

Hasib, this is Phil, and here's where we agree

Common ground between Islam & Christianity

Allah: both Bible and Qur'an

1. There is only one God, His name is Allah: Tawrat Deut 4.4,5 Sabur Psa 86.10 Isa 44.6-8
Injil Mark 12.29,30 I Tim 2.5,6
2. He has spoken to man through the Tawrat, the Sabur, and the Injil. They were given by God through godly men who wrote them. They were created perfect, pure and without error, Allah's very thoughts.
3. Allah created the world in 6 days. Q 57.4 Gen 1
4. God created heaven and hell.
5. Polytheism (or idolatry) is a shirk, a sin Q 48.6
6. "No God except Him Whom the Children of Israel believe in." Q 10.90
7. Muhammad (*pbuh) is not to be worshipped. *However, Christians perceive that Muhammad is esteemed and revered as highly as Christians esteem Jesus.*

We both agree what that the Bible teaches about salvation and eternal life in heaven

1. We agree that the Bible teaches that salvation comes to the humble who put their trust in Jesus, not in good works.
Matt 18.4,6 "Whoever shall humble himself as a little child, the same is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. . .one of these little ones who believe in Me [Jesus]."
2. The Bible insists on pure and holy lives for those who are trusting Jesus as Savior. Good works do not remove sin but they are the display of our thankfulness that Jesus died in our place and paid for our sin.
See www.PhilMyersBlog.com Lots of Good Works, demonstrate our love
3. It is repeated 200X that eternal life comes as a result of depending upon Jesus as the one Who is the Savior.
See www.PhilMyersBlog.com 211X, Faith or Belief Provides Salvation
4. We agree that the OT Hebrew Scriptures teach that a Savior would come to pay man's iniquity [sin] as a substitute and that the lamb sacrifices were a picture of this.
Isaiah 53.6 "All we, like sheep, have gone astray. everyone has turned to his own way, but the Lord has laid on Him [Jesus, the Messiah] the iniquity [sin] of us all."
5. That the Bible teaches that eternal life is a gift which cannot be earned by good works.
Romans 6.23 "The wages [payment] for sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our God."
6. We agree that the Bible tells us that the Jews knew that Jesus claimed to be equal with God.
John 5.18 "the Jews wanted to kill Him because He said. . .that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God."
7. We both agree that the Bible says that Jesus took our sins on Himself.
II Corinthians 5.21 "He [Allah] made Him [Jesus] Who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him [Jesus]."
8. The Bible teaches that the shirk is to reject Jesus as our Savior from hell. This is the only sin which can keep a person out of eternal life.
John 3.36 "He that believes on the Son has everlasting life, and he that believes not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of Allah abideth on him."

We both agree that the Qur'an teaches:

1. Uthman commissioned Zayd ibn Thabit to form an authorized Quaran'ic text, AD 656 [?].
2. Hafsa, wife of Muhammad, saved her husband's copy of the Qur'an and gave it to Uthman.
Was this Abu Bakr's copy?
3. Six versions of the Qur'an were accidentally corrupted in the first century since Muhammad by sincere Islamic followers, year __?__ Hijri. (AD __?__)
4. Diacritical marks were added to the Qur'an soon after. Other than that the Qur'an has been unchanged for 1400 years.
5. Uthman destroyed the 6 corrupted versions of the Qur'an.
**Christians do not deny that there are many insignificant differences in copies of the Bible. These differences would only fill 3 or 4 sheets if all gathered together. None of the "mistakes" affect the message of the Bible. Almost all are spelling differences, word order, missing words, or added words. None of them contain contradictions, abrogation's, or denials of any truths such as are found in the so-called "Satanic Verses" of the Qur'an which permitted idolatry.*
60% of the Surah's have abrogated verses, almost half. There are at least 200 abrogated texts.

* *p.b.u.h.* = praise be unto him, an Islamic term of respect for both Muhammed and Jesus.

