

TWO DIFFERENT PRESCRIPTIONS FOR LIFE

Series: JESUS vs JIHAD

“What Bible Prophecy says about World Events”

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REVIEW:

Last time we looked at: “Are Allah and Jehovah the same God”

Our conclusion was -----**NO**

- **Islam’s origin** is found in the Worship of Baal
- **Jehovah**—is approachable, loving, immutable (absolute truth)
- **Allah**---is aloof, unpredictable, and deceitful.
- **Islam**—has no concept of the Atonement for sin
- **Christianity**---is based on the Atoning act of Jesus on the cross.
- **Islam**—has no understanding of a fellowship relation with Allah
- **Christianity**---our greatest hope---is to be in right relation with God—through Jesus’ blood.

1. A quick comparison

a. Christianity----

Is a prescription of FAITH—

- That brings us into a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
- Sets us free from guilt, shame and bondage.
- That gives you a freedom of choice to accept or not

2 Cor. 3:17 (ESV) *Now the Lord^{al} is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.*

- That give you a choice as to how to worship
- And give others that freedom as well. (*First Amendment to the Constitution*)

b. Islam---

Is a prescription of a religion of law, submission and punishment

- To them—the idea world is one where **ALL** strictly obey the tenets of Islam.
- With no separation between religion and state.
- The idea Political leader is an “iron-fisted” Islamic “Caliph”
- The edicts of religion should be enforced with the power of the state, the power of the sword.
- There should be NO TOLERANCE for other religions.
- Religion and the state should be one and the same.
- The Islamic faith offers:
 - No “Loving God”, No assurance of forgiveness or salvation, No Power over sin, No newness of life, No personal relationship with the creator, No freedom from guilt, No freedom of any kind.

2. The Christian Prescription

The **basic Christian prescription** can be summed up in two simple commandments---voiced by Jesus himself.

Matt. 22:37-40 Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.^{1[a]} ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.^{1[b]} ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

The message of God’s love rings loud and clear through the Gospels.

John 3:16-17-- For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Luke 6:27-28, 35-36 -- ²⁷ “But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

³⁵ But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Word Study: “Love”

- i. “Philia”---this is a friendship love.
- ii. “Storge”—this is a family love
- iii. “Eros”----this is a romantic love or a love of beauty
- iv. “Agape”—this is the highest form of love, a Christ like love, a self-sacrificing love.

When Jesus said: “Love your enemies”---He was talking about “Agape” love.

Christians are to win our enemies over through:

- o Love, Compassion, Christlikeness

So---The Prescription of “Agape” love, confession and forgiveness is central to the Christian life.

3. The Prescription of Islam

Islam is a religion of:

- Law, Blind submission, Fear, Punishment

Islam is a theocracy---

- o Submission to the ruler is the equivalent to submission to Allah, Islam doesn’t simple require belief—it demands surrender and submission

The Muslim fundamental religious duties and beliefs are summed up in the “Five Pillars of Islam”

- i. Confession of Faith (*Shahadah*)
- ii. Prayer ---- formal prayers must be recited FIVE TIMES A DAY:
- iii. Paying the Alms Tax (*Zakat*)
- iv. Observance of Ramadan
- v. Pilgrimage (*Hajj*)—

In addition to these 5 Pillars---Muslims are expected to “**Commend good and REPRIMAND evil**”

They are forbidden to gamble, charge interest on loans (Usury) to fellow Muslims or to consume alcohol or pork.

Islam is a religion of rituals and external behaviors that one must carry out to receive Allah's Favor.

At first look—view Islam as a “**salvation by works**” religion.

“**Salvation**” **is not an Islamic doctrine.**

Due to, **Islam does not view humanity as having a sinful nature**—so people don't need to be saved.

- Muslims live in fear of offending Allah, suffering an eternity in hell.
- Muslims experience spiritual anxiety because they can never be assured of having done enough good deeds and rituals to earn Allah's approval.
- Muslims, in praying to Allah—employ a certain amount of “Cajoling”, “begging”.
- Muslims pray to Allah 5 times a day, they bow before this unknowable deity.
- A constant sense of insecurity, dread is integral to Islam.

In Islam---there is no:

Parable of the unmerciful servant (Matt. 18:21-35)

Statement of “forgive, and you will be forgiven” (Lk 6:37)

Forgive as we have been forgiven (Lk 11:4)

Because Muslims see Allah as unyielding and vengeful, they tend to interact with others in a judgmental, unforgiving way.

4. What about Those Who Don't Believe?

Christianity regards nonbelievers as “**unconverted**”.

