

Comparison of Islamic and Adventist Christian Eschatology

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to discuss the comparison of life after death (eschatology) in Islam and Adventist Christianity. The research method used in this research is qualitative with the data collection process through literature review. The results showed that the comparison of eschatology in Islam and Christianity has a significant difference; this can be seen in the two holy books, namely the Koran and the Bible. Eschatology in Islam is also known as the end of time or the day of judgment. Therefore, eschatology is a day that every Muslim fear because eschatology is a day of vengeance, where all deeds in the world will be counted on that day. At the same time, eschatology in Adventist Christianity is a day full of hope that Christians always look forward to. They waited for Christ to come a second time to meet His people to the place He had prepared. However, eschatology in Islam is also shrouded in hope for salvation, where Muslim belief always boils down to how big the scales of good deeds are while in this world. Therefore, this article provides superior wisdom for both religions. In contrast, human being's hope for a good place after death must always be nurtured by good deeds and rewards as provisions later in the Hereafter.

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk membahas tentang perbandingan kehidupan pasca kematian (eskatologi) dalam agama Islam dan Kristen Advent. Metode penelitian yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini ialah kualitatif dengan proses pengumpulan data melalui kajian pustaka (literature review). Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa perbandingan eskatologi dalam agama Islam dan Kristen memiliki perbedaan yang sangat signifikan, hal tersebut terlihat pada kitab suci keduanya, yaitu Alquran dan Alkitab. Eskatologi dalam Islam disebut juga sebagai akhir zaman atau hari penghakiman. Maka dari itu eskatologi merupakan hari yang ditakuti oleh setiap Muslim, karena eskatologi adalah hari pembalasan, dimana semua perbuatan di dunia akan dihitung pada hari itu. Sedangkan eskatologi dalam Kristen Advent adalah suatu hari penuh harapan yang selalu dinantikan umat Kristiani. Mereka menunggu Kristus datang untuk kedua kalinya untuk menjemput umat-Nya menuju tempat yang telah Dia persiapkan. Meskipun demikian, eskatologi dalam Islam juga diselimuti oleh harapan akan keselamatan dimana keyakinan Muslim selalu bermuara pada seberapa besar timbangan amal baik selama di dunia. Karenanya, artikel ini memberikan hikmah besar pada kedua agama, dimana sebagai umat beragama harapan akan tempat yang baik pasca kematian harus selalu dipupuk oleh perbuatan-perbuatan yang baik dan mengundang pahala sebagai bekal kelak di hari akhir.

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1. Introduction

The laws of nature teach that there will be an end when something has a beginning, making it complete (Weinberg, 2011). Eschatology is the belief in the end of time (Darby, 2016). It is a belief that is currently popular in society, especially religious leaders who mainly talk about the Day of Judgment, which is now approaching its door, which can significantly impact people's thinking about their fear of the Day of Judgment (Shoemaker, 2018). This dynamic can be found in different religious communities, specifically Muslim and Christian communities. In the Muslim and Christian communities, religious pluralism is relatively high, and belief in the holy book is always used as a guide. This allows everyone's mind to be closer to God differently when facing the world's end (Boersma, 2018; Rahman & Setia, 2021).

Islam and Christianity are the two religions with the most adherents in Indonesia (Marshall, 2018), proliferating, even becoming the largest religion whose teachings are widely believed and practiced (Rahman, 2021). These two religions can be well received, with inherent doctrines that do not make it difficult for the community (Wibisono, 2020). Faith cannot be separated from these two beliefs at the end. We can accept that today's society believes that this era has entered the end times with evidence juxtaposed with the doctrines and arguments that develop in community. This world is approaching the period of Muslims and Christians where belief in the apocalypse that will undoubtedly occur is closely related to seeing the signs that have already happened.

The end of time, which is God's secret, is an exciting thing to contemplate, but it can be felt by religious people who now think that some signs of the end times have occurred and are accurate, causing people to want to be closer to their God. For some people who do not believe in God, to those who do not believe in the scriptures, the end of the world is difficult for the mind to accept. Even in this modern era, its existence is still rejected by some secular-minded circles, especially those who submit to the arrogance of their cognitive powers. However, the earth in this era has entered the end of time (McCauley & Graham, 2020).

