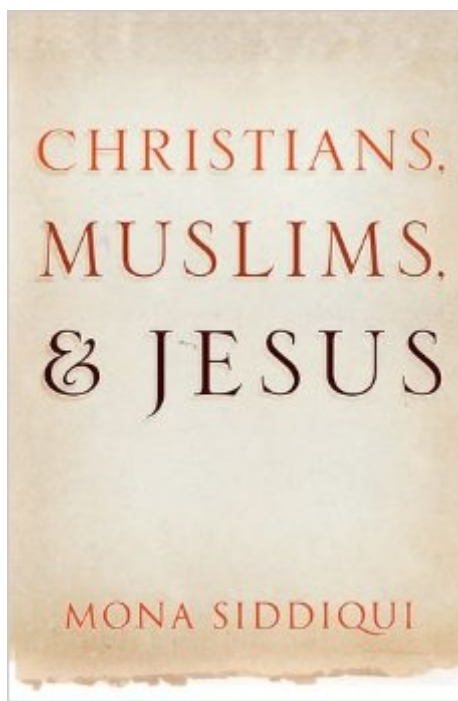


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# Christians, Muslims, And Jesus



## Synopsis

Prophet or messiah, the figure of Jesus serves as both the bridge and the barrier between Christianity and Islam. In this accessible and thoughtful book, Muslim scholar and popular commentator Mona Siddiqui takes her reader on a personal, theological journey exploring the centrality of Jesus in Christian-Muslim relations. Christian and Muslim scholars have used Jesus and Christological themes for polemical and dialogical conversations from the earliest days to modern times. The author concludes with her own reflections on the cross and its possible meaning in her Muslim faith. Through a careful analysis of selected works by major Christian and Muslim theologians during the formative, medieval, and modern periods of both religions, Siddiqui focuses on themes including revelation, prophecy, salvation, redemption, sin, eschatology, law, and love. How did some doctrines become the defining characteristics of one faith and not the other? What is the nature of the theological chasm between Christianity and Islam? With a nuanced and carefully considered analysis of critical doctrines the author provides a refreshingly honest counterpoint to contemporary polemical arguments and makes a compelling contribution to reasoned interfaith conversation.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This was recommended reading for a class on Jesus and the Bible in Islam. By the end of the class, we were begging the professor to use this book as the primary text in the future! Great writing style, easy to read, and thorough learning. Also a fantastic conclusion written in first-person, which ties the book up beautifully!

This is a good book for my class on the comparisons between Jesus in Islam and Christianity. I recommend it.

Right emphasis on logic and good argumentation

Those concerned with the question of why Christians and Muslims (and Jews as well) do not get along easily will find some but not all of the reasons here. The author confines herself pretty much to the question of Jesus: who he is for Christians and for Muslims. Jesus is clearly not the same for each group; neither is Abraham, the Old Testament prophets, or the Virgin Mary. But the discussion is so esoteric I doubt many readers will come away with profit. Christians have always differed in understanding Jesus' relationship to God the Father but they all, except for Unitarians whose Christian identity is doubtful, have believed he was in some way or other more than a mere man; he was a specially chosen vessel to be the face of God among men. From Jesus as the part of the Godhead to Jesus chosen to be infused with divine purpose in some way, all Christians and no Muslims see him as more than a prophet. Islam sees him as a great prophet but violently rejects him as anything more. The Jews do not even, except for some scholars, have the graciousness to call him a prophet. They are still bitter about the growth of Christianity and the decrepitude of Judaism. Jews have never been able after the first century to use violence against the believers in Jesus but Muslims have had the power, the will, the desire, and even now the passion to deny the Jesus believed in by Christians and to use violence in pursuit of their theological position. This book seeks harmony but one wonders if harmony is possible between diametrically opposed points of faith. Christians have learned the hard way to be tolerant; Jews have been forced to be tolerant because of their scanty numbers. Muslims have never learned tolerance and I doubt they ever will.

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