

The Qur'an

Translated with an Introduction by

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Abraham

In the name of God,
Merciful to all,
Compassionate to each!

Alif Lam Ra'

Behold this Book We have sent down upon you, that you may lead mankind from darkness to light, by leave of their Lord, and onto the path of the Almighty, All-Praiseworthy – God, to Whom belongs all that is in the heavens and on earth.

14:2 Woe to the unbelievers from a terrible torment!

They who fondly embrace this present life in preference to the hereafter,
Who obstruct the path to God, seeking to turn it crooked –
These are plunged deep in error.

We sent no Messenger except with the language of his people, that he may enlighten them. Then God leads astray whom He wills and guides whom He wills. He is Almighty, All-Wise.

14:4

We sent Moses with Our revelations: 'Bring your people out from darkness to light, and remind them of the Days of God. In this are signs for every truly patient and thankful person.'
Remember when Moses said to his people: 'Recall the blessing of God upon you when He delivered you from Pharaoh's people, who were making you taste evil punishment, slaughtering your children, debauching your women, in all of which was great calamity from your Lord.'

14:6

Remember too when your Lord promised: 'If you render thanks for blessings I shall multiply them upon you, but if you disbelieve, my torment is indeed terrible.'

Moses said: 'Even if you and everyone else on earth were to disbelieve, God is Self-Sufficient, Praiseworthy.'

14:8

Has there not come to you news of those who were before you, the people of Noah, 'Ad and Thamud, and of those who came after them? None knows them save God. Their messengers came to them with clear proofs, but they bent their fingers back into their mouths and said: 'We disbelieve in what you have been sent with, and we are in doubt concerning that to which you call us, a doubt perplexing.'

Their messengers said: 'Can there be any doubt regarding God, Creator of the heavens and earth? He calls you in order to forgive your sins and to defer you until a stated term.'

They said: 'You are merely human, like us. Do you intend to turn us aside from what our forefathers worshipped? Bring us then a manifest proof.'

14:10

Their messengers said to them: 'We are merely human, like you, but God shows His grace to whomever He wills from among His servants. It is not up to us to bring you proof except with God's leave. In God let the faithful trust. We have no recourse but to trust in God when He has guided us to our paths. We shall indeed be patient in the face of the harm you did us. In God let the faithful trust.'

The unbelievers said to their messengers: 'We will surely drive you out of our land unless you revert to our religion.'

To them their Lord revealed: 'We will assuredly destroy the wicked, and cause you to inhabit the earth after them – and this, to him who fears My station and fears My threat.'

So they prayed for victory, and every obstinate tyrant came to grief – beyond him lies hell, where he will be given pus to drink. He will swallow it but will barely endure its taste, and death will come to him from every direction, though he himself is not dead – beyond lies torment most harsh.

14:17

The likeness of those who blaspheme their Lord – their works are like ash upon which the wind blows hard on a stormy day. They have no power whatever over that which they earned, and this indeed is the most perverse of errors. Do you not see that God created the heavens and earth in justice? If He wishes, He can do away with you and bring forth a new creation. Nor will this be a thing onerous to God.

14:20

And they shall all rise from the dead before God. The weak shall say to the mighty: 'We were once your attendants, so will you protect us in any wise from the torment of God?'

They shall respond: 'Had God guided us we would have guided you. It is all the same to us whether we mourn or bear with patience; for us there is no escape.'

Satan shall say, when judgement has been passed: 'God made you a promise of truth, and I too promised you, but I let you down. I had no power over you except that I called to you and you responded to me. Do not blame me but blame yourselves. I cannot come to your aid, nor you to mine. I have abjured what you once associated me with, and upon the wicked shall fall a torment most painful.'

14:22

Those who believed and performed righteous deeds shall be ushered into Gardens beneath which rivers flow, abiding therein for ever with their Lord's leave. Their greeting therein shall be 'Peace!'

Do you not see how God draws a parable:

A goodly word is like a goodly tree; its roots are firm and its branches reach to the sky.

It brings forth its nourishment at every turn, by its Lord's leave. And God draws parables for mankind; perhaps they will reflect.

And the likeness of an evil word is like an evil tree uprooted from the ground; no bed has she.

God gives strength to the faithful with speech unchanging in the present life and in the hereafter, and He leads the wicked astray. God does what He wills.

