

Investigating Christianity

Week Two

Christianity and Other Religions

Outline

- Week 1: Investigative Framework
- Week 2: Christianity and Other Religions
- Week 3: Science and Christianity
- Week 4: Why Believe the Bible?
- Week 5: The Problem of Evil

Review: Investigative Framework

- Worldviews: What are they and why do they matter?
- How are we defining Christianity?
 - Common-sense meaning of biblical text
 - Key ideas: alienation from God is the key problem; God has provided reconciliation as a gift through Jesus Christ
 - The scriptures are revelation from God
- Spiritual Truth: What is it and how can we know it?

	Naturalism	Theism	Pantheism	Polytheism	Spiritual Relativism
Is Reality Personal?	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes/No
Is Reality Infinite?	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes/No
Does God Exist?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No
Does Truth Exist?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Is There A Personal Afterlife?	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes/No
Meaning of Human Life	Not significant	Very significant	Individuals not significant	Depends on the gods	Varies

Review: Investigative Framework

- Worldviews: What are they and why do they matter?
- How are we defining Christianity?
 - Common-sense meaning of biblical text
 - Key ideas: alienation from God is the key problem; God has provided reconciliation as a gift through Jesus Christ
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Christianity and Other Religions

Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions

“(Now all the Athenians and the strangers visiting there used to spend their time in nothing other than telling or hearing something new.) And Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, ‘Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects. For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, “TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.” What therefore you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; neither is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all life and breath and all things...’”

“...and He made from one, every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth...that they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, “For we also are His offspring.” Being then the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man.””

““Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all everywhere should turn to God, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.’ Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some began to sneer, but others said, ‘We shall hear you again concerning this.’”

Acts 17:21-32

Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions
 - Other religions contain truth and value

“...as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we also are His offspring.’”

Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions
 - Other religions contain truth and value
 - However, the scriptures are revelation from God

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“...God... does not dwell in temples made with hands; neither is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all life and breath and all things...we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man”

- Therefore, where other religions disagree, other religions are wrong

Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions
 - Other religions contain truth and value
 - However, the scriptures are revelation from God
 - Therefore, where other religions disagree, other religions are wrong

Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions

Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions
- Common Objections to the Biblical View

Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions
- Common Objections to the Biblical View
 - How could God send people to hell just because they don't believe in Jesus?

Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions
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“It is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment.”

Hebrews 9:27

Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions
- Common Objections to the Biblical View
 - How could God send people to hell just because they don't believe in Jesus?

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”

John 5:24

Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions
- Common Objections to the Biblical View
 - How could God send people to hell just because they don't believe in Jesus?

“The Lord is not slow about His promise...but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to a change of mind.”

2 Peter 3:9

Christianity and Other Religions

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Christianity and Other Religions

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“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.’”

John 14:6

Christianity and Other Religions

“And [God] took [Abraham] outside and said, ‘Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them.’ And He said to him, ‘So shall your descendants be.’ Then he believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.”

Genesis 15:5-6

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.””

John 14:6

Christianity and Other Religions

“And [God] took [Abraham] outside and said,

“What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found? What does the Scripture say? ‘And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.’ Now to the one who works, his wage is not reckoned as a favor, but as what is due. But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness”

Romans 4:1-5

Christianity and Other Religions

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- Common Objections to the Biblical View
 - How could God send people to hell just because they don't believe in Jesus? God requires a faith response to the knowledge we have, not what we don't have.

Christianity and Other Religions

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 - How could God send people to hell just because they don't believe in Jesus? God requires a faith response to the knowledge we have, not what we don't have.

Biblical faith:

Active trust in God, involving a willingness to depend on God's promises based on evidence we have that he is trustworthy and loving.

