

Apologetics Course

Lesson Seven

Muslim Evangelism

- Understand Islam's core claims about God, Jesus, and salvation
- Know how to respond to seven common Muslim objections to Christianity
- Learn the Islamic Dilemma argument and how to use it in conversation
- Gain confidence engaging Muslims with both defense and respectful challenge

GOAL

Today we are tackling Islam — not as enemies of Muslims, but as Christians who want to lovingly engage our Muslim neighbors and friends with the truth of the Gospel. Our approach : respectful, confident, and grounded in Scripture.

SECTION 1: Islam 101 — Foundations

1A. How Islam Began: Muhammad's Revelations

Muhammad (c. 570–632 AD) was an Arab merchant in Mecca who claimed to receive divine revelations beginning around age 40. These are the foundational facts about how Islam was born:

- Muhammad received revelations privately. No one else heard them or witnessed God speaking.
- The first revelation came in a cave (Cave Hira) — he reported being seized, pressed, and overwhelmed by a presence he initially feared was demonic.
- His wife Khadija's cousin, Waraqah ibn Nawfal — a “Christian” scholar — was the first to identify the experience as angelic.
- The revelations came over 23 years, were memorized and written by scribes, and compiled into the Quran after his death.
- Muhammad sometimes experienced physical symptoms: sweating, trembling, a ringing sound, and falling silent or unconscious.

Contrast the Old and New Testament Events and Scriptures

Compare this to how God revealed Scripture in the Bible: multiple witnesses, confirmed prophecy, consistent testimony across many authors. The contrast between solo private revelation and Scripture's multi-witness foundation is an important apologetic point.

Remon Fahim's Analogy

"I liken Muhammad to a man who went with his friends to watch a movie at the cinema but fell asleep before the film had actually begun. Suddenly, he woke up in the middle of the movie — unaware of what had transpired or even how this could possibly be the ending — and was thus compelled to fabricate the backstory from his own imagination to fill in the gaps of the beginning."

1B. Core Islamic Doctrine

On God — Tawheed (Absolute Oneness)

- Allah is absolutely one, indivisible, and has no partners, children, or persons.
- There is no Trinity, no Son, and the Holy Spirit is not a separate divine person.
- God is utterly transcendent and beyond all human categories.

Quran — Surah 112:1-4 (Al-Ikhlās)

"Say: He is Allah, the One and Only; Allah, the Eternal, Absolute; He begetteth not, nor is He begotten; and there is none like unto Him."

On Jesus (Isa in Islam) --- Isa is actually Esau in Hebrew.

- Jesus is a great prophet — born of a virgin — but not the Son of God and not divine.
- He did not die on the cross. God raised him before crucifixion and someone else was crucified in his place.
- He will return at the end of times as a judge, but under Islam's terms, not as Lord.
- His original teachings were true, but Christians corrupted them over time.

Quran — Surah 4:157

"They said: 'We have killed the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, the messenger of Allah.' But they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him; rather, a look-alike was crucified in his place."

On Salvation

- Salvation is based on works and Allah's mercy — not on a substitutionary sacrifice.
- No one can die for another's sins.
- Muslims strive to obey the **Five Pillars**: Shahada, Salat, Zakat, Sawm, Hajj.
- On Judgment Day, deeds are weighed in the balance; Allah may show mercy.
- There is no assurance of salvation — it depends entirely on Allah's will.

Quran — Surah 17:15

"No soul bears the burden of another."

On the Bible

- The Quran claims the Torah and Gospels were originally from Allah.
- However, Muslims believe Jews and Christians corrupted these texts over time (tahrif).
- The Quran is considered the final, perfect, uncorrupted revelation.

Quran — Surah 15:9

"We have, without doubt, sent down the Message; and We will assuredly guard it from corruption."

Note

This claim about the Bible's corruption becomes the foundation of the Islamic Dilemma argument in Section 3 — hold this thought.

SECTION 2: Seven Muslim Objections & Christian Responses

Columbo Approach

Listen to the objection. Acknowledge what is true or understandable about it. Respond with Scripture and reason. Then plant a respectful follow-up question that puts the questioner in the driver's seat.

OBJECTION 1: "Christians Worship Three Gods — That's Polytheism"

Muslim Claim

Quran — Surah 4:171

"Say not 'Trinity': desist: it will be better for you: for Allah is One God."

