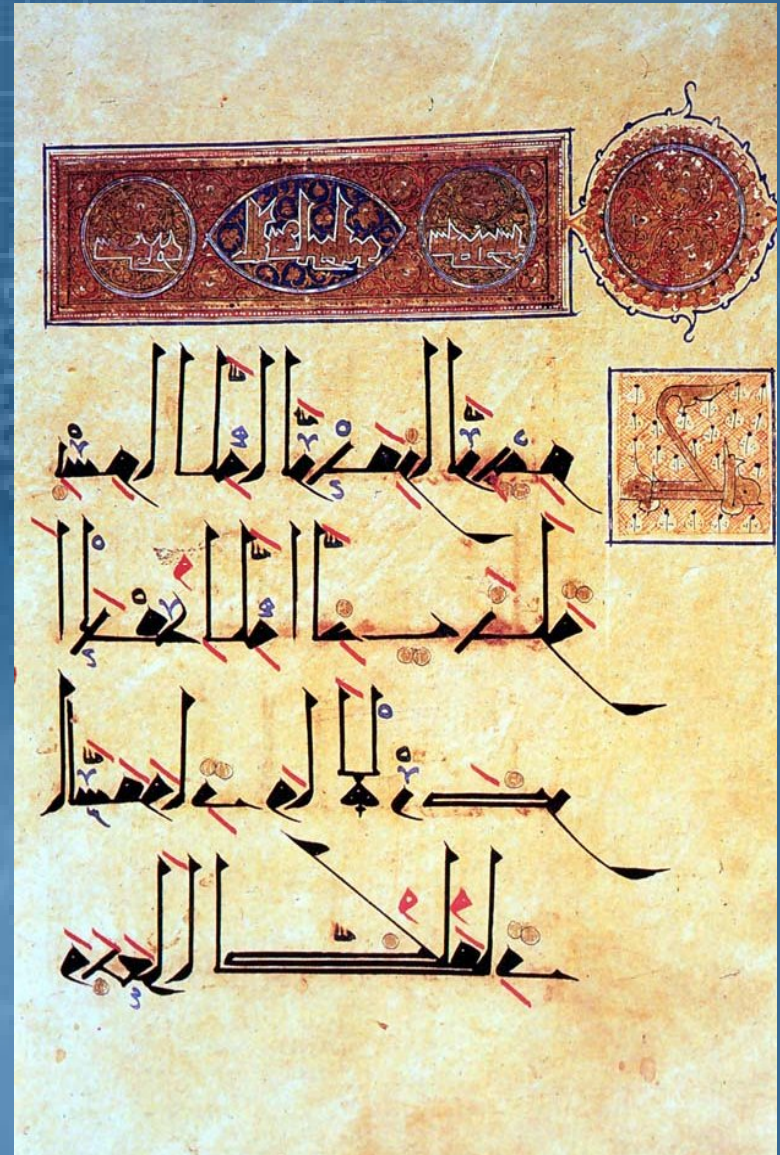


# *Islam*

Coastland University



## Comparison grid between Christianity and Islamic doctrine

<http://www.carm.org/islam/grid.htm>

Term	Christianity	Islam
Afterlife	Christians will be with the Lord in heaven ( <a href="#">Phil. 1:21-24</a> ), in our resurrected bodies ( <a href="#">1 Cor. 15:50-58</a> ). Non-Christians will be cast into hell forever ( <a href="#">Matt. 25:46</a> ).	There is an afterlife (75:12) experienced as either an ideal life of Paradise (29:64), for faithful Muslims or Hell for those who are not.
Angels	Created beings, non-human, some of which, fell into sin and became evil. They are very powerful. The unfallen angels carry out the will of God.	Created beings without free will that serve God. Angels were created from light.
Atonement	The sacrifice of Christ on the cross ( <a href="#">1 Pet. 2:24</a> ) whereby His blood becomes the sacrifice that turns away the wrath of God ( <a href="#">1 John 2:2</a> ) from the sinner when the sinner receives ( <a href="#">John 1:12</a> ), by faith ( <a href="#">Rom. 5:1</a> ), the work of Christ on the cross.	There is no atonement work in Islam other than a sincere confession of sin and repentance by the sinner.
Bible	The inspired and inerrant word of God in the original manuscripts ( <a href="#">2 Tim. 3:16</a> ).	Respected word of the prophets but the Bible has been corrupted through the centuries and is only correct in so far as it agrees with the Koran.
Crucifixion	The place where Jesus atoned for the sins of the world. It is only through this sacrifice that anyone can be saved from the wrath of God ( <a href="#">1 Pet. 2:24</a> ).	Jesus did not die on the cross. Instead, God allowed Judas to look like Jesus and he was crucified instead.
Devil	A fallen Angel who opposes God in all ways. He also seeks to destroy humanity ( <a href="#">Isaiah 14:12-15</a> ; <a href="#">Ezek. 28:13-15</a> ).	Iblis, a fallen jinn. Jinn are not angels nor men, but created beings with free wills. Jinn were created from fire, (2:268; 114:1-6).
God	God is a trinity of persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The <a href="#">Trinity</a> is not three gods in one god, nor is it one person who took three forms. Trinitarianism is strictly <a href="#">monotheistic</a> . There is no other God in existence.	God is known as Allah. Allah is one person, a strict unity. There is no other God in existence. He is the creator of the universe (3:191), sovereign over all (6:61-62).
Heaven (Paradise)	The place where God dwells. <a href="#">Heaven</a> is the eventual home of the Christians who are saved by God's grace. It is heaven because it is where God is and Christians will enjoy eternal <a href="#">Fellowship</a> with Him.	Paradise to Muslims, a place of unimaginable bliss (32:17), a garden with trees and food (13:35; 15:45-48) where the desires of faithful Muslims are met, (3:133; 9:38; 13:35; 39:34; 43:71; 53:13-15).
Hell	A place of torment in fire out of the presence of God. There is no escape from <a href="#">Hell</a> ( <a href="#">Matt. 25:46</a> ).	Hell is a place of eternal punishment and torment (14:17; 25:65; 39:26), in fire (104:6-7) for those who are not Muslims (3:131) as well as those who were and whose works and faith were not sufficient (14:17; 25:65; 104:6-7).
Holy Spirit	Third person of the Trinity. The <a href="#">Holy Spirit</a> is fully God in nature.	The arch-angel Gabriel who delivered the words of the Koran to Muhammad.

