

(As I imagine many a wise man has said, anything here that is good is from GOD. Any mistakes are mine and may GOD increase my knowledge.)

All praise is due to GOD, there is no GOD but one GOD

Before coming into submission, I used to wonder how come all the different religions could lay claim to GOD, to GOD's path and HIS religion; yet mock and ridicule and fight and hate each other. It didn't make much sense.

Here are some verses for perspective.

Divine Commandments to All Jews:

"You Shall Believe in
This Quran."

[2:40] O Children of Israel, remember My favor, which I bestowed upon you, and fulfill your part of the covenant, that I fulfill My part of the covenant, and reverence Me.

[2:41] You shall believe in what I have revealed herein, confirming what you have; do not be the first to reject it. Do not trade away My revelations for a cheap price, and observe Me.

[2:42] Do not confound the truth with falsehood, nor shall you conceal the truth, knowingly.

[2:43] You shall observe the Contact Prayers (Salat) and give the obligatory charity (Zakat), and bow down with those who bow down.

[2:44] Do you exhort the people to be righteous, while forgetting yourselves, though you read the scripture? Do you not understand?

[2:45] You shall seek help through steadfastness and the Contact Prayers (Salat). This is difficult indeed, but not so for the reverent,

[2:46] who believe that they will meet their Lord; that to Him they ultimately return.

We can tell from these verses that GOD does tell previous communities about the evolving message. So the jews were guided to the message from jesus. The christians were also given the message from muhammed. This reminds me of the verse that talks about how people break themselves up into different sects, each happy with what they have. They think, if we accept from this messenger, the religion might get

harder. If we look carefully, however, that has not been the case. GOD's message evolves and GOD makes things easy. One of the reasons seems to be that humans corrupt and add things based on their ego. Thus, the purification by itself makes GOD's path easy.

The following verse tells us their responses to the message.

Tragic Statement: "My mind is made up!"

[2:88] Some would say, "Our minds are made up!" Instead, it is a curse from GOD, as a consequence of their disbelief, that keeps them from believing, except for a few of them.

Before submission, I couldn't understand the following seemingly contradictory statements in the following verses.

**All Believers Are Redeemed,
Regardless of the Name
of Their Religion**

[2:111] Some have said, "No one will enter Paradise except Jews or Christians!" Such is their wishful thinking. Say, "Show us your proof, if you are right."

*2:111-112 See 2:62 and 5:69.

Submission: The Only Religion

[2:112] Indeed, those who submit themselves absolutely to GOD alone, while leading a righteous life, will receive their recompense from their Lord; they have nothing to fear, nor will they grieve.*

*2:111-112 See 2:62 and 5:69.

But if we remember, submission is an action, not a set of rituals like walking with your right foot before your left. Submission is submitting to the one who is running everything. And that is GOD. So a submitter can be jewish or christian or anything else and submission can still be the only religion authorized by GOD. How beautiful.

The following verse illustrates.

Wisdom: A Great Treasure

[2:269] He bestows wisdom upon whomever He chooses, and whoever attains wisdom, has attained a great bounty. Only those who possess intelligence will take heed.

Toobu ALLAH , Repent

Physical

<http://www.exchangedlife.com/Creation/web.htm>

“The artwork of web design shows everything but accidental evolution. Orb web weaving spiders create an amazing design of strength, efficiency and beauty. The spider begins by producing a light weight web that is easily caught by the wind and is carried until it anchors itself on an object. Then the spider follows this guide web and spins a strong, thick support thread that will be the corner stone of its web. Then she lays the foundation strands followed by supporting strands for the orb. The orb is then weaved with intricate detail. “

Think about that. That means the spider spins the initial web and kind of tosses the web up to GOD. What a great way to find a secure, strong location. The spider then submits to GOD and follows it's foundation web. How incredible!

“... One study concluded the strength of a spider web in this way, if a web was produced the width of a pencil, it would have the strength to stop a 747 at full speed....”

*“One of the more descriptive commentaries on spider webs I read on a biochemical research company that is actively seeking how to engineer this amazing technology. Here is what they have to say:
Spider silk shows great promise for technological applications and is of tremendous economical value due to its following extraordinary mechanical properties:*

*High tensile strength stronger than steel,
High extensibility comparable to rubber,
High capability of water uptake comparable to wool.*

The mechanical properties of the dragline from the orb weaver (Nephila clavipes) is even superior even to the high performance fiber “Kevlar” that is used for bullet-proof vests.”

“...takes on its elasticity properties and can be stretched up to 40% before it breaks. Compare this to steel which breaks at 8% and nylon (used in stockings) which breaks at 20%.”

Because of the nutrients lost by spinning webs, the orb weaver eats her web to

recycle the protein before re-creating her web.

We know that we've read the following verses in the quran about the spider web.

The Spider

[29:41] The allegory of those who accept other masters beside GOD is that of the spider and her home; the flimsiest of all homes is the home of the spider, if they only knew.*

*29:41-43 It takes a knowledgeable person to know that the Black Widow spider kills her mate. The use of the feminine reference to the spider in 29:41 is thus significant. This is in addition to the fact that the spider web is physically very flimsy.

