

TH 502: Theology in a Global Context

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### **Tennent Reflection Paper #3**

#### **Chapter 2: Theology: Is the Father of Jesus the God of Muhammad?**

Chapter 2 was really interesting topic. This chapter begins with the premise that the "9/11 incident" in 2001 brought about the expansion of Islam, and the title of this chapter throws us an interesting question. "Do you believe that Christians and Muslims worship the same God?"

Tennent emphasizes that this question, which is the focus of this chapter, is worth exploring because today's theological reflection is more contextual and mission-oriented.

What is important in this chapter is, first, to investigate the etymology of the word "Allah." The second is to explore what the Quran and the Bible say about the existence of one God. And finally, it was found that it was to investigate the pastoral and practical considerations of this question.

In this chapter, the etymology of the word "Allah" has been studied and investigated, but it is concluded that etymological arguments cannot be used to completely solve the problem of the interchangeability of the words "God" and "Allah." . Just as the word "God" that Christians call is extensive, so is "Allah" that Islam calls widely, so I think that dealing with whether it is the same or different only linguistically can lead to various errors.

Tennent says that the challenge this question gives us is to re-read the Bible and make a long list of all the predicates attributed to God. Also, this kind of work has been done countless times by systematic theologians, and is the basis for establishing a correct biblical theology of God.

Therefore, the answer to the title of this chapter can only be negative. As for the reasons, Tennent gives three main reasons, and I strongly agree with his reasons. Among the reasons, he attributes this issue to evangelical and pastoral concerns.

As Tennent puts it, pluralists in the modern era like to say, "We all worship the same God." I think this is one of the big problems of our time. For the reason of world peace and reconciliation, various religions are also putting on the slogan of reconciliation and integration. As a result, we are claiming the logic that we all believe in the same "God" and that the way we believe can be different. I don't think we should overlook how this will affect our Christian identity.