The Messenger of Allah has reminded his followers in a hadith in the Islamic world that this world is short, and humans are like guests who stop by and then go to the village of the hereafter. It is even said in a story that the world we are standing in today shows that the world has found an end called the end of time. Muslims also assume that the sign of the end of time is the world implicitly associated with this explicit proposition. Meanwhile, in Christianity, it is stated that the time when this world will perish is the end of time or the Day of Judgment. It says in the Bible that, for the second time, Jesus will come as a judge who will judge all humanity (Agamben, 2015).

Furthermore, the Bible also explains how the signs in the last days will appear. However, when the end times will occur and when Jesus will return, the Bible does not explain and mention it. The description above shows that these two religions have the same concept, namely the concept of the end of time. However, no individual knows when the appointed time will come for this world to end (Luhmann, 2012).

This study uses a qualitative method to analyze a phenomenon in depth to produce a supporting argument (Mustari & Rahman, 2012). Therefore, this study uses a literature review as a data collection method. The study focused on how Islam and Adventist Christianity provide insight into the eschatology of their religion. In Islam, several books of fiqh, monotheism, and hadith used include the views of Muslim figures and scholars. While in the study of Adventist Christianity (Fackre, 1996), the primary reference issued by the Pastoral Department of the Adventist Church, the Seventh Day of the World, is used. "What You Need To Know About... 28 Outlines of Basic Biblical Doctrine" (2006). In addition, several other (secondary) sources are also used to combine primary references, including from various national and international journals that support research. As a result, after obtaining the discussion categorization, this article concludes with supporting scientific facts.

2. Results and Discussion

2.1. End Times According to Islam and Christianity AD Seventh-day Adventists

End Times According to Islam

Eschatology is a branch of theology and philosophy that studies future events in global history and the final fate of all humanity, sometimes referred to as the world's end. On the eve of the Day of Judgment, humanity can feel the following indicators, as stated in a hadith narrated by Muslim:

Narrated from Hudhaifah bin Asid Al-Ghiffari, he said: "The Messenger of Allah (may peace be upon him). approached us while we were talking about something, he asked: "what are you talking about?". We replied: "We are talking about the Hour". He said: doomsday will not happen until you see the ten signs before ". He mentioned 1) fog, 2) dajjal 3) animals crawling from the ground, 4) the rising of the sun from the west, 5) the descent of Isa bin Maryam as, 6) Gog and Magog, and three eclipses, namely 7) eastern eclipse, 8) eclipse in the west, 9) eclipse in the Arabian Peninsula, 10) fire that arose from Yemen drove people to Mahsyar "(HR Muslim).

Based on the above signs, it can be explained as follows:

1) *Dukhan*

Dukhan or which is translated with fog, is one of the events that will occur at the end of time. This fog will likely cover the planet, and those who inhale it will be exposed to influenza, while the hypocrites will perish in the heat. This cloud phenomenon will last for 40 days to remind the unbelievers and mark the beginning of their doom and torment. According to Ibn Kathir's tafsir, when the Quraish refused to embrace Islam and fight the Prophet Muhammad, the Prophet asked them to be terrible, especially during years of stagnation, as happened in the time of Joseph, so that they too would experience hardship and hunger. They then raised their eyes to the sky and saw nothing but fog. It is said in a narrative that there was a man who stared at the sky, then saw the sky and developed a kind of fog inside him.

Ibn Kathir states textually this verse, which is mentioned in the Qur'an shows that the smoke from the sky that envelops human beings is a natural and expected thing. Imam Nawawi argues that the hadith that presents the ten signs of the Hour strengthens the opinion that the fog about the infidels' breath and befalls the believers in the form of flu has not happened.

2) *The Coming Out of Dajjal*

Dajjal will declare himself as God; at that time, his body will grow in size and height spontaneously. As a result, the depth of the sea is only about the waist. Moreover, the words "infidel" between the eyes became increasingly evident. Those who are obedient and believe in Allah can read the writings and refute what the Dajjal says. Those who do not believe in Allah, on the other hand, cannot see the writings and therefore become followers of Dajjal. Dajjal controls hell and heaven by his deceit. The Paradise of Dajjal, which seems to have a lot of delicious food and drink, is available to everyone who chooses to follow it. And the Hell of Dajjal, prepared with a licking fire for those who disbelieve, disbelieve and follow it. Indeed, the visual paradise of Dajjal is the hell of Allah, and the fire of Dajjal that is seen is cool and pure water, implying that the heaven of Allah is provided for those who reject Dajjal and only believe in Allah.

