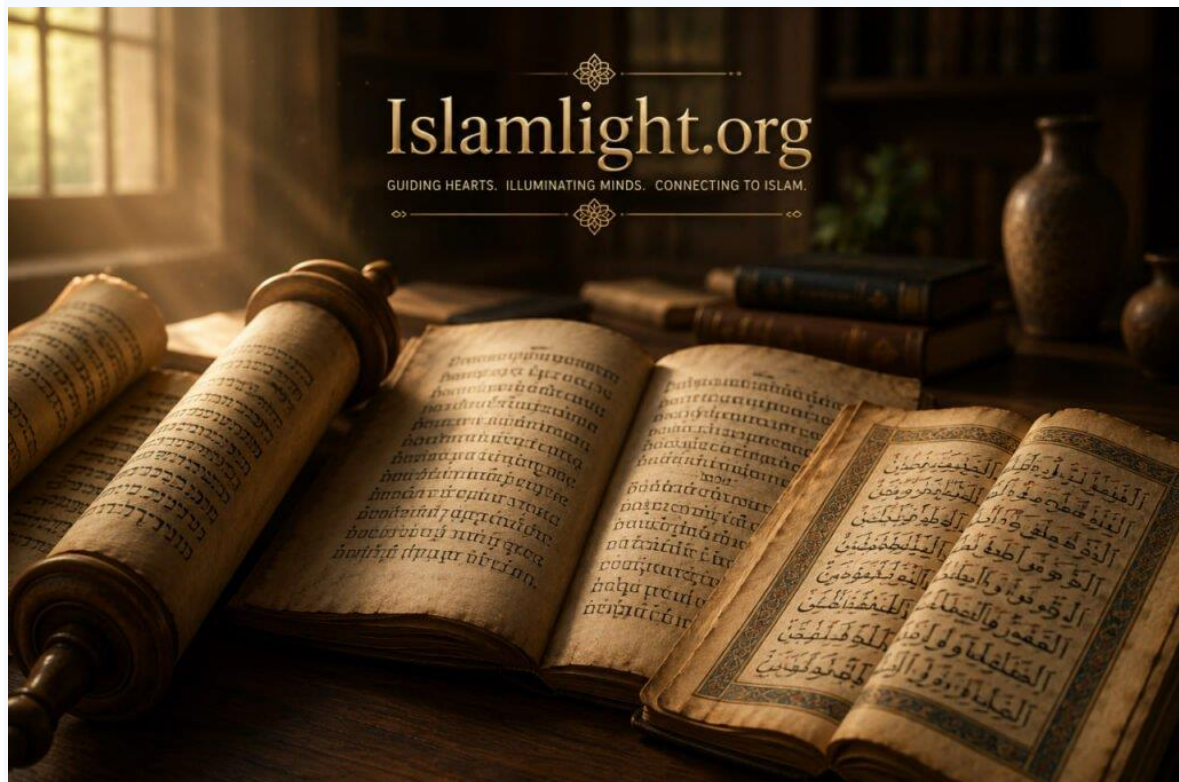


INTERFAITH DIALOGUE & SCRIPTURE TRUTH

The Paraclete Prophecy: Unveiling the Truth for the People of the Book

An honest, compassionate exploration of Divine revelation, scripture history, and the ultimate message of peace connecting the Torah, Gospel, and Qur'an.



My dear friends and seekers of truth, when we look at the beautiful landscape of divine revelation, we see a golden thread that connects hearts across eras. God Almighty, in His infinite mercy, has never left humanity without a beacon of light. Throughout history, whenever the pristine teachings of the prophets became obscured or hidden by human hands, a new dawn of guidance arrived to restore clarity, peace, and spiritual direction.

In the final testament, the Holy Qur'an, Allah addresses the Jewish and Christian communities—the revered People of the Book—not to condemn, but to call them back to the pure spring of monotheism. Let us look closely at a profoundly beautiful address found in Surah Al-Ma'idah, where Allah addresses both communities together after addressing them individually, offering a profound invitation to spiritual clarity.

