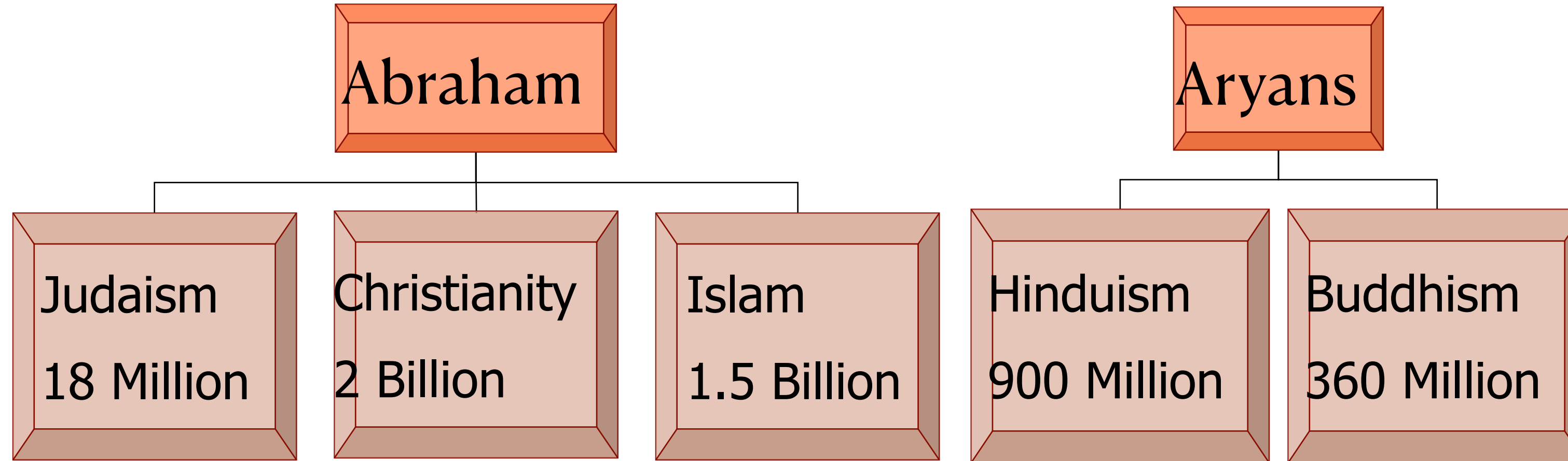


Islam, Terrorism, and Persecuted Christians

Introduction

- What is the history of Islam?
- What is the theology of Islam?
- How can we witness to Muslims?
- What are the major divisions of Islam?
- What is the history and theology of radical Islam?
- Should Sharia law be allowed in this country?
- How can we pray for persecuted Christians?

World Religions



Demographics

Worldwide - 1.5 billion Muslims (~ 25%)

- Middle East: 380 million
- North Africa: 115 million
- Indonesia, Pakistan, and Bangladesh: 550 million

History of Islam

Muhammad

- Born into a powerful Arab tribe in Mecca 570 A.D.
- Raised by his grandfather and later an uncle.
- At age 25, married a wealthy widow Khadija 15 years his senior.
- At age 40, Muhammad receives his calling from the angel Gabriel.