3) *The Rise of Imam Mahdi*

When Dajjal disturbs mankind, Imam Mahdi will appear in Mecca on the tenth night of Dzulhijjah, an odd year in the Hijri calendar considered slander spread by Dajjal and his followers, correcting the damage to the earth and human morality caused by Dajjal's actions.

4) *The Descent of Isa Al-Masih*

When Imam Mahdi fought with Dajjal, the Muslims were pursued by Dajjal and his followers. Jesus will descend from heaven on a white tower east of Damascus, the capital of Syria. Jesus came to earth with a mission: to kill the Dajjal, remove the cross, remove the jisyah (tax), and end the battle. The appearance of Jesus made the Dajjal afraid to flee. However, Jesus pursued him until he was arrested in the vicinity of Babylon, about three kilometers southeast of the Palestinian city. That is where Jesus killed the Antichrist.

5) *The Muslims who killed the Jews*

The Muslims who killed the Jews, based on the hadith narrated from Abu Hurairah that the Prophet. said "Doomsday will not come until the Muslims fight the Jews and kill them until the Jews hide behind rocks and trees. Then the stone and the tree said: "O Muslim, O servant of God, this is the Jew behind me, come here, kill him". Except *gharqad* (will not say so) because it is a Jewish tree "(HR Bukhari Muslim).

6) *The Muslims who killed the Jews*

After Imam Mahdi died, all the people were led by the Prophet Isa. In his time, the world was not much different from the time of Imam Mahdi, namely the establishment of Islamic law. However, in this age, two creatures will appear that destroy the earth named Ya "juz and Ma" juz, which make the Muslims suffer. Not a few Muslims are killed due to the difficulty of obtaining water and food. The Gog and Magog have eaten all the plants and water.

7) *The Rising of the Sun from the West*

As the Hour approaches, hypocrisy, evil, apostasy, and anger become more common, prostitution becomes ubiquitous, and evil becomes uncontrollable. This will happen after the death of the Prophet Isa. At such moments, the sun prostrates under the Throne, and Allah forbids the sun to rise again and commands the moon to approach the sun. The sun and moon were then silent for three days, prolonging the darkness.

8) *Blowing the Trumpet*

Angel Israfil is the angel who guards the trumpet. The trumpet was on his right shoulder, and the trumpet's tip was in his mouth. Then he can see God's command when the time blows. If the time has come, then the trumpet will approach Israfil's face, then Israfil will gather his four wings and blow the trumpet. And at that time all the inhabitants of heaven and earth died.

End Times According to Seventh-day Adventist Christianity

Naturally, human desires sometimes crave knowledge of what will happen in the future. Prediction is not something everyone can do. However, there is someone whose prophecy has proven to be very accurate. Jesus Christ, through His word can bring humanity to that future. It is a reliable driver. The end-time processes according to Seventh-day Adventist Christianity are described as follows:

1) *The War*

In Eden's garden, a war had begun between two brothers, Cain and Abel. Then tribes, states, coalitions. Why the war? Because the devil makes all sorts of ways to create hatred that grows into a difference. For a nation will rise against another nation, and a kingdom will rise against another kingdom. Famine and earthquakes will occur in many locations. However, this is only the beginning of the new age of suffering (Matthew 24: 7-8). "You will hear the roar of battle or the whispers of conflict everywhere." However, be careful not to get nervous; because even though all these things have to

happen, it's not the end. For a nation will rise against another nation, and a kingdom will rise against another kingdom. Famine and earthquakes will occur in many locations. However, this is only the beginning of the suffering that will precede the new age.

So it is with the war of Armageddon. Most pastors, administrators, evangelists, and Bible teachers believed that the fall of Turkey or the Ottoman Empire was a great sign that the second coming of Jesus was near. Others believe that Armageddon is a physical battle between Turkey and the Christian nations of the world (Moore, 2008). They also believe that war is a war between opposing countries. Smith taught that Armageddon would be a spiritual battle between the forces of good and evil in the world. At the same time, some others insist that it will be a spiritual battle (Abdullah, 2009).

