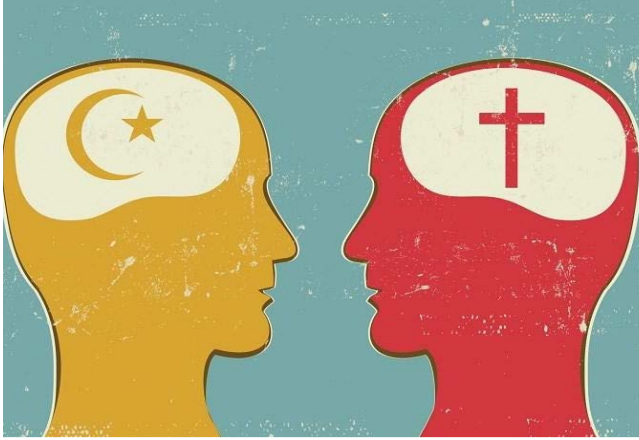


Asking Your Muslim Friend



Diplomatic Questions

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Introduction

If you have the honour of personally knowing Muslims and if you want to open their hearts to Jesus, then ask them Diplomatic Questions. They hear the Spirit of Jesus best when we speak to them respectfully, affectionately and Scripturally. To do so, you need good questions that they can ponder after speaking with you. Your contribution to them is to not agree, disagree or argue with them but to answer their religious declarations with probing, tactful questions.

The appropriate diplomatic questions depend on the statements Muslims make. They make three kinds. The **first** category consists of ‘**red carpet statements**.’ Muhammad instructed his disciples in **Surah 16.125** to invite (*dawa*) non-Muslims through beautiful arguments:

“Invite (them) to the Way of your Lord with wisdom and beautiful preaching; and argue with them in ways that are best and most gracious: for your Lord knows best, who have strayed from His Path, and who receive guidance.”

Their many beautiful declarations are designed to invite you into Islam.

For example, “We worship the same God.” A good reply question could be, *“Yes, you’re right that there is only one God. What have you observed about our God that would make you conclude we do indeed worship the same God?”* Your goal is to make them think it over later.



The **second** category are ‘**lawyer interrogations**’ intended to disprove Christianity. The next verse in **Surah 16** says: *“be patient ... and catch them out.”* A good example of this is, “Your Bible is corrupted.” For that accusation you need to ask good diplomatic questions. Your goal is to encourage them to not make that statement or accusation again.

A **third** category is best avoided. They are very angry ‘**incendiary statements**’ against Christians. If you can’t avoid them, remain gracious. For example, “The Christians and Zionists are corrupting our Muslim youth with Hollywood trash.” If exiting is not an option, then you need a very tactful reply in the form of a question. Your goal is to –as the French

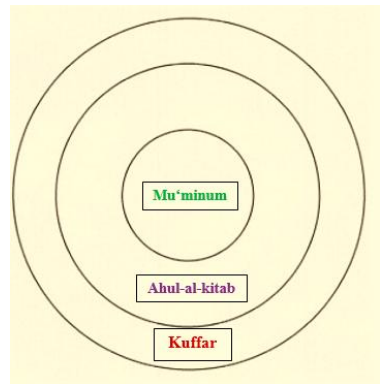


say- *dédramatisé* the conversation and have them return to either red-carpet or to lawyer interrogations, and then, ideally, to explore Jesus in the Bible.

We bless Muslims most if we pray before our conversations with them and then quietly during our exchanges with them. Indeed, I love sharing with Muslims using this approach. Of the many thousands of Muslims coming to Christ, many testify to the impact which gracious Christian questions have had on them. Please pray that you can learn this ‘art’ of **question diplomacy**.

Muhammad’s 3 categories and 3 types of people

By the time Muhammad fled to Medina, he had come to believe and teach that there were **three categories** of people on earth: ‘believers’ (latter called Muslims), ‘the People of the Book’ (Jews and Christians) and pagans.



In the centre of the chart are devout ‘believers’ called *mu'minun*. (Later called *Muslims*.) Then come the ‘People of the Book’ (*Ahul al-Kitab*)

which were Jews & Christians. After that come all pagans (*al-wathaniyn*), who were called idolaters (*mushrikun*) and infidels (*Kuffar*).