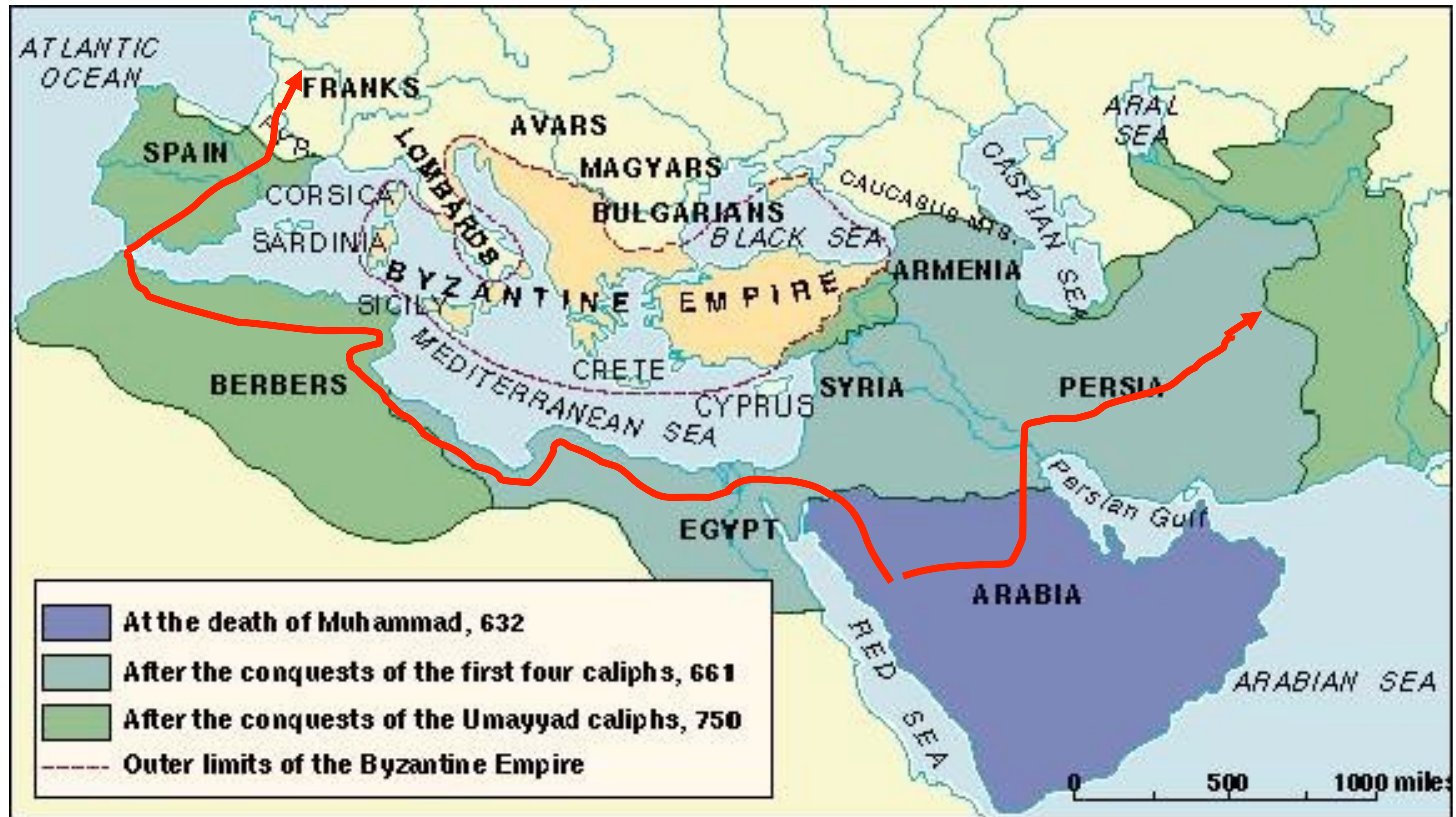


Muhammad

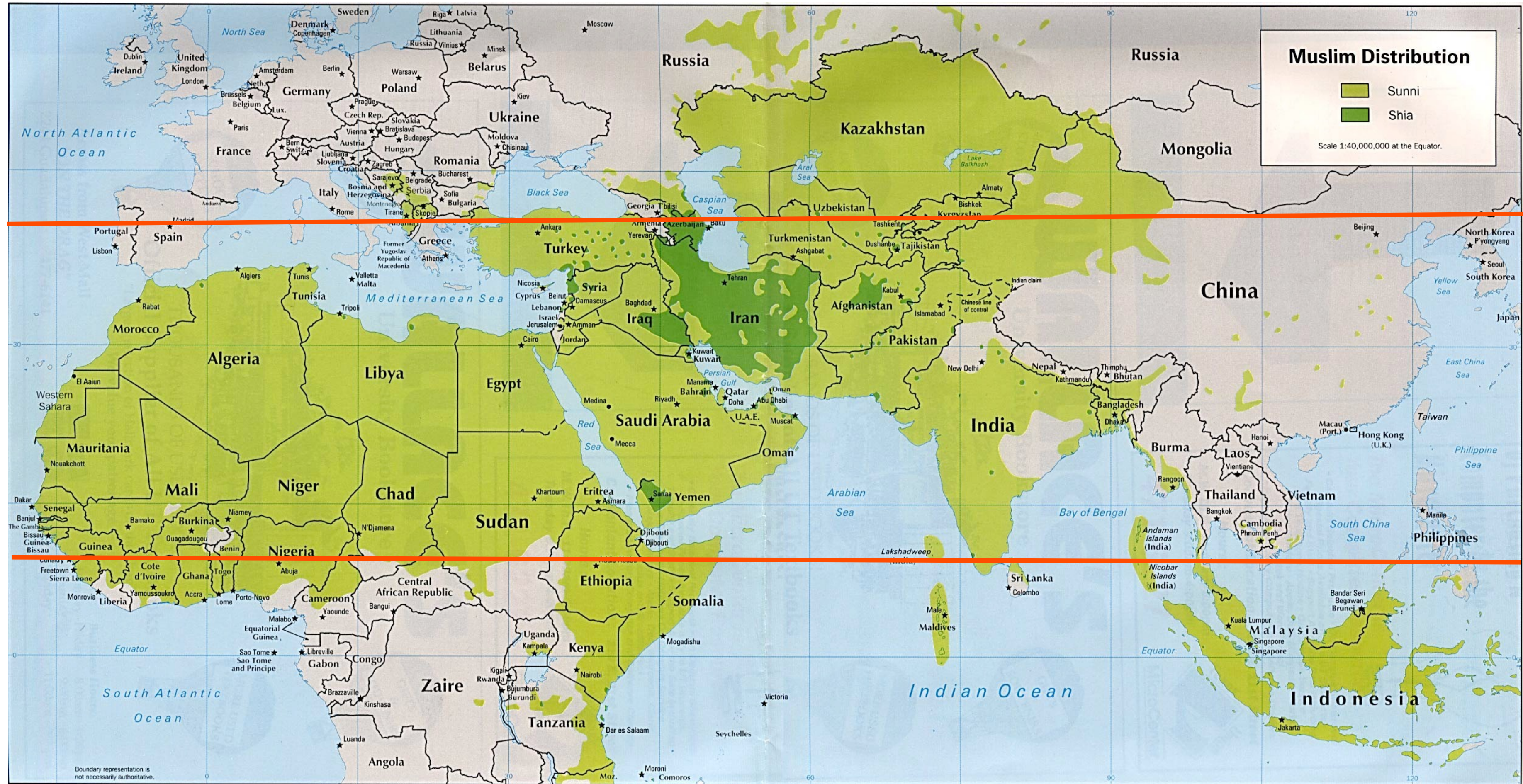
- Revelations recorded & became the Qur'an ("recitation").
- After being rejected for his preaching in Mecca, fled to Medina in 622.
- Flight known as Hijra ("migration").
- Led 10,000 men in taking Mecca.
- Died in 632.



