Approaches To Islam

Today I want to look at the different approaches to Islam. We will look at some incorrect approaches and then we will look at the biblical, Christian approach.

Changes To Our Website

Before I get into the subject let me tell you about the upcoming changes to our website at Fortress of Faith. We are doing a total remake to make it easier for you to find things on the site. We will have a FAQ section which will answer those most frequently asked questions. We will also have a special section for those of you who are supporters of our ministry. This will be for those of you who are part of one of our campaigns like our Army of Ten, Project 365, Sponsor a day, etc. This will give you access to additional information that will not be available to the general public. You will have some of the Powerpoint presentations, with notes. You will have access to our archives and other things.
**New Sunday School Lessons**

We are working on producing a six week Sunday school series. Many have requested this and some are already using our DVDs for Sunday school even though it wasn't designed specifically for that. The series will have a Powerpoint presentation, a lesson plan, a teacher's guide, and handouts for your students. It will be designed for teenagers though adults. We will eventually put this on a video program, but that will be down the road a bit.

It will take you through the basics and the nuts and bolts of the religion of Islam. It will give you the agenda of Islam. I think the most important part will be on how to evangelize Muslims. We will talk about some of the political and security issues our country is facing because of Islam.

We hope to release this program soon. We believe the cost will be around $49 to $59. We want this to be as affordable as possible for most churches.

I believe in the near future we will be facing some civil issues because of the increasing numbers of Muslims in our country. Some of you who live in areas with a large Muslim population are already seeing it. You are seeing a push for Sharia law. You are seeing a push for halal meats in your schools for even non-Muslims.

Here at Fortress of Faith we often say, don't blame Muslims for Islam. Muslims do what they do because of Islam. The source of our problem is not really the Muslims, it is with Islam. We must separate the two if we are going to successfully deal with these issues.

**The Cultural Jihad In Practice**

One more thing before I really get into the subject for today. There is some news coming out of Philadelphia that is of great concern. Philadelphia, the 5th largest city in the US, is following the example of New York City. New York City voted to close the public schools for Muslim holidays. One of the holidays celebrates when Abraham's faith was tested. It is a celebration of Abraham's offering his son Ishmael, not Isaac, as a sacrifice.

Muhammad was of the seed of Ishmael and he taught that the seed of Isaac was trying to steal the birthright of Ishmael, Abraham's first born son. Islam rewrites the Old Testament in the Qur'an and teaches that the blessing goes to Ishmael and not to Isaac. Islam teaches that when God made His covenant with Abraham, which also included a piece of real estate, that it was to be fulfilled through Ishmael and that the Jews corrupted and twisted it to make be through Isaac.

This is the reason that Islam is always fighting with the Jews over the promised land. This is why they call he Jews the foreign occupiers.

New York has shut down the education of non-Muslims so that Muslims can have their holiday. Philadelphia is going to shut down for two holidays instead of just one like New York.

This is what is called the “cultural jihad.” Muslims want to push the Sharia agenda, the ways of Islam, on non-Muslims. They believe that our culture is evil because it is not Muslim. Anything outside of Islam is an enemy of Islam according to the teaching and preaching of the Prophet Muhammad.

Islam has a doctrine call Al Hijra, which is the migration of Islam into non-Muslim countries. Muslims are to begin small, and as they grow in number sufficiently to where they can, they begin to take over. As they grow they try to establish Islamic ways and practices among the non-Muslims. They try to wear them down. This is exactly what I saw happen in Europe.
I never would have believed that Sharia law would become part of the legal code. I didn't understand the agenda at the time. Like many people today, I was naive and didn't really understand their agenda. They began to gradually push and wear down the non-Muslims. They used the attitude of political correctness in our Western culture that is going to be the end of our nation.

Multiculturalism that says all cultures are equal, all faiths are equal, all ideologies are equal, and so forth will destroy us. This concept is not only untrue, it is dangerous.

