

ISLAM IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Part 1 of THEY BELIEVE WHAT?

The Cornerstone Youth Group. July 1, 2026.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day, he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the one, holy, worldwide Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

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Part 1: A Quick History Of Islam

1. Islam began in the 7th century AD in **Mecca** - modern Saudi Arabia.
2. The founder of Islam is **Muhammad**, who was born around 570 CE.
3. Muslims believe the angel **Gabriel** revealed the Quran (their holy book) to Muhammad.
4. The two main branches are **Sunni** and **Shia**.
5. Today there are about **1.9 billion** Muslims in the world, making it the second-largest religion in the world!

Part 2: What Muslims Believe – Five Articles Of Faith

1. Allah: There is only **one God**. He is absolutely **one** (no Trinity).
2. Angels: Allah created angels to serve him.
3. Holy Books: Muslims believe in the Pentateuch, Psalms, Gospels, and the **Quran**. They believe the Bible was corrupted over time.
4. Prophets: Allah sent 124,000 prophets, including Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Jesus (Isa in Arabic). **Muhammad** is the last and greatest prophet.
5. Day of Judgment: All people will be judged. **Good and bad deeds** will be weighed on scales.

Part 3: What Muslims Believe About Jesus

1. Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary.
2. Jesus performed miracles.
3. Jesus is a great prophet but not God the Son.
4. Jesus was not crucified. Someone else was substituted.
5. Jesus ascended into heaven and will return as a Muslim.

Part 4: The Five Pillars (Practices) Of Muslims

1. Declaration of Faith: "There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is his messenger."
2. **Prayer**: Five times daily, facing Mecca.
3. **Giving**: 2.5% of one's savings annually to the poor and needy.
4. **Fasting**: During daylight during the month of Ramadan
5. **Hajj**: Pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in a lifetime.

Extras:

- Friday noon prayer at the mosque
- Halal dietary laws (no pork, alcohol, etc)
- Modest dress

Part 5: COMPARING ISLAM AND THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

Topic	What Islam Says	What the Bible Says
Who is God?	One God; no Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (The Holy Trinity)	One God in three Persons: Father, Son, Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19)
Who is Jesus?	A great prophet, but not God the Son; not consubstantial and co-eternal with the Father.	God the Son, truly God and truly man (John 1:1; 1:14)
The Cross	Didn't die; someone was substituted	The central event of history; Jesus died for sins (Romans 5:8)
The Bible	Bible was corrupted	God breathed original manuscripts, preserved and God's true Word (2 Timothy 3:16)
Salvation	Weighed by deeds and Allah's mercy; no assurance, no guarantee of paradise	Freely given by grace and received through faith in Christ alone (Ephesians 2:8-9)

- John 1:1 (CSB) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 1 John 5:11-13 (CSB) And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 The one who has the Son has life. The one who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.