SPREAD of ISLAM



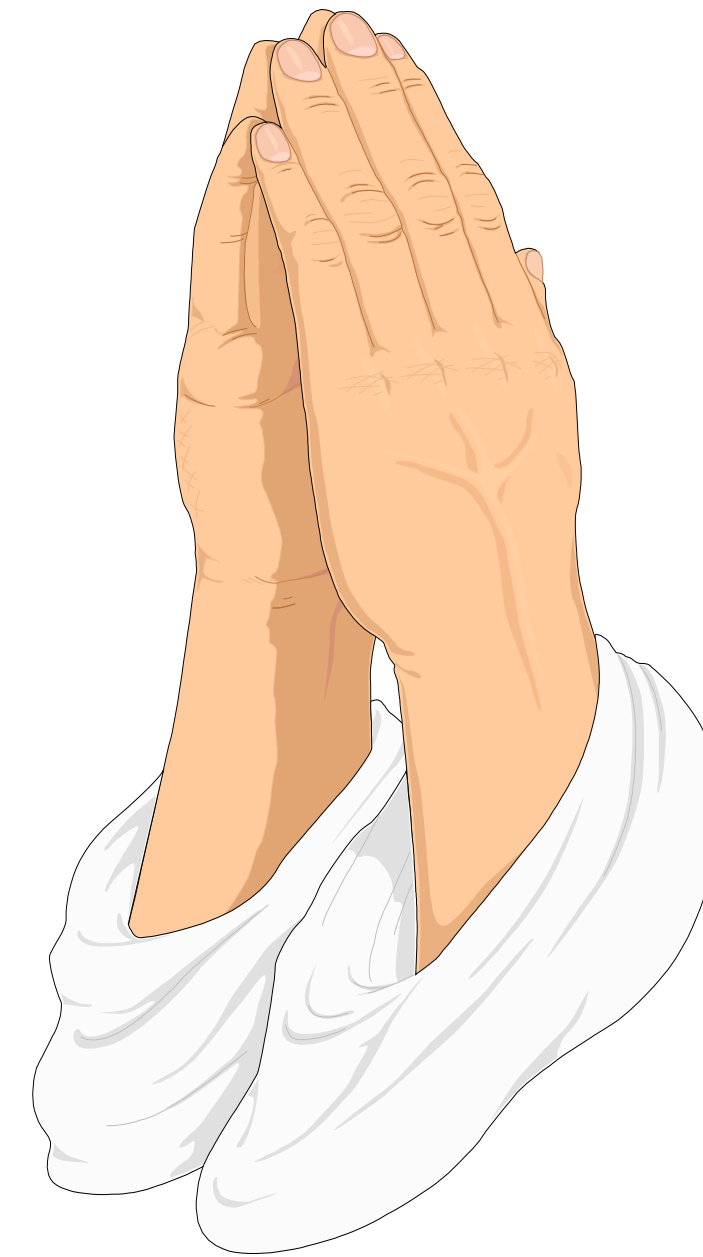
Distribution



Theology of Islam

Five Pillars of Islam

- Shahada - repetition of the creed: “There is no God but Allah, and Muhammed is His prophet.”
- Salat - prayers
- Zakat - almsgiving
- Sawm - fast of Ramadan
- Hajj - “pilgrimage” to Mecca



Pilgrimage



Sixth Pillar of Islam?

- Jihad – the word means “struggle.”
- Often used in the sense of personal striving in the path of God.



Sixth Pillar of Islam?

“The more common interpretation, and that of the overwhelming majority of the classical jurists and commentators, presents jihad as armed struggle for Islam against infidels and apostates.”

Bernard Lewis, professor of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton

Scriptures of Islam

- Qur'an (“recitation”) - recorded revelation given to Muhammed.
- Hadith (“report”) - traditional sayings of Muhammed.



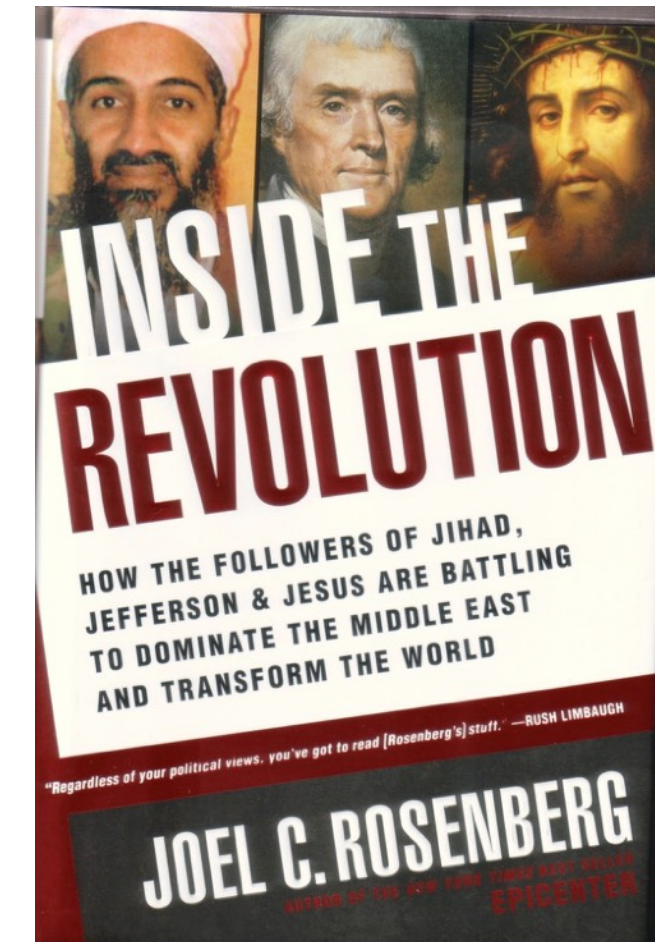
Islamic Theology

Character of God

Allah	Yahweh
Unitarian Monotheism	Trinitarian Monotheism
Master/Slave Relationship	Father/Son or Daughter Relationship
Allah determines all	Sovereign and Free will
Author of good and evil	Always good

Witnessing

- Seminary conducted survey of 600 former Muslims who had become Christians.
- Most significant factor in their conversion was the emphasis on the love of God.
- A second factor was eternal security.
- Key verse: Ephesians 2:8-9.
- More Muslims are becoming Christians.



