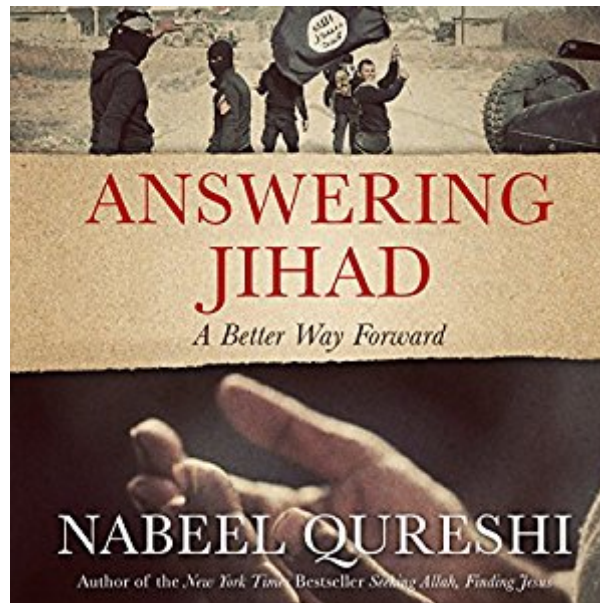




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# Answering Jihad: A Better Way Forward



## Synopsis

From New York Times best-selling author and former Muslim Nabeel Qureshi comes this personal, challenging, and respectful answer to the many questions surrounding jihad, the rise of ISIS, and Islamic terrorism. San Bernardino was the most lethal terror attack on American soil since 9/11, and it came on the heels of a coordinated assault on Paris. There is no question that innocents were slaughtered in the name of Allah and in the way of jihad, but do the terrorists' actions actually reflect the religion of Islam? The answer to this question is more pressing than ever as waves of Muslim refugees arrive in the West, seeking shelter from the violent ideology of ISIS. Setting aside speculations and competing voices, what really is jihad? How are we to understand jihad in relation to our Muslim neighbors and friends? Why is there such a surge of Islamist terrorism in the world today, and how are we to respond? In *Answering Jihad*, best-selling author Nabeel Qureshi (Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus) answers these questions from the perspective of a former Muslim who is deeply concerned for both his Muslim family and his American homeland.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was thoroughly impressed with this brief book on a very tough topic. In less than 200 pages, Qureshi carefully, clearly, and compassionately explained the details of jihad along with other related topics. Having been raised in a devout Muslim home, Qureshi speaks knowledgeably about these things. In three parts the book answers 18 questions. I won't list them all, but here's a sample: Part 1: The Origins of Jihad. What is Jihad? What is Sharia? Was Islam Spread by the

Sword?Part 2: Jihad Today: What is Radical Islam? Who are Al-Qaida, ISIS, and Boko Haram? Why are Muslims Being Radicalized?Part 3: Jihad in Judeo-Christian Context: Do Muslims and Christians Worship the Same God? What Does Jesus Teach About Violence?There are also four appendices that give some more detail on these topics, such as a description of the caliphate and a timeline of jihad in Islam.This book stood out to me because Qureshi is a very good writer - though the book isn't too long, he explains the issues in a very readable way. There are some details, so it may not be for casual readers, but shorter chapters help make it easier to read. It was also refreshing to feel Qureshi's compassion throughout the book: though he is truthful about Islamic teaching, he does not smear Muslims or disrespect them. The book was written from a Christian perspective, but I believe anyone would benefit from it. In my opinion, Qureshi is a level-headed thinker and it very much shows up in the book.Finally, the book is quite up to date: the publisher and editors almost set records in publishing it so quickly! And, despite quick publishing, I didn't find any typos or errors. I'm thoroughly pleased with this book, and highly recommend it along with Qureshi's other work, "Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus."

In the preface of *Answering Jihad*, Dr. Nabeel Qureshi says that when it comes to the topics of Islam and jihad, "There is too much confusion, too much misdirected anger, too much misinformation, too little balance, and too little grace to remain silent any longer." That's why I wanted a book like this one and I can full-heartedly say that the author does a magnificent job of bringing the much needed clarity, reason and the grace of God to our dialogue about Islam in our times. Because Nabeel grew up in a devout Muslim family he has a solid and reputable background to speak from. His father was an officer in the US Navy, so the author is able to speak for the followers of Islam who love and support America. Nabeel was not your average follower of Islam, but one who studied in depth the teachings of his parents' faith from childhood and defended it with passion well into his college days. However, during his pre-med studies he developed a great friendship with a fellow student that led to his conversion to Christianity. (Read *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus*.) That change of heart and mind has taken Dr. Qureshi into being one of the leading voices in Christian apologetics with RZIM and during his presentations Nabeel is asked probing questions regarding Islam, jihad and how we should respond to Muslims, to the mid-east wars and the needs of the refugees. In *Answering Jihad*, Dr. Qureshi addresses eighteen key questions he has heard around the world and to give us the answers we are looking for without the anger, the bias, the politics and false assumptions that are so often presented in the media. The book is well written and

presented in such a way you will not need a degree in theology or in social-sciences to follow along. There are also four very helpful appendices to assist the reader in understanding more. If you are looking for clear answers as to why not all followers of Islam are the same, why all Muslims are not violent and why we can and should move forward with wisdom and compassion, then this book of only 173 pages is for you. As a pastor I plan to buy a copy for every family in my church.

It's not liberal or conservative thought that Nabeel is sharing, but the Spirit of Christ at work in our hearts and in the times we are living.

Answering Jihad is an excellent and thoughtful perspective on how to relate to the ordinary Muslim who may be your neighbor or a refugee seeking safety and solace. It is not a political policy statement. The purpose of the book is to create an understanding of the historical and doctrinal basis of Islam, understand its' comparison to Christianity and the teachings of the Christ, and to encourage the reader to reach out to the ordinary Muslim person with love and compassion as most of them are just trying to live life in peace and honor to God as they understand him. As I read, I evaluated myself and my opinions. Do I really love my enemies? Could I love those who are militant jihadists? I concluded, as a follower of the Christ, that I have to try to do so. He will provide the strength. As an American, I need to be open and caring for those who are different, suffering, and needing our shelter. I challenge you to read this book. It will challenge and change you into an even better person.

Nabeel has a talent in conveying his thoughts, and he has done so once again in Answering Jihad. This book will benefit both Muslim and Non-Muslim when it comes to understanding violence in Islam especially in this day and age. Nabeel uses a very gentle approach, and it forces anyone reading to ask themselves tough questions if they are truly committed to seeking the truth of what's around them. This book will be valuable to the beginner wanting to understand the violence as represented by Radical Islam today as well as for the advance person that has been studying Islam. Despite taking on tough questions, Nabeel is honest with his answers, yet still gentle, sounding neither malicious or vitriolic. His goal is simple, to communicate the truth to the readers, while ensuring we are still loving and caring for Muslims around the world.

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