

Facts are important in studying the Islamic movement

February 19, 2015 By [Randy W. Bright](#)

Several years ago I had a conversation with an acquaintance that led to the topic of Islam.

This person was not uneducated. In fact, he held a degree from a university and had a professional career. But what he said astounded me – he asked why should Christians be so upset about the rise of Islam because, after all, the Muslims had been around long before Christ.

What that taught me was that Americans are very ignorant not only about Christianity, but about Islam as well.

Today, conservative pundits make much of the fact that Obama and his administration won't call the numerous and heinous acts of terrorism we are seeing in Syria and other parts of the world "radical Islam", heaping much criticism upon them and the media for only calling the perpetrators "extremists".

While it is right we should be identifying these acts with Islam, we should also be educating ourselves regarding Christianity and Islam. I have heard it many times that we should treat Christianity with the same attitude that the Secret Service treats counterfeit money – that is if you study only real money you will instantly recognize money that is counterfeit.

But this is a false analogy to use in regard to Islam. Yes, we should study Christianity, but we should also know as much as we can about the history and beliefs about Islam. Being a country that supports the right of religion, when we don't correctly understand Islam, we lay ourselves open to losing our own freedoms, and eventually our lives, by treating Islam as a religion instead of what it actually is, an ideology. It is in fact, an ideology that has as its ultimate goal the domination of the world, and it has an extremely violent and murderous past, all in the name of religion. Islam is an ideology disguised as a religion, and is indeed it is practiced as a religion, but that is where its similarity ends.

Once we understand Islam, it is not difficult to understand not only how dangerous Islam is to our nation, but how it should be perceived with the same attitude as we have held in the past toward communism or the Ku Klux Klan, neither of which had any interest in the soul, only for power.

As a point of clarification, we as Christians (and I hope as a nation), should not hold hatred toward Muslims who want peace with non-Muslims. But the fact is that Islam demands that Muslims dominate the world, and to do it by offering non-Muslims three choices. The first being to convert to Islam, the second to assume the status of second-class citizens and pay a heavy tax to Muslims and the third is to be killed.

We are largely unaware of this because, since the last caliphate ended in 1924, the last century has been one of Islam's most "peaceful" periods. However, since Islam began about 1,400 years ago, one source (political-islam.com) indicates that about 270 million people have been killed by

Muslims, and about 100 million of those were Christians. The same source has identified 548 battles Muslims have initiated over a 1,200 *year* period of time that spread Islam throughout the Middle East, north Africa, Italy, France and especially Spain, and has shown that Islam's spread throughout the region not only shut down trade (causing the Dark Ages), but also inhibited the growth of knowledge (by burning the libraries of conquered cities).

The answer, at least to start, is to become knowledgeable about Islam. What if I had not already known the truth about Islam and Christianity when the conversation with my acquaintance took place? What good comes from one ignorant person talking with another ignorant person on a matter of such grave consequence?

What we are actually seeing in the Middle East is actually Islam getting back to business, reverting to the same state of violence that it perpetrated on the world before. There have been some 19,000 jihadic attacks since 9/11 occurred.

So let's start with this fact and work our way toward a more complete, or at least sufficient, knowledge of history: Jesus was born around 5 to 6 B.C., and Muhammad was born in 570 AD.

Taking responsibility for revealing the truth may be the only way to save countless lives, including Muslims who just want to live in peace.



Randy W. Bright, AIA, NCARB, is an architect who specializes in church and church-related projects. You may contact him at 918-582-3972 rwbrightchurcharch@sbcglobal.net or www.churcharchitect.net. ©2014 Randy W. Bright
Previous articles written by the author are available for reading at his website.