

Apologetics -4.2 – The Church and Islam Part 2

Transcription

(Last Week) We had 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 fact 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. 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.

That is a quote from Mohammed, now I am going to make some suggestions as what to say when you are talking to American women who are getting into Islam. Now I your saying why are you teaching us about this, I am going to show you, because who was Christ? We need to learn the Christian faith. He treated women with absolute respect, when you are talking to a woman who is involved in Islam and you ask I read in the Koran where it says that a woman is only half the value of a man, does that ever bother you? She is probably been sensitized, she'll say "No. Because that is what God has taught us." But you will say "Come on you have got to be kidding me." That is not how you are going to approach her, she has culturally been sensitized to accept that, one of the things you should come out and say is that "You know what one of the neat

things about Jesus is He always treated women with absolute respect and treated them equally.” You can tell them the story about the woman who was a prostitute, about to be stoned by the men.

Because if you look in the Old Testament you see a lot of this mentality I’ll be frank with you up into the New Testament Jesus changed the world you know why? First of all man seems to be missing and with adultery it takes two to tango. And number two He starts writing in that sand probably the name of the man in the group who had been cheating with her as well. And he says “Let He who is without sin cast the first stone.” You know what He did? That was a radical social revolution at that time; it was spiritually directed and driven, because He was God. He said this is how things ought to be. The liberty of women, if you look at Hinduism it has a caste system people, who are less, people who are called untouchables. If you look at Islam you have a caste system, women are only half the value of men. But if you look at the Christian faith Christ was the one who revolutionized this planet giving women the value that is equal to a man. We don’t realize that within our culture what we saw as movements, were later on actually started by Christ 2,000 years ago. To identify how God valued women and that is something that is critical especially if you are a woman who is being beaten on a daily basis because you simply aren’t being the correct Muslim wife. This is a funny quote, well I mean it is not literally funny, hell is filled mostly by women. This is throughout Islam and the Koran. When you go to hell, well not that you are going to hell, but anyways Islam teaches that a fellow, who went and looked into hell and it was almost all women. Of course it is because they are not only half persons but they are the most disobedient and they are the most ungodly of all. Now you see in that culture you frankly have a tremendous opportunity to reach in to the lives of women and share Christ with them. By this same commonality did y’all know that Islam believes that Jesus was born of a

virgin? Interesting. It says that in Surah 3:45 and 47, that He is the son of Mary and by the way there is only one woman mentioned by name in the Koran, did you know that Mary, the mother of Jesus? No woman is worthy of having herself named in the Koran except that. Now if I'm a woman and I'm reading the Koran, I'm going to think, "where are all the women in here?" But there are no women mentioned in the Koran by them except Mary and she is identified as the mother of Jesus, it also identified her virgin birth. Now that is commonality, in other words when you are witnessing to a Muslim say "Did you know that your scriptures teaches just like ours? That Mary was a virgin when she birthed Jesus? That is was a miraculous birth." Do you know what you are doing? In commonality you are showing what is unique about her and about Jesus verses Mohammad. But you never verbalize, I want to encourage you, you don't verbalize "Jesus is better then Mohammad." That would be the end of it, I mean... What you are showing them is the uniqueness of Jesus that He was born of a virgin. She will say "I don't think that is true." And you will say "Yeah, it is." You ought to keep little notes in and this year we're going to try and get those little stick-ems like we talked about and then we can look at our little cheat sheet and say that is in Sura 3:45... You will be able to show that in their scriptures, why? What does that do? It creates value for what you are saying. The best thing in the world is when a Jehovah's Witness comes to our door and Maria has seen me do this, we invite them in, we sit them down, we don't hide when they come to our door. We don't say "It's them, it's them!" and hide like most Christians do. You invite them in and offer them a cup of coffee, you love on them, and you care for them. Then you open their scriptures and prove your point. That is where the power is. That is not intimidating to them, you know you open the New World translation, and you can still prove the deity of Jesus Christ in their translation, completely. The next thing, did you know that they teach that Jesus was sinless? Now this is a kicker, the vast majority of Muslims don't

