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Sample 3

Muslims are Wrong and Christians are Right

Are Muslims really wrong and Christians are absolutely right? The *Song of Roland* is a beautiful poem that portrays the knightly attributes of the knights that surround King Charles of France during the eleventh century. The poem illustrates how these knights honor their king even until death. King Charles and the knights are zealous Christian believers, they believe that Jesus Christ is the only true God. They believe that Jesus is the only one that brings salvation to mankind. Because of this belief, they think that Christian religion is the only one that is right and the other religion is wrong, therefore they believe in the conversion of pagans to Christianity to bridge the gap of indifference from each other. In the *Song of Roland*, the author or authors in the medieval times have made changes in history by writing his own version of what happened in the event of the battle of the Pyrenees and the whole history behind it. This paper would like to present an argument that the writer of the famous poem *Song of Roland* is biased in his portrayal of Muslims as heretics, murderers and cowards while the author portrays the Christians as righteous, heroic, courageous and honorable. The *Song of Roland* also encourages Christian martyrdom.

The *Song of Roland* is clearly biased in presenting Muslims as heretics, pagans and God-haters. The poem starts by introducing Masilion, King of Saragossa as pagan and a heretic. Saragossa is the last kingdom in Spain that King Charles would soon conquer for France. In the passage, the author writes that Masilion “does not love God, /... rather he serves Mahomet and prays to Apollin” (7). And over different passages, the poem portrays how the Muslims honors their prophet Muhammad and worship the god Apollo or Apollin. This is false as the people

from Saragossa whom the author calls Saracens are Muslims, they do not worship Apollin the god of the Greeks, but they worship their god whose name Allah.