Bible Abraham/Ibrahim Qur’an

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| **Abraham, God’s friend**  “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”And he was called the friend of God. James, 2:23  …Abraham My friend. Isaiah 41:8  …know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.  Galatians 3: 6-7 | **Ibrahim the righteous**  For Allah took Abraham for a friend. 4 The Women, 125 And who turns away from the religion of Abraham but such as debase their souls with folly? Him We chose and rendered pure in this world: And he will be in the Hereafter in the ranks of the Righteous. 2 The Heifer, 130 |
| **Moses: ban on carved images**  “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them.” Exodus 20:4-5  “Take careful heed to yourselves… lest you act corruptly and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of any figure: the likeness of male or female, the likeness of any animal that is on the earth or the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the air, the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground, or the likeness of any fish that is in the water beneath the earth. And take heed, lest you lift your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun, the moon, and the stars, all the host of heaven, you feel driven to worship them and serve them…” Deuteronomy 4:15-19  “Take heed to yourselves, lest you forget the covenant of the LORD your God which He made with you, and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of anything which the LORD your God has forbidden you. For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.” Deuteronomy 4: 23  “Take heed to yourself, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land where you are going, lest it be a snare in your midst. But you shall destroy their altars, break their sacred pillars, and cut down their wooden images.” Exodus 34: 12-13 | **Ibrahim: destruction of idols**  Lo! Abraham said to his father Azar: “Do you take idols for gods? For I see you and your people in manifest error.”  So also did We show Abraham the power and the laws of the heavens and the earth, that he might (with understanding) have certitude. When the night covered him over, he saw a star and he said: “This is my Lord.” But when it set, he said: “I do not love those that set.” When he saw the moon rising in splendor, he said: “This is my Lord.” But when the moon set, he said: “Unless my Lord guide me, I shall surely be among those who go astray.” When he saw the sun rising in splendor, he said: “This is my Lord; this is the greatest (of all).”  But when the sun set, he said: “O my people! I am indeed free from your (guilt) of giving partners to Allah. For me, I have set my face, firmly and truly, towards Him Who created the heavens and the earth, and never shall I give partners to Allah.” His people disputed with him…  6 The Cattle, 74-80 Behold! he said to his father and his people: “What are these images, to which you are (so assiduously) devoted?” They said: “We found our fathers worshipping them.” He said: “Indeed you have been in manifest error - you and your fathers.”  21 The Prophets, 52-54 … your Lord is the Lord of the heavens and the earth, He Who created them (from nothing): and I am a witness to this (truth).  And by Allah, I have a plan for your idols -- after you go away and turn your backs.” So he broke them to pieces, (all) but the biggest of them…21 The Prophets, 56-58 |
| **The covenant**  … the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I *am* Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: “…My covenant is with you…No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham[[1]](#footnote-1); for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.” This *is* My covenant which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: Every male child among you shall be circumcised;  So Abraham took Ishmael his son…and …every male among the men of Abraham’s house, and circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very same day, as God had said to him.  Genesis 17:1-5,7, 9-11,23-26 | **The cool fire**  They said: “Who has done this to our gods?  He must indeed be some man of impiety!” 21 The Prophets, 59  They said: “Are you the one that did this with our gods, O Abraham?” He said: “Nay, this was done by -- this is their biggest one! Ask them, if they can speak intelligently!” So they turned to themselves and said… “You know full well that these (idols) do not speak!” (Abraham) said: “Do you then worship, besides Allah, things that can neither be of any good to you nor do you harm? Fie upon you, and upon the things that you worship besides Allah. Have you no sense?” They said: “Burn him and protect your gods, If you do (anything at all)!” We said: “O Fire! You be cool, and (a means of) safety for Abraham!” Then they sought a strategem against him: but We made them the ones that lost most!  21 The Prophets, 62-70 |
