

Evaluating contextualization and
“Insider Movements”

2011 - Jay Smith & Bill Nikides

“Each one should remain in the condition
in which he was called.” (1Cor 7:20)

5 Primary difficulties in Islamic Ministries

- 1) Persecution
- 2) Extraction
- 3) Parasitism
- 4) Dependency
- 5) Numbers

Thus, Missiologists are looking for any new paradigm to alleviate these problems.

[1] Gospel in the Qur'an (Camel):

- Finding Stories/verses in the Qur'an as a Bridge
- Using these stories to introduce Gospel truths
- Once they believe these truths about Jesus, you can then introduce the Gospels

Examples:

- Sura 19:33 (&15) 'Jesus did die on the Cross'
- Sura 19:19 'Jesus was the only perfect Man'

Advantages:

- It begins with something they are familiar with...the Qur'an
- It doesn't confront their view of 'Isa'
- It makes it easier to make contacts
- It is not as threatening

Problems:

- It is 'eisegesis' (reading into the Qur'an what is not there)
- It can create anger in Muslims who know better.
- It can give authority to the Qur'an unintentionally
- It can easily 'cheapen' the gospel
- Once you start with the Qur'an, it's hard to move on

[2] Contextual Model:

- Breaking down any social/cultural barriers to the Gospel, by incarnating oneself in the local context.
- Became popular in the 1970s (i.e. Phil Parshall & Frontiers)
- 'Walking, eating, dressing, living incarnationallly, etc... (C1 – C6)

C-1 to C-6

The following is a brief summary of the contextualization scale developed by John Travis to describe models of contextualization.

- **C1**- Traditional church using non-indigenous language. Christian churches in Muslim countries entirely removed from the culture. Christians exist as an ethnic/religious minority.
 - i.e. Anglican Churches in foreign cities

- **C2-** Traditional church using indigenous language. The cultural forms are still far removed from the broader Islamic culture.
- **C3-** Contextualized Christ-centred communities using Muslims' language and nonreligiously indigenous cultural forms. Style of worship, dress, etc., are loosely from the indigenous culture. Local rituals and traditions, if used are purged of religious elements. May meet in a church or a more religiously neutral location. The majority of the congregation is of Muslim background and call themselves Christians.

- **C4-** Contextualized Christ-centred communities using Muslims' language and biblically permissible cultural and Islamic forms. Similar to C3 except believers worship looks like Muslim worship, they keep the fast, avoid pork and alcohol, use Islamic terms and dress. Community is almost entirely of Muslim background.
- Though highly contextualized, believers are not seen as Muslims by the Muslim community. Believers call themselves "followers of Isa Al-Masih, Jesus the Messiah".

- **C5-** Christ-centred communities of “Messianic Muslims” who have accepted Jesus as ‘Lord and Saviour’. Believers remain legally and socially within the Islamic community. Aspects of Islam incompatible with the Bible are rejected or if possible, reinterpreted. Believers may remain active in the mosque. Unsaved Muslims may view C5 believers as deviant and may expel them from the Islamic community.
- If sufficient numbers permit, a C5 mosque, or ‘Jamaat’ may be established.

- **C6-** Small Christ-centred communities of secret/underground believers. These can be individuals or small groups isolated by extreme hostility. Openly sharing faith is typically not attempted.



Advantages:

- Contextualizing helps you to become part of the culture and adapt easily
- It makes it easier to gain relationships and trust
- People tend to be more responsive...initially
- The Church, and converts don't stand out as foreign, or strange
- There is normally not as much persecution of converts

Problems:

- **Can lead to Syncretism**
 - ('Son of God', 'Jesus as Lord', 'saviour' -> 'Jesus as messenger')
 - 5 Pillars are all salvific. We are now freed from them.
- **Often seen as deceitful, & leads to persecution when they find out**
- **Can mis-communicate & confuse the Gospel.**
 - Muslim worship forms were imposed on all cultures, & thus define Islam.
 - To adapt prayers, dress, or x-tian mosques, confuses & threatens them.
- **Muslims define themselves by external dress**
- **Forms function by reinforcing the meanings of beliefs and ideology.**

[3] C-5 = 'Insider Movement'

- Acts 21:20-26 – Paul does purification rites to show he is still 'living under the law'
- 1 Cor. 9:19-22 – Paul says we must "Become Like" those we minister to (i.e. Become like Muslims)
- 1 Cor. 7:17-22 – Paul says those who believe should "stay like" that which God called them to.

