



## What do Muslims believe anyway?

Muslim is the name for people who adhere to the Islamic faith. You can't listen to the news or read a newspaper without some mention of Islam, because it is the major religion in most of the countries of the Middle East. Here is a list of some of the similarities and differences between Christianity and Islamic faith:

### Similarities:

- + Both believe there is only One God.
- + Both believe in heaven and hell
- + Both believe in angels as God's messengers
- + Both share belief in the Old Testament Scripture
- + Both believe God is a God of justice
- + Both believe God is also a God of mercy
- + Both believe in prayer and sacrificial giving

### Differences:

- + Islam was founded on the principle of spreading its beliefs by conquest/war

**Christianity was founded on the principle of spreading its beliefs by witnessing**

- + Islam teaches that total surrender to God is what brings peace.

**Christianity teaches that total surrender to God is not possible due to our sinful nature, but peace comes from repenting of sin and receiving the forgiveness of Jesus.**

- + Islam believes Jesus was merely a prophet who was not crucified and didn't rise from the dead

**Christianity believes Jesus is the son of God who died for the sins of the world and rose victorious over sin**

- + Islam teaches salvation by obeying God's rules

**Christianity teaches salvation by grace through faith in what Jesus did to forgive us for breaking God's rules**

- + Islam teaches that the church should rule the state

**Christianity teaches a separation of church and state**

Thanks for asking,  
Pastor David

Send your questions to <mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net>