

Apologetics to Islam
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1 Peter 3:15

- *Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that you have, but do this with gentleness and respect.*

BIBLICAL EVALUATION:

- The core of Islam is diametrically opposed to the core beliefs of Christianity
- It is almost as if someone purposely developed a new religion that would specifically counter Christianity

- NOTE: In Islam everything has been codified into such rigid practices that there is much externalism and religion becomes a matter of custom, national heritage, and ritual rather than an actual relationship with the Living God.


Islam is a direct attack

Islam	Christianity
Tawhid	Trinity
Jesus only a Prophet	Jesus is God
Jesus taken into heaven	Jesus actually died on the cross
The Bible has been corrupted	The Bible is the trustworthy Word of God


Core Doctrine deals with the following beliefs

- Nature of God
- Nature of Jesus Christ
- Nature of the Holy Spirit
- Nature of Man
- Nature of Sin
- Nature of Salvation
- The Bible
- Nature of Heaven
- Nature of Hell
- The Future (nature of eternity)


Nature of God	Christianity	<i>Islam</i>
God	One God Personal Triune	One God Impersonal Monad




Belief	Christianity	<i>Islam</i>
Are Yahweh and Allah the same?	Can the God of Muhammad be the Father of Jesus?	Muslims worship the God and creator of Jesus, and whom Jesus himself worshipped




Belief	Christianity	<i>Islam</i>
Is God a Trinity?	God is One essence and Three persons, a Tri-unity; co-equal, co-eternal	God is a monad, a singularity; How can $1+1+1=1$? The Trinity defies the laws of nature and mathematics




Nature of Jesus Christ	Christianity	<i>Islam</i>
Jesus Christ	Son of God; God himself	Prophet; Only a man



Belief	Christianity	<i>Islam</i>
Is Jesus the Son of God?	Jesus is "true God from true God;" Jesus is God the Son, second person of the Trinity	Jesus was just a servant of Allah; a prophet, but not the Son of God (Q. 5:17); It is the greatest of all sins to associate another with God



Belief	Christianity	<i>Islam</i>
Did Jesus die by crucifixion?	Jesus died on a cross for our sins, was buried and rose on the third day; after 40 days he ascended into heaven	Jesus did not die on the cross (Q. 4:147), but was raised to heaven by Allah (Q. 4:158); How could someone else's death pay for your sins?



Nature of	Christianity	Islam
Holy Spirit	Third person of Trinity	Spirit of God; Gabriel

Nature of	Christianity	Islam
Bible	Inspired Word of God Complete and without error (in original) (2 Timothy 3:16); OT and NT; 66 books; over 40 authors	Accept the Tauret (Pentateuch of Moses), Zabur (psalms of David), and the Injil (gospel of Jesus) in as far as they agree with the Qur'an; Muslims believe the Bible has been "corrupted"


Belief	Christianity	Islam
Is the Bible inerrant or has it been corrupted?	The Bible is the inspired Word of God transmitted through men. (2 Timothy 3:16)	The original Scriptures given to the Jews and Christians were corrupted; this is why they contradict the Qur'an, which is the only accurate word of God today.

Nature of	Christianity	Islam
Man	Created in image of God; Fallen	Created; Not fallen, only forgetful


Nature of	Christianity	Islam
Sin	Rebellion against God; separates man from God; "original sin" inherited from Adam – tendency towards evil	Action against God; Can be forgiven; Man is born "good" without "original sin;" Equal ability to do good and evil

Nature of	Christianity	Islam
Salvation	Only in Christ; Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins against God; (some would include correct belief and good deeds as fruit of true conversion)	Submitting to will of Allah; Works; Correct belief; God's mercy;

Nature of	Christianity	Islam
Heaven	Being in the presence of Jesus Christ; No marriage; A place of light	Paradise; Allah will not be present any more than he is present on earth; A fulfillment of all earthly pleasures




Nature of	Christianity	Islam
Hell	Eternal separation from God; A place of darkness	A place of torment and fire; Not necessarily the final place for Muslims;



Nature of	Christianity	Islam
Future	Jesus Christ is coming again; There will be a bodily resurrection, final judgment and eternal destination; only those who trust in Christ as their Savior will go to heaven	Jesus is coming again --So is the Imam Mahdi and the Dajjal (false messiah); bodily resurrection, final judgment and eternal destination; all Muslims will eventually go to heaven, though some must be purged of their sins first; all infidels (Jews and Christians included) are destined for hell

SUGGESTED APPROACHES FOR PRESENTING CHRISTIANITY



- Building Bridges**
- *Develop a true friendship*
 - *Build trust*
 - *Ask good questions*
 - *Read the gospels together*
 - *Pray for your Muslim friends*
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