

"MUHAMMAD IN THE BIBLE?"

(Were Muhammad and Islam Predicted in the Christian Scriptures?)



Expanded dissertation approved in partial fulfilment of the
requirements for obtaining the degree of

Master of Theology (M.Th.)

at the

University of Stellenbosch

by: FRANCIS NIGEL LEE (B.A., LL.B., B.D.)

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by: FRANCIS NIGEL LEE (B.A., LL.B., B.D.).

PROMOTERS: Prof. Dr. W.J. van der Merwe (Convener)

Prof. Dr. P.A. Verhoef (Co-Examiner)

Submitted: November, 1964.

DEDICATED

to the elect of God in Islam

who have not yet been converted to the Lord Jesus Christ.

"Pray for the propagation of the Gospel and Kingdom of Christ to all nations; for the conversion of the Jews, the fullness of the Gentiles, the fall of Antichrist, and the hastening of the second coming of our Lord; for the deliverance of the distressed churches abroad from the tyranny of the antichristian faction and from the cruel oppressions and blasphemies of the Turk!" - *Westminster Assembly's Directory for Publick Worship*.

Make haste, O day in God's Own plan -
when Heathen, Jew, Muhammadan
shall come to Jesus, Son of man,
and Son of God ere time began!
O Holy Spirit, You still plan
to give our Father - every clan!

- Melita (*U.S. Navy Hymn*) 88.88.88 (words: F.N. Lee)

"Behold, the angels said:
'O Mary! God gives you
glad tidings of a Word
from Him: his name
will be Christ Jesus,
the son of Mary; held in honour
in this World and the Hereafter,
and of (the company of) those
nearest to God.'"

- **The *Qur'an*: Sura Al-i-'Imran, 3:45**

"Behold! God said:
'O Jesus! I will take you
and raise you to Myself
and clear you (of the falsehood)
of those who blaspheme.
I will make those
who follow you superior
to those who reject Faith,
to the Day of Resurrection.
Then shall you all
return unto Me,
and I will judge
between you of the matters
wherein you dispute.'"

- **The *Qur'an*: Sura Al-i-'Imran, 3:55**

"You have no ground
to stand upon unless
you stand fast by the Law,
the Gospel, and all the Revelation
that has come to you from the Lord."

- **The *Qur'an*: Sura Maida, 5:71**

COMMENDATION

I cordially want to recommend *Muhammad in the Bible?* In this book, Mr. Lee offers us two studies - viz. "Is Muhammad the promised Prophet of Deuteronomy 18?"; and "Is Muhammad the promised Comforter of John 14 to 16?"

The question has already been asked between Muslims and Christians as to whether the Bible speaks about Muhammad. From the side of Islam, it has been alleged that the Bible indeed speaks [positively] about Muhammad - but that Christians do not see this, or do not want to see this. Now the question is: Are Muslims right when they allege that certain portions of the Bible speak [thus] about Muhammad?

Mr. Lee has made a deep study of the portions of Scripture in accordance with which [the celebrated Muslim Scholar] Mr. A.H. Deedat has written about Muhammad. Mr. Lee's study is of importance for the Muslim, because the *Qur'an* acknowledges that light can be found in both the Old Testament and the New Testament (*Sura 5:47-50*).* It is also of importance to the Christian, because it can help him too better to grasp what the Bible teaches about Moses and about Christ.

The explanations of both Mr. Lee and Mr. Deedat ought to be studied thoroughly. The reader can then himself draw his own conclusions as to which exposition of the portions of Scripture concerned, is correct. If we read the Bible with an open mind, it shall speak for itself.

From the heart, I therefore wish to recommend this study to Muslims and to Christians. It can be of great help where they wish to engage in a discussion about the religions they espouse. May God use such a study to illuminate the heart, mind and life of many a reader!

