April 15: Introduction to Muhammad, Islam, and the Qur’an
April 22: Discussion with Abbas Barzegar, Assistant Professor of Islam, Georgia State University
April 29: Discussion with Sarah Muwahidah, Ph.D. student, Graduate Division of Religion, Emory University
May 6: Jesus’ Qur’an Family [Family of Imran]: Zechariah, Elizabeth, John the Baptist, Mary
May 20: The Opening (Al Fatiha), Lord’s Prayer, and John 17

From the New Testament to the Qur’an (500 years to Muhammad’s birth)

70 A.D. Destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple (Jesus replaces the Temple)
570 A.D. Muhammad was born April 26 (d. June 8, 632)
    Born in Mecca, Saudia Arabia; married when 25 (595 A.D.)
610 A.D. began to receive revelations (age 40) during month of Ramadan
613 A.D. began preaching revelations publicly
    “God is One”; complete “surrender” (islam) to God is “only way”
622 A.D. (the Hijra) migrated from Mecca to Medina (Yathrib)
630 A.D. with his 10,000 followers conquered Mecca (d. 632)
Interesting Comparison: John Calvin and Today (500 years later)
John Calvin (b. 1509–c. 1563): 1533 religious conversion; Psalms commentary
What would a “new Catholic/Judaism/Presbyterianism” look like today started in Saudi Arabia, Iraq (ancient Babylonia) and Iran (ancient Persia)?

Biblical People in New Testament and the Qur’an

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I. Moses (79)
II. Abraham (71)

David (60)
Noah (8)

III. Satan (35) (Diabolos 36)

Mary (19)
Jesus (942)

IV. Isaac (20)
V. Zechariah, Father of John Baptist (9)
VI. Jonah (9)

VII. Elizabeth (9)

VIII. Gabriel (2: Luke 1:19, 16)
IX. Enoch (3: Luke 3:37; Heb 11:5; Jude 14)

XI. Michael (2: Jude 1:9; Rev 12:7)
XII. Elisha (1: Luke 4:27)
XIII. HB Saul (1: Acts 13:21)

III. Satan (32) (Iblis 11)

Mary (34 [Surah 19])
Jesus (25)

IV. Isaac (17)
V. Zechariah, Father of John Baptist (7)
VI. Jonah (4)

VII. Elizabeth (3)

VIII. Gabriel (3: Q 2:97, 98; 66:4)
IX. Enoch [Idris] (2: Q 19:56; 21:85)
X. Samuel (1: Q 2:247 [allusion])

XI. Michael (1: 2:98) HB (2: Dan 10:21; 12:1)
XII. Elisha (2: Q 6:87; 38:49)
XIII. HB Saul (2: Q 2:247, 249)

Abraham in the New Testament and the Qur’an
Grew up in Ur (near Nasiriyah, 220 miles SE of Baghdad, Iraq [ancient Babylonia])

Galatians 3:6-7, 9: Just as Abraham “believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness” [Genesis 15:6; cf. Romans 3:4], so, you see, those who believe are the descendants of Abraham… Those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed.

Hebrews 11:17-19: By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, 18of whom he had been told, ‘It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named after you.’ 19He considered the fact that God is able even to raise someone from the dead—and figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.
**Quran: The Final Testament**, Rashad Khalifa, Ph.D.
http://www.submission.info/quran/frames/index.html

**Interpretation of the meaning of the Qur'an in the English Language**, Dr. Muhammad Taqi-ud-Din Al-Hilali and Dr. Muhammad Muhsin Khan
http://www.kalamullah.com/Books/English%20Translation%20of%20the%20Meaning.pdf

**al-Baqarah 2:260**: And when **Abraham** said (unto his Lord): My Lord! Show me how You give life to the dead, God said: Do you not believe? **Abraham** said: Yes, but (I ask) to be stronger in faith. (His Lord) said: Take four of the birds and cause them to come to you, then (sacrifice them) and place a part of them on every hill, then call them, they will come to you immediately, and know that God is Mighty, Wise.

**Al-Anbiya [the Prophets] 21:51-72**: And indeed We bestowed beforehand on Abraham his (portion of) guidance, and We were Well-Acquainted with him (as to his Belief in the Oneness of God, etc.). 52 When he said to his father and his people: "What are these images, to which you are devoted?" 53 They said: "We found our fathers worshipping them." 54 He said: "Indeed you and your fathers have been in manifest error." 55 They said: "Have you brought us the truth, or are you one of those who play about?" 56 He said: "Nay, your Lord is the Lord of the heavens and the earth, Who created them and of that I am one of the witnesses." 57 "And by God, I shall plot a plan (to destroy) your idols after you have gone away and turned your backs." 58 So he broke them to pieces, (all) except the biggest of them, that they might turn to it. 59 They said: "Who has done this to our gods? He must indeed be one of the wrong-doers." 60 They said: "We heard a young man talking (against) them who is called Abraham." 61 They said: "Then bring him before the eyes of the people, that they may testify." 62 They said: "Are you the one who has done this to our gods, O Abraham?" 63 (Abraham) said: "Nay, this one, the biggest of them (idols) did it. Ask them, if they can speak!" 64 So they turned to themselves and said: "Truly, you are the polytheists and wrongdoers." 65 Then they turned to themselves (their first thought and said): "Indeed you (Abraham) know well that these (idols) do not speak!" 66 (Abraham) said: "Do you then worship besides God, things that can neither profit you, nor harm you? 67 "Fie upon you, and upon that which you worship besides God! Have you then no sense?" 68 They said: "Burn him and help your gods, if you will be doing." 69 We (God) said: "O fire! Be you coolness and safety for Abraham!" 70 And they wanted to harm him, but We made them the worst losers. 71 And We rescued him and Lot to the land which We have blessed for mankind. 72 And We bestowed upon him Isaac, and (a grandson) Jacob. Each one We made righteous.

**al-An'am 6:161**: Say: Lo! As for me, my Lord has guided me unto a straight path, a right religion, the community of **Abraham**, the upright, who was no idolater.