2) Terror and Suffering

Similarly, if the vile destroyers have sprung up a lot and become leaders. In the Bible it says, "When the people of Yadea saw the abomination of the Destroyer standing in the wrong location - the reader should pay attention - they had to flee to the mountains. People who have been disabled on the house's roof cannot go down and enter the house to steal anything. And whoever is in the field, let him not return to take his clothes. Woe to pregnant or breastfeeding mothers at that time. Pray that all this does not happen during the winter. Because in those days, torment will be unimaginable compared to everything that has happened since the creation of the world, that God created until now, and that will never happen again. And if God did not shorten his time, none of the living would be saved; but the Lord is shortening the time because of the righteous he has chosen." (Mark 13: 14-20).

3) Natural Disasters

Prophecy not only foretells the method and purpose of Christ's return but also offers an indicator that his return is near. "There shall be signs in the sun, moon, and stars," said Jesus (Luke 21:25). "... (the sun) shall be dim and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, eroding the sky's power. The Son of Man will appear in a cloud, full of power and glory — he." "The Book of Revelation details the first indication before the second coming of Christ." Behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as red as blood." (Revelation 6:12)

This indication existed before the eighteenth century. In 1755, this prophecy was fulfilled. The most devastating earthquake in recorded history. Europe, Africa, and the United States, Spain and Portugal, were hit hard by the catastrophic waves in Cadiz, believed to have reached a height of 60 feet. After the quake, churches and monasteries collapsed. After the earthquake, fires broke out in various locations. The fires were so intense that they burned for three days, eradicating the city. This happens so interestingly because the fulfillment of the prophecy has been determined by conviction (Suja'i, 2005).

4) Accumulation of Wealth

"Thou hast laid up treasure for the last days" (James 5: 3). Many people are already wealthy in today's world, but their wealth increases day by day. And the poor are getting poorer day by day. Despite so many efforts to revive the economy. Why is that? This is what human greed causes. Because people are never satisfied with what they have, when people accumulate a lot of wealth, what happens is the wealth that they gets.

5) Public Unrest

"There have been tremendous protests about the wages you have cut from the workers who harvest the fruit of your fields, and the complaints of those who cut your crops have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You must also train your patience and fortify your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand." (James 5: 4, 8).

After seeing the prosperity of this era, James predicted that mass riots would arise, which were carried out by workers who felt dissatisfied. For example, when workers are given holiday wages, they do not feel happy but demonstrate—tensions between the rich and the poor increase (Al-Hasyimi, 2005).

6) Moral Decline

At the end of this age, there are many groups of people or individuals who are called thieves. Not much different from people called corruptors, who are a thief. It is just that corruptors have high ranks and work in high places because of the high level of education. Why do highly educated people do such a thing? The answer is that it is no longer the age that prioritizes morality as the number one rank in this age. Even highly educated, high-ranking people have many who do not respect and do good to their parents do not accept religious teachings. It is all because of the lust that they always follow and cannot stand.

7) The Spread of Witchcraft and False Prophets

"For false messiahs and false prophets will arise, and they will perform great signs and wonders to deceive the elect as well." 24:24) (Matthew 24:24) . "Many false prophets will come, leading many people. the number of people lost. As lawlessness grows, the majority of people will be cool. " (Matthew 24: 11-12).

There will be no more empathy, help to help fellow human beings, see human beings only in their fellow citizens only, only in the same religion, if they are different, they should not be helped. Even in the same family but different religions, they will not help each other.

8) The Rising World, the Advancement of Knowledge and the Modern Age

The rising world can be seen from how the development of the modern world today. Modern advances and science are increasing rapidly. "But, Daniel, hide all this and keep the book until the end of time; many shall search it out, and knowledge shall be increased." (Daniel 12: 4). Here Daniel says that the knowledge of his prophecy will increase in the end times. But this prediction also points directly to today's computer information age (Al-Mishri, 2009).

