Who is Steadfast?

The Quran is filled with references to the steadfast. Who are they? Many seem to have different ideas. We need to have a better understanding of the word, steadfast, as it is referred to in the Quran. Realizing the immensity of this task, a few verses are singled out and discussed here.

The American Heritage Dictionary defines steadfast as "firmly loyal or constant." This is a good general definition, but it lacks any aspect of righteousness. Some aspect of righteousness is needed. Steadfast are those who:

- will firmly persevere; we will recompense them
- will prove the strength of your faith.

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Translation vs Interpretation

Today all religions are not much more than various sets of traditions. They have been corrupted to various degree by human ego and inventions for political and economic gain. This is in spite of the fact that all messengers of God came with the same simple message: There is only ONE God. You shall worship Him alone. (4:14). However, after each messenger, the original message they brought was gradually distorted or buried under complex religious dogmas.

While every religion has been corrupted by innovations, traditions, and false, idolatrous doctrines, there may be people within every religion who follow the true message. These are the people who recognize God's absolute authority, and devote their lives and their worship absolutely to God alone. The Quran refers to these people as "Submitters." Thus, there may be Submitters who are:

- Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, or any other followers of God. This constitutes the only religion acceptable to God: Submission (3:35, 85).

People who realize distortions in religion and therefore turn to the basics of religion are immediately cut off from line with society. They are also faced with social and economic pressure and adversity. The major part of this opposition comes from people who make a living out of the current state of religion.

These religious professionals realize that any purification of religion will likely jeopardize their status and pockets.

The Quran can only be understood in Arabic. The Arabic text is free from preconceived and idolatrous interpretations that had crept into the previous translations of the Quran. Dr. Rashad Khalifa who was killed in January 1990 for advocating the truth, and for exposing the corruption and the religious doctrines that undermined the religion of Islam (Submission).

Dr. Rashad Khalifa until his death pointed out and tried to purge away all the corruptions afflicting not only Islam, but also Judaism, Christianity, and other religions. One of Rashad's missions was to translate the Quran into English. He completed his mission by God's grace. The final version of his translation was recently published by the community of Submitters around the world. His translation of the Quran into English from its original Arabic text is free from preconceived and idolatrous interpretations that had crept into the previous translations of the Quran by others. Furthermore, his translation is clear, concise, and in plain English. It is the first translation of the Quran by a person whose mother tongue is Arabic. It easily stands out above other translations in every angle, and shows why God chose him for this particular mission.


corruption in religions exposed

Because of all the corruption and distortions in religions, God has sent a messenger to consolidate the messages delivered by all the prophets, purify them, and unify them into one religion: Submission. This is prophesied in Verse 3:38 in the Quran. The name of this messenger is mentioned 19 times in the Quran, and he is supported by a great sign from God, the mathematical miracle of the Quran based on the number 19. This messenger was Dr. Rashad Khalifa who was killed in January 1990 for advocating the truth, and for exposing the corruption and the religious doctrines that undermined the religion of Islam (Submission).

In her book, Lisa goes into detail about the translation of the Quran.
Responsibility

A dear friend of mine whose opinion I deeply respect once told me that the greatest right given to humans in this life is the freedom of choice: the ability to choose our own way of life or our own religion without any restrictions. I agree with his statement about the significance of freedom of choice, but I also feel that there is an inherent responsibility associated with this freedom. This responsibility is to examine, to research, and to carefully scrutinize all the various choices and all the possible consequences that may be related to the action we choose to exercise. For example, if you think that God support him in this life and intercession belongs to God, On the other hand, Yusuf Ali (scotted the right to pray before the word intercession. Even though his interpretation is correct, it dramatically changed the meaning of the verse, and allowed it to be consistent with the idiomatic view of the majority of Muslims who believe in Muhammad's intercession. Thus, anyone reading Yusuf Ali's translation of the verse and brought up with the concept of intercession may now give the impression that it is proof that Muhammad and no other saint intercede on my behalf.