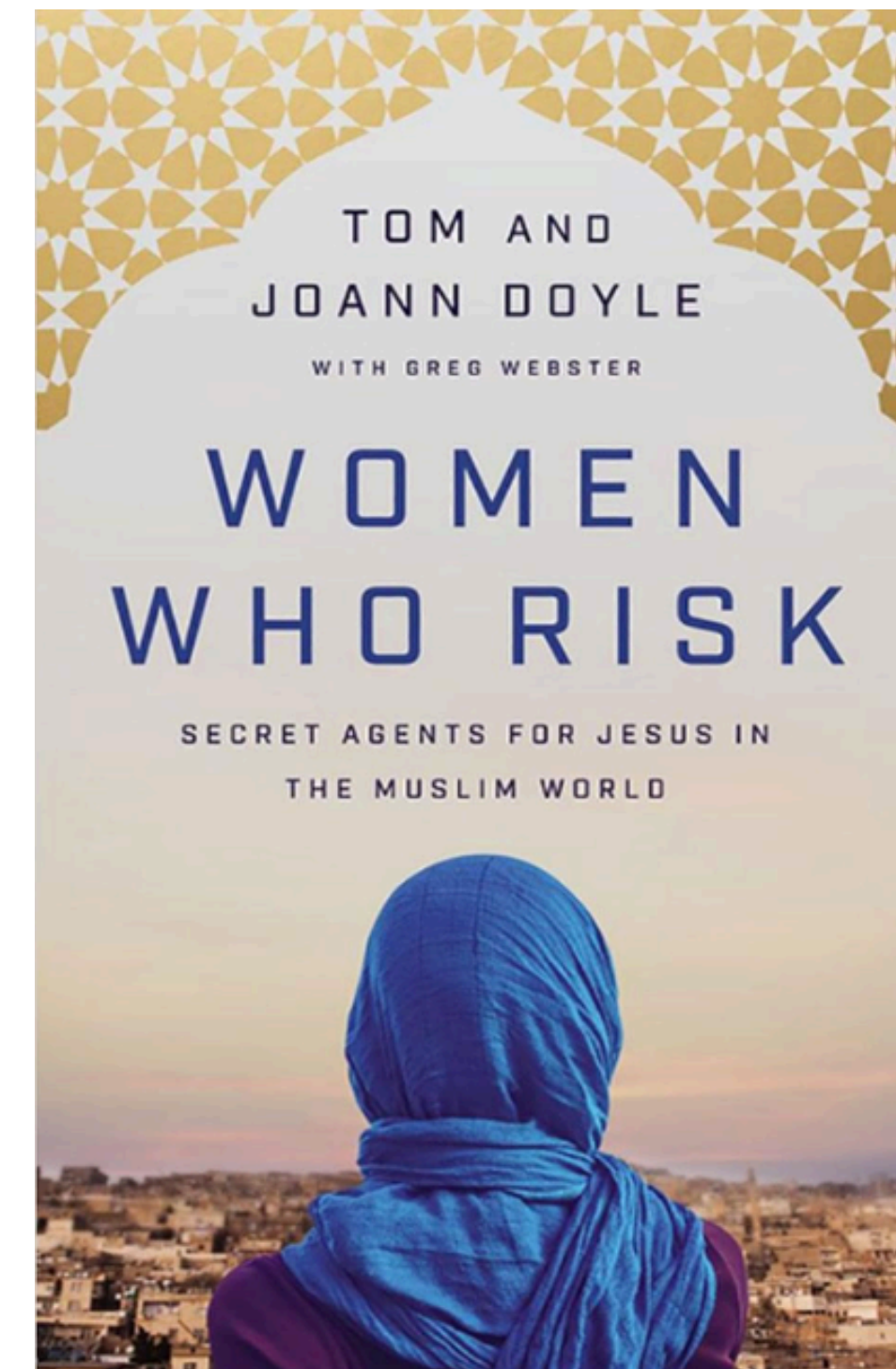
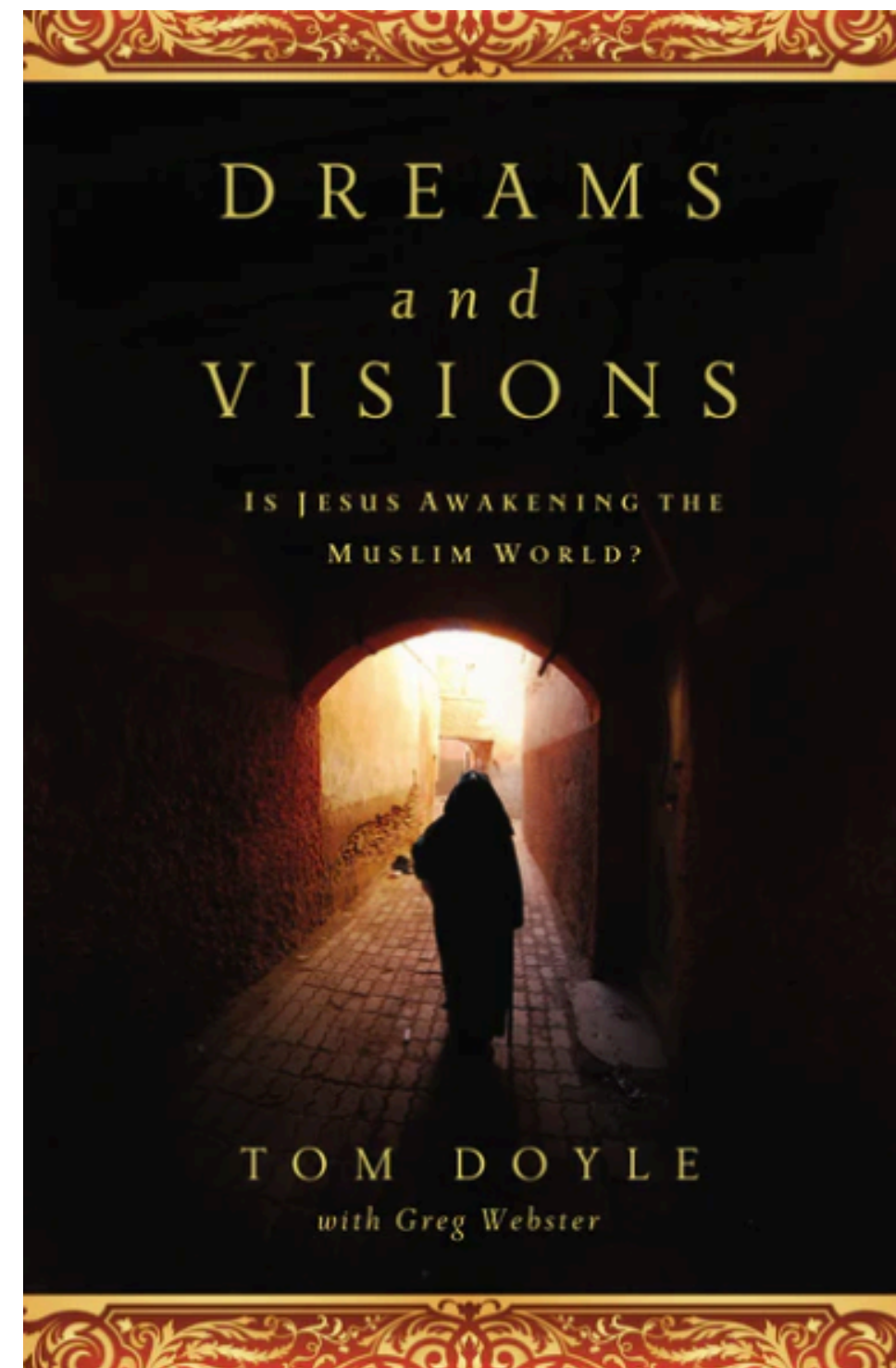