## Comparison grid between Christianity and Islamic doctrine

<http://www.carm.org/islam/grid.htm>

Term	Christianity	Islam
Jesus	Second person of the <a href="#">Trinity</a> . He is the word who became flesh ( <a href="#">John 1:1, 14</a> ). He is both God and man ( <a href="#">Col. 2:9</a> ).	A very great prophet, second only to Muhammad. Jesus is not the son of God (9:30) and certainly is not divine (5:17, 75) and he was not crucified (4:157).
Judgment Day	Occurs on the day of resurrection ( <a href="#">John 12:48</a> ) where God will judge all people. Christians go to heaven. All others to hell ( <a href="#">Matt. 25:46</a> ).	Occurs on the day of resurrection where God will judge all people. Muslims go to paradise (3:142, 183-185, 198). All others to hell (3:196-197). Judgment is based on a person's deeds (5:9; 42:26; 8:29).
Koran, The	The work of Muhammad. It is not inspired, nor is it scripture. There is no verification for its accurate transmission from the originals.	The final revelation of God to all of mankind given through the archangel Gabriel to Muhammad over a 23 year period. It is without error and guarded from error by Allah.
Man	Made in the image of God ( <a href="#">Gen. 1:26</a> ). This does not mean that God has a body, but that man is made like God in abilities (reason, faith, love, etc.).	Not made in the image of God (42:11). Man is made out of the dust of the earth (23:12) and Allah breathed life into man (32:9; 15:29).
Muhammad	A non-inspired man born in 570 in Mecca who started the Islamic religion.	The last and greatest of all prophets of Allah whose Qur'an is the greatest of all inspired books.
Original Sin	This is a term used to describe the effect of Adam's sin on his descendants ( <a href="#">Rom. 5:12-23</a> ). Specifically, it is our inheritance of a sinful nature from Adam. The sinful nature originated with Adam and is passed down from parent to child. We are by nature children of wrath ( <a href="#">Eph. 2:3</a> ).	There is no original sin. All people are sinless until they rebel against God. They do not have sinful natures.
Resurrection	Bodily resurrection of all people, non-Christians to damnation and Christians are resurrected to eternal life ( <a href="#">1 Cor. 15:50-58</a> ).	Bodily resurrection, some to heaven, some to hell (3:77; 15:25; 75:36-40; 22:6).
Salvation	A free gift of God ( <a href="#">Eph. 2:8-9</a> ) to the person who trusts in Christ and His sacrifice on the cross. He is our mediator ( <a href="#">1 Tim. 2:5</a> ). No works are sufficient in any way to merit salvation since our works are all unacceptable to God ( <a href="#">Isaiah 64:6</a> ).	Forgiveness of sins is obtained by Allah's grace without a mediator. The Muslim must believe Allah exists, believe in the fundamental doctrines of Islam, believe that Muhammad is his prophet, and follow the commands of Allah given in the Koran.
Son of God	A term used to designate that Jesus is divine though he is not the literal son of God in a physical sense ( <a href="#">John 5:18</a> ).	A literal son of God. Therefore, Jesus cannot be the son of Allah.
Word, The	"In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God...and the word became flesh and dwelt among us..." ( <a href="#">John 1:1, 14</a> ).	Allah's command of existence which resulted in Jesus being formed in the womb of Mary.

# WHAT DO MUSLIMS BELIEVE ABOUT JESUS?



- ❖ Isa (Jesus) is mentioned 93 times in the Quran. It describes his virgin birth, calling him the "son of Mary" 23 times.
- ❖ Jesus is given more honorific titles in the Quran than any other prophet (including Muhammad.) Those titles include "prophet", "messiah", "messenger", "word", and "spirit and mercy of God."

# WHAT DO MUSLIMS THINK OF JESUS?

- ❖ The Quran also mentions the miracles of Jesus, refers to “the gospel” 12 times, and calls Christians the “people of the book.”
- ❖ In addition to the Quran, Muslim traditions associate Jesus with the end of time and the judgment day, and Muslims often pray to Jesus for healing or prosperity. He is considered to one who has power.



# WHAT DO MUSLIMS THINK OF JESUS?

- ❖ However, there is no other religion like Islam in that from its inception it has promoted a specific, total, and emphatic denial of the major truth claims of Christianity.
- ❖ This may partly be because of Muhammad's misunderstandings of the corrupted Christianity of his day, but it may also be explained by Islam's desire to demonstrate that it has superseded all other religions as the last and greatest revelation of Allah.

# ISLAM'S ATTACKS ON CHRISTIANITY

- ❖ That the Bible of the Christians is corrupt, unreliable, and inferior to the Qur'an.
- ❖ That Christians follow untruthful doctrines: the doctrine of the Trinity is especially considered to be blasphemous and sinful.
- ❖ That Jesus is not the divine son of God, because God is too exalted to have a son.
- ❖ That Jesus was not crucified and was not resurrected; that he is not a savior or mediator and did not atone for the sins of mankind.

# WHAT DO MUSLIMS THINK OF JESUS?



“That they said in boast ‘We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah.’ But they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them. And those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no certain knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not. Nay, Allah raised him up unto Himself; and Allah is exalted in Power, Wise.” (Qur’an 4:157-158)



# WHAT DO MUSLIMS THINK OF JESUS?



- Some Muslims believe that Jesus hid in a niche in the wall and one of his companions took his place.
- Others hold that angels protected Jesus and caused Judas to look like him instead.
- Other assert that Simon of Cyrene was switched at the last minute.
- Another traditional view is that the Jews attempted to kill Jesus but that God took him up into heaven instead.

# Who Is Osama Bin-Laden?

- ❖ Who is this man, and why does he hate our nation?
- ❖ He is a religious leader who is contending for his faith.
- ❖ Men like Bin-Laden are primarily motivated by their religious ideology.



# The Mosque of Muhammad in Medina—the City of the Prophet



# DID YOU KNOW?



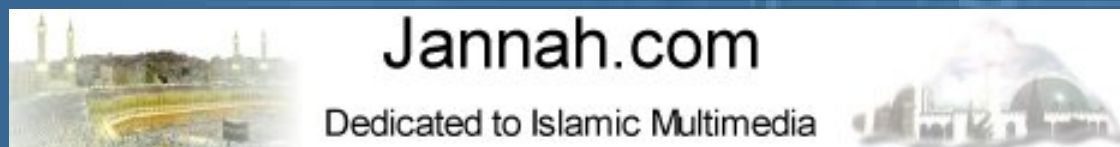
- ❖ There are more than a billion Muslims (about 1 out of every 5 people on the planet); the U.N. projects that by 2055 at least half of the global birthrate will be Islamic.
- ❖ Muslims have targeted the United States with an aggressive missionary program. Saudi Arabia has given millions of dollars to Harvard and the University of Arkansas to fund Islamic study centers.

# DID YOU KNOW?



- ❖ There are already more Muslims than Episcopalians in America; and, within ten years, Islam may be the second largest religion in the United States.
- ❖ Between 1989 and 1998 the Islamic population in this country grew by 25%; there are now estimated to be between 4 and 7 million Muslims in the U.S.

# Muslims Have Aggressive Missionary Efforts In the U. S.



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**Hadith Of The Day**



# DID YOU KNOW?



- ❖ Muslim chaplains already serve in the armed forces, and there are weekly Muslim prayer meetings on Capitol Hill.
- ❖ "Islam is the fastest-growing religion in America, a guide and pillar of stability for many of our people..."  
-Hillary Rodham Clinton

*"First Lady Breaks Ground With Muslims," Los Angeles Times, Home Edition, Metro Section, Part B, May 31, 1996, p. 3*

# Contrasting Worldviews

Shortly after the end of the Cold War, Samuel Huntington, professor of government at Harvard, predicted that in the future serious competition would lessen between nation-states or political ideologies.

Instead, Huntington predicted an era of growing competition between civilizations: i.e., religion, ethnicity, and cultural values.

Samuel Huntington, *The Clash of Civilizations*.

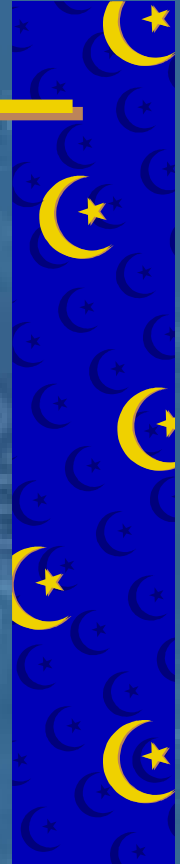
# ISLAM & CHRISTIANITY: Contrasting Worldviews

- Muhammad put his enemies to the sword and confiscated their property and wives; commanded his followers to fight for their faith; taught that those who died in battle would enter paradise; and died a natural death after consolidating his power and wealth.
- Jesus told his disciples to “put away the sword” (John 18:11); healed the one wound inflicted by his followers (Luke 22:51); allowed his enemies to take his life (1 Peter 2:21-24); and prayed from the cross for those who were executing him (Luke 23:34.)

