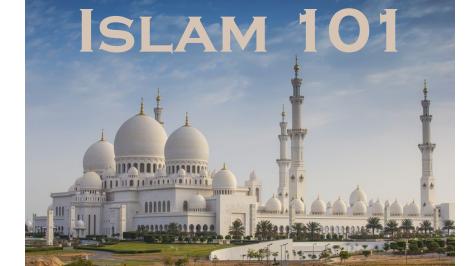
"For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved forever: but the wicked shall he cut off." (Psalm 37:28)



Contrasts Between Islam and Christianity



This booklet is presented by The Revival Center in conjunction with a teaching by Gene Gurganus, B.A., M. DIV., D. MIN.



What is Islam?

Similar to Christianity, Islam is divided into many different factions. The two main groups are the **Sunnis** (90%) and the **Shias** (10%). They don't love one another! There are hundreds of sects of Islam. The Sunnis could be likened to Roman Catholics and Shias to Protestants.

Mohammed – He was born in 570 A.D. in Arabia, was orphaned, and worked as a camel driver. At the age of 40 he married a rich widow, Khadijah, and began to receive revelations allegedly from the Angel Gabriel. These revelations eventuated in the Koran or "recitations."

Sir Norman Anderson, author and scholar, described Mohammad thus: "...Of a religious disposition. He would retire to caves for seclusion and meditation, practiced fasting and was prone to revelationary dreams...he was generous, resolute, genial and astute; a shrewd judge and a born leader of men. He could however be cruel and vindictive to his enemies; he could stoop to assassination; and he was undeniably sensual, having nine wives one of which was nine years old."

Definition of Terms:

Islam - The name of the religion that Mohammad claimed Allah revealed to him through the Angel Gabriel. The word "Islam" does not mean peace but rather submission or surrender.

Muslim – One who is submitted to Allah and confesses that Mohammed is the Prophet of Allah.

The Koran – The Holy book of Islam. Koran means "recitation" and is divided into 114 suras or chapters. It is 4/5 size of the New Testament and is written in the Arabic language. Next to the Bible it is the most esteemed and powerful book in the world.

Allah – Historically Allah was Al-ilah, the moon god of the Quarish tribe of Arabia. Mohammed elevated Al-ilah to Allah, the only true, creator God and set about to destroy and deny the 300 gods of Arabia. A study of Arabian history prior to Islam vindicates these facts.

Jihad – A struggle to spread Islam around the world, both peacefully and with the sword (force).

Dar al Salaam – The house of Islam or the house of peace.

Dar al Harb – The house of war or all nations and people who are not Muslims.

Nasiq – Arabic word for "abrogation." A later revelation can abrogate a previous revelation. For example, the Koran abrogates the Bible. In the Koran a later revelation can abrogate a previous revelation. For example, at one time the Muslims were commanded to pray toward Jerusalem. When the Jews fell into disfavor a later revelation abrogated the command with a new directive to pray toward Mecca.

Five Pillars of Islam:

These are considered obligatory for every Muslim.

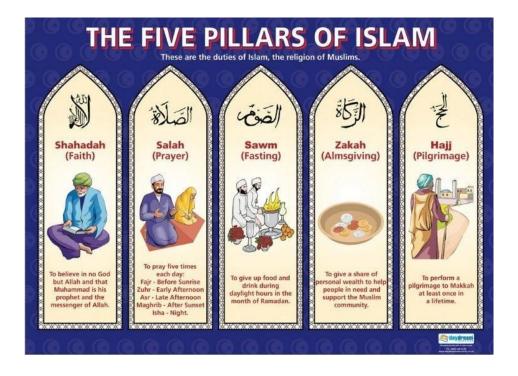
Reciting the creed. "There is no God but Allah and Mohammed is His prophet." This is called the *shahada*.

Reciting prescribed prayers five times a day. This is called *Namaj.*

Observing the month of Ramadan or the month of fasting. The command is not to swallow spittle, eat any food, or drink any water from sunrise to sunset. The night is spent in feasting.

Giving alms of 2.5% to the poor and charitable and religious causes. This is called *zakat*.

Making a pilgrimage to Mecca. This is called the *Hajj*. One who makes the pilgrimage is a *Hajji*.



Muslim Beliefs:

Faith in Allah who they believe is the only true God and His will is supreme.

Belief in angels, such as Gabriel who allegedly transmitted the Koran to Mohammed. The evil angels are *jinn*.

Belief that there are four holy books: The Torah (Pentateuch) given by God to Moses, *Jabur* (Psalms) given by God to David, *Injil* (Good News) given by God to Jesus, and the *Koran*, given by God to Mohammad. Muslims believe that the Koran supersedes and abrogates all other revelations from God.

Belief in prophets and that God has sent 124,000 to warn mankind. Only 25 named in the Koran and the six principle prophets are Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and Mohammed. Mohammed is the seal of the prophets and therefore the greatest.

