

Notes for AFR show 07-30-2016



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Since we see so many Islamic terrorist attacks around us we need to understand what is happening. How are these people being “radicalized?” Another question we must ask is; Are the things they are doing consistent with Islam, or are they, as the media and our political leaders like to say, “radicalized?” The use the term “radical” to say that this is a radical version of Islam and there is a peaceful version of Islam is false. They want us to believe that if we could just get the terrorists to buy into the peaceful version we wouldn’t have the problems with terrorism and terrorists. We need to understand that we have had these problems through all of the 1,400 year history of Islam.

Using the word “radicalize” to describe the jihdis is wrong. They are being “fundamentalized,” not “radicalized.” They are being made scriptural and militant because they are trying to model what they do after what their Prophet did.

What we want to do is look at how we can look at Muslims, be it a neighbor, a coworker, a family member, or someone in the community, and tell if they are becoming a fundamentalist Muslim.

Everyone, our law enforcement, our political leaders, everyone, needs to hear this message. We need to know the steps someone goes through to become a terrorist.

There is a lot of confusion about the motivation of these terrorists. Every time we have one of these attacks, the first question is, What is the motive? We ask what led them to do this? How did young Ali, or young Muhammad, get to point where he wants to do something like this? We are going to go through 10 things that make an individual into a scripturally based Muslim and become what we call “radicalized.”

I originally wrote these 10 steps after the San Bernardino attack. I think they help us understand why this terrorism is going on. After the San Bernardino attack people were saying; We had no idea this guy was radicalized. We though he was a moderate Muslim. The same was said about the shooter in Orlando. There is a public face and a private face for Muslims.

We really don't like the word “radicalized,” we are only using it today because that is the politically correct term for what is going on. We are only using it so we can answer the question, how did this person get “radicalized?”

Radical means something outside of the norm. It shouldn't be normal for someone to go kill someone, however, if it is the true teaching of a religion, and someone is going to follow that religion, they are not acting radically, they are just being faithful. They are following the fundamentals of that religion. From this time forward we are going to use the word “fundamentalized” rather than “radicalized.”

Let me give you an example from Christianity. I believe what the Bible teaches about marriage. I believe what the Bible says about one man, one woman for life. God created a man and a woman, and He created marriage. Today, as a Christian, I stand for biblical marriage and biblical sexuality. I don't believe that God was confused about gender. Many say that I am a fundamental Christian because I believe these things. They usually say it in a derogatory sense. The truth is, I am a fundamentalist because I believe the fundamental teachings of the Scriptures.

I hope this will help you understand, from what we are going to cover today, that these are fundamental beliefs for a devout Muslim. To be a devout Muslim, you must follow these teachings. If you don't follow the 10 steps we are going to outline today, then you are outside the norm of historical Islam because since the beginning, we have the example of the Prophet of Islam, we have the example of who followed him.

If you are going to be a devout follower of a faith, you are going to be a fundamentalist. This term has been turned into a negative.

We are fighting this even in the political arena. Many on the Republican side use the terms “radical Islam” and “radical Islamic terrorism.” Hillary Clinton finally came out and used the term “radical Islam” a few weeks ago. Obama still won't use it. They say that it doesn't matter what we call it. They are afraid that these terms will inflame Muslims.

I think it would be better to call it “militant Islam,” rather than “radical Islam.” Everyone is looking for a qualifier to take pressure off the majority of Muslims. On one program a couple of the hosts walked

off the stage when Bill O'Reilly said that it was Muslims that attacked us on 9/11. They wanted the qualifier, "radical" because they want us to believe that this is not really Islam.

For our purposes today, it is not radical Islam, it is Islam, and it is not radical Muslims if it is faithful Muslims. These are really the terms we should be using. I know they are not politically correct, but you won't get political correctness from Fortress of Faith, you will get the non-sugar coated truth.

