

## READINGS FROM THE BIBLE AND THE KORAN

### THE 99 BEAUTIFUL NAMES OF GOD. KORAN AND BIBLE VERSES ILLUSTRATING EACH NAME.

Allah! There is no god but he! To him belong the most beautiful names. S20

#### The Gracious [Kind One] AL-RAHMAN

<sup>1</sup> Praise be to Allah, Lord of the universe;

<sup>2</sup> The gracious, the merciful; S1

<sup>110</sup> Say: Call upon Allah, or call upon "the gracious one": by whatever name you call upon him: for to him belong the most beautiful names. S17

<sup>30</sup> It is from Sulayman, and is as follows: In the name of Allah, most gracious, most merciful: S27

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is merciful and gracious;

he is slow to get angry and full of unfailing love.

<sup>9</sup>He will not constantly accuse us,

nor remain angry forever.

<sup>10</sup>He has not punished us for all our sins,

nor does he deal with us as we deserve.

<sup>11</sup>For his unfailing love toward those who fear him

is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth.

<sup>12</sup>He has removed our rebellious acts

as far away from us as the east is from the west.

<sup>13</sup>The LORD is like a father to his children,

tender and compassionate to those who fear him.

<sup>14</sup>For he understands how weak we are;

he knows we are only dust. Psalm 103

## The Merciful AR-RAHIM

<sup>163</sup> And your God is one God: there is no god but he, most gracious, most merciful. S2

Allah will love you and forgive you your sins; for Allah is oft-forgiving, most merciful. S3

But Allah is the best to take care, and he is the most merciful of those who show mercy. S12

<sup>9</sup> And truly, your Lord is he, the exalted in might, most merciful. S26

<sup>58</sup> Peace! A word from a Lord most merciful. S36

<sup>8</sup>No, O people, the LORD has already told you what is good, and this is what he requires: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6

<sup>6</sup>So now, come back to your God! Act on the principles of love and justice, and always live in confident dependence on your God. Hosea 12

<sup>35</sup>"Love your enemies! Do good to them! Lend to them! And don't be concerned that they might not repay. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to the unthankful and to those who are wicked. <sup>36</sup>You must be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate. Luke 6

## The King AL-MALIK

<sup>114</sup> High above all is Allah, the king, the truth! S20

<sup>116</sup> Therefore exalted be Allah, the king, the reality: there is no god but he, the Lord of the throne of honour! S23

<sup>23</sup> Allah is he, other than whom there is no other god; the sovereign, the holy one, the source of peace, the guardian of faith, the preserver of safety, the exalted in might, the irresistible, the supreme: Glory to Allah, above the partners they attribute to him.

<sup>24</sup> He is Allah, the creator, the initiator, the bestower of forms. To him belong the most beautiful names; whatever is in the heavens and on earth, does declare his praises and glory: and he is the exalted in might, the wise. S59

<sup>1</sup> Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, declares the praises and glory of Allah, the sovereign, the holy one, the exalted in might, the wise. S62

<sup>1</sup> Say: I seek refuge with the Lord of mankind,

<sup>2</sup> The King of mankind,

<sup>3</sup> The God of mankind, S114

<sup>9</sup>And the LORD will be king over all the earth. On that day there will be one LORD—his name alone will be worshiped. Zechariah 14

<sup>15</sup>For at the right time Christ will be revealed from heaven by the blessed and only almighty God, the King of kings and Lord of lords. <sup>16</sup>He alone can never die, and he lives in light so brilliant that no human can approach him. No one has ever seen him, nor ever will. To him be honor and power forever. Amen. 1 Timothy 6

## The Holy AL-QUDDUS

<sup>22</sup> Allah is he, other than whom there is no other god; who knows both secret and open; he, most gracious, most merciful.

<sup>23</sup> Allah is he, other than whom there is no other god; the sovereign, the holy one, the source of peace, the guardian of faith, the preserver of safety, the exalted in might, the irresistible, the supreme: Glory to Allah, above the partners they attribute to him. S59

<sup>1</sup> Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, declares the praises and glory of Allah, the sovereign, the holy one, the exalted in might, the wise. S62

<sup>6</sup>God blesses those who are hungry and thirsty for justice, for they will receive it in full.

<sup>7</sup>God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup>God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God. Matthew 5

### The Peaceful One AS-SALAM

<sup>23</sup> Allah is he, other than whom there is no other god; the sovereign, the holy one, the source of peace, the guardian of faith, the preserver of safety, the exalted in might, the irresistible, the supreme: Glory to Allah, above the partners they attribute to him. S59

May God our Father and Christ Jesus our Lord give you grace, mercy, and peace. 1 Timothy 1

<sup>6</sup>Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup>If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. Philipians 4.6

<sup>9</sup>God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God. Matthew 5.9

<sup>16</sup>May the Lord of peace himself always give you his peace no matter what happens. The Lord be with you all. 2 Thessalonians 3

<sup>13</sup>See, my servant will prosper; he will be highly exalted.