1. The Divine Call to Cohesion and Truth

When the Almighty addresses humanity, every word carries weights of eternal peace. In Surah Al-Ma'idah, verses 15 and 16, Allah the Almighty gathers the fragments of history and extends a beautiful invitation:

يَا أَهْلَ الْكِتَابِ قَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولُنَا يُبَيِّنُ لَكُمْ كَثِيرًا مِمَّا كُنْتُمْ تُخْفُونَ مِنَ الْكِتَابِ وَيَعْفُو عَنْ كَثِيرٍ قَدْ جَاءَكُمْ مِنَ اللَّهِ نُورٌ وَكِتَابٌ مُبِينٌ ﴿١٥﴾ يَهْدِي بِهِ اللَّهُ مَنِ اتَّبَعَ رِضْوَانَهُ سُبُلَ السَّلَامِ وَيُخْرِجُهُم مِنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ بِإِذْنِهِ وَيَهْدِيهِمْ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ ﴿١٦﴾

"O People of the Scripture, there has come to you Our Messenger making clear to you much of what you used to conceal of the Scripture and overlooking much. There has come to you from Allah a light and a clear Book. By which Allah guides those who pursue His pleasure to the ways of peace and brings them out from darknesses into the light, by His permission, and guides them to a straight path."

— [Surah Al-Ma'idah \[5:15-16\] \(Sahih International\)](#)

Who is being addressed here? The text directly speaks to the global community of Jews and Christians. The Jews, who hold the Torah and the collections of prophetic writings known in modern compilations as the Old Testament; and the Christians, who look to the New Testament containing the four standard Gospels.

But let us stop and ponder deeply. A sincere reader might ask: *If this text is explicitly addressing the historical People of the Book, what does it have to do with us today? Do we have a role to play in this divine discourse?*

"How could we not have a role? Think about it beautifully. How will the vibrant truths of Surah Al-Ma'idah verse 15 reach the ears and hearts of the People of the Book today? Who will act as the trustworthy messenger, the postal carrier delivering this letter of love, clarity, and invitation from the Creator to the recipient? It is our sacred duty as Muslims to gracefully share, bridge, and communicate this scriptural wisdom with clarity, kindness, and absolute respect."

2. Understanding Scriptural Evolution and Author Identity

When the Qur'an points out that certain portions of earlier scriptures were hidden, altered, or obscured, it aligns seamlessly with what modern biblical scholarship openly confirms today. Sincere historians and contemporary textual analysts acknowledge that the text of the modern Bible went through significant developmental changes.

