

Andreas Bsteh (Ed.)

*Christian Faith
in Dialogue with Islam*

Lectures – Questions – Interventions

Wilhelm Dupré
Notker Füglistner
Gisbert Greshake
Martin Karrer
Adel Th. Khoury
Heinrich Ott
Richard Schaeffler

Published by
St Gabriel Publications
Mödling 2007

Table of Contents

Preface, <i>Andreas Bsteh</i>	7
The Prophets: Vocation – Mission – Criteria, <i>Notker Füglistner</i>	9
Questions and Interventions	26
Dialogue and Truth, <i>Wilhelm Dupré</i>	49
Questions and Interventions	73
The Fullness of God and Time: On New Testament Christology, <i>Martin Karrer</i>	105
Questions and Interventions	127
The Ultimate Finality of the Christ Revelation, <i>Heinrich Ott</i>	157
Questions and Interventions	166
Islam as Seen by Christian Theologians, <i>Adel Theodor Khoury</i>	197
Questions and Interventions	215
Trinity as the Core of Christian Faith, <i>Gisbert Greshake</i>	243
Questions and Interventions	257
Created by the Word – Created for the Word: On the Transcendence and Immanence of the Divine Word, <i>Richard Schaeffler</i>	287
Questions and Interventions	297
New Creation: The Eschaton in History? <i>Martin Karrer</i>	333
Questions and Interventions	354
Final Reflections on the Result of the Symposium	387
Speakers and Participants	411

Indexes

Vol. 2

Name Index	417
Source Indexes	425

Vol. 1 and 2

Terms and Dicta from the Islamic Tradition	436
Index of Subjects	441

Preface

It is the principal intention of these two volumes to help prepare the ground for a sincere and thoroughgoing dialogue between Christians and Muslims. Subsequent to the exposition and discussion of central aspects of Islamic faith in volume 1, Christian theologians and philosophers are now asked to explain central aspects of their Christian faith and discuss them in the presence of scholars of Islamic studies with all the other participants in the symposium. Basic commonalities and differences can be observed in the riches of both traditions. And it seems to be advisable neither to minimize nor to gloss over the differences by means of abstract formulas. Nor should we try to construct a new Islam or a new Christianity in an artificial attempt to reconcile the two traditions.

We should never tire of promoting the spirit of dialogue between Christian and Muslim believers, let personal friendship overcome all hostility and antagonism in former and present times, unmask and eliminate false differences through critical investigation and research, and deepen our belief in God.

Furthermore, we must develop, together with all peoples of good will, a new spirit of joint responsibility in the face of all the many problems that have to be solved on our way into the future – and, increasingly, they will be soluble only by a joint effort. This goal will be attainable if we search for a sound and stable dialogue ethos: an ethos that is built on the ethical values of the partners in dialogue and their readiness to set out for a unity in diversity and common goals and procedures based on the various arguments that can be derived from, while remaining faithful to, the different religious and cultural identities in which they are rooted.

Biblical reflections on the fullness of God and time, on the new creation, and on the vocation, mission and criteria of the prophets are presented in this second volume, together with dogmatic considerations on the ultimate finality of the Christ revelation and on the Trinity as the core of Christian faith. The reader will, moreover, find religious-philosophical approaches

to the relationship between dialogue and truth, the transcendence and immanence of the divine Word, as well as a paper that deals with the topic 'Islam as seen by Christian theologians'. All these papers are again followed by extensive discussion, which tries to evaluate the papers and, so to say, digest what was said in them.

Name and source indexes as well as indexes of terms and dicta from the Islamic tradition and a *general index of subjects for both volumes* help interrelate the various topics and motifs taken up in the different contexts.

The editor wishes to express once again sincere thanks to all who have co-operated in producing these two volumes on "Christian Faith in the Encounter with Islam", in particular to all speakers and participants in the symposia and to all who have contributed to the English edition.

Andreas Bsteh, SVD

St Gabriel, March 2007