

## Radical Islam

**July 13, 2014**

Good morning. My name is Kurt. I am one of the pastors at CrossWinds. This morning we continue in our series, “Alternatives to Christianity.” We are studying some of the major world religions and false belief systems around us to see how they stack up against biblical Christianity. Last week, when I was out of town caring for my parents, Pastor Jordan gave a great message on the beliefs of Muslims, the Quran and the life of Mohammed. This morning, we continue our study of Islam as we study radical Islam. We can not turn on the news without hearing about ISIS and their goal of creating a united Iraq and Syria called a caliphate. Radical Islam was behind the destruction of the twin towers, the Libyan embassy bombings and scores of other acts of terror.

What does radical Islam believe? How is radical Islam different from the Muslim beliefs we studied last week? Why are they so violent?

Before we begin, I want to make a distinction between radical Islam and many of the Muslims living in America today. Thankfully many Muslims are not followers of radical Islam. A few years ago I witnessed to a woman with a Muslim background and she told me in very animated terms that Muslim extremists hijacked her religion of peace and turned it into a religion of war. Is that true?... Did Muslim extremists transform a religion of peace into a religion of war? Abdurrahman Wahid, the former president of Indonesia and the world’s most populous Muslim country, said,

“a literal reading of the Quran leads to what is popularly called Muslim extremism.”

Thankfully many Muslims do not study the Quran. If you take the Quran literally, every Muslims should be a militant Muslim. Anything less is to avoid its clear teachings.

Let me show you what I mean.

“Fight against them until there is no persecution and the religion is Allah’s only” (Surah 2:193).

“Fight and slay the unbelievers wherever you find them, and seize them, beleaguer them, and lie in wait for them in every stratagem of war” (Surah 9:5).

“Fight those who do not believe in Allah” (Surah 9:29).

“O believers, fight against the unbelievers near you” (Surah 9:123).

Jihad means the conquest of non-Muslim territory. The domination of Koranic law from one end of the earth to the other is ... the final goal ... of this war of conquest. —Ayatollah Khomeini

Jihad is a religious obligation. It forms part of the duties that the (Muslim) believer must fulfill; it is Islam’s normal path to expansion. —Jacques Ellal

“There is no harm in the blind, nor is there any harm in the lame, nor is there any harm in the sick (if they do not go forth)” (Surah 48.17)

It the inescapable duty of every Muslim to take part in fighting for the cause of God. Only the blind, the lame and sick are exempt.

Allah’s Apostle was asked, “What is the best deed?” He replied, “To believe in Allah and his Apostle.” The questioner then asked, “What is the next (in goodness)?” He replied, “To participate in Jihad (religious fighting) in Allah’s cause.” (Bukhari, Vol. 1, No. 25).

Whereas Jesus told Peter to put away his sword, Mohammed commanded his followers to make war with the sword. The bloodlust of Islam is rooted in a perverted religious impulse to kill and mutilate in the name of Allah. The more killing of innocent men, women and children in the name of Allah the greater the badge of honor. This is why Muslims in Detroit, Dearborn Michigan and

Patterson New Jersey celebrated when thousands were killed on September 11th. There is joy when you kill in the name of Allah.

### **Muslim Expansion — The Church Of Holy Wisdom**

Mohammed conquered Mecca by the sword and forced conversion by the sword. He gathered his wealth by raiding caravans and conquering countries. There was no peace in his history compared to Jesus who still is the prince of peace. After his death, Mohammed's followers continued the practice of conquering and converting by war. They conquered Damascus, Syria, Jerusalem, Egypt, Cyprus and many more in the early 600's. In the 700's the Muslims attacked Spain. From the seventh to the tenth century Islam conquered two-thirds of the Christian world by war. Charles Martel was the first to defeat them in the battle of Tours in 732 AD. If he had not stopped them they would have conquered all of Europe. Nothing has changed. Islam is still committed to using the sword to convert the world. This is the strategy ISIS uses. When they started their conquest, they were only 6,000 in number but as they captured cities, they captured vast amounts of wealth, resources and artillery to continue to strengthen their expansion. Let me share another ancient example.