14:27

Have you considered those who exchanged the bounty of God for blasphemy, and how they made their people settle in the Abode of Desolation? Hell it is they shall be scorched with! And what a wretched place of rest!

And yet they set up equals to God, to lead astray from His path!

Say: 'Enjoy yourselves. Your destination is the Fire.' Tell My believing worshippers to perform the prayer and expend from what We bestowed upon them, secretly and in the open, before there comes a Day when there shall be neither commerce nor intimacy.

14:31

God it is Who created the heavens and the earth,

Who made water descend from the sky,

From which He brought forth nourishment, a bounty upon you;

you;

Who made ships to serve you,

Running in the sea, by His command,

And made rivers to serve you;

Who made the sun and moon to serve you, alternating,

And made night and day to serve you;

Who granted you all you asked Him.

Were you to count the bounties of God, you could not take stock of them.

Man is indeed wicked and most ungrateful.

14:34

Remember when Abraham said: 'My Lord, make this land safe, and avert from me and my offspring the worship of idols.'

'My Lord, they have led astray so many people. Whoso follows me is of my number; whoso disobeys me, You are All-Forgiving, Compassionate to each.'

'Our Lord, I have settled some of my progeny in a valley

where no vegetation grows, near your Sacred House, our Lord, that they may perform the prayers. So turn the hearts of some towards them, and grant them some nourishment; perhaps they will render thanks.

'Our Lord, you know what we conceal and what we proclaim. Nor is anything concealed from God on earth or in heaven.

'Praise be to God Who granted me, though old, Ishmael and Isaac! My Lord hears full well all supplications.

'My Lord, make me perform the prayer with constancy, as also some of my progeny.

'Our Lord, accept my supplication.

'Our Lord, forgive me and my parents, and the believers, on the Day when the reckoning shall come to pass.'

14:41

Do not imagine that God is indifferent to what the wicked are doing; He is merely deferring them to a Day when their eyes shall be fixed in consternation, their necks outstretched, their heads upraised, unblinking, their hearts a mere void. Warn people of the Day when torment shall overcome them, when the wicked shall say: 'Our Lord, defer us for a little while and we will answer Your call and follow the messengers.'

But did you not swear in times past that no change of abode shall befall you?

Did you not inhabit the homes of those who wronged themselves, and was it not perfectly clear to you what We did to them?

And did We not strike parables for you?

14:45

They did indeed work their cunning, and their cunning was known to God, though their cunning was such as mountains would tumble thereat. So do not imagine that God shall fail His promise to His messengers – God is Almighty, Avenging.

14:47

A Day shall come when the earth is recast into other than earth and heavens, when they shall all rise from the dead before God, the One, the Victorious. And you shall then see the sinners fettered head and neck in chains, their shirts of copper made,

their faces all scorched by fire – that God may reward each soul with what it had earned. God is swift in reckoning.

This is a proclamation to mankind. Let them be warned thereby, and let them know that He is but One God, and let those possessed of minds remember.

14:52

Al-Hijr*

In the name of God,
Merciful to all,
Compassionate to each!

Alif Lam Ra'

Behold the verses of the Book, and a Manifest Qur'an!

It may be that unbelievers wish they were Muslims.

Leave them alone, to eat, to enjoy themselves, and be lulled by hope, for they will surely know.

We destroyed not any town but it had already received a well-known verdict. No nation can forestall its appointed span of time, nor can it procrastinate.

15:5

They say: 'O you upon whom the Remembrance has been sent down, you are possessed by *Jinn*! If only you could bring us the angels, if you speak the truth.'

We only send the angels down in justice, and then they will not be held back.

It is We Who have sent down the Remembrance, and We Who shall preserve it.

And We have sent others before you to various groups of ancient peoples, but never did a messenger come to them except they mocked him. It is thus that We thread the matter in the

is sent. Your God is in truth One God. Whoso hopes to meet his Lord, let him perform deeds of righteousness, and associate none with the worship of his Lord.'

18:110

Mary

In the name of God,
Merciful to all,
Compassionate to each!

Kaf Ha' Ya' 'Ayn Sad

A mention of your Lord's mercy towards His servant
Zachariah,
When he called out to his Lord, calling in seclusion.

He said: 'My Lord, here I am.

'My bones have grown soft, and my head is aflame with grey hair.

