (return) to earth in the end of times and join the ranks of the believers against the disbelievers. Muhammad prophesied this and gave details about the end of times.

CONCLUSION

Jesus the person was a messenger of God, a human being, who was born out of a virgin. He performed many miracles which God provided him with. The Quran records at least two which are not mentioned in the Bible, namely speaking and ministering in infancy and making a bird out of clay and breathing life into it. The Quran categorically denies any claims of divinity for Jesus and corrects the misconceptions about this subject.

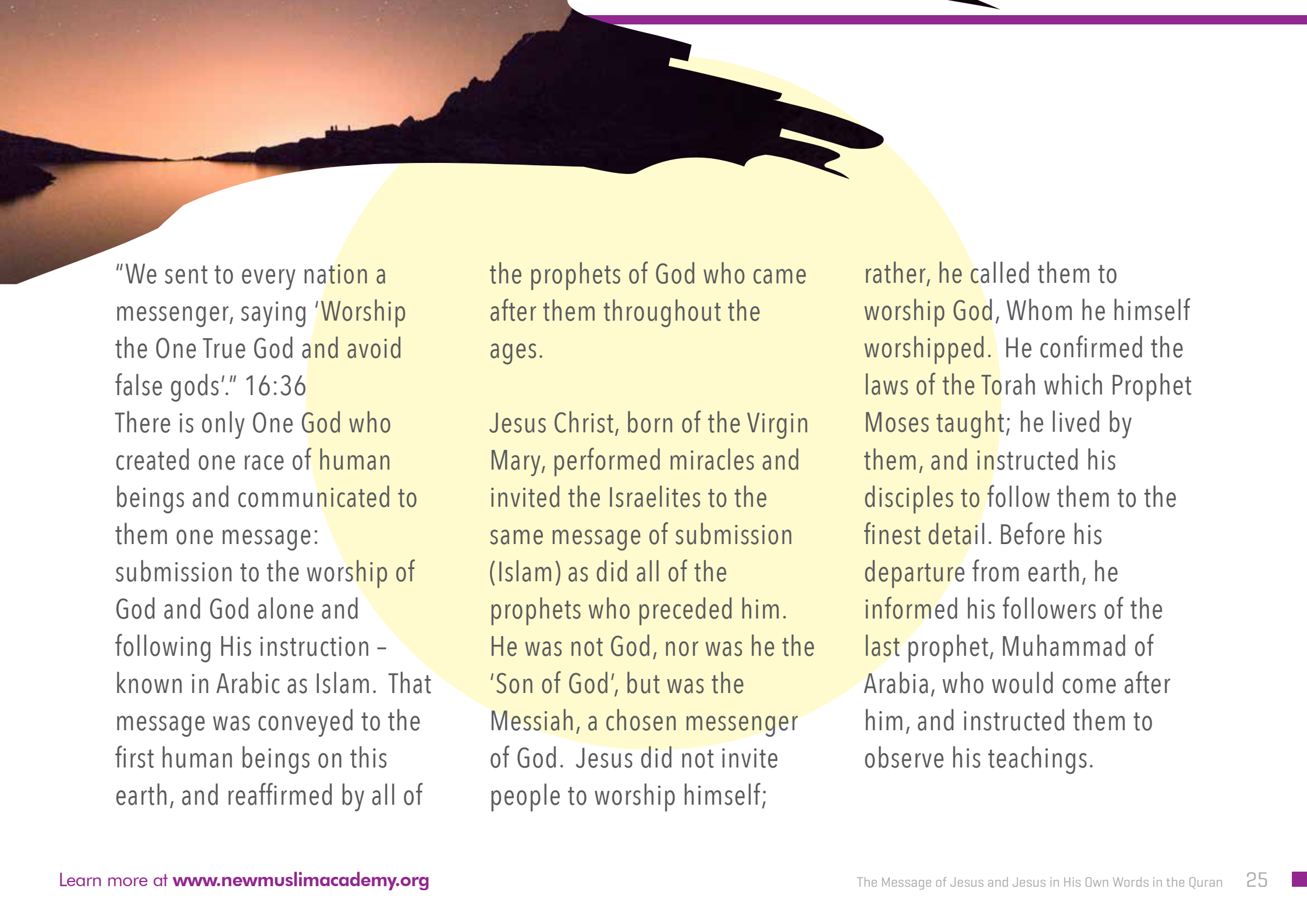
Jesus' message was submission to God almighty in Islam which is God's True Religion since the beginning of man. Obedience to God's Law is the foundation of worship. Divine Laws represents guidance for humankind in all walks of life. It defines right and wrong and offers human beings a complete system governing all of their affairs. The Creator alone knows best what is beneficial for His creation and what is not.

