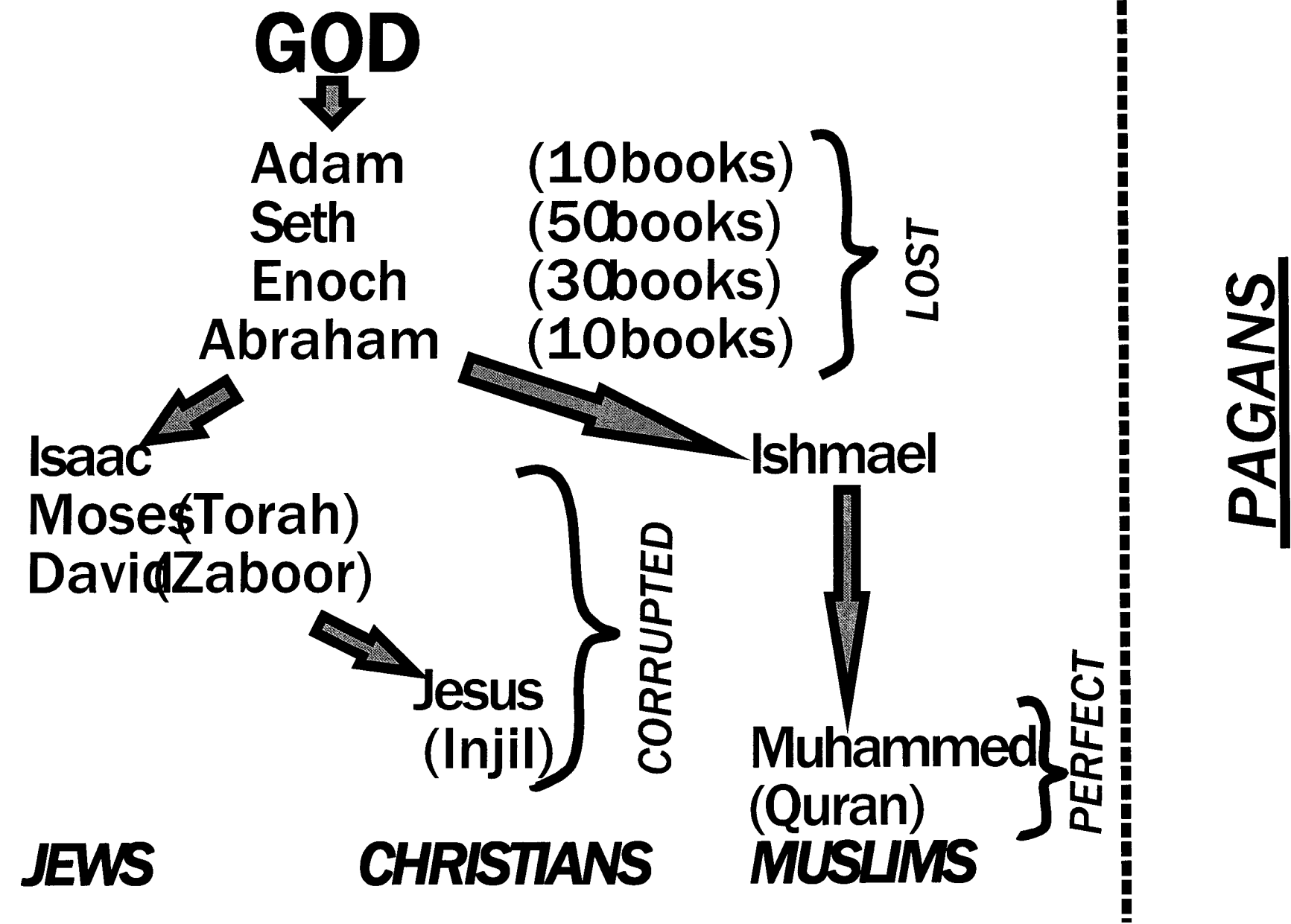


**ISLAM**

# PEOPLE OF THE BOOK



# DIVISIONS IN ISLAM

## ISLAM



**Sunni**: [Turkey, Africa, Pakistan, S.E.Asia]

- followers of first caliphs - imams
- followers of tradition - *sunnah*
- Al Ghazzali, chief theologian
- four schools of theology/jurisprudence

