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Islam-Christianity - What's the Difference? Part 2

Proverbs 16:25: (NASB) *There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.*

Last week we began a discussion on Islam and Christianity. Our objective was to portray mainstream Islam in an honest and positive light. This kind of portrayal is not often heard in our world today because the radical Islamic perspective (which is a minority) is so utterly dark, evil, and frankly, scary. This morning we are going to look into that scary belief system and try to do two things: One, we will portray it as clearly and honestly as we can, and two, we will address the all important question - what should we as Christians DO about it? Stay with us - this conversation is vital!

We recommend first listening to Part 1 and following along with its Rewind.

Recap of last week's discussion:

What is the religious concept of Islam? Islam is the crowning of the teachings of all the Prophets of God. In other words, Islam is the culmination or ultimate level in the evolution of religious teachings for mankind. *What does Islam teach?* Islam offers mankind a perfect code of laws; methodically teaching people to strive to practice moral culture, to be kind to all, not to waste, to be magnanimous and tolerant and to live in peace with others in order to attain universal brotherhood. *Muslim Perspective:* Muslims are told that the previous scriptures (The Bible) were tampered with by mankind and the Bible should only be accepted in as far as it is confirmed by the Qur'an. It is to be treated with respect, however any statements which clearly oppose those of the Qur'an are to be rejected as the work of mankind.

 **Islam is being hijacked, Dr. Zudi Jasser on the Glenn Beck program**

- *The industry of radical Islam is that of hate.*
- *They are trying to scare other Muslims into conforming.*

What about Jesus? John 3:16: *Muslim Perspective:* Jesus was a very elect and highly esteemed messenger of God. Jesus is not God's son.

What about Jesus' Message? 1 Timothy 2:5-6: *Muslim Perspective:* That he was sent by God as a messenger to the Jews in order to return them to the pure and true religion of Moses.

What about Jesus' crucifixion? Philippians 2:7-8: *Muslim Perspective:* Jesus was not crucified.

Who carries out the judgments in Christianity? Romans 6:22-23: Who implements this judgment? God.

 **The Islamic penalty for apostasy, The Big Debate with Richard Dawkins (a debate in Great Britain regarding religious schools)**

- *In a nation of Sharia Law, the penalty for apostasy is death.*

(Apostasy means to leave the faith.)

This text teach us how to deal with those within our Christian fellowship as well as those without our Christian fellowship: Romans 12:14-21: The greatest, pure, Godly strength comes from having the greatest humility. It takes that kind of humility to bless those who persecute you. There are times when we do have enemies, but this scripture says we are never to take our own revenge. Our emotions can carry us in the wrong direction.

 **Honor Killings, Glenn Beck - Sharia Law 101**

- *If someone in your family brings shame to your whole family by their actions, to get rid of that shame you must kill the person.*

How are we instructed to treat those who would bring shame? 1 Corinthians 5:9-11
2 Thessalonians 3:6

OVERRIDING CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLE: *Stand firm for what is right, but judgment is God's!*



What does Jihad look like?

What is Islam, *Radical Muslim cleric Imam Anjem Choudary interviewed on CNN*

- *Because Islam is submission, that means we MUST engage in Jihad to liberate Muslim land. This is an obligation for all Muslims, to defend life and property.*

How do WE react to this radical approach to Jihad? [Luke 6:27-31](#)

Behind your back, *Radical Muslim cleric Imam Anjem Choudary interviewed on CNN*

- *I can assure you that every Muslim in every community center is standing with their Muslim brothers and sisters saying we hope the Americans and British are pushed out of our countries so we can implement the Sharia.*

[Romans 7:14-20](#)

The difference is that this cleric is claiming a *planned* contradiction versus the Christian principle of fighting to absolve our natural contradictions.

[Matthew 10:28](#)

The True Jihad, the real threat is in our hearts, *Dramatization found on YouTube, teaching the tenets of Islam*

- *The greatest threat facing Islam today is in our hearts - instead of allowing Islam to transform us, some are using the label of Islam for their political agenda, to kill and murder innocent people.*

[Romans 7:21-25](#): There is a contradiction within us. Realize we are weak, but we can rely upon God's grace to rise above our own weakness.

OVERRIDING CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLE: Rely upon God's grace to rise above our own weakness.

What is Sharia Law?

(Source: Excerpts from Dominic Casciani, Home Affairs reporter, BBC News) [What is Sharia?](#) Sharia law is Islam's legal system. It is derived from both the Koran, as the word of God, the example of the life of the prophet Muhammad, and fatwas - the rulings of Islamic scholars. But Sharia differs in one very important and significant way to the legal traditions of the Western world: it governs, or at least informs, every aspect of the life of a Muslim. [What does it cover?](#) Western law confines itself largely to matters relating to crime, contract, civil relationships and individual rights. Sharia is however concerned with more. Sharia rulings have been developed to help Muslims understand how they should lead every aspect of their lives according to God's wishes.

USA - the warnings are there, *Radical Muslim cleric Imam Anjem Choudary interviewed on CNN*

- *We can have a decent relationship - you withdraw your troops, stop supporting the pirate state of Israel.*
- *These warnings are there in the statements of Sheikh Osama Bin Laden...Why is the American establishment not taking heed - that is the real question.*

[Amos 9:14-15](#): (NASB) The Bible was clear that Israel would be plucked out of their land and put back again permanently.

OVERRIDING CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLE: BELIEVE THE PROPHECIES!

