

# Lesson 4

## Islam's Core Beliefs

- Islam's main teachings come from the Prophet Muhammed
- Mohammed believed he received the last revelation from Allah on what is Truth
  - *"Muslims regard the Quran as Muhammad's most important miracle, a proof of his prophethood,<sup>[23]</sup> and the culmination of a series of divine messages starting with those revealed to Adam, including the Tawrah (Torah), the Zabur ("Psalms") and the Injil ("Gospel"), and ending with Muhammad's revelation."* - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quran>

**Truth Factor** - But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! – Galatians 1:8

- The main scriptures in Islam are:
  - The Koran (Writings of Muhammed's teachings), believed to be the last revelation from Allah
  - Hadith (Writings from Muhammed's life and traditions)
- Mohammed did not personally write the "Koran", but Muhammed's teachings were memorized and then compiled into a book call the "Koran" (which means "the recitation") and was actually written down some 20 years after his death by his followers.

### Right Beliefs in Islam

#### Six Articles of Faith

From Nebeel Qureshi "No God But One"

1. Belief that Allah is not relational. "Allah is not a Father, and Allah is not a Son (Quran 112). He is an absolute unity, a monad."
2. "Belief in the prophets"
3. "Belief in divinely inspired books" (Includes Koran and Hadith)
4. "Belief in angels and the unseen"
5. "Belief in the day of judgment"
6. "Belief in Allah's predestining sovereignty"

**Qureshi – "No God But One" Location 356**

## Right Practices in Islam

### 5 Pillars of Islam

*\*All info from this section comes from  
KS3 Religious Education Complete Study & Practice by CGP*

- The 5 Pillars of Islam are the most important ways in which Muslim's believe they can be acceptable to Allah:
  1. Shahadah – A statement of belief which is recited. It says that Allah is the only god and that Muhammad is his messenger.
  2. Salat – Praying to Allah five times a day.
    - a. Before prayer Muslims must participate in Wudu (the ritual of washing hands, feet, and face 3 times to make themselves pure and clean).

**Truth Factor** - <sup>25</sup>“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. <sup>26</sup>Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean. <sup>27</sup>“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. <sup>28</sup>In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness. – Matthew 23:25-28

**The Blood of Jesus is what cleanses us from all sin. 1 John 1:7 (NIV)**

<sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

- b. Muslims participate in a ritual prayer called “Rak’ah” which involves standing, then kneeling, then putting the forehead to the ground as a sign of submission.
3. Zakat – Giving money to charity to help the poor and those in need.
4. Sawm – Fasting during the month of Ramadan. They fast – go without food, drink, smoking, or sex from sunrise to sunset.
5. Hajj – A pilgrimage to the holy city of Makkah which Muslims must try to complete at least once in their lives.

## Lesson 5

### **8 Concepts to Understand Soteriology (The Study of Salvation) Islam in Light of these 8 Concepts**

<b>Standard</b>	<p><b>Allah is believed by Muslims to be the true God and creator of all things. He is not relational or intimate (close) to his creation.</b> “Nothing in the Quran suggests that Allah desires intimacy with humanity. We are not his beloved—just one of his creatures.” - Qureshi – “No God but One” Location 792</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The highest sacred scripture of Islam is the Quran.</b> “The Quran is, to Muslims, the eternal Word of Allah himself. It is the closest thing to God incarnate. To Christians, the eternal Word of Yahweh is Jesus. The Quran holds in Islam the place that Jesus holds in the Christian faith.” – Qureshi “No God but One” location 1397</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Second highest sacred scriptures are the Hadith (example and practices of Muhammed’s life).</b> “They teach that Allah intended certain verses to be recited but not practiced, and other verses to be practiced but not recited. For these reasons, Muslims scholars turn to the records of Muhammad’s life, the hadith, for clarification. In addition, as we have already seen, most Islamic practices actually come from hadith and not from the Quran.”- Qureshi “No God but One” Location 1481</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Muslim’s believe the Quran and Hadith have the highest authority and the standard of what is honorable and good and reveal what is shameful and wrong.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Hermeneutic – The Science of Interpretation</b> “Grasping the orality of the Quran helps with understanding the controversial phenomenon of abrogation. While Muhammad was still alive, he would give recitations that cancelled previous ones. In other words, he would tell his followers that certain portions of the Quran he had relayed before were no longer to be recited as part of the Quran. This was met with resistance, as people asked him how the Word of God could be cancelled. The response is recorded in 2.106 of the Quran, which asserts that Allah can substitute verses in his divine scripture because “he has power over all things.” – Qureshi “No God But One” Location 1468</p>
-----------------	---

## Sin

“Sin is not hereditary, and no one born is a sinner.”