(Signed) W.J. van der Merwe, Ph.D. [1964],

Professor in Missiology, University of Stellenbosch

* "It was We [says Allah] Who revealed the Law (to Moses). Therein was guidance and light. By its standard the Jews have been judged, by the Prophets who bowed (as in Islam) to God's Will.... For to them was entrusted the protection of God's Book.... Therefore, fear not men; but fear Me! And sell not My Signs for a miserable price! If any do fail to judge by (the light of) what God has revealed - they are (no better than) Unbelievers.... We sent Jesus the son of Mary, confirming the Law that had come before Him. We sent...the Gospel. Therein was guidance and light, and confirmation of the Law that had come before him: a guidance and an admonition to those who fear God. Let the People of the Gospel judge by what God has revealed therein! If any do fail to judge by (the light of) what God has revealed - they are (no better than) those who rebel." *Qur'an*, 5:47-50.

PREFACE

The coming into being of this dissertation, has had an interesting history. During 1959, when I was yet a Law Student at the University of Cape Town and still about two years before the beginning of my theological studies at Stellenbosch, the Muslim Youth League of Cape Town organized a public debate between myself as a Christian Speaker and Mr. Sydow (a famous Muslim Leader in the Cape) as a representative of Islam.

The points of discussion on which we elenchticized on that particular occasion, were thereafter soon written down for promoting dialogue with Muslims. During 1961, when urged to do so by Rev. Dawie Pypers of the Muslim and Hindu Mission of the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa, those recorded points of discussion were considerably expanded with a view to publication for elenchtical purposes.

However, when their immediate publication was deferred, the decision was later made to rework the manuscript into an academic dissertation - largely at the urging of Rev. Professor Dr. Jac. J. Müller, to whose influence and encouragement many thanks are due. Consequently, the manuscript was "theologized" in 1963, and again very considerably expanded. The present dissertation was then the final result. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to Rev. Dawie Pypers and his Commission, for kindly volunteering to duplicate it.

I would also cordially like to thank my highly respected Promotor, Rev. Professor Dr. W.J. van der Merwe for his encouragement, advice, and appreciation of this undertaking. May it then be, for him too, of both theoretical and practical value in respect of the Christian-elenchtical approach to Islam and especially the Ahmadiyya Movement.

I would further like to thank my Co-Examiner Rev. Professor Dr. P.A. Verhoef, for his useful tips in improving the manuscript. Inasmuch as I did not deal with the *Qumran Rolls*, the problem of the *Nah-Erwartung* and the Messianic expectation between the Old and New Testaments - he no doubt ascertained that the elenchtical approach of this dissertation was cast in the crucible of a direct dialogue with Muslims.

To my Professors, I would only say - the improvement of the manuscript is thanks to you; the remaining defects are all mine. I should, however, mention that it was by deliberate choice and out of respect toward Muslim readers that I have here used their traditional manner of spelling the name of their prophet (Muhammad). For that reason, therefore, I have not employed the suggestion of the South African Academy to spell it: "Mohammed" - except when citing authorities who spell it thus.

A particular word of thanks is due to Mr. Sydow and the Muslim Youth League of Cape Town. Without their challenge to come and defend the disputed points of discussion, this dissertation would never have been written.

I would also like to express my thanks to the Islamic Propagation Centre of England, and to the late Mr. Muharrem Nadji (the former Albanian-American Director of

the Islamic Propagation Centre of America). They kindly despatched Islamic literature to me, which was invaluable in writing this dissertation.

I should also express my gratitude to Mr. Ahmad Deedat, Director of the Islamic Propagation Centre of South Africa in Durban and Imam of the largest mosque in the Southern Hemisphere - for his interest in the publication of this dissertation. He constantly urged me to produce it, but when I sent him a copy in its original Afrikaans he was unable to read it. Years ago I resolved to translate it into English. [But in my busy subsequent years that was never done, until after my retirement at the end of A.D. 2000.]

