



Understanding Islam

Galatians 1:6-9

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I. Background

- Islam is the world's fastest growing religion (1.6 billion).
- Islam is the name of the religion, meaning “submission”.



II. Sects of Islam

1. Sunnite
2. Shia'ite
3. Ahmdiyyan



III. Islamic beliefs

1. God

- For Muslims, Allah is the only true God.
- Jesus Christ is a prophet of Allah, but he is not the Son of God or God himself (Surah 4:171).



–The Muslim God is a god of judgment, not grace; a god of wrath, not love.

–*In Christianity, God is love.*

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life,” John 3:16



III. Islamic beliefs

2. Jesus Christ

- The prophet Muhammed supersedes Jesus.
- Muslims believe that Jesus was taken bodily into heaven without having died (Surah 4:157)



- In Christianity Jesus is fully God and fully man
- “I and the Father are one.” John 10:30



III. Islamic beliefs

3. Sin and Salvation

- Sin and salvation in Islam is associated with two concepts: works and fate (kismet).



III. Islamic beliefs

3. Sin and Salvation

- Every Muslim who hopes to escape the judgment of Allah must fulfill the Five Pillars of Faith (Surah 10:109):



- i. Creed: recitation of the Shahadah,
“There is no god but Allah and
Muhammed is the prophet of Allah.”*
- ii. Prayer: five set times to pray each day in
Arabic, prostrating in the direction of
Mecca.*



- iii. *Alms giving: Muslims must give 1/40 of their estate to their mosque.*
- iv. *Fasting: go without water, food, or sexual relations from sun up to sun down during month of Ramadan.*
- v. *Pilgrimage: all Muslims are to visit Mecca at least once in their lifetime.*



- In Christianity, salvation is by God's grace through faith in Christ alone
- *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.”*
Ephesians 2:8-9

IV. Sharing the gospel with a Muslim



- Nature of God

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life,” John 3:16

- Deity of Christ

I and the Father are one,” John 10:30

IV. Sharing the gospel with a Muslim



- Salvation by faith alone.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

Ephesians 2:8-9



- Love: Christians should love Muslims.

But I say to you, love your enemies
and pray for those who persecute you,
Matthew 5:44