Thus, Divine Laws command and prohibit various acts and substances to protect the human spirit, the human body, and human society from harm. In order for human beings to fulfil their potential by living righteous lives, they need to worship God through obedience to His commandments.

This was the religion conveyed in the message of Jesus: submission to the will of the

One True God by obedience to His commandments. Jesus stressed to his followers that his mission did not cancel the laws received by Moses. As the prophets who came after Moses maintained the law, so did Jesus. 5:46

Jesus came as a prophet calling people to worship God alone, as the prophets before him did.



"We sent to every nation a messenger, saying 'Worship the One True God and avoid false gods'." 16:36

There is only One God who created one race of human beings and communicated to them one message: submission to the worship of God and God alone and following His instruction – known in Arabic as Islam. That message was conveyed to the first human beings on this earth, and reaffirmed by all of

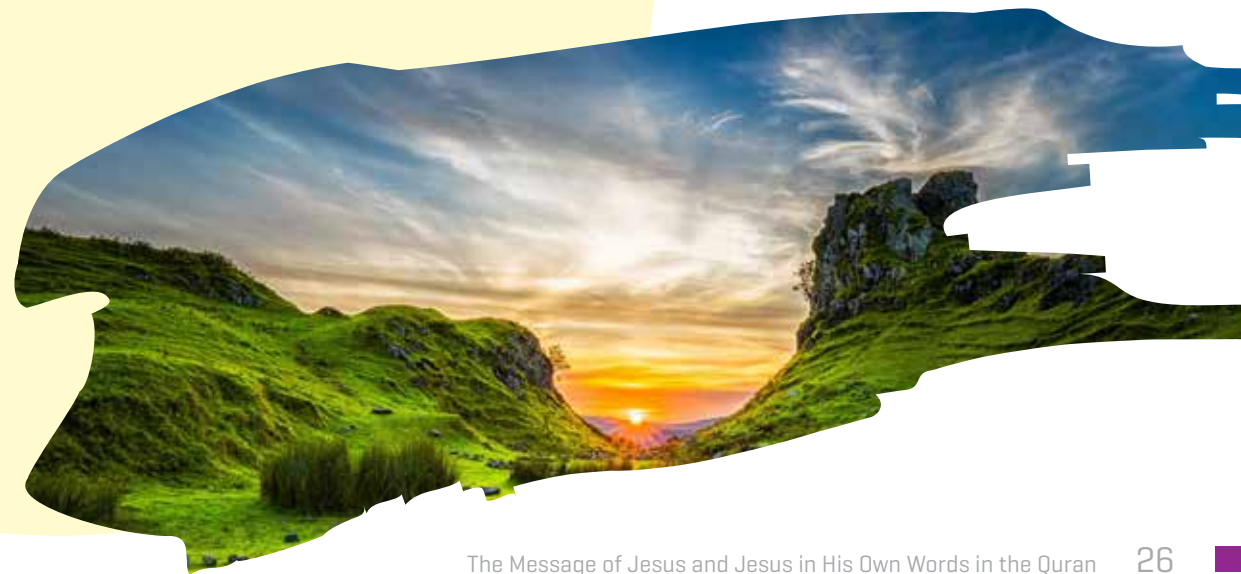
the prophets of God who came after them throughout the ages.

