

Dialogue with a Christian ***[Except Jehovah's witnesses].***

M=Muslim

C=Christian

M: Excuse me; do you follow any particular religion?

C: Yes. I am a Christian (Catholic / Anglican (Church of England) / Born-again Christian)

M: Can I ask you a question? Do you believe that Jesus is God? Or that Jesus was sent by God?

C: I believe that he was sent by God.

M: Did you know that there is only one religion which says that Jesus was sent by Almighty God?

C: *[Looks surprised]*

M: Do you know which religion that is?

C: No *[Shakes head]*

M: The only religion which says that Jesus was sent by Almighty God is Islam. Islam also says that Jesus was The Messiah, he was born to a virgin-mother - Mary, and he did many miracles with the power of God.

C: No, Christianity doesn't say that Jesus is God.

M: Don't the Christians say "*God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit*"?

C: Yes we do.

M: Can you see that Christianity is saying that Jesus is God.

C: Yes I suppose Jesus is God because he is part of The Trinity.

M: Do you mind if we define what God is?

M: Would you agree that God:

- sees everything
- hears everything
- knows everything
- has no beginning
- has no end
- is neither male nor female
- is not like anything
- is absolutely perfect
- is perfect in His beauty, His love, and His majesty.

C: Yes I can agree with that.

M: But Jesus wasn't like that.

C: Yes he was.

M: For example, we have agreed that God knows everything. Did Jesus know everything?

C: Yes he did.

M: But in the Bible, when Jesus was asked about "The Hour" that is The Day of Judgement, Jesus said "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." [Matthew 24:36]

M: Also in the Bible, when Jesus went to get fruit from a fig tree, there was no fruit and he cursed the tree. [Matthew 21:18-22] Surely if he was God, he would have known that before he went to the tree!

C: But Jesus did miracles.

M: Did he use his own power?

C: Yes.

M: But in the Bible Jesus says 'Of myself, I can do nothing.' And when he did miracles, he did it in the name of the Father who we would refer to as God.

C: I still believe in the Trinity.

M: The trinity means that Jesus is God. Didn't Jesus pray to God?

C: Yes he did.

M: Isn't prayer to ask God for things as well as to glorify Him.

C: Yes it is.

M: If Jesus asks somebody for help, surely he can't be God. We have already agreed that God is the Almighty.

C: Well I have never believed he is Almighty God anyway.

Now 'The Christian' has agreed that Jesus is not God, but insists on Jesus being 'The Son of God'. Therefore we need to concentrate on proving that Jesus is not God's Son.

C: I believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

M: Many people are called sons of God in the Bible. For example, Adam was called the son of God (Luke 3:38) and so was David (2 Samuel 7:14). Jesus himself, in the Bible said “Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called Sons of God.” (Matthew 5:9) In the Bible, lots of good people are called Sons of God, and from what Jesus said in The Bible, any good person is a ‘son of God.’

M: How do *you* believe Jesus asked you to pray? Didn't he say to pray “Our Father in Heaven...”? When the Christians pray, don't they say, ‘Our Father in Heaven...’? If Jesus was the only Son of God, according to Christianity, surely you would be praying “Jesus’ Father in Heaven...”?

C: Yes we are all children of God.

M: We don't like to say children of God, but we can understand that you are saying that there is a spiritual relationship between us and God which you refer to as a Father and Child relationship. Would you agree with that?

C: Yes, I have a very close relationship with God.

M: Yes, of course we all have a very close relationship with God, because your religion is a revealed religion. Are you happy to say that we are children of God, like Jesus is the Son of God?

C: Yes I am happy with that.

Now ‘The Christian’ has stated that “Jesus is a Son of God, like we are children of God”. We need to concentrate on proving that the Qur’an is from God.

M: If we were alive at the time of Jesus and we did not know who he was, how would we know that he was sent by God and was The Messiah?

C: I'm not sure.

M: Didn't he do miracles to prove this?

C: Yes he did.

M: Didn't he say that I do them in the name of Almighty God?
So the proof for the people was the miracles that Jesus performed.
After Jesus, God sent another messenger. His name was Muhammad (PBUH.).
Muhammad was also given miracles.

C: Did Muhammad bring people back to life? Or cure the blind?

M: Please don't be offended, but the miracle given to The Prophet Muhammad, is greater than bringing the dead back to life because this miracle is available for us to see today. Do you know what that is?

C: [Shakes his head]

M: It is a book called the Qur’an.
This book is a miracle for a number of reasons
Did you know that it was a miracle?

Some of the reasons it is a miracle are [*you can use as many of these as you like*]:

1. Scientific facts:

It contains **scientific facts** for example:

- Embryology (Qur'an 23:12-14)
- The Big Bang Theory (*"don't the unbelievers see that the heavens and earth were joined together as one united piece then We parted them?" (21:30)*)
- Expanding universe
- Construction of mountains
- Pain receptors for burning in the skin
- The position of the stars
- The water cycle

- Also , It does not contain a single statement that **contradicts** established scientific facts

2. Muhammad was unlettered:

The book was given to a **man who could not read or write** (*How do we know that? Because it says so in the Qur'an and his enemies never called him a liar.*)

3. It has remained unchanged:

The book has remained **unchanged for 1400 years**- see for yourself in the British Library. *"It is We who have sent down the Dhikr and surely We will preserve it"* (The Qur'an 15:9)

4. Easy to memorise:

The book is **easy to memorise** millions of people have done so all over the world even though it's about the size of a paperback. *"...made easy to remember"* (44:58).