In Medina, Muhammad received further revelation from Jibril in **Surah 2.2-5** and **Surah 23.18**, that told him there were also **three kinds of religious people**: ‘sincere believers’, ‘hypocrites’ and ‘infidels.’ So doing, there could now be sincere Muslims, hypocritical Muslims and even infidel Muslims. Same for the Jews: there are sincere Jews, hypocritical Jews and infidel Jews. And again, same for Christians: there are sincere Christians, hypocritical Christians and infidel Christians. Usually, they begin by treating you as sincere.

The three kinds of statements in this book stem from how Muslims perceive you: as either sincere, or as hypocritical or as an infidel.

The Purpose of this book

This book assumes you are in private conversation with selected Muslim ‘Neighbours’ who consider themselves ‘Muslim’ or even devout. Most have never read the Qur’an or the Hadiths but they have heard many statements about Christians from their imams or other Muslim sources. Almost all that

they have heard contains some falsehood –but only you know that.

You must first learn to understand who you are in their eyes. (Taking courses on the Qur'an, Muslim history or contemporary issues are all very valuable here.) As you listen to their statements you will begin to discern how much they already know of their own Islamic faith and of Christianity.

You will also learn to differentiate various types of statements they make about Christians. When I speak with them, I never know what they will say. But as they share and make their statements, I listen closely, I pray quietly, I discern their attitude to Christians and then I use the questions of this book.

This text will help you explore the best way to reply to their different statements. Your goal is not to 'win' but to search the best way to make them question their own faith. You need to make them sceptical of what they have been told, in order for them to think deeply about the Bible's claims. Once they do that, they will be open to listen to Jesus Christ in the Holy Bible.

This is biblical. Proverbs 15.21 says: *"The wise of heart is called discerning, and sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness."*

Paul writes in 2 Timothy 2.23-26: *“Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.”*

Get ready for a new assignment in life: being a diplomatic journalist for Jesus with Muslims. There will be spaces in the book for you to add your own new questions to the ones I have already collected. My list is always growing longer.

We will now look at the statements in the following order: first, red-carpet statements, second accusing lawyer interrogations, and third, inflammatory incendiary statements.

Diplomatic questions with your Muslim friend

Red-carpet statements that invite you into Islam



Since you belong to the People of the Book (*Yahudi & Nasrani* or *Masihiyyun*) you will first be treated as an ‘almost Muslim believers.’

You will receive red carpet statements to invite you into Islam. These statements are to attract you to becoming a Muslim. To do so is an extremely good deed in the eyes of Muhammad’s Allah.

“We worship the same God!”

1. *Yes, it true that there is only one God. But what have you observed about our worship of God that would make you conclude we do indeed worship the same God?*
2. *Does that mean that my Muslims friends are free to attend our churches and worship the same God with us?*

3. *Do you say this of your own or have others taught you this? (This is Jesus' question to Pilate)*
4. *Sikhs also worship 'one God' but we do not assume that 'one-God' worshippers all worship the same true living God of the Holy Scriptures. How do you know that Muhammad's Allah is the same God as the One, Living, Triune God who we Christians worship?*
5. *We worship one God, and we know him as the True, Living God. Do you join in confessing God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit?*
6. *If you say we worship the same God, then why do many other Muslims tell us the opposite? Whom are we to believe?*
7. *The Holy Bible teaches us to call God "Our Father in Heaven", to call Jesus "Our Lord" and to call the Holy Spirit "our comforter." Why would Muslims claim we worship the same God when these qualities are so different from Muhammad's Allah?*
8. *We read in the Holy Bible that even demons believe and confess that there is 'one God' but they are eternally lost. How does confessing that we believe in the one God get us any further than the devils of hell?*

Doctrine to defend: the unity of God, the Trinity



“We honour Jesus, son of Mary (‘*Isa ibn Miriam*) as a wonderful prophet.”