My sincere thanks to my wife Nellie may not be muted, however much she would like to remain anonymous. As always, it is she who had: to struggle to decipher my handwriting; to type out the rough copy; and then again to produce the final product both on wax stencils as well as on typing paper with carbon copies. I salute her, my "helpmate meet unto me" (*cf.* Genesis 2:18), for her Job-like patience with me (*cf.* James 5:11).

Lastly, my humble thanks to my Heavenly Father may not remain unmentioned. May it please Him to take this simple dissertation - the work of sinful hands - and nevertheless sanctify it for the expansion of His Kingdom!

Francis Nigel Lee PAARL, 1964

PREFACE TO THE 2004 REVISED EDITION

This dissertation was completed forty years ago. That was during my last year as a Theological Student at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa. At the re-issue of this dissertation itself more than three years after my emeritation almost four decades later, minimal improvements were made to the original manuscript - yet considerable necessary new material was added. Inasmuch as I, over the years, have from the Bible itself arrived at an optimistic estimate of the future willingness of Muslim nations themselves to receive Jesus as their Lord - I attach also those riper determinations.

Such are my new appendices. Appendix C is: *The Triune Jehovah Elohim is not the Islamic Allah*. Appendix D concerns *Islam and the Hungarian Confession of Faith*. Appendix E presents *Islamic Eschatology*. And Appendix F discusses *The History and End of Muhammad, Islam, and Muslims*. For further particulars, kindly consult on my website <http://www.dr-fnlee.org/> also my articles: *Islam in the Bible*; *Luther on Islam and the Papacy*; *Calvin on Allah, Muhammad, the Qur'an, and the Christianization of Muslims*; *Calvin on Islam*; and *Kuyper on Islam*.

- Rev. Professor-Emeritus Dr. N. Lee,
Queensland Presbyterian Theological College,
Brisbane, AUSTRALIA, 2004.