<sup>14</sup>Many were amazed when they saw him—beaten and bloodied, so disfigured one would scarcely know he was a person. <sup>15</sup>And he will again startle many nations. Kings will

stand speechless in his presence. For they will see what they had not previously been told about; they will understand what they had not heard about.

<sup>53:1</sup>Who has believed our message? To whom will the LORD reveal his saving power? <sup>2</sup>My servant grew up in the LORD's presence like a tender green shoot, sprouting from a root in dry and sterile ground. There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to attract us to him. <sup>3</sup>He was despised and rejected—a man of sorrows, acquainted with bitterest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way when he went by. He was despised, and we did not care.

<sup>4</sup>Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God for his own sins! <sup>5</sup>But he was wounded and crushed for our sins. He was beaten that we might have peace. He was whipped, and we were healed! <sup>6</sup>All of us have strayed away like sheep. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the LORD laid on him the guilt and sins of us all.

<sup>7</sup>He was oppressed and treated harshly, yet he never said a word. He was led as a lamb to the slaughter. And as a sheep is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth. <sup>8</sup>From prison and trial they led him away to his death. But who among the people realized that he was dying for their sins—that he was suffering their punishment? <sup>9</sup>He had done no wrong, and he never deceived anyone. But he was buried like a criminal; he was put in a rich man's grave.

<sup>10</sup>But it was the LORD's good plan to crush him and fill him with grief. Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have a multitude of children, many heirs. He will enjoy a long life, and the LORD's plan will prosper in his hands. <sup>11</sup>When he sees all that is accomplished by his anguish, he will be satisfied. And because of what he has experienced, my righteous servant will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins. <sup>12</sup>I will give him the honors of one who is mighty and great, because he exposed himself to death. He was counted among those who were sinners. He bore the sins of many and interceded for sinners.

Isaiah 52-53

## The Faithful One AL-MUMIN

<sup>23</sup> Allah is he, other than whom there is no other god; the sovereign, the holy one, the source of peace, the guardian of faith, the preserver of safety, the exalted in might, the irresistible, the supreme: Glory to Allah, above the partners they attribute to him. S59

<sup>9</sup>Understand, therefore, that the LORD your God is indeed God. He is the faithful God who keeps his covenant for a thousand generations and constantly loves those who love him and obey his commands. Deuteronomy 7

<sup>9</sup>But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong. 1 John 1

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to the Most High.

<sup>2</sup>It is good to proclaim your unfailing love in the morning,  
your faithfulness in the evening,

<sup>3</sup>accompanied by the harp and lute  
and the harmony of the lyre.

<sup>4</sup>You thrill me, LORD, with all you have done for me!  
I sing for joy because of what you have done. Psalm 92

<sup>8</sup>O LORD God Almighty!  
Where is there anyone as mighty as you, LORD?  
Faithfulness is your very character. Psalm 89

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good!  
His faithful love endures forever. Psalm 106

## The Protector AL-MUHAYMIN

<sup>23</sup> Allah is he, other than whom there is no other god; the sovereign, the holy one, the source of peace, the guardian of faith, the preserver of safety, the exalted in might, the irresistible, the supreme: Glory to Allah, above the partners they attribute to him. S59

<sup>17</sup>The LORD hears his people when they call to him for help.  
He rescues them from all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup>The LORD is close to the brokenhearted;  
he rescues those who are crushed in spirit.

<sup>19</sup>The righteous face many troubles,  
but the LORD rescues them from each and every one.

<sup>20</sup>For the LORD protects them from harm—  
not one of their bones will be broken! Psalm 34

<sup>27</sup>Turn from evil and do good,  
and you will live in the land forever.

<sup>28</sup>For the LORD loves justice,  
and he will never abandon the godly. Psalm 37

<sup>14</sup>The LORD says, "I will rescue those who love me.  
I will protect those who trust in my name.

<sup>15</sup>When they call on me, I will answer;  
I will be with them in trouble.

I will rescue them and honor them.

