

COMPARISON: CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM

CHRISTIANITY	ISLAM
<p><i>The Nature of God:</i> The Christian God pursues a personal relationship with His worshipers. He extends His love and desires to receive love in return. He tells His followers to serve mankind and live a life of moral purity. Although the Christian God hates sin, He loves the sinner. He tempers His righteous wrath with mercy and grace.</p>	<p><i>The Nature of Allah:</i> The god of Islam is a remote God who cannot be known personally. He reveals his law but not himself. He a wrathful God, full of judgment and power, but lacking the attributes of holiness, love, purity and grace. He cannot be called 'father' and the orthodox Muslim is unable to say that "God is love."</p>
<p><i>Holy Scriptures:</i> The Bible was given by God, through the Holy Spirit, to more than 40 authors. These authors wrote during a 1600 year period from three continents in three languages. Incredibly, they tell the same story with perfect unity and harmony. In the Bible God reveals Himself and His will to mankind.</p>	<p><i>Holy Scriptures:</i> Muhammad said that the Qur'an was dictated to him by an angel. The Qur'an consists of Muhammad's revelations, customs, and folklore of the desert. Islam teaches that much of the Old and New Testaments have been perverted and that the Qur'an is the final revelation of God.</p>
<p><i>The Person and Work of Jesus Christ:</i> Jesus was proven to be God through His virgin birth, through His ministry of numerous healings and miracles, through His sinless life, through His death on the cross where He died for our sins, and finally, He is proven to be the Son of God through His resurrection from the dead. He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords who will return to the earth to establish a kingdom of righteousness, justice and peace.</p>	<p><i>The Person and Work of Jesus Christ:</i> Islam rejects the Christian doctrine of the Trinity and the divinity of Jesus. They deny that He is the Son of God and Savior of the world who died for the sins of mankind. They do believe Jesus is one of the prophets and is named 97 times in the Qur'an. According to sura 4:157, Islam denies the death and resurrection of Jesus, and say that Judas or another was his substitute on the cross. Islam puts a curse on all who confess Jesus as Lord (sura 9:30).</p>
<p><i>Sin and Salvation:</i> Christianity teaches that mankind was created without sin by God. Because of the sin of the first man, Adam (Gen 3), all of mankind is born with a sin nature called 'original sin'. Salvation from sin is a gift from God for everyone and is available by grace, not works, through faith in Jesus Christ.</p>	<p><i>Sin and Salvation:</i> Islam does not believe in the concept of 'original sin'. No one can take away sin or die for another's sin. There is no depravity in human nature, only weakness and forgetfulness. Sin is failure to do the work of Allah. Salvation is earned by confessing the doctrines and practicing the pillars of the faith.</p>
<p><i>Judgment and Eternity:</i> Christianity teaches that Jesus Christ will administer the final judgment on mankind. Those who received Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Lord, having depended upon His sacrificial death for the remission of sins, will go to heaven. (It is not by works)! Heaven is a place of worship and fellowship with God for eternity. Those who have not received Christ will go to hell, a place of eternal punishment.</p>	<p><i>Judgment and Eternity:</i> Islam is a religion by works. The Muslim, by striving to please Allah, will gain entrance to heaven through personal merit. On the Day of Judgment their good and evil deeds will be weighed on a scale. Those whom Allah judges to be true followers will be sent to heaven, a place of endless sensual pleasure. Those rejected by Allah will be sent to hell, a burning place of endless torment.</p>