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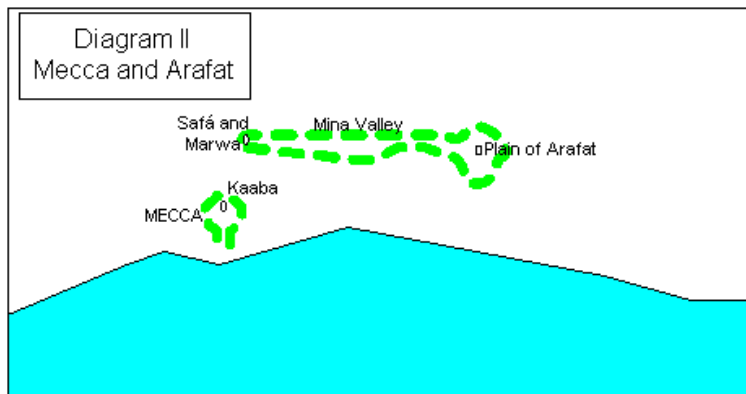
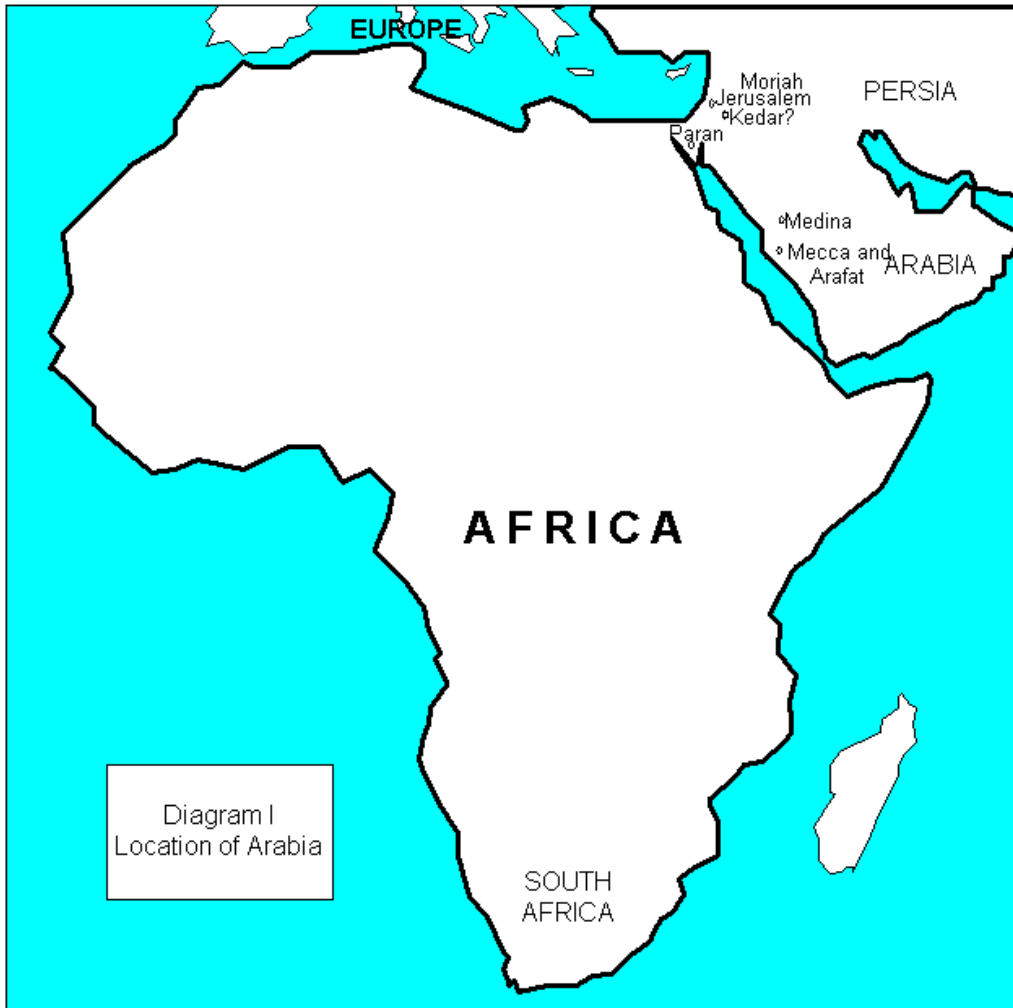
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