'Nor was I ever chagrined when calling out to you, my Lord.

'I fear my kinsmen after I am gone, and my wife is barren.

'So grant me a kinsman from on high to be my heir and the heir of the House of Jacob, and make him, my Lord, acceptable to You.'

19:6

'O Zachariah, We bring you glad tidings of a son, whose name is John. Upon none before him have We bestowed this name.'

He said: 'My Lord, how can I have a son when my wife is barren and I have reached the age of impotence?'

He said: 'Thus spoke your Lord. It is a matter easy for Me, and I created you before, when you had been nothing.'

He said: 'My Lord, grant me a sign.'

He said: 'Your sign shall be not to speak to people for three full nights.'

So he came out from the sanctuary to his people and gestured to them to magnify God, morning and evening.

19:11 to them to magnify God, morning and evening.

'O John, take firm hold of the Book.'
And We granted him sound judgement, when still a child,
And tenderness, from on high, and purity. He was truly a
pious man,
Dutiful towards his parents, and was not arrogant or
disobedient.

19:15 Peace be upon him the day he was born, the day he dies and
the day he is resurrected, alive!

And mention in the Book Mary, when she withdrew from her
people to an eastern place.

She set up a screen to veil her from them.

And We sent her Our Spirit, which appeared before her as an
immaculate human.

She said: 'I take refuge in the All-Merciful from you, if you
fear God.'

He said: 'I am but a messenger from your Lord, to bestow
upon you a son most pure.'

She said: 'How can I have a son when no man has ever
touched me, nor am I an adulteress?'

19:21 He said: 'Thus did your Lord speak: "It is a matter easy for
Me. We shall make him a wonder to mankind and a mercy from
Us - a decree ordained."'

So she conceived him and withdrew with him to a distant place.
And labour pains came upon her by the trunk of a palm tree.

She said: 'I wish I had died before this and become a thing
utterly forgotten!'

He called out to her from beneath her: 'Do not grieve. Your
Lord has made a brook to flow beneath you. So shake towards
you the trunk of the palm and it will drop down on you dates
soft and ripe. Eat and drink and be of good cheer. And if you
happen to see any human being, tell him: "I have vowed to the

All-Merciful a fast, and will not speak a word today to any
human being.'"

19:26

And she came to her people, carrying him.

They said: 'O Mary, you have committed a monstrous act!
Sister of Aaron, your father was not an evildoer, nor was your
mother an adulteress.'

She pointed to him.

They said: 'How do we speak to an infant in his cradle?'

He said: 'I am the servant of God. He brought me the Book
and made me a prophet, and made me blessed wherever I may
be. He charged me with prayer and alms-giving as long as I live,
and to be dutiful to my mother. And He did not make me
arrogant and wicked. Peace be upon me the day I was born, the
day I die, and the day I am resurrected, alive!'

19:33

This is Jesus, son of Mary: a statement of truth, concerning
which they are in doubt.

It is not for God to take a child - Glory to Him! When He
determines any matter, He merely says to it: 'Be!' and it is.

God is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him.

This is a straight path.

19:36

But sects fell into dispute among themselves. Woe to those who
blaspheme against the spectacle of a terrifying Day!

How well they shall hear, how well they shall see, upon that
Day when they come before Us! But the wicked today are
plunged in manifest delusion.

Warn them of the Day of Regret, when judgement is passed,
while yet they remain inattentive, and have no faith.

It is We Who shall inherit the earth and all that is upon it,
and it is to Us that they shall be returned.

19:40

And mention in the Book Abraham; he was a man of deepest
faith, a prophet.

Remember when he said to his father: 'My father, why do you worship what does not hear, what does not see, what is of no use to you whatsoever?'

'My father, there has come to me of Knowledge what did not come to you, so follow me and I shall guide you to a level path.'

'My father, do not worship Satan: Satan has always been disobedient to the All-Merciful.'

'My father, I fear a torment will touch you from the All-Merciful, and you become a follower of Satan.'

He said: 'Are you renouncing my gods, O Abraham? If you do not desist, I shall curse you. Leave me alone for a while.'

He said: 'Peace be upon you! I shall ask my Lord forgiveness for you, for He has always been kind to me. I shall keep aloof from you and from what you worship instead of God, and I shall call upon my Lord; perhaps by calling Him I will not be amiss.'

