

# Tackling the Tidal Wave: Islam

Jon Sherman, Lead Pastor  
8.9.2015

## **SAY WHAT? ⇒ What are the roots of Islam?**

Sura 2:97, "Say, 'Anyone who opposes Gabriel should know that he has brought down this (the Quran) into your heart, in accordance with God's will, confirming previous scriptures, and providing guidance and good news for the believers.'"

### • **The primary teachings of Islam that contradict Christianity are:**

- o The Bible is "corrupted" but completed in the Quran.
- o Jesus wasn't crucified; someone else took his place.
- o Jesus is a prophet, but not the Son of God.

## **SO WHAT? ⇒ What do Muslims want? Peace?**

### • **Islam: "submission" or "surrender"**

### • **Almost all Muslims want:**

- a) the whole world to be subject to Sharia Law
- b) for everyone to practice the 5 pillars of their faith...

Shahadah: declaring "there is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is His Messenger"

Salat: ritual prayer five times a day

Zakat: giving 2.5% of one's savings to the poor and needy

Sawm: fasting and self-control during the month of Ramadan

Hajj: pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in a lifetime (if one is able)

## **NOW WHAT? ⇒ How do we tackle this tidal wave?**

As Americans, we must recognize that we are at war with radical Islam and respond accordingly.

As Christians, we must recognize that we are at war with "the powers, the world forces of this darkness, the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places" (Eph. 6:12) and respond accordingly - which is to stand firm, love and pray for all Muslims.

Matt. 5:43-45, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven."

## Connection Group Questions

Taken from the sermon on August 9, 2015

Tackling the Tidal Wave: Islam

### ■ Questions for “Group Discussion”

- When we read Eph 6:10-12, who is our true enemy and how does that impact how we see Muslims & other groups?
- Read 2 Tim. 1:6 – Have group members share their spiritual gifts and discuss how you can use these to reach those in the Muslim faith.
- Read 2 Tim. 1:7 – How does this verse apply to us using our gifts for others (verse 6)? (Hint: is anyone afraid to step out and use their gift for others?)

### ■ Questions for “Personal Growth”

- **Monday: Love exposes false religions...** There are many verses in the “Qur’an” (Islam’s proclaimed “bible”) such as this one; Quran (8:12) - “I will cast terror into the hearts of those who disbelieve. Therefore strike off their heads and strike off every fingertip of them”. Now, compare that to our Bible’s teachings on how we are to treat others, including unbelievers; Colossians 4:5-6 and 1 Peter 3:8-9. What is the primary difference between the true religion of Christianity and the false religion of Islam?
- **Tuesday: Victory over fearing death...** Have you ever been “bullied”? What are the major tactics used by those who try to intimidate others into agreeing with them? How are the terrorists groups such as ISIS, that oppose Israel and its supporters, using the same tactics? Please read Matthew 16:21-23. What caused Peter to react the way he did and what was Jesus’ response to his fear? How can succumbing to fear become a stumbling block to spreading the gospel?
- **Wednesday: Fear of God over man...** Please read Proverbs 29:25; Matthew 10:28; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Galatians 1:10 and 1 Thessalonians 2:4. Have you ever been tempted to compromise Biblical truth because you fear rejection or other (worldly) consequences of man? Now please read Matthew 10:33. What is the clear outcome of those who deny Christ...no matter what the circumstances are? When tempted to fold under pressure, seek God’s strength and courage to stand for truth!
- **Thursday: Love your enemies...** If we recognize Islamists as those governed by a false religion that we need not fear, what then should be our primary response? Today, please meditate upon Matthew 5:44-45. To whom can you repay kindness for evil/ ill will and how? Demonstrate your love and devotion to Christ by seeking opportunities to do so!
- **Friday: Resting in the Sovereignty of God...** Please read Psalm 91:7-9; 140:7 and Luke 1:37. Remember times past when God has faithfully walked you through difficult or frightening trials. It would be healthy to write this list down. How did this increase your faith in His love and protection? Commit to seeing with eyes of faith rather than fear.