



A Muslim's
Pocket Guide To
Christianity

Malcolm Steer



CHRISTIAN FOCUS





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ISBN 1-84550-107-1

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

Published in 2005
by
Christian Focus Publications,
Geanies House, Fearn,
Ross-shire, IV20 1TW Scotland

www.christianfocus.com

Cover design by Alister MacInnes

Printed and bound
by
Norhaven, Denmark

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INTRODUCTION

I have been asked many times by Muslim friends concerning Christian beliefs. ‘What do you Christians believe?’ ‘What are the main differences between Islam and Christianity?’ And in view of the commonly held belief that Islam already contains Christianity, because Jesus is accepted as a great prophet of Islam, the question often arises as to why Christians have not progressed and become Muslims? Even more surprising for many Muslims is the question why anyone who is from a Muslim background would even consider ‘going backwards’ and become a Christian?

The purpose of this short book is to answer these questions, and many others, and to seek to clarify what is Christian belief in the same way that there are many books that help Christians to understand Islam.

In this age of tolerance, I believe it is important to respect one another’s beliefs without causing unnecessary offence and yet at the same time not to compromise our beliefs or gloss over the differences.

I have taken part in a number of university debates with Muslim groups and each time my aim has been to discuss in a friendly atmosphere,



clarifying both the common ground and the differences; and to do this in such a way that at the end of the debate I can sit down in the cafeteria with the other speaker and have a cup of tea with him! This is my purpose with this book and I hope that it will be read with this in mind.

I am well aware that many will not agree with all that is written here but I hope that the reader will at least accept it as an objective account of what the Christian position is and read it in that light.