Christianity and Other Religions

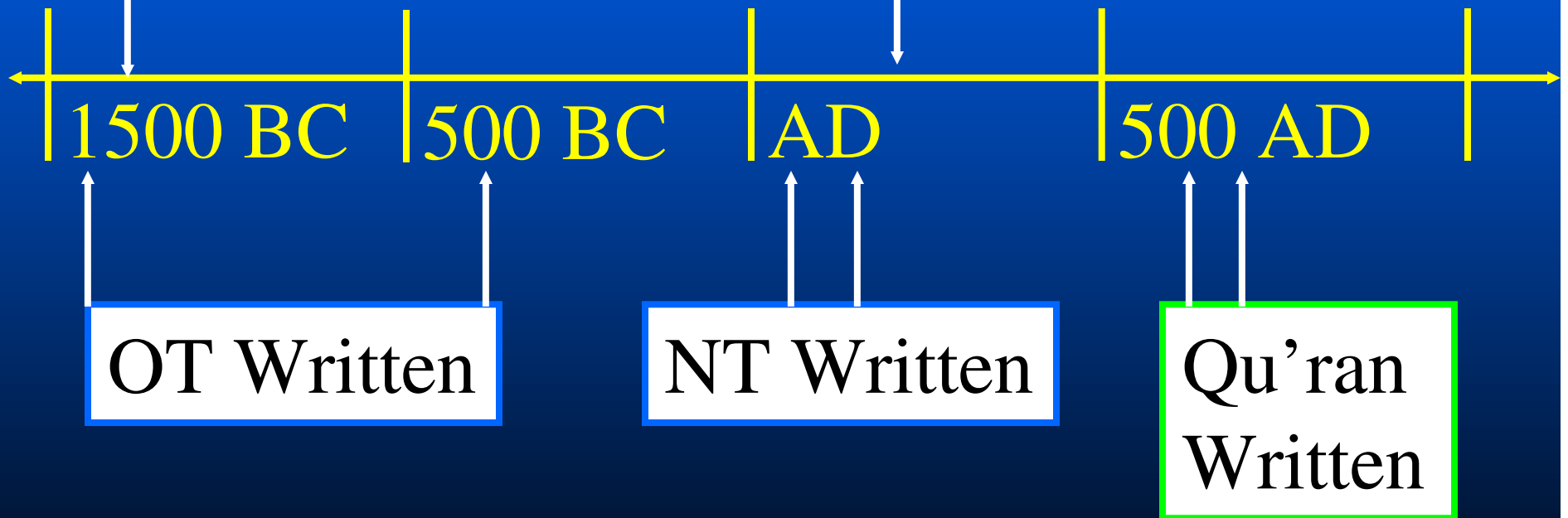
- The Biblical View of Other Religions
- Common Objections to the Biblical View
 - How could God send people to hell just because they don't believe in Jesus? God requires a faith response to the knowledge we have, not what we don't have.
 - All religions are ultimately the same

Christianity and Other Religions

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Chronology: Writings of Hinduism, Christianity, and Islam

Vedas and Upanishads
Written



Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions
- Common Objections to the Biblical View
- Comparison and Contrast with Hinduism

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common Ground

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common Ground

- Some threads speak of a personal creator God

“The seer, our father, sacrificing all these worlds, sat on the high priest's throne: pursuing wealth by offering prayer, he made away with what came first, entering into the latter things.

What was the primal matter? What the beginning? How and what manner of things was that from which the Maker of All, see-er of all, brought forth the earth, and by his might the heavens unfolded?

His eyes on every side, on every side his face, on every side his arms, his feet on every side--with arms and wings he together forges heaven and earth, begetting them, god, the one!

“Let us today invoke the Lord of Speech, Maker of All, inspirer of the mind, to help us at the time of sacrifice. Let him take pleasure in all our invocations, bring us all blessing, working good to help us!”

Rgveda, x, lxxxi: to visvakarman (the 'all-maker')

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common Ground

- Some threads speak of a personal creator God

Christianity and Hinduism

■ Common Ground

- Some threads speak of a personal creator God
- Some threads contain similar ethics

Christianity and Hinduism

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“Mortification, the giving of alms, uprightness, refusal to do harm, truthfulness--these are one's gifts to the priests.”