Advantages:

- There is little to no **Persecution**
- Thus, there is no **Extraction** [i.e. 'Put new wine (love for Jesus) in 'new' wine skins (Islam), and not 'old' wineskins (Christianity)]
- There is little to no **Parasitism**, no dependency
- No **Financial** responsibilities
- The **Numbers** are great, as there are many 'believers' & many 'Jamaat's'
- Insider believers can 'minister' to their families, their '**Oikos**' (i.e. 'Lamps on a stand')

Problems:

- There is a manipulation of Scripture to find authority for this paradigm (i.e. Lamp on a stand, and 'old' wineskins)
- There seems to be a fear of persecution, yet persecution is promised in Matt. 10:34-39
- There seems to be an unhealthy desire for quick numbers
- This is primarily chosen by young American Christians who often are embarrassed by their church/culture

Problems cont.

- It is impregnated with 'Post Modern' thinking
- They aren't able to separate Arab/Asian culture from Islam
- They trivialize the importance of Islamic 'identity codes'
- They don't understand the spiritual power of these codes
- Their 'Christology' is weak to non-existence (i.e. "Mahatma Gandhi will be in heaven due to his love of Jesus")
- MCT's or 'Muslim Compliant Translations'

Insider Movement Defined

“Popular movements to Christ that bypass both formal and explicit expression of the Christian religion.” (Garrison)

“Movements to Jesus that remain to varying degrees inside the social fabric of Islamic, Buddhist, Hindu, or other people groups.” (Higgins)

Huge growth claims

- Herbert Hofer: “Churchless Christianity” in Tamil Nadu (early 90s)
 - Reports of millions
- 15-20,000 Algerian Kabyle Berbers
- 12-20,000 baptized in Azerbaijan
- Reported “Insider” revival in Indonesia, 1966
- 40,000-600,000 believers in a S. Asian country

Biblical Justification

- Synagogue and temple attendance by new believers (Act 15)
- 1Co 7:20 'Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called'
- 1Co 9:22 'I have become all things to all people'
- Act 17:11ff Worshiping common God
- 2Kg 5:15-20 Naaman & temple of Rimmon
- Jn 4 Worship in Samaria or Jerusalem

Commonly used sources

- **Anthropology:** Charles Kraft, Darrell Whiteman
- **Translation:** Eugene Nida, Rick Brown
- **Theology:** Adolf Harnack, Kevin Higgins
- **History:** Kenneth Scott Latourette, Andrew Walls
- **Missiology:** David Bosch, Ralph Winter, Phil Parshall, Herbert Hofer, Dudley Woodberry
- **Pioneers:** John Travis, Brian Armstrong, Joshua Massey, Kevin Higgins, Dean Gilliland, Rebecca Lewis, Fuller School of World Missions

'Messianic Muslims'

- **Community of Messianic Muslims who have accepted Jesus as Lord & savior**
 - **Legally and socially within the Islamic community**
 - **Selective inclusion of aspects of Islam**
 - **Believers remain active in the mosque**
 - **Either embraced as fellow Muslims, viewed as deviant Muslims**
 - **See themselves as Muslims not Christians**
 - **May organize into separate communities for worship**

Distinctive Practices (Some variety)

- **MBB called Muslim without reference to 'Isa'**
- **Remain in mosque with no plan for withdrawal**
- **Performs 'salaat' in the mosque**
- **The 'Shahada' can be affirmed**
- **Can go on Hajj**
- **Can legally convert to Islam to join the mosque community**

1995 Survey of 72 Leaders

- **The Up side**
 - 76% met weekly in worship as believers
 - 66% read/listened to gospel daily
 - 55% say God is Father/Son/Spirit
 - 97% say Jesus is the only savior
 - 100% pray to Jesus for forgiveness of sin
 - 100% feel peace when reading the NT

Survey cont.

- **The Down Side**
 - 50% go to traditional mosque on Friday
 - 31% go more than once per day for salaah affirming prophet-hood of Muhammad
 - 96% say there are 4 sacred books: Torah, Zabur, Injil, Qur'an
 - 66% affirm the Qur'an as the greatest
 - 45% don't affirm God as Father/Son/Spirit
 - 45% feel close to Allah when hearing Qur'an

Problematic Issues

- **Blurring of culture and religion**
- **Forced isolation of C5 community from outside**
- **Lack of visible communities, thus no public presence**
- **Controversial translation work**
- **Proof texting of scripture is suspect**
- **Continuing financial assistance for national leaders from the outside**
- **Affirmation of Muhammad**

Problematic Issues Contd.

