

Exposing the 12 Most Common Erroneous Arguments that Muslims Make against Christianity

Muslims love to confront what we believe, while most Christians find themselves incapable of responding to these challenges. Jay will employ his almost 40 years of experience to show you how to identify the errors in their arguments (i.e. their 'Logical Fallacies'), and then demonstrate how to introduce the Gospel through them.

Jay Smith has been working with Muslims for over 37 years, including 25 years in London, England. Most of his time he spends travelling to numerous countries to teach Christian/Muslim apologetics and polemics, much of which he has learned from weekly forays to the world-famous Speaker's Corner in Hyde Park, London. He has participated in over 80 dialogues and debates with Muslim polemicists. He is a visiting lecturer for the Oakhill College in London, the Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics, and the Wycliffe Hall, also in Oxford. Since 2001, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA), as well as the Ravi Zacharias International Ministries (RZIM) have used him to teach Islamics in the US and Europe. Jay has master's degrees in divinity and Islamics, and a PhD in Christian/Muslim apologetics/polemics from the Melbourne School of Theology, Australia. He previously served as the international director for the Pfander Centre for Apologetics in London. You can contact him at: jsmith@dircon.co.uk and view his many YouTube videos on Christianity and Islam at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/PfanderFilms/videos>

Introduction: How to be aware of the pitfalls we face when discussing our faith with Muslims

- Remember Muslim missionaries have been trained to debate Christians
- Many Muslims have watched polemical videos against Christianity and rote-learned their tactics and arguments without understanding the first thing about what they are attacking
- Few have really looked into Christianity (or Islam) for themselves, seeking simply to attack and confound
- Resulting in many erroneous arguments against the Christian faith, all of which must be answered

I. "BB" Paradigm

- A. Make any claim, without sourcing it in scripture

II. Appeal to Pity and Popularity

- A. Use victimization and bogus statistics to assuage guilt and convince

III. Ad Hominem

- A. Attack the individual instead of the argument

IV. Imposition Paradigm

- A. Take your premise and impose it on another

- V. Smokescreen/Red Herring
 - A. Divert attention from the weakness of one's own premise, with the intention of putting one's opponent on the defensive

- VI. Historical Precedent
 - A. The new may test the old, and takes precedent over it

- VII. False Analogy/Equivocation
 - A. Compare two things as if they are parallel when they are not

- VIII. The Fallacy of Irrelevance
 - A. Introducing issues with no logical bearing on the subject, as a proof of credibility

- IX. Straw Man Arguments
 - A. Put a false argument into the mouth of your opponent, then knock it down

- X. The Deflective Polemic Fallacy
 - A. Deflect from Islam's weaknesses, and impose it on to Christianity

- XI. 'Might it Right' Fallacy
 - A. Loudest and most long-winded supposedly wins the argument

- XII. The 'Last Man Standing' Fallacy

Suggested Readings:

The Big Book of Christian Apologetics, Norman Geisler, Baker Books, 2012

The Bible's Answers to 100 of Life's Questions, Norman Geisler, Baker Books, 2015

The Harvest Handbook of Apologetics, Joseph M. Holden (ed), Harvest House, 2018