

## Comparison of Scriptures

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bible           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Without error in autographs</li> <li>– Given by God via the Spirit               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Peter 1:20-21 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. <sup>21</sup> For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• 2 Timothy 3:16 "All Scripture is God-breathed..."</li> <li>• God used the personalities of the writers—mediated, not dictated. <a href="http://www.answering-islam.org/Intro/comparison.html">www.answering-islam.org/Intro/comparison.html</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quran (Muslim's view)           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Believed accurately <i>preserved</i> by Allah (15:9)</li> <li>– Dictated to illiterate Muhammad by the angel Gabriel.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sura 2.97 "Say: Whoever is an enemy to Gabriel-for he brings down the (revelation) to thy heart by Allah's will, a confirmation of what went before, and guidance and glad tidings for those who believe"</li> <li>• Prescriptive, rather than descriptive (Dr. Ergun <sup>23</sup> Caner).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bible           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Contains thousands of prophecies, many of which have been fulfilled.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jer. 51:35-40; 49:17-18; Micah 5:2; Ps. 22:14-18; Is. 53:1-10</li> </ul> </li> <li>– In the Quran Muslims are told that Allah revealed the Torah and the Gospel               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sura 3:3 It is He Who sent down to thee, in truth, the Book, confirming what went before it; and He sent down the Law (of Moses) and the Gospel (of Jesus) before this, as a guide to mankind cf.4:136</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quran           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Contains no actual predictive prophecy. <a href="http://www.geocities.com/worldview_3/quranvible.html">www.geocities.com/worldview_3/quranvible.html</a> R. Totten</li> <li>– Given to Muhammad during approximately 20 years in "ecstatic states." (J. Noss &amp; D. Noss, <i>Man's Religions</i>, 7<sup>th</sup> Ed., p. 506)</li> <li>– Sura 10:94 "If thou wert in doubt as to what We have revealed unto thee, then ask those who have been reading the Book from before <sup>24</sup> thee" [ask Christians]</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bible           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Is not eternal, but the product of prophetic and apostolic authority. Jesus is the eternal Word of God (John 1:1-5, 14).</li> <li>– We don't consider only the Hebrew and Greek (&amp; Aramaic) copies to be truly authoritative, but encourage translations. For Islam, the Quran in Arabic is authoritative, superseding the Bible.</li> <li>– Translations from Arabic are interpretations. <a href="http://www.answering-islam.org/Intro/comparison.html">www.answering-islam.org/Intro/comparison.html</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quran           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Considered eternal, descended from heaven, the actual words of God. Noss, p. 94.</li> <li>– (W)hat the Qur'an is to the Muslim, 'Christ himself' is to the Christian. We are not 'book'-centered; we are 'Person'-centered (that is, 'Christ'-centered)! <a href="http://www.answering-islam.org/Intro/comparison.html">www.answering-islam.org/Intro/comparison.html</a></li> <li>– Muslims consider the Bible to be corrupted.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “But the transgressors changed the word from that which had been given them”<br/>Sura 2:59<sup>25</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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## Understanding of God

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God is a Tri-unity           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Matt. 3:16-17; 1 Cor. 12:4-6; Eph. 4:4-6; Heb. 9:14; 1 Pet. 1:2; 4:14; Gen. 1:2,26 +John 1:1-3; Matt. 28:19</li> </ul> </li> <li>• God is Father to Christians (Matt. 6:9)—an intimate Father (Rom. 8:15; Gal. 4:6).</li> <li>• God is not only just, but gracious. He gives what we don't deserve in the death of Jesus (Eph. 2:8-9).</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “There is no god but God.” (Shahadah)           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Say not "Trinity" : desist: it will be better for you: for Allah is one Allah. Surah 4:171; cf. 5:76<br/><a href="http://www.answering-islam.org/Intro/comparison.html">www.answering-islam.org/Intro/comparison.html</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• God is not Father to His followers, but more a merciful Judge.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Of the 99 names for God, not one shows a personal relationship (Ergun Caner).<br/><a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ninety-nine_names_of_Allah">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ninety-nine_names_of_Allah</a><sup>26</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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## Understanding of God

- God is love (I John 4:8-- agape). God's love is based upon His own character more than the merit of the beloved.
  - God loves even the prodigals (Luke 15) and the transgressors (Rom. 5:8-10).
- God is also sovereign in His mercy and compassion (Rom. 9:15-16).
- Allah is characterized primarily by justice and mercy. Allah loves those who do what is right (Surah 2:195, 222, 276; 3:31, 134, etc.), but not unconditionally (agape love).
- He does not love the prodigals (7:31) or transgressors (5:87).
- God forgives or chastens according to<sub>7</sub> his will (5:18).

