Islam Part 3 Outline

Notes:



A) Christ's kingdom is established through truth and love, not coercion

1) Jesus told Pilate that His kingdom is not of this world (John 18:36).

2) Jesus rebuked Peter's use of violence during the Lord's arrest.

3) The early church endured persecution rather than take up the sword.

B) Qur'an includes changes in major doctrine

1) "Abrogation" means "cancellation" and was used by Muhammed to change certain doctrines, particularly those governing treatment of non-Muslims

2) New revelations seemed to give Muhammed and his followers convenient rights and privileges.

3) In Malachi 3:6 and Numbers 23:19, we see God's Word is unchanging.

4) Old and New Testament passages on righteousness demonstrate a consistent biblical message.

C) The Bible and Qur'an present conflicting theological claims

1) Islam and Christianity do not share a common theology

2) The two worldviews differ in their belief about God's nature, man's fallenness, the means of salvation, our eternal destiny and the source of divine revelation.

3) Islam rejects the Trinity and denies Jesus is God.

D) The "Islamic Dilemma" centers on Muhammad's approach to the Bible

1) The Qur'an states the Torah and Gospel are revelations from God, and it claims to affirm earlier Scripture.

Islam Part 3 Outline

Notes:

2) Christian manuscripts predating Islam already contained claims about Jesus' deity, crucifixion, and resurrection.

3) The "Islamic dilemma" centers on why the Qur'an claims to affirm earlier Scripture but contradicts the Bible's key truth claims, particularly about Jesus

4) Muslims try to escape the dilemma by suggesting the Bible's original message was corrupted over time.

E) Answering the corruption charge

1) The ancient Great Isaiah Scroll was compared with more recent Hebrew manuscripts; they were nearly identical in their texts

2) Thousands of Greek New Testament manuscripts permit comparison of copies over time.

3) Comparisons show newer manuscripts match up with older documents at a very high rate; nearly all variations are minor grammatical differences

4) There are no variations that change or contradict earlier doctrinal statements

5) Evidence demonstrates the Bible was carefully preserved over time.

F) Old Testament passages anticipate the Trinity and divine Messiah

1) Grammatical clues in the Old Testament point to one Godhead with multiple persons.

2) "The Angel of the Lord" is the divine Word of God who speaks to humans at different times in the Old Testament.

3) This angel spoke as God, exercised God's authority, and received worship from men; other lesser angelic beings did none of this.

Islam Part 3 Outline

Notes:

G) Christians affirmed Jesus' divinity long before the Council of Nicaea

1) Some Muslim apologists claim Christians gradually elevated Jesus to divine status and formalized it at Nicaea in AD 325.

2) Numerous Old and New Testament passages confirm God has a Son, that Son is the Eternal Word, and the Son/Word is Jesus Christ (John 1:1-4, 14).

3) The early church fathers – the second generation of Christian leaders – either implicitly or explicitly declared Jesus was God.

4) These leaders included Ignatius, Polycarp, Clement, and Justin Martyr; their writings came 200 years before the Council of Nicaea.

H) Conclusion: defend the faith while loving Muslim people

1) Islamic critiques of Christian theology are rooted in bias; they perform poor biblical and historical analysis to assert Islam's superiority

2) There are many skeptics who have become Christians when they objectively followed where the evidence leads regarding the Bible's credibility

3) Christians should answer challenges with biblical and historical evidence.

4) Pray for Muslim people and communicate the Gospel boldly, compassionately, and without hatred.

4) Be prepared to explain the hope of Christ through both words and conduct.

Christianity vs. Islam: Key Belief Comparisons

Two faiths · One God (in different understandings) · Divergent views on humanity, salvation, and the afterlife

Area	✝ Christianity	☪ Islam
Nature of God	• One God in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Trinity). • God is loving, personal, and relational. • God became human in Jesus Christ (incarnation).	• One God (Allah), absolutely unique and incomparable (*tawhid*). • No partners, no offspring, no incarnation. • God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and merciful.
Nature of Man	• Created in God's image (Genesis 1:27). • Naturally fallen due to sin (Romans 3:23). • Capable of love, reason, and moral choice, but in need of God's grace.	• Created by God, with a soul (*ruh*). • Naturally inclined toward good, but prone to sin (*fitrah* can be corrupted). • Responsible for their own choices and actions.
Means of Salvation	• Through faith in Jesus Christ's death and resurrection. • By God's grace, not earned by works (Ephesians 2:8–9). • Relationship with God through Christ.	• Through submission to Allah (*salah*, fasting, charity, pilgrimage, and good deeds). • Faith and righteous actions earn God's pleasure. • No concept of original sin; salvation is through obedience to God's will.
Eternal Destiny	• Eternal life with God for believers (heaven). • Separation from God for those who reject Christ (hell). • Resurrection of the body and final judgment.	• Paradise (Jannah) for the righteous. • Hell (Jahannam) for those who reject Allah or live in persistent disobedience. • Final judgment based on faith and deeds.
Source of Revelation	• God's Word in the Bible (Old and New Testaments). • Revelation through Jesus Christ (the living Word). • Guided by the Holy Spirit.	• The Qur'an (final revelation). • Earlier scriptures (Torah, Psalms, Gospel) are acknowledged but seen as altered or incomplete. • Revelation through the angel Gabriel (Jibril) to the Prophet Muhammad.