The proposal to celebrate Muslim holidays in Philadelphia has already passed through committee and we understand that the vote will take place on February 18th. We will keep you informed. If you are in the area maybe you can stand with me. I am planning on attending there to protest this move.

We are trying to find out if they will allow the public to address this issue. If it doesn't come up at the February 18th meeting, it will come up in the near future. We want to address this because it is a trend that will be pushed through our major cities if we don't stop it.

Would you consider supporting this ministry on a monthly basis?

You can do so by going to our donation page.

The Politically Correct Approach To Islam

The politically correct approach to Islam is to stick one's head in the sand. This approach is to ignore the issue. They want to believe that we really don't have a problem with Islam.

This politically correct approach tries to shut down our freedom of speech. Political correctness is against anything that condemns anything. They want us to believe that everything is equal and everything is OK.

There is one thing that the political correctness crowd will condemn, and that is Christianity. They think it is bigotry for Christians to say that their way is right and other ways are wrong. It is acceptable for Islam to say this and to kill those who disagree, but Christians are bigots because they believe they are right and try to persuade others to come to their point of view.

I would like to ask those who hold this position if they would call Nazism evil. If you can't, you are a wicked person by nature. If you support the actions of Hitler and his Nazism which condoned the eradication of an entire people, then you are must be evil to the core yourself.

Evil does exist in this world. There are those who follow a totalitarian ideology that is evil to the core. If you can be fair minded and admit that there is evil, and that Nazism fits that, then I must ask you what is the difference between Nazism and the actions of Islam?

You may respond that there are peaceful Muslims. I am not saying their aren't, but when you look at Islam you will see that the peaceful Muslims are not following Muhammad's teachings. They are following what they imagine and want Islam to be. We have tried to expose how the reform movement within Islam is not true Islam. It would be wonderful if it was. If their god and their prophet were the ones presented in the Qur'an and the teachings of Muhammad, it would be wonderful. If the god of
Islam wanted peace, pluralism, and coexistence there would be no problem. The truth is, that is not what Muhammad taught and it is not what Allah commands in the Qur'an.

The politically correct approach is to appease Muslims and not make them mad at us. It gives in to their demands. This didn't work with Hitler. This was Chamberlain's approach and look where it led. Churchill was saying this was the wrong approach. He said that they were strengthening Hitler, and if they didn't act quickly, while he was still weak, there would be dire consequences. The political leaders would not listen and history tells what happened.

The typical approach of political correctness and appeasement will not work against a bully and a tyrant. The weaker you are, the more opportunity it offers the bully to progress.

**The Red Neck or Patriot Approach**

This approach wants to send them all back home. I have had some of you tell me this was your approach to the problem before you started listening to Fortress of Faith. You wanted them all gone or dead. You have learned not to be upset with Muslims, but with Islam.

This approach wants to blame and attack the Muslim. This is a wrong approach. It ignores that the Muslims is a victim of Islam. You don't attack the victim, the Muslim, you attack the source, Islam.

**The Ecumenical Approach**

There are a lot of missionaries who are part of the Insider Movement. This movement is creating a hybrid religion, a heresy, that converts Muslims but keeps them in Islam.

They tell Muslims that they already believe that Jesus is a prophet and we are not asking you to leave Allah and the Prophet, we just want you to add a little about your understanding of Jesus. They want them to meet them half way and see Jesus as their savior and that he can forgive their sins. This movement presents a false Jesus, that is why I didn't capitalize some things I would have capitalized normally.

There are Muslims on the other side of the table pushing what is called The Common Word Movement. There were 138 Muslim scholars wrote an open letter to Christian leaders of America saying come to a common word we have between us and you. They were basically saying let's work on what we have in common, we believe in one god, the prophets Moses, Abraham, and the other Old Testament prophets, we believe Jesus is a prophet of god, etc. Let's work together with what we have in common.

