

## Apologetics -4.1- The Church and Islam Part 1

### Transcription

Okay we are called Defending the Faith and I have a question asked today “Why is Islam growing so fast?” I mean if you really think about it, I mean what is so appealing about Islam? Now why are we covering Islam? We are covering Islam because it’s like the elephant in the corn field you can’t ignore it. Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world today it is very close to coming equal with Christianity as far as growth, as far as size, there are various sects, and does anybody know what the two major sects of Islam are? Shiite and Sunni. The reason Iran and Iraq used to be constantly at war is because the Sunni’s were a minority of course in Iraq, under Saddam Hussein, ruled the majority of the Shiite’s and kind of kept them under control and of course the Shiite’s dominate Iran as well. Now the balance of power, that control, has been removed that is why you see so much conflict in the Middle East, you see a tremendous amount of support by Iran for Iraq because they are Shiite. This is going to dynamically affect your life and mine, you will not be able to ignore the reality of Islam in your life, just accept it now, and it is one of those things as believers we need to know how Christ would deal with Islam. How Christ would deal with Muslims and how we might emotionally want to deal with Islam after all the horrible things that have been going on, are probably two different things. So, we need to understand though, why Satan has such a powerful grip in the Islamic world and understand their basic beliefs. Now this is not a thesis tonight on the Koran, but the Koran is their book so to speak, their Bible. Though I am also at the same time going to analyze not just why they have grown so rapidly but we are going to do a real quick analysis of Christianity. I’ll tell you why I am doing this, I really felt convicted about

this, but I am fully convinced that something does not grow, like Islam, without a vacuum present. I believe Christianity in the last century has lost its bearings to what its purpose is and left the vacuum of the world for Islam to fill. The historic Christianity, the first century, we saw was one of sacrifice, self-giving, Christ, His care, and His love. So often the church forgets what its purpose is, to reach out, to care for others, and love others. When we reach out to those of the Islamic faith religion, we need to really understand it. And they are going to have all of the same needs that you and I do so I think it is going to be critical as well because it will teach you to know why you believe what you believe about your own faith. I am going to challenge you I think we have become a consumerism church, now that doesn't mean that all Christians are consumerists and there is nothing wrong with consuming items and owning things, but so often church has become only for the sake of entertainment for an hour and not really the promotion or the motivation of a person to go from the church service into the kingdom work which is the other 167 hours a week, do y'all follow? That is the radical Christian faith which exploded within a couple centuries spread throughout the world, it was that dedicated faith, it was not a "me" faith it was an "others" faith. Now would you say that with me? "It was not a "me" faith it was an "others" faith." That is the Christian faith and that is why the dynamics of orphanages and those who care for lepers and things like that seem so impacting to us, do you know why? Because they are really practicing Biblical Christianity, where they are reaching and caring outwardly and not just for themselves, that is the historic church and I think we have created a vacuum many times. Now I am going to review the doctrines, first of all we have what is called the Cardinal doctrines, now the Cardinal doctrines of the Christian faith, Now some churches argue over

baptism, pews, whether you wear a suit, it doesn't matter to god and it does not affect hell or heaven. Are you with me? It does not matter. Cardinal doctrines are those key doctrines, which you need to understand the faith, and the hint is colors. So, does anybody besides Rachel remember what the colors were? Red, White, Blue, and Purple. Excellent, the American flag, the Russian flag, plus you put red and blue together you get purple. Does anybody remember what red means? The blood, the shedding of Christ's blood was necessary at the cross to atone and cover our sins. In other words He took our place in punishment and that is what is precious about the Christian faith, is that Christ replaced us when we should have been disciplined. Many years ago, this is a true story about the Civil War and the group was called Quantrill's raiders. They were southern ex-patriots and they were rebels and after the war was lost they were mad, so what they did was they went through Missouri, they went town after town after town; killing people, rampaging, burning down buildings, and stealing their possessions. It was a rebel group, they were finally hunted down by the Union and the Union lined Quantrill and his raiders up against the wall as to execute them. Right when the captain said "Ready, Aim..." right before the word "Fire!" there was a voice in the crowd and there was a man who stood out in the crowd and said, "You see the young man against the wall," he was about a 16 year old boy, who had been one of the raiders. And he says "I'll take his place." And the captain thought about it for a moment and he says, "You going to take his place?" and the guy said "Yes. This is a young man, this is a boy, he was obviously misguided, misled, I want to take his place." The captain allowed the man to take this boy's place on the firing line and the boy stood to the side and then the captain says "Ready, Aim, Fire!" The bullets went out, the bodies slumped, everyone was killed