| **The Promised Land**  Now the LORD had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great…” Genesis 12:1-2  “Also, I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.” Genesis 17:8  “Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendantsforever. And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered.” Genesis 13:14-16 | **The Land of Promise**  O Children of Israel! call to mind the (special) favor which I bestowed upon you, and fulfill your Covenant with Me as I fulfill My Covenant with you, and fear none but Me. 2 The Heifer,40  And We said thereafter to the Children of Israel , ''Dwell securely in the land (of promise)'':  17 The Children of Israel,104  The parable of the Garden which the righteous are promised - beneath it flow rivers: perpetual is the enjoyment thereof and the shade therein: such is the End of the Righteous; 13 The Thunder 35  Allah has promised to Believers, men and women, Gardens under which rivers flow…Gardens of everlasting bliss. 9 Repentance 72 |
| **Ishmael born of a slave girl**  Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, had borne him no children*.* And she had an Egyptian maidservant whose name was Hagar. So Sarai said to Abram, “See now, the LORD has restrained me from bearing children*.* Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her.”  And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai. Then Sarai, Abram’s wife, took Hagar, her maid, the Egyptian, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife…And when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress became despised in her eyes.  And when Sarai dealt harshly with her, she fled from her presence.  Now the Angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur. And He said, “Hagar, Sarai’s maid, where have you come from, and where are you going?”  She said, “I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai.”  The Angel of the LORD said to her, “Return to your mistress…I will multiply your descendants exceedingly, so that they shall not be counted for multitude. Behold, you are with child, and you shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, because the LORD has heard your affliction. He shall be a wild man; his hand shall be against every man, and every man’s hand against him.” Genesis 16: 1-4, 6-7, 9-12 | **Ishmael, the firstborn son** (Abraham said: ed.) “O my Lord! Grant me a righteous (son)!” So We gave him the good news of a boy (Ishmael ed.) ready to suffer and forbear. 37 Those Ranged in Ranks, 100-101 Also mention in the Book (the story of) Ishmael: He was (strictly) true to what he promised, and he was a Messenger (and) a prophet... (a man) of constancy and patience;  We admitted them to Our Mercy: for they were of the righteous ones.  19 Mary, 54; 21 The Prophets, 85-86 And commemorate Ishmael… (He ed.) was of the company of the good.  38 Saad, 48 You say: “We believe in…the revelation given to Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac… and that given to Moses and Jesus…” 2 The Heifer, 136 “O our Lord! I (Ibrahim ed.) have made some of my offspring (Ishmael and his mother Hagar ed.) to dwell in a valley without cultivation, by Your Sacred House; in order, O our Lord, that they may establish regular Prayer: so fill the hearts of some among men with love towards them, and feed them with fruits: so that they may give thanks.”14 Ibrahim, 37 Behold! (the mountains ed.) Safa and Marwa are among the Symbols of Allah. So if those who visit the House (the Ka’aba ed.) in the Season or at other times, should compass them round, it is no sin in them. And if any one obeys his own impulse to Good–- be sure that Allah is He Who recognizes and knows.  2 The Heifer, 158 |
| **The birth of Isaac**  (Abram ed.) …lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, and said…,  “Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. And I will bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh your hearts.”  So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, “Quickly, make ready three measures of fine meal; knead it and make cakes.”  And He (God or one of the men ed.) said, “…Sarah your wife shall have a son.”  Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well advanced in age; and Sarah had passed the age of childbearing. Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying,  “After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my Lord being old also?”  And the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, saying, ‘Shall I …bear achild*,* since I am old?’” Is anything too hard for the LORD?  Genesis 18:2-6,10-15And the LORD…did for Sarah as He had spoken. For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age…Isaac. Genesis 21:1-3And Sarah saw the son of Hagar…she said to Abraham;  “Cast out this bondswoman and her son…”  So Abraham…sent her away.  And the water …was used up. She said to herself; “Let me not see the death of the boy.”  Then the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven...  Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water and she gave the lad to drink. And God was with the lad. Genesis 21:9-20 | **Allah’s messengers visit Ibrahim** There came Our Messengers to Abraham with glad tidings. They said: “Peace!”  He answered: “Peace!” and hastened to entertain them with a roasted calf. But when he saw their hands did not go toward the (meal), he felt some mistrust of them, and conceived a fear of them.  