- "You say Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — that is three gods. That violates God's oneness."

A Critical Detail: Which Trinity Does the Quran Actually Condemn?

Look carefully at what the Quran says Allah will ask Jesus on the Day of Judgment:

Quran — Surah 5:116

"And when Allah will say: 'O Jesus, son of Mary, did you say to people: Take me and my mother as gods besides Allah?' He will say: 'Glory be to You! It was not for me to say what I had no right to say.'"

Key Observation

The Trinity condemned in Surah 5:116 is Father, Mary, and Jesus — not Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Orthodox Christianity has never included Mary in the Trinity. This means the Quran is attacking a heresy that Christians themselves reject.

The Collyridian Heresy:

- There was an Arab sect in Muhammad's time called the Collyridians who worshipped Mary as a goddess and offered her cakes as sacrifices.
- Early church father Epiphanius condemned this sect in the 4th century AD as heretical.
- Crucially, this heresy was prevalent specifically across the Arabian Peninsula and the Hejaz region — the very area where Islam originated. Muhammad encountered it firsthand and assumed it represented mainstream Christianity.
- Orthodox Christianity has always taught that Mary is the mother of Jesus — honored, but never worshipped or divine.

Insider Insight — Remon Fahim

"The Quran erroneously conflates authentic Christian doctrine with a heresy that emerged during the early Islamic era — known as the Collyridians. This sect propagated the belief that the Trinity consisted of the Father, the Son, and the Virgin Mary— a doctrine that was, prevalent across the Arabian Peninsula and the Hejaz region where Islam originated."

Christian Response

- We do not believe in three gods. We believe in one God existing in three persons.
- The orthodox Trinity is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — Mary has never been part of it.
- Analogy: A person is one being with mind, emotion, and will — three aspects, one person.
- Better analogy: Water is H₂O — one substance, three states (ice, liquid, vapor).

Biblical Support:

- Matthew 28:19 — "Baptizing them in the name [singular] of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost"
- 1 John 5:7 — "There are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one"
- 2 Corinthians 13:14 — "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all"

Columbo Follow-Up Question:

"In Surah 5:116, the Trinity the Quran condemns includes Mary as the third member — Father, Mary, and Jesus. Orthodox Christians have never believed that. In fact, the early church condemned that exact teaching as heresy centuries before Muhammad. So when the Quran says 'say not Trinity' — is it possible Muhammad was correcting a local Arab heresy that we also reject? If so, the Quran and orthodox Christianity actually agree that a Trinity including Mary is false. The question then becomes: what does the Quran say about the real Trinity — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?"

OBJECTION 2: "God Having a Son Means He Had Physical Relations — That's Blasphemy"

Muslim Claim

Quran — Surah 6:101

"How can He have a son when He has no consort?"

Quran — Surah 19:35

"It is not befitting to the Majesty of Allah that He should have a son."

- "Son of God implies God had a wife and physical offspring — that is absurd and blasphemous."

Christian Response

- "Son of God" is a metaphor describing relationship and nature — not biology.
- "Son of Egypt" = a man from Egypt, not born from Egypt the country.
- "Son of perdition" = one destined for destruction, not physically fathered by destruction.

Key Turnaround

The Quran itself uses metaphorical language for Jesus — calling Him a 'Word' from God (Surah 3:45) and a 'Spirit' from God (Surah 4:171). Muslims do not think God has a literal mouth when they say Jesus is God's 'Word.' So if 'Word' is metaphorical, why cannot 'Son' be metaphorical in the same way?

Biblical Meaning of "Son of God":

- John 1:1-3 — "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"
- Hebrews 1:3 — "The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being"
- Jesus as God's Son means He shares God's nature, authority, and character — not procreation.

Columbo Follow-Up Question:

"The Quran calls Jesus a 'Word' and 'Spirit' from God — and Muslims say those are metaphors. If metaphorical language for Jesus is acceptable in the Quran, why is 'Son of God' treated as literal and rejected? What rule decides which titles are metaphorical and which are not?"

OBJECTION 3: "God Can't Be Just If He Punishes One Person for Another's Sins"

Muslim Claim

Quran — Surah 17:15

"No soul bears the burden of another."

- "The cross makes no sense. It is unjust for God to punish an innocent man for guilty people."