<sup>16</sup>I will satisfy them with a long life  
and give them my salvation." Psalm 91

<sup>29</sup>Not even a sparrow, worth only half a penny, can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. <sup>30</sup>And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup>So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to him than a whole flock of sparrows. Matthew 10

<sup>3</sup>But the Lord is faithful; he will make you strong and guard you from the evil one. 2 Thessalonians 3

## The Strong One AL-AZIZ

<sup>6</sup> He it is who shapes you in the wombs as he pleases. There is no god but he, the exalted in might, the wise. S3

<sup>158</sup> No, Allah raised him up to himself; and Allah is exalted in power, wise. S4

But the word of Allah is exalted to the heights: for Allah is exalted in might, wise. S9

<sup>7</sup> For to Allah belong the forces of the heavens and the earth; and Allah is exalted in power, full of wisdom. S48

<sup>22</sup> Allah is he, other than whom there is no other god; who knows both secret and open; he, most gracious, most merciful.

<sup>23</sup> Allah is he, other than whom there is no other god; the sovereign, the holy one, the source of peace, the guardian of faith, the preserver of safety, the exalted in might, the irresistible, the supreme: Glory to Allah, above the partners they attribute to him.

<sup>24</sup> He is Allah, the creator, the initiator, the bestower of forms. To him belong the most beautiful names; whatever is in the heavens and on earth, does declare his praises and glory: and he is the exalted in might, the wise. S59

<sup>1</sup> Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, let it declare the praises and glory of Allah: for he is the exalted in might, the wise. S61

"The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my savior;

<sup>3</sup>my God is my rock, in whom I find protection.

He is my shield, the strength of my salvation, and my stronghold,

my high tower, my savior, the one who saves me from violence.

<sup>4</sup>I will call on the LORD, who is worthy of praise, for he saves me from my enemies. 2 Samuel 22

. <sup>29</sup>He gives power to those who are tired and worn out; he offers strength to the weak. <sup>30</sup>Even youths will become exhausted, and young men will give up. <sup>31</sup>But those who wait on the LORD will find new strength. They will fly high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint. Isaiah 40



<sup>16</sup>I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you mighty inner strength through his Holy Spirit. <sup>17</sup>And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in him. Ephesians 3

## The Mighty One AL-JABBIR

<sup>23</sup> Allah is he, other than whom there is no other god; the sovereign, the holy one, the source of peace, the guardian of faith, the preserver of safety, the exalted in might, the irresistible, the supreme: Glory to Allah, above the partners they attribute to him. S59

<sup>6</sup>For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. And the government will rest on his shoulders. These will be his royal titles: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His ever expanding, peaceful government will never end. He will rule forever with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David. The passionate commitment of the LORD Almighty will guarantee this! Isaiah 9

<sup>7</sup>Open up, ancient gates!  
Open up, ancient doors,  
and let the King of glory enter.

<sup>8</sup>Who is the King of glory?  
The LORD, strong and mighty,  
the LORD, invincible in battle.

<sup>9</sup>Open up, ancient gates!  
Open up, ancient doors,  
and let the King of glory enter.

<sup>10</sup>Who is the King of glory?  
The LORD Almighty—  
he is the King of glory. Psalm 24

## Most Great AL-MUTAKABBIR

<sup>23</sup> Allah is he, other than whom there is no other god; the sovereign, the holy one, the source of peace, the guardian of faith, the preserver of safety, the exalted in might, the

irresistible, the supreme: Glory to Allah, above the partners they attribute to him. S59

I will praise you, my God and King,  
and bless your name forever and ever.

<sup>2</sup>I will bless you every day,  
and I will praise you forever.

<sup>3</sup>Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise!  
His greatness is beyond discovery!

<sup>4</sup>Let each generation tell its children  
of your mighty acts.

<sup>5</sup>I will meditate on your majestic, glorious splendor  
and your wonderful miracles.

<sup>6</sup>Your awe-inspiring deeds will be on every tongue;  
I will proclaim your greatness.

<sup>7</sup>Everyone will share the story of your wonderful goodness;  
they will sing with joy of your righteousness.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is kind and merciful,  
slow to get angry, full of unfailing love.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD is good to everyone.  
He showers compassion on all his creation.

<sup>10</sup>All of your works will thank you, LORD,  
and your faithful followers will bless you.

<sup>11</sup>They will talk together about the glory of your kingdom;  
they will celebrate examples of your power.

<sup>12</sup>They will tell about your mighty deeds  
and about the majesty and glory of your reign.

<sup>13</sup>For your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom.  
You rule generation after generation.

The LORD is faithful in all he says;  
he is gracious in all he does.

<sup>14</sup>The LORD helps the fallen  
and lifts up those bent beneath their loads.

<sup>15</sup>All eyes look to you for help;  
you give them their food as they need it.

<sup>16</sup>When you open your hand,  
you satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing.

<sup>17</sup>The LORD is righteous in everything he does;  
he is filled with kindness.

