

in race characteristics and in language. Millions in India live under the English Government, and millions in Java, Sumatra, and connected islands live under the government of Holland. There are great differences in these peoples, and the numerous conversions to Christ in India, China, and the Dutch islands prove that this invincible faith must bow before the cross. But while this paper refers chiefly to the Moslems of Turkey, that which may be called the Koranic attitude is common to all Moslems so far as they revere the Koran.

Space will not allow us to quote all the passages referring to Jesus and the Virgin Mary; but the following from the third Sura gives us a good idea of the spirit of the prophet:

"When the angel said, 'O, Mary, verily God sendeth thee good tidings, that thou shalt bear the Word proceeding from Himself. His name shall be Christ Jesus, the Son of Mary, honorable in this world and in the world to come, and one of those who approach near to the presence of God. And He' (Jesus) 'shall speak unto men in His cradle and when He is grown; and He shall be one of the righteous.' She answered, 'Lord, how shall I have a son since a man hath not touched me?' The angel said: 'Lo, God createth that which He pleaseth. When He decreeth a thing He only saith unto it, "Be," and it is. God shall teach Him the Scripture and wisdom, and the law and the Gospel, and shall appoint Him His apostle to the children of Israel. And He' (Jesus) 'shall say, "Verily I come unto you with a sign from your Lord, for I will make before you of clay as it were the figure of a bird; then I will breathe thereon, and it shall become a bird by the permission of God; and I will heal him that hath been blind from his birth, and the leper, and I will raise the dead." . . . But when Jesus perceived their unbelief He said: "Who will be my helpers toward God?" And the apostles answered, "We will be the helpers of God. We believe in God, and do thou be as witness that we are true believers."'"

A great mass of similar matter might be quoted, some of it curious, some of it puerile, but all showing the respect which Mohammed had for Christ and His mother and the apostles. Wherever the Koran is read and understood, a broad distinction is made between Christ and Christians. He is honored as one of the six apostles of God, and the Virgin Mother was born without taint of sin, and was one of the four perfect women. Christians have departed from Him, and will therefore be adjudged to hell; but all who have been faithful to Him will be received into paradise at the resurrection.

A second point to be considered is the influence of *tradition* upon the Moslem mind. The Koran itself is but a very small part of the faith of Islam. One may study the Koran ever so profoundly, and he would get no better conception of Islam than he would of popery by studying the New Testament. The Koran is devoutly held as the sacred repository of all the fundamental principles of law, religion, morals, future awards, and