



EQUIPPED

Sharing your faith in a complex world

A background image of a stained glass window with various colored panes (red, yellow, blue, green) and a bright light source in the upper left corner, creating a warm, glowing atmosphere.

***To Know God
and Make
Him Known***

“For I am not ashamed of the
gospel, because it is the
power of God for salvation
to everyone who believes,
first to the Jew, and also to
the Greek.”

(Romans 1:16, CSB)



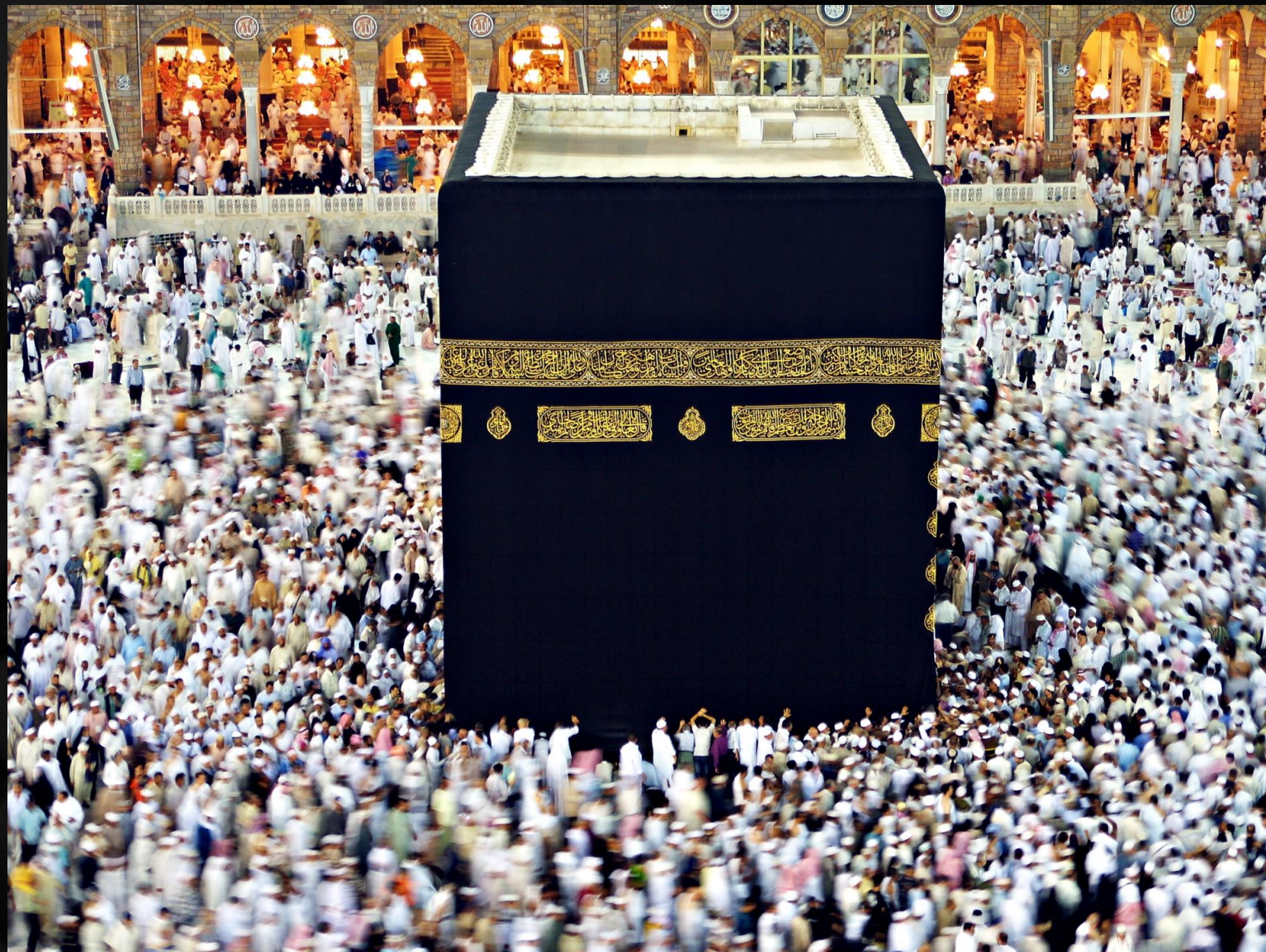
God

Jesus

Salvation

Eternity

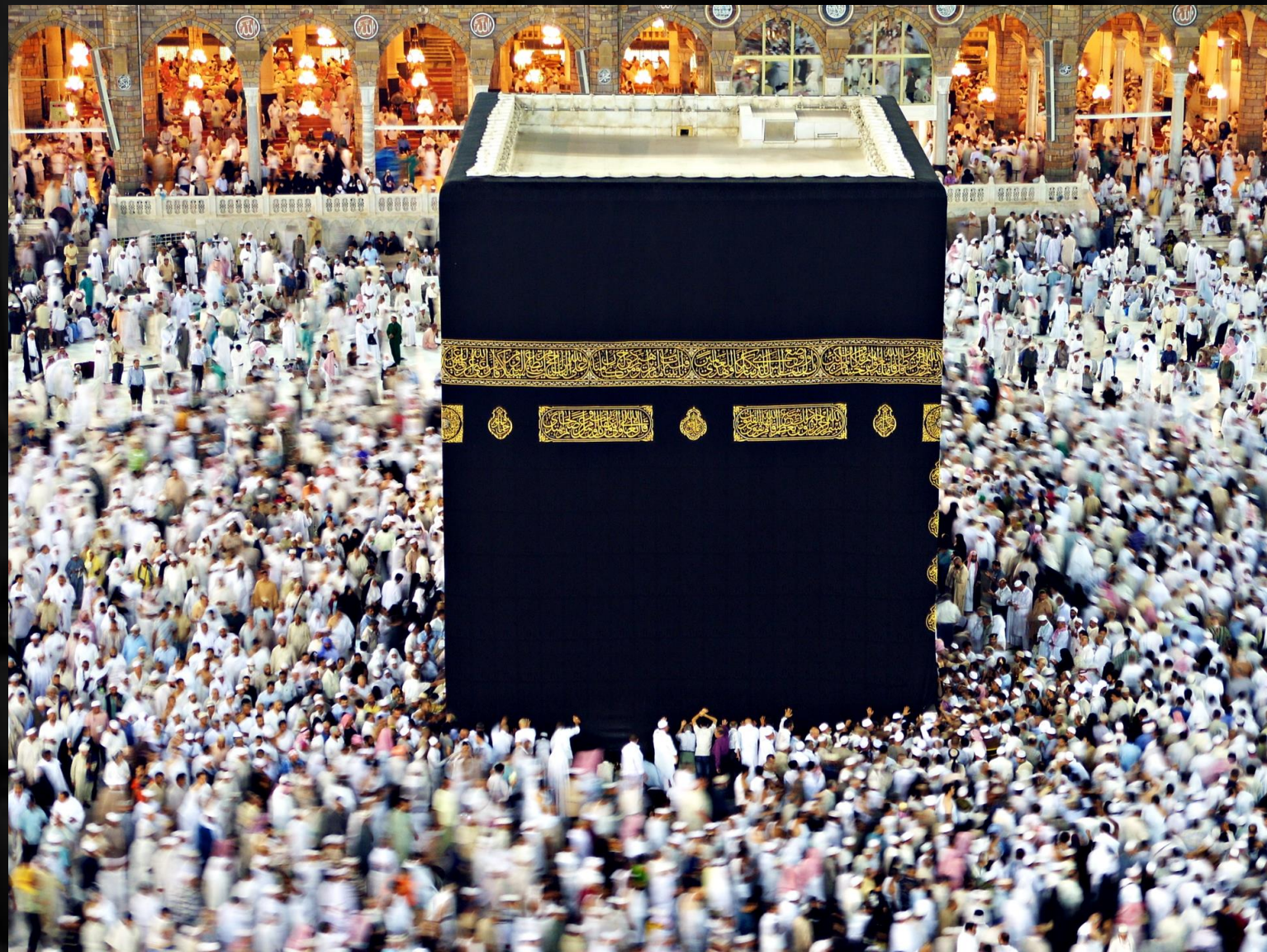
A LITTLE BACKGROUND



- Founded A.D. 622 by Muhammad in the city of Mecca
- Culture influenced by paganism, Judaism, Christianity, and traditional Arab monotheistic faith.