Christian Response

- This misunderstands the atonement. Jesus did not die instead of sinners as a legal technicality — He died for sinners as a willing, loving sacrifice.
- Jesus is God. He has the authority to lay down His own life voluntarily (John 10:17-18).
- When God becomes human in Christ, He enters into human suffering and death with us — it is an act of love and solidarity, not injustice.

Biblical Support:

- Isaiah 53:5-6 — "He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him"
- Romans 3:25-26 — "God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement... He did this to demonstrate His righteousness"
- 1 Peter 3:18 — "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous"

The Irony

The Quran itself affirms cases where one person is punished alongside another for shared sins (Hadith sources record this). Muslims accept this within Islamic law without objection — yet reject God's redemptive sacrifice as unjust. The double standard deserves a gentle question.

Columbo Follow-Up Question:

"In Islam, how does Allah forgive sin? If God simply forgives without any justice being satisfied, does that make God just? And if God cannot accept a sacrifice, what exactly does forgiveness cost Him?"

OBJECTION 4: "Jesus Was Not Crucified — The Quran Says So"

Muslim Claim

Quran — Surah 4:157

"They said: 'We have killed the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary.' But they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him; rather, a look-alike was crucified in his place. Those who differ over it are in doubt about it; they have no knowledge except the following of assumptions."

Christian Response

Historical Evidence for the Crucifixion:

- Non-Christian sources confirm it: Roman historian Tacitus (Annals 15.44), Jewish historian Josephus (Antiquities 18.3), and Pliny the Younger all document Jesus's death under Pilate.
- No serious secular historian disputes the crucifixion — it is among the most historically verified facts of ancient history.

The Quran's Internal Contradiction:

- Surah 3:55 — Allah says to Jesus: 'I will cause you to die and raise you to Myself'

- Surah 5:117 — Jesus says: 'When Thou didst cause me to die, Thou wast the Watcher over them'
- The Quran itself acknowledges Jesus's death — it only disputes the manner.

Why the Disciples Would Not Have Invented a Crucified Messiah:

- Crucifixion was shameful in Jewish culture: Deuteronomy 21:23 — 'Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole'
- No one fabricates a failed, shamed messiah. They would have invented a conquering king.
- The disciples were willing to die for this testimony — people die for what they believe is true, not for what they know is a lie.

Columbo Follow-Up Question:

"The Quran says those who claim to know what happened to Jesus are only following assumptions (Surah 4:157). The Quran was written 600 years after the events. Our Gospel manuscripts predate the Quran by centuries. If we cannot know what happened, how does a 7th century book know better than eyewitnesses?"

OBJECTION 5: "The Bible Has Been Corrupted — You Can't Trust It"

Muslim Claim

Quran — Surah 2:75

"A party of the Jews heard the Word of Allah, then perverted it knowingly after they understood it."

Quran — Surah 3:78

"There is among them a section who distort the Book with their tongues."

Christian Response

Manuscript Evidence Proves the Bible Has Not Been Corrupted:

- We have over 5,800 Greek New Testament manuscripts — more than any other ancient text by far.
- The earliest manuscripts date to within 50–100 years of the originals.
- All major doctrines — Jesus's deity, resurrection, atonement — appear consistently across all manuscripts.
- Textual critics can identify any changes because older manuscripts do not contain them.

The Dead Sea Scrolls Prove Old Testament Stability:

- Discovered in 1947, these copies are 1,000 years older than previously known manuscripts.
- They match the Hebrew Bible we have today almost perfectly — proving no major corruption occurred.

The Quran Itself Affirms the Bible's Reliability:

Quran — Surah 5:47

"Let the People of the Gospel judge by what Allah has revealed therein."

Quran — Surah 10:94

"If thou wert in doubt as to what We have revealed unto thee, then ask those who have been reading the Book before thee."

Key Point

Why would Muhammad tell Christians and Jews to judge by a corrupted book? If the Bible was already corrupted by the time of Muhammad (7th century AD), why does the Quran tell people to trust it? This is exactly the contradiction at the heart of the Islamic Dilemma — Section 3.

Columbo Follow-Up Question:

"If the Quran says in Surah 6:115 that 'none can alter Allah's words,' and the Bible is Allah's word — how was it corrupted? And if it was corrupted by humans, does that mean God failed to protect His own revelation? When exactly did this corruption happen, and why is there no manuscript evidence of it?"

