



Are Muslims and Christians Compatible? (Part 1)

**Luke 6:28: (NASB) *Bless those who curse you,
pray for those who mistreat you.***



Over the last few weeks the Middle East has been lit up again with violence and controversy. Those who are perpetrating the violence are members of the Muslim faith and these radical factions of Islam are targeting America, her principles and her people. So, what do we take from this? Does this bring our minds to conclude that Islam is a religion of violence, or is Islam bigger than that? How do we as Christians, or do we as Christians, seek compatibility with Muslims? Stay with us for this difficult but timely subject!

What is Islam about?

 48 hours after protests began, *CBS News, Cairo Egypt*

- *Protests have gone on in at least ten nations since the first disturbances at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, Egypt. While the Muslim Brotherhood had called for more demonstrations later on today, we are already seeing crowds of young men on the street. They are clashing with the police. I can smell the tear gas from seven stories up. We have been watching this happen now for more than 48 hours.*

(Muslim sources are used unless otherwise indicated.)

Briefly, what is Islam all about? Islam is an active realization of the existence of the One God and the willing submission to Him. It is meant to be conveyed and understood: It is not meant to be mystical, full of mystery and beyond the comprehension of the common and ordinary mind.

What does Islam teach? Islam offers mankind a perfect code of laws; methodically teaching people to strive to practice moral culture, to be kind to all, not to waste, to be magnanimous and tolerant, and to live in peace with others in order to attain universal brotherhood. It teaches man to discover the Creator of the worlds and to analyze all things by practicing the teachings of the Qur'an and by following the advice and conduct of the Prophet. To believe in Islam is to achieve a happy life by standing firm on the earth under the heavens. Islam attaches equal importance to life in this world and in the next. It is not merely a religion, but a perfect code of life to be observed by man.

 Islam is to gain peace, *thedeenshow.com (a Muslim-produced program)*

- *Islam is to gain peace. You gain peace with Islam. That's what it's all about. So when I see someone who has gained peace, he has peace in his heart. He has peace in his mind and when he's dealing with people, even when hard times come, he is at peace. Even when good times come, he is at peace. He is not going ballistic or crazy or emotional, but he stays in this way and people say, "Why is this guy like this?" Because he has gained peace.*

There is a disconnect of some kind based on what we see in the world today. Why?



The Five Pillars of Islam: (This is an abbreviated version - please see the fully quoted version in the CQ Rewind Full Edition Bonus Material.)

The Five Pillars of Islam are core beliefs that shape Muslim thought, deed, and society. A Muslim who fulfills the Five Pillars of Islam, remains in the faith of Islam, and sincerely repents of his sins, will make it to Jannah (paradise). If he performs the Five Pillars but does not remain in the faith, he will not be saved.

1. **Shahada:** The Shahada is the Islamic proclamation that "There is no true God except Allah and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah."
2. **Prayer (Salat):** Prayer involves confession of sins which begins with the purification of the body and ends with the purification of the soul. Prayer is performed five times a day. The first prayer is at dawn and the last at sunset.
3. **Fasting (Saum):** The month of Ramadan is the month of fasting in Islam. It is an act of worship where the faithful follower denies his own needs and seeks Allah.
4. **Alms-giving or charity (Zakat):** Charity given to the poor. It benefits the poor and it helps the giver by moving him towards more holiness and submission to Allah. Alms-giving is considered a form of worship to God.
5. **Pilgrimage (Hajj):** This is the pilgrimage to Mecca. All Muslims, if they are able, are to make a pilgrimage to Mecca.

Who is responsible for the unrest going on right now?

Is Christianity responsible? Free Speech? Capitalism? Socialism? Israel? Muslims?

 **Anti-American fury sweeps Middle East, Reuters, Tunisia**

- *...A day of rage against the United States in the Muslim world as fury mounts over an American film that insults that prophet Mohammed. In Tunisia, at least three people are killed as police open fire near the U.S. embassy. Smoke rises from the embassy in the capital city, Tunis, that was the cradle of last year's Arab Spring.*

Is Islam a religion of peace?