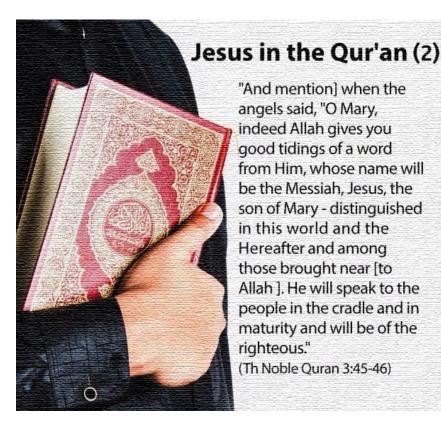
Belief in predestination. Everything that happens, both good and evil, is predestined and is God's will. Muslims are very fatalistic and believe their fate is written on their foreheads.

Belief in the Day of Judgment. On this day, which by the way, will be on a Friday, the good and evil deeds of men will be placed on a scale. Those Muslims having sufficient personal merit and the favor of Allah will go to heaven. All defective Muslims and kaphirs (unbelievers) will go to hell. Only martyrs who die in Jihad are assured a place in heaven.

Contrasts between Islam and Christianity

The Koran teaches that Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, repented, and were forgiven. No mention is made of a sacrifice for sin. Muslims do not believe in original sin and do not believe people are sinful, but only weak. Since man is not a sinner there is no need of a Savior.

The Koran teaches that "The true religion with God is Islam and there is no God but He, the living, the everlasting." The Koran stresses the unity of Allah. "There are unbelievers who say God is the Third of Three." Muslims misconstrue the Trinity to be God the Father, God the Mother, Mary, and God the Son, Jesus. God the Son results from the physical union of God the Father and God the Mother.



Muslims believe he unpardonable sin (*shirk*) is to claim that God has a Son. In the eyes of your Muslim friends all of us Christians are headed for a fiery hell because we have committed the unpardonable sin.

Muslims believe that it is impossible to know God or to have a relationship with Him. "Allah is the unique, unexplorable, and inexplicable One – the remote, vast, unknown God. Allah cannot be comprehended." Contrast this with "This is eternal life, to know thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ who thou hast sent." (John 17:3).

The Koran teaches many things about Jesus who they refer to as Isa. He is a prophet of God to whom God revealed the Injil (Gospel); He is the sinless Messiah; the Word of God; and the Spirit of God. However, they deny his deity and they deny his death on the cross. The Muslims believe that God took Jesus to heaven and substituted Judas to die on the cross.

Muslims have an eschatology or the belief about the end times. They believe in a Man of Sin and Tribulation Period. They also believe in the Second Coming of Christ. But there is a catch. While in heaven awaiting His return, Jesus has become a Muslim and will return to establish Islam on the earth, and in the end will die like everyone else. The Muslims have designated His gravesite.



Contrast of Islam and Christianity relative to Government:

In Islam there is no separation between church and state. In a true Islamic nation *Shariah* or Islamic law based on the Koran and Hadith (sacred traditions) is the law of the land. Only Muslims are true citizens. Those of other religions referred to as *dhimmis* or second-class citizens are tolerated if they pay taxes which amount to protection money. The nature of this kind of government can be learned by observing the Taliban in Afghanistan, Iran, and Sudan.

In Islam politics and religion are inseparably joined. A Muslim leader said, "It is not our fault that (In Islam) politics is part of religion and that Islam includes the rulers and the ruled, for its teaching is not: "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's, but rather: Caesar and what is Caesar's are to the one and only victorious God." On the other hand, Jesus said, *"Render unto Caesar the things are Caesar's and to God the things are God's.*" Therefore, a Christian can be a true patriot by paying taxes, honoring the king, serving in the military, etc. and at the same time be true and faithful to God and His laws. The big question is can American Muslims really be loyal Americans since their religion teaches them there is no separation between religion and politics.

By studying the Koran and Islamic history a certain pattern can be discerned. First, accommodation. When Muslims are a weak minority, they are peace-loving and "you're ok, we're ok." Second, agitation. As their numbers and powers increase, they begin to agitate for their rights. Third, subjugation. When sufficiently strong they start their jihad, i.e., struggle to subjugate others to Islamic rule. Can a true Muslim be a loyal citizen and be counted on to uphold the oath of citizenship? You be the judge.



In Islam there is no freedom of choice, there is no possibility of democracy. The country of Turkey is the closest Muslim country to being a democracy. It is a secular state. Islam and democracy cannot co-exist. All dissent is brutally crushed. In Saudi Arabi there is not one church and there is not one Jew permitted to live there since the time of Mohammed.