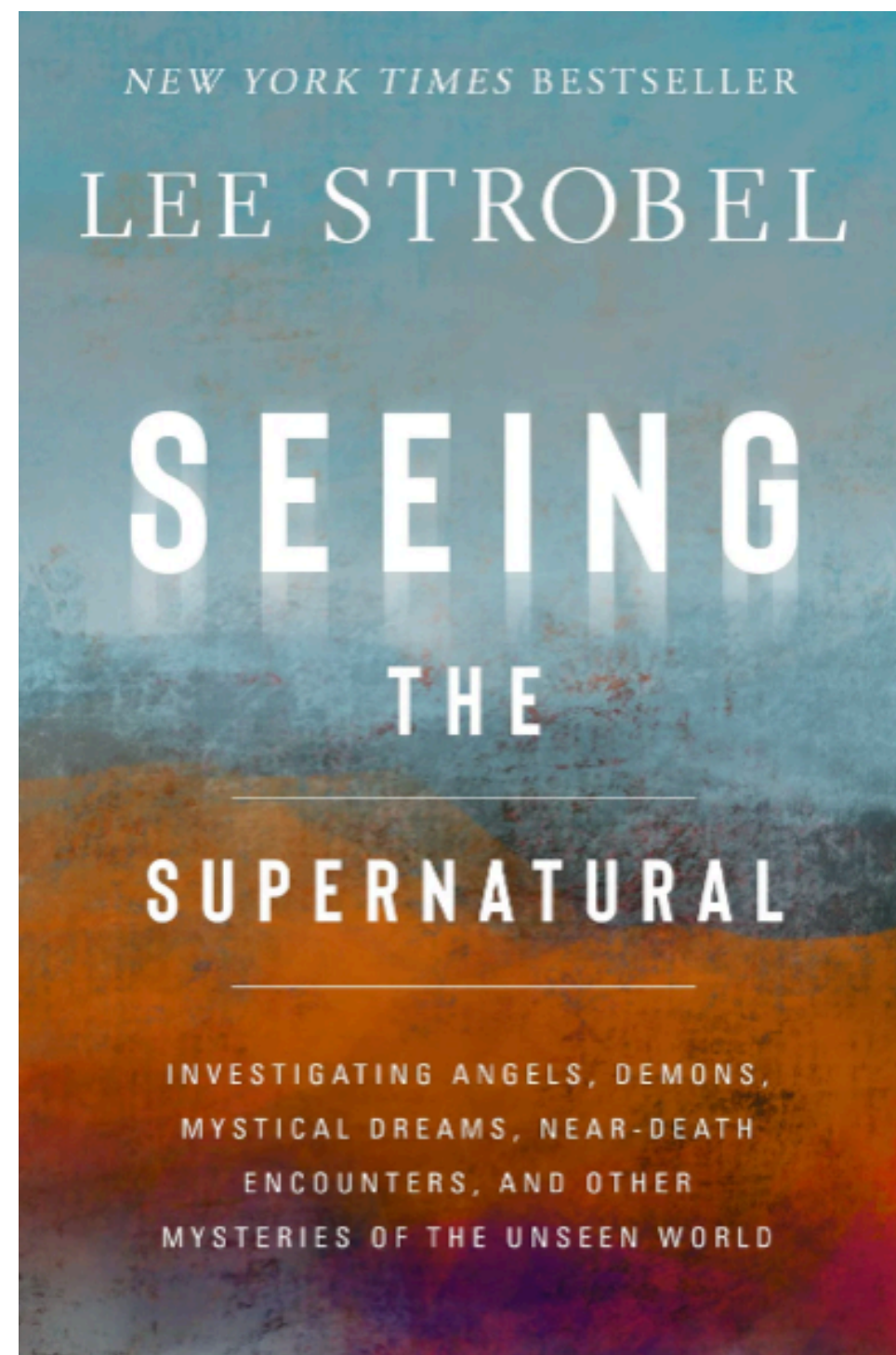
Jesus and Islam

