

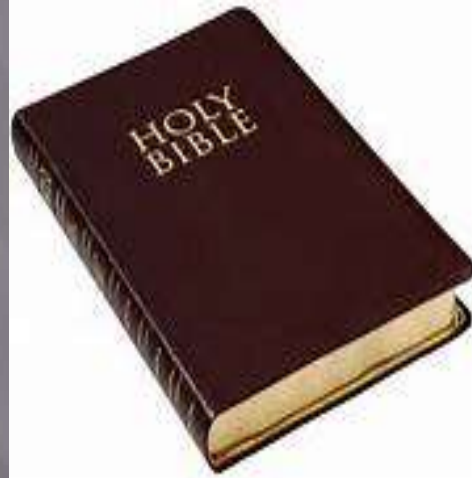
# LEARNING TO LOVE MUSLIMS

Greg Sinclair

November 20, 2013

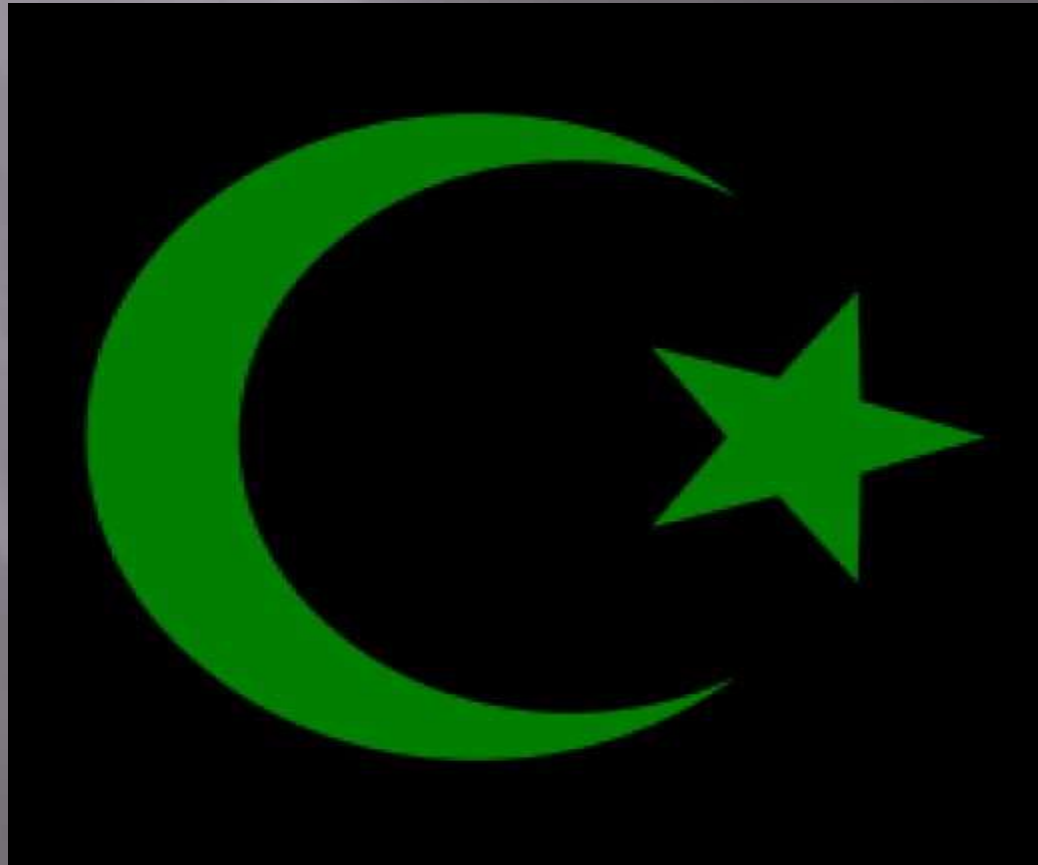
# Matthew 22:37-39

- ▣ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.
- ▣ Love your neighbor as yourself