Christians are told to stand firm for what we believe:

2 Timothy 1:7-9: (NASB) ⁷For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline. ⁸Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, ⁹who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity.

(Source: <http://muslimmatters.org/2012/09/16/39567/>) A Muslim response to the Mockery: Mockery is Tantamount to Ignorance: ...Allāh revealed to Moses that in order to solve the murder your people have to slaughter a cow. Of course, when Moses told his people of God's command, their first reaction was shock and disbelief (e.g. what's slaughtering a cow got to do with solving a murder?). The Qur'an says: "Remember when Moses said to his people, 'God commands you to sacrifice a cow,' they said, 'are you making fun of us?' He answered, 'God forbid that I should be so ignorant'" [2:67] ...what we usually miss from this verse is the fact that Moses equated mockery to ignorance. So a learned man (or woman) should never mock anyone or anything under any circumstance. So the next question becomes, how do we deal with ignorance or ignorant people?



Jews and Christians as friends, thedeenshow.com

- *You hear some people saying that Islam says, “Don’t take Jews and Christians as friends.” What does the Koran have to say about this?*
- *(Shaykh Yusuf Estes answers) First of all, there is a reference for this but it is incorrect to translate it that way. Koran is only in the Arabic language. It is preserved in the original so we don't have any doubt of what it says in Arabic, but when you try to translate it, there's where the problems come in, especially if someone has an agenda they're working on and they have their own feelings or emotions they're putting into it.*

(Source: <http://muslimmatters.org/2012/09/16/39567/>) Ignore the Ignorant: The Qur'an tells us to dismiss the people of ignorance and not to give a lot of attention to them. It asks us to not engage with them in any conversation, except perhaps to safeguard ourselves from greater harm. For example: “Be tolerant, command what's right, pay no attention to foolish people” [7:199] ...I think we can all agree that the message of the Qur'an is to ignore the ignorant. On the other hand, we see the Qur'an encouraging us to engage with the people of reason and to even debate them if they have a different point of view:...

Mohammed Moussoui on French cartoons, [French 24TV](http://French24TV)

- *There is profound indignation at the publication of these cartoons insulting to Islam and to the prophet. We firmly condemn this act of Islamophobia. We call on French Muslims to remain calm and to treat this new provocation with serenity and express their indignation legitimately through legal means. I insist of the fact that French Muslims rise above our anger and do not give in to provocation.*

(Source: <http://muslimmatters.org/2012/09/16/39567/>) Spare Me the Mockery: We can't leave this subject without contemplating a very interesting verse that speaks to the heart of the issue at hand. This verse addresses the Prophet Muhammad himself. It says: “We have spared you those who ridicule you” [15:95] In essence, the Qur'an is telling us that when it specifically comes to the issue of mocking the Prophet, which is exactly the issue that we are dealing with today, don't take matters in your own hands, rather, God will take care of those who mock the Prophet.

Romans 12:18-21: (NASB) ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. ¹⁹Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord. ²⁰But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Should we be afraid?

The Apostle Paul's advice to Timothy on how we are to live:

2 Timothy 1:5-8: (NRSV) ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. ⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God.

We need to stand up for what we believe, but how do we do that?

Whenever people are killing others in the name of religion, it is wrong. Judgment belongs to God.



2 Peter 3:10-11: (NRSV) ¹⁰*But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.* ¹¹*Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness...*

 **Jews and Christians as friends, thedeenshow.com**

(Shaykh Yusuf Estes:) Allah is telling us in this case, do not take the Jews and Christians as your "allies" (improperly translated as "friends") in the context of a conflict... So if there is conflict, don't take the Jews and Christians as your allies, in particularly against each other.