A LITTLE BACKGROUND

Two Part Message:



There is only One God (Allah) to whose will people must submit.

There will be a day of judgement when all people will be judged in terms of whether or not they have obeyed God.

A LITTLE BACKGROUND



Islam

“Submission to God”

Muslim

“Those who submit
to God”

A LITTLE BACKGROUND



Qur'an - Revelation of God to Muhammad through Angel Gabriel

Earthly version of a heavenly book

Only authoritative in Arabic

The Bible is respected, but viewed as corrupted by men

A LITTLE BACKGROUND



Primarily
about
Behavior,
not Beliefs

A LITTLE BACKGROUND



Hadiths - sayings of Muhammad and stories of his life. When the Qur'an does not speak to an issue, the life of Muhammad is viewed as authoritative for life.

WWMD?

“If anyone desires a religion other than Islam, it shall never be accepted of him.”

surah 3:85

Islam is the only true religion!

God

Numerically and absolutely one

Will is absolute and inviolable

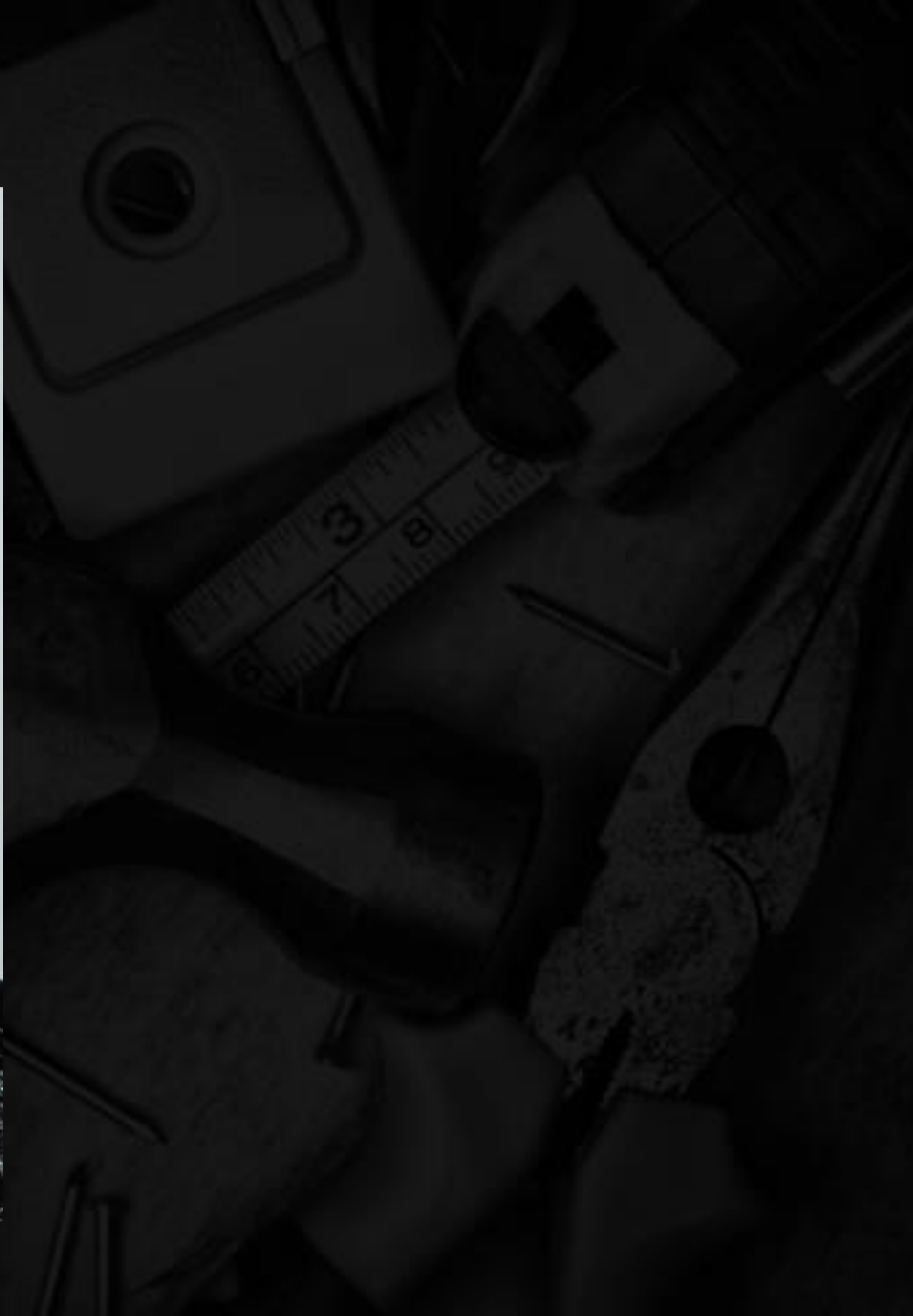
Beyond the understanding of men,
only his will can be revealed