<sup>18</sup>The LORD is close to all who call on him,  
yes, to all who call on him sincerely.

<sup>19</sup>He fulfills the desires of those who fear him;  
he hears their cries for help and rescues them.

<sup>20</sup>The LORD protects all those who love him,  
but he destroys the wicked.

<sup>21</sup>I will praise the LORD,  
and everyone on earth will bless his holy name  
forever and forever. Psalm 145

## The Creator AL-KHALIQ

<sup>102</sup> That is Allah, your Lord! There is no god but he, the creator of all things: then worship him: and he has power to dispose of all affairs.

<sup>103</sup> No vision can grasp him, but his grasp is over all vision: he is above all comprehension, yet is acquainted with all things.  
S6

Say: Allah is the creator of all things: he is the one, the supreme and irresistible. S13

<sup>24</sup> He is Allah, the creator, the initiator, the bestower of forms. To him belong the most beautiful names; whatever is in the heavens and on earth, does declare his praises and glory: and he is the exalted in might, the wise. S59

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.  
Genesis 1

<sup>24</sup>The LORD, your Redeemer and Creator, says: "I am the LORD, who made all things. I alone stretched out the heavens. By myself I made the earth and everything in it.  
Isaiah 44

In the beginning the Word already existed. He was with God, and he was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>He created everything there is. Nothing exists that he didn't make. <sup>4</sup>Life itself was in him, and this life gives light to everyone. John 1

<sup>11</sup>"You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power. For you created everything, and it is for your pleasure that they exist and were created."  
Revelation 4

## The Maker AL-BARI

<sup>24</sup> He is Allah, the creator, the initiator, the bestower of forms. To him belong the most beautiful names; whatever is in the heavens and on earth, does declare his praises and glory: and he is the exalted in might, the wise. S59

Don't you know that the LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth? He never grows faint or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding. <sup>29</sup>He gives power to those who are tired and worn out; he offers strength to the weak. <sup>30</sup>Even youths will become exhausted, and young men will give up. <sup>31</sup>But those who wait on the LORD will find new strength. They will fly high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint. Isaiah 40

<sup>24</sup>"He is the God who made the world and everything in it. Since he is Lord of heaven and earth, he doesn't live in man-made temples, <sup>25</sup>and human hands can't serve his needs—for he has no needs. He himself gives life and breath to everything, and he satisfies every need there is. <sup>26</sup>From one man he created all the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand which should rise and fall, and he determined their boundaries.

<sup>27</sup>"His purpose in all of this was that the nations should seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us. Acts 17

## The Fashioner AL-MUSAWWIR

<sup>24</sup> He is Allah, the creator, the initiator, the bestower of forms. To him belong the most beautiful names; whatever is in the heavens and on earth, does declare his praises and glory: and he is the exalted in might, the wise. S59

<sup>12</sup>I am the one who made the earth and created people to live on it. With my hands I stretched out the heavens. All the millions of stars are at my command. Isaiah 45

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, "Let us make people in our image, to be like ourselves. They will be masters over all life—the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the livestock, wild animals, and small animals."

<sup>27</sup>So God created people in his own image;  
God patterned them after himself;  
male and female he created them. Genesis 1

<sup>13</sup>You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body  
and knit me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup>Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!  
Your workmanship is marvelous—and how well I know it.

<sup>15</sup>You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion,  
as I was woven together in the dark of the womb.

<sup>16</sup>You saw me before I was born.  
Every day of my life was recorded in your book.  
Every moment was laid out  
before a single day had passed. Psalm 139

## The Forgiver AL-GHAFFAR

<sup>82</sup> But, without doubt, I am also he that forgives again and again, to those who repent, believe, and do right, who, in fine, are ready to receive true guidance. S20

<sup>66</sup> The Lord of the heavens and the earth, exalted in might, able to enforce his will, forgiving again and again. S66

<sup>5</sup> He created the heavens and the earth in true proportions: he makes the night overlap the day, and the day overlap the night: he has subjected the sun and the moon to his law: each one follows a course for a time appointed. Is not he the exalted in power; he who forgives again and again? S39

<sup>10</sup> Saying, Ask forgiveness from your Lord; for he is oft-forgiving; S71

<sup>14</sup>Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7

For there is no other God but me—a just God and a Savior—no, not one! <sup>22</sup>Let all the world look to me for salvation! For I am God; there is no other. <sup>23</sup>I have sworn by my own name, and I will never go back on my word: Every knee will bow to me, and every tongue will confess allegiance to my name." Isaiah 45

<sup>11</sup>So Christ has now become the High Priest over all the good things that have come. He has entered that great, perfect sanctuary in heaven, not made by human hands and not part of this created world. <sup>12</sup>Once for all time he took blood into that Most Holy Place, but not the blood of goats and calves. He took his own blood, and with it he secured our salvation forever.