(Source: Associated Press, September 20, 2012 IRAQ:) Prime minister Nouri al-Maliki condemned the U.S.-produced film and the French weekly's cartoons as offensive to Muslims and called on Shiites and Sunnis to unite in defense of Islamic values. Speaking in the Shiite holy city of Najaf in southern Iraq, al-Maliki said "all Muslims should shoulder responsibility of defending Islam."... "Defending Islam is the responsibility of all Muslims, not a particular sect or an ethnic group," al-Maliki said.

So how are they supposed to defend Islam?

(Source: A Muslim site no longer operating) Does Islam say it is the only religion recognized by God? Islam means "Total submission to the will of God." It is for the person's entire life, for all of mankind and for both this world and the next. It is a total way of life, covering all aspects of man's life. The Qur'an indicates that Islam is the only religion recognized by God after the advent of Prophet Muhammad. With the Qur'an, the One Religion of God becomes available as a complete guidance. Thus, it has been given a name - Islam - by God Himself. God says, "The Religion before God is Islam." (Qur'an 3:19) As such, God urges people to follow Islam: "This (Islam) is My Way. Leading straight; follow it: follow not other paths." (Qur'an 6:153)

Is the killing of innocent people part of the will of God according to Islam?

 **Sudan and dead bodies, anti-American fury sweeps Middle East, Reuters**

- In Sudan, anger at the west led to an attack on the German Embassy with police unable to stop demonstrators who stormed the building.*
- Outside Washington, U.S. President Barack Obama attended a solemn ceremony as the bodies of Americans killed in Libya were returned home.*

The Christian perspective - let your love for humanity override everything:

Luke 6:27-31: (NASB) ²⁷*But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,* ²⁸*bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.* ²⁹*Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either.* ³⁰*Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back.* ³¹*Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.*

What's different about Islam regarding the Old Testament Law?

 **Old Testament, New Testament, Last Testament, thedeenshow.com**

- As far as the people that we live with every day, here's what Allah says about that. He does not forbid you to deal with them with kindness and justice and so on - he is talking about Jews and Christians or any of the people, but these are the revealed religions before us. We consider what they call the Old Testament the Torah, which we consider to be a very legitimate book. Then we consider the Gospel when it was revealed to Jesus to be another legitimate*



book. So we are Muslims saying Old Testament, New Testament and Last Testament.

From a Muslim perspective... *The Ten Commandments in the Quran*

Islam (submission to the will of God) is the same and only religion ever given to the human race. It is the religion of Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Ishmael, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, David, Solomon, Jesus, Muhammad and all the other messengers mentioned or not mentioned in the scripture. The Ten Commandments as we see them here are not any more than the same message given to the prophet Muhammad.

The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17) *Confirmation in the Quran*

1. Thou shall not take any God except one God.

1. There is no other god beside GOD, (47:19)

2. Thou shall make no image of God.

2. There is nothing that equals (like) Him. (42:11) My Lord, make this a peaceful land, and protect me and my children from worshiping idols. (14:35)

3. Thou shall not use God's name in vain.

3. Do not subject GOD's name to your casual swearing, that you may appear righteous, pious, or to attain credibility among the people. (2:224)

4. Thou shall honor thy mother and father.

4. ...and your parents shall be honored. As long as one or both of them live, you shall never say to them, "Uff" (the slightest gesture of annoyance), nor shall you shout at them; you shall treat them amicably. (17:23)

5. Thou shall not steal.

5. The thief, male or female, you shall mark their hands as a punishment for their crime, and to serve as an example from GOD. GOD is Almighty, Most Wise. (5:38 - 39)

6. Thou shall not lie or give false testimony.

6. ...incur GOD's condemnation upon him, if he was lying. (24:7) Do not withhold any testimony by concealing what you had witnessed. Anyone who withholds a testimony is sinful at heart. (2:283)