# THE FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM

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- ❖ **Shahadah:** "There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet"
- ❖ **Salah:** Turning to Mecca to pray 5 times a day
- ❖ **Sawm:** Fasting during daylight hours through the month of Ramadan
- ❖ **Zakat:** Setting aside 2.5% of income to benefit the Muslim community
- ❖ **Hajj:** A once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage to Mecca



# WOMEN & ISLAM

- ❖ Muhammad was given a “special revelation” to have some 13 wives (other Muslim men can have only 4)
- ❖ His favorite wife was Aisha: she was six when they were engaged, and nine when the marriage was consummated



# WOMEN & ISLAM

- ❖ The Koran requires women to remain veiled (33:59) and to remain strictly segregated from male society.
- ❖ Woman is to be seen “as Satan” when a man is sexually tempted. One of the traditions of Muhammad is that the majority of people going to hell are women.





# WOMEN & ISLAM

- ❖ A man may divorce his wife by repeating “I divorce you” 3 times.
- ❖ In court, a woman’s testimony is worth only half that of a man and her inheritance rights are lesser.
- ❖ The United Nations has condemned the Taliban in Afghanistan for their brutal treatment of women.



# WOMEN & ISLAM

- ❖ The Quran teaches:  
“Righteous women are therefore obedient, guarding the secret for God’s guarding. And those you fear may be rebellious admonish; banish them to their couches, and beat them” (Surah 4:35)



# Who Is Osama Bin-Laden?



We need to avoid two extremes.

- ❖ First, we should avoid dealing in stereotypes and prejudices. It is true that not all Muslims support the use of terror. They are considered liberal.
- ❖ But second, it is a mistake to believe that Islam shares the same mindset as Western civilization: it does not. The teachings of Islam foster a very different worldview.

# Comparison

Bible	Qur'an
Monotheistic, <u>Trinitarian</u> , ( <u>Isaiah 43:10</u> ; <u>44:6-8</u> ; <u>Matt. 28:19</u> ; <u>2 Cor. 13:14</u> )	Monotheistic (5:73; 112:1-4), denies the Trinity (5:73).
<u>Jesus</u> is God in flesh ( <u>Col. 2:9</u> )	Jesus is not God, (5:17, 75)
Jesus was crucified ( <u>1 Pet. 2:24</u> ).	Jesus was not Crucified, (4:157).
Jesus rose from the dead ( <u>John 2:19-20</u> ).	Jesus did not rise from the dead.
Jesus was the Son of God ( <u>Mark 1:1</u> ).	Jesus was not the Son of God (9:30)
<u>Holy Spirit</u> , 3rd person in the Godhead. He will bear witness of Jesus ( <u>John 14:26</u> ; <u>15:26</u> ).	The Holy Spirit is the angel Gabriel (2:97; 16:102).
<u>Salvation</u> by grace through faith ( <u>Eph. 2:89</u> ).	Salvation by sincerity and works (3:135; 7:8-9; 21:47; 49:14; 66:8-9).
The <u>Devil</u> is a fallen angel ( <u>Isaiah 14:12-15</u> ).	The Devil, Satan, is not a fallen angel, but a fallen Jinn (2:34; 7:12; 15:27; 55:15).
Man is fallen, a sinner ( <u>Rom. 3:23</u> ).	Man is basically good.
Disciples were Christians ( <u>Acts 11:26</u> ).	Disciples declare themselves Muslims, (5:111).
Worship on Sabbath ( <u>Exodus 20</u> ) then later on Sunday ( <u>Rom. 14:5-6</u> ; <u>Acts 20:7</u> ; <u>1 Cor. 16:1-2</u> ).	Worship on Friday (62:9).
Miracles, numerous are recorded.	No Miracles recorded.
Makes numerous prophecies	Makes no prophecies.

- The Muslims repeatedly claim that the Bible has been corrupted and that the Qu'ran is the only trustworthy scripture in existence. This is why Muslims often attack the Bible. But this cannot be according to the Quran. The Quran says that the books of Moses, the Psalms, and the gospel were all given by God.

- TORAH - "We gave Moses the Book and followed him up with a succession of messengers," (Sura 2:87).
- PSALMS - "We have sent thee inspiration, as We sent it to Noah and the Messengers after him: we sent inspiration to Abraham, Isma'il, Isaac, Jacob and the Tribes, to Jesus, Job, Jonah, Aaron, and solomon, and to David We gave the Psalms," (4:163).
- GOSPEL - "It is He Who sent down to thee (step by step), in truth, the Book, confirming what went before it; and He sent down the Law (of Moses) and the Gospel (of Jesus) before this, as a guide to mankind, and He sent down the criterion (of judgment between right and wrong)," (3:3).  
Also, "And in their footsteps We sent Jesus the son of Mary, confirming the Law that had come before him: We sent him the Gospel: therein was guidance and light



- We see that the Qu'ran states that the Torah, the Psalms, and the Gospel were all given by God. With this we Christians heartily agree. But, the Muslims claim that the Bible is corrupted and full of contradictions. If that is so, then it would seem they do not believe the Qu'ran since the Qu'ran says that the Word of God cannot be altered:

- "Rejected were the messengers before thee: with patience and constancy they bore their rejection and their wrongs, until Our aid did reach them: there is none that can alter the words (and decrees) of Allah. Already hast thou received some account of those messengers," (6:34).
- "The word of thy Lord doth find its fulfillment in truth and in justice: None can change His words: for He is the one who heareth and knoweth all," (6:115).
- "For them are glad tidings, in the life of the present and in the Hereafter; no change can there be in the words of Allah. This is indeed the supreme felicity," (10:64).

# HOW DID ISLAM BEGIN?

- ❖ To understand the mindset of fundamentalist Islamic terrorists, it is necessary to comprehend the worldview of Islam.
- ❖ We cannot understand that mindset apart from the history of the beginnings of Islam.



# UNDERSTANDING ISLAM





**Muhammad was born in Mecca around 570 A.D.**

**The Arabian peninsula of the sixth century was a tribal society marked by chronic conflict. Many religions were present, including polytheism, animism, Judaism, Zoroastrianism, and Christianity.**

# The Life of Muhammad: An Overview\*

- 1. Muhammad married the wealthy widow Khadija, who provided him economic security, became one of his first converts to Islam, and gave him a daughter, Fatima.
- 2. He experienced in a cave visions from Allah through the angel Gabriel which he identified as revelations and later codified into the Qur'an, a perfect book from God.

[Taken from Dr. G.W.Braswell, *What You Need To Know About Islam & Muslims*]

# The Life of Muhammad: An Overview

- 3. Muhammad preached monotheism and attacked the polytheism and animism of tribal worship at the kaba in the center of Mecca, resulting in notoriety and persecution.
- 4. He won as a convert Ali, who later married Muhammad's daughter Fatima, fathering two sons, Hasan and Husain, and becoming the first imam of the Shiites.



# The Life of Muhammad: An Overview

- 5. Muhammad escaped to Medina in 622 A.D., an event known as the *Hegira*; the Hegira begins the Islamic calendar.
- 6. There he established the *umma*, the community of Islam; built the first mosque; organized an army; and played the roles of prophet, ruler, judge, commander-in-chief, and prayer leader.

# The Life of Muhammad: An Overview

- 7. Muhammad set out on a conquest of the Arabian peninsula, subduing the tribes (including Jewish tribes), killing thousands, collecting booty (including concubines), and consolidating his power.
- 8. He gained many wives and concubines, his favorite being Aisha, with whom he consummated marriage when she was nine years old.