They said: “Fear not: We have been sent… (by Allah ed.) ”  And his wife was standing (there), and she laughed: but We gave her glad tidings of Isaac…  She said: “Alas for me! shall I bear a child, seeing I am an old woman, and my husband here is an old man? That would indeed be a wonderful thing!”  They said: “Do you wonder at Allah’s decree? The grace of Allah and His blessings on you, O you people of the house! For He is indeed worthy of all praise, full of all glory!” 11 Hud, 69-73 “Peace and salutation to Abraham!” Thus indeed do We reward those who do right. For he was one of Our believing Servants. And We gave him the good news of Isaac - a Prophet- one of the Righteous. We blessed him and Isaac: but of their progeny are (some) that do right, and (some) that obviously do wrong, to their own souls. 37 The Saffat, 109-113 “Praise be to Allah, Who has granted to me in old age Ishmael and Isaac: for truly my Lord is He, the Hearer of prayer! 14 Ibrahim, 39 And commemorate Our Servants Abraham, Isaac… possessors of Power and Vision. Verily We chose them for a special (purpose) - proclaiming the Message of the Hereafter. They were, in Our sight, truly, of the company of the Elect and the Good. And commemorate Ishmael… each of them was of the company of the Good. 38 Saad, 45-48 |
| **Isaac nearly sacrificed**  God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham! Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and offer him… as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”  So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took…with him…Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.  So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together.  But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, “My father! Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”  And Abraham said, “My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.”  Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.  But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham! Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.”  Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.  Genesis 22:1-3, 6-13 | **The near offering of Ishmael** Then, when (the son) (Ishmael ed.) reached (the age of) (serious) work with him (Abraham ed.), he said: “O my son! I see in vision that I offer you in sacrifice: Now see what is your view!” (The son) said: “O my father! Do as you are commanded: you will find me, if Allah so wills, one practicing patience and constancy!” So when they had both submitted their wills (to Allah), and he had laid him prostrate on his forehead (for sacrifice), We called out to him: “O Abraham! You have already fulfilled the vision!” - thus indeed do We reward those who do right. For this was obviously a trial. And We left (this blessing) for him among generations (to come) in later times: “Peace and salutation to Abraham!”  37 The Saffat, 102-109 And remember Abraham and Ishma’il raised the foundations of the House (the Ka’aba ed.) (with this prayer): “Our Lord! Accept (this service) from us: For You are the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing. Our Lord! make of us Muslims, bowing to Your (Will), and of our progeny a People Muslim, bowing to Your (Will); and show us our places for the celebration of (due) rites; and turn to us (in Mercy); for You are the Oft-Returning, Most Merciful.”  2 The Heifer, 127-128 Remember We made the House (the Ka’aba ed.) a place of assembly for men and a place of safety… a place of prayer; and We covenanted with Abraham and Ishma’il, that they should sanctify My House for those who compass it round, or use it as a retreat, or bow, or prostrate themselves (therein in prayer).  2 The Heifer, 125  Allah made the Ka’ba, the Sacred House, an asylum of security for men, as also the Sacred Months, the animals for offerings, and the garlands that mark them…  5 The Table Spread, 97 |
| **Isaac blessed with a son: Jacob**  Then Abraham… died in a good old age, an old man and full ofyear*s,* and was gathered to his people. And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah … And it came to pass, after the death of Abraham, that God blessed his son Isaac. Genesis 25:8-11  Isaac… took Rebekah as wife… Isaac pleaded with the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his plea, and Rebekah his wife conceived.  And the first came out red. He was like a hairy garment all over; so they called his name Esau.Afterward his brother came out, and his hand took hold of Esau’s heel; so his name was called Jacob. Genesis 25: 19-21, 24-26 | **Ishaq, Yaqoub, Allah’s servants**  And We bestowed on him (Abraham ed.) Isaac and, as an additional gift, (a grandson), Jacob, and We made righteous men of every one (of them). And We made them leaders, guiding (men) by Our Command, and We sent them inspiration to do good deeds, to establish regular prayers (Salat ed.), and to practice regular charity (Zakat ed.); and they constantly served Us (and Us only). 21 The Prophets, 72-73  And commemorate Our servants Abraham, Issac, and Jacob, possessors of Power and Vision. Verily We chose them for a special (purpose) – proclaiming the Message of the Hereafter. Gardens of Eternity, whose doors will (ever) be open to them. 38 Saad, 45-46, 50 |

1. In Hebrew the word Abraham sounds like the word for ‘Father of many Nations’. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)