The Beliefs and Practices of Islam

Phillip Mullins · Series: **A Christian's Guide To Islam**

INTRODUCTION

- I want to say this that we're aiming for the common denominator. There's over a billion Muslims in the world today.
- I'm confident the things that we will lay out in this session represent the majority of Muslims.

1 Monotheism and Muhammad the Seal of the Prophets

- Dominant and consistent, as we've seen from its history, is monotheism. Believing there is only one God, the true God, the living God, that has all authority and all power.
- That Muhammad is the seal of the prophets, that God has lifted up many prophets through time, including those you read about in the Bible.
- Muslims do not worship Muhammad. Muslims do not believe that Muhammad was divine. They believe that he was a human being, but that he was the great, the greatest, and the last prophet of God.

2 The Quran: Little Direct Instruction, Absence of Narrative

- The Quran is organized into surahs. It's roughly the size of the New Testament.
- Muslims believe that the full force of the Quran is only understood in the native language of Arabic.
- There's little direct instruction in the Quran. It's mostly statements about God being the only God and how great he is.
- Those things are just repeated over and over and over and over. Just that repetition. And as a result, there's a lack of direction and cohesiveness.

3 Additions and Alternative Versions of Bible Stories

Acts 3

- There's also additions in alternative versions of Bible stories.
- But the Quran says that is the origin of Satan. He refused to give man respect and reverence, even worship.
- The Quran says that it was not Isaac whom Abraham was called to sacrifice. But rather it was Ishmael.
- Muslims teach that the texts of the Old and New Testament have been corrupted.

4 Other Sources of Authority: The Hadith and Sharia Law

- Also, Muslims have other sources of authority.
- And they collected these sayings and these actions of Muhammad to use as a guide.
- Muslim scholars, in light of the teaching of the Quran, in light of the Hadith, they organized Sharia law, which was a legal and moral code.

5 The Five Pillars of Islam

- These are the five things that every faithful Muslim will practice and show their devotion to God and their faithfulness, the teaching of Mohammed.
- The confession that there is no God but one God, Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet.
- The prayers are five times a day, dawn, noon, late afternoon, sunset, and after sunset.
- Generally, Muslims believe that you are to give 2% of your worth annually.
- And then there is the pilgrimage, which is quite fascinating for Muslims and non-Muslims, called the Hajj.

6 Central Doctrines of Christianity in Light of What Muslims Teach

Romans 5:8–9

- Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.
- But God demonstrates his own love toward us, and that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- The New Testament teaches that Jesus is the Son of God, that Jesus died, that Jesus died for our sins, and on the third day, God raised him from the dead.
- There is no room in Muslim teaching for the idea that Jesus is the Son of God.
- If Jesus never died, he never died for our sins. And if he never died, he never resurrected.

MY NOTES