Contrast the Expansion of Islam and Christianity:

Both Islam and Christianity are missionary religions with visions of converting the world. Mohammed tried peaceful persuasion and failed. Then he picked up the sword and by unmitigated force (convert or die) went forward to conquer the world for Allah. On the other hand, the apostles of Jesus Christ went forth preaching peace and goodwill. Instead of killing they were killed and all but one apostle suffered a martyr's death. Yet in 300 years they conquered the Roman Empire for Christ. They conquered by truth not by swords.

Observe the unlevel playing field. In America, the Muslims are given freedom, protection, and even promotion from our government, government schools and universities. While in Muslim countries Christian converts suffer death or ostracism. Freedom of religion is unheard of. In Bangladesh, due to success in winning Muslims to Christ, a Muslim mob burned our Memorial Baptist Church and the homes of six Christian families.

Contrasts between the Great Commission in Islam and Christianity

Both the Koran and the Bible contain a primary command that was given to be obeyed. First, let us look at the command in the Koran. Surah 2.193 says, *"And fight with them (unbelievers) until there is no persecution (disbelief), and religion should be only for Allah, but if they desist, then there should be no hostility except against the oppressors."* The command is to fight non-Muslims until there is no one in a position to resist the religion of Allah. If they desist, I.e., if they submit to Allah and Mohammed his prophet then hostilities cease. The clear sense of this command is that Muslims are commanded to fight an unending war until the world is subjugated to Islam. The command is to fight, loot, kill, and subdue until there is no persecution or opposition to Islam remaining in the world.

In the Bible the primary command is *"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."* (Mark 16:15). The Apostle Paul said, *"It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe"* (I Corinthians 1:21b). The full-orbed scriptural command is to go, preach, love and give.



some basic beliefs of islam

- There is a single, indivisible God who is just, omnipotent and merciful.
- Islam existed before Muhammad was born; the origins of Islam date back to the creation of the world, and Muhammad was the last of a series of Prophets (including Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses and Jesus).
- The Koran (Qur'an) is the word of God, dictated by the Archangel Gabriel to Mohammed. It is the final, universal message for all people. All people are considered children of Adam, and all children are born pure.
- There will be a Day of Judgment when people will either attain paradise in Heaven or punishment in Hell. No individual can atone for another's sins.

Contrasts between the Bible and the Koran

The heart of Islam is the Koran and the heart of Christianity is the Bible. The Bible can be summed up in two words: sin and salvation. Thus, the Bible is the history of redemption, teaching how sinful men can be reconciled to a Holy God. In contrast the Koran teaches that man is not a sinner and therefore does not need a savior.

The layout of the Bible and the Koran differ drastically. The Bible begins with creation and progressively reveals God's plan to save sinful men. The Koran begins with the longest Sura (chapter) and ends with the shortest with no attempt to present a central coherent message.

Anther stark contrast between the Bible and the Koran is the absence of miracles in the Koran. Mohammed's enemies taunted him for his inability to do miracles. His reply was the Koran was his miracle since how could an illiterate man produce such a great book? Jesus Christ, on the other hand, was a miracle worker and His miracles vindicated His claim to be the Son of God. "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples... these things are written, that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." (John 20:30, 31). His miracles prove He was who He claimed to be.

Nothing differentiates the Bible from the Koran as much as fulfilled prophecy. Sura 30:2-4 presents the Koran's claim to fulfilled prophecy. *"The Romans are vanquished in a near land, and they, after being vanquished shall overcome, within a few years."* In contrast to this weak, nebulous prophecy the Bible prophesies that the Savior will be born of a woman, i.e. that he will be a human being of the seed of Abraham of the lineage of David. Specifically, the Bible foretells the time, the place and manner of His birth; gives details as to how he will die; and that God will raise Him from the dead. All these prophesies have been literally fulfilled. Praise His holy Name!



Contrast between Terrorists and Muslims:

The politically correct mantra proclaims terrorists as renegade Muslims and moderate Muslims as true Muslims. For clarification three types of Muslims are with us.

First, a secular Muslim is a Muslim by birth but does not pray, attend the Mosque and usually lives a dissolute life.

Second, a moderate Muslim holds fast to his faith but conquering the world for Islam is not his agenda. Most of them are pursuing the American dream in the suburbs.

Third, a militant Muslim's agenda is definitely conquering the world for Islam and destroying America in the process. The militant Muslim is the Koranic Muslim. Killing infidels is Allah's command and they do it gleefully.

Conclusion:

Muslims around the world are uniting to conquer the world for Allah and Mohammed. Only one thing can stop this fanatical religion: Biblical Christianity ablaze with the power of God. Now is the time for God's people to pray as never before.

Muslims are coming to Christ around the world. Many are disillusioned with the militant Muslims. In America, Muslims need our love and our witness. A true Christian testimony startles and amazes them. God's people have been politically dormant too long. Good Christian men and women need to enter the political fray.

Christians need to hold fast to sound doctrine and practice. Training our children to live for Christ must be our greatest desire. Whatever happens, Jesus Christ will not fail His people. He will win the victory. Never fear, only trust and obey.