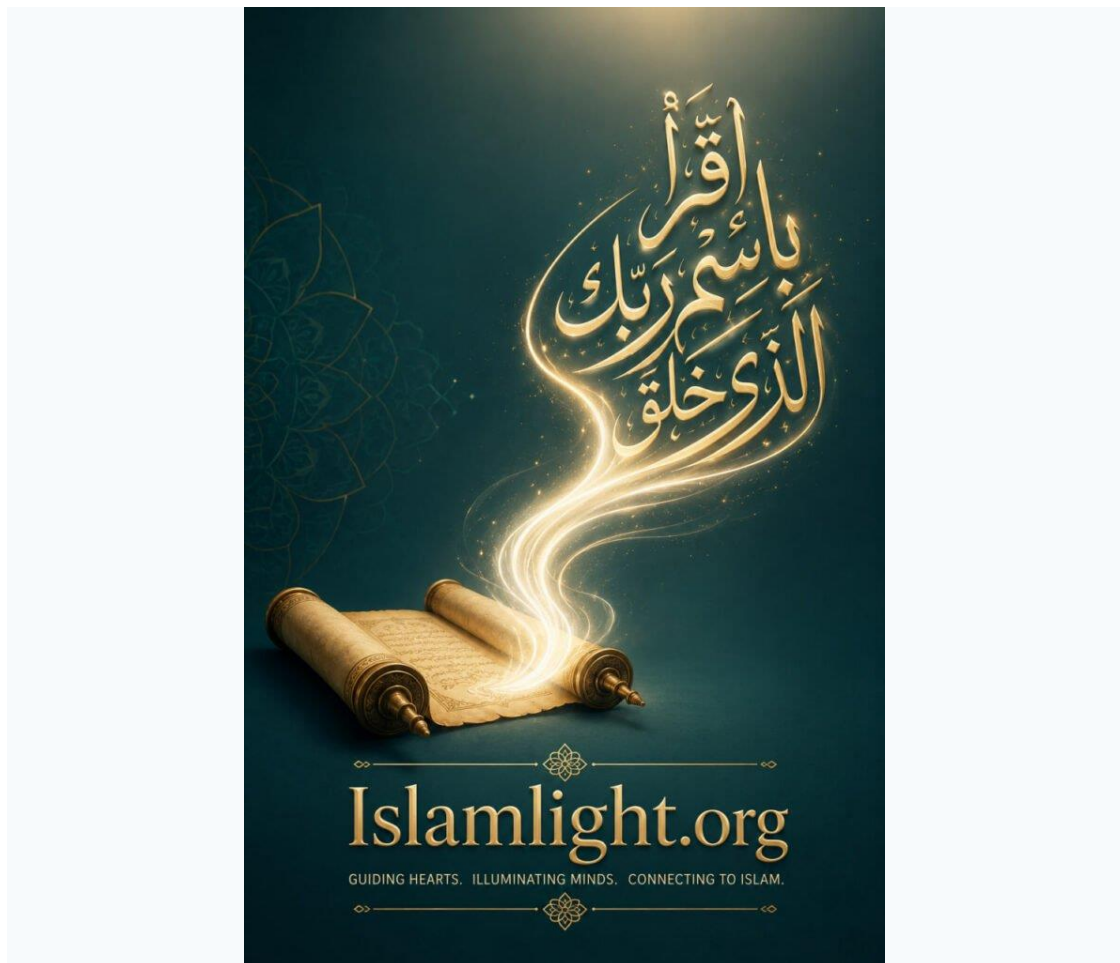
For instance, standard academic biblical history widely accepts that the traditional attributions of the four canonical Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—were added in later centuries. The original Greek texts were strictly anonymous. Historical analysts affirm that the author of the Gospel of John was not John the Disciple (the son of Zebedee), nor was Luke an direct eyewitness from the immediate inner circle (the Apostles/Disciples). Rather, they were compiled by later writers whose exact identities remain a subject of profound academic debate. Furthermore, the New Testament includes later historical letters and the book of Acts, reflecting early theological shifts away from the immediate, original teachings of Christ.

Despite these complex layers of human editing, the Divine Light could never be fully extinguished. Remnants of pure prophecy still glimmer inside the modern biblical texts, serving as clear signs for those who look closely.

AUTHENTIC HADITH GUIDANCE

The Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) taught us how to interact with the existing scriptures of the People of the Book with beautiful balance. He said: "Do not believe the People of the Book and do not disbelieve them, but say: 'We believe in Allah and whatever has been revealed to us and whatever has been revealed to you.'"

— [Sahih al-Bukhari 4485](#)



3. The Paraclete: Unlocking John 15 and 16

The Gospel of John preserves a monumental promise made by Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him) regarding a monumental figure destined to appear after him. In the original Greek manuscripts, this figure is called the **"Paracletos" (Παράκλητος)**.

While modern English translations traditionally render this word as "the Comforter," "the Counselor," or "the Advocate," a profound linguistic connection emerges when we examine its alternative semantic roots, which mirror terms of praise, such as *"the Praised One"*—the exact meaning of the names **Ahmad** and **Muhammad** in Arabic.

Let us examine the text of the Gospel of John as it stands today, and evaluate it with critical, warm sincerity:

Gospel of John 15:26-27 (New International Version / Standard Text):

"When the Advocate (Paraclete) comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning."