God

Historically the same,

Theologically different





The Same God?

Is Allah Triune?

Does Allah have a Son?

Is Allah the vicarious redeemer and atoning Lamb of God, taking away the sins of the world?

Jesus

“As they say the Beneficient has taken to Himself a son. Certainly you make an abominable assumption...It is not worthy of Allah that He should take to Himself a son.” surah 19:88-92



Jesus

A prophet of Allah who pointed
people to Islam

Not the Son of God

Not God Incarnate

Was not crucified

Jesus

“O People of the Book! Commit no excesses in your religion: Nor say of Allah aught but the truth. Christ Jesus the son of Mary was (no more than) a messenger of Allah, and His Word, which He bestowed on Mary, and a spirit proceeding from Him: so believe in Allah and His messengers. Say not “Trinity”: desist: it will be better for you: for Allah is one Allah: Glory be to Him: (far exalted is He) above having a son. To Him belong all things in the heavens and on earth.” surah 4:171

Jesus

He will return to defeat the Antichrist, confess Islam, kill all pigs, break all crosses, and establish a 1000 year reign of righteousness

Other Spiritual Beings

Angels

Evil Spirits (Jinn)

Salvation

All Men are weak and forgetful,
but not fallen

Balance (scale) measures good
works vs. bad works

“Then those whose balance (of good deeds) is heavy, - they will be successful. But those whose balance is light, will be those who have lost their souls; in Hell will they abide.” surah 23:102-103



Salvation

The 5 Pillars are the Basis for Good Works:

- Confession - There is no God but God and Muhammad is the apostle of God.
- Prayer - 5 Times a day
- Alms - 2.5% of net profit
- Fasting - during daylight in the month of Ramadan
- Pilgrimage - Once in a lifetime to Mecca



