

STUDY PACK 10

MODERN CULTS The Nation of Islam (Black Muslims)

“We want our people in America whose parents or grandparents were descendants from slaves to be allowed to establish a separate state or territory of their own either on this continent or elsewhere. We believe that inter-marriage or race-mixing should be prohibited.”

~~ Louis Farrakhan ~~

I. THE HISTORY OF THE BLACK MUSLIM MOVEMENT

The Black Muslim movement in general and one of its sects in particular (the Nation of Islam) is mushrooming in popularity and influence in the United States. Membership is booming and the movement is showing the ability to influence many people outside its formal membership (the Million Man March, for example). Louis Farrakhan’s (leader of the Nation of Islam) speeches are often broadcast on CSPAN and the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development has signed a \$20,000,000 contract with the Nation of Islam to police inner-city housing projects. A 1994 CNN poll indicated that over two-thirds of American blacks have a favorable opinion of Louis Farrakhan. His public speeches attract huge crowds. Meetings for teenagers often draw over 15,000 teens. Political leaders from both major political parties have aggressively courted support from Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam.

As the influence of the Black Muslim movement over millions of Americans grows, it becomes more and more important for Americans to understand what this religious and political movement is all about.

The history of the Black Muslims begins with Wallace Fard. In 1930, Fard began holding religious classes in Detroit, Michigan. At times he identified with the Jehovah’s Witnesses and used their literature. At other times he presented himself as an Islamic Negro (he was an Arab by birth). He eventually started his own organization, The Nation of Islam, and built a temple in Detroit. He claimed to be _____, sent by God to give the true interpretation of _____. Fard also used several other names including Walli Farod, Mohammed Ali and Professor Fard.

Fard produced two training manuals, *The Secret Ritual of the Nation of Islam* and *Teachings for the Lost – Found Nation of Islam in a Mathematical Way*. Fard founded the University of Islam and a paramilitary organization called, “The Fruit of Islam.” He selected a core of young negro recruits and trained them personally.

In 1934, Fard disappeared. No trace of his whereabouts has ever been confirmed. He was succeeded by Elijah Mohammed (birth name Elijah Poole). Poole claimed to be in contact with Wallace Fard and this claim has continued among Nation of Islam leaders. In his early years as leader of the Nation of Islam, Farrakhan claimed that

_____, and that he
_____.

The Black Muslim movement split over whether or not Fard was the prophet of the true God or God himself. Elijah Mohammed taught that Fard was God and that he, (Elijah Mohammed), was the “Black Messiah.” He combined the teachings of Negro racial superiority of Fard with the genetic theories of the “Moorish Science Temple” and the political agenda of black nationalist Marcus Garvey. Several smaller groups split off in protest and some suggested that Elijah Mohammed knew more about the mysterious disappearance of Fard than he was willing to admit.

Traditional Moslem groups quickly declared the Black Muslims to be a “heretical cult.” Elijah Mohammed responded by saying that the Moslems had departed from the true teachings of the Koran.

Elijah Mohammed aimed his Black Muslim teaching at poor urban blacks who were often poorly educated and recent immigrants from rural areas of the South. He taught them that they were _____ and that all their problems stemmed from a conspiracy by the white race to oppress them. The Black Muslims gained many adherents in the inner cities of the United States’ large metropolitan areas.

Malcolm X became one of the most influential leaders of the Black Muslim movement. He tried to take the Black Muslim message to blacks from all walks of life, especially college students. He began to challenge some of the basic Black Muslim mythology about mathematics, space ships and Wallace Fard. In 1964, he was expelled from the Nation of Islam. He then identified with more traditional Moslems. In 1965, he was assassinated. Many people were suspicious that he was killed by followers of Elijah Mohammed.

An aggressive young Nation of Islam leader, Louis Farrakhan had said publicly, “Malcolm shall not escape” and “such a man is worthy of death.” Within two months, Malcolm X was dead, gunned down at a hotel in Harlem, New York.

Farrakhan went on to become the leader of the Nation of Islam. He later answered a public question about his involvement in Malcolm X’s death this way:

“Frankly, it ain’t none of your business. What have you got to say about it? Did you teach Malcolm? Did you clean up Malcolm? Did you put Malcolm out before the world? Was Malcolm your traitor or was he ours? And if we dealt with him like a nation deals with a traitor, what the . . . business is it of yours? You just shut your mouth and stay out of it! Because in the future we’re gonna become a nation. And a nation gotta be able to deal with traitors and cutthroats and turncoats.”

Both Elijah Mohammed and Malcolm X were the sons of Baptist preachers.

Under Farrakhan's leadership, the Black Muslims largely withdrew from public view until 1984. In 1984, Farrakhan broke a seven-year vow of silence to campaign for Jesse

Jackson in the Presidential primaries. Since 1984, Farrakhan has courted public attention and influence. The Nation of Islam has become a prominent religious sect and a powerful political force.