7. Thou shall not kill.

7. ...anyone who murders any person who had not committed murder or horrendous crimes, it shall be as if he murdered all the people. (5:32)

 **Violence in Quran and Bible, the brutal truth about Islam, Robert Spencer, CBN**

- *Old Testament does have commands to clear out whole cities, etc...What it does not say is all believers should go and do likewise - this is your pattern to follow - in the Quran the pattern is unmistakable...*

8. Thou shall not commit adultery.

8. You shall not commit adultery; it is a gross sin, and an evil behavior. (17:32)

9. Thou shall not covet thy neighbor's wife or possessions.



9. *You shall regard the parents, the relatives, the orphans, the poor, the related neighbor, the unrelated neighbor, the close associate, the traveling alien, and your servants. (4:36)*

10. *Thou shall keep the Sabbath holy. (The Sabbath was relinquished with the revelation of the Quran. We are told in the Quran that the Sabbath was only decreed for the Jews.)*

10. *O you who believe, when the Congregational Prayer (Salat Al-Jumu`ah) is announced on Friday, you shall hasten to the commemoration of GOD, and drop all business. (62:9)*

What's different about Islam regarding: Jesus?

A moment to focus on the Bible:

2 Timothy 3:16-17: (NASB) ¹⁶All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Muslim Perspective: Muslims believe in the books of the previous prophets including the "Torah" which was sent to Moses, the "Zaboor" (Psalms) which were given to David, the "Injeel" (Gospel) which was given to Jesus, and the Qur'an which was given to Muhammad. However, Muslims are told that the previous scriptures were tampered with by mankind and the Bible should only be accepted in as far as it is confirmed by the Qur'an. It is to be treated with respect; however any statements which clearly oppose those of the Qur'an are to be rejected as the work of mankind.

Books Muslims believe in, meccacentric.com

- *To be Muslim, I have to believe in all books of Allah that he sent. To be a Muslim I have to believe in the Torah which was sent to the prophet Moses, peace be upon him. I have to believe in the Gospel sent to prophet Jesus, son of Mary, the Christ, the Messiah. I have to believe in the Qur'an given to the prophet Mohammed, peace be upon him. And I have to believe in the Psalms of David and the scriptures given to Abraham.*
- *Muslims believe the Archangel Gabriel carried them 100% correct to the messengers of God. We believe the Qur'an is the only book that has been kept safe in its original language, the Arabic language.*

What about Jesus?

John 3:16-18: (NASB) ¹⁶For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸He who believes in him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Muslim Perspective: They disregard the core of what Jesus was about, including the crucifixion and the payment for man's sin. Jesus was a highly esteemed messenger of God but was not the Son of God.

A caller suggested [Genesis 17:19-20](#), where God promised to Abraham that Isaac and Ishmael both would be blessed in time. We will explore this further in Part 2.

Radical Christians as dangerous as radical Muslims, [Rosie O'Donnell, The View \(2007\)](#)

- *We were attacked - not by a nation - (on 9/11) and as a result of the attack and the killing of nearly 3,000 innocent people, we invaded two countries and killed innocent people there...radical Christianity is just as threatening as*



radical Islam in a country like America where we have a separation of church and state.

There are representations of Christianity that we reject.

Matthew 11:28-30: (NASB) ²⁸Come to me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

1 Timothy 2:5-6: (NASB) ⁵For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.

Muslim Perspective: That he was sent by God as a messenger to the Jews in order to return them to the pure and true religion of Moses, and to relieve them of some of the regulations which had been placed upon them in ancient times. He taught them to have faith as well as works. Neither one can stand alone.



What about Jesus' crucifixion?

Philippians 2:7-8: (NASB) ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. ⁸Being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Muslim Perspective: Jesus was not forsaken to the Jews to be abused and killed; however, it was "made to appear so to them." God saved Jesus by raising him up unto Himself. Jesus was not crucified.

What's different about Islam regarding: The spreading of the "good news"?