1. *What is a better way to honour a person than to read his message? Have you read the incorruptible words of Jesus in his Gospels?*
2. *How do you define a prophet and how do you truly honour him?*
3. *If you honour Jesus as prophet (and we know that the Word of God cannot be corrupted) then do you honour Jesus’ words as the very words of God?*
4. *Is Jesus really equal to other prophets when he was the only one born miraculously, the only one to raise people from the dead, the only one to create, and to heal people everywhere, the only one to walk on water, to cast out demons everywhere, and to be miraculously raised to heaven? Which prophet is equal to him?*
5. *We Christians know that Jesus will judge all of humanity. When you stand before him and he asks you if you honoured him by reading his words, how will you answer?*

6. *Jesus is the only Messiah in the world, and even your Qur'an calls him **al-Masih**. Thank you for that. But what do you understand by calling him this?*
7. *In loving God, loving our neighbours and in forgiving people, which prophet offers us the best example to imitate: Jesus or Muhammad?*
8. *The Holy Bible says that the spirit of prophesy is the testimony of Jesus. (Rev. 19.10). How do Muhammad's prophecies bring honour to and bear testimony to our Jesus Christ?*

Doctrine to defend: Son of God; Christology



“All the prophets are equally esteemed by Muslims.”

1. *Yes, Our Holy Bible (Luke 24.19) says that Jesus is a great prophet, but is there not someone greater than a prophet? How should we respond to one who is also called king of kings, lord of lords, the great high priest and the Prophet who is foretold to come by Moses? (Rev. 19.16, Jn 7.40)*
2. *Have you ever read the prophets of the Torah? Would you allow me to recommend to you the prophesies of Isaiah, Jeremiah and Daniel?*

Doctrine to defend: prophetic and divine revelation



“We all descend from Abraham, of which we Muslims are the third and last phase of Allah’s work.”

1. *Abraham had the courage to leave his father’s religion to follow God’s voice speaking personally to him. Do you have that same courage to listen to God and obey like an Abraham?*
2. *Have you ever read the account of Abraham in the sacred book of Genesis in the Holy Bible? Would you allow me to recommend to you Genesis chapters 12 to 25?*
3. *Where does it say in the Holy Bible that there are three phases to God’s work, when the prophets only spoke of two: before Christ comes (BC) and after Christ comes (AD)?*
4. *Are all the descendants of Abraham equal in God’s eyes?*
5. *In the home of a Bedouin Chief, does it matter if one son is born from his wife and another son is born from a slave woman? Are they equal? If not, why do you speak of Ishmael and Isaac as equal sons of Abraham when Hagar was a slave mother and Sarah was a princess and a wife?*

Doctrine to defend: the life of faith, soteriology

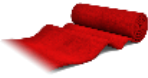


“Islam means peace.”

1. *If 'Islam' means peace, why are sincere, devout mosque-going Muslims at war with each other all over the world?*
2. *Why do devout Muslims flee from countries where only Muslims live?*
3. *In the Muslim world, what does it mean to extend peace to those who have chosen to leave Islam and to become Christians?*
4. *If Islam brings peace, which Muslim nation would you say is the most peaceful on earth?*
5. *Why do other Muslim scholars tell us 'Islam' does not mean 'peace' (salaam) but submission/surrender (aslama)? These two words sound as similar as "chalk and cheese" but are they the same words? Who is the most authoritative voice here?*
6. *If the true meaning of Islam is peace, why would Muhammad, dedicate the last 10-years of his life to 70-battles and raids, and assassinating 27 of his enemies? And is any part of this conduct to be imitated by you?*
7. *If Islam means peace, what are the fruits of peace which verify your beliefs?*
8. *If Islam means peace, why are the Islamic nations with the highest % of Muslims amongst the most repressive nations and from which even Muslims flee?*

9. *If Islam means peace, why does only Islam have thousands of suicide bombers destroying their enemies in the name of Islam? Why has no other religion on earth produce suicide terrorists other than 'the religion of peace'?*
10. *If Islam means peace why is Islam widely perceived as the most violent, scariest religion on earth?*

Doctrine to defend: Christ's pacifism and non-violence



“Both our faiths, correctly understood, are fundamentally the same.”