including this young man who was from the crowd and was totally innocent, he had done no crimes at all, the boy took the young man's body back to Kansas. Where he had born and raised and buried this man and the tombstone says "In remembrance of he, who took my place." Now the reason I bring this story and is that is the story of Christ, He who did no wrong, took our place for the punishment for our sin, we would have normally deserved. That is the power of the Christian faith. It is not legalism and being beat over the head because we are imperfect it is the mercy of God despite the fact that we are all imperfect, do y'all follow that? How many of you love your children because they are perfect? Well, we love our children but they are not perfect right? But we don't love them because they are imperfect we love them despite of the fact that they are imperfect, Amen? And that is what the Christian faith is about. So red is the blood of Christ covering our sin, He paid the price, white means Jesus was what? Pure and sinless. Blue represents heaven, which means Jesus was God. That is the first theological difference between us and many cults, we do believe that Jesus was God and that we know and we can prove Jesus claimed to be God. There is no doubt about that. Purple means the only what, the mediator between us and the father. Okay? Next, Jesus equaling God, did Jesus ever claim to be God? Yes, if y'all can find the first verse which is on your cheat notes and you can go ahead and follow through if a cult member walks up to you, John 8:58 "Before Abraham was, I AM." Present active tense. He was literally claiming to be God which is shown in Exodus 3:17 after that Isaiah 43:10-11 then John 1:21, okay and we don't have time to go over all of that, but remember that is a train to the New Testament to the Old then back to the New. Okay? We have those things printed out as well. Now a review about prophecy. We are going to see in the Koran, for example, writings, and you

can see in scripture, writings. Now if I were going to pick up a Bible and let's say this is the Koran and this the Bible and somebody comes up to you can honestly say "Okay, why is this truth and this is not? You can't prove it." Okay are y'all with me? Now the best way in a simple discussion is to simply say, "What if I can prove that somebody outside of time wrote this." And they'll say "I know you can't prove that someone outside of time wrote this." In other words God is outside of time, He is not bound by time, show somebody outside of quantum concepts we show somebody who could be this person being God and if He actually wrote something in other words a proof that He was outside of time and space. Well then they will say "Go ahead." So, does anybody remember which book of the Bible started off our journey to prove through a prophecy of Jesus coming? Daniel. Daniel 9 very good! Everybody say Daniel 9. Daniel 9 prophesied the rebuilding of Jerusalem the clock was started, which was over a century later so there was no way that it could be a self full-filling prophesy, because he didn't live that long. So in Nehemiah of course Artaxerxes who was also called Sirus and today we have in the British museum the very edict that Nehemiah in the Bible was given. The decree was found by non-believing archeologists with Nisen 1, the date of 444 B.C. on it and that is fulfilled by the prophecy of Daniel which y'all remember the clocked ticked for how many days? 173,880 days according to the Bible, and on that day what event occurred? Jesus rode in Jerusalem which is recorded in history not just from the Bible. We have history supporting a supernatural prophecy fulfilled to the day, which you don't find in the Koran or any other book. That supernaturalness is what allows you to see that this book is inspired verses the other ones. None of the others have perfect prophecy being fulfilled to the day. Now you will have people who are going to say Nostradamus

