

CHRISTIANITY FOR SCEPTICS, ENQUIRERS & BELIEVERS

A very warm welcome

Matt Bridges will be speaking: The Cross and Islam

Notices

- 1. New?** If you're here for the first time and would like more information about St Nick's Talks, including our weekly email, please fill in a contact card.
- 2. St Nick's Talks Partnership.** An opportunity to discuss what we've been learning and pray for gospel ministry in the City. Monday lunchtimes and Tuesday mornings at St Nick's. Email sarah@snca.co.uk for more information.
- 3. Teaching morning for women in the workplace.** Join other women from across the lunchtime talks as we hear from God's word and explore what it means to follow Jesus. **Saturday 17 October**, 09:30 - 13:00 at St Botolph's-Without-Aldersgate (EC1A 4EU). Scan the QR code for more information and to buy a ticket.
- 4. Coming up.** *Making sense of life.* Join us next week as we continue our series in Mark. Chris Fishlock will be speaking on Mark 2:1-3:6.



The Cross and Islam

Introduction

What happened at the cross?

A. The Bible's account

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

B. The Quran's account

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

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

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

How does someone enter heaven/paradise?

A. Islamic Falah

'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

'Whoever comes [on the day of judgement] with a good deed will have 10 times the like thereof [to his credit], and whoever comes with an evil deed will not be recompensed except the like of; and they will not be treated unjustly.'

Surah 6:160 (See also 4.40, 10:27, 11.114; CF Hadith: Sahih al-Bukhari; Sahih Muslim)

'Believers! Turn to God in sincere repentance. Your Lord may absolve you of your evil doings and bring you into gardens where streams flow, on the day when God will not confound the profit nor the believers with him.'

Surah 66:8 (See also 2.119, 2.225, 3. 53, 7.155, 19.60, 25.70; Cf 4:99, 9:102)

Those whose balance (of good deeds) is heavy, they will attain salvation. But those whose balance is light, will be those who have lost their souls; in hell will they abide.

Surah 23.102-103 (CF 7.8-9, 101.6-8)

B. Christian soteriology and the cross

10 as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; 11 no one understands; no one seeks for God. 12 All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one."

Romans 3:10-12

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

Romans 1:18

But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

Romans 2:5

'The wages of sin is death.'

Romans 6:23

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

Conclusion