

Open Letter to Moslems Concerning Terrorism

by Douglas R. Johnson
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In an ecumenical gathering this year, a Moslem spokesperson used a quote from the Koran that included the phrase, "create mischief". I did a search on google.com and found the following passage:

"46 He said: 'O my nation! Why do you hasten in evil before good? Why don't you ask Allah for forgiveness so that you: you may be showered mercy?' 47 They said: 'We augured ill omen from you and whoever is with you.' He said: 'Your (belief about) ill omen is (under record) with Allah; nay, you are a people put under test and trial.' 48 And there were in the city nine bands of men: they create mischief in the land and do not indulge in (any) reform. 49 They said: 'Swear one to another by Allah that we shall make a secret night attack on him and his household; afterwards we will surely say to his heir-attorney: We witnessed not the slaying place of his household and verily, we are surely those who tell the truth.' 50 And they devised a plot and We planned an stratagem while they perceive (it) not. 51 Then see how was the final end of their plot that We destroyed them and their nation, all together. 52 So these are their houses in utter ruin as they transgressed. Surely, in this is indeed a lesson for a nation who know. 53 And We rescued those who Believed and used to obey (Allah). 54 And (bring to mind) Lout/Lot when he said to his nation: 'Do you indulge in Al-Fahishah while you see (the evil aspect thereof)? 55 Is it (that) surely you people indeed approach men in sexual lust instead of women? Nay, you are a nation: you behave senselessly.' 56 So there was no answer from his nation except that they said: 'Drive out the family of Lout/Lot from your town. Verily, they are humans who remain clean and sanctified.' 57 So We saved him and his household except his wife. We destined her to be of those who buried themselves under dust and debris. 58 And We rained down over them a rain (of stones). So evil became the rain cast over those who were warned (in advance). 59 Say: 'Selective Praise suits Allah (Alone), and peace be upon His Ibad whom He selected and chose (for His Message). Is Allah better, or (all) that they ascribe as partners (to Allah)?' 60 Is That One Who created the heavens and the earth and sent down for you water from towards the sky (better or other gods)? So We brought forth therewith orchards full of beauty and

delight. It is not for you that you may grow the trees thereof. Is there any ilah (god) alongwith Allah? Nay, they are a nation who ascribe equals (to Him)!" [Surah 27:An-Naml (The Ant) Ayat Numbers: 46-60] (Emphasis added.)

I want to say first of all that I do not understand exactly what this passage is saying. If I am wrong in the analysis I present, I trust you will correct me.

It seems to me the reference to Lot corresponds to the following passage from Genesis:

"18:16 And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way. 17 And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; 18 Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? 19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him. 20 And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous; 21 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know. 22 And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD. 23 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? 24 Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? 25 That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right? 26 And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes. 27 And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD, which am but dust and ashes: 28 Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it. 29 And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake. 30 And he said unto him, Oh let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there. 31 And he said, Behold now, I

have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake. 32 And he said, Oh let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake. 33 And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place. 19:1 And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground; 2 And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your ways. And they said, Nay; but we will abide in the street all night. 3 And he pressed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, and they did eat. 4 But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter: 5 And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them. 6 And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him, 7 And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly. 8 Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof. 9 And they said, Stand back. And they said again, This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and came near to break the door. 10 But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door. 11 And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door. 12 And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, bring them out of this place: 13 For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the LORD; and the LORD hath sent us to destroy it. 14 And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law. 15 And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two

daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city. 16 And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city. 17 And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed. 18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my LORD: 19 Behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die: 20 Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one: Oh, let me escape thither, (is it not a little one?) and my soul shall live. 21 And he said unto him, See, I have accepted thee concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow this city, for the which thou hast spoken. 22 Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do anything till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar. 23 The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar. 24 Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; 25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. 26 But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt. 27 And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the LORD: 28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace. 29 And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt." [Genesis 18:16-19:29] (Emphasis added.)

The passage in Genesis shows that God brought judgement against Sodom for, as the Koran puts it, "approach[ing] men in sexual lust instead of women".

While the Genesis passage says men destroyed Sodom, they are clearly angels representing God, both in speech and in action. The judgement was carried out strictly by God as: "Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven" [Genesis 19:24]

I may be wrong but the Koran seems to be using the example

of God's judgement of Sodom to justify "creating mischief" to destroy an entire nation.

Now let's look at our country, the USA. Rev. Jerry Falwell was put to task shortly after 9/11 for implying that the disaster was related to sin in America, namely the same sin as Sodom. Whether there was a direct connection or not, all Bible believing Christians believe that the practices of Sodom which are permitted in this country will eventually lead to an act of judgement by God against this country.

We all hope for a return to God by this country that will stem that pending judgement.

But the problem and or question is: Does the Koran encourage individuals to take up arms against this country to act for God to bring judgement upon us?

I am sure that God is also displeased with us over the abortion issue. The murder of innocent unborn children must also be answered for.

In the past, some "Christian extremists" took matters in there own hands to bomb abortion clinics and murder those actually performing abortions. The Christian community universally condemned such activity. Those that did such things were punished according to law.

What do you believe concerning these issues?