- **Discipleship methodology**
 - Inductive Handling by insider-friendly outsiders
- **Terminology- Insider/outsider**
- **No role for church history/tradition**
- **No connections to the visible church**
- **Primacy of anthropology/sociology over theology**
- **Ethics: Issues concerned with deception**
- **Mosque influence: Salt & light?**
- **Confused identity (especially for the next generation)**

Conclusions

- **Supports a non-biblical understanding of the believer and his/her principle identity**
- **Encourages deceptive practices**
- **Non-biblical “Emergent”**
- **Unacceptable foundation- Insider/outsider**
- **Better seen as seeker community- outsiders sincerely interested in inclusion in the covenant community**

Bengali 'Compliant' Translation

Lives of the Prophets	IM translation into Bangla	NIV	Reference
Afterward, the Devil took Him to Jerusalem and stood Him on the edge of the House of God. If you are truly the Messiah of God, throw yourself down from up here	Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the peak of the Holy Temple and said, "If you the Messiah, then fall down by jumping from here."	9 The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here."	Luke 4:9
Oh...oh...Jesus...oh Messiah of the most high God...what do you want from me? I beg of You, don't torture me.	Seeing Jesus he fell at his feet and crying loudly he said, "Jesus, the Messiah of the Almighty God, what is your relationship with me? I beg, please do not torture me."	28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!"	Luke 8:28
...they heard a voice from heaven saying: "This is the beloved Messiah whom I have sent, so listen to Him and obey Him."	Then a voice told from that cloud, "This is my Messiah, my chosen one; listen to him."	35 A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him."	Luke 9:35
Then You are the Messiah of God?	They all asked, "Then are you the Messiah?"	70 They all asked, "Are you then the Son of God?"	Luke 22:70

Reference	KJV	Arabic Text	<u>Translation from Arabic to English</u>
Matt 5:16	your Father which is in heaven	الاعلى وليكم لله	God, your supreme guardian
Matt 5:45	the children of your Father which is in heaven	اولي الله	guardians of God
Matt 5:48	your Father which is in heaven	تعالى لله	God, Most High
Matt 6:1	your Father which is in heaven	ربكم	your Lord
Matt 6:4, 6 (2x), 8	thy Father	ربكم	your Lord
Matt 6:9	our Father	وليننا	our guardian
Matt 6:14	heavenly Father	الاعلى وليكم لله	God, your supreme guardian
Matt 6:15	your Father	لله	God
Matt 6:18	thy Father	ربكم	your Lord
Matt 6:18	thy Father		not translated
Matt 6:26	heavenly Father	لله	God
Matt 6:32	heavenly Father	ربكم	your Lord
Matt 7:11	your Father	الرحيم ربكم	your merciful Lord
Matt 7:21	my Father	لله	God
Matt 10:20	Spirit of your Father	الاعلى وليكم لله	God, your supreme guardian
Matt 10:29	your Father	لله	God
Matt 10:32-33	my Father	ربي	my Lord
Matt 11:25	O Father	ربي يا	O, my Lord
Matt 11:26	Father	اللهي يا	O, my God
Matt 28:19	baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost	و لله	
	cleanse them with water in the name of God and His messiah and His spirit	باسم بالماء طهروهم والقدوس روحه و مسيحه	God and His

16 "For God so loved the world that he **gave his one and only Son**, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

16 God so loved all of humanity that he sacrificed **his unique Son (i.e. his only-beloved)** [as] a ransom for them, so there is no fear upon those who believe in him, because the garden [of Paradise] is their destiny.

لقد احب الله كل البشر حتى انه ضحى بابنه

الوحيد (بحب يبه الوحيد) فداء لهم، فلما خوف

على المؤمنيين به، لان مصيرهم الجنة.

17 For **God did not send his Son** into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

17 **God most high did not send his only-beloved** to people except for deliverance—nor did he send him as a watchman to punish [them], therefore whoever believes in him is rescued from God's punishment,

و لم يرسل الله تعالى حبيبه الوحيد الى الناس الا

منقذاً و لم يرسله رقيباً معاقباً، فمن يؤمن به له

النجاة من عقاب الله،

18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and **only Son**.

18 but God has decreed punishment for whoever rejects him because he has refused the **Son of the indivisible God (i.e. the beloved of the indivisible God)**.