Does Islam urge Muslims to spread Islamic teachings? God Tells us, "Truth has been made distinct from error..." (Qur'an 2:256) This is to say that whatever distortions that had occurred to the earlier Revelations have been corrected in Islam. There have been instances of people disliking Islam at various points of their lives for one reason or another, and after some reflection or personal encounter, accepting it. Some even accept Islam very much later in life. As such, Muslims are encouraged to spread Islam. The Prophet advised Muslims, "Impart the teachings of Islam to others, even if it is just one sentence."

A caller suggested: Psalms 9:15-16: ¹⁵The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken. ¹⁶The Lord is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands...

When you violate the principles of righteousness, you end up setting a trap for yourself and eventually get stuck in a trap of your own making.

A Christian comparison:

2 Timothy 4:1-4: (NRSV) ¹In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. **Hmmm, myths huh??**



Street names, What about the dark side of Islam? *John Ankerberg Show*

- *...In allegiance to the the teachings of the Qur'an, it's why there are 19 streets in Riyad named in honor after each one of the bombers. It's why high schools have received the names of these 19 bombers. It's why the number one name in the Arabic world for boys is "Osama."*

This tells us there is support, even if a small minority, for radical Islam. We need to be prepared to be Christ-like in our dealings with these people.

Does freedom in Christ and its lessons have any bearing on Islam?

John 8:32-38: (NASB) ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. ³³They answered him, We are Abraham's descendants and have never yet been enslaved to anyone; how is it that you say, You will become free? ³⁴Jesus answered them, Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed. ³⁷I know that you are Abraham's descendants; yet you seek to kill me, because my word has no place in you. ³⁸I speak the things which I have seen with My Father; therefore you also do the things which you heard from your father.

Abraham's sons, Israel, sought to kill Jesus personally and Jesus recognized it. We would say, however, that Abraham's son in Ishmael has tried to kill the message. It completely disregards the core value of Jesus' sacrifice for every man, woman and children.

Proper hate for the sake of Allah, *thedeenshow.com*

- *Allah does not forbid us to be kind and gentle to the people. Some people believe Islam takes everyone as a non-friend who is not a Muslim and we despise them because they are infidels.*
- *If you are a Jew, a Christian or a Muslim, isn't it correct that you don't really hate the people, but instead we hate the evil that some people do? We do hate for the sake of Allah, but it's not to hate humans, it's to hate the evil that some humans do.*

That is a basic Christian principle - hate the sin, not the sinner.

Acts 4:9-12: (NASB) ⁹if we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by this name this man stands here before you in good health. ¹¹He is the stone which was rejected by you, the builders, but which became the chief corner stone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.

Jesus was rejected but became the chief cornerstone. There is no other name by which salvation can occur. The ransom price of Jesus was for every man, woman and child who ever lived - Muslims included.

*So are Muslims and Christians compatible?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions,
Think about it...!*





*And now even more to think about...
only in the **Full Edition** of **CQ Rewind!***

The purpose of this week's Bonus Material is to provide a perspective on Islam from strictly Islamic sources - the more we know, the better our ability to understand!

The Five Pillars of Islam (fully quoted here)

The Five Pillars of Islam are core beliefs that shape Muslim thought, deed, and society. A Muslim who fulfills the Five Pillars of Islam, remains in the faith of Islam, and sincerely repents of his sins, will make it to Jannah (paradise). If he performs the Five Pillars but does not remain in the faith, he will not be saved.

1. Shahada

- A. The Shahada is the Islamic proclamation that "There is no true God except Allah and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah."
- B. This is the confession that Allah is the one and only true God, that Allah alone is worthy of worship, that Allah alone is the sovereign lord who does what he wills with whoever he wills. It means that all his rules and laws found in the Koran are to be followed. It means that the Christian doctrine of God as a Trinity is false, as are all other belief systems including pantheism.
- C. Muhammad is the true and greatest prophet of Allah and recognition of Muhammad as the Prophet of God is required. It was through Muhammad that Allah conveyed the last and final revelation.

