

## Arafat day 2007 - A day to declare that Isaac is the promised seed

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Dear prayer warriors,

The 9th day of the month of Hajj marks a significant day for Muslims, yet it is a day not so well known or talked about in the rest of the world. The day is called the Day of Arafat, the middle east is uniting together in prayer & fasting on Arafat day on Dec the 19th, and we believe it is a day the Lord would have His people pray for the Muslim world!

Background: The Hajj Pilgrimage - Journey of a Lifetime:

One fifth of humankind shares a single aspiration. That is, to complete, at least once, the spiritual journey called the Hajj. In Arabic, Hajj literally means "a resolve"; i.e.; to resolve to some magnificent duty. The Hajj is also the 12th month of the Islamic lunar calendar. The first 10 days of this month are especially significant and include both Arafat Day and Eid al-Adha (Festival of Sacrifice) which is the 10th day of the month. Even for those who are not travelling for the pilgrimage, this month and especially these two days are a special time to remember Allah and spend extra time in devotion and good deeds.

Mecca, Saudi Arabia

Countless millions of Muslims, men and women from the four corners of the earth, have made the pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, the birthplace of Islam. In carrying out this journey they fulfil one of the five "pillars" of Islam (a pillar is a central religious duty for the believer). The Prophet Muhammad said, "He who performs the Hajj with no obscenity or evil practices will come out as a newly born baby free from all sins". For Muslims, the pilgrimage is therefore much more than something to be done. It is a sacred and revered journey. They believe that if they do not do this journey, have less chance of getting into paradise.

Spiritual Climax

Whether a pilgrim spends years walking from his nomadic home in Africa, or several hours on a plane from Asia, there is little doubt that the pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, will be the spiritual climax of his life. The pilgrimage takes place every year to commemorate Abraham's attempted sacrifice of his son (who Muslims believe was Ishmael, rather than Isaac). The Hajj, lasting for 30 days, begins two months and ten days after Ramadan.

Preparation

Before setting out a pilgrim should redress all wrongs, pay all debts and plan to have enough funds for his own journey and for the care of his family while he is away. Certain Governments even allocate funds to assist pilgrims. Many religious rites are performed according to the Qur'an and tradition. The pictures we usually see are of a great throng of humanity circling the Ka'bah (a cubical structure made of stone). Their circling of the Ka'bah, the symbol of God's oneness, implies that all human activity must have God at its centre. It also symbolizes the unity of God and man. It is circled seven times and a prayer is recited each time around. According to some traditions, the Ka'bah is the sole remnant of the original altar built by Abraham and Ishmael. While making their circuits pilgrims may kiss or touch the black stone. Perhaps the single most important reason for kissing the stone is that Muhammad did so.

Stoning of Satan

Another rite is The Stoning of Satan. According to the Qur'an, Satan tempted Abraham and Ishmael three times to stop the sacrifice. Each time they responded by throwing stones at Satan. As pilgrims throw seven pebbles at the three pillars, they remember the story of Satan's attempt to persuade Abraham to disregard God's command to sacrifice Ishmael. Throwing the pebbles is symbolic of man's attempt to cast away evil and vice; the number seven symbolising infinity.

Arafat Day and its Significance

On the first day of the hajj, pilgrims sweep out of Mecca toward Mina, a small uninhabited village east of the city. As their throngs spread through Mina, the pilgrims generally spend their time meditating and praying, as the Prophet did on his pilgrimage. During the second day, the 9th of Dhu al-Hijjah, pilgrims leave Mina for the plain of Arafat. The Prophet is reported to have asked Allah to pardon the sins of pilgrims who stood at Arafat, and was granted his wish. Thus, the hopeful pilgrims prepare to leave this plain joyfully, feeling reborn without sin and intending to turn over a new leaf.

Just after sunset, the mass of pilgrims proceed to Muzdalifah, an open plain halfway between Arafat and Mina. There they first pray and then collect pebbles to use on the following days. The next day begins the Eid holiday or Eid al-Adha, the festival of sacrifice.

Why Arafat Day??

For years the whole Christian community was praying for Ramadan, the power day at Ramadan (day 27), the Hajj season, and many other Muslim occasions, but this year the Lord opened our eyes about the importance of Arafat day, which the Muslim prophet Mohammed said \* the Hajj is Arafat\*.

That is the only day through the other Muslims events that all the Muslims gather together at Arafat Mountain in Unity praying and fasting for there god, at that day thousands of Muslims stoning the devil whom they thought that he tried to stop there father Ebrahim from offering Ishmael and offer Isaac instead ..They declaring that Ishmael is the son of the promise not Isaac, after that they offer Sacrifices as a remembrance that Father Ebrahim offered Ishmael not Isaac in deed and as a sacrifice for there sins to be forgiven .(who ever go to Hajj and completed from the Muslims , all there sins before the Hajj are forgiven )

In that day the devil is confirming to the sons of Ishmael that Ishmael was the sacrifice not Isaac by that the devil is deceiving the Muslim and confirming that Jesus is not the true sacrifice through Isaac. Every year the devil is strengthen the blindness and increase the disinclination towards the Jews and the sons of Isaac.

The Aim of praying & fasting in unity during Arafat day generally:

We felt that from last year 2006 that we would like to start praying at that day (it varies each year) in unity the whole body of Christ at the Middle East to counter attack the spirits that strengthen the blindness over our brothers and sisters eyes. We felt that this day prophetically will break the blindness over there eyes and see the truth of the real promise through Isaac in Jesus Christ and that the Muslims are the sons of Ebrahim and they have the rights at the promises which is through Isaac not in Ishmael.

That is why year 2006 theme was:

Arafat Day 2006 &ndash; A day to break the blindness

The way in 2007

As the devil is still holding millions in bondage with this lie that Ishmael is the promised seed, We need to look to the Lord for guidance and Anointing to pray.