<sup>13</sup>Under the old system, the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a young cow could cleanse people's bodies from ritual defilement. <sup>14</sup>Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our hearts from deeds that lead to death so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the

eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. <sup>15</sup>That is why he is the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, so that all who are invited can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised them. For Christ died to set them free from the penalty of the sins they had committed under that first covenant. Hebrews 9

<sup>35</sup>"Love your enemies! Do good to them! Lend to them! And don't be concerned that they might not repay. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to the unthankful and to those who are wicked. <sup>36</sup>You must be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate.

<sup>37</sup>"Stop judging others, and you will not be judged. Stop criticizing others, or it will all come back on you. If you forgive others, you will be forgiven. <sup>38</sup>If you give, you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use in giving—large or small—it will be used to measure what is given back to you." Luke 6

## The Overcomer AL-QAHHAR

Say: Allah is the creator of all things: he is the one, the supreme and irresistible. S13

<sup>48</sup> One day the earth will be changed to a different earth, and so will be the heavens, and men will be marshalled forth, before Allah, the one, the irresistible; S14

Whose will be the dominion that day? That of Allah, the one, the irresistible! S40

<sup>4</sup>Shout to the LORD, all the earth;  
break out in praise and sing for joy!

<sup>5</sup>Sing your praise to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and melodious song,

<sup>6</sup>with trumpets and the sound of the ram's horn.  
Make a joyful symphony before the LORD, the King!

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise!

Let the earth and all living things join in.

<sup>8</sup>Let the rivers clap their hands in glee!

Let the hills sing out their songs of joy

<sup>9</sup>before the LORD.

For the LORD is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with justice,

and the nations with fairness. Psalm 98

Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." John 16

### The Giver of Gifts AL-WAHHAB

<sup>8</sup> Our Lord, let not our hearts deviate now after you have guided us, but grant us mercy from your own presence; for you are the grantor of bounties without measure. S3

<sup>9</sup> Or have they the treasures of the mercy of your Lord, the exalted in power, the grantor of bounties without measure? S38

<sup>1</sup>"Is anyone thirsty? Come and drink—even if you have no money! Come, take your choice of wine or milk—it's all free!

<sup>2</sup>Why spend your money on food that does not give you strength? Why pay for food that does you no good? Listen, and I will tell you where to get food that is good for the soul!

<sup>3</sup>"Come to me with your ears wide open. Listen, for the life of your soul is at stake. I am ready to make an everlasting covenant with you. I will give you all the mercies and unfailing love that I promised to David. Isaiah 55

<sup>11</sup>For the LORD God is our light and protector.

He gives us grace and glory.

No good thing will the LORD withhold



from those who do what is right.

<sup>12</sup>O LORD Almighty,

happy are those who trust in you. Psalm 84

<sup>28</sup>Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke fits perfectly, and the burden I give you is light." Matthew 11

## The Provider AR-RAZZAQ

<sup>58</sup> For Allah is he who gives sustenance, Lord of power, steadfast. S51

Our Father in heaven,  
may your name be honored.

<sup>10</sup>May your Kingdom come soon.

May your will be done here on earth,  
just as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup>Give us our food for today,

<sup>12</sup>and forgive us our sins,

just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us.

<sup>13</sup>And don't let us yield to temptation,

but deliver us from the evil one. Matthew 6

<sup>35</sup>Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. No one who comes to me will ever be hungry again. Those who believe in me will never thirst. John 6

## The Opener AL-FATTAH

<sup>26</sup> Say: Our Lord will gather us together and will in the end decide the matter between us in truth and justice: and he is the one to decide, the one who knows all. S34

<sup>7</sup>"Write this letter to the angel of the church in Philadelphia. This is the message from the one who is holy and true. He is the one who has the key of David. He opens doors, and no one can shut them; he shuts doors, and no one can open them.  
Revelation 3

"Don't be afraid! I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup>I am the living one who died. Look, I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave. Revelation 1

<sup>1</sup>And I saw a scroll in the right hand of the one who was sitting on the throne. There was writing on the inside and the outside of the scroll, and it was sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup>And I saw a strong angel, who shouted with a loud voice: "Who is worthy to break the seals on this scroll and unroll it?" <sup>3</sup>But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll and read it.

<sup>4</sup>Then I wept because no one could be found who was worthy to open the scroll and read it. <sup>5</sup>But one of the twenty-four elders said to me, "Stop weeping! Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the heir to David's throne, has conquered. He is worthy to open the scroll and break its seven seals."