# The Life of Muhammad: An Overview

- 9. When Muhammad gained control of Mecca in 630 A.D. he purged the kaba of idols and established it as the place of pilgrimage to worship Allah.
- 10. Muhammad died and was buried in 632 A.D., leaving behind no official successor.
- **THE LIFE OF MUHAMMAD IS PIVOTAL TO UNDERSTANDING ISLAM TODAY. FOR ITS SIGNIFICANCE, LET'S TAKE A DEEPER LOOK AT HIS HISTORY.**

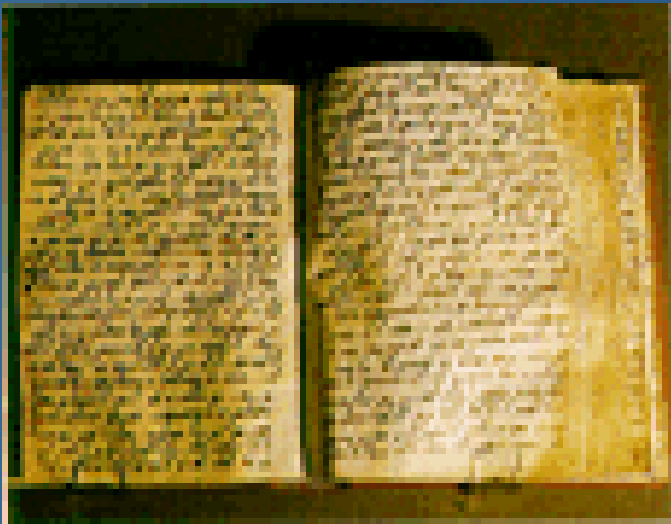
# The Significance of the Life of Muhammad: A Deeper Look

## HIS VISIONS IN THE CAVE: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE KORAN

- ❖ Muhammad had admired the Jews and Christians because they were the “People of the Book.”
- ❖ By contrast, his own divided, warring, idolatrous people had no “book” of their own.



# The QUR'AN

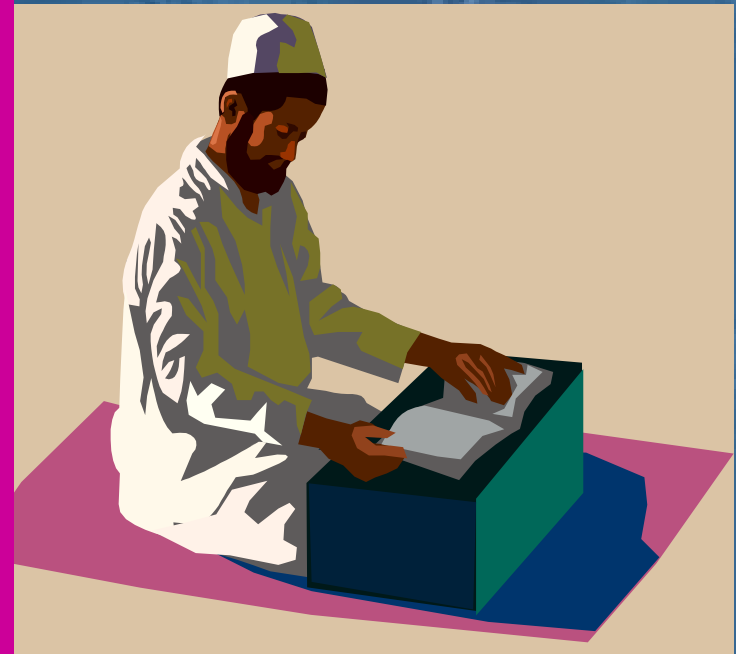


- Muhammad thought the Jews and Christians would be impressed with his book, but they were not. His own countrymen initially accused him of disseminating Christian & Jewish information.
- It would be difficult to over-exaggerate the importance of the Qur'an to Islam today. To Muslims it is the incarnate Word of God in Arabic.

# The *Hadith* (Traditions)

The *sunnah* (what the Prophet Muhammad said, did, or approved of) is the second source of authority in Islam. The *sunnah* is comprised of *hadeeths*, which are reliably transmitted reports by the Prophet's companions of what he said, did, or approved of.

They are closely studied today and are considered to be authoritative guides to life in Muslim culture.



# The Significance of the Life of Muhammad: A Deeper Look

## THE FLIGHT TO MEDINA: THE HEGIRA

- ❖ July 16, 622 A.D. is the decisive event in Islamic history. The Meccans were on the verge of killing Muhammad when delegates from the various tribes of Medina came to Muhammad to request his leadership and pledged to fight for him.





Medina, 200 miles to the north, provided Muhammad with a power base from which to establish the first Islamic community.



# Consolidating Power in Medina

- Medina was inhabited by warring Arab and Jewish tribes.
- To appease the Jews, Muhammad proposed Friday as the Sabbath and praying to Jerusalem 5 times a day. When they refused, he chose to pray facing Mecca.
- Muhammad adopted Abraham as patriarch through the lineage of Ishmael.

# Consolidating Power in Medina

- Muhammad engaged in numerous battles and the Jewish tribes were expelled or executed. In a battle with the last Jewish tribe around Medina, 700 to 800 men were slaughtered and their wives and children taken as booty.
- Muhammad later married a Jewish widow and continued to have a high regard for Jewish monotheism and the "People of the Book."

# The Significance of the Life of Muhammad: A Deeper Look

## THE CONQUEST OF THE PENINSULA

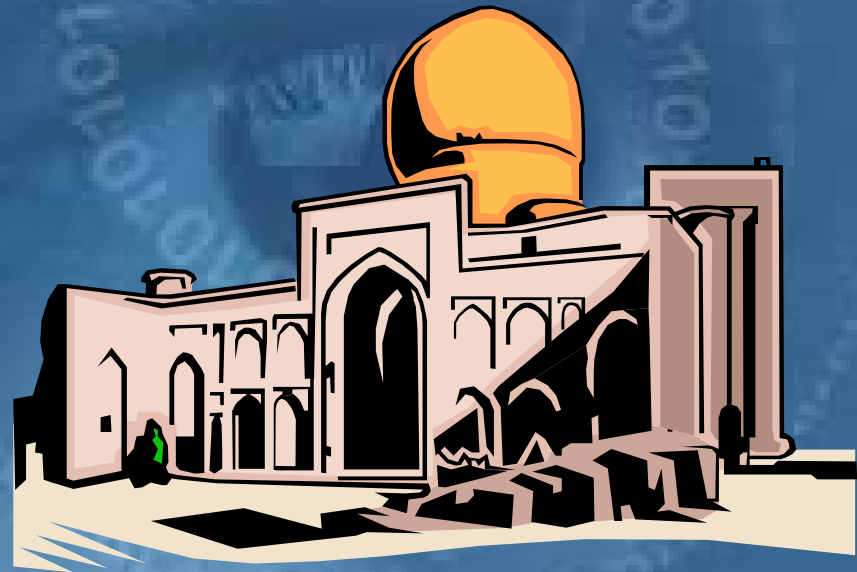
- ❖ The rapid spread of Muhammad's power throughout the Middle East is an amazing story.
- ❖ Why was he able to conquer such a large area? Dr. Evertt Huffard suggests five factors:



# WHY DID ISLAM GROW IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

1. IT FILLED A MORAL & POLITICAL VACUUM IN THE SEVENTH CENTURY.

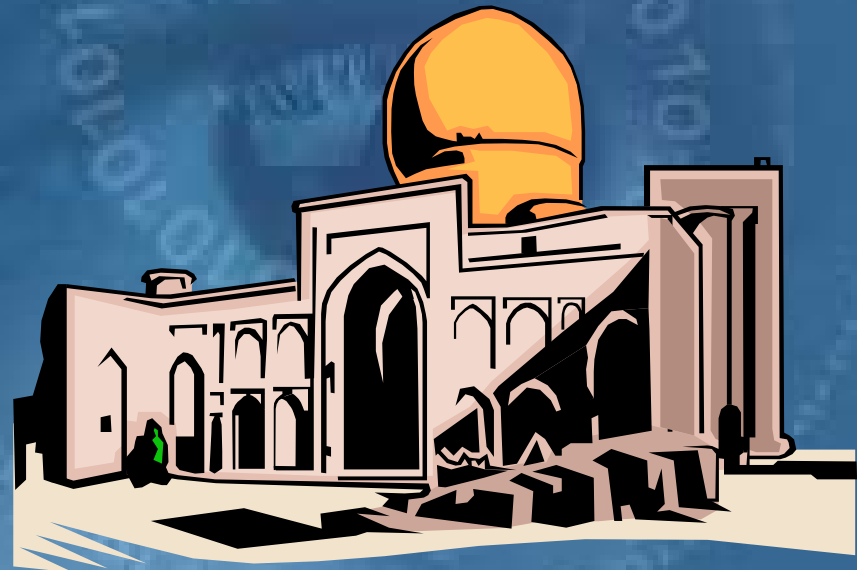
- ❖ The “superpowers” of the day, the Byzantine and Persian empires, had become corrupt and soon collapsed.
- ❖ Islam was able to fill the void.



From “Why Islam?”, *Gospel Advocate*, May 1991, p. 12-14

# WHY DID ISLAM GROW IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

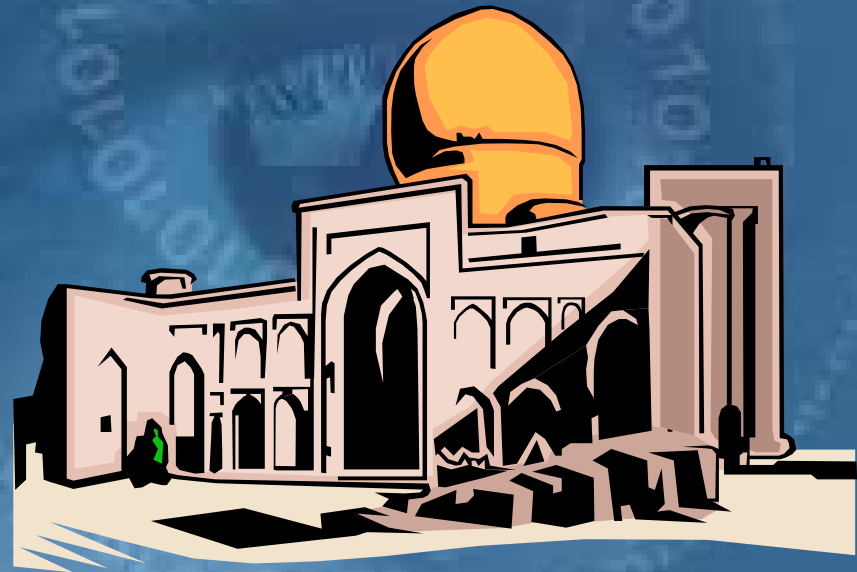
2. ISLAM CLAIMED A UNIVERSAL ALLEGIANCE TO AN ALMIGHTY GOD.
- ❖ It was a contrast to the idolatry of Arabia and the icons of the Eastern church.
  - ❖ The God of Islam is preeminently a God of "power."



# WHY DID ISLAM GROW IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

## 3. IT OFFERED A SIMPLE RELIGION.

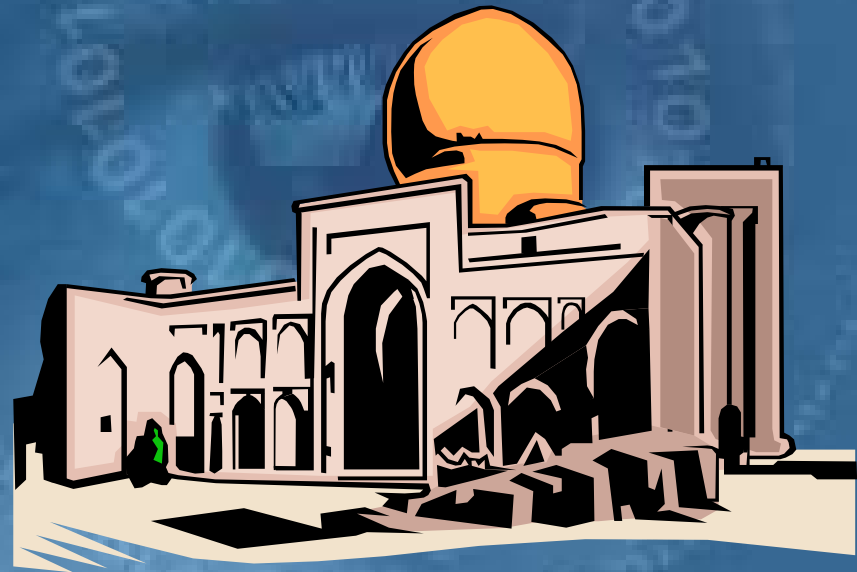
- ❖ The traditions of Judaism and the Eastern Orthodox church had become complex and cumbersome.
- ❖ Islam asked only that its adherents accept the "5 Pillars."
- ❖ It promoted a firm monotheism and a strict moral code.





# WHY DID ISLAM GROW IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

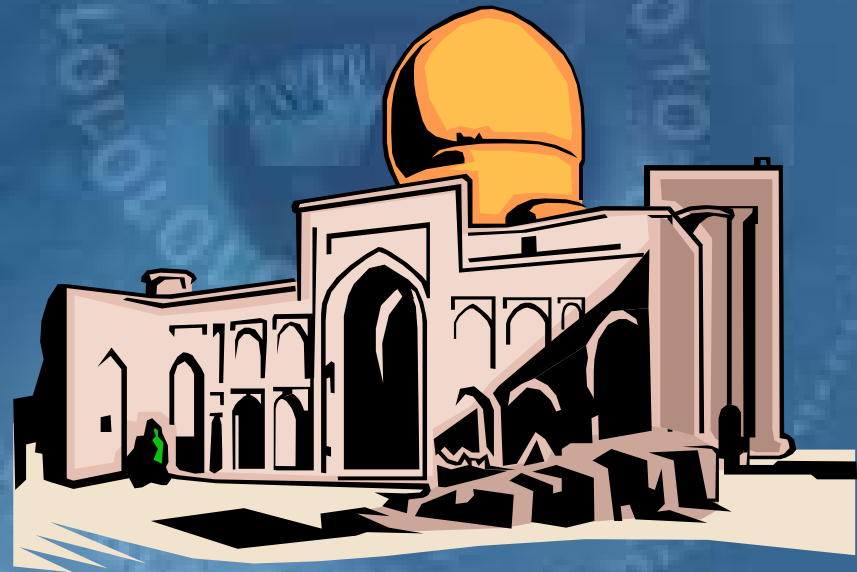
4. IT CREATED A POWERFUL, ALL-ENCOMPASSING THEOCRACY.
- ❖ Arab armies employed the sword against their enemies, political or religious.
  - ❖ For example, only 21 of ~59 Greek Orthodox patriarchs died a natural death from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



# WHY DID ISLAM GROW IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

5. THERE WERE CULTURAL AND FINANCIAL BENEFITS TO ISLAM.

- ❖ Conversion brought relief from minority taxes.
- ❖ Arabs were slave traders: Africans who converted were less likely to be sold.
- ❖ Muhammad received  $\frac{1}{5}$ <sup>th</sup> of the spoils of war; his fighters received  $\frac{4}{5}$ <sup>ths</sup>.