Upanishads, Chandogya Upanishad, Book Three, III, xvii, v4

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground?

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
- Hindu scriptures as revelation?

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
- Hindu scriptures as revelation?
 - Claims of inspiration minimal, after the fact

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
- Hindu scriptures as revelation?
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“Thus says God the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and its offspring, who gives breath to the people on it, and spirit to those who walk in it...”

Isaiah 42:5

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
- Hindu scriptures as revelation?
 - Claims of inspiration minimal, after the fact

“In the first year of his reign I, Daniel, observed in the books the number of the years which was revealed as the word of the Lord to Jeremiah the prophet for the completion of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely, seventy years.”

Daniel 9:2

Isaiah 42:5

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Christianity and Hinduism

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“Most would hesitate to define what is and is not Hindu scripture”

Hindu Scriptures, by Dominic Goodall, Introduction,
pg i

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
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Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
- Hindu scriptures as revelation?
 - Claims of inspiration minimal, after the fact
 - The “canon”, or list of books, indeterminate
 - No objective evidence writings are from God

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
- Hindu scriptures as revelation?

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
- Hindu scriptures as revelation?
- Issue of internal consistency in Hinduism

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
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- Issue of internal consistency in Hinduism

“Definitions of Hindu orthodoxy are necessarily minimal, because such a plethora of beliefs are possible; about the most that can be said is that orthodoxy requires at least lip-service to the authoritativeness of the Veda.”

Hindu Scriptures, by Dominic Goodall, Introduction,
pg xxvii

Christianity and Hinduism

“The Upanishads...are not systematic treatises expounding and defending a single worldview. There are points on which they contradict both each other and themselves.”

Hindu Scriptures, by Dominic Goodall,
Introduction, pg xix

orthodoxy requires at least lip-service to the authoritativeness of the Veda.”

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Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
- Hindu scriptures as revelation?
- Issue of internal consistency in Hinduism
 - Creation accounts

“In the beginning nothing at all existed here. This whole world was enveloped by Death,--by Hunger, for what is death but hunger? And death bethought himself: 'Would that I had a self!' He roamed around, offering praise; and from him, as he offered praise, water was born. And he said to himself: 'Yes, it was a joy to me to offer praise.' And this is what makes fire fire. And joy is the lot of him who understands that this is what makes fire fire. Water too is arka. And the froth of the water was churned together and became the earth. And on this earth he wore himself out. And the heat and sap generated by him, worn out and consumed by fierce penances as he was, turned into fire.

“He divided himself into three parts: one third was fire, one third the sun, one third the wind. He too is the breath of life threefold divided. The east is his head. The north-east and south-east are his two arms. The west is his tail. The north-west and south-west are his two buttocks. The south and north are his flanks. The sky is his back, the atmosphere his belly, this earth his chest...then he longed that a second self might be born to him; and so he who is Hunger and Death copulated with Speech by means of mind...

Upanishads, Brhadaranyaka Upanishad, Book One, I, ii

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 - Nature of god

Christianity and Hinduism

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 - Nature of god

[Krishna said,] “What gods teach is right and sometimes also what they do. A wise man should do what concords with what they teach.”

The Bhagavata-purana, 31, v32

Christianity and Hinduism

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Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
- Hindu scriptures as revelation?
- Issue of internal consistency in Hinduism
 - Creation accounts
 - Nature of god
 - Afterlife and salvation

Christianity and Hinduism

“Yes, caste-confusion leads to hell--the hell prepared for those who wreck the family and for the family so wrecked.”

Bhagavad-gita, I, v42

- Nature of god
- Afterlife and salvation

Christianity and Hinduism

“Yes, caste-confusion leads to hell--the hell prepared for those who wreck the family and for the family so wrecked.”