OBJECTION 6: "Jesus Did Not Rise From the Dead — God Raised Him Up to Heaven"

Muslim Claim

Quran — Surah 3:55

"When Allah said: O Isa, I am completing your life and raising you to Myself, and purifying you from those who disbelieve, and making those who follow you above those who disbelieve until the Day of Resurrection."

Christian Response

- This objection is internally inconsistent: the Quran says God will 'complete Jesus's life' (cause him to die) AND raise him — both actions, not just the second.
- Surah 5:117 records Jesus himself saying: 'When Thou didst cause me to die, Thou wast the Watcher over them' — the Quran itself places a death statement on Jesus's lips.
- The resurrection is not just a historical claim — it is the centerpiece of the Gospel and was confirmed by over 500 eyewitnesses (1 Corinthians 15:3-8).
- Without the resurrection, there is no atonement, no forgiveness, no new creation. Paul says it plainly: 'If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile' (1 Corinthians 15:17).

Biblical Support:

- 1 Corinthians 15:3-6 — 'Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, He was buried, He was raised on the third day... He appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at the same time'
- Romans 1:4 — 'declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by His resurrection from the dead'
- Acts 2:32 — 'God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it'

Columbo Follow-Up Question:

"The Quran records Jesus saying 'when Thou didst cause me to die' (Surah 5:117). If Jesus never died, why does the Quran put a death statement in His own mouth? And if He did die — even according to your own scripture — what happened after? Your book has no answer. Ours does."

OBJECTION 7: "The Holy Spirit in the Bible Is Actually a Prophecy About Muhammad"

Muslim Claim

Quran — Surah 61:6

"And when Isa son of Mary said: O Children of Israel, I am Allah's messenger to you, confirming the Torah before me, and bringing good news of a messenger after me whose name is Ahmad."

- "Jesus predicted Muhammad by name. The original Syriac word for 'Paraclete' — the Comforter — is Menahmana, which resembles the Arabic name Mahmoud, another name for Muhammad."
- "Christians changed the original text from 'Paraclete' (Muhammad) to 'Holy Spirit' to hide this prophecy."

Christian Response

- This argument collapses under basic linguistic scrutiny. The Syriac word Menahmana and the Arabic Mahmoud are not the same word — they come from entirely different roots and languages.
- The Greek word Parakletos (Paraclete) means 'one called alongside to help' — a legal advocate or comforter. It appears consistently in all Greek manuscripts of John's Gospel (John 14:16, 14:26, 15:26, 16:7) as referring to the Holy Spirit.
- Jesus explicitly identifies the Paraclete as the Holy Spirit in John 14:26: 'The Paraclete, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things.'
- The Paraclete is described as already dwelling with the disciples (John 14:17) — Muhammad was not born for another 600 years.
- Muslim apologists sometimes argue for a different Greek word, Periklutos (meaning 'praised one'), claiming the original said this — but there is not a single manuscript of John's Gospel in any language that contains this reading. It is pure speculation.

Insight — Remon Fahim

"The Syriac original term Paraclete is written in Syriac as Menahmana. This spelling bears a resemblance to the Arabic name Mahmoud. Although their Prophet's name is Muhammad, they also refer to him as Mahmoud specifically to demonstrate that his name was cited in the original Syriac text — equating Menahmana with Mahmoud. However, these are entirely different words from different linguistic roots."

Biblical Support:

- John 14:16-17 — 'I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Paraclete to be with you forever — the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you.'
- John 14:26 — 'The Paraclete, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you.'

- Acts 2:1-4 — The Paraclete arrives at Pentecost as the Holy Spirit — 50 days after the resurrection, 600 years before Muhammad.

Columbo Follow-Up Question:

"Jesus said the Paraclete was already living with the disciples in John 14:17 — present tense. Muhammad was not born for another 600 years. How can a man who doesn't exist yet be already living with the disciples? And Jesus identified the Paraclete as the Holy Spirit by name in the very next verse (John 14:26). Is there a single ancient manuscript anywhere that reads 'Muhammad' instead of 'Holy Spirit'?"

SECTION 3: The Islamic Dilemma — The Polemic Argument

Setup

We have answered Muslim objections to Christianity. Now we turn it around. Muslims have a logical problem within their own system — it is called the Islamic Dilemma. This is not an attack on Muslims as people. It is a demonstration that the Quran contradicts itself on a foundational claim.

