



# FAITHFUL AND FRUITFUL



**“Muslims: An Introduction to Worldview & Practices and Our Witness among Them”**

**By Steve Coffey**

**Eight Cultural Blocs of Islam**

**Six Trends in the Muslim World**

**Your/Their Worldview(s) Matters**

**Islamic Worldview**

The Islamic worldview is ...

**Islamic Worldview: There is no distinction between the sacred and the secular...**

(Is the God of the Bible the God of Islam?)

**Articles of Islamic Faith:**

- Muslims believe in all the messengers of God without any discrimination among them.
- Muslims believe in all the scriptures and revelations of God.
- Muslims believe in the angels of God.
- Muslims believe in the Last Day of Judgment.
- Muslims believe that every person is born free from sin and all claims to inherited virtue. He is like a blank book.
- Muslims believe that man’s submission to God is the hope of his salvation.

- Muslims believe that in human nature, which God created, there is more good than evil, and the probability successful reform is greater than the probability of hopeless failure.
- *Muslims believe that the Quran is the word of God revealed to Muhammad through the agency of the Angel Gabriel.*
  - It is Muhammad's standing miracle that if all mankind were to work together they could not produce the like of one Quranic chapter (2:22-24; 11:13-14; 17:88-89).
  - A Faith – Lived Out...
  - HOW? Submission
  
- *Islam = voluntary submission to the will of Allah practiced in the observance of the 'Five Pillars'*
  - Testimony of Faith (Shahada)
  - Prayer (Salat)
  - Almsgiving (Zakat)
  - Fasting (Sawm)
  - Pilgrimage (Hajj)

**Even if I am faithful in each of these practices, THERE IS NO CERTAINTY OF SALVATION**

### **Our Witness**

**What do Muslims perceive that “becoming a Christian” means?**

**Is there hope?** A survey of 750 Muslims who became followers of Christ shows five predominant factors...

**What Can I Do?** The Heart of the Matter... Is the Heart!

- Nurture Your Joy and Delight in God
- Nurture Your Heart for Others

Common Responses to those Not Like Us...

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. Xenophobia          | <i>Fear</i>  |
| 2. Ethnocentrism       | <i>Superiority</i>                                   |
| 3. Forced Assimilation | <i>You're welcome if you become like me.</i>         |
| 4. Segregation         | <i>Remain separate</i>                               |
| 5. Acceptance          | <i>Coexist, accommodate, and build relationships</i> |
| 6. Celebration         | <i>Valuing other cultures in their diversity</i>     |

## **Principles of Ministry**

- Ministry is God-dependent.
- Ministry begins in the heart... Works outwardly toward others.
- Ministry is relational and instructional.

## **What Can I Do?**

- Have a treasure... God!
- Pray constantly
- Respect his/her customs and sensibilities
  - Ask questions ...
  - Listen carefully
  - Adapt my lifestyle appropriately

## **Ways to Demonstrate Care**

- Start with what they believe and take them further
- Use the Word of God on every possible occasion
- Invite the person to study God's Word with you.
- Present what you believe without hesitation
- Reason without arguing
- Persevere... be committed to bringing them to Jesus

## **Common Muslim Questions**

- "DO YOU BELIEVE IN THREE GODS?"
- "DO YOU BELIEVE JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD?"
- BUT JESUS NEVER CALLED HIMSELF GOD, SO WHY DO YOU?
- WE BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS ONLY A PROPHET. HOW CAN YOU BELIEVE OTHERWISE?
- HOW CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT GOD WOULD ALLOW HIS PROPHET TO DIE ON A CROSS?
- THE QURAN SAYS THAT JESUS DID NOT DIE ON THE CROSS.
- IF JESUS IS GOD AND HE DIED ON THE CROSS, WHO WAS TAKING CARE OF THE WORLD WHEN GOD WAS DEAD?
- YOUR BIBLE HAS BEEN CHANGED!!!

## RESOURCES

Information on the articles of Faith is from the website -

<http://islam101.net/introductory-mainmenu-33/13-introductory/18-main-articles-of-islamic-faith.html>

"Understanding the Principles of Islamic World-View," Muhammad Abdullah & Muhammad Junaid Nadvi. *The Dialogue*. Volume VI Number 3. pp 268-289 July-Sept 2011. [http://www.qurtuba.edu.pk/thedialogue/The%20Dialogue/6\\_3/Dialogue\\_July\\_September2011\\_268-289.pdf](http://www.qurtuba.edu.pk/thedialogue/The%20Dialogue/6_3/Dialogue_July_September2011_268-289.pdf)

<http://suffahstudy.blogspot.com/2010/02/worldview-of-islam-introduction.html>

<http://www.pewforum.org/Muslim/the-worlds-muslims-unity-and-diversity-executive-summary.aspx>

Khurshid Ahmad, [Islam: Its Meaning and Message](#), 3rd ed. (Leicester, UK: The Islamic Foundation, 1999), 29.

<http://www.onislam.net/english/reading-islam/understanding-islam/worship/prayers/450408-the-role-of-the-mosque.html>

[http://answering-islam.org/Shamoun/allah\\_as\\_man.htm](http://answering-islam.org/Shamoun/allah_as_man.htm)

[Articles | Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies](#)

Daniel W. Brown, [A New Introduction to Islam. 2nd ed.](#) (Wiley-Blackwell, 2009)

Kenneth Cragg, [Jesus and the Muslim: An Exploration](#) (Oneworld, 1999 [1985])

Timothy George, [Is the Father of Jesus the God of Muhammad?](#) (Zondervan, 2002)

Gordon Nickel, [The Gentle Answer to the Muslim Accusation of Biblical Falsification](#) (Burton Gate, 2015)

David W. Shenk, [Christian. Muslim. Friend. Twelve Paths to Real Relationship](#) (Herald Press, 2014)

Nabeel Qureshi, [No God but One: Allah or Jesus?: A Former Muslim Investigates the Evidence for Islam and Christianity](#) (Zondervan, 2016)