

2. Genuine repentance (Eph. 4:22-23) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Genuine faith \_\_\_\_\_

4. Forgiveness \_\_\_\_\_

#### **IV. Evangelism**

1. Use the Word of God.
  - a. Introduce them to Jesus: Bible-study.
  - b. Personalize sin in the same way Christ did.
  - c. Tell stories about Jesus' grace.
  - d. Explain the seriousness of sin & need for a sacrifice.
  - e. Emphasize the resurrection.
  - f. Use biblical language.
  - g. Know the Old Testament.
  - h. Be continually in prayer.
  - i. Be a genuine friend.
  - j. Show your good works.
  - k. Love them unconditionally.
  - l. Ask thought-provoking questions.
  - m. Listen attentively.
  - n. Reason, don't argue.
  - o. Don't denigrate Muhammad or the Qur'an.
  - p. Be mindful of cultural sensitivities.
  - q. Persevere.
  - r. Engage the corporate witness of the church.

#### **V. Conclusion**

### **Evangelism Sharing the Gospel with Muslims**

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"I am not ashamed of the Gospel for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes."

**Romans 1:16**

#### **I. Introduction**

#### **II. Basic Beliefs**

1. God
  - a. "There is no God but Allah"
    - I. Denial of all plurality of nature or person in God.
    - II. Denial of God begetting a son.
    - III. All creation is unconditionally passive, without agency.
  - b. God – the Supreme Being
    - I. Immeasurably exalted above & wholly dissimilar from creation.
    - II. Communicates nothing to his creatures & receives nothing from them.
    - III. His purpose in creation is to manifest his own power.
    - IV. His primary impulse towards mankind is that they never attribute to themselves what is rightfully his.
    - V. *There is a terrible, fearfulness of God, without his love, his mercy, & without his purpose to redeem for himself a people to live with him forever.*
2. Man
  - a. Man-centered – chief end of man is to *obey* God, not know & enjoy him forever.
  - b. "Islam" means submission – vast majority of Islamic writings are about laws: what is permissible & what is forbidden.
  - c. Man is not inherently depraved, but rather weak or ignorant. His nature before & after the fall are unchanged.
  - d. Man is not made in God's image, nor can he relate to God.

- e. Man will only enter into God's presence ONCE, to be judged. If condemned, he will go to hell. If rewarded, he will go to a man-centric paradise in which Allah does not participate.

### 3. Sin

- a. Nothing is right or wrong by nature, but becomes so by Allah's decree.
- b. What Allah forbids is sin, what he permits is right & lawful.
- c. Allah's commands are not rooted in his nature, with which we cannot relate.
- d. Sin is not imprinted on our conscience, as we are not made in God's image.
- e. Sin is not immutable (set in stone; objective), because the commands of Allah changed over the course of Quranic revelation: that which was sin before is not sin & cannot be sin at the time that Allah later allows it.
- f. Sin creates a problem for man & incurs Allah's wrath, BUT sin is still fundamentally "*evil done to oneself*" (Sura 6:1), as Allah stands too far above & removed from us to be directly concerned or offended by our disobedience any more than we are concerned for or impacted by the life of an ant.

### 4. Salvation

- a. "*Falah*" – success, blessing, or reward.
- b. Obtained by walking the "straight path" of righteousness outlined by the Qur'an.
- c. 5 Pillars of Islam:
  - I. *Shahada* ("the testimony"): the confession one must repeat 3 times to become a Muslim.
    - i. "*I bear witness that there is no God but Allah, and that Muhammed is his messenger.*"
  - II. *Salat* (Prayers): ritual prayers performed 5 times a day, facing Mecca.
  - III. *Ramadan*: Fasting – fasting hours that are meant to cause Muslims to empathize with the poor.
  - IV. *Zakat*: the giving of alms to the poor; charity.
  - V. *Hajj*: pilgrimage to Mecca, to be made once in life.

- d. 6 Articles of Faith: must be believed:
  - I. Oneness of God (*denial of this = greatest sin*)
  - II. Angels
  - III. Holy Books
  - IV. Prophets (*An-Nabi*) and Messengers
  - V. The Day of Resurrection & Judgment
  - VI. Predestination/Fate

### e. Day of Judgment

- I. Allah will weigh out our sins & good works on a scale of justice.
- II. Allah will listen to the intercession of his prophet Muhammed.
- III. Allah will then make his own arbitrary & inscrutable judgment – a judgment fore-ordained & which, because all creation is an extension of the will & force Allah in the first place, in a very real sense cannot be affected.

### f. Implication 1: The Community

- I. There is no assurance of salvation except what affirmation can be given by their community, so most Muslims zealously identify with religion as a collective, communal experience.
- II. Family honor & respectability becomes very important

### g. Implication 2: Sharia

- I. Islam is interdependent with Islam the state.
- II. Right action supersedes right heart, so Sharia Law exists to enforce religious conduct that keeps all people from sin regardless of their convictions.
- III. Extending Sharia Law as a political system is also a religious duty & a good work that does good to all who come under it.
  - i. This causes them to associate the politics & entertainments of secular western culture with Christianity.

## III. Key Divergences from Biblical Christianity

1. Sin (Lev. 4) \_\_\_\_\_