There are people like Tony Blair, the emergent church leaders, the leaders of Fuller Theological Seminary, Bill Hybles, Rick Warren, and so many others involved in this movement. Many of them have signed this Common Word letter. The Christian response was written by Tony Blair, who is a adjunct professor at Yale University. They have made an agreement that they will not try to evangelize each other.
This is heresy! If you say you love your Muslim brothers so much that you will not present the Gospel to them, then you must not believe the Gospel yourself.

On one side of the table you have the Muslims saying, “my god has no son.” On the other side you have Christians saying God is triune, and that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. The verse Muslims quote to Christians is found in Surah 3:64:

Say: O People of the Scripture! Come to a common word between us and you: that we shall worship none but Allah, and that we shall ascribe no partner unto Him, and that none of us shall take others for lords beside Allah. And if they turn away, then say: Bear witness that we are they who have surrendered (unto Him).

The greatest sin in Islam is called shirk. This is a blasphemous sin that makes someone or something a partner, or equal, with Allah. They believe that we have taken Jesus Christ, a man, a prophet, and elevated Him to the position of God. This is not what the Bible teaches. The Bible teaches the God became a man in Jesus Christ and dwelt amongst us, that He is Emanuel, God with us. It is not Jesus becoming God, it is God taking on the form of man and living amongst us to demonstrate His great love by laying down His life and shedding His blood for the atonement of man's sin. He has provided a payment, a propitiation for our sin.

And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:2)

The word “propitiation” means that He is a sufficient sacrifice, and has paid our sin debt in full. He is the complete satisfaction for our debt of sin. Those who are in Christ have been reconciled to God through His sacrifice. Only the blood of God in the flesh, Jesus Christ, could do such a thing.

It is important that we understand that God is a triune being. Some ask what happened while Christ was in the grave. When we understand that God is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we understand that God was still running things during those three days.

Christ's human body died, was buried, and rose again. The Scriptures tell us that He died for our sins, and rose again for our justification. His resurrection promises and guarantees our resurrection.

Be informed. Purchase our special package on Understanding Islam for the special price of $15.00 plus shipping and handling. You can order it from our webstore.

The Biblical Approach To Islam

A lot of the information we are talking about today is in my book Refuting Islam. The subtitle of Refuting Islam is “The Christian Patriots Guide To Exposing The Evil Of Islam.” I wrote this book with the goal of taking the complexities of Islam and simplifying them so that it would be
understandable to a novice, for some one who doesn't think they have the ability or the credibility to speak out on the issues of Islam. This book is perfect for those who don't have the confidence to approach Muslims with the Gospel. If you want to understand the basics of Islam, the agenda of Islam, the political and civil issues, and the religion of Islam with their doctrine, this book will get you there.

After reading this book you will have powerful arguments that will be unanswerable. It will help you witness to Muslims and answer the arguments of those who either support Islam, or don't see the danger.

The best way to argue your case and expose the errors of Islam is to use Islam's own words against them. When you use the words of Islamic scholars it is no longer your testimony our your opinion. I used to quote from the Qur'an and the Sunna. The Qur'an is the words of their god, Allah. The Sunna are the words and acts of the Prophet Muhammad. When you quote from these sources, which are the Islamic scriptures, they always accuse you of taking it out of context. Even when you know you are not taking it out of context you have to back peddle to establish the proof that you are not doing so.

The best thing to quote from is is the book of Sharia. It is known as “The Reliance of the Traveller.” It has the stamp of approval of the largest and most respected university in the Islamic world. It gives legal rulings of the top Islamic scholars. They quote the Qur'an and the Sunna to back up the law. When you quote the scholars they cannot accuse you of taking the Qur'an or Sunna passages out of context.

The book of Sharia is about 800 pages long, The first 300 pages or so deal with the religion of Islam. The rest of the book deals with the government of Islam. Muhammad was not just establishing a religion, he was establishing a kingdom. This explains what is happening in our world today.