Islam---regards nonbelievers as “**infidels**”.

- To Muslims, nonbelievers are not merely people who don't believe, THEY ARE ENEMIES OF THE FAITH.
- Muslims don't seek to spread the “Good News” of Islam—because Islam doesn't have any “good news” to spread.
- Muslims only seek to bring the world into “submission” to Islam.
 - Subjection does not require free will---A person can be “forced” to surrender to Allah, willing or not.

THIS IS KEY TO UNDERSTANDING RECENT EVENTS IN THE WORLD AND HERE — Muslims believe they alone have been given the final revelation of God in the Koran.

Muslims respect:

The **Torah** (The 5 books of Moses)

The **Injeel** (their version of the gospels)

But their sacred book the Koran, teaches that they are called to enforce God's will.

The Koran calls upon all Muslims to convert or conquer unbelievers.

For those who take the Koran seriously, there is no room for moderation or tolerance.

Islamic law is the core of Islamic thought-----Non-Muslims do not belong to the “House of Islam” (Dar al-Islam), therefore they belong to the “House of War” (Dar al-Harb). In simple language---“if you are not with us—you are against us.”

Koran 9:29-- "Fight those who believe not in Allah nor the Last Day, nor hold that forbidden which hath been forbidden by Allah and His Messenger, nor acknowledge the religion of truth (even if they are) of the People of the Book, until they pay the "Jizya" (religious tax) with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued"

As Christians---we would never pursue such a "warlike" strategy against non-Christians. It would go against everything Jesus taught.

Under Islamic law---there are only two ways to deal with non-Muslims.

1. They must be converted and subjected/humiliated
2. They must be eliminated (except women and children and slaves)

Islamic law distinguishes between types of non-Muslims:

Christians and Jews are **classified as "dhimmi" (*people of the contract*)**

A dhimmi under "Sharia Law" ---

- Must wear identifiable clothing and live in a specially marked house.
- Must not ride a horse
- Must yield the right-of-way to Muslims
- Cannot be a witness in a legal court except in cases relating to only other dhimmis
- Cannot be the legal guardian of a Muslim child
- Cannot be the owner of a Muslim slave
- Cannot be a judge in a Muslim court.

So what does this all mean for us in the West----

Dhimmi is the classification given to Christians in Muslim countries.

This is the restrictions under which Christians must live and work.

How about Original Natives of a Land----

Even original natives are not considered citizens

When a nation declares itself an "Islamic State" by LAW (Sharia Law)-its native non-Muslim people are reduced to second-class citizens status.

Example: ---Egypt –The Coptic Church

In the West---We are used to "Separation of Church and State"

- Muslims assume that religion and government are intertwined.
- Muslims view America not as a secular government---(But as a "Christian Crusader" nation)
- **To Muslims---it's as if it's still the 11th century—the Crusades are still going on.**

Definitions

Caliph: a person considered a political and religious successor to the prophet Muhammad and a leader of the entire Muslim community.

1. The Rashidun caliphs, who directly succeeded Muhammad as leaders of the Muslim community, were chosen through "**shura**", a process of community consultation that some consider an early form of Islamic democracy.
2. **The last caliphate** was the **Ottoman Empire**, which reached its peak in the 16th century and then experienced a long decline, until the founder of the Republic of Turkey, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, euthanized it in 1924.

"Dar al-Islam"—"House of Islam"

"Dar al-Harb"—"House of War"

"dhimmi" "*people of the contract*"—what non-Muslims are referred to in Muslim countries. is the classification given to Christians in Muslim countries

"Haji": Pilgrimage (one of 5 pillars of Islamic faith) in which Every Muslim of sound mind and body who can afford the journey is expected to make to Mecca at least once in a lifetime.

"Infidels": is what Islam regards nonbelievers as. The word "infidel" comes from the root word "infidelity"—the act or condition of being unfaithful.

"Injeel" Islam's name for the Gospel accounts of Jesus's life

Ramadan: the Observance of Ramadan (one of 5 pillars of Islamic faith) is holy the month of Islam—(*the month Muslims believe the first verses of the Koran were revealed to Muhammad—in 610 AD*)

"Shahadah": Confession of Faith (one of 5 pillars of Islamic faith)--this means reciting the statement: "There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah"

"Sharia Law" The term sharia comes from the Arabic language term sharī'ah, which means a body of moral and religious law derived from religious prophecy, as opposed to human legislation. ("Sharia=the straight path").

Torah The 5 books of Moses

"Zakat": Paying the Alms Tax (one of 5 pillars of Islamic faith)---The legal "purification Tax" is levied on property