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Submission = Surrendering to God

Is there anything common between Islam and Christianity that we may use to help Muslims to know more

about Jesus and the assurance of salvation that he grants? Yes there are many. For example, Muslims usually tell us that Islam teaches 'submission to God.' Here is something to share with them on this subject.

For comprehensive details of God's message, our Muslim friends have to read the Bible

Islam and Christianity both claim to be revealed and historical faiths. Both claim that the purpose of our lives is to 'surrender to God's will'. They

claim that God intervened in the lives of people to lead them into 'the straight path'. Muslims and Christians believe that God chose to reveal himself and his will to people by speaking through prophets and apostles. He enabled them to share his message with their fellow human beings in order to explain our existence on earth and our direction for the future.

God and His messengers

God is the central reality for both Muslims and Christians. The *Qur'an* claims to be referring to the same God who revealed himself to all the prophets and apostles: Adam, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Moses, David and Jesus. The Bible begins with a simple outline of the story of creation and records the main events in Adam's life (Genesis 2 - 4). It tells the story of Noah and Abraham's encounters with God (Genesis 5 - 25). Condensed versions of these accounts can also be found in the *Qur'an*. Then there is the story of Isaac, Ishmael, Jacob (also called Israel) and his descendants (known as Bani Israel, the Children of Israel). Their story is one of the colorful and memorable phases of Old Testament history (Genesis 25 - 36). The link between the patriarchs and the establishment of the people of Israel is provided by the story of Joseph (Genesis 37 - 50) and remembered in the retellings in the Qur'an (Sura 12).

During the time of Moses, the focus of God's revelation was the deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt and the giving of the law (Exodus 1 - 40). Some of these events are also mentioned in the Qur'an but only in passing (Sura 2:51-53; 3:3; 7:103-157, etc.). Christians state that God's revelation was fulfilled around 2,000 years ago in the person of Jesus, the Christ. There are some ninety verses about the birth of Jesus and his mission in the Qur'an. However, a Muslim can know a complete narrative that is available only in the New

Testament section of the Bible. As Christians, we need to help guide Muslims into these complete truths.

The aim of God's message

We can share with Muslim friends that indeed the need to surrender to God's will has always been central to God's message, and we see good examples of it in the lives of his people. Abraham surrendered himself and obeyed God's call to migrate to a foreign land. It was because of his faith in God and obedience in submission to God and his righteousness that Abraham was called *Khalil ul-llah*, the friend of God (Qur'an, Sura 4:125; Bible, James 2:23). Moses, who could have lived an easy life, refused to remain in luxury as a member of Pharaoh's family. He surrendered himself to God and led the Israelites to freedom, out of their bondage to Egypt (Qur'an, Sura 7:103 ff.; 26:18 ff.; Bible, Hebrews 11:24). Jesus, in the garden of Gethsemane, prayed, "not my will, but yours be done" (Luke 22:42).



The whole story of submission

We must, in clear words, point to the fact that the Qur'an does not go into the essential detail that God has revealed in the scriptures of the people of the Book, Christians and Jews. Thus for a full understanding of God's message, our Muslim friends have to study the Bible to find out, not only the truth, but the whole truth. Here one finds the reason why God has given creation to us as a divine trust, amanah, and why he wants us to surrender to him. The Bible, above all, reveals why God himself took the initiative to help us to be united with him in his fellowship through Jesus as it was in the beginning. (A leaflet on this subject is available as part of 13 leaflets set and can be ordered from us: www.jesustomuslims.org/product/evangelistic-leaflets-10)

To show sincere love for others, and our enemies, which includes Muslims, we need to care more about their souls and where they will spend eternity than we do about pleasing them in this earthly life. Being forthright in our communications with Muslims is what Jesus would do and what we, as Ambassadors of Christ, are commissioned to do. Let's not waste another moment of precious time and begin today, to guide a Muslim to the complete truth about their eternal salvation.

Needs, Prayer and praise points

- We thank God for the supporters in this ministry. We pray God blesses them abundantly.
- We ask you to join us in prayer for a revival in the Church so to demonstrate the power of the Holy Spirit.
- The ministry is in need of Female Administrative Assistant P/T (3 days or 21 hrs wk) = office/secretarial duties; apt in using WORD, EXCEL, POWERPOINT; organized, make appointments/correspondence, filing, emails, operational duties like Seminar preparations, data input. Above all must be mission minded.
- We need some committed Volunteer help for various duties in the office and newsletter stuffings.
- Financial resources to publish Karen's book for women to help prevent Muslim's luring Christian women toward marriage in unequally yoked marriages, preventing female abuse and bondage to Shari'a
- Financial support for Safe Houses to provide safety, discipleship and career/life training for women who convert to Christianity out of Islam—we have a possible house, needing operating costs
- Financial support for new office equipment for the ministry; printers, computers, and updating software as technology evolves, we are forced to upgrade to keep our resources intact and functioning
- Funding to pay salaries: Administrator, House parents for Safe house, two other ministry helpers who are working directly with Steven and Karen regularly, living in our South FL house doing ministry daily there.

Is it Islamic for Boko Haram in Nigeria to kidnap girls from a school and threaten to sell them?

Muhammad is the greatest example for Muslims. The way he dealt with non-Muslims, Muslims who want to follow him to the letter do the same. When the leader of the Nigerian radical Islamic group took the girls captive and threatened to sell the girls. It was imitating what Muhammad did.

For example, when the Jewish tribe Qurayza's wives and children were captured, many of them, Muhammad sent to be sold in Egypt and Southern Arabia for horses and weapons.

Muhammad's biographer Ibn Ishaq (d. 761) states that Muhammad's action became a precedent and has 'remained the custom for raids' (*Sira Rasul*, p. 466.)

Why would a Christian woman who never embraced Islam be accused of apostasy and be put to death?

According to Islamic law children born to a Muslim man from a Christian or Jewish wife are technically treated as Muslims. That is what happened in the case of the woman in Sudan being accused of apostasy. Although her father was a Muslim, he left. Mariam was brought up as Christian by her mother and never practiced Islam as her faith. In spite of such, *Shari'a* still treats a child from such a marriage as Muslim.

Jesus to Muslims: Financial Aspects

This ministry relies solely on the generosity of our donors, to continue daily operations, expand outreach, do seminars to equip Christians and research and publish material to reach truth seekers.

We thank you and praise God for those loyal in support and being steadfast with us in your calling as we fulfill our calling in reaching Muslims and equipping Christians.

Monthly goal: \$15,000

Total funds received:

April 2014: \$ 7,128 May 2014: \$10,631

If you are mailing your gift, please use the envelope provided. For online giving please go to:

www.JesusToMuslims.org and click on 'Support'.