In my book I give you the quotes to use to refute Islam. It uses the words right out of the Sharia, and you are quoting the scriptures and the meaning given them by the best Islamic scholars. It shuts the mouths of those who support Islam, be they Muslims or non-Muslims.

Speaking of my book, if you have already read it, would you leave us a review on Amazon.com. It would help us get the word out.

**Being An Apologist**

An apologist is someone who defends someone or some thing. If you go to court, you have the prosecutor who makes the charges. The apologist is the one who defends the accused.

**Islam's Attack On Our Faith**

1. Our Bible. They say that it has been corrupted.
2. The deity of Jesus Christ.
3. The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ
The Attack On The Bible

Muslims claim that the Bible has been distorted, but they offer no manuscript to prove that it has been, They claim that the Qur'an is without corruption, and again they offer no manuscript proof.

They claim that the multitude of Bible translations proves that the Bible is corrupt. There are also many translations of the Qur'an in English, I know of 12 different translations.

They argue that the ancient manuscripts of the Bible have many textual variants. This is a true statement, but there are enough manuscripts available to discern the true text. When we examine the Islamic scriptures we learn that there are many variances as well. There arguments are very weak.

They claim that their Qur'an and their religion are superior. They say the Qur'an cannot be corrupted and that it has been wholly preserved.

They also say that their scriptures are a continuation of the revelation given by God to the Old Testament prophets and the New Testament writers.

It goes like this: First God gave His revelation through the seed of Isaac, the Jews. The Jews began to corrupt the text so Allah had to find a new prophet, and he found Jesus. Jesus was also of the seed of Isaac. Allah gave Him his revelation, which was corrupted by His followers, the Christians. Allah found a new prophet, Muhammad. This time he chose the seed of Ishmael. Allah gave him the perfect revelation to correct the corruptions of the Bible.

Let's look at what the Qur'an has to say about our Bible.

*Sura 3:84* - Say: "We believe in Allah, and in what has been revealed to us and what was revealed to Abraham, Isma'il, Isaac, Jacob, and the Tribes, and in (the Books) given to Moses, Jesus, and the prophets, from their Lord: We make no distinction between one and another among them, and to Allah do we bow our will (in Islam)."

This verse tells us that in Islam there is no distinction between what Allah gave Muhammad, and what he gave the writers of the Bible. It says they believe that the Old Testament, the New Testament, and the Qur'an were given by the same god.

In *sura 16* we find that it is all inspired of god.

*Sura 16:43* - And before thee also the messengers We sent were but men, to whom We granted inspiration: if ye realise this not, ask of those who possess the Message.

Here we are told that those prophets who came before Muhammad were men that were granted inspiration. It also tells them if they don't realize this, they are to ask those who possess the message. The message is the words of the prophets who came before Muhammad.

According to Islam, all of the scriptures of the Bible and the Qur'an were given by the same god, Allah. They are all given by inspiration of Allah.
The Qur'an says that the Bible was kept from corruption.

Sura 15:9 - We have, without doubt, sent down the Message; and We will assuredly guard it (from corruption).

Islam teaches something that is not consistent with what their Qur'an teaches. The Qur'an teaches that the message that comes down from Allah will be guarded from corruption. Remember, Islam makes no difference between the Old Testament, the New Testament, and the Qur'an. They all came from their god, Allah, and all of the prophets were granted inspiration.

Sura 5:48 - To thee We sent the Scripture in truth, confirming the scripture that came before it, and guarding it in safety: ...

The Scripture that came before the Qur'an was confirmed by the Qur'an and guarded in safety. What came before the Qur'an? It was the Old and New Testaments.

Sura 5:68 - "O People of the Book! ye have no ground to stand upon unless ye stand fast by the Law, the Gospel, and all the revelation that has come to you from your Lord." ...