# The Concept of *Jihad*

- Since Islam was a militant faith from the beginning, it was natural for Muhammad to teach the doctrine of *jihad*.
- The word means “struggle”; while it is often used in a spiritual sense to apply to the inner struggle of every believer, it also means a “holy war” in defense of the Islamic faith.

# The Significance of the Life of Muhammad: A Deeper Look

## THE DEATH OF MUHAMMAD AND THE STRUGGLE FOR POWER

During his lifetime Muhammad had established a “theocracy” with himself as the head.

He did not, however, provide for an orderly succession of power, an oversight which has had political and religious repercussions to this day.



# AFTER HIS DEATH, ISLAM SPLIT INTO FACTIONS

## SUNNI

One faction held the successor to Muhammad should be a male from the Quraish tribe, chosen by consensus.

Abu Bakr, an early convert, was chosen as the first "caliph" (or "leader")

## SHI'ITE

Another faction believed that Muhammad intended for Ali, his son-in-law, to take over.

These partisans (or Shi'ites) of Ali regarded him as the first caliph and imam.

# AFTER HIS DEATH, ISLAM SPLIT INTO FACTIONS

## SUNNI

The early period of the caliphs was the "golden age" of Islamic conquest.

The caliphs subjugated Damascus, Iraq, Jerusalem, Egypt, and Persia.

90% of all Muslims today are Sunni. Bin-Ladin's stated goal is to restore the age of the caliphs.

## SHI'ITE

The two sons of Ali, Hasan and Husain, are regarded by Shi'ites as the second and third imams. Ali, Hasan, and Husain were all murdered by Sunni opponents.

Shi'ites believe the 12<sup>th</sup> imam will one day return as *Mahdi*. In the meantime, they recognize the authority of the *ayatollah*. Iran is the leading Shi'ite nation.





Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative.



# ISLAM & CHRISTIANITY: Contrasting Worldviews

- Islam began with a brief period of persecution and quickly became powerful.
- Muhammad claimed to be a prophet of the one true God.
- Muhammad amassed political power and created an earthly kingdom.
- Christianity began as a persecuted minority and flourished in spite of continued persecution.
- Jesus claimed to be the Son of the one true God.
- Jesus resisted the temptation of Satan to reign over an earthly kingdom (Matthew 4:8-10, John 18:36-37).

# ISLAM & CHRISTIANITY: Contrasting Worldviews

- Muhammad put his enemies to the sword and confiscated their property and wives; commanded his followers to fight for their faith; taught that those who died in battle would enter paradise; and died a natural death after consolidating his power and wealth.
- Jesus told his disciples to “put away the sword” (John 18:11); healed the one wound inflicted by his followers (Luke 22:51); allowed his enemies to take his life (1 Peter 2:21-24); and prayed for those who were executing him (Luke 23:34).

# ISLAM & CHRISTIANITY: Contrasting Worldviews

- The “story” of Christianity makes an explicit distinction between the temporal and the spiritual; the “story” of Islam is one of an all-encompassing system of religious, political, and military power.
- It is true that Muslims may be “peaceful” when a minority in a strong democratic nation. When they hold the reins of temporal power in an Islamic state, however, it is often a different reality for non-Muslims.

# Why Muslims Say They Do Not Advocate Terrorism

"God does not forbid you from showing kindness and dealing justly with those who have not fought you about religion and have not driven you out of your homes. God loves just dealers." (Quran, 60:8)

# Why Muslims Say They Do Not Advocate Terrorism

- The Prophet Muhammad used to prohibit soldiers from killing women and children, and he would advise them: {...Do not betray, do not be excessive, do not kill a newborn child.} And he also said: {Whoever has killed a person having a treaty with the Muslims shall not smell the fragrance of Paradise, though its fragrance is found for a span of forty years.}

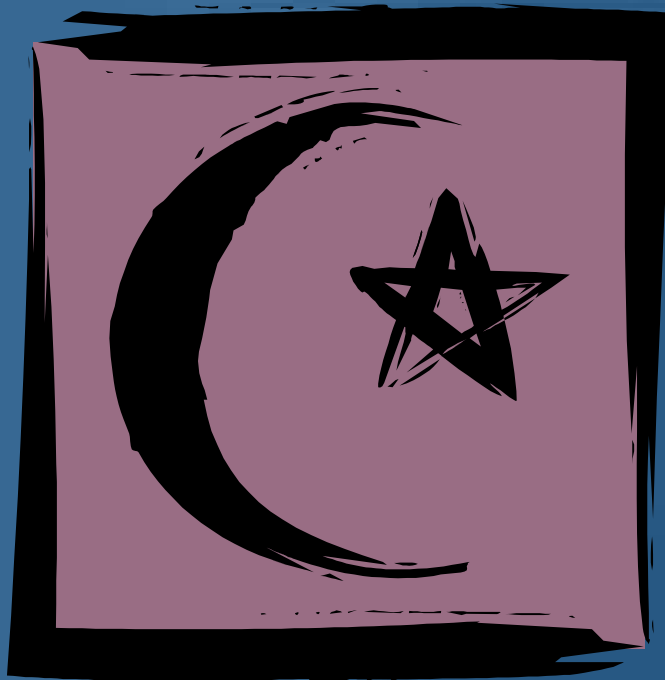
# What Western Muslims Do NOT Say

- “When you meet the unbelievers in the battlefield strike off their heads and, when you have laid them low, bind your captives firmly. Then grant them their freedom or take ransom from them, until war shall lay down her burdens” (Qur’an 47:4)
- “There is no nation but We shall destroy or sternly punish before the Day of Resurrection. This is decreed in the Eternal Book” (Qur’an 17:58)

# What Western Muslims Do NOT Say

- "As for those who are slain in the cause of God, He will not allow their works to perish. He will give them guidance and ennoble their state; He will admit them to the Paradise He has made known to them" (Qur'an 47:6)
- "Some of us are Muslims and some are wrongdoers. Those that embrace Islam pursue the right path, but those that do wrong shall become the fuel of Hell" (Qur'an 72:17)

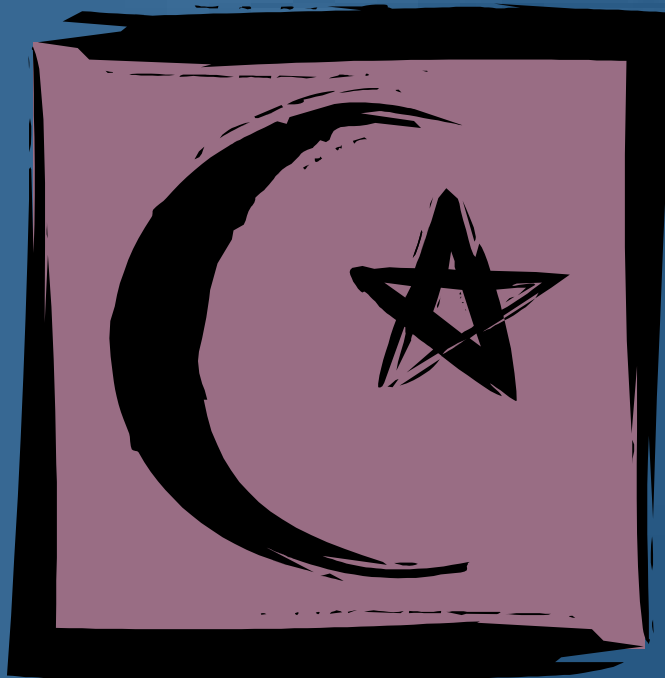
# WHY IS THERE A RESURGENCE OF ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISM TODAY?