اما من يحد به فقد قضى امره لله بعقابه، لانه

رفض ابن الله الواحد (حبيبه الله الواحد)

NIV	Bahasa Indonesian Sehari-hari Regular Indonesian Translation	"Muslim-friendly translation" with English translation	Missionary's Comments (served in Indonesia for 35 years)
<p>Luke 9:20</p> <p>"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"</p> <p>Peter answered, "The Christ of God."</p>	<p>Lukas 9:20</p> <p>"Tetapi menurut kalian sendiri, Aku ini siapa?" tanya Yesus. Petrus menjawab, "Bapak adalah Raja Penyelamat yang dijanjikan Allah."</p>	<p>Lukas 9:20</p> <p>"Jawab Petrus , 'Al Masih yang datang dari Allah'" <u>The Christ [who] comes from God</u></p>	<p>When Peter confesses Jesus is the Christ, it is though he is not sure. - Luke 9:20 Here we see how this translation continually uses "datang dari Allah" - comes from God - to describe Jesus so that he is not connected to God in any son relationship but only as one who comes from God such as an angel or a prophet. not the Christ of God but the Christ from God.</p>
<p>John 20:28</p> <p>Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"</p>	<p>Yohanes 20:28</p> <p>Tomas berkata kepada Yesus, "Tuhanku dan Allahku!"</p>	<p>Yohanes 20:28</p> <p>"Ya Junjunganku, ya Tuhanku" - <u>My Blessed One and my Lord</u></p>	<p>When Thomas confesses, it is as though he is not clear - John 20:28 The word Lord is substituted with a word meaning blessed with no connotation of divinity. The second word Tuhan literally means Lord. So they have used another word for Lord and translated the word for God by using the Indonesian word for Lord. [In other words, "God" is not translated!]</p>
<p>John 20:31</p> <p>But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.</p>	<p>Yohanes 20:31</p> <p>Tetapi semuanya ini ditulis, supaya kalian percaya bahwa Yesus adalah Raja Penyelamat, Anak Allah, dan karena percaya kepada-Nya, kalian memperoleh hidup.</p>	<p>Yohanes 20:31</p> <p>"Isa adalah Al Masih, Sang Anak yang datang dari Allah"</p> <p><u>"Son who comes from God"</u></p>	<p>In 20:31 - the intent of the author - John is blurred. [The clear teaching of this verse is that] Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. The author, John, wants us to believe in Jesus the Son of God. The translators substitute Son of God ("Anak yang datang dari Allah") to mean Son who comes from God. In this way, the translators change the purpose of the inspired text so that Muslims will want to read the Bible. But by doing this, they remove the opportunity for the Bible readers to understand God's Word.</p>

Biological Sonship

- *“Muslims misunderstand the phrase ‘Son of God’, because the Qur’an explicitly states that God could not have a son. In Arabic, the word ‘ibn’ (“son of”) carries biological connotations” (Rick Brown)*

Response

- Arabic has two words for 'Son'
 - 'Walid' = implies a biological union
 - 'Ibn' = implies 'the same nature'
- The Qur'an uses 'ibn' to denote 'relationship'
 - Sura 2:177 – 'Ibn ul Sabeeli' = Traveller
- Thus, 'Ibn Allah' can denote 'Same nature'
- That is why Muslims reject it!

'Allah has no wife'

- *“Muslims reject the possibility that God could have produced a son through sexual relations with Mary” (Rick Brown)*

Response

- **Not True: Sura 39:4**
- **Passages confronting Allah's human nature:**
 - 5:72 – Allah cannot have a partner
 - 5:75 – Allah cannot eat
 - 5:116 – Allah cannot share his glory with Mary
 - 6:101 – Allah cannot have a wife
- All are in error, proving that the author of the Qur'an was in error...we reject all of the above as well.

Straw Man Argument

- *“Even those who lack such devout scruples think hearing or reading “Son of God” will bring bad luck. Many avoid associating with Westerners altogether, regarding them as polytheists who harbour strange views about God's family”. (Rick Brown)*

Response

- This is an overstatement
- They are angered because they 'Get it'
 - That 'Son of God' equates Jesus with God
 - Thus, he is claiming to 'be God'
 - He is committing 'Shirk'
- Even the 1st Century Christians, coming from a Jewish background had a problem with this phrase, yet refused to change it

Christ's Demotion

- *“Translators can nuance it with a more descriptive phrase, such as “spiritual Son of God” or “beloved Son who comes from God.” These phrases have been shown to clear up the biological misconceptions”*
(Rick Brown)

Response

- Plays into the hands of the Muslims
- 'Spiritual son', 'Beloved Son who comes from God' demotes him to his humanity alone, and thus below God.
- Jesus becomes a representative of God
 - Like all prophets who are 'spiritual' and 'beloved'