The people of the book is a phrase used in the Qur'an to mean Jews and Christians, the people of the Bible (the book). Allah is telling us that the people of the book have no ground to stand on for their doctrine and beliefs, unless they stand fast by the law, (the Old Testament) the Gospel (the New Testament) and all the revelation that has come to us from our Lord. This is one verse in the Qur'an that I fully agree with. As Christians, we have nothing to stand on if it is not the whole of our Scriptures, the Bible.

Here is my point. If the Bible was corrupted, as modern Muslims are teaching, why would Allah, in the Qur'an, tell us to stand on a corrupt text?

If you would like to schedule a meeting with Tom you can call him at 1-800-616-0082.

No church is too big or too small.

The Deity Of Jesus Christ

The next thing Muslims will attack is the deity of Jesus Christ. There are 5 verses where Jesus was accused of blasphemy. This is a serious crime. Leviticus 24 tells us that if some one is guilty of blasphemy it is a capital offense and they are to be killed.

What did Jesus say that was so blasphemous?

Luke 5:18-21 “And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him. And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus. And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee. And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies?
Who can forgive sins, but God alone?"

Luke 5:18-21 is also repeated in Mark 2:6-7 and Matthew 9:2-8 with a little less detail.

John 10:30-33 “I and my Father are one. Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.”

John 5:16-18 “And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the sabbath day. But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work. Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.”

When Jesus was accused of blasphemy, He said something that made it plain that He is God. He did not say the exact words, “I am God,” but He did communicate that thought and the Jews understood exactly what He was saying. This is seen in their desire to kill Him for His blasphemy.

Here is my favorite passage on the deity of Christ:

Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed. (John 20:27-29)

Jesus had appeared to the disciples after His resurrection and Thomas was not there. When the others told him what had happened he said he would not believe until he put his hand and fingers into the wounds of Christ. A week later Jesus appeared again and Thomas was there. He didn't need to touch Him, he knew immediately who He was and said, “My Lord and my God.” This would have been a perfect time to correct the idea of His deity if He wasn't God, but instead He praised Thomas for calling Him his God. He praised Thomas for believing after he saw, and blessed those who will believe without seeing. Less you miss the point, what Thomas believed was that Jesus was both his Lord and his God.

The Crucifixion Of Jesus

The following passage tells us what the Qur'an teaches about the crucification:

Sura 4:157-158 - That they said (in boast), "We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah"; but they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no (certain) knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not: Nay, Allah raised him up unto Himself; and Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise;

One of the great Islamic scholars put it like this:
Allah could see that Isa was in trouble, so he rescued him and took him into heaven, not before taking the image off of Jesus and putting it on another (they think this was Judas because he went missing) and he went to the cross to fool everyone to think that Jesus died on the cross, but he did not.

Islam denies the crucification of Jesus, and that He rose again. It teaches that Allah put someone else in His place so it would look like He was crucified.

If you don't believe that Jesus is God, and you don't believe He died on the cross, then it stands to reason that you don't have the resurrection. If you don't have these three things you don't have the Gospel. Without the Gospel you will be lost for all eternity.

How can we respond to these claims concerning Jesus. We could quote secular historical records, there are a number of them. There is ample historic evidence proving that there was a man called Jesus Christ who lived at the right time period, who was crucified by the Romans under Pontius Pilate, and who was said to have risen from the dead.

I think the testimony of the disciples is the best evidence for the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. To suggest that Jesus didn't die on the cross is to suggest that it was a hoax. If you suggest that the disciples pulled of such a hoax, you are also suggesting that they were all willing to die for that hoax. You are suggesting that they suffered tortuous deaths defending a hoax. If you are asking us to believe this, you are asking a lot.

There is so much more I would like to give you but I just don't have the time in this article. It is already longer that I would like for it to be. Our goal is to give you the tools to win the arguments against Islam's defenders. I suggest you get the book, Refuting Islam, and study these things out for yourselves.