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This research explores the utility of the hermeneutic technique known as Scriptural Reasoning in examining certain historically-reified polarities between the beliefs of Muslims and Christians, while making substantial reference to forms of Judaism.

Historically-constructed categories which are assessed include the notion of the 'semitic', 'English Christian identity', and certain highly-reified gender essences, figured particularly in typological presentations of Muhammad, Jesus and the Virgin Mary. An employment of Scriptural Reasoning, understood as a soft version of Peircean pragmatism that avoids the pitfalls of simple foundationalism, allows reparative 'second readings' of figures and narratives which traditionally have supported categoric distinctions between reified religious traditions.