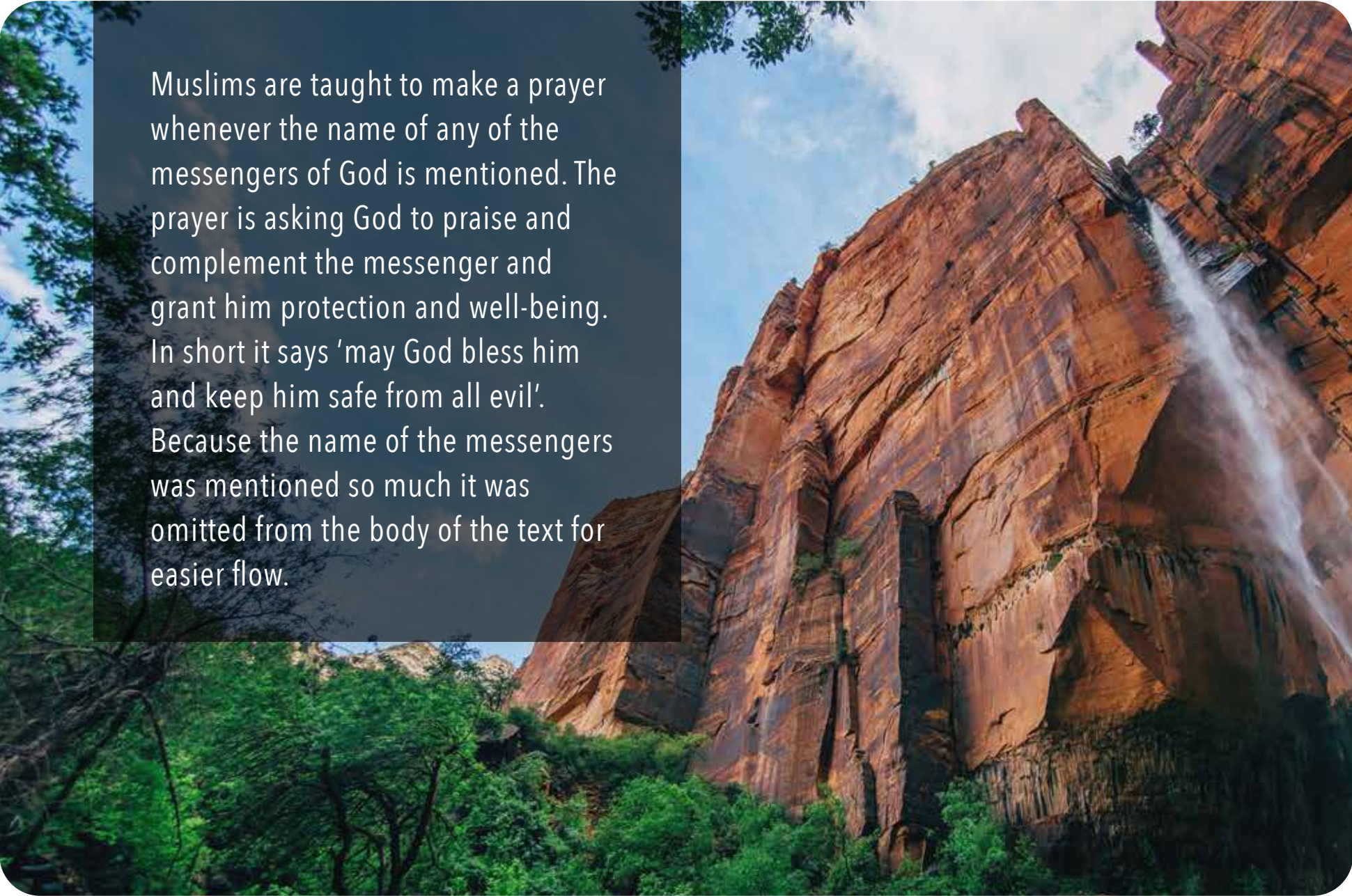
Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin Mary, performed miracles and invited the Israelites to the same message of submission (Islam) as did all of the prophets who preceded him. He was not God, nor was he the 'Son of God', but was the Messiah, a chosen messenger of God. Jesus did not invite people to worship himself;

rather, he called them to worship God, Whom he himself worshipped. He confirmed the laws of the Torah which Prophet Moses taught; he lived by them, and instructed his disciples to follow them to the finest detail. Before his departure from earth, he informed his followers of the last prophet, Muhammad of Arabia, who would come after him, and instructed them to observe his teachings.

In the generations after Jesus' departure from this world, his teachings were distorted and he was elevated to the status of God. Six centuries later, with the coming of Prophet Muhammad, the truth about Jesus Christ was finally retold and preserved eternally in the last book of divine revelation, the Quran. Furthermore, many of the laws of Moses, which Jesus followed, were revived in their pure and unadulterated form and implemented in the divinely prescribed way of life known as Islam, while many other aspects and injunctions of the laws which had been brought by the earlier prophets were lightened or dropped altogether.

Consequently, the reality of the prophets, their uniform message, and the way of life which they followed, can only be found preserved in the religion of Islam, the only religion prescribed by God for man. Today, true Muslims are the real followers of Jesus and his true teachings. Love and respect for Jesus Christ is an article of faith in Islam. God has stressed the importance of correct belief in Jesus in numerous places in the Quran.





Muslims are taught to make a prayer whenever the name of any of the messengers of God is mentioned. The prayer is asking God to praise and complement the messenger and grant him protection and well-being. In short it says 'may God bless him and keep him safe from all evil'. Because the name of the messengers was mentioned so much it was omitted from the body of the text for easier flow.