even know that the Koran teaches that Jesus was sinless. This is where you begin with red, white, blue, and purple. You all need to feel how you can use these points. This is a commonality that most Muslims won't trust you on. Which is why it is good to have this little cheat sheet. But Jesus who was blameless, that is the word used for the lamb when He is without spot, Jesus was sinless. When you approach them and say "Did you know that Jesus is sinless?" They go "Well, we don't think of Him that way." You can say "Actually you do. It is in the Koran. Y'all believe that He was without sin, born of a virgin." You are building your case for Christianity off their book. Once when they begin to see, oh wow Jesus is different than all the rest, because by the way Mohammad and all the other prophets admit that they had sinned, now Mohammad claims at the age of 12 he suddenly realized what sin was and he never sinned again, but he doesn't admit before the age of 12 he sinned. So you got all these prophets that they respect they were sinners, except Christ, you have just entered into the world of the uniqueness of Jesus, which is what this is all about, it is showing how Jesus is unique and in Surah 19 he shows that He is special and very unique. By the way here is a trick question and y'all have to answer it out loud, okay? Is Allah the same as God? That's right, no he is not, it's yes and no I will tell you why. First of all the way they worship Allah is not God, it is a satanic cult, if you want to look at it on the extremes, but the word Allah actually comes from the Aramaic word which is much like the Hebrew word el-al-el elohim like El Shadai, Beth-el, like Rach-el, that el that comes after the English words even comes from the Hebrew Elohim which means "of God" . So we have the same root word but not the same God. Now do y'all understand? We have the same root word because the Hebrew and Aramaic words are very close to each other but not the same God because the god they worship is denying who Christ is and the God we worship is accepts it. Find commonality--- did you know that our God has a name which you call Al for Allah and it's

el-Elohim. And did you know way back in History those two names were just kind of copies of each other? Now what are you actually saying to them? What you are saying to them is that there is a possibility to know who God is a little better. And maybe you have already started studying who He is but somewhere along the lines you missed it. Which is what they have done, they've missed it. They don't have a loving God, gentle God. It's pretty much the frightening God of the Old Testament that doesn't show Christ who is God. So you need to show the commonality of the original language okay? Which is something because it shows we both have roots, now do y'all think that Islam and Christianity have the same roots? Actually yes because we have the same daddy in the flesh, but we don't have the same spirit which is Christ so we don't have the same problem. But Abraham had two sons; one was called Ishmael which is where the Arab nations come from and the other is Isaac where the Jews come from. So of course in Israel Paul talks about how we through Israel will be transplanted into the true Israel. So in a way Abraham was both our granddaddies, now why does that matter? It shows commonality. Are you with me? How does that help us? It'd be like if you came up to me and was like "You're a Spencer? I'm a Spencer! We have the same grandfather!" I know it's not a lot but it is something, you know what I mean? It's not going to lend him money but it does give us some commonality alright? The question is how do you feel about these issues is how to approach it. I am going to show you something which is the most important issue when it comes to leading others to Christ, ...Islam Allah is not a father God he is not fatherly or loving. They need a father who is loving, I mean you can lookup Islam on the internet there is a site which is called Islam witness or something like that it is Muslims who have become born again they write...under sudo or false names because they don't want anyone to go chased them down but the vast majority are women, who have shared their need for a father figure, a need for a decent male figure who is loving and

gracious. The need to simply be comforted like the Bible talks about us in John 10 – I will send you the Comforter. That’s what they need. And I am going to tell you when you reach into their lives--- this is a huge response. You don’t go to--- you minister to them. They need a father who gives them security, as one who treats women who are loved. John 1:1 “There is no fear in love”, 1 John 3:18 “Love is an action”, Matthew 22 “The greatest commandment is to love God” you are not going to see a lot of love in the Koran which is what you see in the scriptures and let me tell you of all the theological treatise’ you can have and my father is a theologian who taught me what treatise is and apologetics, I am going to tell you the ultimate apologetics of the Christian faith is true love. It makes the Christians and the New Testament stand out. They cared for one another, they loved one another. So don’t forget that, no matter how smart you get, don’t forget to test yourself on how loving you are. Now I am going to try in 60 seconds once again to repeat, when they say “We worship one true God they worship 3 gods, we worship Allah and you worship the father, the son, and the Holy Spirit, so you’re polytheists.” Polytheist means multiple gods, poly meaning multiple and theist coming from theos which is the Greek word meaning God. They believe in only one God okay? The way that you explain to them that we don’t have three gods and this is a big deal and this can work for any and every cult anyone who says that “you are polytheists and have three gods” is relatively simple. Let me put it this way- God is the father, God is the Holy Spirit and God is the Son, three in one. Now it does look like we have three gods okay? Now, would you come up here Maria? Okay now I want you to look at her, look how cute she is. Okay Maria is a mother to this girl, she is a daughter to who we call Vava who is in this town, she is a daughter to this lady named Clelia, she is a sister to a woman named Miriam. But is there one woman here? That is the simplest way to explain the trinity, she has three characters within her, three characteristics and her motherly instincts can