- Show them Jesus in the Qur'an.
 - Jesus was born of a virgin, is the Messiah, has power over death, and knows the way to heaven (Sura 3:42-55).
 - Jesus was sinless (Sura 19:19).
 - Mohammed did not know what would happen to his followers (Sura 46:9).

Bible and Islam

- Show them they can read the Bible.
 - Ask those who read the Scriptures that came before you (Sura 10:94).
 - One must read Old and New Testament - known as “Before Books” (Sura 4:136).
 - They are to observe the Torah and the Gospels (Sura 5:65-66).

Dreams and Visions



Sunni vs. Shiite

Suni	Shi'ite
80% of population	Less than 15% of population
Elect successor	Successor was Ali, who was related to Muhammed
Emphasize written traditions (Sunnah, Hadith)	Emphasize authority of the Imam
Separation of civil and religious authorities	Religious authorities control political power

History of Split

- There was a dispute among Muslims over the question of succession?
- Most of Muhammad's followers wanted the community of Muslims to determine who would succeed him.
- A smaller group thought Ali (married to Muhammad's daughter) should be the next leader.

History of Split

- The Sunnis prevailed and chose a successor to be the first caliph. Eventually, Ali was chosen as the fourth caliph, but not before violent conflict broke out.
- Two of the earliest caliphs were murdered. War erupted when Ali became caliph, and he too was killed in fighting in A.D. 661 near the town of Kufa (present-day Iraq).

History of Split

- War split the community of Muslims into two branches that would never reunite.
- The war continued with Hussein (Ali's son) leading the Shiites. His family and companions fought against a very large Arab army of the caliph and were all massacred.
- Hussein was decapitated and his head carried in tribute.

History of Split

- The symbolism of Hussein's death holds much spiritual power for Shiites.
- This is a picture of Imam Hussein held by a Shiite Muslim during a protest.
- They commemorate their faith during the bloody ritual of Ashura.



12th Imam

- In the 10th century, the 12th Shiite Imam went into hiding. They believe the Mahdi will come back at the end of time when there is a global conflict.
- Those who believe in the 12th Imam are known as Twelver Shiites. They are the majority of the Shiites in the world today.



Sharia Law

Sharia Law

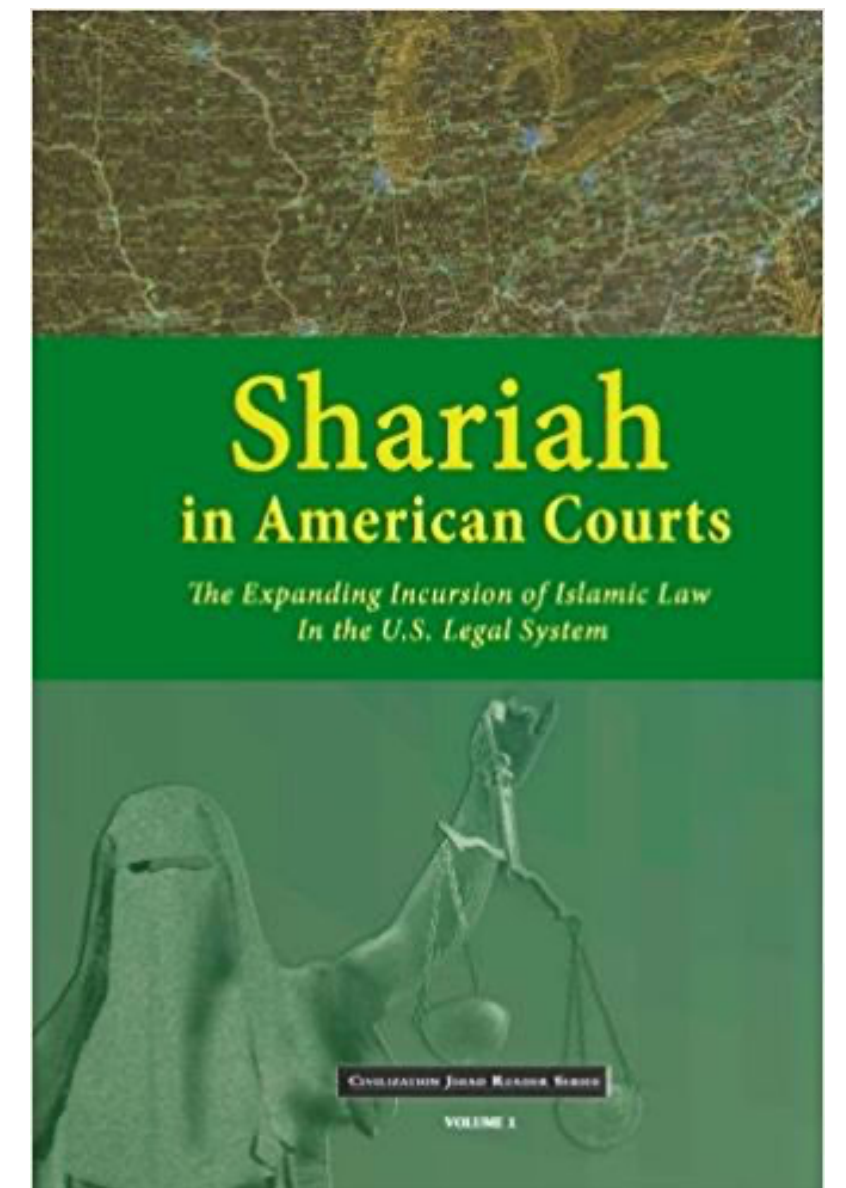
- A foundational practice of Islam is the implementation of sharia into the legal structure.
- Sometimes the world has been able to see how extreme the interpretation of sharia can be.
- The Qur'an teaches that an apostate Muslim faces the wrath of Allah (Sura 47:25-28). Sharia law in many countries treats apostasy as the unforgivable sin and therefore punishable by death.