Now let's look at how to "fundamentalize" a Muslim. At the very beginning of Islam you have the 5 pillars of Islam. The first pillar is the Shahada. This is the beginning of anything that deals with Islam. It is the creed of Islam. It goes like this:

This leads us to the first step, it is establishing in his mind that Muhammad is Allah's final prophet. The difference between Islam and other religions is that Muhammad believed that he was summoned by Allah to bring the final message. The Shahada makes a non-Muslim into a Muslim. When someone acknowledges that Muhammad is the final prophet, they must accept that Muhammad's message must be the final message. This means that it denounces every other religion, including Christianity and Judaism.

This leads to the second point of fundamentalizing a Muslim, which is establishing the Qur'an and the Sunna as God's word. Sunna means the practice in Arabic, and is Muhammad's teachings and actions. If Muhammad is really the final prophet and the messenger of Allah, it means that what he says goes. He is speaking for Allah.

To understand the Qur'an, Muslims will turn to the Sunna to see how the Prophet lived out the message of the Qur'an. The Sunna is made up of two resources, the first is the Hadith. There are many collectors of the Hadith and the most well received is Bukhari collection. It consists of 9 volumes. In addition to the Hadith, there is the Sirah, which is the biography of Muhammad. We must remember that Muslims don't only look to the Qur'an, the words of their God, but they also look to the words of their Prophet.

There is a division between the Muslims in America. The Reformed or Moderate Muslims are a sect or cult of Islam. They reject much of the Sunna and say they follow the Qur'an. The truth is, they follow a non-abrogated interpretation of the Qur'an, and not the abrogation.

If we go back to point one, and if Muhammad is the final prophet of Allah, it means that however Muhammad lived, what he did, and how he acted, are models for good Muslims to follow. When there is any question of the interpretation of the Qur'an, they go to the Sunna to understand how Muhammad interpreted the message he received from Allah. The Qur'an says that Muhammad is the perfect man, therefore they are to follow his example.

The point is that those who claim to be peaceful and tolerant have to reject many well established Hadith and Sirah. This puts them outside the norm for Islam. They are the ones who are not scriptural.

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The third step in radicalizing or fundamentalizing a Muslim is establishing that Allah is the only god of the universe, and his law, which is the Shariah, is perfect and good for all of mankind. This is important because there are many Muslims in America who openly proclaim that they don't want the Shariah and they can live in a pluralistic society. We know that this is not consistent with the teachings of Islam, and with steps one and two.

Groups like the Muslim Brotherhood claim they don't want Shariah law for America but they are pushing for it. I recently did some street interviews with Muslims, and asked them if you can separate the Shariah from Islam. Most of those I spoke to were "moderate" Muslims, yet they all said you cannot separate the two. Not long ago there was a survey done that showed that more than 50% of the Muslims in America say that they want Shariah law here.

CAIR says that they don't want Shariah, but every time we try to pass a law to keep Shariah out of our legal system, they lead the fight against it. This shows what they really want. Remember, in Islam it is permitted to lie and deceive for the advancement of Islam.

There is a lot of focus on denouncing jihad. Even Reformed Muslims will say they denounce violent jihad, when you ask them if Shariah should be implemented, the answer, if they are to be a devout Muslim, must be yes.

Shariah cannot be separated from Islam. This is why we reference The Reliance of the Traveller at Fortress of Faith. It is case law of Islamic or Shariah law. It is a compilation of more than 1,000 years of case law, of rulings under Shariah. It is the legal interpretation by Muslim leaders of Islamic law. We will admit that there can be nuanced differences between Muslims on Shariah, but these differences are only superficial.

Even the Islamic State (ISIS) claims it is Islamic. It came out with its 10 page justification for their Islamic law. On the major points we are looking at, the Shariah clearly establishes that Muhammad is the final prophet, Islam is the final message, and the Qur'an is the final testament. It is the Shariah that establishes that the Qur'an is the final testament.