take over and be in charge and she can go “rrrrrrrrr” (sound like an angry cat) really quick if somebody is endangering her children. Her wifely personality toward me is different than toward to her children or toward her mother. We know that we speak differently toward a mother or father than we do toward our spouse or our children. It doesn't mean that we are schitzophrenic, it doesn't mean that we have multiple personalities. What it means is we have been given multiple characteristics. God is obviously more omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent, more extansive than that example but that's a good example. And so if people say that you worship three gods, no actually we worship 1 God with these dynamic characteristics. He can come invisibly and this is the next way ..(applause for Maria) Water can appear in ice form, I was going to bring some water up here but I didn't. But if you had a glass of water with ice in it, right and you could have steam coming out of a steam kettle right next to it. Now that is water in three forms. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Jesus came to us in physical form the Holy Spirit comes to us is invisible and God the Father rules over all. These are three forms but what is it really basically? It is just water. Are you all with me. And so they say how can God the Father, be at.... And this is the debate and then we'll be done. Here's the debate. How can God be in two places at once.. Because Jesus was on the cross and how can he be on the cross talking into heaven because then obviously Jesus wasn't God because he wouldn't be talking to himself in heaven. It's easy. How can you have ice which is a solid in the midst of water, in the midst of steam? You can, its not how can you, but it's you can. Jesus had no problem talking to the Father because that is a part of His character. But he was in physical form at that moment, he's the ice. Now imagine the Father maybe as the steam. But I mean it is a very simple level of understanding, Jesus, God the Father and the Holy Spirit can be multiple in places simultaneously. That is their character ability which we do not have.

But I don't want to give that example, because its confusing. But do you see what I'm saying? Maria is a mom, sister and a daughter. Water can be in three places simultaneously and so if water and my wife can do it, God can do it. Amen? So it is relatively simple, ok? And that's our study on Islam vs Christianity. Obviously I didn't cover everything but it will give you a feel. Reach out to people who are Muslim and do so with a tremendous amount of love. And when you see them, you know pushing their point of view. Listen carefully like Jesus, be willing to ask them questions. Ask them how their feeling, how their heart is because that is where Christ is going to touch them, in their hearts. Second of all, remember that if they ever talk to you about that they are the one true religion because they believe in one true god, say, I believe that there is one almighty God as well. And it is through Christ alone that we know Him. And reach out to their hearts with the father issue that we have a loving God and a caring God and a merciful God. And use those characteristics and remember that's how you reach out to Muslims. You are going to one day meet Muslims and I'm just telling you that this is like it one time in the South people never thought that they would meet blacks or even be in the same room or ride the same school bus. The reality of human history is the way that Islam is growing. Is first of all if you believe like that you're allowing yourself to grow in a bias that is not realistic and second of all you and I have a simple job that is to care and to reach others. That is our job. We can never forget this as our Christian faith. But when it becomes a corporate church, built by men with power and prestige and buildings we forgot what we're about. That's all there is to it, we've forgotten what we're all about. Love one another as I have love you. They said to Jesus, what is the greatest commandment. He says, these are the top two commandments, love God with all your heart, be a radical Christian and number 2. love each other as much as you love yourself. Which means sometime during the day when you wake up and you are taking care of yourself,

turn and care for somebody as much as you care for yourself. It's that simple. That's the faith, that's true religion. So, anyway. And if you show that Christ to Islam to a woman who's a Muslim or to a man who is a Muslim the Holy Spirit does the rest. Amen? Amen. I covered a lot and for those verses that are in the Kuran, I can give you papers on that. I really encourage you to go through the book of Islam, there are some great debates going on there. Anybody have any questions?

We've been listening to some of the studies of the children and families and so forth that breed or provoke suicide bombers, it's brought out that mothers bring their men up from young children teaching them to martyr themselves, to be a suicide bomber. Right, that's very common in Palestine. And as a child to know that you are going to raise them to blow themselves up, for what? That's a strong belief, somewhere that they are going to go some place to get a reward for that. I thought this is one of the interesting things to say, try to say it graciously, but I always find how valiant men are to train others to die. How valiant men are to train children to die. How valiant people are, you know if you look at the guys who are in charge of these terrorist organizations, they aren't blowing themselves up, they're living in Switzerland, living very well and sending the money all over the world for other people to put on the bombs. They tell them to put bombs on themselves and say hey, go to heaven. But you know the reality of that religion would be the selfishness of that. Second of all they continue to aim at women and children in their bombings. And I'm going to tell you when you reach into a mother's heart and you just talk to her as a mother, say, ok, let's stop for a second, I don't care if you hate that Jewish woman or not. But in Tel Aviv in that café, downtown Tel Aviv, that man walked in pulled that pin and murdered 33 preschool children and 14 women. Are you telling me that you believe your god is happy. I mean let's be, there's that part of a human being where all rhetorical

theology, goes psssst and reality sets in. You know that is one of the things in love you say, Christ loved children and protected children. He never killed children, I mean if somebody is willing to talk openly with you about Islam. Not all Islamists by the way believe in what's going on with Jihad, not all of Islam, they don't support this Jihad. There is a huge number of people in the Middle East who are simply being terrorized by these Jihadists. So don't generalize that everybody is going to believe in pulling a pin on you or somebody else. So not all Muslims are terrorist oriented. So they may even be more open to the Gospel.