predicted such and such, but the truth of the matter is his prophecies were not accurate. So there is all this vaguerity about prophecy but an articulate prophecy we can prove to the day occurred is in the scriptures and the scriptures alone. We need to get some boldness in using the book folks. I don't have a newspaper here, but people go through that baby every day. How many times do you pick up the Bible in a week? This is a newspaper and a prophetic one at that. I want y'all to read this little quote at the bottom, "Jesus rose from the dead, and we can't even get out of bed." This gives a hint of why Islam has grown. It is because people believe it is radical enough to even give one's life for the belief. Suicide bombers, doesn't it ever fascinate you why people strap bombs on their bodies and go into a market place and blow up men, women, and children. I think that's pretty extreme, well you see the reason it is a growing religion is because people see it as a dedicated religion. How do you feel sometimes when you wake up on Sunday morning? Ok, ha, you want to just turn over. This great line written by Keith Green, "Jesus rose from the dead." It is a wonderful, wonderful quote, I want to analyze just real quickly let's take a look at the last couple centuries or even last century in America, true religion according to Jesus is this, and would you read it out loud with me? "Religion that God our father accepts as pure and faultless is this to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep one's self by being polluted by the world." Now you analyze where the American church is and this is not a dump on the American church, in the American church there are so many millions of godly believers, but as far as what our focus is we often forget how much focus is in the church on the homeless, on the needy, on caring for those who don't know Christ, on those who are lost and destitute without the Gospel. Verses how much is dedicated to self-entertainment, and self-fulfillment,

you have to admit it is a little unbalanced today, it is a “self-centered” Gospel and so here we want to make sure that we as believers are practicing what Christ taught us. And that is what you are doing here by the way, the 30 people who are part of this ministry are reaching and you’ll be reaching as well in about 100 million homes, right now we are reaching 30 million homes. You are reaching to people who have needs, I mean that is what you will be doing, you are actually caring, and the vast majority of this ministry goes to ministering to these people who Jesus said if you love me that is where y’all put your time and your bucks, that is where you will invest. So I got to tell you I believe you people will be blessed in supernatural ways, you know why? Because you are literally practicing true religion not “religiosity” but true religion, the true faith. Would you read this with me? And of course this is a very humbling wonderful, wonderful passage, but it’s something I always want y’all to be tender about, people who are in Russia, people who are Hindu, oppression in India and under Islamic oppression, you need to be compassionate. Think about the women the Taliban controls, they go out of the house, they show their face, their covering, their birka falls off they are beaten in the streets, think with compassion tonight and then understand this ministry is reaching to people who God said to be compassionate toward, that is true religion. Now I could debate you on **Eschatology** and say I’m pre-trib, I’m mid-trib, I’m post-trib, I’m a Baptist or I’m Lutheran, you know what? I say outside the four Cardinal doctrines the practice of the Christian faith is caring about others more than yourself, it simply is, and that is what y’all are doing here and that’s why I think this is going to be a blessed ministry. Read this verse starting with “Son of Man comes in glory.” “When the Son of Man comes in glory He will sit on His throne, separating His sheep from the goats, the King will say come

take your inheritance the King prepared for you, for I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, thirsty and drink, a stranger you invited me in, naked, you clothed me, sick, you watched over me, in prison, you came to visit me, then the righteous will answer Him “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you? Thirsty and give you something to drink? When you were a stranger, invite you in? Or needing of clothes and clothe you? When were you sick and we looked after you? When were you in prison and we visited you?” The King will reply “I tell you the truth, what you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.” Okay, you understand the calling? Now what is the Christian faith? It is about us? Well we get blessed but we are to live our lives not thinking just of us but about Jesus Christ and others. Now I got to tell you that’s not easy. Now I mean you don’t want to jump out of bed and say “Who can I run and serve and help today?” My breath stinks, I got to brush my teeth, how can I not look like I got hit by a truck? Now the natural thing to do is to get up and think about yourself, got to get to work, got to get the money. So the Bible does not say not to do that, it is saying we need to stay compassionate what the call of true Christianity is. Now, Islam today, one of the reasons it has grown radically is because Saudi Arabia gives billions of dollars to what is called Wahabism – radical Sunni vs Shiite Islam, they spend millions of dollars in American building mosques. They have spent billions of dollars reaching into prisons, now let me tell you we met with a woman who has a interview that will blow your mind. She ministered to Karla Faye Tucker, who was condemned to die for her crimes. She walked the green mile with Karla Fay Tucker. Karla Faye Tucker became a born again believer because of this saint whose name is Linda Strom. We spent time with her on a show I have in Oklahoma, yesterday, she spends her life in prison caring for people. You