Salvation

Halal Diet

Modest Dress

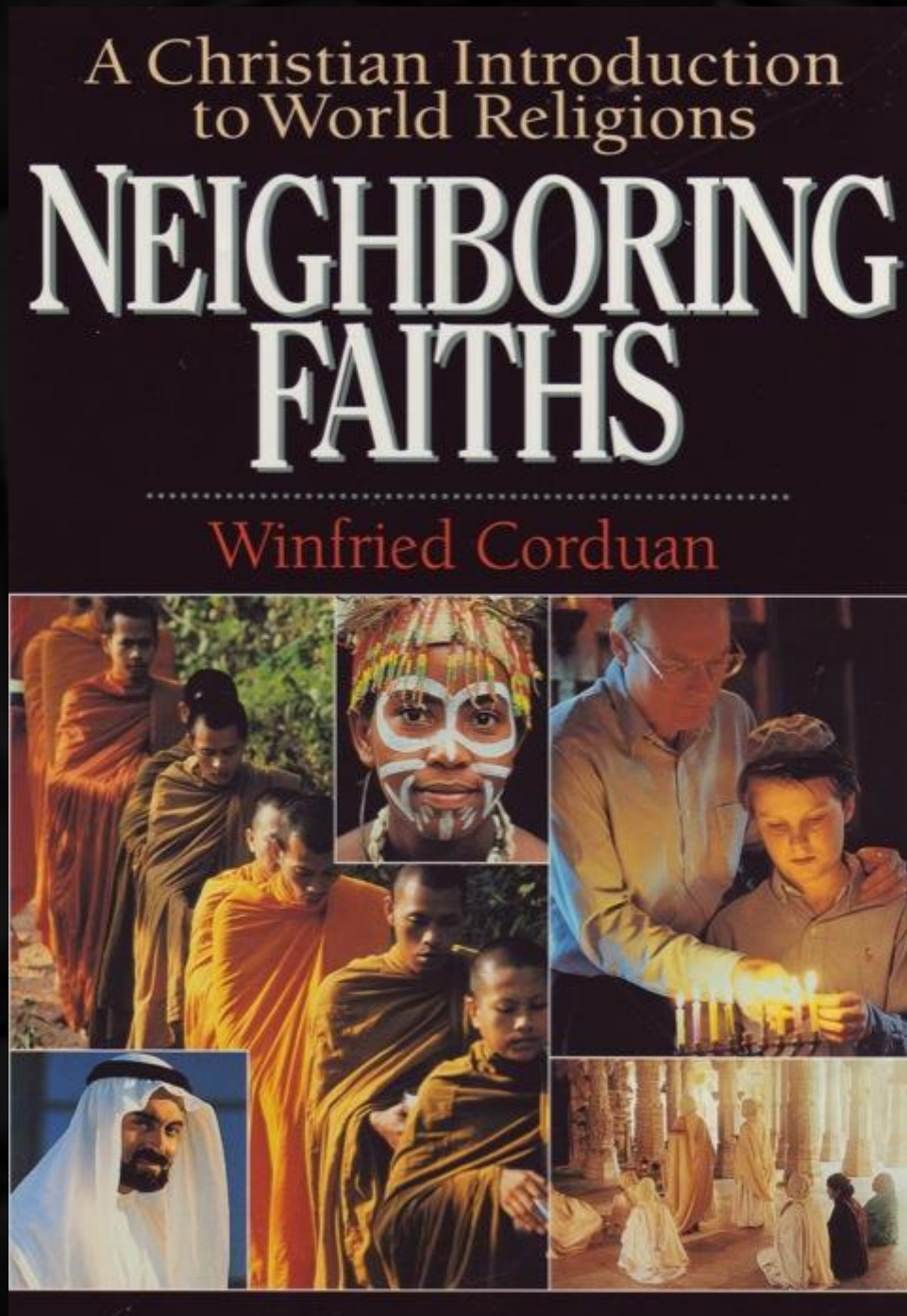
Jihad – “struggle”

Shirk – Idolatry, the unforgivable sin,
includes conversion to Christianity



Salvation

Very little (no?) assurance of
salvation



“...he said that as long as he kept his thought on Allah and obeyed his commandments every second of every day, he could be sure of his salvation. In other words, he was saying he was assured of heaven as long as he kept an impossible standard.”

Muhammad said: “By Allah, though I am the Apostle of Allah, yet I do not know what Allah will do to me.”

hadith 5.266



Salvation

Very little (no?) assurance of
salvation

Except for those who die in
Jihad.

The Prophet said, "The person who participates in (Holy battles) in Allah's cause and nothing compels him to do so except belief in Allah and His Apostles, will be recompensed by Allah either with a reward, or booty (if he survives) or will be admitted to Paradise (if he is killed in the battle as a martyr).