- ❖ 1. Islam has *always* been an aggressive religion.
- ❖ 2. The clash between modern nationalism (many of the Middle Eastern nation states are less than 60 years old) and tribal loyalties.
- ❖ 3. The establishment of the modern nation of Israel.



# WHY IS THERE A RESURGENCE OF ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISM TODAY?



- ❖ 4. The moral weakness of an increasingly secularized Western culture.
- ❖ 5. An increase in Arabic emigration to western Europe and America.
- ❖ 6. OIL!



# Comments

- Ideas have consequences
- The need to understand; “shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.”
- “But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...” 1 Peter 3:16



# Islam – Historical Context

# Animism



1500BC

1440

660

600

563



30AD

622

1823

1879

Hinduism

Judaism

Shinto

Taoism

Buddhism

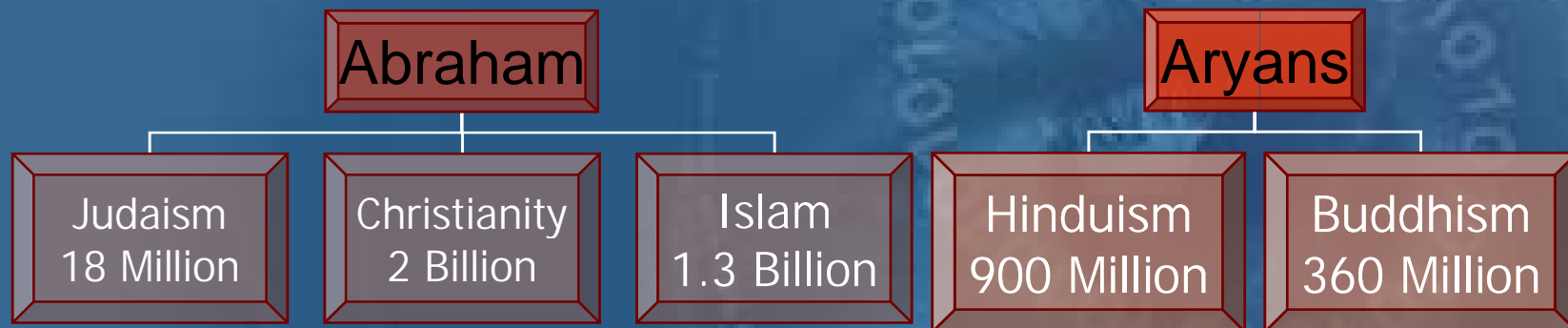
Christianity

Islam

Mormonism

Jehovah's Witnesses

# World Religions



# Islam

Muhammad

Sunnism

Shi sm

Sufism

Ahmadis

Nation of Islam

Wahabbis

Bab  
Ali Mohammad

Nusayris

Yazidis

Druzes

Ismalis

Baha Allah  
Baha i Fatih

Freemasonry

Nizaris

Musta lis



# Islam – Beliefs



# What is *Islam*?

- *Islam* (“submission”) is the religion of all who believe that Muhammad was God’s prophet.



# Theology

- Monotheism
- Shirk (Idolatry)  
No other God's
- Allah was the supreme god of polytheism in that area.
- In Arabia the sun god was viewed as female, the moon as male. The moon god was referred to as Allah

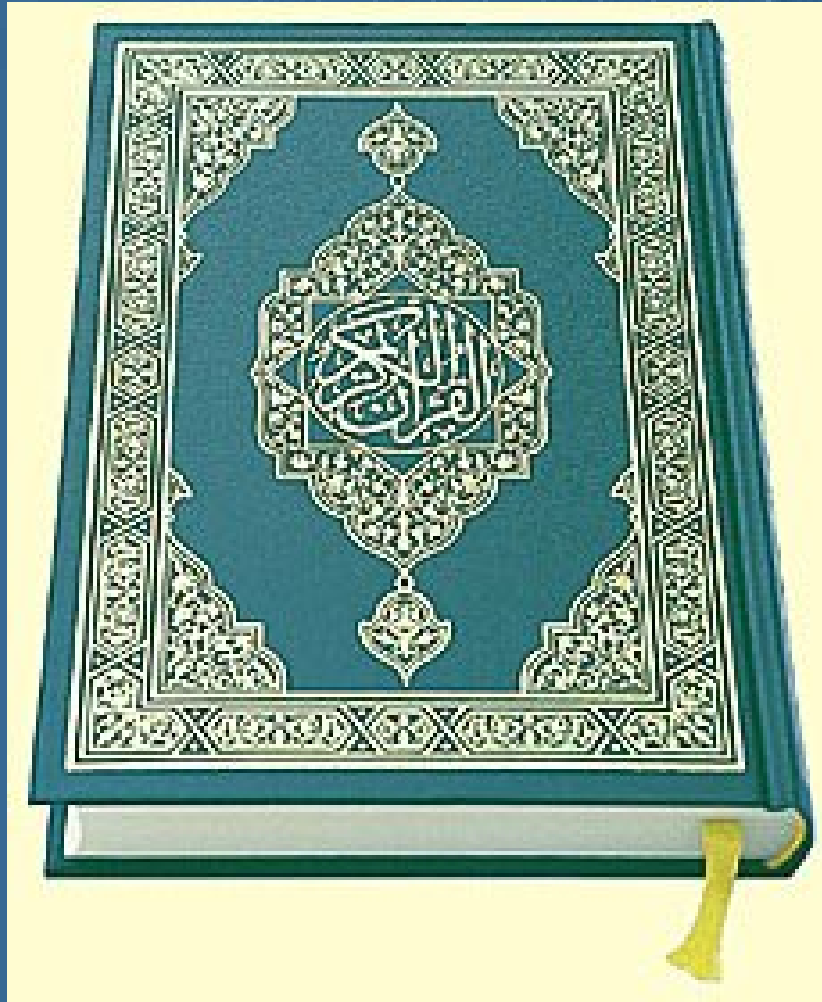
# Anthropology

- Adam was the first man, created in heaven and removed after he sinned
- Mankind was created innocent but chose to sin
  - Mankind is misled but not fallen
  - We are intrinsically weak, frail, and imperfect. We are forgetful of God.

# Qur' an

- Dependence on the Jewish Talmud, Jewish apocrypha, Christian apocrypha, and Zoroastrian doctrines
- Borrows important practices from pre-Islamic and pagan Arabia such as those surrounding the visits to the hills of Safa and Marwas in the hajj ceremony, and also the throwing of stones against a stone pillar symbolizing Satan

# Qur'an (Koran)



Angel Gabriel



Muhammad



Companions



Zayd ibn Thabit



Uthman

# Salvation

- Consists of both belief (iman) and action (amal).
- Belief consists of:
  - Believe in the oneness of God
  - Believe in the prophecy of Muhammad
  - Believe in angels
  - Accept the Qur'an
  - Believe in life after death
  - Believe that God decrees everything



# Salvation

- Good works consist of the five/six pillars:
  - Reciting the confession (shahada)
  - Prayer
  - Fasting
  - Almsgiving
  - Pilgrimage to Mecca
  - Jihad



# Final Things

- This life is a preparation for the next
- Every person will taste death
- Two angels will question the dead in the grave (Munkar and Nakir)
- Unbelievers will be tormented in the grave and after the final resurrection
- The "Final Hour" will be preceded by disintegration of nature and universal sin