“Muslim theologians explain man’s nature at birth as *fitrah*: state of intrinsic goodness. Like Adam, people are born pure and sinless. They are Muslims by birth, and salvation is intact, but they must do all in their power to maintain this status. Everyone is “accountable for what he himself inscribes upon the unblemished *Tabula Rasa* or tablet of his nature.”<sup>1</sup>”

<sup>1</sup>Robert W. Thomas, *Islam: Aspects and Prospects a Critical Analysis*, 41.

<http://www.zwemercenter.com/guide/sin-according-to-muslims/>

“Muslims admit that maintaining a sinless life in the long run is impossible and that *fitrah* does not last. Humans become polluted due to outside evil influences.”

<http://www.zwemercenter.com/guide/sin-according-to-muslims/>

Disobedience is not rebellion; it is failure to remember God’s instructions, and Satan’s goal is to make us forget his guidance (58:19; 20:115). Since we are weak and forgetful, God sent prophets to remind us of the true path. “The primary task of the prophets is to awaken man’s conscience so that he can decipher the primordial writing on his heart more clearly and with greater conviction.”<sup>1</sup> Within each person is “an inborn inclination to believe and worship Allah.”<sup>2</sup> “It follows, then, that the greatest tragedy that can happen in a man’s life is that he turn away from the remembrance of God. For, when he forgets Allah, he degenerates into a slave of his own base desires whose life becomes characterized by evil and corruption.”<sup>3</sup> “God remembrance,” is key to overcoming temptation and producing *taqwa* (piety). Whoever turns from such guidance will face judgment in the last days due to ignorance and disregard of God (20:124).

<sup>1</sup>Rahman, *Major Themes of the Qur’an*, 24.

<sup>2</sup>Yasien Mohamed, *The Islamic Concept of Human Nature*, 87.

<sup>3</sup>Abu Ameenah Bilal Philips, *Salvation Through Repentance (An Islamic View)*, 23.









<http://www.zwemercenter.com/guide/sin-according-to-muslims/>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Shame</b></p>	<p>Surah 19:72 - Then We will save those who feared Allah and leave the wrongdoers within it, on their knees.</p> <p>Surah 19:73 - And when Our verses are recited to them as clear evidences, those who disbelieve say to those who believe, "Which of [our] two parties is best in position and best in association?"</p> <p>Surah 19:96 - Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds - the Most Merciful will appoint for them affection.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="https://quran.com/19">https://quran.com/19</a></p> <p>“Adam’s response in the garden, “Our Lord! We have wronged our own souls.” (7:23), so sin is mostly against oneself—not against God. Phil Parshall, veteran missionary among Muslims, said this: “It is difficult to communicate the biblical meaning of sin to a Muslim. His outlook is horizontal rather than vertical. Often the key criterion of a definition of sin is whether or not a person is caught.”<sup>1</sup> - <a href="http://www.zwemercenter.com/guide/sin-according-to-muslims/">http://www.zwemercenter.com/guide/sin-according-to-muslims/</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Separation</b></p>	<p>Surah 19:67- Does man not remember that We created him before, while he was nothing?</p> <p>Surah 19:68 - So by your Lord, We will surely gather them and the devils; then We will bring them to be present around Hell upon their knees.</p> <p>Surah 19:69 - Then We will surely extract from every sect those of them who were worst against the Most Merciful in insolence.</p> <p>Surah 19:70 - Then, surely it is We who are most knowing of those most worthy of burning therein.</p> <p>Surah 19:71 - And there is none of you except he will come to it. This is upon your Lord an inevitability decreed.</p> <p>Surah 19:72 - Then We will save those who feared Allah and leave the wrongdoers within it, on their knees.</p> <p>Surah 19:73 - And when Our verses are recited to them as clear evidences, those who disbelieve say to those who believe, "Which of [our] two parties is best in position and best in association?" - <a href="https://quran.com/19">https://quran.com/19</a></p> <p>“Muhammad said women will be the majority of hell’s inhabitants because they are ungrateful to their husbands.<sup>30</sup>” - Qureshi “No God but One”</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Savior/ Substitution</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Who is the Savior? In Islam, You are Your Own Savior. You must earn your own way.</p> <p>Surah 19:96 - Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds - the Most Merciful will appoint for them affection.  <a href="https://quran.com/19">https://quran.com/19</a>  the Qur'an, most deny any such mediatory role: "O ye who believe! Spend out of (the bounties) We have provided for you, before the Day comes when no bargaining (Will avail), nor friendship nor intercession" (2:254).- <a href="http://www.zwemercenter.com/guide/sin-according-to-muslims/">http://www.zwemercenter.com/guide/sin-according-to-muslims/</a></p> <p>"God may overlook small sins, and the traditions state they can be forgiven by performing <i>salat</i> (prayers) and <i>wadu</i> (ritual washing) (<i>al-Bukhari</i> 10:504; <i>al-Muslim</i> 2:437)." - <a href="http://www.zwemercenter.com/guide/sin-according-to-muslims/">http://www.zwemercenter.com/guide/sin-according-to-muslims/</a></p> <p>"The Quran tells us that people who believe Jesus is God will go to hell (5:72)." – Qureshi "No God but One" location 3328</p> <p>"For Muslims, the doctrine of a divine Christ is anathema, and the Quran teaches that he who subscribes to it will make his home in the flames of hell (5:72). For the Christian, belief in the lordship of Christ is necessary for salvation (Rom. 10:9)." – Qureshi "No God but One" location 2939</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saving Power or Work</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">What is the Way of Salvation?          Surah 19:96 – “Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds - the Most Merciful will appoint for them affection.” -www.quran.com          Surah 19:73 - And when Our verses are recited to them as clear evidences, those who disbelieve say to those who believe, "Which of [our] two parties is best in position and best in association?"-  <a href="https://quran.com/19">https://quran.com/19</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">“I believed that Allah was loving, that Muhammad was peaceful, that the Quran was beautiful, that tawhid was the perfect doctrine, and that truly following sharia made one righteous before Allah.” -          Qureshi “No God but One” location 2070</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“This is why, unlike the teachings of Jesus that focus on principles and heart transformation, the guidance in Islam comes in the form of particulars. Sharia reaches the Muslim people in the form of thousands of decisions made by jurists and scholars who are familiar with the traditions of Muhammad’s life. It all comes back to the exemplary life of the prophet.” – Qureshi “No God But One” location 1154</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Salvation</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Surah 7:6 - Then We will surely question those to whom [a message] was sent, and We will surely question the messengers.          Surah 7:7- Then We will surely relate [their deeds] to them with knowledge, and We were not [at all] absent.          Surah 7:8 - And the weighing [of deeds] that Day will be the truth. So those whose scales are heavy - it is they who will be the successful.          Surah 7:9 - And those whose scales are light - they are the ones who will lose themselves for what injustice they were doing toward Our verses.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sanctification</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Practicing the Fire Pillars of Islam</p>