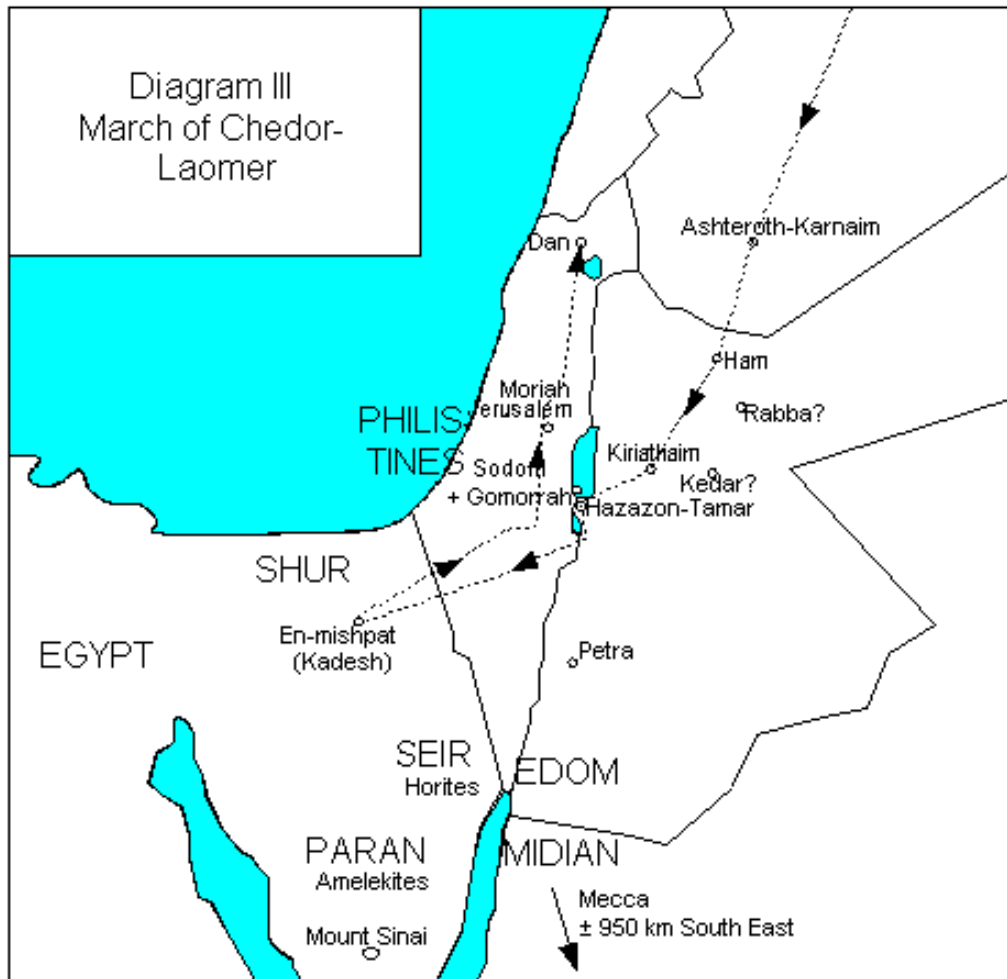
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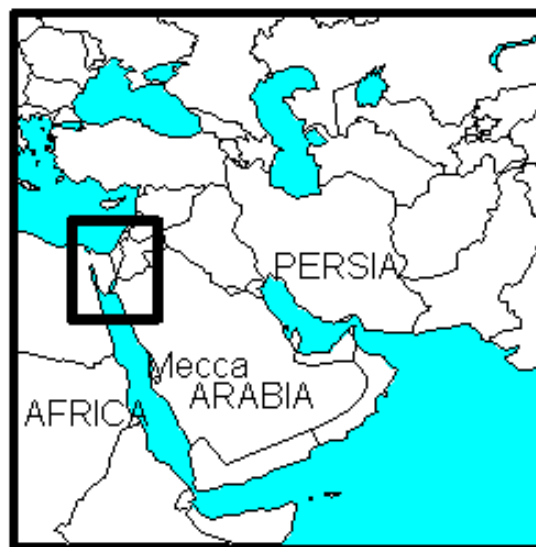
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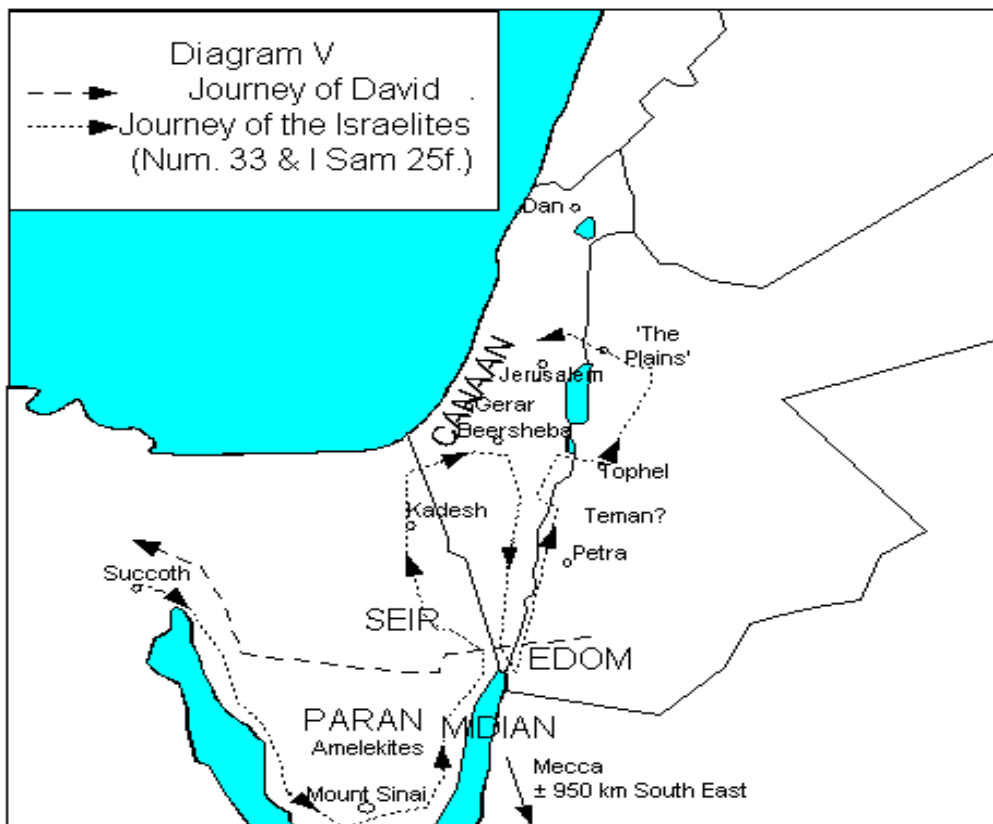