**Shi'a**: [Iraq, Iran]

- followers of Ali (4th caliph)
- 12 imams, last is Mahdi who will return
- Muharram - death of Hassan and Husain
- thirty-two subdivisions

**Sufi**: [mystical, 8-9th cent.]

- encounter God directly through poetry, recitations, dance, drugs, & mystical masters
- three streams: mysticism of 1) love, 2) ecstasy and gnostic knowledge, and 3) intuition—drawn to the “light”

# **SOURCES OF REVELATION**

## **1. QUR'AN:**

[verbal revelation given to Muhammed]

## **2. HADITH–‘Tradition’:**

[*sunnahs* - verbally handed down. Sunnis recognize 6 authorities– AH 256-273; Shi'ites recognize 5 – AH 329-406]

- <sup>1</sup> 2.1 Records of what Muhammed **did**.
- 2.2 Records of what Muhammed **enjoined**.
- 2.3 Records of what Muhammed **allowed**.

## **3. Other Authorities:**

- 3.1 Sunni: *ijma'a* – agreed upon sayings, *kiyas* – commentaries.
- 3.2 Shi'a: doctrines of the twelve Imams.

## **4. *Shariat* – law of Islam:**

- 4.1 *usul Al-fiqh*: “roots of law” – Quran, Sunnah, consensus of *'ulama*.
- 4.2 *furu Al-fiqh*: branches of the law.

# **MUSLIM DOCTRINES**

**1. Allah:**

**2. Angels: angels, jinn, devils**

**3. Books: 104–100 lost, 3 corrupted, 1 perfect [Qur'an]**

**4. Prophets:**

- Adam – “Chose of God”
- Noah – “Preacher of God”
- Abraham – “Friend of God”
- Moses – “Spokesman of God”
- Jesus – “Word of God”
- Muhammed – 201 names.

- 
- lesser prophets: 22 named in Quran plus thousands of others

**5. Judgment on the last day :**

**6. Predestination:**

# **PRACTICES IN ISLAM**

- 1. RECITE THE CREED:** “There is no God but “Allah,  
and Muhammed is his prophet.”
  
- 2. PRAYER FIVE  
TIMES DAILY:**
  - purification: wash parts of body three times according to 14 rules.
  - posture: facing Kabla, prostrations, genuflections.
  - petition: say 1st Surah and Salaam.
  
- 3. FASTING:**
  - during month of Ramadan.
  
- 4. ALMS-GIVING:**
  - about 1/40 of income.
  
- 5. PILGRIMAGE:**
  - to Mecca (incumbent) and Medina.

## **LIFE OF MUHAMMAD**

- born about 570 A.D. in Koreish tribe in Mecca.
- his father died before his birth, his mother when he was six, his grandfather when he was eight. Adopted by his uncle who was poor.
- described as pure-hearted, upright, compassionate, trustworthy.
- hired as a camel driver by Khadija, a wealthy widow, fifteen years older than he. Married her. She was his strength.
- 15 years of preparation—meditating in a cave on Mount Hira.
- commissioned as a prophet in 610 A.D. on the Night of Power—a voice from heaven, and an angel who said, “Proclaim.”