<sup>6</sup>I looked and I saw a Lamb that had been killed but was now standing between the throne and the four living beings and among the twenty-four elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God that are sent out into every part of the earth. <sup>7</sup>He stepped forward and took the scroll from the right hand of the one sitting on the throne. <sup>8</sup>And as he took the scroll, the four living beings and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp, and they held gold bowls filled with incense—the prayers of God's people!

<sup>9</sup>And they sang a new song with these words:

"You are worthy to take the scroll  
and break its seals and open it.  
For you were killed, and your blood has ransomed people for  
God

from every tribe and language and people and nation.  
<sup>10</sup>And you have caused them to become God's kingdom and  
his priests.

And they will reign on the earth."

<sup>11</sup>Then I looked again, and I heard the singing of thousands and millions of angels around the throne and the living beings and the elders. <sup>12</sup>And they sang in a mighty chorus:

"The Lamb is worthy—the Lamb who was killed.  
He is worthy to receive power and riches  
and wisdom and strength  
and honor and glory and blessing."

<sup>13</sup>And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. They also sang:

"Blessing and honor and glory and power  
belong to the one sitting on the throne  
and to the Lamb forever and ever." Revelation 5

## The All-Knowing AL-ALIM

And if anyone obeys his own impulse to good, be sure that  
Allah is he who recognizes and knows. S2

<sup>92</sup> By no means shall you attain righteousness unless you give  
of that which you love; and whatever you give, of a truth Allah  
knows it well. S3

for Allah has full knowledge, and is acquainted with all  
things.S4

<sup>41</sup> Do you not see that it is Allah whose praises all beings in the  
heavens and on earth do celebrate, and the birds with wings  
outspread? Each one knows its own mode of prayer and  
praise. And Allah knows well all that they do. S24

<sup>38</sup> Truly Allah knows all the hidden things of the heavens and  
the earth: truly he has full knowledge of all that is in men's  
hearts. S35

For I am God—I alone! I am God, and there is no one else like me. <sup>10</sup>Only I can tell you what is going to happen even before it happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish. Isaiah 46

<sup>4</sup>The LORD gave me a message. He said, <sup>5</sup>"I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb. Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my spokesman to the world." Jeremiah 1

<sup>23</sup>Am I a God who is only in one place?" asks the LORD. "Do they think I cannot see what they are doing? <sup>24</sup>Can anyone hide from me? Am I not everywhere in all the heavens and earth?" asks the LORD. Jeremiah 23

<sup>9</sup>The eyes of the LORD search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. 2 Chronicles 16

<sup>17</sup>I know, my God, that you examine our hearts and rejoice when you find integrity there. 1 Chronicles 29

<sup>25</sup>"So I tell you, don't worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food, drink, and clothes. Doesn't life consist of more than food and clothing? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds. They don't need to plant or harvest or put food in barns because your heavenly Father feeds them. And you are far more valuable to him than they are. <sup>27</sup>Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? Of course not.

<sup>28</sup>"And why worry about your clothes? Look at the lilies and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, <sup>29</sup>yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. <sup>30</sup>And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and gone tomorrow, won't he more surely care for you? You have so little faith!

<sup>31</sup>"So don't worry about having enough food or drink or clothing. <sup>32</sup>Why be like the pagans who are so deeply concerned about these things? Your heavenly Father already

knows all your needs, <sup>33</sup>and he will give you all you need from day to day if you live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern. Matthew 6

## The Restrainer AL-QABID

<sup>245</sup> Who is he that will loan to Allah a beautiful loan, which Allah will double to his credit and multiply many times? It is Allah that gives want or plenty, and to him shall be your return. S2

<sup>4</sup>"Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me, if you know so much. <sup>5</sup>Do you know how its dimensions were determined and who did the surveying? <sup>6</sup>What supports its foundations, and who laid its cornerstone <sup>7</sup>as the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?

