

Christ in Islam.

SAYINGS ATTRIBUTED TO CHRIST BY MOHAMMEDAN WRITERS.

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(Continued from p. 59.)

II.

16. ii. 119. Jesus said : Make yourselves beloved of God by hating the evil-doers. Bring yourselves nearer to God by removing far from them ; and seek God's favour by their displeasure. They said : O Spirit of God, then with whom shall we converse ? Then He said : Converse with those whose presence will remind you of God, whose words will increase your works, and whose works will make you desire the next world.

17. ii. 134. Jesus said to the apostles : How would you do if you saw your brother sleeping, and the wind had lifted up his garment ? They said : We should cover him up. He said : Nay, ye would uncover him. They said : God forbid ! Who would do this ? He said : One of you who hears a word concerning his brother, and adds to it, and relates it with additions.

18. ii. 154. They say that there was no form of address Jesus loved better to hear than "Poor man !"

19. ii. 168. When Jesus was asked, How art Thou this morning ? He would answer : Unable to forestall what I hope, or to put off what I fear, bound by my works, with all my good in another's hand. There is no poor man poorer than I.

20. iii. 25. Satan, the accursed, appeared to Jesus, and said unto Him : Say, there is no God but God. He said : It is a true saying, but I will not say it at thy invitation.

21. iii. 28. When Jesus was born, the demons came to Satan, and said : The idols have been overturned. He said : This is a mere accident that has occurred ; keep still. Then he flew till he had gone over both hemispheres, and found nothing. After that he found Jesus the son of Mary already born, with the angels surrounding Him. He returned to the demons, and said : A Prophet was born yesterday ; no woman ever conceived or bare a child without my presence save this one. Hope not, therefore, that the idols will be worshipped after this night, so attack mankind through haste and thoughtlessness.

22. *Ibid.* Jesus lay down one day with His head upon a stone. Satan, passing by, said : O Jesus,

Thou art fond of this world. So He took the stone and cast it from under His head, saying : This be thine together with the world.

23. iii. 52. Jesus was asked, Who taught Thee ? He answered : No one taught me. I saw that the ignorance of the fool was a shame, and I avoided it.

24. *Ibid.* Jesus said : Blessed is he who abandons a present pleasure for the sake of a promised (reward) which is absent, and unseen.

25. iii. 65. Jesus said : O company of apostles ! make hungry your livers, and bare your bodies ; perhaps then your hearts may see God.

26. iii. 67. It is related how Jesus remained sixty days addressing His Lord, without eating. Then the thought of bread came into His mind, and His communion was interrupted, and He saw a loaf set before Him. Then He sat down and wept over the loss of His communion, when He beheld an old man close to Him. Jesus said unto him : God bless thee, thou saint of God ! Pray to God for me, for I was in an ecstasy when the thought of bread entered my mind, and the ecstasy was interrupted. The old man said : O God, if Thou knowest that the thought of bread came into my mind since I knew Thee, then forgive me not. Nay, when it was before me, I would eat it without thought or reflection.

27. iii. 81. Jesus said : Beware of glances ; for they plant passion in the heart, and that is a sufficient temptation.

28. iii. 87. Jesus was asked by some men to guide them to some course whereby they might enter Paradise. He said : Speak not at all. They said : We cannot do this. He said : Then only say what is good.

29. *Ibid.* Jesus said : Devotion is of ten parts. Nine of them consist in silence, and one in solitude.

30. iii. 92. Jesus said : Whosoever lies much, loses his beauty ; and whosoever wrangles with others, loses his honour ; and whosoever is much troubled, sickens in his body ; and whosoever is evilly disposed, tortures himself.

(To be continued.)