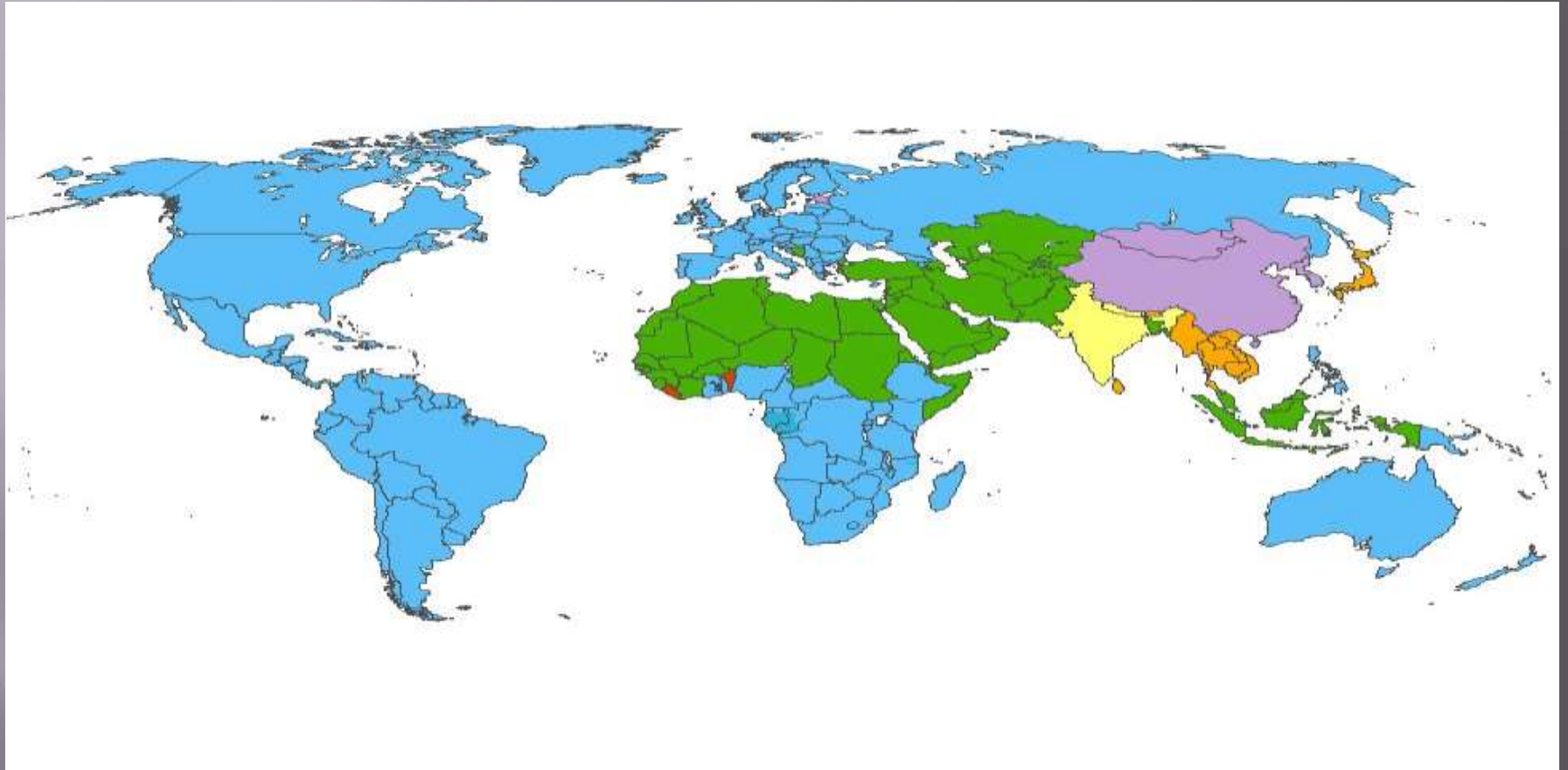


# Matthew 28:16-20

- ▣ Make disciples of all nations



# Majority Religions




 Christian

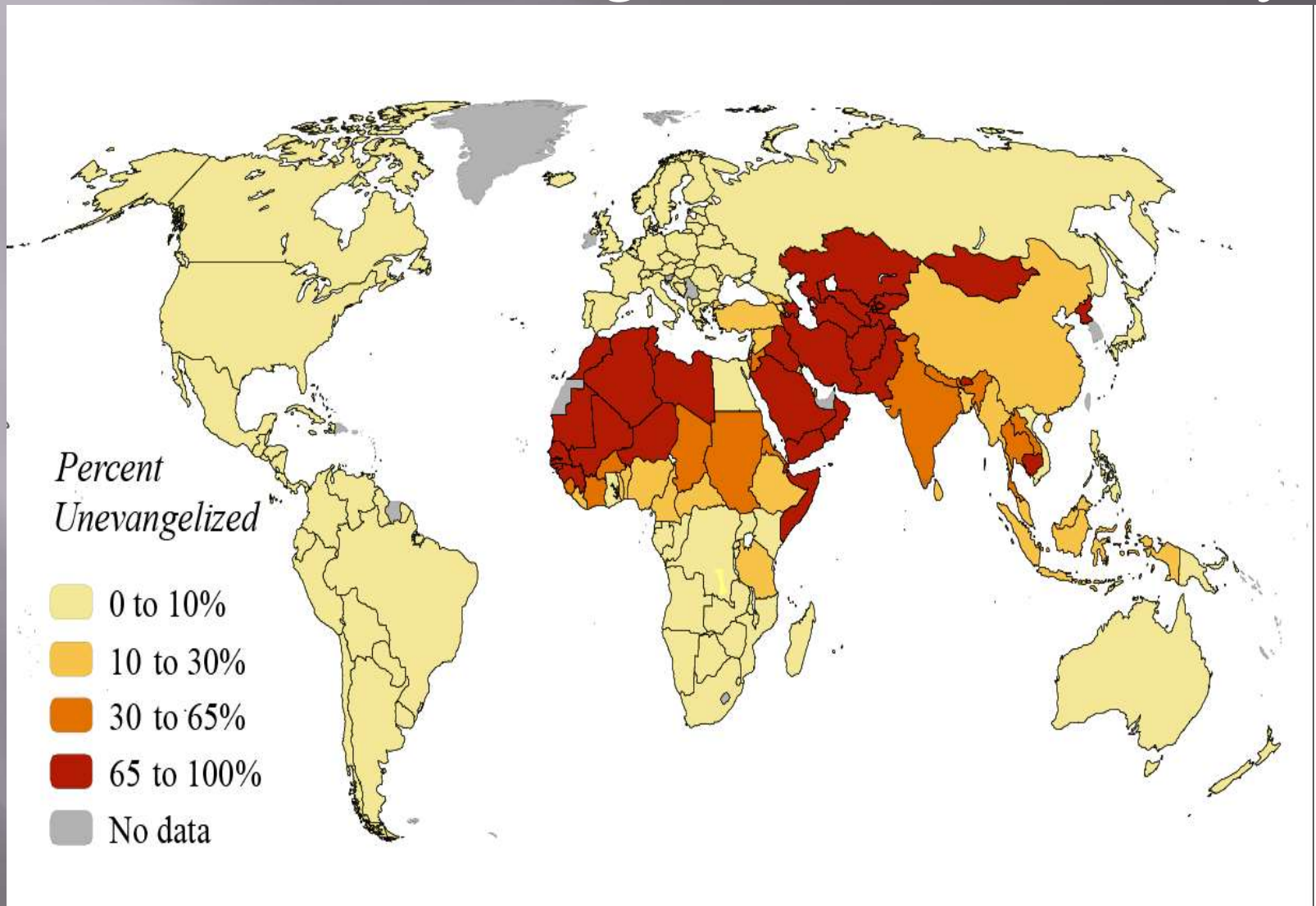
 Islam

 Hindu

 Buddhist

 Non-religious

# Percent Unevangelized Per Country



# Perspective

36

Vs

150000



# Lethal Threat

- ▣ You have more chance of dying by falling television or appliance than by terrorism.
- ▣ You have twice as much chance of dying by bee sting than by terrorism
- ▣ You have fifteen times as much chance of dying by falling off a ladder than by terrorism.

# Qu'ran

- ▣ Eternal word of Allah
- ▣ About the size of our New Testament
- ▣ Arranged from longest to shortest chapters
- ▣ Exists in heaven in Arabic – cannot be translated
- ▣ Example of the Quran: Sura 19 Maryam



# Hadith

- ▣ A collection of traditions and sayings of the Prophet Muhammad. One of the main sources of Hadith is Al Bukhari.
- ▣ Example of the Hadith: The prophet (pbuh) said, “None of you has faith till he wishes for his brother what he wishes for himself.” (Al-Bukhari 19)
- ▣ What biblical saying of Jesus does that remind you of?

