



Welcome to Summer Small Groups!
2nd September 2026

The Cross and Islam

Introduction

What happened at the cross?

- a. The Bible's take

- b. The Quran's take

How is someone saved?

- a. Christian Soteriology and the cross

- b. Islamic salvation

Conclusion

References

15:1 And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate.

16 And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion.

22 And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). 23 And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. 24 And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. 25 And it was the third hour when they crucified him. 26 And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." 27 And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. 29 And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, 30 save yourself, and come down from the cross!" 31 So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. 32 Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

37 And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. 38 And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. 39 And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

Mark 15:1, 16, 22-32, 37-39; AD 55-60

4.157. And for their [the Jews] saying, "We have killed the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, the Messenger of God." In fact, they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, but it appeared to them as if they did. Indeed, those who differ about him are in doubt about it. They have no knowledge of it, except the following of assumptions. Certainly, they did not kill him. 158. Rather, God raised him up to Himself. God is Mighty and Wise.

Quran, Surah 4.157-158; AD 625-627

5.68. Say, 'O People of the Scripture, you are [standing] on nothing until you uphold [the law of] the Torah, the Gospel, and what has been revealed to you from your Lord.'

Surah 5.68

43.63. And when Jesus came with clear proofs, he said: 'I have come to you with prophethood/wisdom, and in order to make clear to you some of the (points) in which you differ. Therefore, fear Allah and obey me.'

Surah 43.63

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Romans 3:23-26

Those who **believe**, and those who are Jewish, and the Christians, and the Sabeans—any who **believe** in God and the Last Day, and **act righteously**—will have their reward with their Lord; they have nothing to fear, nor will they grieve.

Surah 2.62

Say, "O My servants who have transgressed against themselves: do not despair of God's mercy, for God forgives all sins. He is indeed the Forgiver, the Merciful.

Surah 3.53

Race towards forgiveness from your Lord; and a Garden as vast as the heavens and the earth, prepared for those who believe in God and His messengers. That is the grace of God; He bestows it on whomever He wills. God is the Possessor of Immense Grace.

Surah 57.21

Questions for discussion: (existing small group leaders please lead the discussion)

1. What detail(s) did you find most surprising / encouraging / challenging in the passage?
Are there any details you would like to clarify?
2. Why is the Bible a more reliable account of what happened at the cross?
3. How certain can a Christian/Muslim be of their salvation? Why?
4. How does this grow your appreciation of Jesus' work at the cross?
5. How does this help us engage with Muslim colleagues and friends?

Take some time to pray