Dynamic Equivalent

- *The question is whether the concept of 'Sonship' can be adequately translated with another form, in other words finding a 'Dynamic Equivalent' form within a culture which would convey the same meaning?*

Response

- A better 'dynamic equivalent' would be 'Allah'
 - But every Muslim knows 'Allah is One'
- 'Messiah' is not equivalent to 'Son of God'
 - Messiah is a mediator, while 'Son of God' is familial.
 - Messiah = 'Al Masih' = 'Isa' = prophet

Qur'anic Christ

- *“After testing several options for rendering “Son of God,” translators opted for “the Beloved Son who comes (or originates) from God.” (Rick Brown)*

Response

- **Brown brings Jesus down to the level the Qur'an defines him = prophet, beloved of Allah**
- **Where is there equality with God?**
- **Where is the Triune nature evidenced?**
- *"It is the eternal sonship that makes sense of calling him the eternal Word, but when that sonship is removed, the Trinity as we know it dramatically changes. There is no eternal Father-Son relationship, only an eternal God-Word relationship, which is conceptually very foreign to the doctrine of the Trinity as it has always been understood. The historic Christian understanding of the Trinity essentially collapses."*
(David Abernathy)

Need to equate Jesus with God

- *“if we give the impression that the Father is Allah alone, but that the Son is not, then are we not giving the impression that the Son is not God in the same way as the Father? If the word ‘Allah’ was used for the Father, Son and Spirit then I could at least see the logic of it, but to use ‘Allah’ only for the Father is extremely dangerous”.* (Dr. Paul Blackham)

Son of God = Taboo

- *“The biblical evidence for the Incarnation does not at all prevent Muslims from reading it or discredit the Bible in their eyes, but the taboo phrase ['Son of God'] does both.”
(Rick Brown)*

Response

- **Which Muslims say the Incarnation is acceptable?**
 - It is usually the first question they ask
- **They have problems with both God's incarnation and 'Son of God'**
- **Their problem with Son of God is that it commits 'Shirk'**

Further Difficulties

- **West vs. East:** Almost all of those wishing to change the text are from the West, while those (MBBs especially) who do not are from the East
- **Changing the Bible:** We prove Muslims correct who say we always change our Bible.
- **Territorial Loss:** We are conceding to Islam
- **Deceit:** Muslims will rejoice, yet see it as deceit
- **Form & Meaning:** The Qur'anic words adopt Qur'anic meanings.
 - 'Isa', 'Allah', 'al-Masih', etc...

Importance of 'Son of God' in 1 John

- -With whom do we have fellowship? The Son (1:3)
- -Who appeared to destroy the devil's work? The Son of God (3:8)
- -How do we know we live in God and God lives in us? We acknowledge that Jesus is the Son of God (4:15)
- -Who overcomes the world? The one who believes Jesus is the Son of God (5:5)
- -Who is a liar? The one who does not accept God's testimony that Jesus is the Son (5:10)
- -Who has life? He who has the Son (5:12)
- -Who does not have life? He who does not have the Son of God (5:12)
- -In what name do we believe to have eternal life? The Son of God (5:13)
- -How do we know truth and gain understanding? Through the Son of God (5:20)

Conclusion

- Rev. 22:18-19 = Don't change or add to 'God's Word'
- We should not allow the 'other' to dictate how we are to understand our scripture.
- Christ's Divinity will and should be the primary stumbling block between us.
- Matthew 26:62-66 – Caiaphas asked if Jesus was the 'Son of God' for a purpose...why?

A black and white portrait of Brian McLaren, a man with glasses and a beard, wearing a dark shirt. The portrait is set against a dark blue background with a subtle pattern.

Emergent Church

Ultimately, I hope that Jesus will save Buddhism (not just Buddhists), Islam and every other religion, including the Christian religion."

- This is the very popular preacher and proponent of what we call the “emergent church”, Brian McLaren. I like to think of his idea as the “unchurch church.”
- “I don’t believe making disciples must equal making adherents to the Christian religion. It may be advisable in many (not all!) circumstances to help people become followers of Jesus and remain within their Buddhist, Hindu, or Jewish contexts.”
- He states that he would be willing to become a Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu, even a Christian in order to see people go to heaven



Denouncing Double-mindedness

“No one at once can be a partaker of the Lord’s Table and of the devil’s, nor drink of the cup of the Lord in order to mix it with that of devils (1Co 10:21). Whoever takes the one utterly renounces the other.”