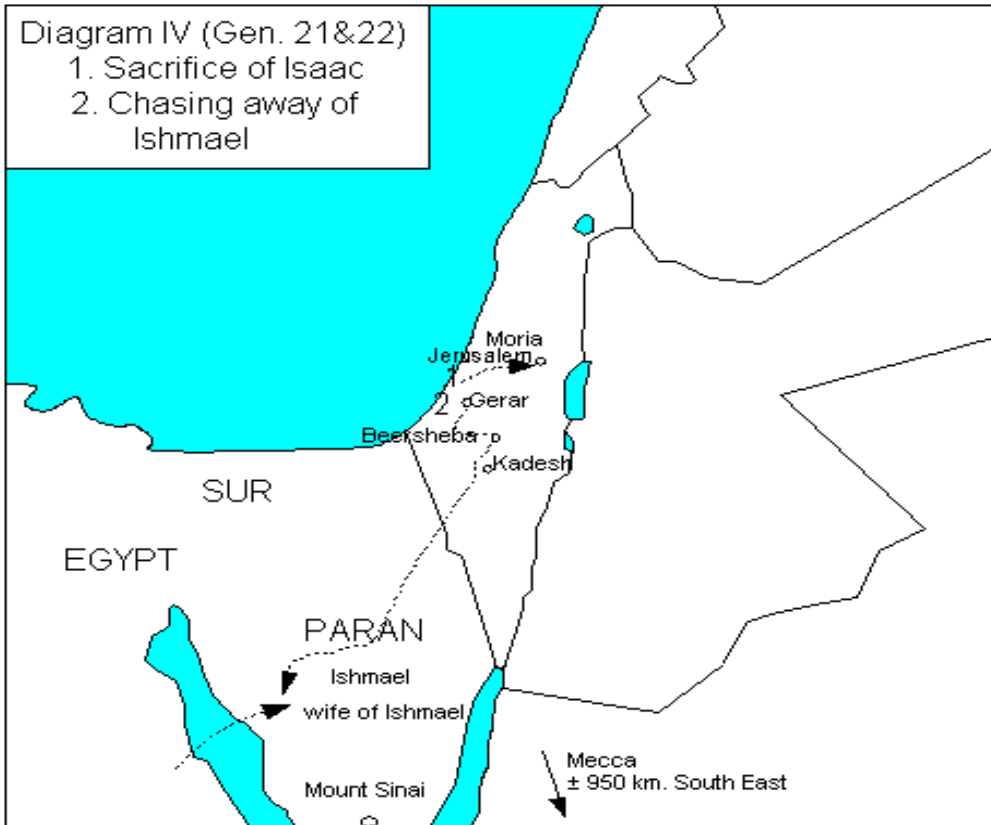
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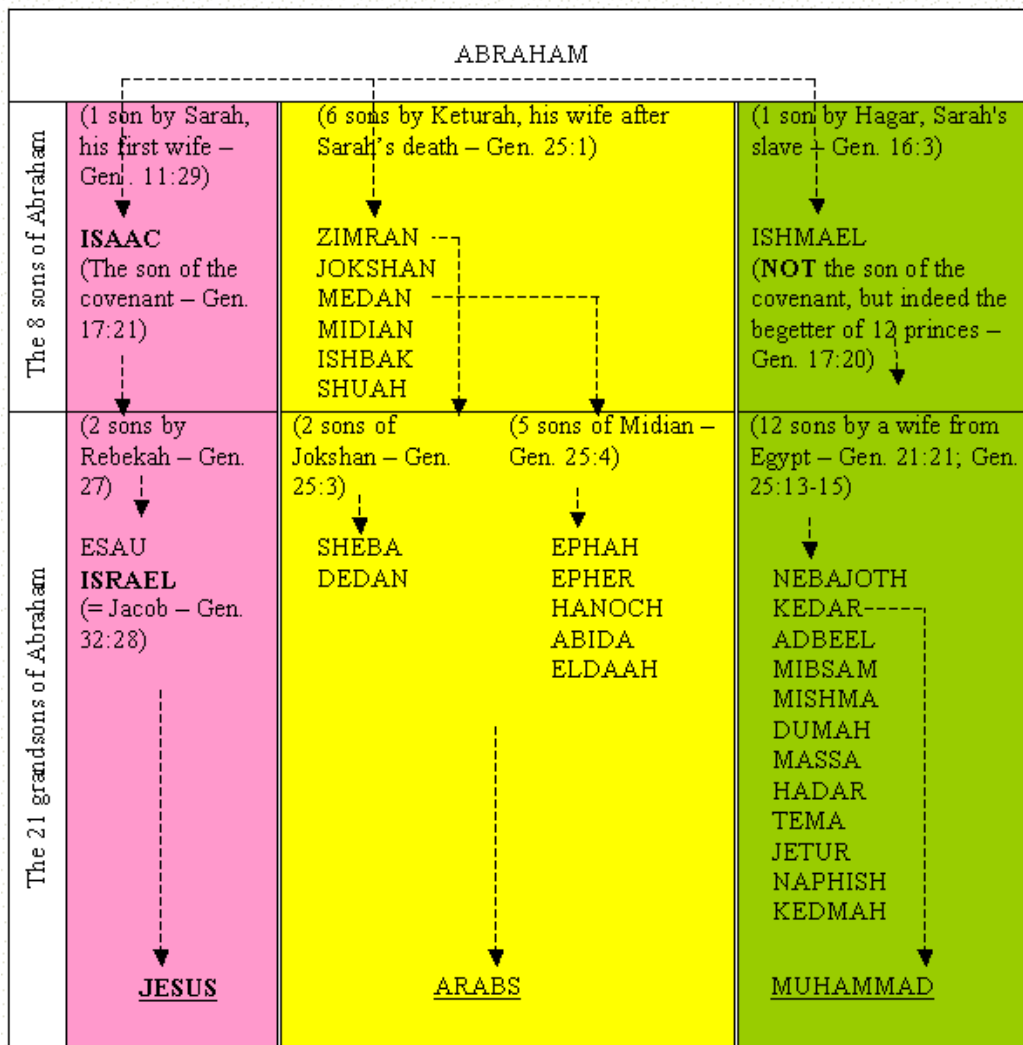


Diagram VI – The sons and grandsons of Abraham according the BIBLE.
 (Deut. 18 is addressed to the **children of Israel**, that is to say, to the **descendants of only one** of Abraham's 21 grandsons mentioned in the Bible).