Sharia Law

- According to the Qur'an women are considered inferior to men: "Men have authority over women because God has made the one superior to the other" (Sura 4:34).
- The Qur'an restricts a woman's testimony in court. Her testimony is worth half as much as that of a man (Sura 2:282).
- The Qur'an teaches that a son's inheritance should be twice that of a daughter's (Sura 4:11).

Sharia Law and The Constitution

- Sharia law is very different in many respects from the laws established through the U.S. Constitution and the laws established through English Common law.
- In an attempt to prevent sharia law from being implemented in America, a number of state legislatures have passed bans on sharia law because they have shown up in our courts.

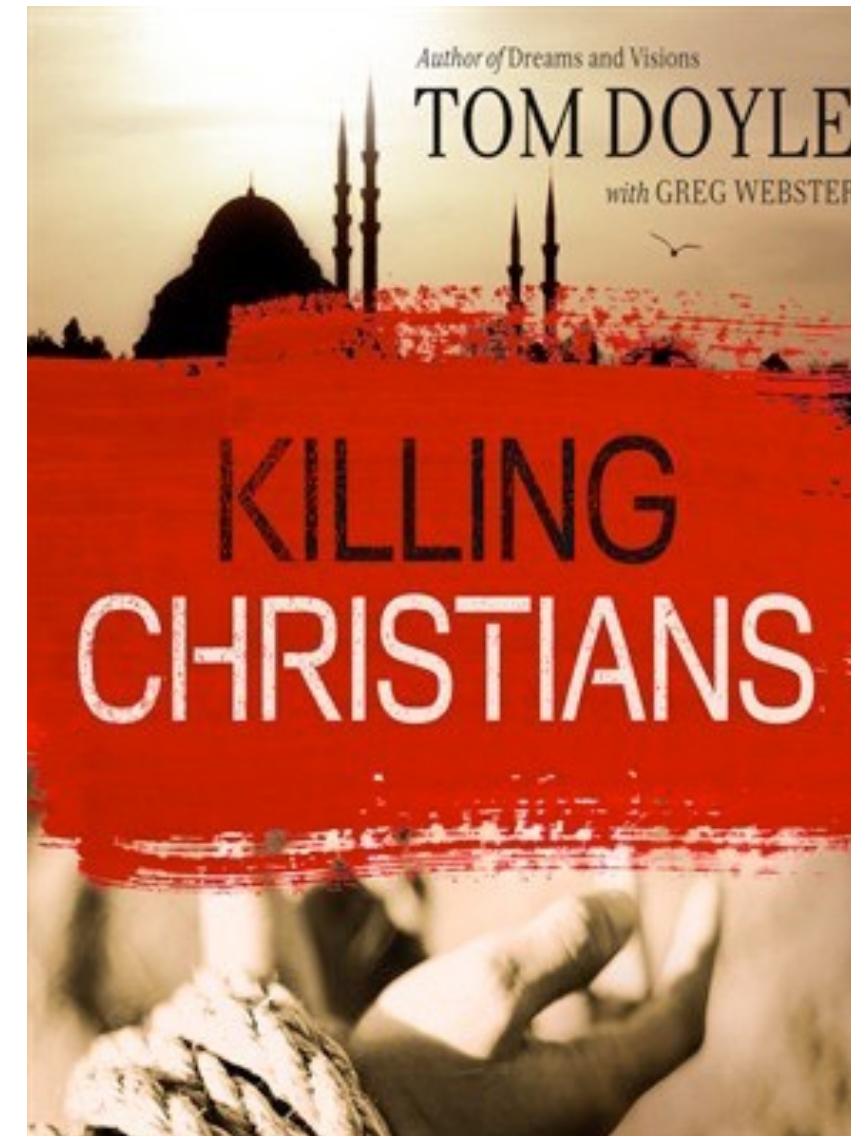
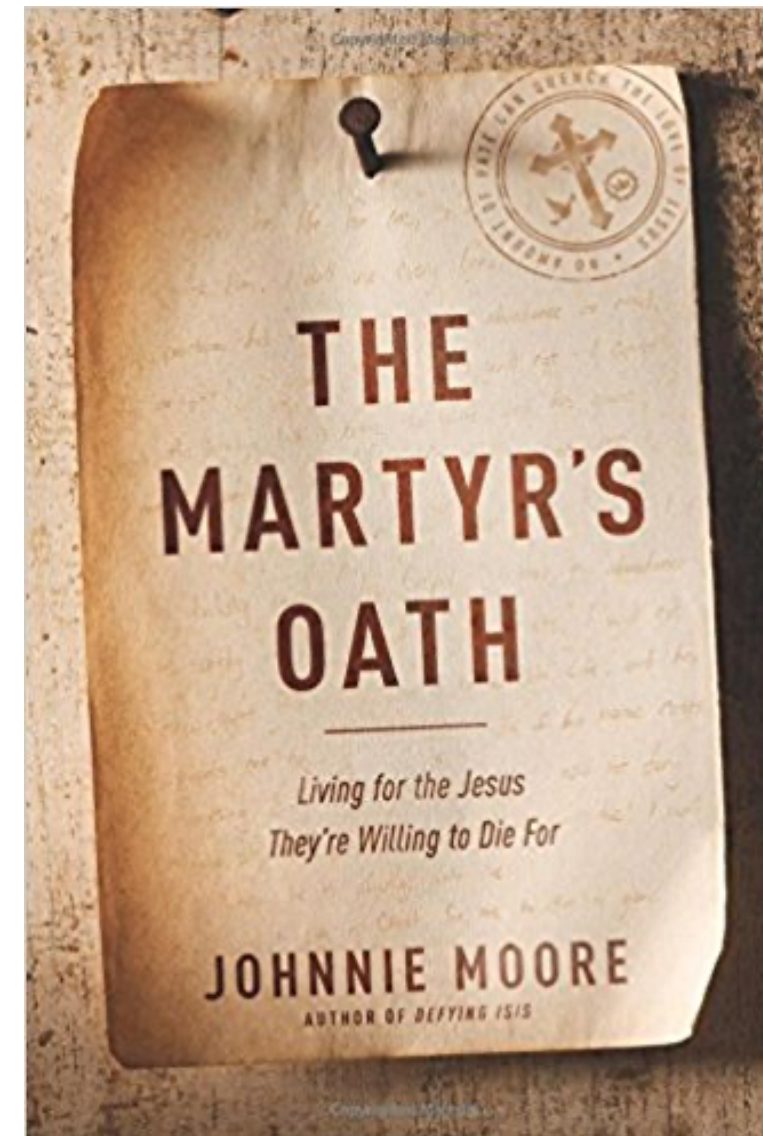
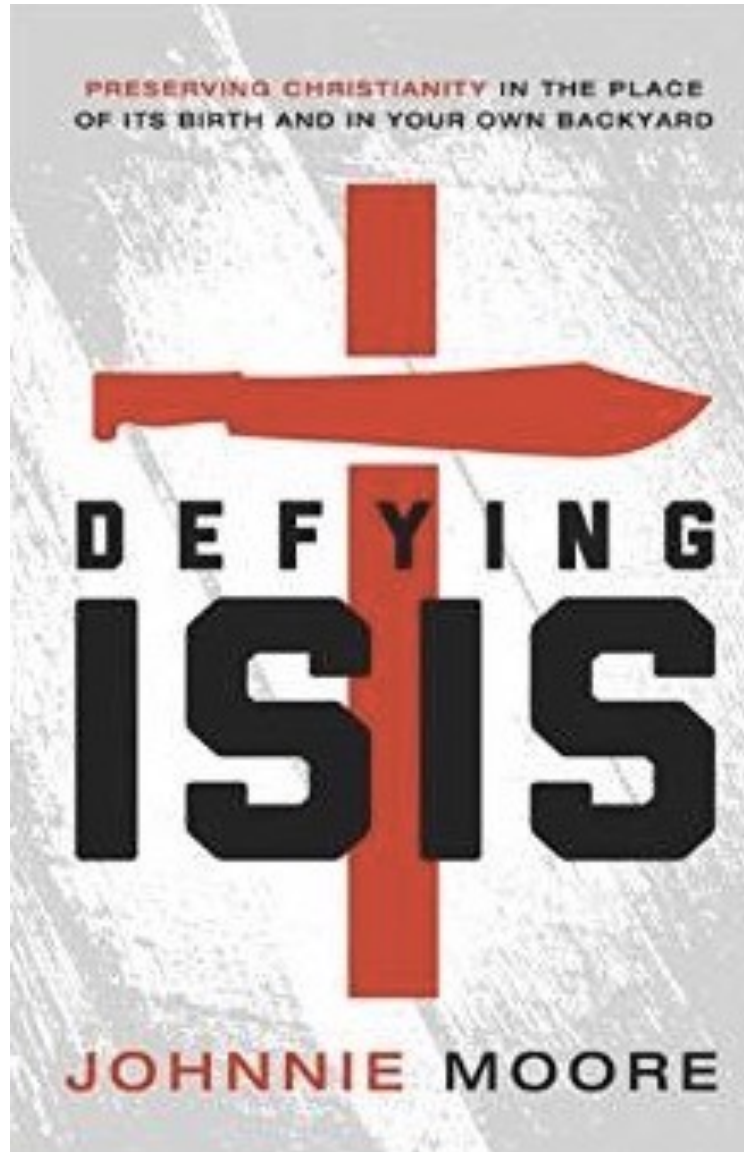


1-8-14

- The First Amendment says that there should be no establishment of religion. Sharia law is based on one religion's (Islam) interpretation of rights.
- The Eighth Amendment prohibits “cruel and unusual punishment.” Most Americans would consider the penalties under Sharia law to be cruel and unusual.
- The Fourteenth Amendment guarantees each citizen equal protection under the Constitution, but Sharia law treats Muslims and non-Muslims differently.