1. Prayer (Salat)

- A. Prayer involves confession of sins which begins with the purification of the body and ends with the purification of the soul. Prayer is performed five times a day. The first prayer is at dawn and the last at sunset.

2. Fasting (Saum)

- A. The month of Ramadan is the month of fasting in Islam. It is an act of worship where the faithful follower denies his own needs and seeks Allah. Usually, this fasting entails no drinking, eating, or sexual relations during the daylight hours for the entire month of Ramadan.

3. Alms-giving or charity (Zakat)

- A. Charity given to the poor. It benefits the poor and it helps the giver by moving him towards more holiness and submission to Allah. Alms-giving is considered a form of worship to God.

4. Pilgrimage (Hajj)

- A. This is the pilgrimage to Mecca. All Muslims, if they are able, are to make a pilgrimage to Mecca. It involves financial sacrifice and is an act of worship. Muslims must make the pilgrimage the first half of the last month of the lunar year.



Islamic Terms

1. **Adhan** - The call to prayer.
2. **Ahmad** - Another name for Muhammad.
3. **Allah** - The Arabic word for "god." It is often used as a name for God in Islam.
4. **Badr** - The place of the first significant battle between and the pagans of the Quraish. It is located in Saudi Arabia.
5. **Caliph** - A Muslim ruler.
6. **Dajjal** - Antichrist.
7. **Dawah** - The proliferation of Islamic teachings through word and deed.
8. **Din** - Obedience to the revelation of Allah's Qur'an (Koran). It involves total submission.
9. **Fatwa** - Legal verdict given based on the Qur'an (Koran) and the Sunnah which are the recorded sayings and deeds of Muhammad.
10. **Fiqh** - Religious law.
11. **Hadith** - The sayings and deeds of the prophet Muhammad recorded by his followers. Considered authoritative and perfect. A saying is called a Sunnah.
12. **Hajar** - The Black Stone set into the corner of the Ka'aba in Mecca. Tradition states it fell from heaven.
13. **Hajj** - The pilgrimage to Mecca which takes place in the last month of the Islamic calendar. One of the five pillars of Islam.
14. **Hawijah** - The sixth level of hell which is the place for Christians.
15. **Hegirah** - Muhammad's immigration to Medina. It begins the Muslim calendar.
16. **Hijrah** - Moving from a land where a Muslim cannot practice his faith to a land where he can.
17. **Ibadah** - All the words and deeds with which Allah is pleased. These deeds could be prayer and charity.
18. **Iblis** - Satan, a fallen Jinn.
19. **Imam** - The political head of an Islamic state.
20. **Injil** - The inspired sayings of Jesus. The message of Jesus.
21. **Islam** - Submission, the religion of all the prophets of Allah culminating in Muhammad.
22. **Jannah** - The heavenly garden, Paradise. The place of the faithful in the afterlife.
23. **Jihad** - Striving. Fighting against one's own sinful self. Also, a physical fight for the truth of Islam, not allowing anyone to steal the ability to worship. It also can mean "holy war."
24. **Jinn** - Supernatural, invisible race of beings, below angels. They were made from fire and are capable of looking like humans or animals. Some may dwell in rocks, trees, etc, and may possess black dogs and black cats. There are good and bad Jinn and all will be judged on Judgment Day.
25. **Ka'aba** - A cube shaped building in Mecca containing a stone laid there by Abraham and Ishmael. All Muslims face this cube when praying.