The translators of the scripture may become vehicles in spreading Satan's point of view if they are not sincere in worshiping God alone. Their previous ideas may then become a driving factor in how they understand a verse and translate it. In the above example, both Pickthall's and Rashad's translations indicate that all intercession belongs to God. On the other hand, Yusuf Ali altered the right to pray before the word intercession. Even though his interpretation is correct, it dramatically changed the meaning of the verse, and allowed it to be consistent with the idiomatic view of the majority of Muslims who believe in Muhammad's intercession. Thus, anyone reading Yusuf Ali's translation of the verse and brought up with the concept of intercession may now give the impression that it is proof that Muhammad and no other saint intercede on my behalf.

We learn from the Quran that although all intercession belongs to God, everyone who prays into Paradise will be asking God to save his or her loved ones. However, their intercession or wish will not be granted to his or her loved one if he or she is exposed to that religion the most. Even though her or her mother was a devoted believer and her or her father was on the right path, I did not accept her words on blind faith. I began to read the Quran for myself in search of the many perplexing questions that were occupying my mind and plaguing my life. As I read the Quran, all the questions I had were answered one after another. I found out that as a non-Muslim, I was asked a question, and it seemed to be answered in the following verses as I read on. It was magical! It was a revelation that was complete. I was thinking and would respond to my inquiries with amazing clarity and assurance.

I was suddenly overcome with an overwhelming sense of freedom and happiness. My fear was replaced with joy and exhilaration. The void in my life had now become filled. I became a devoted Muslim and submitted to God. Practically over-night, my life was changed. I gave up all the actions that violated God's commandments and replaced them with actions glorifying God. In return, all the burdens, worries, and preoccupations that I would not lift from my consciousness. We were suddenly relieved of the tremendous weight that had been upon my shoulders. It was as if I was climbing up a very steep mountain carrying a heavy load on my shoulders. As soon as I became a believer, I felt a sense of security and relief. I knew that I could not leave that steep mountain and thought about the long journey ahead. I would become scared, discouraged, and sometimes even thought that I would not make it to the top. As soon as I became a believer, I felt a sense of security and relief. I knew that I could not leave that steep mountain and thoughts about the long journey ahead. I would become scared, discouraged, and sometimes even thought that I would not make it to the top.

You shall not accept any information, unless you verify it for yourself. I have given you the hearing, the eye, and judgment, and you are responsible for using them. (7:156)

The revelations of God were so overwhelming and so convincing that I did not have to learn any other religious doctrine, and I confirmed my beliefs. After all, what other book can you read that will lead you to conclusions you have been living upon forever in a matter of a few days?

People may wonder how I can be certain that I chose the right path when it is only path I explored. I respond to this inquiry by relating an experience I had with a woman who is suffering from a terrible disease and who is in constant pain every time she heard of her death. I have only slowly deteriorating and is becoming weaker and weaker. It is as if they are going to a hospital and are told that their pain will go away and their disease will be cured. Psychologically this will may play and their pain may be temporarily relieved, but in the real problem, the disease will continue to eat their bodies and minds. It will become a very steep mountain carrying a burden that contradicts the logical nature of human life. It is as if it was climbing up a very steep mountain carrying a heavy load on my shoulders. As soon as I became a believer, I felt a sense of security and relief. I knew that I could not leave that steep mountain and thoughts about the long journey ahead. I would become scared, discouraged, and sometimes even thought that I would not make it to the top.

As a human being, most of us are destined to be endowed with the gift of sight, hearing, and intellect whenever and in whatever capacity. Unfortunately, many of us have lost this gift at an early age due to the destructive power of ignorance and neglect. I did not accept her words on blind faith. I began to read the Quran for myself in search of the many perplexing questions that were occupying my mind and plaguing my life. As I read the Quran, all the questions I had were answered one after another. I found out that a non-Muslim, I was asked a question, and it seemed to be answered in the following verses as I read on. It was magical! It was a revelation that was complete. I was thinking and would respond to my inquiries with amazing clarity and assurance.

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