<sup>8</sup>"Who defined the boundaries of the sea as it burst from the womb, <sup>9</sup>and as I clothed it with clouds and thick darkness? <sup>10</sup>For I locked it behind barred gates, limiting its shores. <sup>11</sup>I said, 'Thus far and no farther will you come. Here your proud waves must stop!' Job 38

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw an angel come down from heaven with the key to the bottomless pit and a heavy chain in his hand. <sup>2</sup>He seized the dragon—that old serpent, the Devil, Satan—and bound him in chains for a thousand years. <sup>3</sup>The angel threw him into the bottomless pit, which he then shut and locked so Satan could not deceive the nations anymore until the thousand years were finished. Afterward he would be released again for a little while. Revelation 20

## The Expander AL-BASIT

<sup>245</sup> Who is he that will loan to Allah a beautiful loan, which Allah will double to his credit and multiply many times? It is

Allah that gives want or plenty, and to him shall be your return.  
S2

<sup>12</sup>But God made the earth by his power,  
and he preserves it by his wisdom.  
He has stretched out the heavens  
by his understanding. Jeremiah 10

<sup>1</sup>"Look at my servant, whom I strengthen. He is my chosen one, and I am pleased with him. I have put my Spirit upon him. He will reveal justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will be gentle—he will not shout or raise his voice in public. <sup>3</sup>He will not crush those who are weak or quench the smallest hope. He will bring full justice to all who have been wronged. <sup>4</sup>He will not stop until truth and righteousness prevail throughout the earth. Even distant lands beyond the sea will wait for his instruction."

<sup>5</sup>God, the LORD, created the heavens and stretched them out. He created the earth and everything in it. He gives breath and life to everyone in all the world. And it is he who says, <sup>6</sup>"I, the LORD, have called you to demonstrate my righteousness. I will guard and support you, for I have given you to my people as the personal confirmation of my covenant with them. And you will be a light to guide all nations to me. <sup>7</sup>You will open the eyes of the blind and free the captives from prison. You will release those who sit in dark dungeons. Isaiah 42

<sup>44</sup>Then he said, "When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me by Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must all come true." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand these many Scriptures. <sup>46</sup>And he said, "Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah must suffer and die and rise again from the dead on the third day. <sup>47</sup>With my authority, take this message of repentance to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: 'There is forgiveness of sins for all who turn to me.' <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of all these things.

<sup>49</sup>"And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven." Luke 24

## The Abaser AL-KHAFID

<sup>11</sup>My child, don't ignore it when the LORD disciplines you, and don't be discouraged when he corrects you. <sup>12</sup>For the LORD corrects those he loves, just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights. Proverbs 3

Oh, the joys of those  
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,  
or stand around with sinners,  
or join in with scoffers.

<sup>2</sup>But they delight in doing everything the LORD wants;  
day and night they think about his law.

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted along the riverbank,  
bearing fruit each season without fail.  
Their leaves never wither,  
and in all they do, they prosper.

<sup>4</sup>But this is not true of the wicked.  
They are like worthless chaff, scattered by the wind.

<sup>5</sup>They will be condemned at the time of judgment.  
Sinners will have no place among the godly.

<sup>6</sup>For the LORD watches over the path of the godly,  
but the path of the wicked leads to destruction. Psalm 1

<sup>4</sup>O God, you take no pleasure in wickedness;  
you cannot tolerate the slightest sin.

<sup>5</sup>Therefore, the proud will not be allowed to stand in your  
presence,  
for you hate all who do evil.

<sup>6</sup>You will destroy those who tell lies.  
The LORD detests murderers and deceivers. Psalm 5

<sup>20</sup>Then Jesus turned to his disciples and said,

"God blesses you who are poor,  
for the Kingdom of God is given to you.

<sup>21</sup>God blesses you who are hungry now,  
for you will be satisfied.

God blesses you who weep now,  
for the time will come when you will laugh with joy.  
<sup>22</sup>God blesses you who are hated and excluded and mocked  
and cursed  
because you are identified with me, the Son of Man.

<sup>23</sup>"When that happens, rejoice! Yes, leap for joy! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were also treated that way by your ancestors.

<sup>24</sup>"What sorrows await you who are rich,  
for you have your only happiness now.

<sup>25</sup>What sorrows await you who are satisfied and prosperous now,  
for a time of awful hunger is before you.

What sorrows await you who laugh carelessly,  
for your laughing will turn to mourning and sorrow.

<sup>26</sup>What sorrows await you who are praised by the crowds,  
for their ancestors also praised false prophets. Luke 6

## The Exalter AR-RAFT

<sup>1</sup>In the year King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple.  
<sup>2</sup>Hovering around him were mighty seraphim, each with six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with the remaining two they flew. <sup>3</sup>In a great chorus they sang, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty! The whole earth is filled with his glory!" <sup>4</sup>The glorious singing shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire sanctuary was filled with smoke.

<sup>5</sup>Then I said, "My destruction is sealed, for I am a sinful man and a member of a sinful race. Yet I have seen the King, the LORD Almighty!"

