Mar. 1, 2025

The Lord blessing to you and your family that all is well. Please continue praying for Israel and for Gaza and Syria to stop wars. We can see we are in or near end-times known as the “Birth Pains”. What do you think?

This month **BSL** is somewhat different from other **BSL** but it goes well in the time we are in. As most of you know, Islam has increase throughout the world and it’s not a secret it’s also applies to the United States. And it’s for this reason I took it upon myself to learn about the Islam religion. Things for instants - What are their beliefs in salvation, who is Allah and Muhammed when did their religion began and so on? I found so much information on the web that this **BSL** will be in two issues. I was trying to keep the article as few pages as possible. So, my source again came from GotQuestion.org for the above reason. Remember - “We have an obligation to know what we believe”.

So, let’s get started.

Your Brother in Christ, Tony Gonzalez

**1 Peter 3:15**

but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, **always being prepared to make a defense** to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

**What is the difference between Christianity and Islam?**

**Bible Scripture Letter #57**

While some similarities exist between [Islam](https://www.gotquestions.org/Islam.html) and Christianity (they are both monotheistic religions, for example), their differences are clear-cut, significant, and irreconcilable. For this article, we will survey four key areas: the founders of the two religions, the contrasting views of God, the sacred literature, and the means of salvation. We will see that Islam differs from Christianity in each of those four areas.

***Islam and Christianity: Founders of the Religions***

 Islam was founded by an Arab merchant named Muhammed about AD 622. Muhammed claimed to have received a revelation from an angel of God, and, although he initially feared his revelation had come from Satan, Muhammed later claimed to be the last and greatest of all of God’s prophets. Muhammed had fifteen wives (although he limited other men to four wives apiece) and sanctioned the beating of wives (Sura 4:34). Muhammed was well known for spreading his new religion by force. He commanded, “Fight and slay the Pagans wherever you find them” (Sura 9:5), and he specified the proper way to execute an unbeliever was to cut his throat (Sura 47:4). Muhammed led raids against caravans to plunder their goods, broke oaths, ordered the murder of those who mocked him, and wiped out the last Jewish tribe in Medina—he killed all the men and enslaved the women and children. Interestingly, Muhammed acknowledged his own need to seek God’s forgiveness on occasion (Sura 40:55).

 In stark contrast to the moral depravity of Muhammed, Jesus Christ was above reproach in every way ([2 Corinthians 5:21](https://www.bibleref.com/2-Corinthians/5/2-Corinthians-5-21.html)). Jesus never married, He defended and honored women ([John 8:1–11](https://www.bibleref.com/John/8/John-8-1.html)), and His law was “love one another” ([John 13:34](https://www.bibleref.com/John/13/John-13-34.html)). Accordingly, Jesus never assassinated anyone, never beat a woman, never enslaved a child, never broke a promise, and never plundered a caravan. On the cross, when Jesus was mocked by those nearby, His response was, “Father, forgive them” ([Luke 23:34](https://www.bibleref.com/Luke/23/Luke-23-34.html)).

***Islam and Christianity: Views of God***

 Islam teaches that [Allah](https://www.gotquestions.org/who-is-Allah.html), or God, is the sovereign Creator and Ruler of all that is. Muslims emphasize God’s absolute unity, which will admit of no division, and God’s will. In fact, the will of God is more basic to who He is than His love or mercy. God could choose not to be merciful, and He can choose not to love; thus, Allah’s mercy and love are not intrinsic to His nature but are choices He makes. More important than loving God—or even knowing Him—is submitting to His will. The word *Islam* means “submission.” According to Islam, God cannot be considered a “father” and He has no son. Allah does not love sinners (Surah 3:140).