5. Does not contain a single contradiction:

There are no contradictions in the Qur'an, even though it was revealed over a period of 23 years. *"Don't they ponder over the Qur'an, had it been from anyone besides Allah, they would surely have found therein many contradictions"* (4:82)

6. Contains a challenge:

God says that if all of mankind and jinn-kind (i.e. spirits) got together they couldn't produce a book like it. In another part of the Qur'an, God says that they couldn't even produce one Surah like it. The shortest Surah is only three sentences. Therefore, God is

telling us that, nobody can produce three sentences that are like the Qur'an. This challenge has stood for 1400 years! "Produce One Sura like it" (The Qur'an 10:38)

7. **Changes people**

The words in the Qur'an have the great **effect of changing people's lives**.

8. **Unique style**

It is written in the Arabic language. Its **style is unique** and cannot be copied

9. **Largest and fastest growing religion**

It has produced the largest religion **1.6 billion followers** and it has produced the **fastest growing religion**.

M: Would you agree the Qur'an is indeed a miracle?

C: Yes it does seem quite amazing →

M: If you accept that the Quran is a miracle then you are accepting that Muhammad was a true Prophet of Almighty God. Would you agree with that?

C: Yes he probably was a Prophet.

M] Are you sure he was a Prophet?

C] I don't know much about him.

M] Let me tell you a little about him. [*Give a brief outline of his life*]

C] Yes I can see he was a prophet.

M] If you accept he is a prophet you should say so in a certain way. By doing so it is guaranteed that you will be going to heaven.

C] What do you mean?

M] By acknowledging the oneness of God and accepting the Prophet Muhammad as a Prophet of Almighty God you are promised the Good News of heaven.

C] I have always believed in one God.

M] Please just repeat after me: "I bear witness that there is nothing worthy of worship except Almighty God and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and Messenger".

C]: No → [*Then we need to give more evidence for example you could talk about: Economic system, Political system, Legal system, Etc.....*]

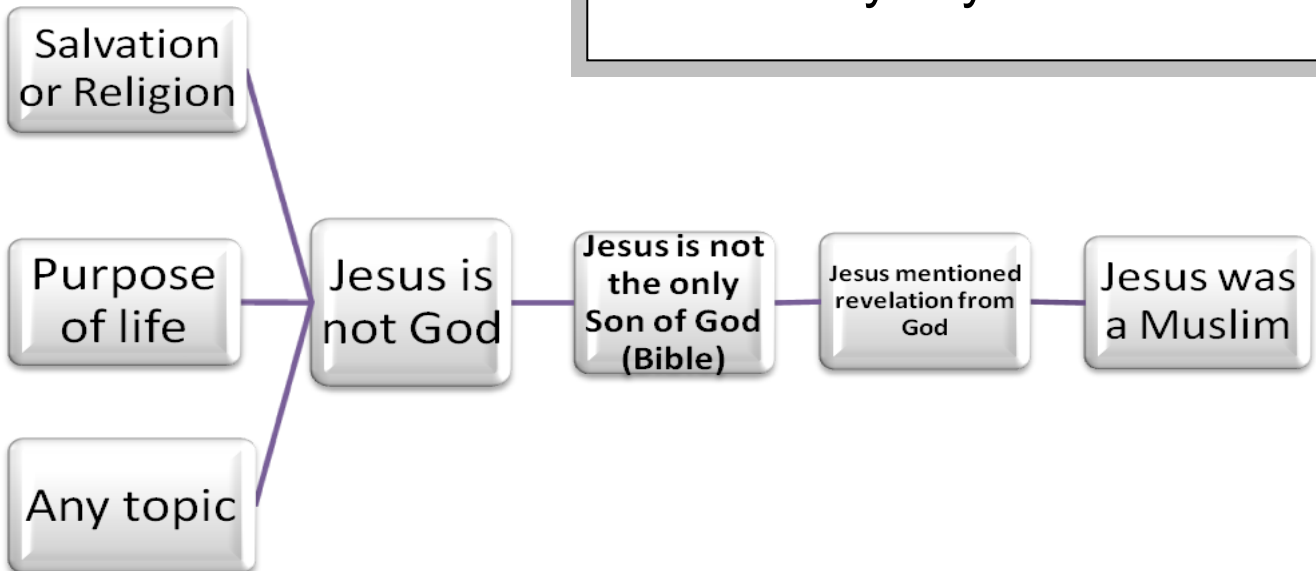
M: Can I show you the Qur'an?

[Maybe say to them that 'why don't you choose a page in The Quran and I'll pray and ask Almighty God to guide us through your choice of that page in the Qur'an. If they agree then you can show them the Qur'an. Usually, I've found that the verse which is selected is very relevant to them and they are surprised!]

Note : Our dialogue should follow the line of :

- 1 Jesus is not Almighty God
- 2 Jesus is not the only son of God in the Bible
- 3 God's Attributes
- 4 The Qur'an being a proof of the truth of the message of Islam

“Do you believe Jesus is God or that he was sent by God? ”
“Christianity says.....”



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