hadith 1.35

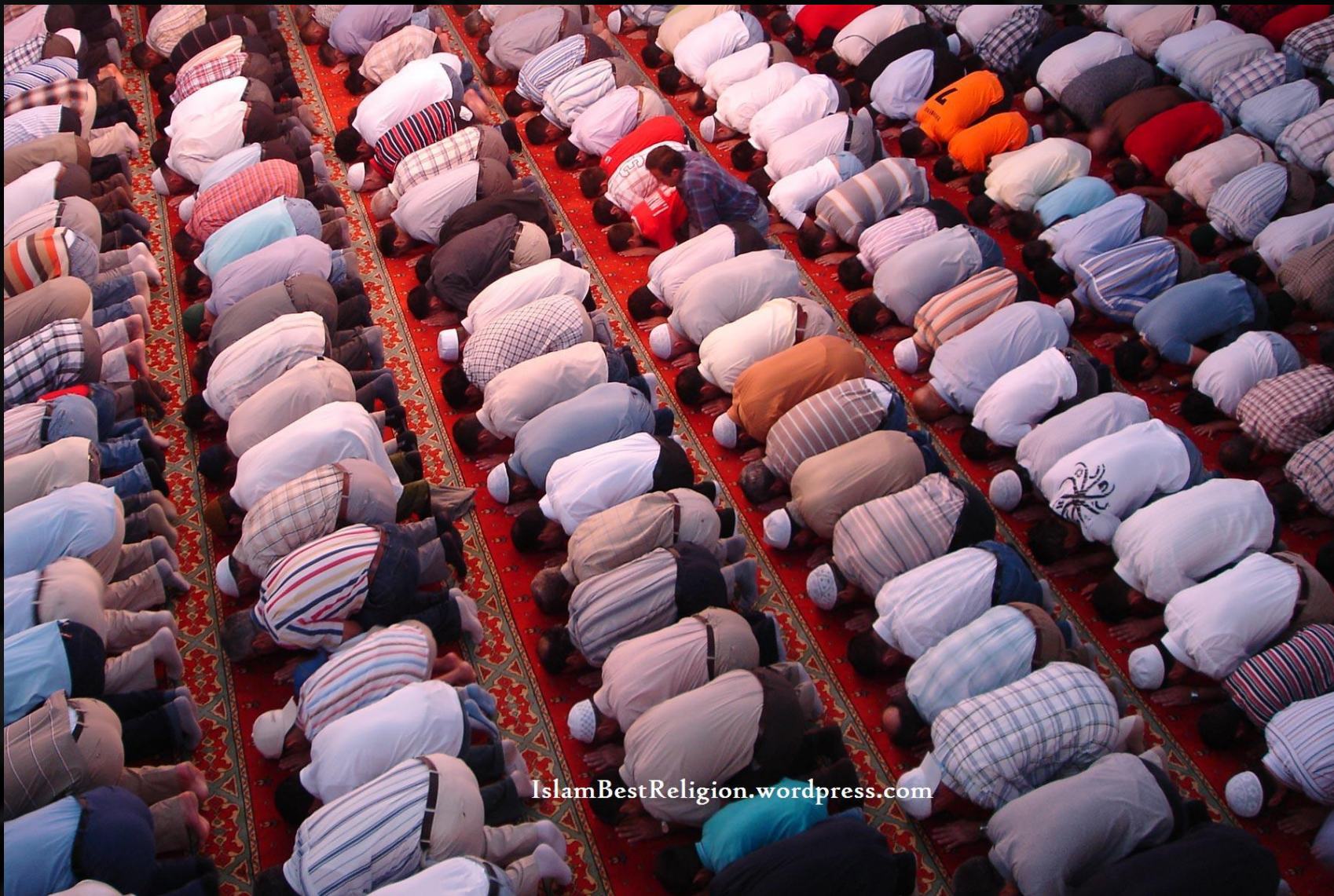


Eternity

Judgement via Balance

Righteous to Paradise

Unrighteous to Eternal
Punishment/Suffering



So What?



Do you think I would find loving and open-minded friends in the church? Would it be fair to say some people would put their guards up and won't want anything to do with someone who belongs to some different Asian Indian race? Someone who has a different color of skin and speaks with an accent?

-Pakistani Muslim living in U.S. in a letter to Philip Yancey following Sept. 11

Muslims want to please God, but are going about it the wrong way, directed toward a false god.

“For no one will be justified in his sight by the works of the law, because the knowledge of sin comes through the law.

But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been revealed, attested by the Law and the Prophets. The righteousness of God is through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe, since there is no distinction. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. They are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”

(Romans 3:20–24, CSB)

Muslims (like many others in our world) want a faith that is sound, applicable, and lived out by those who proclaim it.

“but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, ready at any time to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.

Yet do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that when you are accused, those who disparage your good conduct in Christ will be put to shame.”

(1 Peter 3:15–16, CSB)

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(1 Peter 3:15–16, CSB)



Live your faith

“but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, **ready at any time to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.**

Yet do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that when you are accused, those who disparage your good conduct in Christ will be put to shame.”

