

Video Transcript: Why Allah is Not God

1.

Muslims claim that Allah is the same God revealed in the Bible. If this is true, then we should all become Muslims. On the other hand, if Allah is shown to be simply the product of the time in which Muhammad lived, then this claim is refuted.

In this video, I show that Allah is not the God of the Bible, and is actually nothing more than a pre-Islamic pagan idol.

2.

The word "Allah" comes from the compound Arabic word *al-ilah*. The word *al* is the definite article "the" and *ilah* is an Arabic word for "god".

The title "Allah" existed in pre-Islamic times as demonstrated in the following citations:

"Allah" is a proper name, applicable only to [the Arabs'] peculiar God (Hastings' Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics, I:326).

"Allah" is a pre-Islamic name ... corresponding to the Babylonian Bel (Encyclopaedia of Religion, I:117).

Allah is found ... in Arabic inscriptions prior to Islam (Encyclopaedia Britannica, I:643).

3.

The Arabs, before the time of Mohammed, accepted and worshipped, after a fashion, a supreme God called allah (Encyclopaedia of Islam, ed. Houtsma, I:302).

Allah was known to the pre-Islamic Arabs; he was one of the Meccan deities (Encyclopaedia of Islam, ed. Gibbs, I:406).

Ilah ... appears in pre-Islamic poetry ... By frequency of usage, al-ilah was contracted to allah, frequently attested to in pre-Islamic poetry (Encyclopaedia of Islam, ed. Lewis, III:1093).

4.

The dominant religion of the Middle-East was the cult of the moon god. In Arabia, the moon was viewed as a male god, and the sun as a goddess.

Allah was the personal name given to the moon god, and his symbol was the crescent moon.

He was married to the sun goddess, and together they produced three goddesses known as "the daughters of Allah".

The settlement of Mecca was built as a shrine for the moon god which made it the most sacred site in Arabia.

An Allah idol was set up at the Kabah in Mecca alongside around 360 other idols. The faithful prayed towards Mecca and the Kabah, because that is where their gods were situated.

5.

The Quraysh tribe into which Muhammad was born was devoted to Allah, the moon god, and to his three daughters, who were viewed as intercessors between the people and Allah.

Muhammad's father and uncle both had "Allah" as part of their names which proves that the title "Allah" existed before Muhammad was born.

It also explains why Allah is never defined in the Quran; he was already well-known in Arabia, and the whole of the Middle East, as the moon god.

At the time of Muhammad, it was widely accepted in Arabia that the moon god was the chief god among the pantheon of gods.

6.

This explains why the Muslim Prayer repeats the phrase “Allah is greater!” rather than “Allah is great!” – he is the greatest among the gods.

Under the influence of the Judeo-Christian faith, Muhammad went one step further and proclaimed that Allah was not only the greatest god, but was also the *only* God.

In this way, Muhammad was attempting to win over the Arabs, the Jews and the Christians to his new religion, but the Jews and the Christians of the time rightly rejected Allah as a false god.

Dr. N. A. Newman, in *Three Early Christian-Muslim Debates*, concluded:

Islam proved itself to be ... a separate and antagonistic religion which had sprung up from idolatry – Dr. N. A. Newman.

While Islamic scholar Caesar Farah, in his book *Islam: Beliefs and Observations*, concluded:

There is no reason, therefore, to accept the idea that Allah passed to the Muslims from the Christians and Jews – Caesar Farah.

7.

If Allah is the God of the Bible, then the concept of God set forth in the Quran should correspond at all points to that of God found in the Bible.

Conversely, if the Bible and the Quran have differing views of God, then this claim is refuted.

The fact that Christian and Muslim scholars have been arguing over who has the true view of God ever since Islam first arose is clear evidence that God and Allah are fundamentally different.

The following is a brief comparison between the God of the Bible and Allah of the Quran:

8.

Knowable versus unknowable: According to the Bible, God is knowable, not just in a factual sense, but in a personal and intimate way. To Muslims, the idea of knowing Allah is blasphemous because he is so transcendent, so exalted, that no man can ever know him personally.

Personal versus impersonal: The God of the Bible is spoken of as a personal being with intellect, emotion and will. This makes sense, because the Bible tells us that God made man in his own image (Genesis 1:26-27), and since we have these attributes, so should God. In contrast, Muslims hold that Allah cannot be understood as a person, because this would lower him to the level of a man.

9.

Spiritual versus non-spiritual: The concept that God is a spirit is fundamental to the Jewish and Christian faiths (e.g., John 4:24; 2 Corinthians 3:17). Muslims, however, regard this idea as blasphemous, because to them a spirit is a created being (e.g., Suras 19:17; 4:171), and to equate Allah with a spirit is to relegate him to the level of a creature.

Trinitarian versus Unitarian: The God of the Bible is one God and three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Trinity is not three god's, but one God existing as a unity of three persons. The Quran, however, explicitly denies the Holy Trinity. In addition, it states that God is not a Father, Jesus is not the Son of God, and the Holy Spirit is not God.

10.

Limited versus unlimited: According to the Bible, God is limited by his own immutable and unalterable nature. For example, God cannot lie (Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18), and he can never act in a way that would contradict his divine nature (2 Timothy 2:13). But according to the Quran, Allah is not limited by anything.

Trustworthy versus capricious: Because the God of the Bible is limited by his own righteous nature, we can trust him to always do what is right. By comparison, Allah is not bound by his nature or his word, and is revealed in the Quran to be capricious and untrustworthy.

11.

Love versus transcendence: The chief attribute of the God of the Bible is love (e.g., John 3:16; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:8). While the Quran refers to Allah as “the Merciful” and “the Loving”, the chief attribute of Allah is his transcendence. To think of Allah as having “feelings” towards man is blasphemous to Muslims, because this would reduce him to the level of a man.

Grace versus works: The grace of God towards mankind is a central theme in the Bible. In the Quran, however, there is no concept of the grace of Allah; there is no saviour or intercessor, and no guarantee of salvation either by faith or good works.

12.

The Muslim’s claim that Allah is the God of the Bible and that Islam arose from the religion of the prophets and apostles is emphatically refuted by the archaeological and historical evidence.

Islam is nothing more than a revival of the ancient moon-god cult. It has taken the symbols, the rites, the ceremonies, and even the name of its god from the ancient pagan religion of the moon god.

As such, equating the God of the Bible with Allah is blasphemous, since it is tantamount to equating the living God with a man-made idol and a false god.

The true God has revealed himself in such a way that his nature and his name cannot be confused with the nature and name of any other deity.