### **The Church of Holy Wisdom**

Dedicated in 537 AD in what was the ancient city of Constantinople, the Church of Holy Wisdom was, and still is, one of the greatest churches in all of the world. What happened to this church is a vivid picture of Muslim beliefs and practices. In 1453 the



Ottoman Turks (Muslims) set out to conquer the city with the goal of turning the massive church into a mosque. For

many years they were unsuccessful.

The enormous walls of the city held them off. Over time, with the conquering of other lands, their strength grew and



they focused it on Constantinople. Behind the wall of the city lived 50,000 people. The church is huge. It holds 20,000 people. Remember it was built in 537 AD! The towers rise 180 feet into the air. Eventually the Muslims breached the walls, massacred the men, sold the women and children into slavery, and after wiping out the Christians turned the church, which was almost a 1,000 years old, into a mosque. Why were the Muslims so committed to transforming this pillar of Christianity to a mosque?

### **Why do Muslims turn churches into mosques?**

The practice of turning churches into mosques has more meaning for a Muslim than simply providing a place to worship. A mosque in a Muslim country is considered a house-of-Islam. That is a place where Muslims worship and Shariah law is the norm. But a mosque in an unconquered territory is called a house-of-war. It is viewed as a beachhead in conquering a country. If Muslims can transform a house of worship into a Mosque, it is a way they can proclaim Allah's superiority over other religions. This is why in 692 AD the Dome of the Rock was built directly over the temple mount in Jerusalem. It was the way the Muslims stated their superiority over Judaism. It remains to this day. Islam

believes that whenever something is conquered by Islam and turned into a mosque it is considered a *waqf*, a holy endowment from Allah forever. If a mosque is lost in battle, it is the duty of all Muslims to regain it by jihad. That really ruins a church's future.

This is why the Palestinians will never be at peace with Israel. Muslims believe the Holy Land was conquered for Allah, it was lost to the Jews. It must be regained for Allah. This is why churches are instantly turned into mosques whenever Muslims conquer a country. Once churches are mosques, they can never hold worship services to Jesus again. It is also why Muslims are trying to build a mosque right next to Ground Zero in New York in the space occupied by a warehouse damaged in the 9/11 attacks. The plan was to call the mosque next to the World Trade Center, the Cordoba House. Most people don't catch the significance. Cordoba is the name of the Christian city in Spain conquered by the Muslims in the 8th century. They converted the huge cathedral of the city into the third largest mosque in the world.

In a very real sense we can say Islam is committed to purging the earth by transforming existing houses of worship into mosques.

### **Muslim Destruction — The Church of Smyrna**

Another particularly pointed example is what happened to the church of Smyrna which is talked about in the book of Revelation. In 1402, the city of Smyrna was captured by the Muslim Aksak Timur. Christians were butchered. He killed almost the entire population of the city. He made a giant pyramid of his victims' skulls. He boasted of washing his sword in the blood of the infidels

(Christians) because there was so much of it. What happened in 1402 to the Christians of Smyrna is nothing compared to what happened to Smyrna in 1922. Muslims killed hundreds of thousands of men, women and children with the goal of wiping out the Christian faith in that portion of their empire.

In World War I, Turkey sided with Germany. The Armenians in Turkey were Christians living under Islamic rule. Fearing the rebellion of the Christians, the Muslims decided to destroy them. Women were gang raped. Men had horse shoes nailed to their feet. One writer said there is no record of a massacre more unprovoked, more widespread and terrible than those perpetrated by the Muslim Turkish government against the Christians of Anatolia and Armenia in 1915. In Smyrna the Muslim government sectioned off the Christians in



the city, they put oil drums of gasoline in the buildings and set the city on fire. Somewhere between 10,000 to 100,000 Christians of the city were either incinerated or forced by the fire into the ocean where they died. It is estimated that more than a million Armenian and Anatolian Christians were killed for their faith. What was the goal? The complete eradication of Christians within the empire.