## Understanding of God

- God is singular: "apart from Me there is no God," Is. 44:6; 45:5, or Savior (Is. 45:21).
- No one comes to the Father except through Jesus (John 14:6).
- Jesus claims to be one with the Father (John 10:30). If we see Jesus, we see the Father (John 14:9). If we don't believe in Jesus, we are condemned (John 3:18).
- The Koran teaches that Allah is the same God as the God of Jews and Christians. "We believe in the Revelation which has come down to us and in that which came down to you; Our God and your God is One; And it is to Him we bow." Sura 29:46

## Discrepancies: The Bible & The Koran

- The Koran emerged to correct the Bible, due to supposed corruption in transmission.  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biblical\\_narratives\\_and\\_the\\_Qur'an](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biblical_narratives_and_the_Qur'an), accessed 3/5/09
  - All sons of Noah are saved from the Flood: Gen. 8:18; One of Noah's sons rejects him and is drowned: Sura 11:43.
    - Noah wife is labeled as being untrue to him—Sura 66:10.
  - Lot's wife is turned into a pillar of salt: Gen. 19:26; she does not leave Sodom: Sura 11:81.
  - The Queen of Sheba inquires of Solomon's wisdom: 1 Kings 10:1-3; she becomes a monotheist: Sura 27:43

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## Discrepancies: The Bible & The Koran

- Haman served under Persian King Xerxes: Esther 3:1; Haman served a Pharaoh ("Firaun"), Sura 28:6.
- Aaron made the golden calf that was worshipped when Moses was on Mt. Sinai, and "had let them get out of control," Ex. 32:24-25; Aaron professed innocence and had almost died from abuse by the Israelites, Sura 7:150.
- The Bible does not mention the infant Jesus speaking intelligible sentences; The Koran does: Sura 19:30-33.
- Mary, mother of Jesus was said to have Aaron for a brother—Sura 19:28. Some Muslims say this [suddenly] refers to the Miriam of Ex. 15:20 (their names are the same in Arabic).
- Muhammed believed the Christian Trinity was composed of the Father, Mary and their offspring, Jesus (Sura 4:171; 5:72).<sup>30</sup>

## Sin and Salvation

- Adam's sin is transmitted to all, *and* all individually sin (Rom. 5:12; 1 Cor. 15:22; Rom. 3:10-12).
  - The wages of sin is death, resulting in Hell (Rom. 6:23; Matt. 25:46; Rev. 20:14-15).
  - Salvation is by God's grace and mercy (Rom. 6:23; Titus 3:5; Eph. 2:8-9), through the sacrificial, substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 2:24).
- Adam was forgiven (Sura 20:122), and sin was not transmitted to all.
  - It hasn't been easy to convince Muslims I've met that they sin.
  - A Muslim must have at least 51% good deeds in life, or face roasting in Hell (Sura 23:103).
    - Angel on the right shoulder records good, on left, evil.
  - Sura 56 describes Hell as black smoke and drinking <sup>18</sup> boiling water.

## Sin and Salvation

- Christians can have assurance of salvation before death (1 John 5:11-13), because our trust is in the finished sacrifice of Christ on the cross, and the love of the Father, not in our performance (John 19:30; 1 John 4:16-17; Col. 1:19-20).
- Muslims cannot be sure of their salvation, unless they die in a jihad that has been legitimized by a fatwah. (Ergun Caner).
  - Those whose scales are heavy with good deeds can enjoy a garden of paradise with feasting and perpetual virgins serving them (Sura 56.21-22;36). <sup>32</sup>

## Christ

- Christians believe that He was a prophet, lived a sinless life, died on the cross for sin and is God incarnate and the Messiah (Mk. 6:4; 2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 2:6-8).
  - Muhammad was told to ask for forgiveness for his sin (Sura 40:55; 47:19).
- Muslims believe that He was a prophet and Messiah (Sura 2:136; 3:45). He was not crucified (Sura 4:57). He did miracles but is not God's son (Sura 5:110; 4:171).
- Prophets are considered sinless (isma). [www.answering-islam.org/Intro/comparison.html](http://www.answering-islam.org/Intro/comparison.html)
- To call Jesus "Allah," being son of Mary, is blasphemous. (5:72-73)

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