# Jesus Christ

- Jesus is human
- Is a unique prophet, mentioned in 93 verses and 15 suras of the Qur'an
- Is called the Messiah, the Word of God, and the Spirit of God
- He is a prophet to the Jews
- Foretold the coming of Muhammad (Jn 14:26)

# Jesus Christ

- Is not God or the Son of God
  - “It is not befitting To (the majesty of) God That He should beget a son...” (19:35)
  - “They say, ‘God hath begotten A son’...No warrant Have ye for this! (10:68)
  - “Say not ‘Trinity’: desist: it will be better for you: for Allah is One God: glory be to Him: (far Exalted is He) above having a son. (4:171)



# The Current Crisis

# Jihad

- The word means 'striving' or 'struggle'
- Often used in the sense of personal striving in the path of God.
- According to Islamic law there are two domains
  - Dar al-Islam, the house of Islam
  - Dar al-Harb, the house of War

# Jihad

- “The more common interpretation, and that of the overwhelming majority of the classical jurists and commentators , presents jihad as armed struggle for Islam against infidels and apostates.” (Bernard Lewis, professor of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University)

# Jihad and Non-Muslims

- (9:5) "Fight and slay the pagans wherever you find them, and seize them, beleager them, and lie in wait for them in every stratagem."
- (9:29) "Fight those who believe not in Allah nor the Last Day, nor hold that forbidden which hath been forbidden by Allah and His Prophet, nor acknowledge the religion of Truth, (even if they are) of the People of the Book, until they pay the jizyah with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued."

# Jihad and Non-Muslims

- (47:4-7) "When you meet unbelievers, smite their necks, then, when you have made wide slaughter among them, tie fast the bonds; then set them free, either by grace or ransom, till the war lays down its loads...And those who are slain in the way of God, He will not send their works astray. He will guide them, and dispose their minds aright, and He will admit them to Paradise, that He has made known to them."

# Osama Bin Laden

- Born in 1957, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- Father became a billionaire during the oil boom of the 1970's (construction)
- Degree in economics and business
- Has four wives and 15 children



# Osama Bin Laden

- In 1996 bin Laden issued a fatwa, a formal religious decision calling on Muslims to kill American troops in Saudi Arabia.



# Osama Bin Laden

## ■ 1998 Fatwah

- “...to kill Americans and their allies—civilians and military—is an individual duty for every Muslim who can do it in any country in which it is possible...”
- “...to liberate the al-Aqsa Mosque” and to remove their armies from the lands of Islam.



# Osama Bin Laden

- Three complaints
  - Americans in the holy land
  - Oppression of Iraq
  - American support of Israel



# Taliban

- “Students of Religion”
- Mullah Mohammed Omar
- Seized the capital, Kabul in 1996 and established an Islamic emirate.
- Bin Laden’s organization helps to keep them in power.



# Wahhabi Reforms

- Muhammad Ibn 'Abd al-Wahhab, 18<sup>th</sup> century Arabia
- Purification of Islam
- Encouragement of original thinking
- Focus on the here and now
- Militant methods

# Interesting Facts

- A poll of England's Muslim community revealed that 98% would not fight for Britain; 48% would fight for Osama or Islam.
- Over 30% of Muslims in Kuwait believe that Osama is a freedom fighter.
- Former Sudanese President Sadiq el-Mahdi has prophesied that Islam will dominate the world by 2010.
- 28 of the current 30 conflicts in the world include Muslims.

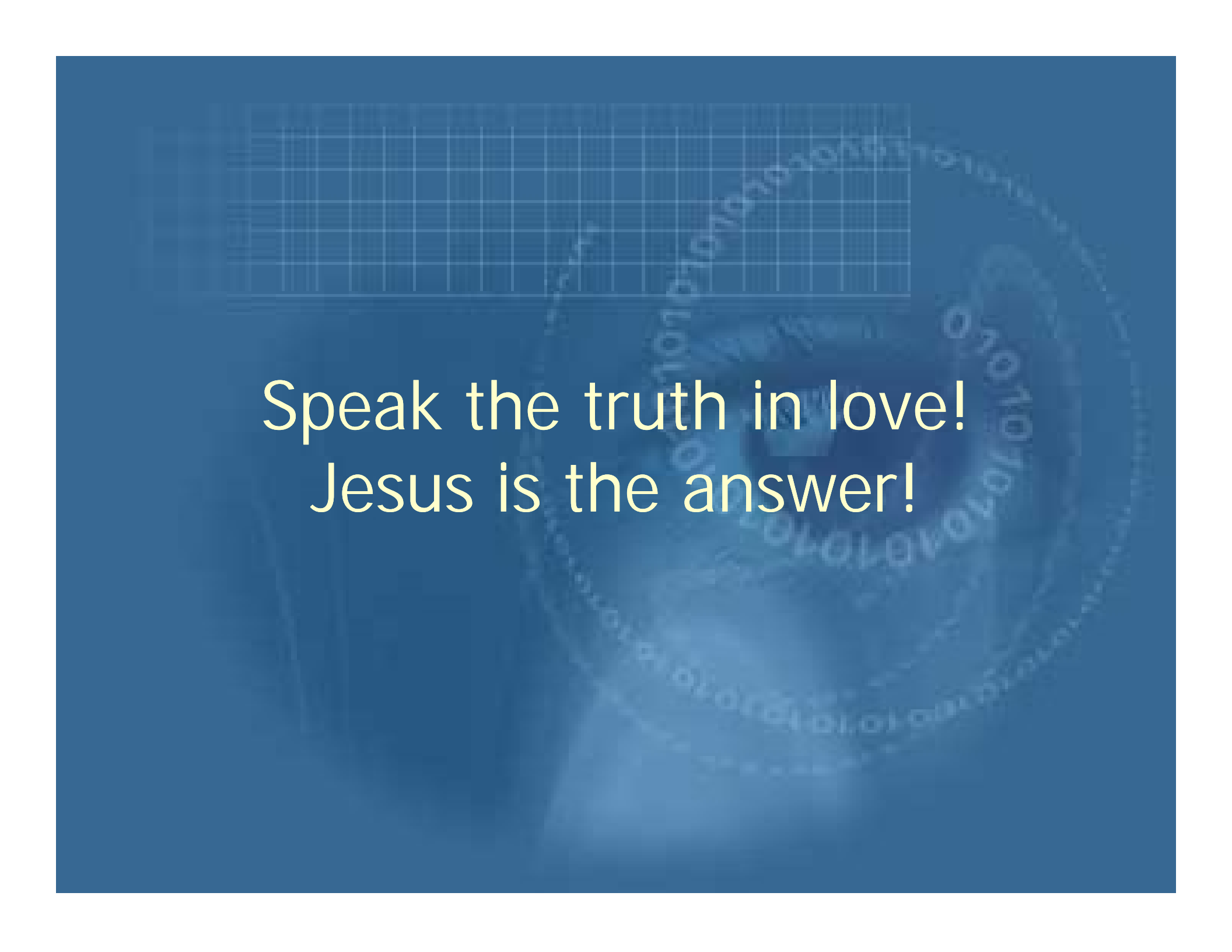
# Resources

## ■ Websites

- [www.answering-islam.org](http://www.answering-islam.org)
- [www.rim.org](http://www.rim.org)
- [www.probe.org](http://www.probe.org)

## ■ Books

- *Answering Islam: The Crescent In The Light Of The Cross*, Norman Geisler & Abdul Saleeb
- *Islam Revealed*, Dr. Anis A. Shorrosh
- *The Islamic Invasion: Confronting the World's Fastest Growing Religion*, Robert Morey
- *The Oxford History of Islam*, Ed. John L. Esposito



Speak the truth in love!  
Jesus is the answer!