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Know your faith

Know your faith

Trinity

Trustworthiness of the New Testament

Jesus

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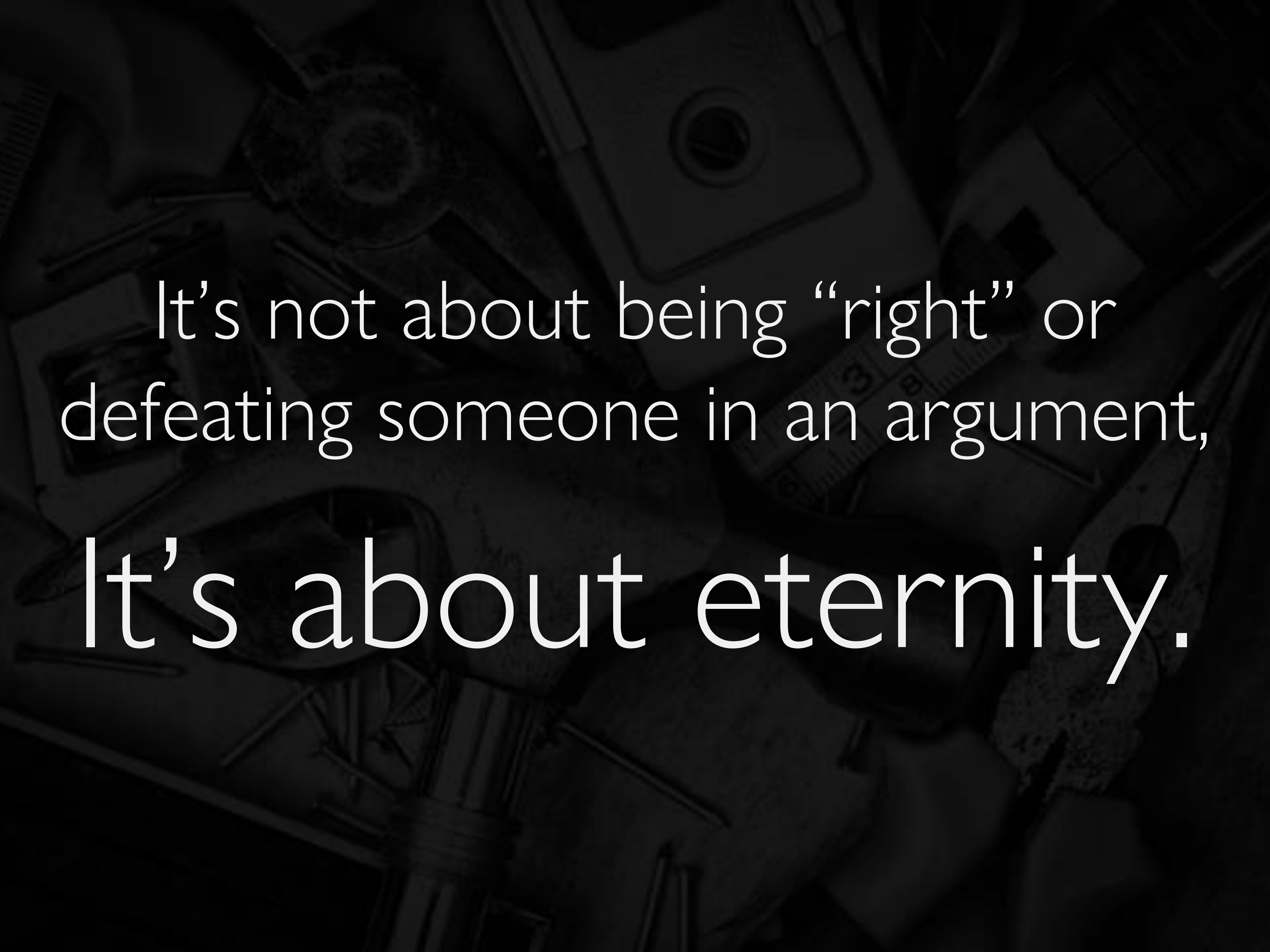
Represent your
faith well



Live Your Faith

Know Your Faith

Represent Your Faith Well



It's not about being "right" or
defeating someone in an argument,

It's about eternity.

Witnessing

- surrender your freedoms for the sake of their salvation
- be patient, allowing the Holy Spirit to work
- share the assurance of salvation that comes through Jesus
- encourage them to ask God to reveal himself in dreams, reason, and truth

Memorize 1 Peter 3:15

Use the Belief Bulletin to learn more

Pray for Muslims to experience revival and welcome Jesus as Savior

Witness with compassion, sensitivity, and zeal to those you know in the Islamic Community

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(1 Peter 3:15, CSB)