PREMISE 1: The Quran Affirms the Torah and Gospel

Quran — Surah 5:47

"Let the People of the Gospel judge by what Allah has revealed therein. And whoever does not judge by what Allah has revealed — then it is those who are the defiantly disobedient."

Quran — Surah 5:68

"O People of the Book! You have no ground to stand upon unless you uphold the Torah, the Gospel, and what has been revealed to you from your Lord."

PREMISE 2: The Quran Claims God's Words Cannot Be Changed

Quran — Surah 6:115

"And the word of your Lord has been fulfilled in truth and in justice. None can alter His words, and He is the Hearing, the Knowing."

PREMISE 3: The Quran Also Claims the Bible Was Corrupted

Quran — Surah 2:75

"A party of the Jews heard the Word of Allah, then perverted it knowingly."

~~ THE CONTRADICTION ~~

IF the Bible is God's Uncorrupted Word	IF the Bible Is Corrupted
Then Christians are right: Jesus is God, He died on the cross, He rose from the dead, and His blood atones for sin. ISLAM IS FALSE.	Then the Quran's command to judge by it is nonsensical (Surah 5:47). And if God could not protect the Bible, why trust Him to protect the Quran? THE QURAN IS SELF-DEFEATING.

The Bottom Line

Both horns of the dilemma destroy Islam's foundational claims. As Christian apologists put it: 'The Quran refutes Islam.' Either the Bible is reliable — in which case Islam contradicts it — or the Bible is corrupted — in which case the Quran's own commands and claims unravel.

The Master Columbo Question

Columbo Follow-Up Question:

"The Quran commands the People of the Gospel to judge by what Allah revealed in the Gospel (Surah 5:47). The Gospel we have today — Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John — is supported by thousands of manuscripts predating the Quran by centuries. Which Gospel do you think Muhammad was referring to? Because if it's the one we have, then we must accept Jesus is the Son of God who died and rose again. And if it's a different Gospel that no one has ever found — does that not make the Quran's command impossible to obey?"

Christian Response & Teaching Point

- For Christians, there is no contradiction: we affirm the Bible as God's reliable, well-attested word.
- We do not claim the Quran is God's word — we test it against what God has already clearly revealed.
- The Torah and Gospels clearly teach that any new revelation contradicting them is to be rejected.

Scripture — Deuteronomy 13:1-3

"If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder... and says, 'Let us go after other gods'... you shall not listen to that prophet. For the LORD your God is testing you."

Scripture — Galatians 1:8

"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."

Closing Point

Islam presents itself as the final revelation — but Scripture itself warned about a revelation brought by a lone individual, an angel in a cave, teaching a different Jesus and a different gospel. The Bible did not just predict this possibility — it commanded us not to follow it. The Christian response to Islam is not hostility. It is fidelity to the Word God has already spoken.

SECTION 4: The Inverted Mirror — Islamic Eschatology & the Antichrist

Scholar Sources

This section draws primarily from Joel Richardson (The Islamic Antichrist, Mideast Beast) and David Wood (Acts 17 Apologetics). Both have done extensive comparative work between Islamic and biblical eschatology. Calvin, Martin Luther, and Jonathan Edwards also viewed Islam as a vehicle of the Antichrist.

The Core Claim

Joel Richardson — The Islamic Antichrist

"Our Messiah is their antichrist, and our Antichrist is their messiah."

- Islamic eschatology did not arise independently. It emerged over 600 years after the biblical canon was closed.
- Its end-times figures are not original prophecy — they are reactive. Islam borrows from, distorts, and inverts key biblical themes.
- This is not coincidence. It is a systematic theological inversion — a mirror image of Christian eschatology with the roles of hero and villain reversed.

The Comparison Table: Every Role Is Reversed

Biblical Figure	Islamic Equivalent	The Role Reversal
The Antichrist Charismatic global leader; rises in name of peace; demands allegiance	The Mahdi Islam's awaited messiah; leads global jihad; enforces Islamic law worldwide	The Bible's villain is Islam's hero. Daniel 7:25 describes the Antichrist speaking against God and oppressing His people — matching the Mahdi's prophesied mission.
The False Prophet Points people to the Antichrist; denies the true Christ; leads the world into deception	Islamic Isa (Jesus) Returns as a Muslim prophet; submits to the Mahdi; breaks crosses; abolishes Christianity; denies his own crucifixion	The False Prophet of Revelation points to the Beast and destroys Christian witness — exactly what Islamic Isa is prophesied to do for the Mahdi.
Jesus the Messiah Returns on a white horse; establishes God's kingdom; defeats the Antichrist; worshipped as Lord	The Dajjal Islam's one-eyed antichrist; a great deceiver; claims to be divine; performs miracles; opposed by the Mahdi and Islamic Isa	The Dajjal mirrors the returning Christ: arrives suddenly, performs signs, claims divine authority. Islam's antichrist is a caricature of Jesus.