6. The hafiz protect the Qur'an from any more corruption by memorizing the text to the letter. It is said that 20,000 followers became hafiz before Muhammad's death.
7. That the Qur'an shows that Islam could not stop anyone from corrupting the Qur'an.
8. That the Qur'an shows that Islam did not stop anyone from corrupting the Qur'an.
9. Christians and Jews are called "the people of the Book." Q al Maida 5 9.31 3.70, 99, 113-115
10. "People of the Book" are reliable Q 29.47
11. Christians and Jews were called the "nearest in love" to Muslims, Q 5.82-85
12. Muhammad had access to the Bible and cites perhaps 50 biblical things in the Qur'an. *List upon request.*
Muhammad had a Christian wife.
Christians would call her a heretic, probably a Nestorian, who denied the deity of Jesus.
Nestorians are still present today in parts of Iran.
13. The Qur'an mandates that Muslims are to accept and read the teaching of the Tawrat, Q 32.23. There is no mention that the Hebrew [or Greek, LXX] text is corrupted before Muhammad's lifetime. Hebrew & Greek MSS were available widely in Muhammad's day. Muhammad had access to the Jewish Scripture. He had a Christian wife, Maria al-Qibtiyya [nicknamed "Mother of Believers"].
14. Muhammad mentions the Tawrat, [1450 BC] the Sabur, and the Injil [50 AD] and tells Muslims to read them. Q 10.94
15. The Qur'an teaches that Jesus fights at the battle of Gog and Magog, Q 21.97 Q 18.100
16. The Qur'an teaches that all men pass through hell, Q 19.71
17. Only one man is accountable for the transmission of the entire Qur'an. Bible has 40 writers.

Salvation according to the Qur'an

1. Salvation is by works. Q 101.6 98.7 45.21 21.47, scales 10.27 good deeds
101.8 57.25 31.8 27.90 2.278
2. The Qur'an declares that obedience to Allah is necessary to enter heaven on the Judgment Day. The Qur'an teaches that all men's good works will be put on a scale and measured against his evil works on Judgment Day. Q 21.47 7.8
3. Allah has already ordained who will enter heaven. Man cannot change this by his good deeds, Q 9.51
4. All things are determined inshallah.
5. Man can change what has been predetermined if he changes what is in himself, Q 13.11
6. Man does have a free will to choose obedience or rebellion.
7. The shirk is the worst sin man can commit, Q 4.116 5.72 31.13
8. No man can live pure enough to enter heaven. Q 19.19
9. We are saved only by Allah's grace and mercy.
10. Q 2.63 Good Jews, Christians, and Sabians who truly believe are rewarded in heaven. Q 2.63, 104 10.27

Jesus: according to the Qur'an

1. Jesus [Isa] is the Messiah [IIX]. Q 3.45 3.30
2. He was born of a virgin without an earthly father. Q 3.45-47 Q 19.22-33 Surah: 3,4,5,19,21,23,66
* The angel Gabriel said the Spirit would come upon Mary and she would have a child. Q 66.12
* Luke 1, Gabriel, "the Holy Spirit will come upon you" Q 19.35 "be"
* "We breathed into her out of our Spirit. . . we made her and her so. . . a sign" Q 21.16-21 Spirit [ruh] spoke
3. Jesus is the pure prophet sent by Allah, Q 47.19 48.2 19.17,19
4. Jesus was confirmed in the OT. Q 3.50
5. Jesus was condemned to be crucified. Muslims seems to agree Jesus was condemned by Pilate. *Injil*
6. Jesus will return to earth sometime in the future. He takes all believers to heaven. I Thes 4.13-18
7. Jesus did miracles. Q 5.113 Mark speaks of His miracles 30X.
8. Jesus is the Word of God, Q 3.4,5 John 1.1-3

Jewish Scribes' had 9 Startling Rules for Preventing Corruption

1. Clean animal skins
2. 48-60 lines per page
3. Special ink
4. Say every word aloud as it is written
5. Wipe pen & wash bodies before writing JHVH, *some add use new pen before writing JHVH*
6. If 3 pages of a manuscript had corrections, entire MSS was rejected
7. No two letters could touch each other
8. Letters, words, and paragraphs were counted on every page
9. Middle letter, word, and paragraph were checked against the original
10. There were actually 4,000 minutia rules for scribes to follow: www.BibleQuestions.info

Other similar beliefs

1. AntiChrist, al-Masih al-dajjal, the false Messiah, Q 27.82,85 *the one-eyed sahih bukhari 3337*
2. Hell, Q 41.19
3. Muhammad declared that the Tawrat is good in year ? Hijri AD ?
The complete OT Hebrew manuscript had been in print for 1,000 years, [LXX, Greek, for approx. 800 years], many thousands of copies circulating.
4. The Holy Spirit comes upon Mary [Maryam, sometimes incorrectly confused with Miriam, Moses' sister]

5. The Bible claims it will never be abrogated. *Matt 5.17,18 I Pet 1.23,25 Isa 40.6-8*
 Muhammad's words about the incorruptibility of the Qur'an would also apply to the "Books" of the Jews and Christians?
 Q 2.106,108 4.82 5.60 6.34,89,115 9.11 10.64 10.64 15.9 16.30, 101 46.30
 Since the Qur'an claims that Allah's words cannot be corrupted, there seems to be a disconnect.
6. The Qur'an was first written on various media: parchment, stones, leaves, and bones.