### **Three Options... Conversion, Servitude Or Death**

What typically happens when Muslims conquer a territory? When the population isn't killed outright, they are given three options. Convert to Islam, die or live a life of slavery. Many people, given these options, convert to Islam.

Those who refuse to convert are given *dhimmi* status. This means they are servants to Muslims for perpetuity in exchange for living. They are also required to pay an exorbitant tax called the *jizya*, that guarantees abject poverty and an early death. Here are some of the terms of the *dhimmi* pact:

1. You can not build a place or worship or repair one.
2. You must house and feed Muslim soldiers.
3. Give free hospitality to Muslim travelers for three days.
4. You can not display your religion in any public way.
5. You can not share your religion with anyone.
6. You can not strike a Muslim.
7. You can not dress like a Muslim.
8. You can not bear arms.
9. You must give up your seats for Muslims.
10. All your daughters are forced to marry Muslim men.

The paying of the *jizya* tax for a *dhimmi* is always a violent public spectacle where the *dhimmi* is struck in the neck in a near act of beheading. If you refuse to pay the *jizya*, you are beaten, tortured or killed — Christians are usually killed by crucifixion. How much is the *jizya* tax? History tells us it is so exorbitant that some are forced to sell everything they own to pay it and watch their families starve from lack of food.

When you hear Muslims say they tolerate other religions, understand *dhimmi* status and the *jizya* tax is what they mean by tolerating other religions.

This is the way Christians in the Sudan, Nigeria and other Muslims countries live today.

### What happens if a Muslim tries to leave their faith?

To everyone acquainted with Islamic law it is no secret that according to Islam the punishment for a Muslim who turns to *kufir* (infidelity, blasphemy) is execution. *The Punishment Of The Apostate According To Islamic Law* by Abul Ala Mawdudi, pgs. 17–19

“Any person (i.e., Muslim) who has changed his religion, kill him.” Bukhari 9.84.57

“If someone becomes a Muslim then apostatizes, he would be asked to repent; if he does not repent, he should be killed.” -*The Ordinances of the Quran* (part 1, p. 289.)



Today a Muslim who leaves their faith faces imprisonment and death.

Even in the West, Muslims who convert to a different religion are ostracized by their family, their community and receive death threats. There is no doubt the reason Islam doesn't allow freedom of religion is because people would leave the terror and bullying of Islam in an instant if they could.

In 1997, Mark Harding, a Canadian pastor, handed out pamphlets at his local high school describing the violence Muslims committed against others throughout history. He was protesting that the local high school set aside a special room for Muslim students to pray during the day. The school didn't give a special room for Christians to pray or Hindus to pray. Why did they give Muslims special treatment?

Harding was accused of promoting hatred towards Muslims in violation of Canada's hate speech law because he was truthful about Islam's beliefs and

history. He was taken to court and lost his case. He was forced to undergo two years of probation and 340 hours of community service at the Islamic Society of North America plus undergo indoctrination sessions on Islam at the local mosque. Harding is an evangelical pastor. He went on record saying he loves Muslims but didn't feel they should be given special religious privileges that are denied other faiths.

How did the local Islamic community treat him? Mark received more than 3,000 hate-filled phone calls during his trial, many of them death threats from Muslims. On the first day of his trial he needed police protection because of the large crowd of Muslims at the court house chanting, "Infidel, you will burn in hell." Throughout the trial Muslims in the courtroom silently ran their finger from ear-to-ear under their chin reminding him they wanted him dead. It seems to me that his pamphlets were simply saying the truth about radical Islam.

If this is what happens to those who question Islam on the outside of the faith, imagine what happens to those who attempt to leave the faith?

### **What is Shariah law?**

Maybe you heard of shariah law and you know it has something to do with Islam. Shariah law is very important.