26. **Koran** - Also spelled Qur'an. The holy book of Islam given to Muhammad by Allah through the Archangel Gabriel. Koran literally means "the recital." It is the final revelation of Allah given to the prophet Muhammad. It has 114 surahs, or chapters.
27. **Kufr** - Disbelief.
28. **Khutbah** - A sermon given in a Mosque, usually on Friday.
29. **Maksiat** - Sinful act.
30. **Masjid** - A center for Muslim activity. It is like a local mosque.
31. **Mecca** - The Holy City of Islam. It is the birthplace of Muhammad.
32. **Medina** - The city, then called Yathrib, that Muhammad fled to after announcing Islam.
33. **Mosque** - A Muslim house of worship.
34. **Muhajir** - Immigrant, one who leaves his home town to join a Muslim community.
35. **Muhammad** - The final messenger/prophet of God whose message abrogated all previous revelations. He received the Koran through the angel Gabriel over a 23 year period.
36. **Muhammad ibn Abd Allah** - the full name of Muhammad.
37. **Muslim** - Someone who holds to the religion of Islam.
38. **Nas** - The multitude of people who are not dedicated to Allah and sway to and fro to various teachings.
39. **Nasara** - A word used in the Koran to designate those who are Christians.
40. **P.B.U.H.** - A shortened designation for "Peace be upon him" which is placed in writing or said after the word "Muhammad" is used.
41. **Paradise** - Another word for heaven. A garden (79:41) of bliss and fruit (69:21-24), has rivers (3:198), with maidens pure and holy (4:57), and carpets and cushions, (88:8-16). It is the hope of all Muslims.
42. **Qadar** - Preordainment is the teaching that all things, good and bad, are preordained to occur.
43. **Qatl** - Murder.
44. **Qibla** - The direction which Muslims turn for daily prayers, towards Mecca.
45. **Quraish** - An ancient Arab tribe to which Muhammad once belonged.
46. **Rakat (rak'ah)** - One complete cycle of sacred words and gestures during the ritual prayer.
47. **Ramadhan** - The ninth month of the Islamic calendar which is the month of the fast.
48. **Salat** - Prayers.
49. **Sawm** - Fasting.
50. **Shi'ites** - A sect of Islam that teaches that leaders should be political rulers.
51. **Shirk** - Associating another god with Allah. Associating anything with Allah that is not true and revealed in the Koran.
52. **Sirq** - Theft.
53. **Sufi** - A sect of Islam. It is very mystical and teaches strong self denial with the hope of union with God.



54. **Sunnah** - The life, practices, and sayings of Muhammad recorded as examples of perfect conduct in society, religion, action, etc. They contain the Hadith.
55. **Sunnis** - One of the sects of Islam.
56. **Surah** - A chapter of the Koran.
57. **Taghut** - Everything that is worshipped or followed other than Allah.
58. **Taiyib** - Pure, clean, wholesome.
59. **Taqwah** - Proper fear and veneration of Allah. A divine spark that enables the person to understand God.
60. **Tauhid** - Monotheism in Islam is the teaching that there is only one God who alone is worthy of worship.
61. **Tauhid-ar-Rububiyah** - Declaring that God is one, the sovereign who performs all his will.
62. **Tauhid-al-Uluhiyah** - Declaring that God is the only one worthy of worship.
63. **Ummah** - A religious community, usually referring to an Islamic one.
64. **Umrah** - A Minor form of pilgrimage to Mecca.
65. **Wa Alaikum Assalam** - The Arabic way of saying "peace be upon him."
66. **Zaboor** - The Psalms.
67. **Zakat** - The third pillar of Islam. Alms giving, charity that is given to the poor.
68. **Zinah** - Fornication and adultery.

These words were collected from numerous websites and books on Islam and are words used in English writings by Muslims. <http://muslimmatters.org/2012/09/16/39567/>

How should we Muslim react to mockery of our Prophet Muhammad or should we even react at all? Just like the cartoons few years ago, the Muslim response to the recent film has been very diverse. From the very mild of responses to the very violent ones, what's most noteworthy is the *enormity* of the response. Despite the consensus that the film did not deserve the attention it was getting, social media kept being flooded, and still is, with messages defending the Prophet. So, before another incident of mockery takes place, since it seems that it's only a matter of time before someone else tries to play on the sensitivities of Muslims, let's take some time to examine what the Qur'an has to say about this very issue.

