

Christianity vs. Everybody: Christianity vs. Islam

Origin of Islam

1. Abraham's firstborn son was named Ismael; who was born to his handmaiden named Hagar. When Abraham dismissed Hagar & Ismael at the directive of his wife Sarah, it is believed that they settled in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. Ismael is believed to be an ancestor to Muhammad; who was born in 571 AD to an Arabian tribe called the Quraysh.
2. This Quraysh tribe was influential because they controlled Mecca. Mecca was important religiously because the Ka'bah was located there. This was a cubical structure that, at the time of Muhammad, contained 360 deities that were hand-picked by each Arabian tribe; and they came to Mecca each year to pay homage to their particular god. It was customary that those who were spiritually minded retreated to places of solitude annually. Muhammad practiced this solitude; and in the year of 610 at age 39, Muhammad received his first revelation from the angel Gabriel. What was most critical about the revelations given to Muhammad was that of monotheism. This was the beginning of a series of revelations that were eventually compiled into sacred scriptures which are now referred as the Quran; which means Recitations.
3. Islam means Submission.
4. Muslim means Servant.
5. Islam now is the second largest religion in the world; making up 20% of the world's population.

Beliefs & Practices of Islam

1. The central doctrine of Islam is that God is one and that no partner is associated with him.
2. Many persons from Adam even to Jesus were prophets of God sent to minister at particular times; but Muhammad is the only prophet who is for all time.
3. The Bible has been corrupted; but the Quran has been preserved in an uncorrupted state.
4. Each person has been assigned with two angels; one records the person's good deeds and the other to record the bad deeds.
5. On the day of judgment, those whose good deeds outweigh their bad deeds will be rewarded with paradise. Those whose bad deeds outweigh their good deeds will be sent to hell. The deeds balance is only known to God.
6. The Islamic practices center around their 5 Pillars of faith:

*Confession: conversion to Islam

*Prayer: 5 times a day facing Mecca

*Fasting: no eating, drinking, smoking, or sex during daylight hours of Ramadan

*Giving alms: 2.5% of their income to the poor and needy

*making pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in their lifetime

CHRISTIAN RESPONSES TO ISLAM

1. Islam recognizes 4 holy books:

- A) tawrat (Torah) to Moses
- B) zabur (psalms) to David
- C) injil (gospel) to Jesus
- D) Quran to Muhammad containing 114 surahs (chapters)

In Surah 5:68, it encourages Jews & Christians to "*standfast by the Law, the Gospel, and all the revelation that has come to you from your Lord*". **To encourage to standfast by the Gospel but deny what the gospel teaches about the deity of Jesus Christ and subsequently the trinity is a contradiction.**

1. Access into Heaven and Hell is based on deeds system of good outweighing the bad. **If that's the case, then salvation is based on works with no forgiveness.** In Surah 3:140 it states "Allah does not love those who do wrong". Our God, however, demonstrated his love for us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for the ungodly (Romans 5:8). Our God forgives us of our wrongdoing and doesn't hold them against us, but washes our sins away in the blood of Jesus Christ. Thus our salvation is based on faith in Christ and not human works.
2. Only God knows the deeds balance in the end. **Therefore no Muslim has an assurance of where there's going after death.**
3. On June 8, 632 AD, Muhammad died & didn't rise again; but Jesus died and rose again.

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2. This Quraysh tribe was influential because they controlled Mecca. Mecca was important religiously because the Ka'bah was located there. This was a cubical structure that, at the time of Muhammad, _____ that were hand-picked by each Arabian tribe; and they came to Mecca each year to pay homage to their particular god. It was customary that those who were spiritually minded retreated to places of solitude annually. Muhammad practiced this solitude; and in the year of 610 at age 39, Muhammad received his first revelation from _____. What was most critical about the revelations given to Muhammad was that of _____. This was the beginning of a series of revelations that were eventually compiled into sacred scriptures which are now referred as _____; which means _____.
3. Islam means _____.
4. Muslim means _____.
5. Islam now is the _____ largest religion in the world; making up _____.

Beliefs & Practices of Islam

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2. Many persons from Adam even to Jesus were prophets of God sent to minister at particular times; but Muhammad is the only prophet who is for all time.
3. The Bible has been corrupted; but the Quran has been preserved in an uncorrupted state.
4. Each person has been assigned with _____; one to _____ and the other to _____.
5. On _____, those whose good deeds outweigh their bad deeds will be _____. Those whose bad deeds outweigh their good deeds will be _____. The deeds balance is _____.
6. The Islamic practices center around their 5 Pillars of faith:

- * _____
- * _____
- * _____
- * _____
- * _____

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