This is a sketch of Calvin turning away the Libertines from the Lord’s Supper.

CHRISLAM (Smith & Sterling)
(Sung to 'Superkalifrajilistic-Expealidotius')

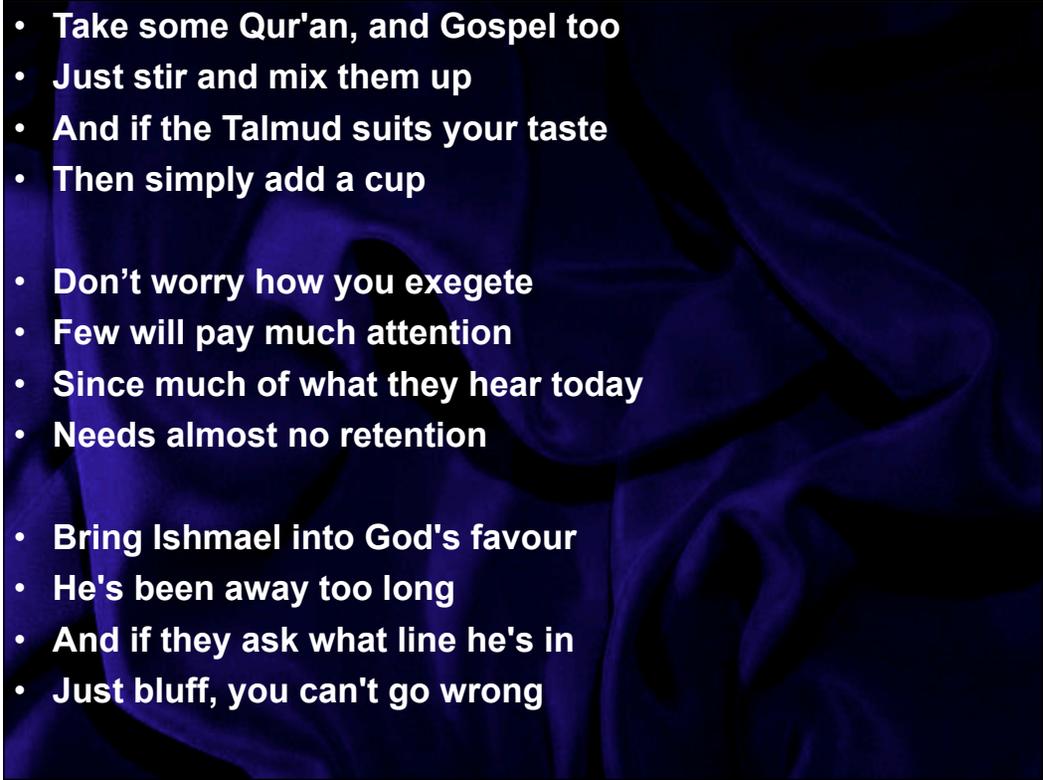
- You know I love whatever's new
- Especially if it's bogus
- And anything which seems to be
- Completely out of focus

- So here's a trend which fits the bill
- CHRISLAM is what it's named
- Some Muslims say Christ is their Lord
- No hint of being ashamed

- Don't get me wrong they still believe
- Muhammad is God's prophet
- But add a little Jesus Christ
- And nothings gonna stop it

- They seem to want no difference
- Between our faiths today
- So what they've done is joined the two
- And here is what they say:

- Just keep them in the mosque for life
- And let them do ablutions
- Then have them pray five daily prayers
- So there's no persecutions



- Take some Qur'an, and Gospel too
- Just stir and mix them up
- And if the Talmud suits your taste
- Then simply add a cup

- Don't worry how you exegete
- Few will pay much attention
- Since much of what they hear today
- Needs almost no retention

- Bring Ishmael into God's favour
- He's been away too long
- And if they ask what line he's in
- Just bluff, you can't go wrong

- **Take out the phrase of 'Son of God'**
- **'Messiah' will do fine**
- **Demote him to Muhammad's state**
- **The Muslims will not mind**

