

**Many Muslims claim that Jesus Christ is a prophet of Islam. They also say that their prophet Muhammad<sub>pbuh</sub> is the greatest of all humanity and the best example for everyone to follow. But consider the historical evidence ...**

### **Jesus lived nearly six centuries before Muhammad**

Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem in the Roman province of Palestine during the reign of King Herod the Great (Herod died in 4 B.C.)

Muhammad was born in Mecca in Arabia in about 570 A.D.

### **Jesus made greater claims for himself than Muhammad did**

Jesus asked the religious leaders of his day: "Why do you accuse me of blasphemy because I said, 'I am God's Son'?" (Gospel of John 10:36). He also said to them: "I have shown you many great miracles from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?" "We are not stoning you for any of these," replied the Jews, "but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God." (Gospel of John 10:32-33)

Muhammad said about himself: "I am only a plain warner." (Qur'an 46:9)

You can read the Muslim texts on these Islamic websites:  
[www.Searchtruth.com](http://www.Searchtruth.com) for the Qur'an and Hadith.  
Muhammad's earliest biography *Sirat Rasul Allah* is on  
[www.justislam.co.uk/islamicbooks](http://www.justislam.co.uk/islamicbooks)

### **Their teaching styles were different**

People asked about Jesus in amazement: "Where did this man get this wisdom?" (Gospel of Matthew 13:54) They said: "What is this? A new teaching--and with authority! (Gospel of Mark 1:27) "No one ever spoke the way this man does." (Gospel of John 7:46).

Muhammad was described as "the prophet who can neither read nor write" (Qur'an 7:157; 62:2). His Companions reported that Muhammad "kept on repeating that warning till we wished he would stop saying it." (Hadith AlBukhari 9:54) Another man said that "the Prophet kept on repeating that so often that I wished I had not embraced Islam before that day." (Hadith AlBukhari 9:11)

### **Talking about their own sin**

Jesus was sinless. He asked the crowds: "Who can convict me of sin?" (Gospel of John 8:48) No-one could name a single sin. It was written of Jesus: "He appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin." (First Letter of John 3:5)

Five times in the Qur'an Muhammad is ordered by Allah: "Ask forgiveness of your sin." (Qur'an 4:106; 40:55; 47:19; 48:2; 110:3). He said: "There is (at times) some sort of shade upon my heart, and I seek forgiveness from Allah a hundred times a day." (Hadith Muslim book 35 no. 6522)

**Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth and the life."**

**Gospel of John 14:6**

### **Dealing with their enemies**

Jesus said: "Love their enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you." (The Gospel according to Luke 6:27,28)

Asma, the daughter of Marwan, was the mother of five small children. She had composed a poem against Muhammad. He stood up in the mosque and asked: "Who will rid me of Marwan's daughter?" 'Umayr b. 'Adiy al-Khatmi went to her house that night. Removing her infant from her breast, he stabbed her to death. (*Sirat Rasul Allah* p.675,676)

### **Dealing with lepers**

Jesus met many lepers and he touched them and healed them all from leprosy. (Gospels of Matthew 8:3; Mark.1:41; Luke 5:13)

Muhammad advised his followers to "run away from the leper as one runs away from a lion". (Hadith al-Bukhari 7:608). He married Asma' d. al-Nu'man, a Kindite woman, but discovered after the marriage that she was suffering from leprosy so he divorced her. (*Sirat Rasul Allah* p. 794)

## Dealing with adulterers

Jesus said to those who wanted to stone a woman caught in adultery: “Let him who is without sin throw the first stone,” and they began to go away, one at a time. Then he declared to her: “Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more.” (Gospel of John 8:7,11)

Muhammad told one of his followers how to deal with a woman whose husband accused her of adultery. “You, Unais, go to the wife of this (man) and if she confesses her guilt, stone her to death.” Unais went to that woman next morning and she confessed. Allah's Apostle ordered that she be stoned to death. (Hadith al-Bukhari 3:885)

## On violence

Jesus said to his disciples: “Put away your sword. Whoever lives by the sword dies by the sword.” (Gospel of Matthew 26:52) Jesus refused to use military methods despite having an army ready to fight for him. He told his followers: “Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?” (Gospel of Matthew 26:53)

Muhammad led about 27 military campaigns (*Sirat* p.659), and sent his troops out on at least 50 more attacks. He led his final campaign to Tabuk in 630 A.D. accompanied by 30,000 Muslim soldiers. He said: “I have been made victorious with terror.” (Hadith al-Bukhari 4:220).

## Their deaths

Jesus died a painful death in c.30 AD, to pay for the sins of the whole world. While crucified on the cross, he prayed for his enemies: “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” (The Gospel according to Luke 23:34).

Muhammad died in 632 AD lying in the lap of his favourite wife Aisha. In “the last moment of his life”, Muhammad said, “May Allah curse the Jews and Christians for they built the places of worship at the graves of their Prophets.” (Hadith alBukhari 8:427)

## Final destinies

Jesus rose from the dead after 3 days and ascended into heaven. One day he will return to take those who love him, to be with him forever. He will say: “Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.” (Gospel of Matthew 25:34)

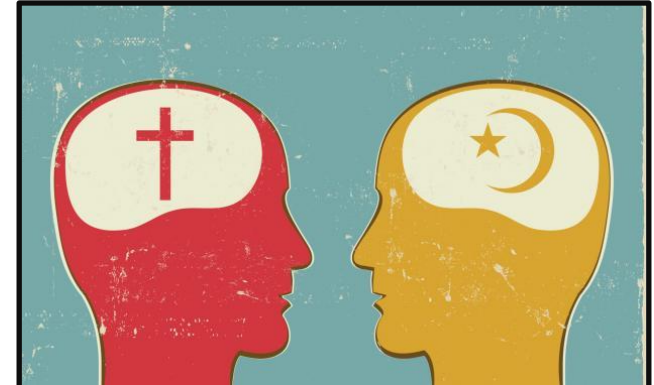
Muhammad said: “The good deeds of any person will not make him enter Paradise.” ...They (the Prophet’s companions) said, “Not even you, O Allah’s Apostle?” He said, “Not even myself, unless Allah bestows His favour and mercy on me.” (Hadith al-Bukhari B.8:481) He said: “I don’t know what will happen to me or to you.” (Qur’an 46:9)

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# JESUS and MUHAMMAD



**What are  
the main  
differences  
between them  
according to the  
sacred texts of  
Islam and  
Christianity?**