find that the people who minister in prisons are some of the most extraordinary people. Their sensitivity, awareness and caring is amazing! They go into prisons because they know there is a tremendous amount of anger in prison, now anger can be dealt with – you can get bitter or you can get better right? So we have here how they are ministered to through conversions verses historically there is always conquest with the Islam group. Now compare just real quickly Christianity has grown through teaching, love, sacrifice, humility, and suffering; the church grew. Islam, Mohammed had his opponents killed in Medina. Now there is a guy who came up to Jesus with his ear chopped off, what did He do? He picked up the ear and Peter had chopped the ear off, and put it back on the guy's head. How did Jesus treat His enemies? He forgave them, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." Y'all remember that passage? So He is hanging on the cross "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." Mohammed on the other hand when he finally won the battle when Medina had slaughtered everybody who had disagreed with them, contrast through fear and brutality with the end of a sword, verses through humility and grace. There is a huge difference the personalities. Now I got to tell you, sometimes I think you know what a sword would be really handy cause some people just don't get it but you know what you wonder how in the world could Christianity have grown so rapidly without using the sword? Let me show you, for those of you who ask how does Islam continues to grow? Why is it such a popular religion? Number one it offers power, it offers power to the men, and it offers conquering power. It says when we go into another country we take no prisoners. Number two it seems to be unyielding. How many of you would say fighting Islam in the Middle East is more than simply military war against somebody like the Germans? Well obviously it is, this is an intrinsic

belief. Number three it is a dedication. People want to believe in something, where there is dedication. As believers we need to just always challenge ourselves, how truly dedicated are we to Christ? Dedication, their level of dedication seems to be very high. Inclusion, you can be included, you can be part of this club. Gangs, Henry Becerra, was one of the people we also interviewed on the show, he was a gang leader. He said the reason he left the church and went into gangs is because he found an inclusion and less of a bias against him than that he found in the church. That is why he was a street gang leader. I want y'all just to hear this; I will print this stuff out for you in case you don't get it all, inclusion. Who was the first to really include the outcasts of society? It wasn't Mohammad, it was Christ. He walked into the houses of money changers, prostitutes, the worst of the worst, and there was Christ. He included them in His teaching not just the Pharisees. So they had copied a lot of what the Christian faith originally had, to imply that they are a good religion. Next is that it is a great equalizer. You know you have heard Osama Bin Laden talk about evil Satan America and all that. It is a great equalizer, it is a revenge factor, and you are allowed revenge. Islam promotes revenge versus the Christian faith promoting forgiveness. Now follow this, Islam promotes in the Koran, revenge, the Christian faith promotes forgiveness. Next, they are chauvinistic and racially driven. In Sudan right now the Arab Muslim's are slaughtering both Christians and others because of their color. Arabs are slaughtering black Africans every single day; about 2 ½ million have been slaughtered so far, by Muslims. There is a strong racial hatred. Ironically they come into American prisons and they go into the African American groups of the prisons and say this is the way to get even with the man, the system and of course these men are full of rage because they have not had the deliverance of Christ Jesus. You know you are