II. THE BLACK MUSLIM DOCTRINE OF RACIAL ORIGINS

The Nation of Islam teaches that blacks belong to the tribe of Shabazz. This has made the name Shabazz popular with many blacks. According to the Black Muslims, _____ migrated to earth in spaceships from another planet _____ years ago. They were a very advanced race. They made the earth a virtual paradise inhabited only by blacks. About six-thousand years ago, an evil scientist named _____ created _____ (and other races) in a forbidden experiment. He was prompted to do this _____. Allah allowed the white race to remain as _____ upon his true people – the Negro. Ever since, all white people have, by nature, conspired together to enslave and harm God's true people.

As a result of this doctrine, members of the Nation of Islam call whites _____, "_____", "blue-eyed devils" and "sub-humans."

Because of this doctrine, the Black Muslims oppose any kind of interracial marriage or integration of the races. Many of the Black Muslims consider themselves in a perpetual "jihad" or holy war against the Satanic white race.

III. BLACK NATIONALISM

The Nation of Islam calls for the creation of a separate black nation under their control. They have at times suggested that several states be allotted to them for the creation of this separate nation. In a Nation of Islam paper, *The Final Call*, it was stated this way:

"What the Muslims Want"

"We want our people in America, whose parents or grandparents were descendants from slaves to be allowed to establish a separate state or territory of their own – either on this continent or elsewhere."

Under the banner of terms like "Black Identity," "Black Unity" and "Black Nationalism," the Nation of Islam teaches that _____. they have created an atmosphere where any black who is under investigation for anything (including crimes against other blacks) can scream racism and rally support from some of the black community.

IV. HATRED OF CHRISTIANITY

The Black Muslim movement is founded upon a hatred of Christianity. Malcolm X taught that Christianity led directly to fascism and communism. Christianity is called the “white man’s religion” and “_____.”

Black Muslims teach that slavery was a direct product of Christian teaching and that Islam frees blacks from slavery. Someone who wants to join the Nation of Islam must write a letter declaring his faith in Allah, his loyalty to the movement and request an original (Moslem) name in place of his Christian (slave) name. Thus Lew Alcindor became Kareem Abdul Jabbar, Classius Clay became Muhammad Ali and Chris Jackson became Mahmoud Abdul-Rouf.

Black Muslims teach that Jesus was black and that he was killed by the Jews because he was black.

In every Nation of Islam mosque the symbol of oppression is an American flag with a black man hanging from a tree, a cross and the word Christianity.

V. ANTI-AMERICANISM

The Nation of Islam is consistently anti-American. The United States is seen as a white Christian nation built upon oppression and theft from blacks. This is why Mahmoud Abdul-Rouf would not stand during the National Anthem at Denver Nuggets’ basketball games. According to him, the United States’ flag symbolized only “oppression and tyranny.”

Louis Farrakhan praised Libya’s Muammar Gaddafi. Gaddafi, in return, promised to help “oppressed minorities in the United States.” In Iran, Farrakhan identified with the government of Iran and what he called the Islamic Resistance. He joined the Ayatollah in calling the United States “the Great Satan.” He also met with Saddam Hussein, denounced United States policy toward Iraq and said (in a joint appearance with Saddam Hussein), “_____.”

Farrakhan says that the United States Government invented AIDS for the purpose of limiting the black population. He also blames the U.S. government for making drugs easily accessible in poor black neighborhoods. He also blamed the U.S. government for the prevalence of alcohol abuse in black ghettos:

“Just remember what white America is doing when she floods the black community with dope. The white man puts us in a ghetto, which is a playpen and then you call yourself a playboy. Just check yourself out, a bar on every corner, gambling, dope, everything that you need to keep your mind off of the serious business of NATION BUILDING.

Why are you a drunkard today, black man? Because your enemy taught you to drink. He made the liquor, he sells it, you buy it and get drunk off of it. And call it 'having a good time.' He has made a fool out of you."

At the Million Man March Farrakhan said, "White folks are having heart attacks today cause their world is coming down." With his theories of the white man's racial origin and his anti-Americanism, Farrakhan and his followers consistently engage in anti-Caucasian hate speech. He talks about "American apartheid." He said, "White history is written in the blood of the human family. It comes out of you like a web comes out of a spider."

Black nationalist Dr. Leonard Jeffries (a tenured professor at the City College of New York) wrote: "Wherever the white man has gone, he has left these three Ds" domination, destruction and death. Therefore we must destroy white supremacy." This kind of anti-Christian, anti-white hate speech also finds a home in multiculturalism (where every culture _____). The magazine, *Managing Diversity* (subscribed to by many Federal agencies) published an article called, *What Are the Values of White People?* by Harris Sussman, Ph. D. It included these statements.