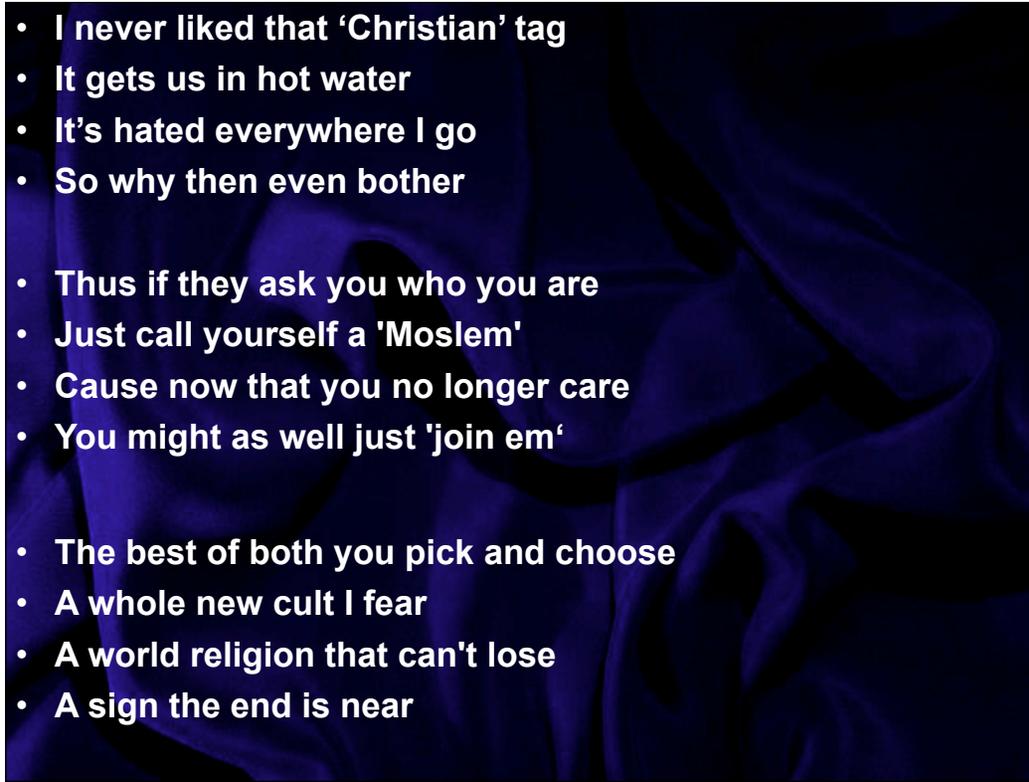
- **In fact don't mention trinity**
- **It's too hard to explain**
- **The Bible never mentions it**
- **So what's there to maintain**

- **But don't stop there, just when it's fun**
- **God's fatherhood dispense**
- **A god who walks and talks with me**
- **Denies omnipotence**

- 'Yahweh' was God's eternal name
- He forced Moses to learn it
- Eternity is much too long
- So why don't we just spurn it

- Instead let's ask what Islam says
- Concerning god's true name
- And use 'Allah' in all our texts
- To prove our god's the same

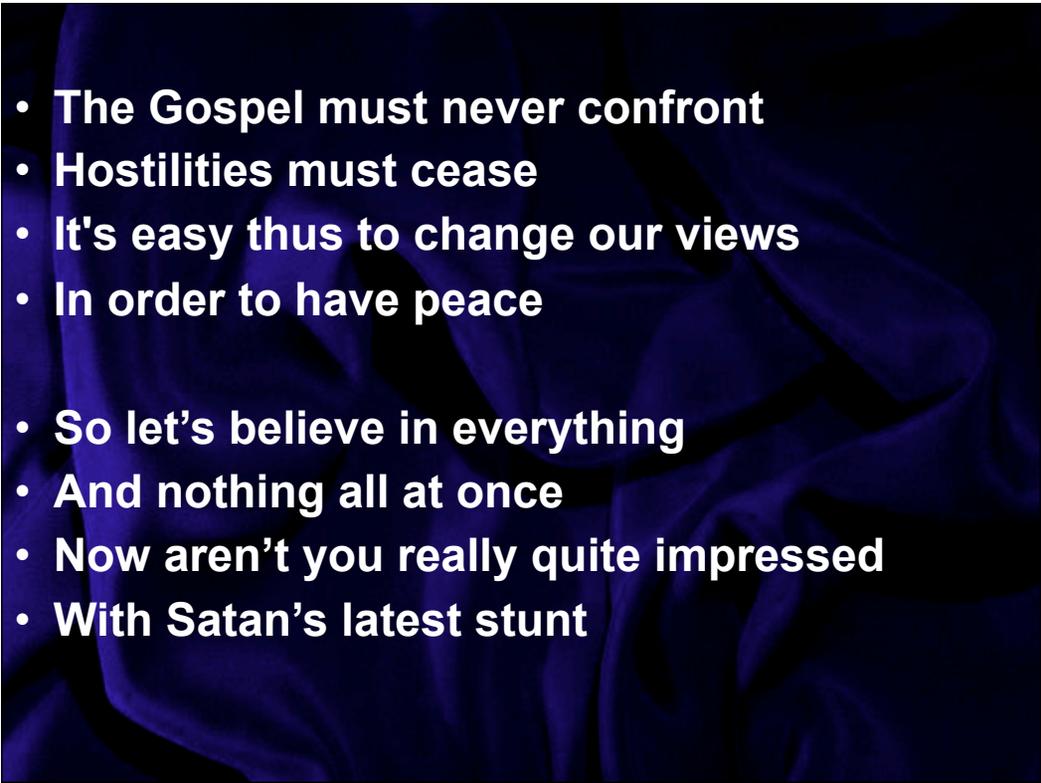
- But now that you have gone this far
- No reason here to quit
- Let's see what else we can chuck out
- In order to submit