Key Details of the Inversion

The Mahdi — Islam's Messiah / Bible's Antichrist

- Prophesied to appear in the last days as a charismatic global leader uniting the world under Islam.
- Will lead a global jihad, enforce Islamic law (Sharia), and silence all opposition.
- All Muslims are commanded to follow and obey him when he appears.

Quran — Daniel 7:25 (Parallel)

"He will speak against the Most High and oppress His holy people and try to change the set times and the laws. The holy people will be delivered into his hands for a time, times and half a time."

Richardson's Observation

The biblical Antichrist and the Islamic Mahdi share the same profile: global leader, peace covenant, demands allegiance, oppresses the faithful. The only difference is which religion calls him the hero.

Islamic Isa — Islam's Jesus / Bible's False Prophet

- In Islamic eschatology, Jesus returns — but not as Lord. He returns as a Muslim prophet subordinate to the Mahdi.
- His mission: deny his own crucifixion and resurrection, rebuke Christians for worshipping him, break all crosses, and abolish Christianity as a valid religion.
- He leads people away from the true Christ and toward the Mahdi — matching precisely the role of the False Prophet in Revelation 13.

The Dajjal — Islam's Antichrist / A Caricature of Jesus

- The Dajjal is Islam's version of the Antichrist — a one-eyed deceiver who claims to be divine, performs miracles, and leads people astray.
- He arrives suddenly, is initially followed by many, and is defeated by the Mahdi and Islamic Isa.
- His description — arriving with signs and wonders, claiming divinity, on a white donkey — mirrors the biblical description of Christ's return (Revelation 19).
- In other words, Islam has taken the returning Jesus of the Bible and recast Him as the villain.

Why This Matters Apologetically

- Islam is not simply a different religion with a different God. It is a theological system that specifically and systematically inverts the Gospel.
- This inversion is too precise to be accidental. It points to the spiritual origins of the revelation — not divine, but oppositional.
- It connects directly to Section 1: Muhammad's private revelations in a cave, his initial fear that the experience was demonic, and the physical symptoms he described.
- Calvin, Martin Luther, and Jonathan Edwards all identified Islam as a vehicle of the Antichrist — this was not a fringe view in church history.

Scripture — 1 John 4:1-3

"Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist."

Scripture — 2 Corinthians 11:14

"And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light."

Closing Theological Point

The angel that appeared to Muhammad in the cave — pressing, overwhelming, terrifying — announced a gospel that denies Jesus's deity, denies the crucifixion, denies the resurrection, and inverts the entire end-times narrative of Scripture. Paul warned about an angel preaching another gospel (Galatians 1:8). John warned about a spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus as having come in the flesh (1 John 4:3). Both warnings describe Islam precisely.

Columbo Follow-Up Question:

"Islam teaches that Jesus will return at the end of times to break all crosses and deny his own crucifixion. If that is true, then the Jesus of Islam comes back specifically to destroy Christianity. Does it concern you that the religion founded on the angel Gabriel's revelation to one man in a cave produces an end-times Jesus who is the enemy of the cross — the very thing Paul called the power of God? (1 Corinthians 1:18)"

RESOURCES

Here are the Islamic apologetics sources for follow up:

Books

- Joel Richardson — The Islamic Antichrist (2009); Mideast Beast (2012)
- Nabeel Qureshi — No God But One: Allah or Jesus? (2016); Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus (2014)
- Amos Yong — "A Pneumatological Theology of Religion," Global Missiology (January 2023)

Websites

- Answering-Islam.org — Christian-Muslim theological disputes
- YaqeenInstitute.org — Muslim-perspective resource for understanding the other side
- OneCalling.com — Mark Fineman's website on Apologetics and Foundation Courses and Resources. (*Under Construction as of May 2026).