Knowledge in all fields has increased like the speed of light in recent years. There have been more changes in the last fifty years than in the previous two thousand years. For example, today, knowledge can be obtained in many ways as long as there is the internet. Increased knowledge. Currently, some progress is being made in the field of education. His achievements are believed to exceed expectations and surpass those of his generation's predecessors. Various innovative innovations, such as robots, have been successfully developed and used to facilitate human tasks. In today's world, robots have taken over human jobs. Moreover, the results of robot work are far more accurate than those produced by humans like us. Science advancements are seen as beneficial developments because they result in a higher quality of life (Angeles, 1981).

9) The Gospel to All the World

Jesus prophesied that the gospel would spread throughout the world just before He came. "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations," it reads (Matthew 24:14). For decades, more than half the world was imprisoned behind iron barriers, wholly isolated from the gospel. But suddenly, almost immediately, Eastern Europe broke free from the iron grip of communism. The Berlin Wall collapsed, and the once mighty Uni Soviet State was destroyed. Suddenly, almost half of the face of the earth opened its hands to receive the gospel. Indeed, the gospel is spreading faster than ever "worldwide." The Christian message is simultaneously being spread to almost everyone in every country.

10) The Blowing of the Trumpet

As he contemplated this dangerous moment, the prophet Jeremiah cried out, "Alas, my chest, my chest! I am in pain! Alas, the fortress of my heart! My heart is pounding, and I cannot be silent when I hear that sound. After ruin was announced, the whole area was destroyed; my tent was destroyed suddenly, in the blink of an eye." (Jeremiah 4: 19-20).

From this, it can be seen that when the trumpet of the Lord is sounded, then no one can withstand the sound of the great trumpet. Even all the things of the earth were destroyed suddenly. "The day of trouble, the day of trouble and distress, the day of ruin and destruction, the day of darkness and gloom, the day of clouds and darkness, the day of the trumpet blast and the cry of war against the fortified cities and at the corners the highest towers" (Zephaniah 1:15) -16)." Surely the day of the Lord will come in wrath, in covetousness, and in burning anger, to destroy the world and its sinners." (Isaiah 13: 9).

11) Judgment Phase

As he contemplated this dangerous moment, the prophet Jeremiah cried out, "Alas, my chest, my chest! I am in pain! Alas, the fortress of my heart! My heart is pounding and I cannot be silent when I hear that sound. After ruin was announced, the whole area was destroyed; my tent was destroyed suddenly, in the blink of an eye." (Jeremiah 4: 19-20).

- a. The purification of the temple corresponds to the first, or pre-Advent, part of the judgment test. The emphasis is on the names recorded in the Book of Life, just as the Day of Atonement emphasizes the removal of sins confessed by repentant people in the temple. False believers will be removed; The faith and relationship of true believers with Christ will be verified before the faithful universe, while their sins will be blotted out.
- b. The expulsion of the male goat into the wilderness symbolizes Satan's imprisonment on this forsaken planet for 1000 years, beginning with the Second Coming of Christ and ending with the second part of the final judgment in heaven. This age of judgment examines the wicked and benefits the elect by teaching them God's method of dealing with sin and unsaved sinners. All redeemed doubts about God's goodness and justice are overcome.
- c. A clean tabernacle symbolizes the third outcome, or completion of the judicial process, when the fires of hell burn up the wicked and the world is cleansed (An-Nadawi, 2007).

2.2. How to Face the End Times According to Islam and Christianity AD Seventh-day Adventism

According to Islam

1) Fear of God

One of the ways to face the cruelty of the end-time chaos is to fear God. A person is said to be pious is when he does the commandments of God and stays away from His prohibitions. A command that can draw closer to God's anger includes getting drunk, playing with the opposite sex who is not mahram, and many more.

At the end of this age, humanity will be faced with the chaos that is greatly feared by every human being, so righteousness to God is one way for people to meet the chaos of the end of time with the help of God. When people love God, God will love man more than man's love for God.

2) Strengthening Faith

At the end of time, humanity will not know whether his faith can still be maintained or whether it will crumble with the chaos of the end of time. Therefore, Muslims should strengthen and train their faith, so that when faced with a difficult time, people already have confidence and trust in Allah Ta'ala. In this time, the ummah will miss how his encounter with his God, the meaning of faith in this time is a much-needed meaning. For example, when a person is faced with the chaos of Dajjal, then he will think about whether he must believe in Dajjal to live well. But it is different with someone who has a

strong faith. He will defend his faith in Allah before the Dajjal despite having to sacrifice his life (Dawud, 2001).