Retaliation okay but do not commit aggression, *Dramatization found on YouTube, teaching the tenets of Islam*

- *The Quran permits an eye for an eye - but only against the guilty party - not against innocents.*
- *Fight in God's cause against those who fight you, but do not commit aggression.*
- *There are many who are seeking God but instead end up following the devil.*

[Matthew 5:38-45](#)



))) Sharia is the divine law for everyone, *Radical Muslim cleric Imam Anjem Choudary interviewed on CNN*

Sharia law is the divine law for all mankind - it is justice for all mankind and will take mankind out of the shackles of manmade law into the perfection and beauty of the divine law - of course I want that everywhere. Surely it is a noble thing to invite people into a superior way of life.

Galatians 3:24-25

OVERRIDING CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLE: Rise above demanding justice to an existence based in mercy.

What are the consequences of Sharia Law?

))) Promoting terrorist attacks, *Radical Muslim cleric Imam Anjem Choudary interviewed on CNN*

- *Of course I am communicating with people the world over to encourage them to participate in attacks of this sort...*
- *The internet makes this world a very small place.*

2 Timothy 1:7-9: This calling is not according to our own works, our purposes or our vision. It is because of Him and His grace through Jesus. Life or death in this life, you have an advantage because we can have godliness in an ungodly world. Radical Islam is ungodly.

OVERRIDING CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLE: Our courage is based on God's power working in our sanctified minds.

Sanctified: Set apart for a holy purpose. If we are sanctified, we are set apart for a holy purpose. We don't react to these things with fear, but with God's love and God's power in our sanctified minds.

))) The greatest jihad, *Dramatization found on YouTube, teaching the tenets of Islam*

- *The lesser Jihad is war against the unbelievers.*
- *The greatest Jihad is to battle the evil within yourself.*

Matthew 10:24-28

OVERRIDING CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLE: Expect to be misunderstood, falsely accused and persecuted - Jesus was!

))) Sharia is a form of slavery, *Wafa Sultan, DawryTV.com (Wafa Sultan is a Muslim woman who lived under Sharia Law for 30 years and fled 20 years ago to America.)*

Under Sharia:

- *Polygamy is permitted;*
- *Muslim men are allowed to beat their wives to discipline them and are allowed to divorce without court proceedings;*
- *Daughters get half the inheritance that sons get;*
- *Human rights and womens' rights don't exist - for women and non-Muslims, Sharia is in fact a form of slavery.*

Galatians 3:26-29:

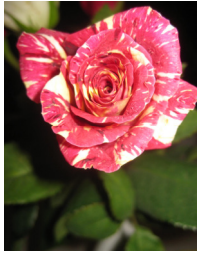
OVERRIDING CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLE: The letter of the Law was given to define sin. Once defined and understood, the letter of the Law gave way to a higher way of fulfillment - the spirit of the Law guided by mercy.

What about the 12th Imam?

(Source: Glenn Beck, February 2, 2011) 11th Imam dies in 874 CE; the 12th Imam at the age of seven years old goes into hiding. He was never found and it is believed that he hid in a well - now a sacred Islamic site. Many radical Muslims believe the 12th Imam will come back in the last days, which will be days of chaos and war. These people are called "12ers," and they believe they can hasten the return of this 12th Imam by causing worldwide anarchy. For example, Ahmadinejad of Iran is a 12er.



Is this 12th Imam the antichrist? No, we don't believe so. **The antichrist comes from within - not from without:** 1 John 2:18-19: The spirit of antichrist (counterfeit Christ) appeared in the early church.



We should take practical steps from those who wish to harm us, but we must remember that God is also working for good in the lives of those that hate us and God's goodness always triumphs.

Jeremiah 20:11 Romans 8:28

Matthew 5:3-12: There is a higher standard that those of us who want to truly live in a Christ-like fashion ought to be focusing on. It is not a standard of retaliation but is based on faith in God's prophecies and God's plan. This is a perspective that is not of this world, but a picture of the world to come.

Matthew 5:14,16: Jesus is speaking to those who are trying to follow him. In letting our light shine, the light of God's mercy and grace that is in our life, we show others how to live. It is tough to live up to.

Our light should reveal TRUE GODLINESS now...but if it doesn't bear fruit now, it WILL bring Glory to God in the Day of Judgment.

1 Peter 2:11-12: So we see the difference in these two verses: The first tells us to show the world the light of Jesus now, in the way that you live, talk, act, the things that you do, and the things that you don't do, the things that you stand for and the things that you won't stand for. They may see it and glorify God. But what if they don't?

The second scripture tells us that you still do that because in the Day of Judgment, later, they will remember the goodness of your life shining out as a light in an incredibly dark world. We need to be the shining lights of Jesus as a witness to the world that God's goodness, grace and mercy is bigger and stronger than any terror we are facing.

Overriding Christian Principles:
Stand firm for what is right, but judgment is God's!
Rely upon God's grace to rise above our own weakness.
BELIEVE THE PROPHECIES!
Rise above demanding justice to an existence based in mercy.
Our courage is based on God's power working in our sanctified minds.
Expect to be misunderstood, falsely accused and persecuted – Jesus was!
The letter of the Law was given to define sin. Once defined and understood, the letter of the Law gave way to a higher way of fulfillment – the spirit of the Law guided by mercy.
Our light should reveal TRUE GODLINESS now...but if it doesn't bear fruit now, it WILL bring glory to God in the Day of Judgment.

(Sunrise on the Sea of Galilee)

*So, Islam - Christianity - What's the difference?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!*