Translated as "the path," shariah is a comprehensive legal and political framework. Though it certainly has spiritual elements, it would be a mistake to think of shariah as a 'religious' code in the Western sense because it seeks to regulate all manner of behavior in the secular sphere—economic, social, military, legal, and political. - *Shariah: The Threat to America*, p. 2

Shariah law encompasses all of life. It dictates what Muslims can and cannot do. Shariah law is not optional for Muslims. For a Muslim to accept Islam

and deny shariah would be similar to a Jew who claims to accept the five books of the Torah but rejecting the Ten Commandments. At first, it may not sound like a bad idea to let Muslims observe shariah law in their own communities but that never works. Shariah law is viewed as coming directly from Allah and Muslims see it as superseding all other public laws. Since Muslims view themselves as the inheritors of the earth, they believe it is their responsibility to enact shariah law upon the entire world. What does shariah law teach?

1. **Jihad:** All Muslims are obligated to kill infidels.
2. **Apostasy:** Anyone who renounces Islam is to be killed. Distributing Christian literature is an automatic five-year prison sentence in shariah law.
3. **Criticism of Islam:** The death penalty applies to anyone who criticizes Mohammed, Quran or shariah law.
4. **Victims of Rape:** Shariah law protects rapists. A woman making an accusation of rape has to provide four male witnesses. If she can't, she is punished by flogging or stoning for making the accusation. In October 2008, a 13-year-old Somalian girl was stoned to death for bringing charges of rape against three armed men. They stoned her to death because she didn't have four men who witnessed it, only three who participated.
5. **Homosexuality:** Homosexuals are executed.
6. **Theft:** Anyone found stealing has their hand cut off.
7. **Assault and Battery:** If you are injured by someone, you have the right to extract revenge. An eye for an eye is shariah law.

8. **Honor Killings:** It is your responsibility to kill your children or grandchildren if they stray from Allah. Today in England there are more than 3,000 honor killings on record by Muslims acting under shariah law. Nobody knows how many are not reported.
9. **Marriage:** A father can force his daughter at the age of eight or nine to marry a man. It is customary for a 40 or 50 year old men to pressure fathers of young girls to let them have their daughters in marriage.

### What are Muslim beliefs about women?

While the New Testament commands men to love their wives and to even sacrifice their life for them, as Jesus gave up his life for the church, the Quran commands men to beat their wives when they show any sign of disobedience.

Men are the managers of the affairs of women.... Those you fear may be rebellious—admonish; banish them to their couches and beat them. (Surah 4:34)

Today Muslim women are kept prisoners in their own home. They can be denied the right to go outside the house if their husband orders. Muslim women can not vote. In Iran, Muslim women must carry a permission slip from their husband to be out of the house! In Saudi Arabia, women are not allowed to drive a car.

Shi'ite Muslims practice something Mohammed practiced called a temporary contractual marriage. This means a man can marry one or more women for a few days and then simply walk away.

While we were in the army, Allah's Apostle came to us and said, 'You have been allowed to have pleasure (Muta) so do it.' If a man and a woman agree to marry temporarily, their marriage should last for three nights, and if they want to continue, they may do so. - Sahih al-Bukhari 7.37

## Sin and Salvation

The way Mohamed Atta prepared himself and his colleagues the night before the 9/11 attack gives us insight into radical Islam's understanding of the Quran and life beyond. The evening before the 9/11 attacks, he wrote a letter titled "The Last Night," handwritten in Arabic. He wrote,

"The time between you and your marriage in heaven is very short... Know the gardens of Paradise are waiting for you in all of their beauty, and the women of Paradise are waiting, calling out, 'Come hither, friend of God... they have dressed in their most beautiful clothing.'" - Mohammed Atta

Atta's suitcase did not make it onto the airplane he later commandeered and flew into the World Trade Center. When an American Airlines employee found his suitcase they discovered his Paradise wedding suit neatly laid out with a sapphire-blue neck tie around his dress shirt. In the bag was his leather-bound Quran.

