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GOD IS ABBA NOT ALLAH

Some prefer to believe that many roads lead to the same one God. As though this makes your road okay. But God Himself says, Isaiah 45:21, *"there is no other god besides Me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none beside Me. Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth."* One God, one way.

1- God is not ALLAH. The Arabic word "Allah" is the Arabic name for God, used even by some Bible translations. Allah means the being who is perfect in every way. Christians might describe God like that, but are we talking about the same being? It's complicated, but absolutely not. There is only one God. Judaism, Christianity and Islam are 'monotheistic' religions. Allah of the Koran is very different from the God of the Bible worshiped by Jews and Christians. Islam came over 600 years after Jesus, and is clearly based on corrupted ideas about the Bible. Christianity is an elaboration of Judaism. Islam is a rejection of Judaism, of Christianity, and above all, of Christ. Islam contains a myriad of inconsistent ideas. It assigns 99 names of Allah with corresponding attributes. But you can only describe him as nouns, not adjectives. You are not allowed to describe the essence of Allah, you can only speak of his will. Names Allah gives himself include: prideful, above others, avenger, who harms, afflicter, destroyer, one who causes death, disgracer, or he who causes humiliation, abuser or downgrader, he who makes sin a virtue. Allah describes himself as "the greatest deceiver" of both believers and unbelievers.

The Bible declares God to be true and pure. The Bible speaks of Satan the devil as deceiver, tempter, murderer, opposer, accuser, liar, ancient serpent, dragon, adversary, and the evil one. In John 8:44 Jesus said, *"the devil was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth because the truth is not in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies."* 2 Corinthians 11:14 *"the devil disguises himself as an angel of light."* Hebrews 2:14, Jesus *"came to destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil."* Perhaps this is why the Koran speaks so vehemently against Jesus. The Koran says Allah deceived Jesus' followers, and that He did not die on the cross or resurrect from the dead. Yet the Bible says these are distinguishing truths about Jesus, who came to die for sins and rise again to give new life to all who believe in Him. Islamic convert to Christ,

Nonie Darwish says, "the central goal of Islam is to make the whole world submit, to totally wipe out Biblical values and replace them with the twisted values of the Koran. They are willing to use any means, including dishonesty, violence, lying, terror." She says "the crux of the difference is that Jesus died to save us from painful death caused by sin, while Allah rewards Muslims with forgiveness of sin if they die for him." Allah demands that you shed the blood of unbelievers, to earn paradise by killing people. But God gave His one and only Son to shed His own blood to pay for your sin, so that you receive forgiveness, unearned, by grace through faith. Jesus is the Savior, the only way to God.

2- God is ABBA, Father. Isaiah 63:16, *"O LORD, You are our Father, our redeemer from of old is Your name."* The Aramaic word for God as Father is "Abba." Arabic Christians say "Allah-al-ab" for God as Father, an unknown concept in Islam. Nabeel Qureshi says, "Islam understands Allah as fundamentally different from the Christian God, and worshiping Him is not only wrong, but sends you to hell." Jesus spoke Aramaic, and prays to "Abba Father" in Mark 14:36. Galatians 4:6 and Romans 8:15, *"you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons by whom we cry, Abba father."* Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ have been born again by the indwelling Holy Spirit and adopted by the heavenly Father. J.I. Packer says *"everything distinctly Christian as opposed to Jewish is summed up in the knowledge of the fatherhood of God. Our understanding of Christianity cannot be better than our grasp of adoption."* Islam thinks the Trinity is God, Mary, Jesus, and cannot abide the idea that Jesus is the Son of God. Allah of the Koran is different, pagan, and contradictory, in its rejection of Jesus and the God of the Bible.

God is "allah" in Arabic, "elah" in Aramaic, "eloi" and "elohim" in Hebrew. The proper name for God in Hebrew is YHWH, translated Jehovah, or LORD in all caps in your Bible, to denote the One True God who is three persons in one godhead, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Allah is the deceiver. The God of the Bible is the deliverer. The real issue is not just Allah versus God, it's all about Jesus, whose name means "Jehovah saves." 1 Timothy 2:5 *"for there is one God and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all."* John 3:16, *"God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."* Philippians 2, God has given Jesus the name above all names, to the glory of God the Father. Because for us, God is all about God the Son, the Christ of Christianity who atones for sin. This cannot be overemphasized.

Qureshi says, "Contrary to Islam, Christians worship a triune God, a heavenly Father who loves unconditionally, an incarnate Son who is willing to die for us so that we may be forgiven, and an immanent Spirit who lives within us. This is not who the Muslim god is or what he does. The Christian trinity is antithetical and incompatible. Muslims and Christians do not worship the same God." Romans 8 spells out our atonement by God, arranged by the Father, accomplished by the Son, applied by the Spirit. That's the good news of salvation for you to share with everyone around you!