# Sira

- ▣ The life of Muhammad
- ▣ The three documents, the Qu'ran, the Hadith, and the Sira comprise the Sunna, or the guide for the life of a Muslim

# The Prophet

- ▣ Muhammad lived from 570-632AD
- ▣ He received his call as a prophet in 610
- ▣ His call was to convert the Arab tribes from polytheism to monotheism
- ▣ He turned the idol worship of the Kaaba in Mecca into a place of worship to Allah

# Christian Contact

- ▣ Muhammad came into contact with Christians who fled from the Byzantine Empire and the Christological controversies that the church was embroiled in at that time.
- ▣ Muhammad came into contact with an imperfect understanding of Christian doctrine.

# Flight to Medina

- ▣ Muhammad was not immediately accepted as a prophet, so he fled to Medina.
- ▣ Called the Hijrah, this is the beginning of the Islamic calendar

# Gaining Strength

- ▣ Muhammad increased in skill and strength as a leader, eventually conquering Mecca and the whole Arabian peninsula.
- ▣ After his death in 632 his successors spread Islam through out North Africa, India and Spain.

# Islamic Beliefs

- ▣ God is One
- ▣ To associate partners with Allah is the worst sin a Muslim can commit (Shirk)



# Islamic Beliefs

- ▣ Angels and Jinn
- ▣ Muslims believe in some of the same angels that Christians believe in, such as Gabriel.
- ▣ Muslims also believe in Jinn, which are shadowy spirits that can either be good or bad
- ▣ Muslims also believe in Satan, called Iblis. He is sometimes described as an angel, sometimes as a jinn.



# Islamic Beliefs

- ▣ Muslims acknowledge the five books of Moses, the psalms of a David, and the gospel of Jesus as Holy Books.
- ▣ The Qu'ran is the final and superior revelation
- ▣ Muslims are taught (although the Qu'ran does not say this) that the Christian Scriptures are corrupted

# Islamic Beliefs

- ▣ Muslims believe in 24,000 prophets of which there are nine major ones:
- ▣ Noah
- ▣ Abraham
- ▣ David
- ▣ Jacob
- ▣ Joseph
- ▣ Job
- ▣ Moses
- ▣ Jesus
- ▣ Muhammad

# Day of Judgment

- ▣ Muslims believe in a day of judgment when the scales of good and bad deeds will be weighed.
- ▣ Many will be cast into hell where their skin will be continually burned off
- ▣ If Allah is merciful those with sufficient good deeds will enter paradise

# Day of Judgment

- ▣ Surah 23:102-103: Then 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 they will abide.