going bitter or your going to get better and their rage is what gives them into the hands of the Muslims and they become dedicated. Why? Because this is a chance to be with a huge group, they are the biggest gang there is of tough guys and mean guys. They are willing to support you and revenge you against “the man”. It gives a social escape an outlet to legalize violence against those you hate, you understand? In other words Satan knows how to use human emotions. What if women, in the Bible it said you could slap your husband once a month, and it would be Biblical? Now as that month went on would you be dwelling with love and forgiveness? Or would you be dwelling on that one day you could really give him a hard time? Is anybody willing to be honest here? Which would you probably go for? “The slap”, the slap because it is a natural affinity as humans as sinners, we are going to want to go for vengeance aren’t we? Verses the Christian faith. The reason its chauvinistic is we’re going to show you in the Koran. In the Koran, a woman is only considered half the value of a man. Now in America that is one of the challenges they have in establishing Islam, they don’t talk about it but one of the realities and this is something you can very tenderly and gracefully when you share Christ with a woman caught in Islam, you can pursue a person with this thinking. Why is a woman only half as valued as a man? I am going to tell you the reason the religion has grown is because it gives men the rights to abuse and to control, that is what makes it very popular. We find that if a woman doesn’t do what a man says she should do, she should be basically beaten, is the word that is used in the Koran. You see the difference between this and Christianity; okay I got a great apologetic, hey you guys are beat up, women...actually we’re not going to approach it that way. I want y’all to be educated on who they are as a culture so you communicate with them. This is faith verses fear. “By

grace you have been saved through” What? Let’s say the verse together, “By grace you have been saved through faith and that not of itself it is a gift of God, not our works lest any man should boast.” Now, faith is why we pursue Christ, right? You have someone that you love in life. I don’t wake up in the morning and say Maria I love you because I fear her beating me with a bat in my sleep. Right? I mean you guys have got to work with me here, y’all are a small group. Alright well we know it is because of love that we pursue a relationship with someone else. I mean that is what makes us joyful in healthy; living in a fear environment is not healthy, period. Islam is driven by fear, retribution; the Christian faith is driven by faith. In the Haddath which means tradition, it says no assurance of salvation exists but through the mediator (Jesus) between God and man. Mohammed couldn’t even assure his own daughter was going to heaven. Now what happened is there has been a lot of challenge on this where Muslims say are “Whoa, are you kidding me? Mohammed was the number one man for God and he couldn’t even assure his own daughter that she was going to go to heaven. How can we be sure?” What the Koran says is no one is assured of salvation. In other words you do the best that you can and that’s why it is easier to manipulate bombers, who are suicidal, “I’ll tell you what, I will give you assurance you pack that baby on and you go into that square. I’ll give you the guarantee.” That’s why they will die for it. Now the irony is the reason Christians for years have taught grace and forgiveness and not by killing people but by giving their lives is because they already have the assurance of who Christ is in their lives. But Muslims don’t have that assurance, and I am going to share something with you, that is something that Muslims jump at when you share with them. Now I am going to use my three characters, who are the three characters on the three styles of witnessing?

Daniel, Jesus, and Paul. Daniel teaches wisdom and care in your teaching, Jesus teaches by asking questions, and Paul teaches find commonality, find something in common, a common ground. By the way those of you who are learning debate or if you are on a debating team or want to be in business successfully, those are good things to know. Okay? So Daniel, we have an issue here, this is in the Koran 22:82 this is where it says call on two men as witnesses if there is a court case for example. But if you can't get two men call one man and two women. You know why? Because it takes two women to equal one man. Now I don't want to embarrass you, Betty but do you remember how you responded when I said this? Her back got stiff and she said oh yeah, well let me inform you the most intelligent person in America happens to be a woman. She took off for about thirty seconds. How many of you woman are offended by the tragedy that you are considered a half person? Okay? Well, let me tell you it is one of those things that we are not sensitive to in our culture but we should be, the Koran that says that the rebellious woman should be sent to the couch and beat. Basically go ahead and confine her to her quarters and then beat her. (Trailer for next show) Mohammed says if the witness of a woman is equal to half of that of a man, he is talking to the woman he is with and she says yes, and he says this is because of the deficiency of the woman's mind.

