

# FAITH CHAT

with James & John

## How Does Islam Differ From Christianity?

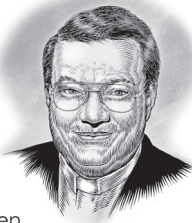
### Know This...

Christianity has more followers than any other religion. Islam is second. Both are called to evangelize non-believers; but each takes a different approach. Two thousand years ago Jesus Christ claimed He was God, gave the world Christianity, and told His disciples to take the Gospel to every nation. Six hundred years later Mohammed claimed he was Allah's (God's) last prophet, introduced the world to Islam, and called believers to convert the world. Islam says Jesus was a great prophet but not God. Jesus says He will return and the world will recognize Him as God. Only one can be true.



**John:** Islam, which means "submission to the will of Allah," seeks to impose Islam on all nations. Christianity, a faith of reason and free will, seeks to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations and to let people freely choose to follow Him.

**James:** The Koran is Islam's holy book. Moslems claim it's God's final revelation to us and supersedes the Bible. Christians say public revelation ended with the death of the last Apostle and the Bible is the only written Word of God.

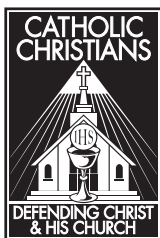


**John:** Islam says God is Master, not Father; we are slaves who are not called to love Him but to submit to Him; and God did not reveal Himself but His will. Christianity says we are sons and daughters of the all-loving, forgiving, just, and merciful Father in heaven.

**James:** Faithful Christians and Moslems truly believe in their image of God. Is God Father or Master? Is Jesus God or prophet? Are we children or slaves? We need to decide which is really true.

Deacon John Beckmann and Deacon James Russell are permanent deacons in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Please visit: [www.catholicchristians.com](http://www.catholicchristians.com) for more insight into the teaching of Jesus Christ and His Church.



Jesus said, "Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." Mt. 28:19-20 "Whoever will not receive you or listen to your words—go outside that house or town and shake the dust from your feet." Mt. 10:14 "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." Jn. 8:58 "The Father and I are One." Jn. 10:30 "[He] will gather into one [nation] the dispersed children of God." Jn. 11:52 "False prophets will arise and will perform signs and wonders in order to mislead." Mk. 13:22

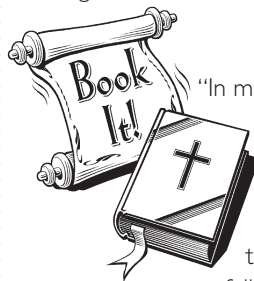


"It is wrong for a public authority to compel its citizens by force or fear or any other means to profess or repudiate any religion or to prevent anyone from joining or leaving a religious body." Vatican II, Declaration on Religious Liberty, 6 "The Christian economy, therefore, since it is the new and definitive Covenant, will never pass away; and no new public revelation is to be expected before the glorious manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ." Vatican II, Dei Verbum, 4 "Christian faith cannot accept 'revelations' that claim to surpass or correct the Revelation of which Christ is the fulfillment, as is the case in certain non-Christian religions." CCC 67

## BE ATTITUDES



"In giving us his Son, his only Word, he spoke everything to us at once in this sole Word—and he has no more to say ... because what he spoke before to the prophets in parts, he has now spoken all at once by giving us the All Who is His Son. Any person questioning God or desiring some vision or revelation would be guilty not only of foolish behavior but also of offending him, by not fixing his eyes entirely upon Christ and by living with the desire for some other novelty." St. John of the Cross, [CCC 65]



"In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world." Heb. 1:1-2 St. Paul wrote, "[Jesus] is the image of the invisible God... For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell." Col. 1:15, 19 "Those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God." Rom. 8:14 St. John wrote, "False prophets have gone out into the world." 1 Jn. 4:1

Heavenly Father, Your Son Jesus is Priest, Prophet, King, and God made Man. You made us Your children, not slaves. Through Your gifts of reason, free will, and grace, I choose to live, share, and defend the Christian faith. Make me a faithful witness to Your promise of eternal life. Grant this through Jesus the Lord. Amen.