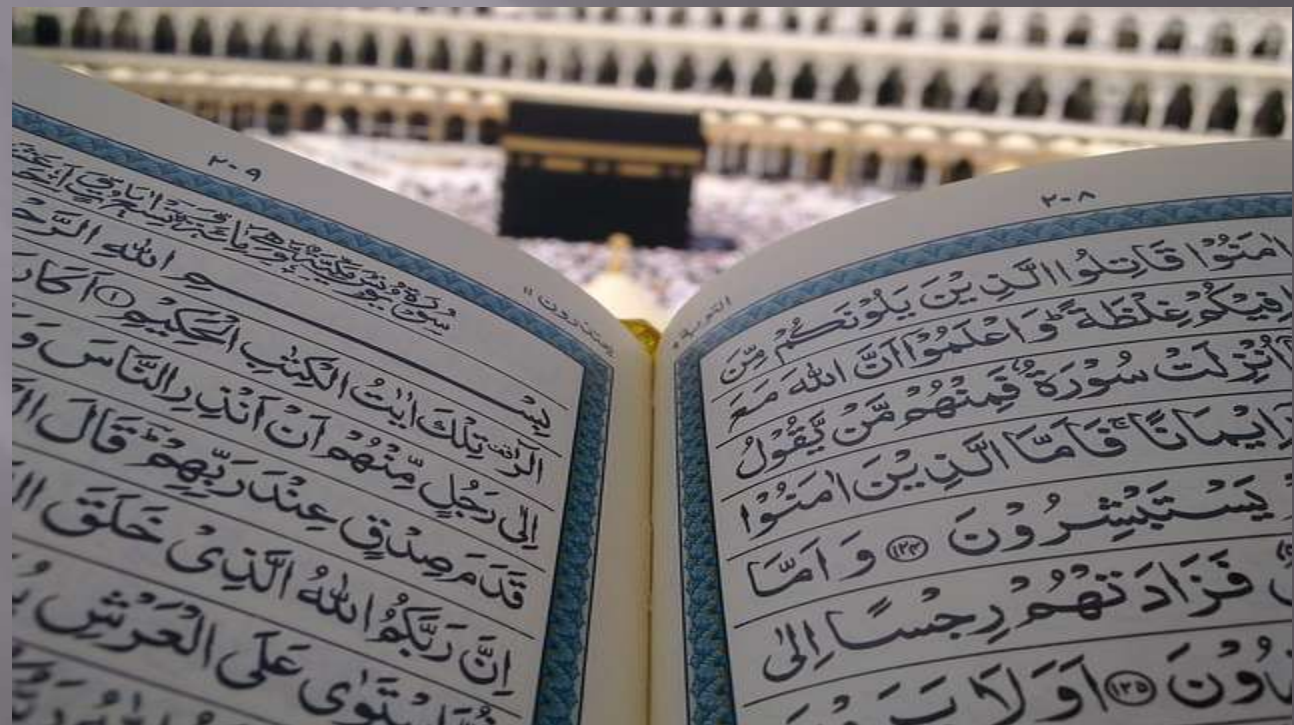
# Predestination

▣ “Inshallah!”



# Islamic Practices

- ▣ Shahada (Confession)
- ▣ There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet



# Islamic Practices

- ▣ Salat
- ▣ Prayer five times per day



# Islamic Practices

- ▣ Zawm – fasting
- ▣ Ramadan is the month when Muslims fast from sun up to sun down





# Islamic Practice

- ▣ Zakat – almsgiving
- ▣ Every Muslim is expected to give from his property (provided he has sufficient to live on) 2.5% (Sunni branch).
- ▣ Zakat is for the cause of Allah, to help the poor, the traveler, the one in debt

# Islamic Practice

- ▣ Hajj – pilgrimage to Mecca
- ▣ Once in a lifetime every Muslim is expected to make the pilgrimage to Mecca if they are able.
- ▣ (Sura Al-Haj 27-29)



# Learning to Love Muslims

- ▣ A- Accept
- ▣ We love Muslims better when we accept them as fellow image bearers of God who are part of his plan of salvation for the nations.

# Learning to Love Muslims

- ▣ B- Learn
- ▣ Learning about their culture, religion and lives helps us to understand them, hear their perspective and eventually love them
- ▣ We share a monotheistic faith
- ▣ We share similar stories in the Bible and the Qur'an
- ▣ But we also acknowledge major differences

# Learning to Love Muslims

- ▣ C – Develop
- ▣ We can actively develop relationships with Muslims on a personal level. It is through relationships that trust is built and lives are shared.
- ▣ It is easier to love others when we see them as fellow human beings with the same joys and sorrows

# Summary

- ▣ A- Accept
- ▣ B – Learn
- ▣ C- Develop
  
- ▣ We have educational tools that can help you learn about Islam, be better witnesses to Christ and counter some of the objections that Muslims will offer.
- ▣ Check out our website at [www.crcna.org/salaam](http://www.crcna.org/salaam) for a complete list of resources.

# Final Words

- ▣ Some one once said, “Islam is all about do, do, do. The way of Jesus is about done, done, done.
- ▣ We rest on the finished work of Jesus Christ.
- ▣ Jesus is the one mediator between God and man and he is the door to heaven. We don't need anything else (1 Timothy 2:5-7).

# Next Steps

- ▣ Attend a Salaam Project Training Seminar coming to a church or classis near you.
- ▣ For more information contact [gsinclair@crcna.org](mailto:gsinclair@crcna.org)
- ▣ Check out our website and Facebook page at [www.crcna.org/salaam](http://www.crcna.org/salaam)
- ▣ Participate in our Muslim Ministry Forum on the CRCNA Network.
- ▣ Most of all, get to know a Muslim. Visit a mosque. Be a good neighbour.



# Acknowledgments

- ▣ World maps courtesy of Operation World
- ▣ “A-B-C” courtesy of Bill Thornburg, CRWM projects manager
- ▣ Slides 2,3,6,15,23,26 – Bing Images
- ▣ Slides 21, 22, 24 - Pixabay

# LEARNING TO LOVE MUSLIMS

Questions & Answers