## Lesson 5: Honor/Shame in the Gospel

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>STANDARD</b></p> <p>God is king and creator and is the standard of all that is honorable &amp; good. He is the most powerful being and deserves to be honored as Lord/God and King. We should love, respect, and obey God above any other because He should be number one in our lives.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Revelation 4:11</i>  <i>“Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”</i></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SIN</b></p> <p><b>Sin means to miss the mark or to fall short.</b> We as people miss the mark of always keeping God as #1 in our hearts. We fall short of honoring God and we honor ourselves or others as kings/rulers when we don't love and obey Him fully.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Romans 2:23</i>  <i>“You who boast in the law dishonor God by breaking the law.”</i></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SHAME</b></p> <p><b>To have shame means to lose face (or turn ones face away). Shame involves embarrassment and fear.</b> When our sin and rebellion is exposed/seen by God or others we feel bad and afraid of what might happen. Shame is the fear of losing honor, love, and respect from God and from others. We deserve punishment in eternal shame.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Jeremiah 17:13</i>  <i>“O Lord, the hope of Israel, all who forsake you shall be put to shame; those who turn away from you shall be written in the earth, for they have forsaken the Lord, the fountain of living water.”</i></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SEPARATION</b></p> <p>Because people have dishonored God through disobedience to his commands, they have to be <b>separated</b> from God and his Kingdom. This separation is called death which is physical (body dies), spiritual (relational separation from God), &amp; Eternal (Never Ending in Hell &amp; Lake of Fire).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Isaiah 59:2</i>  <i>“But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.”</i></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUBSTITUTION</b></p> <p>Jesus was willing to take our sin, shame and separation (death) that we deserve. He became a man so that He might <b>substitute</b> His honorable life, death, and resurrection on our behalf to restore us to an honorable relationship with Him.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>1 Peter 3:18</i>  <i>” For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,”</i></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SAVING FAITH</b></p> <p>God reveals that we cannot restore our own honor and be good enough to be saved from shame and death. <b>Saving faith</b> involves following Jesus as Lord God/King &amp; trusting the truth that His life, death, &amp; resurrection has the power to save us.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Romans 10:9</i>  <i>” Because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”</i></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SALVATION</b></p> <p><b>Salvation means deliverance or rescue.</b> God knows that we dishonor Him, but because of His love for us and desire to keep His own honor, he offers salvation. This involves delivering us from shame &amp; separation and rescuing us to restored honorable status as His kingdom children.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Romans 10:11</i>  <i>“For the Scripture says, ‘Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame’.”</i></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SANCTIFICATION</b></p> <p><b>Sanctification means to be set apart for a purpose and to be cleaned.</b> Once we trust Jesus and our relationship with Him is restored, we are continually being set apart as honorable children growing up into God's honorable people.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Philippians 1:6</i>  <i>“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”</i></p>