1. *From a distance all mountains look alike. How close have you come to read about Jesus in the Holy Bible in order to know how similar or different he is to Muhammad?*
2. *How would you explain the Christian faith? What would you see as the core teaching of a devout Christian?*
3. *Have you ever worshipped God with Christians? Is that how you came to the conclusion that Christianity is identical in faith to Islam?*
4. *Do you say this of your own or have others taught you this? (Jesus Q. to Pilate)*
5. *Does this mean Muslims are free to convert to become Christians or Jews since they are the same religion?*
6. *Our faith is chiefly focused on the Lord Jesus Christ, and all the prophets point to Jesus. Is this what Muhammad taught as well?*
7. *Surah 5.46 says Jesus was given the Gospel as a light and guidance to his followers. What do you see in Jesus' words that would*

convince you that we have the same religion?

8. *If our worship is the same, why does the Qur'an claim in Surah 3.106 and 61.9 that Muslims are not the same as Christians -but superior?*
9. *If our worship is the same, why does the Qur'an claim again in Surah 3.106 that Muslims are to beware of Christians?*

Doctrine to defend: the life of faith, soteriology, biblical anthropology



“Muhammad is the last prophet in the line of biblical prophets.”

1. *Muhammad is indeed the last prophet if his message agrees with all the prophets who spoke before him, especially Jesus Christ. How much of the Bible have you read to know what the earlier prophets and Jesus said?*
2. *If Muhammad is the ‘last’ prophet, then why does his message sound so different from what we read about in Moses, and David and Jesus in the Holy Bible?*
3. *Why did the God of the Bible not reveal himself to Muhammad in any of his great divine names as he did to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, the prophets and to Jesus? (Yahweh, el-Shaddai, El-Elyon, El-Roi, Yahweh Sabaoth, Father, etc.)*
4. *Why did God make the last prophet appear outside of the Ahul al-Kitab community when he expressively said he would never do that? (Deut. 18.17-20)*
5. *Why would God bring us another sacred Book after the Holy Bible when the Holy Bible clearly tells us he would not do that? (Rev. 22-18-19)*
6. *What if Jesus warned us that only false prophets would come after him, yet*

Muhammad claimed to be prophesied in the Bible as the final prophet, who are we to believe? (Matt. 24.23-24)

7. *If Muhammad is the last and greatest prophet, then why is his coming never mentioned in the Holy Bible, other than to beware of any future false prophets?*
8. *Do we know if Muhammad ever read the works of other Jewish prophets or had their prophecies read aloud to him -if he could not read?*
9. *Scripture says to confirm all truth by two or more witnesses. Which other sacred oracles can we look to in order to and support and confirm Muhammad's message?*
10. *Which saint or holy man confirmed to Muhammad that he was a prophet? How could Muhammad discern if his message was authentic?*
11. *Are Muslims allowed to believe that another 'final prophet' will appear after Muhammad? If not, then why do Muslims expect devout Christians to do so? Are we not equally forbidden by the Holy Bible to not embrace another prophet after the Lord Jesus Christ?*
12. *If the Qur'an is called Muhammad's greatest miracle, then where are the lesser*

miracles which all always needed by all prophets to confirm their credentials?

13. *True prophets have true prophesies. Which Qur'anic prophesy did Muhammad make about the far future, the end of the world, even as Jesus did, and that have come true?*

Doctrine to defend: biblical prophecy and inerrancy of the Bible



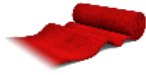
“Jihad means inner struggle not warfare.”

1. *When Muslims shout “jihad” why do they not run into their homes to study the Qur’an but rather out into the streets with swords and arms?*
2. *How did the first four caliphs understand jihad: struggling with their souls in their rooms or in fighting the infidels?*
3. *If Jihad is spiritual, then why did the first four caliphs engage in unceasing war for 25 years after Muhammad’s death –and when no nation on earth was attacking them?*
4. *Among practicing Muslims today what is a more powerful motivation for keeping the 5 pillars of Islam, a love of God and neighbour, or preparing oneself for the day of Judgment?*
5. *In reflecting on what is 'most essential' for Muslims, what judgment would be rendered on a person who has sincerely loved God and neighbour in imitation of Jesus but kept none of the practical requirements of Islam, compared to someone who has completely obeyed these requirements, but whose love for God and neighbour lacks sincerity?*
6. *If I went into the streets of Damascus, Riyadh, Islamabad and asked the men I meet*

what 'jihad' meant, would they say: 'the inner struggle of my soul' or 'the militant struggle of Muslims against their enemies'?

