

# UNDERSTANDING ISLAM



A Collaborative Group of  
Pastors, Christian Organizations,  
and Entities in North Carolina

## **UNDERSTANDING ISLAM--A COLLABORATIVE RESPONSE FROM COMMITTED FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST!**

In recent months, the reality of a world filled with terrorism has again shattered our normally serene American lives. The events of Paris, France (November 13, 2015) and San Bernardino, California (December 2, 2015) have but underscored this tragic truth.

The one commonality shared in these horrific events, though not limited to these events alone, is the element of Islamic extremism! In an effort to explain, clarify, or justify Islam's involvement, visual media, print media, and numerous defenders of Islamic ideology, have perpetrated a variety of falsehoods. It is our intent (see signatories below) to address those inaccuracies!

Without doubt, the most overtly misleading statement is the oft repeated assertion that the term "Islam" means "peace." "Salam" is the actual Arabic word for "peace," not "Islam!" While the words "Islam" and "Salam" may look, and sound, alike, they are vastly different in meaning! "Islam" actually means "submission," and the word "Muslim" (or "Moslem") means "submitted one," underscoring the global goal of Islam--the submission of all mankind to the will and law of Allah. According to Islamic theology/ideology, peace can only be procured when those who refuse to submit are eliminated, leaving only the devotees to Allah.

Equally fabricated are the suggestions that Christians and Muslims worship the same God, merely calling Him by a different name, and that Jesus, Himself, was a Muslim. Since Islam did not begin until 600 years after the time of Christ, that offensive claim can be nothing but patently false! From a theological perspective, the god of Islam and the God of the Bible could not possibly be the identical. The Koran teaches that Allah had no son. The Bible clearly teaches that Jehovah God had one son, Jesus Christ, Who took upon Himself flesh, lived a sinless life, died on a cross, and rose again for the purpose of forgiving the sin of the world! Those who rabidly adhere to the teachings of Islam, and it's accompanying Sharia Law, declare a message of violence. The Bible, and those who follow Jesus, declare a message of redemption and peace thru Christ!

Also, frequently and erroneously stated is the claim that most acts of terror are committed by non-Muslims. The overwhelming number of recent terror attacks, in which the perpetrators all asserted Islam as their ideology, should thoroughly disprove those claims! Abundantly obvious is the fact that every terror group--Al Qaeda, Al Nusra, Hamas, Muslim Brotherhood, Hezbollah, Ansar al Islam, Ansar al Sharia, Al Shabaab, the Mujahedeen, Boko Haram and ISIS--have one thing in common. They all have 100%

Muslim membership. Tragically, these terrorist entities are not aberrations of Islam, they are the very essence of it!

Regrettably, most Americans know nothing substantive about Islam! Hence, they read/listen to the seemingly peaceful remarks of Islam's professed followers and accept them at face value, not knowing that Islam's 1400 years of advancement has always been via the sword. Seldom is reference made to the first nine chapters (surahs) of the Koran, in which the most overt statements about treatment of infidels, or unbelievers (the kufar), are made. Koran (Quran) 2: 191 states, "And kill them wherever you find them, and turn them out from where they have turned you out. And Al-Fitnah [disbelief] is worse than killing... but if they desist, then lo! Allah is forgiving and merciful. And fight them until there is no more Fitnah [disbelief and worship of one other than Allah] and worship is for Allah alone." Rather than being an ideology of acceptance and inclusion, Islam is one of exclusion, rejecting all that is contrary to Koranic and Mohammedan doctrine.

While some may claim that we are bigoted, hateful, and intolerant, our clarion corrections, herein included, should never be interpreted as such, for they are not, nor are we! These much needed clarifications are presented in an effort to state the truth regarding a rapidly growing, severely misunderstood, and often deceptively mischaracterized religion/ideology!



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