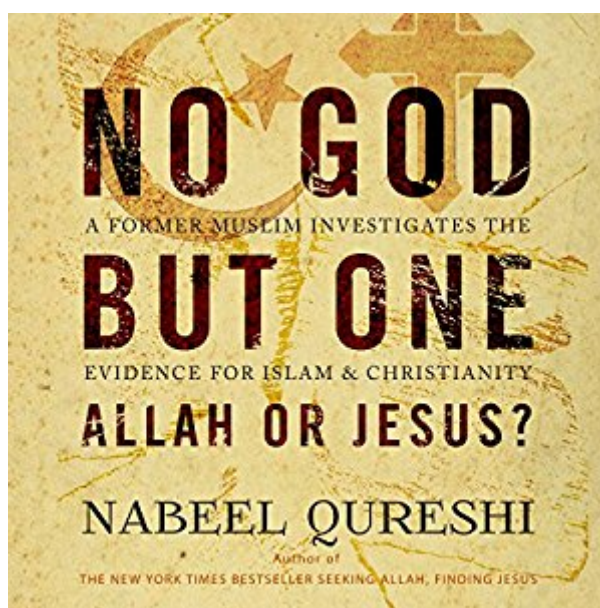


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No God But One: Allah Or Jesus?: A Former Muslim Investigates The Evidence For Islam And Christianity



Synopsis

On account of the superficial points of agreement between Islam and Christianity, many don't see how tremendously deep the divides between them really are, and fewer still have considered the evidence for each faith. How is jihad different from the Crusades? Can we know the life of Jesus as well as the life of Muhammad? What reason is there to believe in one faith over the other, and what difference can the Gospel really make? In *No God but One*, New York Times best-selling author Nabeel Qureshi takes listeners on a global, historical, yet deeply personal journey to the heart of the world's two largest religions. He explores the claims that each faith makes upon believers' intellects and lives, critically examining the evidence in support of their distinctive beliefs. Fleshed out with stories from the annals of both religions, *No God but One* unveils the fundamental enduring conflict between Islam and Christianity - directly addressing controversial topics like jihad, the Crusades, Sharia, the Trinity, and more. Listeners of Qureshi's first book, *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus*, will appreciate his careful and respectful comparison of Islam and Christianity. Both religions teach that there is No God but One, but who deserves to be worshiped, Allah or Jesus?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In *NO GOD BUT ONE ALLAH OR JESUS*, Dr. Nabeel Qureshi explains his journey from Islam to Christianity, and details his reasons for doing so. The author paid dearly for his conversion of 2005. He quickly became an outsider: "Soon after, my family was shattered, and the next year of my life was by far the most harrowing I have ever endured. I was now an outsider, both to my family and to

all my friends in the Islamic community."It seems to me, Nabeel Qureshi is a discerning, yet a humble man. And I would also add "first rate intellect." Here's why: In describing his analysis of the two faiths, he admitted it is nearly impossible to be objective: "It is virtually impossible to study these matters objectively. Not only do we all have a vested interest in defending the faiths we and our social circles have believed for years, but our beliefs color the way we receive information. The same data will be interpreted differently by people from disparate worldviews...our presuppositions affect the way we interpret the evidence, and we often see what we want to see."Wow! After reading the above lines, I realized I had terribly underestimated the intellect of the author.The author was for many years a dedicated believer in Islam, but he discovered that his reasons for rejecting Christianity were not nearly as solid as he had been told: "Examining the claims of Islam and Christianity over four years, I went from utter conviction in Islam to reluctantly embracing the gospel." Dr. Qureshi took special interest in the historical claims of each religion, and decided to thoroughly examine the claims of each religion. "What I discovered time and time again was that Christian doctrines held firm whenever they could be tested historically."The format of the book makes it easy to follow: Dr. Qureshi presents a major issue, then presents both sides of each doctrine, followed by a detailed critique. Of course, the author is good at this type of critique, since he has lots of experience from the OTHER side not too long ago. He explains, "I had to follow the evidence and the truth, no matter the cost. I left my religion of twenty -two years and became a follower of Jesus in 2005."Before reading NO GOD BUT ONE, I assumed there were substantive differences between the two religions--but still, some of the differences surprised me. Most importantly, I had no idea that Islam teaches that Jesus did NOT die on the cross. Of course, this sets a major divide between the two religions: "At no point is the schism between Christian and Islamic theologies broader than on the person of Jesus. 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."The author emphasizes that "the central claims of Christianity are explicitly rejected by Islam." It's not just a little difference--it's a "fundamental incompatibility between Islam and Christianity...the central claims of Christianity are explicitly rejected by Islam."As another example, the crucifixion is central to Christianity, but this very core of the Christian faith is explicitly rejected by Islam: "The Quran teaches the exact opposite: Jesus was not killed, nor was he crucified...He either died by crucifixion or he did not. Either Islam or Christianity has to be wrong."Okay, I get it. These are HUGE differences, which cannot just be papered over.Besides the doctrinal difference, the author clarifies certain things that Muslims hold dear. I thought this was an important section. I certainly want to avoid needlessly insulting people of other faiths because of my ignorance. In