I was just going to say that suicide bombers are simply an example of how desperate somebody can be for that assurance of eternity, and that assurance of salvation and that is even an example that it is a world-wide need. It's not just a cultural ideal that I need to know where I'm going to go when I die and it makes a distinction between Christianity and Islam to show that radical Islamists want you to give up your son but radical Christians say no, God gave up His Son. Good point. That's a great point. Ok, do you want to teach next week (laughter). It also points out why Christianity is so lax. It is because Christianity sits back and says, well Jesus Christ gave up his life and did all the work, let's just sit, eat, drink and be merry. Let's, we can enjoy it. We don't have to put any time or energy or thought into it and our children don't either. Which is what true love comes down to. What if I say, you know, what if all you men said,.... How long have you been married? Ok, 38 years, ok, how many years have you been married Lou? Thirty something..... (laughter) Wow, you had better learn, real quick. But let's say that you woke up in the morning and said, hey I got her to put on the ring and sign on the document 36 years ago. I don't have to do anything. You'd say, HUH? (laughter) That's not love. Right? I mean you daily pursue your relationship with the one you love because that's what love is. That's why I'm saying as Christians, we have become casual about our faith and say, oh well, God will take care

of it anyway. I'm raised by way the way in a Calvinistic home and I believe very strongly in the sovereignty of God, but I also believe very strongly that in accountability of men. I think God is a fully sovereign God and that not a single second early or late will Jesus come. This is the dichotomy of understanding God. Although He is sovereign I am fully accountable to live my life according to His calling and he gave a great commandment. Go into the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. That's what we're doing here today, we're preaching so we're being obedient to the commandment and like you said we've got to have enough love that we want people meet Christ. I don't want to see people go to hell. I can't stand sitting on a bus next to somebody who is going to hell. I don't want them to go to hell. I want them to know Christ. I want them to be saved. I want them to have the joy I have. I want them to see eternity. That's the love that Christ gave for us.

A lot of people say Jesus was a good man, I'm going to repeat this because its critical, don't ever forget this, a lot of people say Jesus was a good man but the reality is Jesus is either God or he is an obsessive liar. You can't fit good man in there. Now this will shock you kind of when I say it at first but if you think about it Jesus claimed to be God, he claimed to be the Son of God; he claimed to have the ability to think like the Holy Father, Heavenly Father that he had direct communication with the Heavenly Father. He made all kind of claims, but to tell you the truth if they weren't true how can you say he was a good man. Now why do I say this, I say this because a lot of cults think that they can get away with saying that he was a good man hoping to satisfy you as a Christian. Like we kind of believe like you do he was a good man, but to tell you the truth. He's either God or he's nowhere near who he claims to be. If you try to use only history to prove this superiority of the Christian faith or other religions, you will not win the argument. Because there have been a lot of people who attach the name of God to what they did, that did

wicked things, are ya'll with me. They'll attach the name of Christ to what they do and they don't do good things, and you can debate all day long with a cult member and try to convince him that's not us. Everything you do when you discuss this eternal issue you have to go back to the scriptures. Because they're going to quote the crusades, they're going to quote the Salem witch hunts, they're going to quote abuses in the church today and you know what's going to happen? Four days from now you're going to be at the same point that you started. Do ya'll follow? Now because there, there are temptations to do that, but the reason I put this up here is I believe that there is true Christianity, Biblical Christianity. I also believe and have experience as many of you have that in church environments the abuse of the Christian faith. So that's why is so critical for ya'll to know the scriptures because it's really going to come back to what does God say? Now, would, ya'll say that with me, what does God say? One more time, think about it, what does God say? Because outside that what we say in opinion is not going to hold water, ok. Forgiveness for example, is one of the things about Christianity that is very rare. Paul wrote, you are to forgive and comfort him so he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow, I urge therefore to reaffirm your love for him. Paul in the New Testament, people think Paul is a tough guy and that he is not very friendly and very loving but he really did write about love a lot. But what he said was the way Christianity will look different is the way we forgive each other and love each other. Now look at the worldwide church in its variations you're not seeing that as much. You see a lot of politic you see a lot of business you see a lot of corporate but you're not seeing what made the church really famous in the first century. Romans write about how Christians were known because they were so forgiving and so loving and they embraced one another, and slaves were treated decently by their master, because their masters were humbled by God to reach out and love a slave, as brothers. The book of Philemon by the way if you ever

want to read a neat letter the book of Philemon is a letter Paul writes in Philemon to treat your slaves if you don't think this is revolutionary trust me, to treat your slaves as your own brother. That was revolutionary, because it showed love, and that's what changed the world. It wasn't the crusades it was the love of one believer toward one another.