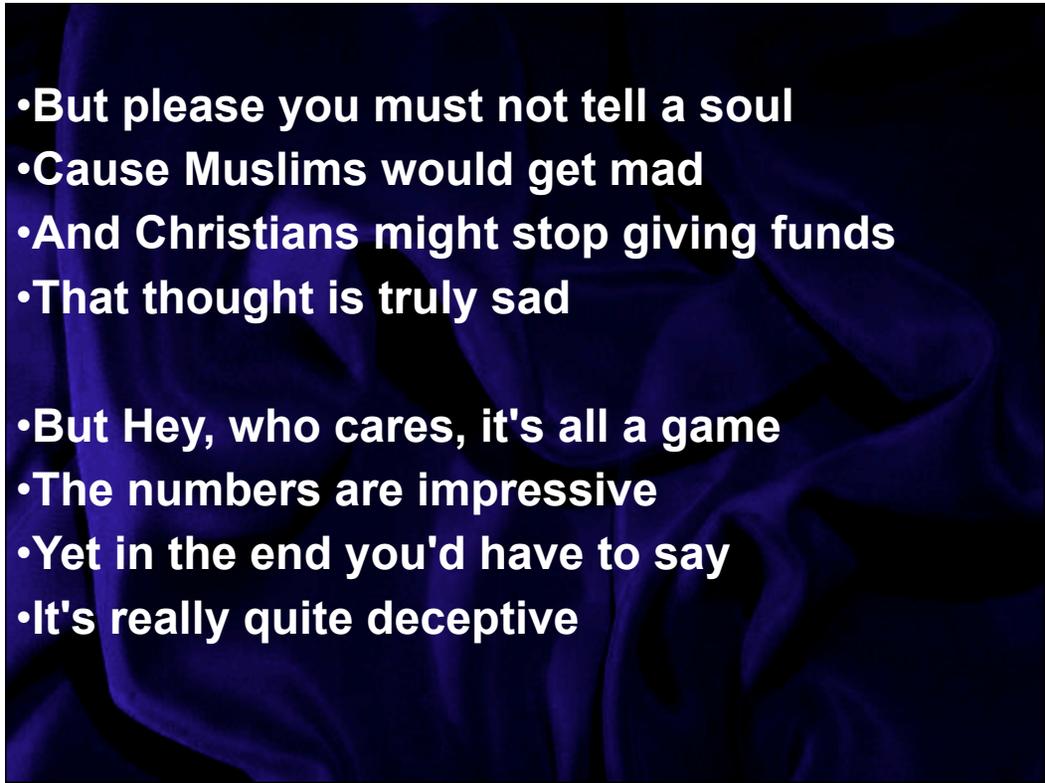
- I never liked that 'Christian' tag
- It gets us in hot water
- It's hated everywhere I go
- So why then even bother

- Thus if they ask you who you are
- Just call yourself a 'Moslem'
- Cause now that you no longer care
- You might as well just 'join em'

- The best of both you pick and choose
- A whole new cult I fear
- A world religion that can't lose
- A sign the end is near

- 
- **The Gospel must never confront**
 - **Hostilities must cease**
 - **It's easy thus to change our views**
 - **In order to have peace**

 - **So let's believe in everything**
 - **And nothing all at once**
 - **Now aren't you really quite impressed**
 - **With Satan's latest stunt**

- 
- But please you must not tell a soul
 - Cause Muslims would get mad
 - And Christians might stop giving funds
 - That thought is truly sad

 - But Hey, who cares, it's all a game
 - The numbers are impressive
 - Yet in the end you'd have to say
 - It's really quite deceptive