

Letters: 'I'm with Franklin'

July 28, 2015

Regarding ["Keller pastor denounces Franklin Graham's anti-Muslim remarks."](#):

"This isn't the first time Muslim leaders, Bob Roberts and other evangelical pastors have collaborated. After 9/11, Roberts brought together a group of 12 evangelical ministers and 12 imams. He is organizing an Oct. 22 conference of imams and evangelical pastors to strengthen ties between the groups at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden, in southern Maryland."

Meanwhile, thousands are being murdered by Islamic terrorists. I'm with Franklin.

Fred Rosenbaum

Gainesville

Graham, not Roberts

After reading ["Keller pastor denounces Franklin Graham's anti-Muslim remarks."](#) I only have one question/comment: What far, far planet is Bob Roberts living on? Have the Jewish people had any success with living among the Muslims?

I suspect that Northwood Church in Keller must be extremely liberal to have a pastor who believes that the Islamic nations aren't out to conquer the world.

Dream on, Brother Bob.

Mick Tahaney

Port Arthur

'Fear is a tough thing within us'

Jesus said: "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous ..." (Matthew 5:43-45).

So our choice is what? By the standards of most all others in this world, Jesus' admonition is foolishness, as the Apostle Paul stated. Still, it is a very dangerous position to take in many circumstances, and I figure Christ was fully aware of that.

I just wish he would have said "*phileo* (love) from afar" or some other qualifying phrase or word other than *agape*, which appears to be unconditional—probably even to the point of death.

Christ is the epitome of that and the only paradigm we are given, and death of his earthly life and worse was the reward. Of course, he had not met a follower of Mohamed at that time—tongue in cheek, both of them.

Still, fear is a tough thing within us, even for our love to deal with. Apparently the early church, in the first three centuries after Christ, embraced this principle and suffered greatly but ultimately—our goal. The Christians thrived, and we are here.

Who would have bet so in the first century. Not the Vegas odds makers.

Holt Irby

Garland

Graham, Roberts oversimplify

With or without agreeing with Franklin Graham's comments, [Bob Roberts' reaction](#) seems to me muddled thinking.

Equating immigration—a national policy and security issue—with evangelism efforts is simply befuddling. I simply do not understand what he is getting at.

Letting Muslims into America with the purpose of evangelism seems convoluted. Perhaps going where they live—a biblical model—seems the solution, but it raises personal safety concerns, which gets to the heart of the national security issue.

It is a large, long-standing conflict, and I think both Franklin and Roberts are oversimplifying.

Earl Powell

Bedford