7. *Since the last thing Muhammad taught is the most authoritative, what was Muhammad's interpretation of 'jihad' before he died?*
8. *Why is it that when the Ayatollahs of Iran or the imams of mosques call for a 'jihad' against the enemies of Islam that the young men do not go into their rooms to struggle with their souls but go into camps to train for hatred, violence, and suicide bombing?*
9. *Why would Muhammad –and those who follow him– command Muslims to give their sons to the cause of jihad or give financial contributions to the war chest if it was simply in inner struggle of the soul?*
10. *If 'jihad' is an internal struggle, why do Muslim voices cry "jihad" when they cry for violent vengeance?*
11. *If 'jihad' is an internal struggle, why do the most violent Muslim groups refer to themselves as Islamic Jihadi?*

Doctrine to defend: The peace of God, the church's pacifism, spiritual warfare



“The veil is loved by our women to show their virtue & their modesty.”

1. *Why is it that a Muslim woman's beauty is a problem that she must resolve by covering herself? Are Muslim men predators that Muslim women must protect men from their male-lust?*
2. *Who were those who veiled themselves in the time of Muhammad: the free women or the slaves, or both? (Only free women)*
3. *Do Muslim women living in the West respect unveiled Christian and Jewish women as their equals in virtue and modesty?*
4. *Do you agree that imams should enforce the veiling of Muslim women?*
5. *Why would Muslim women love the veil if it causes them to be isolated in homes, segregated in jobs, and treated less than Muslim men?*
6. *Does not the veil stand for Allah's sovereignty over their head, thereby declaring their independence from the rules of secular governments and human laws?*

Doctrine to defend: Biblical anthropology



“Islam is the foundation and summit of all modern civilizations.”

1. *What have Islamic scholars ‘invented’ that the world would not have known if Islam had never appeared? What did Islamic philosophy promote that did not originally come from classical Greek scholarship?*
2. *The Islamic Golden Age draw all its inspiration from the Hindu Valley, Chinese technology, Greco-Byzantine culture and it relied chiefly on Jewish-Christian scholars. Why should Islam be credited for the discoveries and achievements of earlier civilisations?*
3. *Why has the Golden Age not done the Muslims of today any good? Why are some of the least developed nations on earth often led by Islamic rulers? Why do Muslims flee their violent homelands if Islam is the summit of all that is good?*
4. *Muhammad taught many moral things, yet what moral teaching did Muhammad add that the Old or New Testament had never taught?*
5. *How can Muslims be the second largest religion on earth and the foundation of all civilizations and yet there are so very few Noble Peace prize winners who are Muslims and so very few inventions that come from*

Islamic cultures? Where is the spirit of genius?

6. *Why do we not hear of people migrating to Muslim-majority lands in search of a better civilization? If Islam is the highest civilization, why are Muslims so eager to migrate to other nations?*
7. *In what way could Islam take credit for the 200-year success of America?*
8. *What can you point to and say, 'the world is a better place because Islam has appeared?'*

Lawyer's interrogations disproving Christians



As Muslims see it, “some People of the Book know that Islam is true and they pretend to be believers but they are not; they are hypocrites” (*munafiqun*). These hypocrites need to be exposed by using a lawyer interrogation questions that disproves Christianity. To expose hypocrisy is a very good deed in the eyes of Muhammad’s Allah.

This first accusation below is the most serious one you must address. If you fail to expose this statement as false then you will lose total incredibility in all further conversations.



“The Jewish-Christian Bible is changed, corrupted and altered.”