Bhagavad-gita, I, v42

“[the blessed lord krsna said] Many a birth have I passed through, and many a birth have you: I know them all, you know not.”

Bhagavad-gita, IV, v5-8

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- New Age derivatives: key differences w/
Christianity

Christianity and Hinduism

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- New Age derivatives: key differences w/
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 - Afterlife: reincarnation and annihilation vs.
personal, conscious resurrection to eternal life

	Naturalism	Theism	Pantheism	Polytheism	Spiritual Relativism
Is Reality Personal?	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes/No
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Does God Exist?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes/No
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Meaning of Human Life	Not significant	Very significant	Individuals not significant	Depends on the gods	Varies

“But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve, as do the rest who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord...the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them...to meet the Lord...thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Christianity and Hinduism

- Common ground: some...
- Hindu scriptures as revelation?
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- New Age derivatives: key differences w/
Christianity
 - Afterlife: reincarnation and annihilation vs.
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Christianity and Hinduism

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- Hindu scriptures as revelation?
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- New Age derivatives: key differences w/
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 - Goal: self as God vs. personal reconciliation to God through Christ's gift

Christianity and Hinduism

“Pantheism: All that exists is God; God is all that exists. This leads naturally to the concept of the divinity of the individual, that we are all Gods. [New Age practitioners] do not seek God as revealed in a sacred text or as exists in a remote heaven; they seek God within the self and throughout the entire universe.”

From www.religioustolerance.org/newage.htm

- Goal: self as God vs. personal reconciliation to God through Christ's gift

God

**Direction, Provision,
Protection,**

**Significance,
Security**

**Other
People**

Me

**Other
People**



God

**Direction, Provision,
Protection,**

**Significance,
Security**



**Other
People**

Me

**Other
People**

**←
Wise
Love**

**→
Wise
Love**

Christianity and Hinduism

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Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions
- Common Objections to the Biblical View
- Compare/Contrast w/ Hinduism

Christianity and Other Religions

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- Common Objections to the Biblical View
- Compare/Contrast w/ Hinduism
- Compare/Contrast w/ Islam

Christianity and Islam

Christianity and Islam

- Common Ground

Christianity and Islam

- Common Ground
 - Both affirm theistic worldview

	Naturalism	Theism	Pantheism	Polytheism	Spiritual Relativism
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“To God belong the East and the West. Wherever you turn the glory of God is everywhere: all-pervading is He and all-knowing.”

Qur'an, Surah 2, v115

“Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised; His greatness is unsearchable.” Psalm 145:3.

““Can a man hide himself in hiding places, so I do not see him?” declares the Lord.” Jeremiah 23:24.

“For nothing will be impossible with God.” Luke 1:37

“To God belong the East and the West. Wherever you turn the glory of God is everywhere: all-

“Why, they who have earned the wages of sin and are enclosed in error, are people of Hell, where they will abide forever. But those who believe and do good deeds are people of Paradise, and shall live there forever.”

Qur'an, Surah 2, v81-82

Can a man hide himself in hiding places, so I do not see him?

“...it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment”

“For not Hebrews 9:27

Christianity and Islam

- Common Ground
 - Both affirm theistic worldview

Christianity and Islam

■ Common Ground

- Both affirm theistic worldview
- Both affirm inspiration of Bible (OT and NT)

Christianity and Islam

■ Common Ground

- Both affirm theistic worldview
- Both affirm inspiration of Bible (OT and NT)

“He has verily revealed to you this Book, in truth and confirmation of the Books revealed before, as indeed He had revealed the Torah and the Gospel.”

Qur'an, Surah 3, v3-4

Christianity and Islam

- Common Ground: Substantial, but...

Christianity and Islam

- Common Ground: Substantial, but...
- The Qur'an contradicts the Bible

Christianity and Islam

- Common Ground: Substantial, but...
- The Qur'an contradicts the Bible

“When we cancel a message (sent to an earlier prophet) or throw it into oblivion, we replace it with one better or one similar.”

