



Books in Review

REASONING FROM THE SCRIPTURES WITH MUSLIMS

by Ron Rhodes

Harvest House, 342 pages, \$12.99

Ron Rhodes has added to his practical “reasoning” series. His newest is *Reasoning from the Scriptures with Muslims*. The other four groups previously published in the series are Jehovah’s Witnesses, Mormons, Catholics, and Masons.

There has been phenomenal growth in Islam around the world. Currently, it ranks behind only Christianity in the number of adherents.

Rhodes has done his homework to teach us to effectively witness to Muslims and to warn others of its false message. It is written in understandable terms to teach a topic with thought-provoking follow-up questions. Topics include the history of Muslims; their religion’s founder, Muhammad; their holy book, the *Quran*; their God, Allah; and the Muslim view of the afterlife. Also included is a comparison of Islamic and Christian doctrines. As one expects, this book is replete with Scripture references. Rhodes regularly reminds his readers to be loving, humble, sensitive, tactful, and cautious when sharing their faith with those of the Muslim religion.

Various indexes at the end of the book make for easy information retrieval. Indexes include subjects, Bible quotations, and Quranic quotations. Endnotes provide thorough documentation.

It is our Christian duty to be prepared to tell others about the true Gospel of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 3:15). In view of our nation’s recent history of terrorist attacks, we are even more so reminded of this obligation to be ready to defend our faith to our Muslim friends and anyone who may ask. This work is an excellent resource to help us in that effort.

—AMG

CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS

by Norman L. Geisler

Prince Press, 393 pages, \$19.95

This work, first published in 1976 by Baker Book House, has received an encore printing thanks to Prince Press (an imprint of Hendrickson Publishers). Nearly three decades later, the volume’s contents are just as relevant as when it was first published. The current edition is a hardback binding, giving it the durability a work of this nature and caliber warrants.

Geisler’s treatise on apologetics is divided into three main and nearly equally sized divisions: methodology, theistic apologetics, and Christian apologetics. Each of these principal segments subdivide into the chapters offering a thorough and resolute argument for the Christian faith.

In the first part, Geisler examines such philosophical systems as agnosticism (no knowledge or skepticism of God), fideism (faith apart from reason), and pragmatism (faith based upon practical results). He wraps up this section presenting the basis for “formulating adequate tests for truth.” In part two, he surveys prominent theistic world views, including deism (a God who creates, but does not exercise control over His creation), pantheism (no separation between Creator and creation, God is the creation), and atheism (there is no God). In part three, Geisler argues for the distinctive and vital claims of the Christian faith, including the inspiration and authority of the Bible, the historical reliability of the New Testament, and the deity and authority of Jesus Christ.

The book’s only shortcoming is that the references for “select readings” for each of the chapters and the bibliography (found at the book’s end) all predate the original 1976 edition. It would have been beneficial to modernize these recommendations to current and available publications. While some of the older works cited make up the mainstay of the philosophical systems surveyed and are essential, other volumes designated for further reading may well be out-of-print and unattainable. Prince Press, as well, should have updated Geisler’s antiquated biography on the back cover of the book.

Despite these minor flaws, *Christian Apologetics* is a valuable resource, both for reading and reference.

—MKG

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