1. *Can Man really corrupt the Holy Bible, God’s Eternal Word?*
2. *Jesus said in the Holy Bible that it is impossible to change Scripture (Jn 10.35, Matt. 25.34). Who should I believe: you or Jesus?*

3. *Have you come to that conclusion by reading the Bible yourself or did someone else say that to you?*
4. *Does the Qur'an claim that the Eternal Word of God can be changed or corrupted by humans or demons? Does not Surah 10.64 and 6.34 contradict this accusation?*
5. *Is any person or any devil on earth strong enough to change God Almighty's eternal Word? Why do the prophets and Jesus repeatedly say that all things in creation are changeable but never the Word of the Lord? (Luke 21.33)*
6. *The Holy Bible that we have today is utterly identical to the Bible in Muhammad's lifetime. Why did Muhammad tell any doubters to consult the people of the sacred Book if they had any questions? (Surah 10.94) Why did Muhammad's Allah say in Surah 5.47 that Christian should judge by their own divine book, the Bible? Why would Muhammad recommend this action if, as you claim, our Sacred Book is corrupted?*
7. *If you claim the Bible has been corrupted, then when and where did all the Christian theologians and all the Jewish scribes (and even all the heretics) meet together in history to alter God's Holy Word? Why is*

this event never recorded or even mentioned?

8. *You say the Bible has been changed when in fact there is only one sacred book that claims to be changed; the Qur'an. It alone claims that it has undergone abrogation and change in surah 16.101 and 2.101. Is the Quran not unique in being the only sacred book to ever have been abrogated?*
9. *Since Jesus did not abrogate the Old Testament but fulfilled it, and since Jesus only abrogated the human teaching of the Jewish elders, how can the Bible be compared to the Qur'an?*
10. *You say God's Word is corrupted. Can anyone publish a corrupted Bible or a corrupted Qur'an and not be immediately caught, exposed and killed as a heretic? Can anyone put lies into God's mouth, outmanoeuvre God and get away with it?*
11. *If anyone corrupts his copy of the Bible, or if a church corrupts their version, or if a translator publishes a false Bible, have they really corrupted the Eternal Word of God on earth and in heaven at the same time?*
12. *If God cannot be corrupted by man or by Satan, why can his Eternal Word be corrupted?*

Doctrine to defend: The inerrancy of Scripture



“Isa never claimed to be the Son of God and Allah is not a Father.”

1. *In the Qur'an, a traveller or wayfarer is called **ibn al'sabil** (son of the road). How can a road have a son? Does not the Qur'an speak figuratively here?*
2. *Why do you imagine that we say that God would sleep with Mary when the Bible and Christians says that is blasphemy?*
3. *For what other reason was Jesus crucified other than claiming to be the Son of God? If he died for that claim, and I reject his claim, how am I any different than those who killed him?*

Doctrine to defend: Christology

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“There is no such thing as the trinity; that is polytheism.”

1. *Do you understand the word ‘Trinity’: tri-unity? If the one true living God tells me that his Will and Word and Spirit exist in perfect unity, by what authority do I change that and say he can only be one like an angel is one?*
2. *Did you know that it is blasphemy to say that Christians worship three gods, when we only worship one holy, indivisible God?*
3. *If you reject the truth of God’s tri-unity, is Allah then an eternal nomad?*

Doctrine to defend: the Trinity



“Isa (peace be upon him) was never crucified.”

1. *Jesus testified that he was crucified (Jn 20.27) and that he rose from the dead (Rev. 1.18). You say the opposite. Who should I believe: you or Jesus?*
2. *Why can God not do what is impossible for men or Satan to do and enter death in order to conquer it? If Jesus did not conquer sin and death, then who did?*
3. *Which other prophet was strong enough to conquer diseases, death and Satan?*
4. *How is your response any different from what the Jews said when they killed Jesus and he rose from the dead and they tried to cover up his resurrection by saying the disciples stole Jesus' body?*
5. *What is your source for falsifying the hundreds of witnesses as recorded in the four Gospels? Which ancient document is more reliable than the Gospel account of Jesus that it can disprove it?*
6. *If God made it 'seem' that Jesus was crucified, then was he not deceiving everyone in that context? If God caused the crucifixion to be a delusion, or again, if God projected Jesus' face upon Judas so that he was crucified in his place, then what does*

this say about God's character? Would you trust a God who is a deceiver?