19:30 When he abandoned them and what they worshipped instead of God, We bestowed on him Isaac and Jacob, and each We made a prophet. And We granted them of Our mercy, and conferred upon them the highest praise on tongues of truth.

19:33 And mention in the Book Moses; he was a man of sincerity, a messenger, a prophet. We called out to him from the right side of the mountain, and We drew him near to Us, intimately conversing. And We granted him from Our mercy his brother Aaron, a prophet.

19:35 And mention in the Book Ishmael; he was a man true to his word, a messenger, a prophet. He would command prayer and alms-giving to his kin, and was a man favoured by his Lord.

19:57 And mention in the Book Idris;* he was a man of deepest faith, a prophet. And We raised him up to an elevated rank.

These are, of prophets, the ones on whom God bestowed His blessings from among the progeny of Adam, from those We carried with Noah, from the progeny of Abraham and Israel, and from those whom We guided and elected. When the verses of the All-Merciful are recited to them, they fall down in prostration, weeping.

After them there followed successors who forsook prayer, and pursued their base desires. They shall meet with evil – except for those who repent, and believe, and do good deeds. These shall enter the Garden and not be wronged in any wise.

The Gardens of Eden! They are what the All-Merciful has promised His worshippers in the realm of the Unseen. His promise will surely come to pass. In it they hear no empty talk, but only 'Peace!' In it they shall receive their provisions, morning and evening. Such is the Garden We shall bequeath to the pious among Our worshippers.

We are not made to descend except by command of your Lord. To Him belongs what lies ahead of us and what lies behind, and all that is in between. Nor is your Lord forgetful.

Lord of the heavens and earth and what is in between! So worship Him, and bear His worship with patience. Do you know His like?

Man says: 'Once I die, am I really to be brought back, alive? But does man not remember that We created him beforehand, when he was nothing?'

By your Lord, We shall herd them along with the demons! And then We shall force them to come to the precincts of hell, upon their knees.

And then We shall snatch from every sect whoever among them was the most obdurate against the All-Merciful, And We know best those who most deserve to be scorched therein.

None of you there are but shall come to it: a decree destined from your Lord.

Then We save those who were pious, and in it We abandon the wicked, upon their knees.

And when Our revelations, manifestly clear, are recited to them, those who disbelieve say to the believers: 'Which of the two groups is better in station, or more glittering in company?'

But how many a generation We exterminated before them! And they were more splendid in trappings and in outward appearance.

Say: 'Whoso is in error, the All-Merciful shall drag him further and further into error until, when they behold what they were promised, either the torment or the Hour, they will surely know who is worse in station and weaker in warriors!'

God increases in guidance those who are guided.

And those things that abide, virtuous deeds, are better in reward with your Lord, and better in outcome.

Did you heed him who, blaspheming against Our revelations, said: 'I shall be endowed with wealth and progeny?'

Did he light upon a knowledge of the Unseen?
Or did he conclude a compact with the All-Merciful?

No indeed! We shall record what he says and drag him further and further in torment!

We shall inherit what he speaks about, and he shall appear before Us, all by himself!

And yet they take to themselves gods apart from God, to be a power that sustains them!

No indeed! They shall forswear their worship, and shall be enemies to them!

Have you not seen how We dispatched devils against the unbelievers, distressing and beguiling them with sin?

So be not in haste concerning them; We are in truth making things ready for them!

Upon a Day when We muster the pious towards the All-Merciful, all in one delegation, and We drive on the sinners to hell, thirsty.

They shall have no intercession, except one who compacted with the All-Merciful.

And yet they say: 'The All-Merciful has taken to Himself a son!'

You have uttered a thing most terrible!

The heavens well nigh convulse at the mention of it,

The earth is split asunder,

The mountains stagger and collapse,

That they ascribe a son to the All-Merciful!

It is not fit for the All-Merciful to take to Himself a son.

All who are in the heavens and earth – none but shall appear before the All-Merciful, as a servant.

He has counted them all, and numbered every one!

And all shall appear before Him on the Day of Resurrection, singly, alone.

But those who believed and did good deeds, the All-Merciful shall show them affection.

We made it easy upon your tongue, to give glad tidings to the pious, and to warn a people who harbour much malice.

How many a generation We destroyed before them! But do you perceive any of them? Or do you hear a whisper from them?