Under Shariah there is no separation between the civil and the religious. Under our law there is a separation, and that which is religious cannot be forced upon people. This is what freedom of religion is about. It doesn't mean that churches cannot be involved in politics, but it means that no religion can be forced upon someone. We can't legislate Christianity and say, if you don't convert I am going to kill you. Islam teaches that you either convert to Islam or die. In the survey I mentioned above, 25% of the Muslims interviewed said that Shariah should be implemented even if violence is required to do so.

Step four is establishing that the only way to contentment is to be fully submitted to Allah's law, and will. They must believe that the only way there can be contentment in their lives, the lives of their families, and in society as a whole, is if they, and those around them, are fully, not partially, submitted

to Allah and his law. Islam means submit, and Muslim means the submitted one. There are many who would have us believe that Islam means peace. They are just trying to deceive us.

They believe that contentment only comes when a nation moves from the “house of war” to the “house of Islam.” This is why they are working so hard for the implementation of the Shariah. The teaching is that you can only have peace only when a person, community, or nation comes under the authority of Allah’s law and will.

When Shahram was growing up, he was a lukewarm, moderate Muslim. He had no contentment in his life. He now knows that this was because he was not connected to the right God. It is very easy to take someone like he was and teach them that if they really want contentment they need to be further into Allah’s law and will. This is why we see disenfranchised young men drawn into “radicalism.” This is also why we see so many converted and “radicalized” in our prison system.

The fifth step is to establish that there will be no Islamic peace in the world until Muslims have rid the world of the filth of the unbelievers, the kufr. Kufr doesn’t mean unbelievers, it means excrement or filth. It must also be established that there can be no peace until the Shariah is the law of every nation.

Muslims believe that the reason there is evil in the world, and why there is no peace, is because of the kafir, the unbelievers. They must, therefore, either convert them, or subjugate them into dimmitude, or kill them.

If this is established in their hearts and minds, just like the other things we have talked about, they are well on the way to being fundamentalized. This gets them ready to take up arms against unbelievers.

We see that there can be no coexistence between Muslims and non-Muslims. This is pretty serious stuff. Sura 9 of the Qur’an tells Muslims that they must fight against non-believers until, either Muslims win, or the non-believers win. This is where we see the beginning of the development of jihad, which is the war against non-Muslims. The purpose of jihad is to establish Islamic peace by eliminating all unbelievers and establishing Shariah law.

We haven’t declared war against Muslims, they have declared war against us. If you doubt the truth of this, look at what that Hadith have to say:

*Allah's Apostle said, "The Hour will not be established until the son of Maryam descends amongst you as a just ruler, **he will break the cross, kill the pigs, and abolish the Jizya tax...** - Sahih al-Bukhari, 3:43:65*

*The Prophet said... The last hour would not come unless the Muslims will fight against the Jews and the Muslims would kill them until the Jews would hide themselves behind a stone or a tree and a stone or a tree would say: Muslim, or the servant of Allah, **there is a Jew ehind me; come and kill him...**
- Sahih Muslim Book 041, Number 6985*

The book that these come from was translated by the al-Azhar University, the highest university in all of the Islamic world. In their stamp of approval on the translation it says this is the standard for Islam.

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Although there are differences in Islam, the 10 points we are covering today are the non-negotiables of Islam. They are those things that both the Sunni Muslims and the Shi'ite Muslims agree upon. They are the "fundamentals of the faith" in Islam.

The sixth step is establish that Allah only rewards his faithful servants, and punishes the disobedient. This is important because Muslims have no guarantee of salvation without being obedient to everything Allah says to do. Allah very seriously punishes those who are disobedient, even with Hell. This means that if they want entrance into Paradise, they had better carry out everything, including jihad.

The eternal destiny of Muslims depends upon their earning Allah's favor. It is very difficult because Allah is the capricious one. One of Muhammad's closest friends said that even if he had one foot in Paradise, he would not be sure that he would get there.