Mockery is Tantamount to Ignorance: Almost every Muslim knows the story of the Cow (Sūrat'l-Baqarah). After all, the longest chapter of the Qur'an is named after this story. To get to the gist, there was an unsolved murder that happened among the Children of Israel during the time of Moses [as] (Mūsa). So Allāh revealed to Moses that in order to solve the murder your people have to slaughter a cow. Of course, when Moses told his people of God's command, their first reaction was shock and disbelief (e.g. what's slaughtering a cow got to do with solving a murder?). The Qur'an says: "Remember when Moses said to his people, 'God commands you to sacrifice a cow', they said, 'are you making fun of us?' He answered, 'God forbid that I should be so ignorant'" [2:67]



So initially, the Children of Israel thought that Moses was mocking them. But Moses quickly corrected that mockery could never come from a Prophet and he distanced himself from such an act by the expression familiar to Muslims “I seek refuge in God from”. But what we usually miss from this verse is the fact that Moses equated mockery to ignorance. So a learned man (or woman) should never mock anyone or anything under any circumstance. So the next question becomes, how do we deal with ignorance or ignorant people?

Ignore the Ignorant: The Qur’an tells us to dismiss the people of ignorance and not to give a lot of attention to them. It asks us to not engage with them in any conversation, except perhaps to safeguard ourselves from greater harm. For example: “Be tolerant, command what’s right, pay no attention to foolish people” [7:199] This is such an important matter that the Qur’an makes it one of the traits of the People of God: “The Servants of the Lord of Mercy are those who walk humbly on Earth, and who, when the foolish address them, reply ‘Peace’” [25:63]

The scholars of Qur’an have differed on the meaning of “peace” here. Some take it literally that you simply say the Muslim greeting of “Peace”. But others have argued that “Peace” here means that you end the conversation in a peaceful manner. Regardless of the difference in interpretation, I think we can all agree that the message of the Qur’an is to ignore the ignorant.

On the other hand, we see the Qur’an encouraging us to engage with the people of reason and to even debate them if they have a different point of view: “Call people to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good teaching, and *argue* with them in the most courteous way” [16:125]

I mention this here so no one comes and says that Islam forbids conversation with “others.” In fact, Islam encourages debate and the exchanging arguments. But people who mock a religious symbol are not interested in debate or logical arguments. It is the lack of logical arguments that makes them resort to mockery in the first place!

Spare Me the Mockery: We can’t leave this subject without contemplating a very interesting verse that speaks to the heart of the issue at hand. This verse address the Prophet Muḥammad himself. It says: “We have spared you those who ridicule you” [15:95]

In essence, the Qur’an is telling us that when it specifically comes to the issue of mocking the Prophet [SAW], which is exactly the issue that we are dealing with today. Don’t take matters in your own hands, rather, God will take care of those who mock the Prophet.

A Call to Respect the Sanctity of Faith Symbols: Lastly, another very interesting and very relevant verse to this discussion in the Qur’an says:

“Do not revile those they call on beside God, so they, in their hostility, revile God, without knowledge” [6:108] The direct meaning of this verse is that reviling, insulting, or cursing the idols is prohibited because indirectly we are causing our God



to be reviled, insulted or cursed. No matter how much we disagree with idol-worship, we cannot mock, insult, or curse idols, idolaters, or idol-worship. This verse is also teaching us that there are always consequences to our actions. Just like we hold our religious symbols very dear to our hearts and we consider them holy or untouchable, people of other faiths will feel the same towards their religious symbols, no matter how ridiculous those symbols may seem to us. Therefore, we should have mutual respect of religious symbols in order to live together in a civilized manner. At the least, we should, as they say, respectfully disagree.