7. *What is a greater demonstration of God's power and holiness: to defeat the power of sin, the devil and death in the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ and then raise him from the dead, or to deceive people into thinking they killed the wrong person?*
8. *If the crucifixion never happened, then how do you explain the fact that all but one of the twelve apostles –plus Paul- all died in martyrdom defending the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ? Do people die for what they know is a lie?*
9. *Why did even the thieves of the cross recognise Jesus? If it was not him, would he not have said so?*

Doctrine to defend: Christology, Crucifixion of Christ



“True Muslims do not fight each other, as Christians do.”

1. *So how then do we explain the Shia and Sunni vengeance killings in Iraq and Pakistan?*
2. *Why are moderate Muslims threatened so frequently by other Muslims? Why is Islam not a world leader in tolerance, peace-talks and an open pluralistic society?*
3. *Why are the most peaceful Muslims found as minorities in non-Muslim lands?*
4. *If Muslims do fight each other, does that mean they cease to be Muslims?*
5. *Why do Muslims invariably denounce other Muslims who contradict them as hypocrites (takfiri), and then they turn to violence?*
6. *What is your ideal political order? Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Pakistan are countries which describe themselves as truly ‘Islamic.’ Are they?*

Doctrine to defend: Christian pacifism



“Everyone is born a Muslim but each one’s parents change them into Jews, Christians or pagans.”

1. *If everyone is born a Muslim, then why has Islam emerged so late in human history and nowhere else?*
2. *If Muhammad’s Allah causes everyone to be born a Muslim, then what power do people have to prevent the true ‘Muslim’ nature from emerging?*
3. *The Bible says everyone is born a sinner. Imams say that everyone is born a Muslim. Does that mean the same thing: namely, everyone is born a sinful Muslim?*

Doctrine to defend: Biblical anthropology



“The Qur’an (Surah 2.137) says that the divisions within Christianity prove it is not the true religion.”

1. *If division is a proof of error, how do you account for the most violent divisions in the world between Sunni Muslims, Shi’a Muslims, Ahmadiyya Muslims, Zaydis Muslims, Sufi Muslims, and Kharijis Muslims?*

Incendiary Statements attacking Christians



Again, Muslims may say, “Certain People of the Book hide the truth and are hostile to Islam. They are worse than hypocrites, they are infidels” (*kuffar*). Infidels need to be denounced by using **incendiary statements** that shame Christianity. To shame Christians is a necessary good deed in the eyes of Muhammad’s Allah.



“Christians are crusading, imperialistic supporters of our greatest enemy, the state of Israel, who attack the most oppressed people on earth, the Palestinians.”

1. *Suppose that all Christians would stop their support of Israel (as the Vatican has already done), and that a future Muslim coalition of nations invade Israel to drive all Jews into the sea, would Christians be considered innocent if they stand by and watch a second holocaust?*
2. *Are you able to distinguish between ‘Christians’ in the West and ‘secular atheists’ in the West?*

3. *Which church do you see recruiting soldiers or gathering arms in order to attack Muslims or join the Israelis?*
4. *What about the 'Christian' Palestinians who are oppressed by both the Israelis and the Muslim Palestinians?*
5. *If Muslims are the most oppressed on earth, why are they also amongst the worst oppressors at the same time on earth?*
6. *If the oppressed are without a voice, then how do you explain the global Muslims influence on daily international news, which strongly favours the Palestinians?*
7. *If the oppressed Palestinians are without rights, then why do the most conservative Muslim governments offer the least help to Palestinians?*
8. *If Muslims are the most oppressed of people, then how do you explain the Pact of Umar which oppress Christians in dhimmitude?*
9. *If dhimmitude of minority Christians is good, then should we expect Muslim minorities to live in dhimmitude in the West?*

Doctrine to defend: none other than the pacifism of the church



“Everywhere in the world, Muslims are victims of Christianity and Zionism.”

1. *Why then are Christians fleeing all the Muslim lands if they are the ones persecuting and not being persecuted?*
2. *Why are most of the Middle Eastern wars about Muslims fighting Muslims? Are you not victims of each other?*
3. *Have you not noticed that there is no such thing as a ‘Christian nation’ in the West –except for the Vatican, and which has no army?*

Doctrine to defend: Christian martyrdom



“The Christians and Zionists engages in economic terrorism against Muslim nations.”

