

The Truth Behind the Emergence of Islam Post-Forum Seminar

So much of what we have been told concerning how Islam actually began is proving, through historical research, to be quite false. Jay will introduce some of the newest and most exciting research in what is proving to be one of Islam's greatest weaknesses, which will, he believes, prove to be the undoing of Islam's historical credibility, and its 'Achilles Heel'.

Dr 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: The Bible and Jesus have already passed the Historical Test, now it is the turn to use the same criteria on the Qur'an and Muhammad, to assess how Islam really began

I. What the Muslims Claim

II. The classical account of Islam's emergence

III. The Scholar's Concerns

A. Problem 1: Geography

B. Problem 2: Mecca

C. Problem 3: The Qibla

IV. Dan Gibson's Qibla Discoveries

A. Petran Qiblas

B. Between Qiblas

C. Meccan Qiblas

D. Parallel Qiblas

V. Why Petra?

VI. So, what really Happened?

A. The Need for an Arab identity

B. The Need for a 'Man'

C. The Need for a 'Book'

D. The Need for a 'Place'

Conclusion: The Wrong Man, in the Wrong Place, doing the Wrong Thing, at the Wrong Time!

Suggested Readings:

Qur'anic Geography, Dan Gibson, Independent Scholar's Press, 2011

In the Shadow of the Sword, Tom Holland, Anchor, 2012

Early Islamic Qiblas, Dan Gibson, Independent Scholar's Press, 2017