What was Mohammed Atta expecting when he died?... Marriage to 72 virgins. The Quran describes them as:

- Voluptuous women of equal age (Surah 78:31)
- Fair women with beautiful, big, and lustrous eyes (Surah 44:54)
- Maidens, chaste, restraining their glances, whom no man... has touched (Surah 55:56)

A Muslim who dies fighting the infidels receives a one-way ticket to heaven. To die while killing an infidel merits the forgiveness of sins, the approval of Allah and a life of luxury and ease for eternity. If you don't die in a Jihad, you run the risk of Allah weighing your good deeds against your bad deeds and coming up short. *Only death in a Jihad is a guarantee of Paradise.* This explains

why fathers and mothers give up their sons and daughters to be suicide bombers. Surah 3:170 tells them not to be sorry about their sons' and daughters' deaths but to rejoice. Martyrdom is the only way to guarantee entrance into Paradise.

Unlike Muslims, as Christians, we do not need to die for our sins. Jesus died for our sins.

### **What are the plans of Islam for America?**

Through God's providence, the agenda of perhaps the most influential Islamist group in the world — the Muslim Brotherhood — was exposed. In 2004, the FBI raided a house in Annandale, Virginia and discovered a treasure trove of documents by the Muslim Brotherhood explaining their plans for North America.

[The Brotherhood] must understand that their work in America is a kind of grand jihad in eliminating and destroying the Western civilization from within and "sabotaging" its miserable house by their hands and the hands of believers so that it is eliminated and God's religion is made victorious over all other religions. - McCarthy, *The Grand Jihad*, p. 58.

The Muslim Brotherhoods goal is a grand jihad to destroy Western Civilization from within. It's broader goals are to implement shariah law worldwide and establish a global Islamic state, called a caliphate. Some key Brotherhood tactics discovered in the 2004 raid include:

1. Expand Muslim Presence By Birth Rate, Immigration And Refusal To Assimilate
2. Occupy And Expand Domination Of Physical Spaces (turn churches into mosques)
3. Control The Language Used To Describe Muslims In The Media

4. Ensure Non-Muslims Do Not Study Shariah Law
5. Subvert Existing Religions Organizations
6. Employ Law-Fare — The Offensive Use Of Lawsuits To Quiet Opposition And Condemn Any Slander Against Islam
7. Infiltrate The US Education System
8. Infiltrate The US Intelligence Community

#### **Infiltrating the US Intelligence Community — Abdurahman Alamoudi**

One example of their infiltration is Abdurahman Alamoudi, a leader in the Muslim Brotherhood, who became a naturalized citizen in 1996 and founded the American Muslim Council. He cultivated a relationship with the White House and the Intelligence Agency. The US department of defense eventually granted him the authority to approve Muslim chaplaincies for the US military. He helped President Bill Clinton and the ACLU develop the guidelines for religious expression in public schools. In 2000, he persuaded George Bush to prohibit the use of classified intelligence in the deportation proceedings for people with suspected terrorist ties.

Thankfully his charade didn't last. He was caught on video extolling his love for Hamas and Hezbollah. He was arrested in 2003 at London's Heathrow Airport carrying \$340,000 from Libyan president Muammar Qaddafi which was to be used to support terrorist organizations. Remember he was advising the President!

## How do Christians Respond?

1. **Don't Let Muslim Threats Silence The Gospel.** One of the goals of Islam is to silence anyone who challenges their beliefs, the Quran or Mohammed. To question the Quran, with its hundreds of errors and contradictions, is punishable by death. To share faith in Christ is punishable by death. Threats and intimidation are the name of the game in the Muslim world and in America through law-fare. For many years we have enjoyed freedom of religion and freedom of speech. Some day it may not be as free as we are used to. As the pressure from Muslims ramps up against Christians in American, many Christians will keep their faith to themselves instead of sharing it. Remember God did not guarantee us a free country or free speech.

They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. John 16:2-3 (ESV)

And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Matthew 10:28 (ESV)

Christ was beaten and nailed to a cross. If we are his followers, should we expect better treatment? We are living in a unique time in world history that has religious freedom. For most of world history it cost you to follow Christ. If you died for Christ, it was likely to be at the hand of a radical Muslim. Believe in the power of the simple Gospel message. Don't let Muslims silence it.