3) Take Care of Yourself, and Family

According to experts, fear God and teach your family to fear. While Qatadah says that you should command your people to follow Allah and forbid them from disobeying Him. And you must follow God's commands to them, teach them in their execution, and assist them in their performance. If you see them rebelling against God, warn them and stop their disobedience. To face the chaos of the end times, a person must take care of his family. A family leader needs to keep the faith so as not to deviate from God's commandments and to encourage his family to obey God's laws and stay away from His prohibitions.

Because many apostates will return to the religion at the end of time and do not believe in God as their Lord and when this world is over, the day of reckoning and weighing will soon come. So that what we do while living in this world, will be counted and weighed as to how obedient and what has been achieved during life on this earth (Jamaluddin, 2001).

According to Seventh-day Adventist Christianity

1) Believe in God

One way to face the end of this age is to believe in God, Only in God. And to Jesus Christ. Do not trust anyone other than Him or a national leader because we will be disappointed. In My Father's house, there are many mansions in heaven, and even all the earth's inhabitants will suffice in them. However, because of Lucifer's interests, he tried with all his might and with all his might to mislead people, and eventually, there was chaos created by him (Efferin, 2001).

2) Return to God

Extensive rejuvenation is needed to prepare a people who can stand strong on the day of the Lord. God sees that many of those who claim to be His people are not building up for eternity, and in His goodness, He sends a word of warning to wake them from their sleep and prepare them for the coming of God (Hernawan, 2016).

3) Doing His Commandments

Whoever obeys and obeys My commandments, then he is the one who loves Me. And if anyone loves me, my Father will love him, and I will love him and show myself to him. The proof that people love God is their obedience to His commandments. Follow His path of righteousness and redemption. Why is violence perpetrated? That's because people have lost the ability to enforce instructions and regulations. Whoever insists on doing the will of God and pays close attention to the light that has been given will get a more excellent light. To such souls will be sent the stars that reflect the light of Heaven, guiding them towards all truth (White, 2011).

3. Conclusions

In Islam, the end of time is sometimes referred to as the last day or the Day of Judgment. This is the event of the universe's destruction, the end of this earthly existence, and the beginning of life after death. And is one of the five pillars of faith. If a person does not believe in it, then his religion is worthless. Doomsday has the names mentioned in the Qur'an, such as *yaumul qiyamah*, *yaumul hasr*, *yaumul hisab*, *yaumu zalzalah*, *yaumuddin*, *yaumul waqi'ah*, *yaumul ghasyiyah*, *yaumu rojifah*, *yaumul haaqqah*, and *yaumu thoommah*. Whereas in Christianity, the understanding and belief of the end times has been believed since the beginning of Christianity, but over time the belief about the end times is forgotten by some people and re-established in the time of William Miller and a church sect emerged

called the Seventh-day Adventist Church. For Adventists, the end of time, or so-called Doomsday is a day full of hope for the second coming of Jesus. Christians believe that Jesus will come to gather them and transport them to the area where He has prepared them to live.

The signs of the Day of Judgment are famine, poverty, wars everywhere, the rise of science, the battle of Armageddon, the appearance of false prophets, some signs from heaven and earth, and the second coming of Jesus. The symptoms of Doomsday are the presence of *dukhan* (fog), the emergence of Dajjal, the emergence of Imam Mahdi, the descent of the Prophet Isa. The emergence of two destructive creatures Gog and Magog, the rising sun from the West, and the trumpet blowing. In the teachings of Advent there is not much difference in the process of end-time events, such as war, terror and suffering, natural disasters, moral decay, the emergence of false prophets, the gospel that will spread throughout the world and end with the blowing of trumpets and the coming of Christ. In facing the end of time, various strategies are needed to face it. The Qur'an provides an explanation using piety to God, strengthening faith, and protecting oneself and one's family from the moral decline that will occur at the end of time; always have a strong faith. The Bible explains that the people should always believe in God, return to God, and do His commandments.

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