particular, Islam teaches that the Quran is like God incarnate. That's why desecrating the Quran is a horrific affront: "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. So to comprehend the insult of burning a Quran, a Christian would have to imagine someone burning Jesus." I likewise did not know that the term, "prophet" has a different meaning in Islam: "The concept of prophet in Islam does not mean the same thing that it does in the Bible. Prophets in Islam have a higher status than all other people, being men chosen by God to lead mankind. The Quran uses the term to mean a divinely appointed leader, not necessarily one who prophesies." In summary, I found **NO GOD BUT ONE ALLAH OR JESUS** to be a well-researched, helpful explanation of the most significant differences between Islam and Christianity. The author discusses these issues in a calm, yet scholarly fashion. I appreciate his attention to detail and his scholarly, yet friendly, approach. Advanced Review Copy courtesy of NetGalley.

As a former atheist, this book was absolutely refreshing. If you enjoy historical, objective, and accurate evidence that provides reasons for faith and support to the claims of Christianity -- then this book will be one you enjoy. Qureshi shares his personal story about his journey from Muslim to Christian, but does it from the chair of an objective observer/investigator. This book provides compare/contrast of Islam to Christianity, and does a fine job of it. Even as a believer I would venture to say you will add to your faith in Jesus Christ. There are several quality points that I would recommend any believer should know when befriending a Muslim. As Qureshi states in his testimony, a strong relationship is very important when dealing with the weight of religion and eternal life. There are many suggestions throughout this book on how to handle yourself and avoid offending your Muslim friends. You won't be disappointed in this purchase. I received this book as part of the launch team in return giving my honest review. I enjoyed this book enough to purchase 10 more to give to others!

This book is well worth the time to read. The author definitely does explain the differences and alike between Islam and Christianity. He also explains why he as a Muslim was looking for more knowledge and how he found it. Having served in South West Asia several times I was comfortable with the difference between the religions but also felt we had a lot in common. Now I know why I felt that way. Great Book, I advise everyone to read this.

Even if I had no interest in understanding Islam, I would love this book for the inspired, fresh and uncluttered manner in which Qureshi explains Christian beliefs. He begins by describing his first book, *Seeking Allah Finding Jesus*, as the heart of his story; while *No God But One* is the mind of his story, tracing his critical examination of both Christian and Islamic teachings from the standpoint of an objective observer while still a Muslim believer. He states his conclusions from the outset: that the differences have great implications and that the evidence of history strongly supports Christian claims. The series of questions which he covers can be easily viewed in the Contents or at [...], so I will not repeat that information. I have a profound respect and appreciation for the author for many reasons. But foremost, God has chosen and gifted him as part of a broader work of the Holy Spirit to bring revelation and life to Muslims. It is clear that God has a heart for Muslims. He is doing something new and different when we hear of Jesus appearing to Muslims around the world through dreams and visions, as well as many testimonies of miracles. What God is doing -- and how we can share his heart and partner in what he is doing -- are things that compel me to hunger for resources like this book. I learned a great deal and was astonished in some respects. It had never before struck me how often we hear of Muslims (at times violently) acting to defend the honor of Mohammad, but one never hears of Muslims defending the honor of Allah. Qureshi offers his take on why this is so. Also, I did not know about the lack of reference to Mohammad or Islam in any historical records of that time period. But this is much more than a book comparing two religions and their historical roots. The discussion is insightful and helpful to understand not just the two different sets of beliefs, but the deeper meanings and implications behind those beliefs. While Qureshi draws heavily on historical sources to put both Islam and Christianity to the test, he intertwines the discussion with his own experiences, interactions, and more contemporary events. The overall effect is a very rational, very personal, a very timely and contemporary journey with the author, a journey which I highly recommend.

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