

Key Doctrines of Islam in comparison to Christianity

Galatians 1:7-9

Belief system

FAITH: *Iman*: Articles of faith are to believe in:

God, His angels, His books, His prophets, the Last Day and the divine decree of good and evil.

PRACTICE : *Din*, Known as the five pillars of Islam.

Important Factors:

God

- Known as Allah. He is one. The Qur'anic Claim: 'Same God – God of Abraham'
- He is our Lord (*Rabb*) but not Father (*Abb*) Sura 6:102; 72:3.
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- We are Allah's servants only.
- His love for people is conditional. (Sura 2:195)
- He has created some for hell and other for paradise (Sura 1:118, 16:93, 19:71-72)
- He loves those who kill for Him (Sura 61:4)
- God being our Father – *Abb* (164 times in the Gospels).
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Biblical Response: I John 3:1, Gal 3:26, 4:1-7, John 5:24, 6:47

Abraham

Biblical Response: Gen 12:1,15 & 17-Abraham to leave his country-all people blessed through him.

Emanuel-God with us.

- Promise with Abraham
- The coming of the Messiah
- Muhammad attempted to 're-write' (or dictate) the history
- Ishmael was the promised son and not Isaac
- Muhammad the promised one? (Deut 18:15-18; Qur'an 7:157; John 14; 15 & 16. Qur'an 61:6)
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Jesus

- He is a messenger of God like Abraham, Moses and David etc.
- Born of a virgin
- He is sinless but he is not the Son of God, divine or God himself.
- He was not crucified; ascended to heaven without dying
- He, however, is the messiah '*Isa al-Masih*', the sign (*Ayah*), a word and spirit of God.
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- He will return, fight, live, marry and die
- Passover ignored. Sura 17:10 mentions only 9 plagues
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Christian response: I Peter 3:18, I Cor 5:7-8

www.itl-usa.org Muslim dialogue

Study **book** *Jesus or Muhammad, A Question of Assurance*, **Leaflets:** *A Prophet like Moses, Did Jesus Promise Muhammad's coming?*

About the Holy Spirit

- The Qur'an refers to Jesus as a Word and Spirit from God
- Muslim scholars see the angel Gabriel as the Holy Spirit (Sura 2:9, 16:102)
- The Holy Spirit in John's Gospel is believed to be Muhammad (Sura 2:253, Sura 61:6)
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About Salvation

- The Islamic Equation: Faith + Works + Divine Mercy [if Allah would desire] = salvation
- Sin is not seen as defined in the Bible. Level of Sins – *Saghira* / *Kabira*
- Recording angels; the balance between good and bad deeds determines eternal destiny in paradise or hell - in other words a credit/debit system
- Muslim Hope vs Christian Hope
- Muslims believe Muhammad will intercede – Sure? No.
- Muhammad says in Sura 46:9...I don't know what will happen to me or with you...
- Paradise is guaranteed for those who die in 'Jihad'

- Muhammad said: 'No one of you will enter Paradise through his good works'... Hadith No.5309
- Jesus to Muslims Leaflets: *Who is God?, Who is the Messiah?, Grace, Mercy & Justice*

The Muslim Worldview

- Muslims understand religion as a whole and integrated way of life – *al-islam din wa dawla*
- Brotherhood and consensus is emphasized. Individualism is avoided
- The world is divided into two realms: *Dar al-Islam* and *Dar al-Harb*

When Muslims do not have the upper hand:

- *For you is your faith and for me is mine (Sura 109:6) – لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ وَلِيَ دِينِ*
- In West speak of Abrahamic heritage instead of Christian-Judeo & Inclusivism= PEACE

When in power:

- *Islam is the only faith acceptable to God (Sura 3:19) – إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ*

Christian Worldview:

Hebrews 12:14-make every effort to live in peace with all... without holiness NO ONE will SEE THE LORD.

No Compromising Christian faith

Share Christ with all lost including Muslims