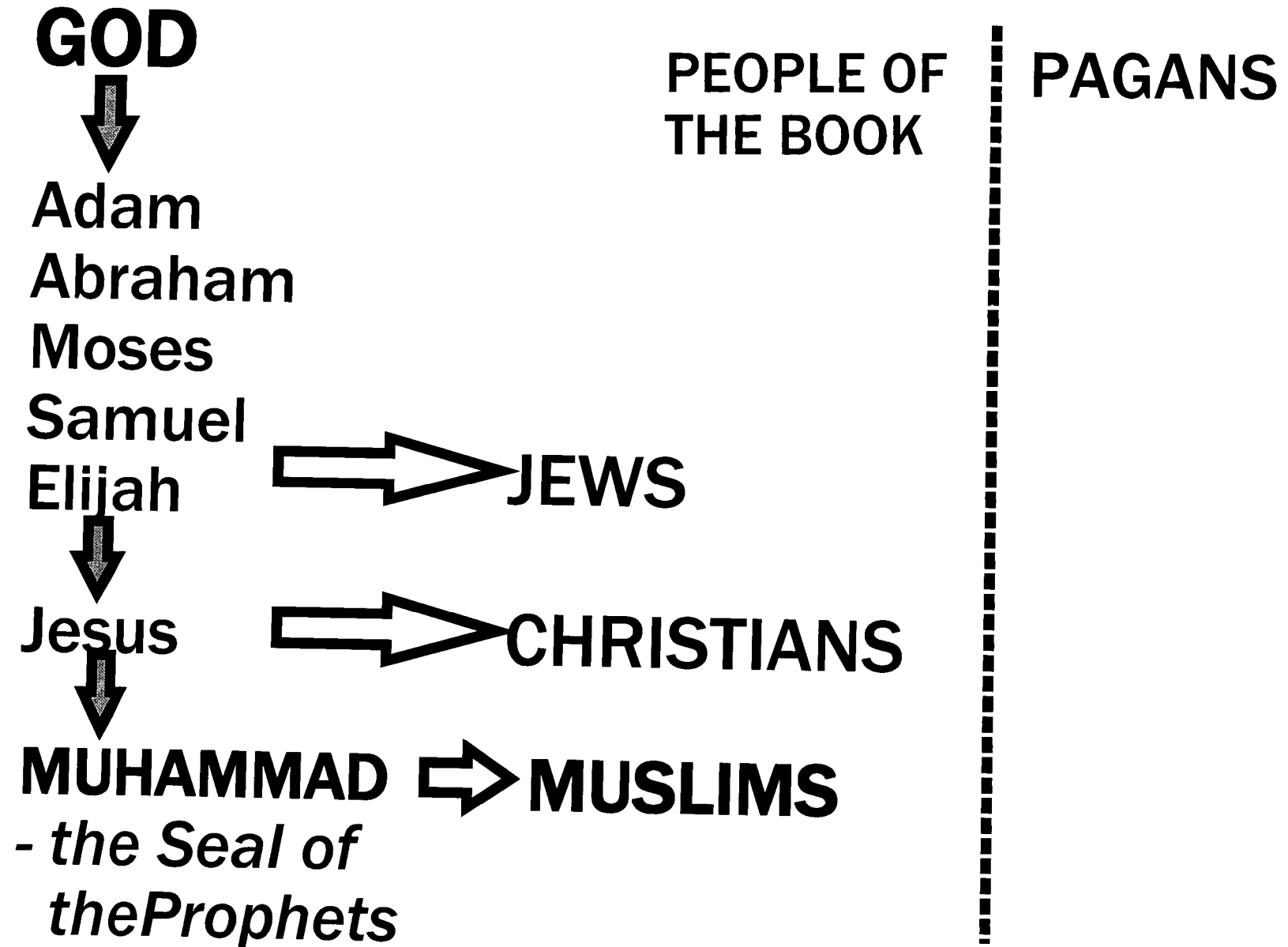
- terrified, ran home to Khadija. She affirmed his calling and became his first convert
- Mecca was violently hostile –ridicule, abuse, persecution. Less than 40 converts in first 3 years.
- **622 HIJRA** or migration to Yathrib [Medina] invited to be leader and judge. 70 families went with him. United city and region.
- took many wives, many children died.
- Defeated Mecca when attacked.
- 630–returned to Mecca in triumph. Went to Ka’ba–the temple. As ruler he united all Arabia.
- 632–died in Yathrib.



# **AL-QUR'AN ["recitation"]**

- four-fifths the length of the N.T.
- **114 *suras*** or chapters.
- the written or earthly Quran is the miracle of the presence of the divine Uncreated Quran.
- it came to Muhammad over **23** years when he was in a trance. It descended independent of his will.
- it completes the O.T. and N.T. which are partly corrupted by transmission.
- it cannot be translated. To do so is to lose its perfection. Therefore converts should learn Arabic.
- it is not metaphysics, nor history. It is doctrine presented in small bits.
- it's incoherence is due, in part, to putting infinite truth in finite forms.

# THE PROPHETS



# **SHARIAT – Rule of Islam**

## **DAR AL-ISLAM**

[House of Islam]

- rule of *shariat* law
- peace
- faithful to God

## **DAR AL HARB**

[House of non-Islam]

- lawless world
- *jihad*–war
- infidels