2. **Remember God is Large and In Charge.** One of the hardest parts of my study was reading about the atrocities against the Armenian and Anatolian

Christians in and around Smyrna. The killing of over a million Christians in the most brutal ways imaginable is hard to comprehend. You start to wonder if things were out of control,... maybe even out of God's control. When Jesus was arrested, beaten and crucified, who was in control? Satan or God? It looked like Satan was in control but we know he was only given permission to crucify Jesus and God let it happen for a reason, a good reason... to save us from our sin.

For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.” John 10:17–18 (ESV)

As Christians, like Jesus, we will suffer under the hand of the devil.

Sometimes that suffering is more than we can imagine. When we suffer for Christ, remember God is bigger and stronger than Satan, not just in might — but in wisdom. God guarantees he will bring glory to himself through the evil schemes of Satan and men, just like he brought glory to himself through Satan's schemes against Christ. We know God has a much larger purpose than we can understand this side of heaven. God doesn't always give us explanations why, he just tells us we can trust him.

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. Romans 8:18 (ESV)

3. **Military Victories Do Not Mean God Is On Your Side.** Islam often claims they are the one true religion because of their military victories. If God wasn't on their side, why are they the second largest religion on the planet and the fastest growing religion in the world? Outside of the obvious nature of forced

conversion to Islam or death, we need to remember that religious and military success does not equal God's blessing upon a religion. Revelation talks about the AntiChrist. He will achieve the greatest military and religious victories in world history, yet he will be entirely opposed to the truth.

Also it [the beast] was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation, Revelation 13:7 (ESV)

Many people will conclude the AntiChrist is the right religion because of his undisputed world-wide power. People will worship the AntiChrist out of fear. Power and fear are both key points in Islam's growth. I am not saying that Islam is the AntiChrist, I am just pointing out the similarities. The Bible tells us the AntiChrist will make war against the followers of Jesus and conquer them. He will put them to death for refusing to take his mark. Christians will be in the minority and will not be able to fight back.

Two chapters later, in Revelation 15, we have a different picture. The saints the AntiChrist killed are in the presence of God, in a place of indescribable beauty and joy called heaven. Their experience on earth was the opposite of their final destiny. In Revelation 20, the tables are completely reversed. The beast and false prophet are captured and thrown alive into the Lake of Fire. No matter how bad things get, God will prevail. Nothing can thwart his plan.

## **Conclusion**

Majida was born in Kuwait to a Muslim family. She fasted and prayed five times a day to Allah, read the Quran and studied at the mosque. She moved to

America to marry a Muslim man. She soon found herself, like many Muslim women, abused and beaten. One night she was beaten so badly she thought she would die. She called the police to report the abuse, something a Muslim woman is never to do.

At that time a Christian woman befriended her and began inviting her to church. She was taught Christians were infidels so while she went to church to be kind, she kept praying to Allah. Her husband continued to assault and beat her until she divorced him. In desperation, she asked the Christians to pray for her. One day in church, as they sang a song about the freedom and forgiveness found in Jesus, it suddenly clicked. The blinders came off the eyes of her heart and she asked Jesus to forgive her sins and save her life. She says she was immediately changed and found a peace she never knew.

She still attended the mosque but found the imams were always angry and threatening. Finally she had enough and made her faith public. She called her parents in Jordan to tell them she was no longer a Muslim, she was a Christian... They disowned her.

Today she says her childhood was filled with fear of Allah and the men who followed him in her life. She hated the cross. Today she loves the cross. It means God loves her and she has nothing to fear. The crisis of radical Islam in America is the great opportunity for the church to share the Gospel with Muslims and change lives.



Dr. Kurt Trucksess is ordained in the Evangelical Free Church of America. He enjoys reading, writing, time with his family and wrestling with his sons. His favorite topics are preaching and ancient rhetoric. Feel free to contact him at [www.Christ@RCulture.com](mailto:www.Christ@RCulture.com) ([www.c2rc.com](http://www.c2rc.com))

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