

CHART OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY

By NSRK Ravi

BELIEF	ISLAM	CHRISTIANITY
God	Only one god - called Allah	Only one God - a triune being called God or Yahweh — Ephesians 4:6
Jesus	A prophet who was virgin-born, but not the Son of God	The Divine son of God who was virgin-born. He is God's Word and Savior to humanity — John 1:1-3, 14
Crucifixion	Jesus was not crucified. Someone [Judas] was substituted for Jesus and Jesus hid until He could meet with the disciples	The Crucifixion of Jesus is a fact of history that is necessary for the atonement of sin and the salvation of believers — 1 Peter 3:18
Jesus' Resurrection	Since Muslims do not believe in the Crucifixion, there is no need to believe in the Resurrection of Jesus	The Resurrection of Jesus is a fact of history that signifies God's victory over sin and death —1 Corinthians 15:1-17
Trinity	A blasphemy signifying belief in three gods. In Islam, the Trinity is mistakenly thought to be God, Jesus, and Mary	The one God is eternally revealed in three coequal and coeternal persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit —1 John 5:5-12
Sin	Sin is disobedience to the established law. Sin does not grieve Allah because he is not a man	Sin is rebellion against God. Sin grieves God —1 Peter 3:2
Man	Man is created by Allah and is basically good	Man is created in God's image. By the fall of Adam, all mankind is sinful by nature — Romans 5:1-21; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22; Ephesians 2:1-10
Salvation	Salvation is achieved by submitting to the will of Allah. There is no assurance of salvation - it is granted by Allah's mercy alone	Salvation is a gift accepted by faith in the atonement of Jesus Christ on the Cross and provided through God's grace — Ephesians 2:8; Romans 10:9-11
Bible	Muslims accept the Bible (especially the Pentateuch, Psalms, and Gospels) insofar as it agrees with the Qur'an	The Bible is the inspired Word of God that is complete and not to be added to in any way — 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Proverbs 30:6
Qur'an (Koran)	Is a later revelation that supersedes and corrects errors in the Bible	Not accepted as divine revelation — 1 John 4:1-3; 2 Thessalonians 2:2
Muhammad	The last in the line of prophets and, therefore, the final authority in spiritual matters	Not accepted as a prophet or legitimate theological source — 2 Peter 2
Angels	These divine messengers are created from light and are not worshipped	Angels are defined in the Bible as heavenly servants of God who act as His messengers — Hebrews 1:1-14
Last Days	There will be a bodily resurrection and final judgment with final destination. All Muslims go to heaven, though some must be purged of their sins first. All infidels are destined for hell	There will be a bodily resurrection in the last days. Final judgment and eternal destination (heaven or hell) will be decided based on acceptance of Jesus as Savior and His removal of the sin which separates each person from God — 1 Corinthians 15:51-58; Revelation 20:5-6; 1 John 4:10

Questions about Islam

When did Islam begin, and who founded it?

Islam was founded in 610 A.D. by a man named Muhammad. During Muhammad's time, polytheism reigned. His people were worshipping multiple gods. During one of Muhammad's trips as a trader, he had a vision from a being he perceived to be an angel who said, *"There is only one God, and His name is Allah. Worship Him."*

What is their Holy book?

Just as Christians have the Bible, Muslims have the Qur'an. They believe the Qur'an was dictated to Muhammad by God through the angel Gabriel. Muslims are also told in the Qur'an to read three other holy books: the Torah (which are the first five books of the Jewish Old Testament), the Zabur (which are the Psalms of David), and the Injeel (the gospel of Christ).

What do Muslims think about Jesus?

All Muslims believe Jesus was born of a virgin and that he was a great prophet—yet he was only a man. They believe he was sent by God to help people obey God. Islam claims Jesus spoke as a baby, healed the sick, and raised the dead. The Qur'an refers to Jesus as the breath of God, the spirit of God, the life of God and the word of God. **Muslims do not believe Jesus died on the cross. They believe that just before he was to be killed, God took him up to heaven and someone else (probably Judas) replaced him on the cross.** They trust that Jesus will return to the earth again to usher in the final judgment from God and **confirm that Islam is the true and final religion for all mankind.** (Yes, Muslims believe in the second coming of Christ!)

Is it true that Islam is a lot like Christianity?

Although the two religions share some terminology and even some theology (monotheism, for instance), Islam is fundamentally different from Christianity. Islam is a salvation by works religion, while Christian faith is based on Salvation by God's grace through faith in the work of Jesus on the Cross [1 John 4:10].

In Islam, if Allah wants to forgive sin, he simply says, "It is forgiven." Christianity recognizes the necessity of repentance and the acceptance of the sacrifice of Jesus before a person can be forgiven [Ephesians 1:7].

Muslims work for their Salvation. They must....

1. Daily confess Allah as God and Muhammad as the prophet
2. Pray five times a day facing Mecca
3. Give alms— At least 2% of their wealth to the church
4. Fast during Ramadan for 1 lunar month
5. Make a Pilgrimage to Mecca if financially possible.

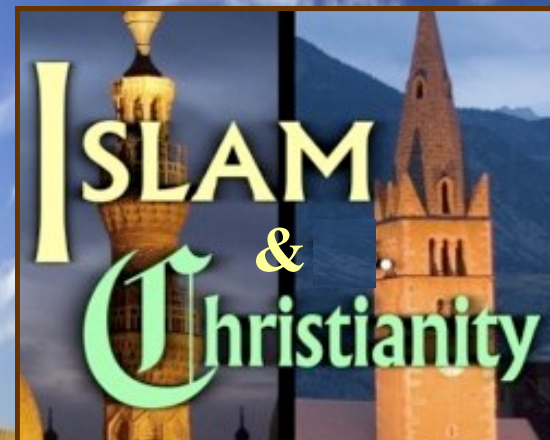
How do they view Christianity?

Muslims think Christians believe in three gods: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Mother (Mary). They believe that Christians and Jews have changed the Bible, therefore the existing copies can't be trusted. In any case, they are all superseded by the Qur'an.

Muslims equate Christianity and the West. Sadly because of the pornography from the West and the Western media, they consequently associate Christianity with free sex, drugs, alcohol, rape, divorce... all the evils of the West. This misconception confirms their belief that Islam is the true and final religion for all mankind.

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THE BASIC BELIEFS of



Examine the Chart showing the Differences

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