Islam Part 2 Outline

Notes:

A) Muhammad's early preaching and the move to Medina

1) His early teachings emphasized monotheism, concern for the poor, and moral accountability.

2) Meccans resisted Muhammed's criticisms of idolatry and their lifestyles; they mocked his beliefs and eventually persecuted him

3) The migration to Medina in AD 622 marked the beginning of Muhammad's growing religious and political leadership.

4) Political alliances, tribal reconciliation, and growing support expanded his authority.

B) From preacher to military and political leader

1) Raiding and looting Meccan caravans brought resources into the Muslim movement.

2) In the Battle of Badr, approximately 300 Muslims defeated a larger Meccan force, earning Muhammed respect from local Arabs.

3) In 627 A.D., Muhammed successfully defended Medina from a large-scale Meccan assault.

4) The conquest of Mecca in AD 630 established Muhammad's regional dominance.

C) Islamic conquest and the rise of empire

1) After Muhammad's death in AD 632, successive caliphates expanded Islamic control across parts of Asia, Africa, and Europe.

3) The Ottoman conquest of Constantinople in 1453 ended the Byzantine Empire and established Islam as the premier power in the Middle East and much of Southern Europe.

4) Major Christian centers of learning and worship were swept away or marginalized during the Islamic expansion.

Islam Part 2 Outline

Notes:

D) Religious warfare, tribute, and historical comparisons

1) The Islam concept of abrogation means Muhammed can alter his theology over time as Allah "changes his mind."

2) This allowed Muhammed's movement to justify its increasingly violent conduct toward non-Muslims.

3) There is little difference between Islam's armed expansion and that of the ancient Romans and the WWII-era Nazis.

4) Islam is both a religious and political force that spread its ideology through coercion rather than reason; people who do violence in the name of Islam are copying the actions of Muhammed and early believers.

E) Grace and transformation versus coercive authority

1) It was and still is wrong for anyone to claim to represent Jesus and to do violence in His name

2) Jesus taught love for enemies and said, "My Kingdom is not of this world."

3) The Gospel emphasizes salvation by grace and transformation of the heart.

4) Government can force a man to believe and do certain things, but only God can transform his heart so that he desires good.

F) Four stages of modern Islamic expansion

1) **Infiltration:** Immigrate to non-Muslim nations, appeal for special humanitarian rights, defame opponents, have lots of children.

2) **Consolidate power:** Undermine host nation's culture, laws and national identity, influence institutions, recruit the disaffected and easily corrupted, run for office at local, state and federal levels.

3) **Heighten aggression against host government and peoples**: reject host-nation laws and demand they be changed to accommodate Islam; set up Sharia Law zones, seek legal action against opponents.

Islam Part 2 Outline

Notes:

4) **Impose Islamic Theocracy:** Jail or execute all opponents, weave Islamic control into all aspects of life, remove all evidence of previous non-Muslim culture

5) A chief Islamic tool for gradually assuming power is called "taqqiya;" this policy allows Muslims to deceive the infidel to accomplish Allah's will

G) Conclusion: The Christian response

1) Islam's rise should not be a surprise given God often uses such forces to judge formerly godly peoples who turn to evil

2) Keep in mind that not all Muslims are intentionally part of this movement; many are born into it and know no other way of life. Some may be sincerely committed to peaceful coexistence

3) Our role as Christians is not to despise our enemies, but to love them; this includes Muslims. It is wrong to hate or abuse them (Luke 6:27-28).

4) Peter told us to be ready to give an answer for the hope that is in us (1 Peter 3:15); be armed with the truth of the Gospel and take a reasoned stand against Islam; and always speak the truth in love to all who will hear it.