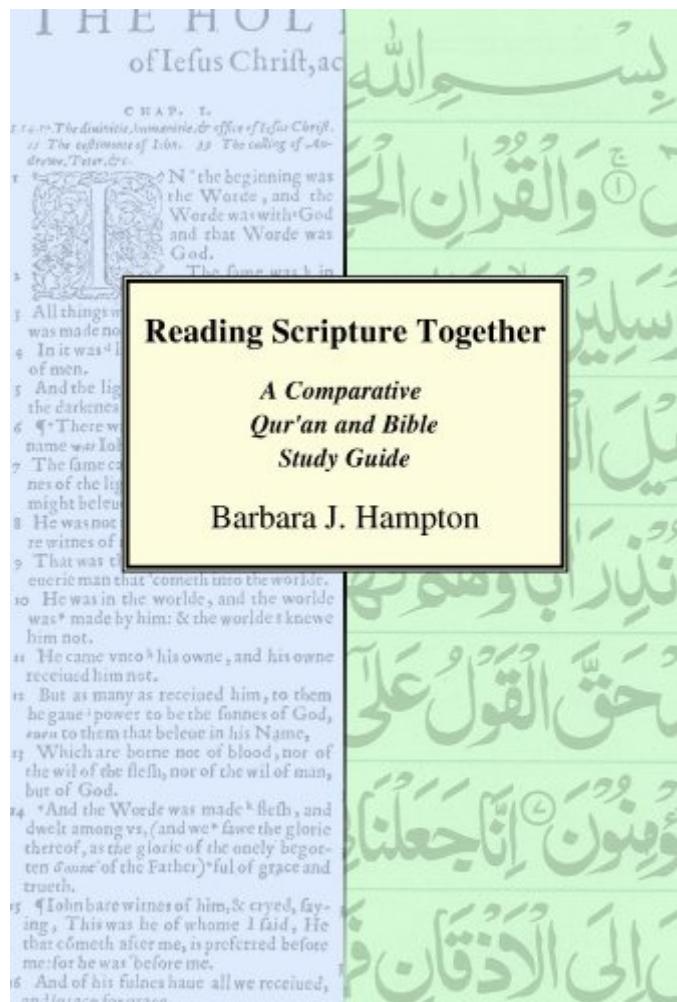


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Reading Scripture Together: A Comparative Qur'an And Bible Study Guide



Synopsis

What is genuine dialogue between a Christian and Muslim? First, it is not an agreement that all paths up the spiritual mountain to God are equal and equally valid. This pluralism is an insult to people of faith who believe their religion is true. Second, neither is an "I'm right, you're wrong," closed-minded, tit-for-tat exchange a genuine dialogue. While dialogue partners may well believe they are correct, they maintain a deep respect for the other person. Genuine dialogue is sharing your beliefs with someone else while at the same time learning about his or hers. It is talking about them openly and honestly, valuing similarities and acknowledging differences. It seeks to know why these differences exist and to evaluate their validity. Genuine dialogue is forged in the crucible of friendship and can culminate in some of the most meaningful sharing you will ever experience. We hope that you will experience that kind of dialogue through the seven sessions of this study guide, which takes you into the text of the Bible and the Qur'an.

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Customer Reviews

This is different from all the other Christian/Muslim debating resources out there which equip people to attack each other with arguments (i.e. lose friends and fail to influence people). Without

sacrificing the integrity of either side of the dialog, this study guide focuses on actual texts of both scriptures. While completers of this study will no doubt conclude that the Bible and Qur'an have very different messages, they will have arrived at that conclusion via a much more irenic path, and will have established a relationship and habit of honest dialogue that can serve as a much more productive and meaningful foundation for tackling the more common debate-centered resources out there. The book contains 7 studies of parallel or comparable passages of the Bible and the Qur'an. Each passage is followed by probing discussion questions, and each study concludes with a Challenge, and Witnesses to Dialogue: perspectives of people (both Christian and Muslim) who have wrestled with these same questions. These studies and witnesses seem very well balanced, providing equal time to both the Christian and Muslim sides. After the 7 studies, there is an extensive section of Leader's Notes, kind of an "answer key" to the discussion questions. These notes offer a wealth of information. Then there's a section of References for all the quotes/citations in the studies, and the last section is an annotated bibliography, which is chock full of books, magazine articles, websites, etc. to follow up on the dialogue started by these studies. The primary intended use of the study guide is for one-on-one study -- one Christian and one Muslim. The introduction recommends either 7 sessions (bible plus qur'an in each) or 14 (tackle only half a study each time).

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