Big Questions Christians have for Muslims

1. Who corrupted the Bible? Christian believers? Nonbelievers?
2. Muhammad declared that Allah's words could not be corrupted. Q 10.64 Conundrum.
 - * Muslims believe that God was unable to keep even one copy of the Old Testament, His eternal Word, from being corrupted. There had been thousands of copies of the OT copied by Scribes for more than 1,000 years.
 - * How did the corruption take place and not one pure copy existed in the whole world?
 - * Christians know that hardly a letter of the book of Isaiah had changed from the Qumran scrolls [*Dead Sea Scrolls, 100 AD*] until the Masoretic Text [*written about the year 1,000 AD*].
3. I've never met a Muslim who would even guess what century the corruption occurred? AD ___? BC ___?
 - Pre-Christian? Gospels? Epistles? The Revelation?
 - * Who replaced 100% of the pure copies with the corrupted copies?
 - * What happened to the many thousands of uncorrupted Bibles? Were they burned as Uthman's corrupted copies of the Qur'an? How were all pure copies collected [*and burned?*]?
4. For what purpose would Allah allow His pure words, Tawrat and Injil to be corrupted [*abrogated*]?
5. Muslims believe Christians say they have a license to sin with impunity. Christians deny this.
[see www.PhilMyersBlog.com](http://www.PhilMyersBlog.com) [Lots of Good Works](#), to demonstrate our love
6. What will prevent a Muslim from adultery or lying in heaven.
 Christians believe the Bible teaches we are born again in such way that our "old sinful nature" will be removed when we arrive in heaven and we will be unable to sin.
7. How many years of "purgatory" (*barzakh, al-araf?*) will the average Muslim need to spend? As I recall, to miss one salah/sholat the penalty is years in the fire.
 I have read 15 consequences of missing prayers: a. during life, b. while dying, c. in the grave, and d. at Judgment Day. From slap on wrist, to withholding blessings, to guilt, to chronic hunger or thirst, to enduring fire, to enduring God's angry face and having man's skin fall off, to hell. As well as multiple years spent in fire for each missed prayer before entering heaven.
8. Is Allah capricious in allowing Jews and Christians into heaven?
 * Q 98.6 "Those who disbelieve. . . Jews and Christians. . . will abide in the fire of hell. They are the worst creatures."
9. Mary was at the crucifixion. Islam teaches that her son was not crucified but somebody else was. Wouldn't Mary have realized that the man on the Cross was not her son?
10. Since Allah predetermines how many times someone will commit adultery [Book 33 #6421, chapter 5?], and man has a free will, how can these two precepts be reconciled?
11. What advantage is there to be a hafiz?
12. Was the Bible's text corrupted or only the interpretation of the text? What's the diff?
13. How is a Muslim protected from the evil eye? Q 68.51,52 [*practical answer please*]
14. What do you call an amulet? How does it work? What life requirements? Is it associated with the djinn or angels?

What Makes Christianity so Appealing to Muslims?

- a. The Oneness of God
- b. Jesus as a teacher, easy to understand, not preachy
- c. Jesus' miracles [*as well as apostles' miracles*]
- d. Jesus' teachings of love and moral ideals
- e. The Psalms, praise, God's interest in man
- f. Future life in heaven: Jesus, no sin [*no sin nature*], glorified bodies
- g. Lives of the great men and women of God
- h. Parables, simple & clear
- i. Muslims tell me they can understand the Bible
- j. God's commitment to helping believers
- k. Divine holiness, without capriciousness
- l. The character of Jehovah: honorable, loving, forgiving, even through chastening
- m. The Christians worship and love their God, lots of good music, friendship
- n. Christians give help to everyone, emergency relief, not exclusivism
- o. Prayers not memorized: private, praying for others, public, direct to a listening ear, an attentive Father, not to a distant mosque
- p. Compassionate God
- q. Freedom and encouragement to use my life to serve God
- r. Christ as mediator to the Father
- s. The best qualities of all religions
- t. God became a man and faced my everyday temptations
- u. Each person counts, not just the religion as a whole
- v. Not a defensive attitude
- w. Christians don't brag about their religion. Some do.