Look at the brilliant prediction hidden within this verse: Jesus notes that the Disciples who were with him from the absolute beginning will testify to the true nature of Christ, matching the testimony of the coming Spirit of Truth. This implies that later

generations, who did not witness the beginning, would introduce changes to the core creed. True testimony would belong exclusively to the original companions and the coming Paraclete, who both testify to Jesus's true status as a noble, mortal Prophet of God.

To see this testified beautifully within Islamic framework, we look to the Qur'anic description of the Disciples (Al-Hawariyyun):

وَإِذْ أُوحِيَ إِلَى الْخَوَارِيِّينَ أَنْ آمِنُوا بِي وَبِرَسُولِي قَالُوا آمَنَّا وَاشْهَدْ بِأَنَّا مُسْلِمُونَ



"And [remember] when I inspired to the disciples, 'Believe in Me and in My messenger Jesus.' They said, 'We have believed, so bear witness that indeed we are Muslims [in submission to Allah].'"

— [Surah Al-Ma'idah \[5:111\] \(Sahih International\)](#)

Why the Paraclete Cannot Be the Holy Spirit

Many Christian commentators assert that the Paraclete mentioned by Jesus is exclusively the Holy Spirit, which descended upon the disciples during Pentecost. However, textual parameters in the text completely contradict this interpretation. Let us read John 16:7 with an open mind:

Gospel of John 16:7:

"But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate (Paraclete) will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you."

Think about this logically and gently: **The arrival of the Paraclete is strictly conditional upon the departure of Jesus.**

No mainstream Christian denomination would ever assert that the Holy Spirit was absent during the lifetime of Jesus! The Holy Spirit was present at Jesus's baptism, present during his conception, and filled earlier prophets throughout the Old Testament. Therefore, if the Holy Spirit was already present, the Paraclete *must* refer to a specific, distinct human figure who could only arrive after Jesus left this earth.

This historical reality mirrors the celebrated declaration of Jesus captured in Surah As-Saff:

وَمُبَشِّرًا بِرَسُولٍ يَأْتِي مِنْ بَعْدِي اسْمُهُ أَحْمَدُ ﴿٦﴾

"...and bringing good tidings of a messenger to come after me, whose name is Ahmad."

— [Surah As-Saff \[61:6\] \(Sahih International\)](#)

4. "He Will Guide You into All Truth"

Continuing into John 16, the descriptors perfectly outline the prophetic character of Muhammad (ﷺ), the Truthful, the Trustworthy (Al-Amin):

Gospel of John 16:13:

"But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come."

Let us match this description against historical realities with absolute sincerity:

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"He will guide you into all truth" — This marks the ultimate completion of divine law. Prophet Jesus explicitly stated his own mission was localized and preparatory. The comprehensive completion of religion happened on the plains of Arafat, when Allah declared:

"This day I have perfected for you your religion and completed My favor upon you and have approved for you Islam as religion." — [Surah Al-Ma'idah \[5:3\]](#)

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"He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears" — What a beautiful parallel to the exact linguistic parameters used by Allah to describe Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) in the Holy Qur'an:

"Nor does he speak from [his own] inclination. It is not but a revelation revealed." — [Surah An-Najm \[53:3-4\]](#)

The Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) did not formulate the Qur'an from his own thoughts. He listened intently to the Archangel Gabriel delivering the speech of God, memorized it precisely, and conveyed it exactly as heard to all of humanity.

Embracing the Path of Absolute Peace

My beautiful brothers, sisters, and truth seekers, the invitation of the Qur'an is an invitation to continuous light, safety, and ultimate peace. By recognizing Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) as the promised Paraclete, you do not turn your back on Jesus; rather, you fulfill his noble, beautiful command.

To dive deeper into the verified answers regarding interfaith scripture and authentic narrations, explore authoritative collections on [IslamQA](#) and verified prophetic statements on [Sunnah.com](#).