Qur'an, Surah 2, v106

Christianity and Islam

- Common Ground: Substantial, but...
- The Qur'an contradicts the Bible
- The Qur'an offers little evidence for itself

Christianity and Islam

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“Do they say (of the Prophet) that: ‘He has composed it?’ Say to them: ‘Bring a Surah like this, and call anyone apart from God you can (to help you), if what you say is true.’”

Qur'an, Surah 10, v38

Christianity and Islam

■ Common Ground: Substantial, but

“The unbelievers say: ‘Why was the whole Qur'an not sent down all at once to him?’ It was sent thus that We may keep your heart resolute. So We enunciated it by steps and distinctly. There is not an example they advance to which We do not give you a right answer and a better explanation. Those who will be pushed faces forward into Hell will be in a worse position, farther away from the path.”

Qur'an, Surah 25, v32-34

Christianity and Islam

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Christianity and Islam

- Common Ground: Substantial, but...
- The Qur'an contradicts the Bible
- The Qur'an offers little evidence for itself
- Key differences

Christianity and Islam

- Common Ground: Substantial, but...
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- Key differences
 - Who is Jesus? What did he accomplish?

Christianity and Islam

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- The Qur'an offers little evidence for itself
- Key differences
 - Who is Jesus? What did he accomplish?
 - » Qur'an: just a prophet; Bible: God incarnate

“Jesus was only a creature whom We favoured and made an example for the children of Israel.”

Qur'an, Surah 43, v59

- The Qur'an offers little evidence for itself
- Key differences
 - Who is Jesus? What did he accomplish?
 - » Qur'an: just a prophet; Bible: God incarnate

“Jesus was only a creature whom We favoured and made an example for the children of Israel.”

Qur'an, Surah 43, v59

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being...and the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth...for the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.”

John 1:1-3, 14, 17

“They say: ‘Become Jews or become Christians, and find the right way.’ Say: ‘No. We follow the way of Abraham the upright, who was not an idolater.’ Say: ‘We believe in God and what has been sent down to us, and what had been revealed to Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and their progeny, and that which was given to Moses and Christ, and to all other prophets by the Lord. We make no distinction among them, and we submit to Him.’”

Qur’an, Surah 2, v135-136

the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth...for the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.”

John 1:1-3, 14, 17

“They say: ‘Become Jews or become Christians, and find the right way.’ Say: ‘No. We follow the way of Abraham the upright, who was not an idolater.’ Say: ‘We believe in God and what has been sent down to us, and what had been revealed to Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and their progeny, and

“Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am.’ Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself, and went out of the temple.”

John 8:58-59

truth...for the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.”

John 1:1-3, 14, 17

Christianity and Islam

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- The Qur'an contradicts the Bible
- The Qur'an offers little evidence for itself
- Key differences
 - Who is Jesus? What did he accomplish?
 - » Qur'an: just a prophet; Bible: God incarnate
 - » Qur'an: preached; Bible: cross is salvation

“And for saying: ‘We killed the Christ, Jesus, son of Mary, who was an apostle of God;’ but they neither killed nor crucified him, though it so appeared to them. Those who disagree in the matter are only lost in doubt. They have no knowledge about it other than conjecture, for surely they did not kill him, But God raised him up (in position) and closer to Himself; and God is all-mighty and all-wise.”

Qur'an, Surah 4, v157-158

» Qur'an: preached; Bible: cross is salvation

“And for saying: ‘We killed the Christ, Jesus, son of

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“Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.”

Isaiah 53:4-6

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“Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we

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“He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.”

Colossians 2:13-14

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- Key differences
 - Who is Jesus? What did he accomplish?
 - How do you get to heaven?
 - » The Qur'an: by sufficiently good works
 - » The Bible: by receiving Christ's gift in faith

“Announce to those who believe and have done good deeds, glad tidings of gardens under which rivers flow...”

