Muslims and Salvation

As I write this letter a deep sadness fills my heart. The Roman Catholic Church has a great tradition going back to the apostles; she still upholds many cardinal doctrines of the Christian faith. However Rome has allowed error after error to poison the purity of the Gospel. This degeneration can be clearly seen in her declarations concerning the Islamic religion.

Before returning to heaven, our Lord gave His church a very specific commission. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:15,16).

This commission places an enormous responsibility on our shoulders. For all have sinned; the entire world is guilty before God. There is one solution to our sin problem – and that is not human religion. Only Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world. Our mission is to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and salvation through faith in Him. We have no other message for them who reject the Gospel except the solemn warning that "he that believeth not shall be damned."

But the modern Catholic Church gives a false hope of salvation to those who either do not know the Gospel or even reject it completely. Read what Vatican II declares about Muslims:

"But the plan of salvation also includes those who acknowledge the Creator, in the first place among whom are the Muslims: these profess to hold the faith of Abraham, and together with us they adore the one, merciful God, mankind's judge on the last day" (*Lumen Gentium* 16, November 21, 1964).

This statement sounds pleasant in many ears in our age of compromise and unfaithfulness, but is it true? Is it true that Muslims worship the one true God? Do they hold the faith of Abraham? Are they included in the plan of salvation? The plain answer is, No!

The 'god' of Islam is a false deity. The Muslims do not believe in God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the true and living God, because they deny that Jesus is His only-begotten Son.

Unlike Abraham, who was justified by faith and not because of his works or religious rites, Muslims hope to be saved on account of their fasting, prayers and pilgrimages.

Islam denies the Son of God, His atoning death on the cross, and His resurrection. The Bible teaches that "he that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." (John 3:36). Instead of warning them about the wrath of God, Rome assures Muslims that they are included in the plan of salvation!

That is a lie! Only Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but by Him. A false religious system is not the way to the Father. There is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

If we love our Muslim neighbours, we must be bold enough to tell them the truth, bitter as it is; and to disassociate ourselves from the sugarcoated lies of Rome that only confirm them in their delusion.