Islam is highly structured, so when we see someone being fundamentalized, their lives will become more structured. They follow the daily prayers very strictly. They follow the dress code very strictly. They follow the dietary restrictions of Islam. They follow the Ramadan fasts very strictly.

These things happen because they are trying to be faithful Muslims. It doesn't stop with the 5 pillars of Islam, it goes into the unofficial 6th pillar, which is jihad.

This brings us to step seven, which is that the only guarantee of salvation is through an act of jihad. Muhammad said that one hour on the battlefield in jihad is worth 60 years of prayer. In other words, you will have as many brownie points with Allah if you spend 60 minutes on the battlefield as if you were faithful in your prayers for 60 years. You can't tell me that jihad isn't important to the religion of Islam.

Jihad is a communal obligation. Every Muslim is commanded to carry out jihad, even if it is not physical jihad. There is cultural jihad, the jihad of the pen, as well as jihad of the sword. Jihad is also a personal obligation. Muslims must personally engage in jihad.

The jihadist is not only carrying it out for himself, he is also carrying out his community service, if you will. This is important because if someone can't carry out physical jihad, he can do the others. Even lying for the benefit of Islam is part of jihad.

The only guarantee of salvation for a Muslim is through jihad. This is the real motivation for the jihadist.

The eighth step is establishing that the greatest reward is for the Shahid. A shahid is a martyr for Allah. This is a person who dies in jihad for Allah. There is no other guarantee of obtaining Paradise for a Muslim. There are 7 blessings promised to the shahid. We often hear of the 6th blessing. It promises that they will be married to 72 virgins. They will get to ravage these perpetual virgins throughout all eternity. They will have the appetite of 100 men for sex and for food.

The first 5 blessings include forgiveness of sin the moment his blood is shed, entering into Paradise, etc.

The 7th blessing, which we don't hear much about, is that they will plead for 70 of their family members entrance into Paradise. This explains why so many Muslim mothers are so willing to send their children out to be suicide bombers and to die in the cause of Islam.

The ninth step is establishing that the people of the book, Jews and Christians, have corrupted the West with their Judeo-Christian values of freedom and democracy. They believe that a democratic government comes from the pits of Hell.

They believe that Shariah is the only true law. They blame Christians for corrupting the message of Allah and corrupting the world with their idea of democracy. They believe that the only valid form of government is with a religious leadership, not unlike what they have in Iran today.

The tenth step is to establish that Israel has stolen the land that Allah promised to Ishmael, and that Muhammad commanded the death of every single Jew. One real test to find out if someone is a jihadi is to start talking about Israel.

Remember, the Qur'an says that the son offered by Abraham was Ishmael, not Isaac. They believe that the inheritance from Abraham comes through Ishmael, not Isaac. They believe that the Jews rewrote the Old Testament and have lied, giving the inheritance to Isaac.

Every Muslim who has been fundamentalized will believe in his heart that Israel must be pushed into the sea, every Jew needs to be slaughtered, and that they are the enemies of God. They hate the Jews with a passion.

Muslims who really get saved start falling in love with Israel.

Muslims believe that the Islamic Jesus, Isa, is coming back as a sidekick to Mahdi, and he will destroy the cross (every Christian), he will kill all of the pigs (Jews), and he will abolish the Jysia, the tax on submitted non-Muslims. He will do the last one because it will no longer be needed because all the Jews and Christians will have been destroyed.

When we see a Muslim with such hatred for Jews, we say he has been radicalized. He has not. He is consistent with what Muhammad taught, and what the Qur'an teaches.

These ten steps are accepted by all sects of Islam. When we see them developing in someone we should at least suspect that he is being radicalized. If we care about him, we should do something. If we can't personally help him, we should notify the authorities that something seems to be amiss.

If you would like to schedule a meeting with Tom you can call him at 1-800-616-0082.

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