Qur'an, Surah 2, v25

- The Qur'an offers little evidence for itself
- Key differences
 - Who is Jesus? What did he accomplish?
 - How do you get to heaven?
 - » The Qur'an: by sufficiently good works
 - » The Bible: by receiving Christ's gift in faith

“Announce to those who believe and have done

“(On the Day of Reckoning) We shall question the people to whom We had sent Our apostles, (if they followed their teachings), and will question the apostles. We shall recount (their deeds) to them with knowledge, for We were never absent (and saw all they did). And the weighing will be just on that Day. Then those whose (deeds) are heavier in the balance will find fulfillment, and those whose (deeds) are lighter in the scale shall perish for violating Our signs.”

Qur'an, Surah 7, v6-9

“...knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we may be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified.”

Galatians 2:16

they did). And the weighing will be just on that Day. Then those whose (deeds) are heavier in the balance will find fulfillment, and those whose (deeds) are lighter in the scale shall perish for violating Our signs.”

Qur'an, Surah 7, v6-9

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“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him.”

John 3:16-17

Qur'an, Surah 7, v6-9

Christianity and Islam

- Common Ground: Substantial, but...
- The Qur'an contradicts the Bible
- The Qur'an offers little evidence for itself
- Key differences
 - Who is Jesus? What did he accomplish?
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“Those who barter the life of this world for the next should fight in the way of God. And We shall bestow on him who fights in the way of God, whether he is killed or is victorious, a glorious reward...Those who believe fight in the way of God; and those who do not only fight for the powers of evil; so you should fight the allies of Satan...So fight on in the way of God (irrespective of others). You cannot compel any one except your own self; but urge the believers to fight. It may well be that God will keep back the might of the infidels, for God's might is greater, and severe His punishment...They wish you to become disbelievers as they are, so that you should become like them. Therefore hold them not as friends until they go out of their homes in the way of God. If they do not, seize them wherever they are and do away with them.”

Qur'an, Surah 4, v74, 76, 84, 89

“Those who barter the life of this world for the next should

f Surah 8, v39 “So, fight them till all opposition ends, and
f obedience is wholly God's.”

Surah 8, v59 “The infidels should not think that they can
bypass (the law of God). Surely they cannot get away.”

c Surah 9 v5 “But when these months, prohibited (for
e fighting), are over, slay the idolaters wheresoever you
v find them, and take them captive or besiege them, and lie
C in wait for them at every likely place. But if they repent
y and fulfil their devotional obligations and pay the zakat,
b then let them go their way.”

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“Those who barter the life of this world for the next should

Qur'an, Surah 9, v20 “So fight them till all opposition ends and

“Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting...but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm.’”

John 18:36

“If you find them, and take them captive or besiege them, and lie in wait for them at every likely place. But if they repent and fulfil their devotional obligations and pay the zakat, then let them go their way.”

“If they do not, they go out of their homes in the way of God. If they do not, seize them wherever they are and do away with them.”

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“Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not of this

““Tell us therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to give a poll-tax to Caesar, or not?’ But Jesus perceived their malice, and said, ‘Why are you testing Me, you hypocrites? Show Me the coin used for the poll-tax.’ And they brought Him a denarius. And He said to them, ‘Whose likeness and inscription is this?’ They said to Him, ‘Caesar's.’ Then He said to them, ‘Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to God the things that are God's.’ And hearing this, they marveled, and leaving Him, they went away.”

Matthew 22:17-22

Qur'an, Surah 4, v74, 76, 84, 89

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And the Pharisees and Herodians brought Him a silver penny.

“But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.”

John 4:23

Matthew 22:17-22

Qur'an, Surah 4, v74, 76, 84, 89

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Christianity and Other Religions

- The Biblical View of Other Religions
- Common Objections to the Biblical View
- Compare/Contrast w/ Hinduism
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 - Scripture is unique in its evidential basis
 - Message of scripture is radically different: God-centered God-initiated gift of personal reconciliation

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- Next week: Science and Christianity