 Similar to Islam, Christianity teaches that God is the sovereign Creator and Ruler of all that is—but that is about where the similarity ends. Christians believe in one God who exists in three eternal, co-equal Persons (Father, Son, and Spirit) who share the same indivisible essence. According to Christianity, God loves because His very nature is love ([1 John 4:8](https://www.bibleref.com/1-John/4/1-John-4-8.html))—not just because He happens to choose to love. God’s essence includes the attribute of mercy, so divine displays of mercy are more than choices God makes; they are extensions of His character. God is knowable and desires a relationship with us based on love ([Mark 12:30](https://www.bibleref.com/Mark/12/Mark-12-30.html)). Obeying God is important, but obedience without a relationship based on love is worthless ([1 Corinthians 13:3](https://www.bibleref.com/1-Corinthians/13/1-Corinthians-13-3.html)). According to Christianity, God the Father has an eternal relationship with God the Son. God does love sinners ([Romans 5:8](https://www.bibleref.com/Romans/5/Romans-5-8.html)).

***Islam and Christianity: Sacred Literature***
 Islam holds that the Torah (the first five books of the Old Testament), the Psalms, and the Gospels were given by God—with this caveat: Jews and Christians have [corrupted God’s Word](http://www.blogos.org/theologyapologetics/quran-affirms-bible-2.php) and therefore Bibles cannot be fully trusted. Muslims believe that God’s final Word, the Qur’an, was miraculously given to Muhammed over a period of twenty-three years. The Qur’an, which is perfect and holy, is divided into 114 chapters called *suras*. In addition to the Qur’an, the Muslims have the Hadith, a collection of Muhammed’s sayings, opinions, and actions as reported by those close to him.

 Biblical Christianity holds that the Old and New Testaments of the Bible are God’s inspired Word and the only authoritative rule of faith and practice. The Bible warns against adding to God’s Word ([Revelation 22:18](https://www.bibleref.com/Revelation/22/Revelation-22-18.html)); Christians reject the Qur’an as an attempted addition to God’s Word and as a document that contradicts the Bible in many ways.

***Islam and Christianity: Means of Salvation***
 Islam teaches a works-based salvation and in this way is similar to other man-made religions. A Muslim must keep the [five pillars of Islam](https://www.gotquestions.org/five-pillars-Islam.html): he must confess the *shahadah* (“there is no God but Allah, and Muhammed is his prophet”); he must kneel in prayer toward Mecca five times a day; he must fast during the daylight hours one month of the year (Ramadan); he must give money to the poor; and he must make a pilgrimage to Mecca sometime in his lifetime. Islam teaches that the day of judgment will involve a person’s good and bad deeds being weighed in a balance—so the standard for judgment is one’s own actions (Surah 7:8-9; 21:47). The Qur’an forbids anyone from bearing another’s burden of sin (Surah 17:15; 35:18) and pointedly denies the death of Jesus (or Isa) on the cross (Surah 3:55; 4:157–158). If you will be saved, you must save yourself.

 Christianity teaches a grace-based salvation. A person is saved by the grace (the undeserved blessing) of God, through faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ ([Ephesians 2:8–9](https://www.bibleref.com/Ephesians/2/Ephesians-2-8.html); [Romans 10:9–10](https://www.bibleref.com/Romans/10/Romans-10-9.html)). The standard for judgment is absolute perfection—the righteousness of Christ. No one can measure up to perfection ([Romans 3:23](https://www.bibleref.com/Romans/3/Romans-3-23.html)), but God in His grace and mercy has given His Son as the substitute for our sin: “When you were dead in your sins . . . God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross” ([Colossians 1:13–14](https://www.bibleref.com/Colossians/1/Colossians-1-13.html)). We cannot save ourselves, so we turn to Christ, our sinless Savior and the author and finisher of our faith ([Hebrews 12:2](https://www.bibleref.com/Hebrews/12/Hebrews-12-2.html)).

 Islam and Christianity, having different beliefs on essential doctrines such as God, Jesus, Scripture, and salvation, are irreconcilable. Both religions cannot be true. We believe that Jesus Christ, as presented in the Bible, is the true Son of God and Savior of mankind. “Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ” ([John 1:17](https://www.bibleref.com/John/1/John-1-17.html)).

*Source*: gotquestions.org