By GOD's grace, the web is only flimsy for us because GOD has made it so. Imagine spiders large enough to make telephone wire like webs and things change.

[67:15] He is the One who put the Earth at your service. Roam its corners, and eat from His provisions. To Him is the final summoning.

Signs like these are great reminders for the following verse.

[3:8] "Our Lord, let not our hearts waver, now that You have guided us. Shower us with Your mercy; You are the Grantor.

Spiritual - Happiness

When we look at our happiness, we know that it is a quality of the soul. Examine the following verses.

[3:30] The day will come when each soul will find all the good works it had done brought forth. As for the evil works, it will wish that they were far, far removed. GOD alerts you that you shall reverence Him alone. GOD is Compassionate towards the people.

[37:55] When he looks, he will see his friend in the heart of Hell.*

*37:55 People who make it to Heaven will be able to visit their relatives and friends in Hell, without adverse consequences. In the Hereafter, anyone can move downward, but not upward beyond a certain limit. The limit is decided by one's degree of growth and development (App. 5).

[40:72] In the Inferno,* then in the Fire, they will burn.

***40:72 Those who did not prepare themselves will suffer tremendously in the presence of God, on the Day of Judgment. They cannot stand the closeness to God due to lack of sufficient growth and development of their souls. I am using "Inferno" to describe this particular situation (55:44). Preparation of the soul is accomplished by the rites decreed by God, such as the Contact Prayer.**

If we know that happiness is a quality of the soul, we can use the rites decreed by GOD to build our souls. We must examine ourselves to see what kind of happiness we go through in our daily lives. If it's the fleeting joys, then in my opinion it's not happiness. Happiness can be seen as a state of continuous contentment. We can look around and notice the people in that state here on earth and see how they may be building their souls.

Emotional - No Fear or Grief

When we feel fear or grief, we can also look to see if we are in GOD's domain. The following verses help.

[20:112] As for those who worked righteousness, while believing, they will have no fear of injustice or adversity.

[20:68] We said, "Have no fear. You will prevail.

That reminds me of a quote I heard to the effect of "What would we do today if we knew we could not fail?" We also don't have to fear obstacles or adversity.

So, when I forget, what helps me is something I remember from a book called "Letting Go." When we let go, we can let GOD. When we let GOD, the following verse comes into play.

Perfect Happiness: Now and Forever

[41:30] Those who proclaim: "Our Lord is GOD," then lead a righteous life, the angels descend upon them: "You shall have no fear, nor shall you grieve. Rejoice in the good news that Paradise has been reserved for you.

Financial

My opinion of my relation to money is to not attached to money, not neglecting it (being appreciative of it), using it as a tool to earn GOD's favor and 70,000% returns. (Corrected by GOD's grace from 700% because if I invest 1 and get back 7, that would be 700%.)

The Best Investment

[2:261] The example of those who spend their monies in the cause of GOD is that of a grain that produces seven spikes, with a hundred grains in each spike. GOD multiplies this manifold for whomever He wills. GOD is Bounteous, Knower.

If you want the equivalent of a stock market crash, insult someone who you have given charity to. In my opinion this could mean charity of time, money or service or kind words or generosity or boarding or food. This pretty much tells us not to insult anyone because what are the chances that you haven't done any good works for or towards this person? Do you want to nullify your credit at GOD?

[2:264] O you who believe, do not nullify your charities by inflicting reproach and insult, like one who spends his money to show off, while disbelieving in GOD and the Last Day. His example is like a rock covered with a thin layer of soil; as soon as heavy rain falls, it washes off the soil, leaving it a useless rock. They gain nothing from their efforts. GOD does not guide disbelieving people.

[35:29] Surely, those who recite the book of GOD, observe the Contact Prayers (Salat), and from our provisions to them they spend—secretly and publicly—are engaged in an investment that never loses.

[57:10] Why do you not spend in the cause of GOD, when GOD possesses all wealth in the heavens and the earth?

The following is an interesting verse that reminds me of the blasphemies that we can commit against GOD.

Blaspheming Against God

[5:64] The Jews even said, "GOD's hand is tied down!" It is their hands that are tied down. They are condemned for uttering such a blasphemy. Instead, His hands are wide open, spending as He wills. For certain, your Lord's revelations to you will cause many of them to plunge deeper into transgression and disbelief. Consequently, we have committed them to animosity and hatred among themselves until the Day of Resurrection. Whenever they ignite the flames of war, GOD puts them out. They roam the earth wickedly, and GOD dislikes the evildoers.

Think about this blasphemy. Do you think GOD does not possess everything in the heavens and the earth and HE couldn't send it down if HE wished. Whenever we think about something GOD is doing, we must think of it in the aspect of the fact that GOD only gives blessings. If GOD spent everything, how would we ever have a chance to earn credit?

GOD even protects us from the other aspect of becoming extravagant. Each person has to know their level and this seems to be a personal decision when it feels extravagant.

[17:26] You shall give the due alms to the relatives, the needy, the poor, and the traveling alien, but do not be excessive, extravagant.

[17:27] The extravagant are brethren of the devils, and the devil is unappreciative of his Lord.

Hakim a tul Salaat