1. *If you see highly competitive global business practices as terrorising other nations, then what is OPEC doing with oil?*
2. *What would make you conclude that global secular business leaders are ‘Christian’ when 99% of them are not?*

Doctrine to defend: None other than the pacifism of the church



“The Christians and Zionists seeks to also corrupt the ummah youth with their debauched media industry.”

1. *Are you able to distinguish between Christians in the West and secular atheists in our nations? Who produces the flood of movies in the West: the Christians or the atheists?*
2. *Why are Arab youth among the highest consumers of depraved films?*

Doctrine to defend: purity

“America and Europe are Christian



nations and the invasion and occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan is a crusade against Muslims.”

1. *You say Christians are at war against Muslims. Then why are the Shia and the Sunni fighting each other if the battle is about Christianity?*
2. *If Christians are at war against Muslims, then why are all the coalition generals and all the troops silent about Jesus Christ?*
3. *How can an American president fight a ‘Christian’ war with ‘Christian’ troops when ‘Christian’ military warfare is contrary to the teachings of Jesus Christ?*
4. *America is a secular state in which Christianity is almost completely banished from public schools, state universities, all the courts, and the military. How could a strongly secular government fight a ‘Christian’ war?*
5. *If terrorism is not true to Islam and if the American president is fighting terrorism, then by what logic do you call this war an attack on Muslims?*

Benjamin Lee Hegeman

“Docendo disco, scribendo cogito.”

Benjamin Lee Hegeman, born to Dutch immigrants, is the youngest son of a Reformed clergyman and grew up in Holland, in the States and in Canada. His high school years spanned North America and Europe, and he later he did university studies from undergraduate to PhD in Canada and in the Netherlands. He met his wife to be, Christine Elaine Fulton, in Toronto Canada where he also did seminary training and then pastoral work from 1984-88 with the Fellowship Baptist churches. Benjamin and Christine then took their young family of three children with them to Quebec, Canada to learn French in anticipation of working with a faith mission called SIM (Sudan Interior Mission) in French West Africa. In 1990 they arrived in Benin, West Africa.



For the past 36 years they have been working in the north of Benin among the tribal people called the Baatonu. The north of Benin is easily 80% Muslim today. They learned the tribal language and Benjamin served as a curriculum writer and professor at the Baatonu Language Bible School for preparing pastors. In time Benjamin earned two further degrees: a doctorandus and a PhD, both of which focused on the Baatonu people. While doing his doctoral work, he spent 2 years studying Islam. During the 1990s, Benjamin wrote and taught many courses in Baatonu and then published this material in their language. As a teacher, Benjamin also promoted the Christian-worldview Teacher Training and new ministry models to the unreached Muslims groups in Benin.

Thanks to his prior research into Islam, he was increasingly invited to hold seminars, teach courses, and write material for national pastors, missionary colleagues, and students in English, French or the Baatonu language, especially following 9/11. When he returned Stateside in 2004 as SIM's Missionary in Residence at Houghton College (NY State), he began to develop upper-level undergraduate course for the intercultural department. At present, he has written 6-courses which he now teaches at undergraduate, graduate and PhD levels. In time, Benjamin recruited a colleague (Dr Don Little) to join him

and together they founded the Liliastrotter Center (www.liliastrottercenter.org) to help promote thoughtful academic and practical engagement with Muslims. This center enables them to teach courses at Houghton College, Asbury Theological Seminary, Wesley Biblical Seminary, Africa International University (Kenya), with CAPRO and with other mission agencies.

Christine and Benjamin serve in North America from December to May, and then they transition annually to East and West Africa from July to November to teach courses in English, French and Baatonu.

The Hegemans are dual American-Canadian citizens and fully supported missionaries with SIM. Benjamin is also an ordained clergyman (since 1993). Their three children are all married, working and living in Europe and North America, and they have five grandchildren to entertain them whenever they can connect.

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-Visiting professor at Africa International University, Nairobi Kenya (since 2016).

Worldwide: bhegeman@lilias Trotter Center.org

-Academic Dean of The Liliastrotter Center (since 2014).

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