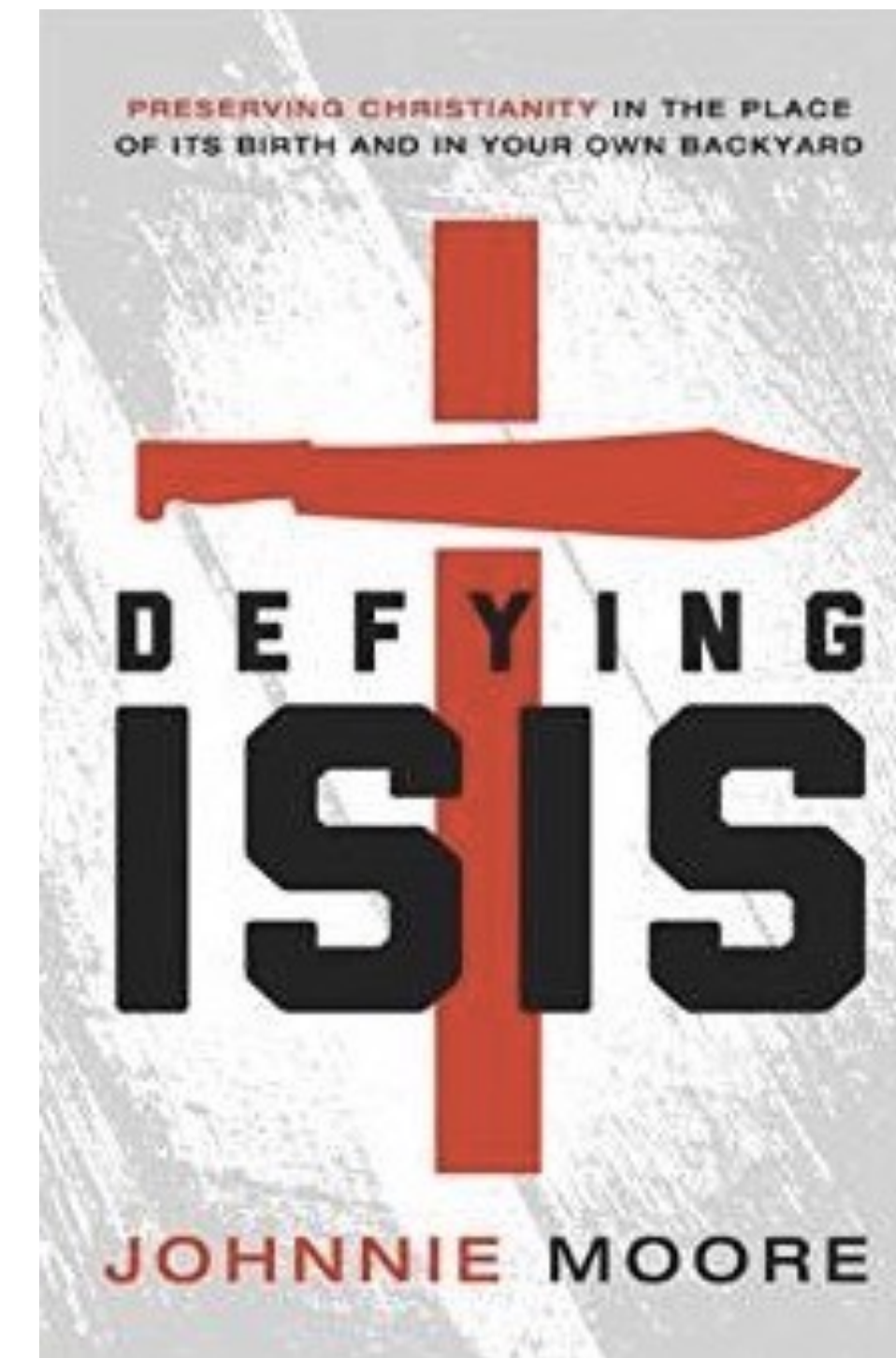
Persecuted Christians

Persecuted Christians



What ISIS Is Doing

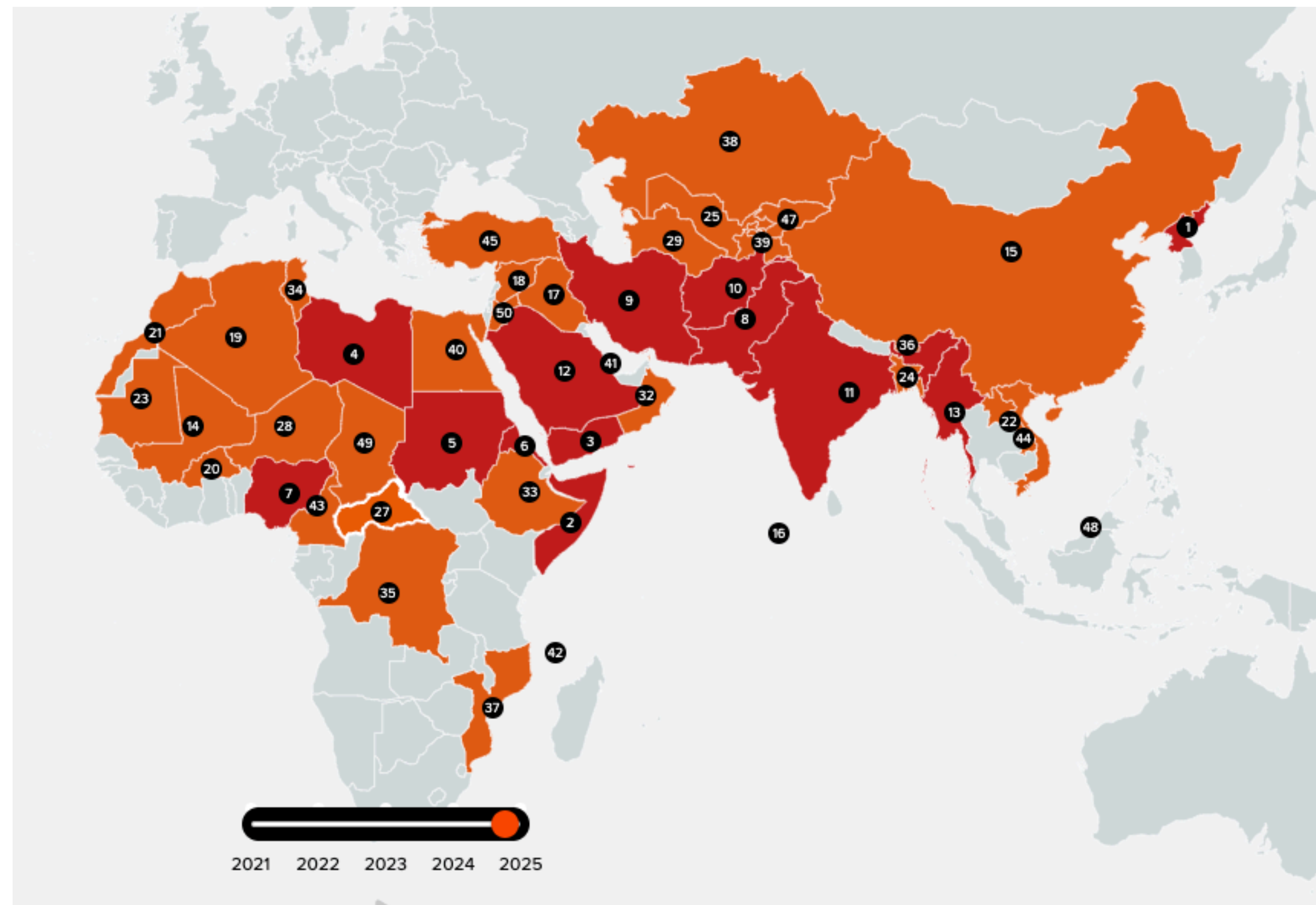
- Burn Their Churches and Kill Their Pastors
- Slaughter Them or Make Their Children Soldiers
- Enslave Their Wives and Abuse Their Daughters
- The Crosses of Ankawa



Refugee Tents



World Watch List



Our Response

- Pray - 2 Thessalonians 3:2 - tells us to pray “that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men.”
- Give - to ministries that are helping martyrs: Samaritan’s Purse, Open Doors, Voice of the Martyrs
- Podcasts of interviews: www.pointofview.net

Resources