"The white people we are talking about have been primarily Christians, often acting in the name of their Christian values. This is puzzling and distressing. In the name of Christian values they had the Inquisition. They called nature peoples 'savages' who did not qualify as human beings. They set up definitions of pagans, heathens, primitives, undeveloped people which left Christians superior and dominant. They killed Jews and Gypsies in the holocaust.

In our post-modern vocabulary, 'whites' or 'the white man' is all we need to say to invoke this history and experience the injustice and cruelty. When we say 'white people,' we mean the people of greed who value things over people, who value money over people. We know exactly what their values are and where they lead. We have all paid a terrible price for those values."

When mainstream politicians like Jesse Jackson calls the Nazis the Christian Coalition of the 1940s, he is invoking the same hatred of white people and traditional Christianity.

The nation of Islam also conceives of Judaism as an especially Satanically inspired race. It is called a _____. Jews are called "_____."

VI. THEOLOGY OF THE NATION OF ISLAM

A. God is not Spirit, but a Man.

"_____ and we just cannot make Him other than man, lest we make Him an inferior one. A spirit is subjected to us and not we to the spirit."

~~ Elijah Muhammad, *Message to the Black Man in America*, 1965, p. 6. ~~

B. Wallace Fard was Allah.

“Allah came to us from the Holy City of Mecca, Arabia, 1039. He used the name _____, often signing it W. D. Fard . . . He came alone.”

~~ *Message to the Black Man in America*, p. 16. ~~

C. God is not eternal.

“Well, we all know that there was a God in the beginning that created all these things and do know that _____. But we know and today a Supreme One (God) has appeared among us with the same infinite wisdom to bring about a complete change.”

~~ Ibid, p. 16. ~~

“There is no God living who was here in the creation of the universe, but they produce gods from them and their wisdom lives in us.”

~~ Ibid, p. 9. ~~

D. Christ was not God and did not raise from the dead.

“He (Jesus) was nothing more than a prophet.”

~~ Elijah Mohammed, *Our Savior Has Arrived*, p. 195 ~~

“Making the Son and the Holy Ghost equal with the Father is _____.”

~~ Ibid, p. 152 ~~

He did not rise from the dead.

“He (Jesus) was nothing more than a _____, and he has gone back to the earth, never to return alive.”

~~ Ibid, p. 195 ~~

“We know what happened to him 2,000 years ago. He _____.”

~~ Ibid, p. 210 ~~

E. The Bible is an evil book.

It is incomplete.

“The Bible is not all holy, nor is it all the Word of God!”

~~ *Message to the Black Man in America*, p. 89. ~~

It is a _____.

“The Bible is now being called the Poison Book by God Himself and who can deny that it is not poison? It has poisoned the very hearts and minds of the so-called Negroes so much that they can’t agree with each other.”

~~ Ibid, p. 94 ~~

“The Bible is the graveyard of my poor people (the so-called Negroes) ... The Bible charges all of its Great Prophets with evil, it makes God guilty of an act of adultery by charging Him with being the father of Mary’s baby (Jesus), again it charges Noah and Lot with drunkenness, and Lot with getting children by his daughter, What a Poison Book.”

~~ Ibid, p. 95 ~~

VII. MYSTERIOUS MATHEMATICS

Black Muslims see mysterious mathematical proofs of a white conspiracy everywhere. For example, Louis Farrakhan (quoting Wallace Fard) says that the reason that the Washington Monument is 555 feet high is because it was designed to be a reminder to whites that 1555 was when the first slaves were brought to the American colonies. Actually they were brought to the colonies in 1619.

In the same speech, Farrakhan also explained the number 19. “When you have a 9, you have a womb that is pregnant, and when you have a 1 standing by a 9 there’s something secret that has to be unfolded.” He then found symbols of 19 in the Lincoln and Jefferson memorials and the Great Seal of the United States. All proof of a white conspiracy.

VIII. THE RIGHTEOUS LIFE

Members of the nation of Islam are expected to live a very strict personal code. Sexual relations outside of marriage are prohibited. So are the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, going to movies, sleeping more than necessary and long vacations. Eating pork, cornbread, collard and other traditional black American foods is prohibited.

IX. SUMMARY

The Encyclopedia Britannica sums up Black Muslim teaching this way:

“The Nation of Islam insists that knowledge of one’s own identity – one’s self, nation, religion and God is indispensable to a creative life for the individual and for the group and is the true meaning of heaven. The members believe that consciousness of self and identity remain incomplete unless accompanied by knowledge of one’s enemy. The enemy of the Nation of Islam is the Caucasian race, especially the American white man, held responsible for the moral and material conditions of black Americans.”