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphim flew over to the altar, and he picked up a burning coal with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>He touched my lips with it and said, "See, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven." Isaiah 6

<sup>7</sup>When Jesus noticed that all who had come to the dinner were trying to sit near the head of the table, he gave them this



advice: <sup>8</sup>"If you are invited to a wedding feast, don't always head for the best seat. What if someone more respected than you has also been invited? <sup>9</sup>The host will say, 'Let this person sit here instead.' Then you will be embarrassed and will have to take whatever seat is left at the foot of the table!

<sup>10</sup>"Do this instead—sit at the foot of the table. Then when your host sees you, he will come and say, 'Friend, we have a better place than this for you!' Then you will be honored in front of all the other guests. <sup>11</sup>For the proud will be humbled, but the humble will be honored." Luke 14

<sup>9</sup>Then Jesus told this story to some who had great self-confidence and scorned everyone else: <sup>10</sup>"Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a dishonest tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The proud Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: 'I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everyone else, especially like that tax collector over there! For I never cheat, I don't sin, I don't commit adultery, <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.'

<sup>13</sup>"But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.'<sup>14</sup>I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For the proud will be humbled, but the humble will be honored." Luke 18

<sup>10</sup>When you bow down before the Lord and admit your dependence on him, he will lift you up and give you honor.  
James 4

## The Honourer AL-MUIZZ

<sup>26</sup> Say: "O Allah! Lord of power, you give power to whom you please, and you strip off power from whom you please: you endue with honour whom you please, and you bring low whom you please: In your hand is all good. Truly, over all things you have power. S3

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, all of you in far-off lands! The LORD called me before my birth; from within the womb he called me by name. <sup>2</sup>He made my words of judgment as sharp as a sword. He has hidden me in the shadow of his hand. I am like a sharp arrow in his quiver.

<sup>3</sup>He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, and you will bring me glory."

<sup>4</sup>I replied, "But my work all seems so useless! I have spent my strength for nothing and to no purpose at all. Yet I leave it all in the LORD'S hand; I will trust God for my reward."

<sup>5</sup>And now the LORD speaks—he who formed me in my mother's womb to be his servant, who commissioned me to bring his people of Israel back to him. The LORD has honored me, and my God has given me strength. <sup>6</sup>He says, "You will do more than restore the people of Israel to me. I will make you a light to the Gentiles, and you will bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

<sup>7</sup>The LORD, the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel, says to the one who is despised and rejected by a nation, to the one who is the servant of rulers: "Kings will stand at attention when you pass by. Princes will bow low because the LORD has chosen you. He, the faithful LORD, the Holy One of Israel, chooses you." Isaiah 49

. <sup>6</sup>For somewhere in the Scriptures it says,

"What is man that you should think of him,  
and the son of man that you should care for him?"

<sup>7</sup>For a little while you made him lower than the angels,  
and you crowned him with glory and honor.

<sup>8</sup>You gave him authority over all things."

Now when it says "all things," it means nothing is left out. But we have not yet seen all of this happen. <sup>9</sup>What we do see is Jesus, who "for a little while was made lower than the angels" and now is "crowned with glory and honor" because he suffered death for us. Yes, by God's grace, Jesus tasted death for everyone in all the world. <sup>10</sup>And it was only right that God—who made everything and for whom everything was made—should bring his many children into glory. Through the

suffering of Jesus, God made him a perfect leader, one fit to bring them into their salvation. Hebrews 2

<sup>26</sup>All those who want to be my disciples must come and follow me, because my servants must be where I am. And if they follow me, the Father will honor them. John 12

## The Dishonourer AL-MUZILL

<sup>26</sup> Say: "O Allah! Lord of power, you give power to whom you please, and you strip off power from whom you please: you endue with honour whom you please, and you bring low whom you please: In your hand is all good. Truly, over all things you have power. S3

But I will honor only those who honor me, and I will despise those who despise me. 1 Samuel 2

<sup>16</sup>Wash yourselves and be clean! Let me no longer see your evil deeds. Give up your wicked ways. <sup>17</sup>Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the orphan. Fight for the rights of widows.

<sup>18</sup>"Come now, let us argue this out," says the LORD. "No matter how deep the stain of your sins, I can remove it. I can make you as clean as freshly fallen snow. Even if you are stained as red as crimson, I can make you as white as wool. <sup>19</sup>If you will only obey me and let me help you, then you will have plenty to eat. <sup>20</sup>But if you keep turning away and refusing to listen, you will be destroyed by your enemies. I, the LORD, have spoken!" Isaiah 1

## The Hearer AS-SAMI

"Our Lord! Accept this service from us: for you are the all-hearing, the all-knowing. S2

<sup>256</sup> Let there be no compulsion in religion: truth stands out clear from error: whoever rejects evil and believes in Allah has

grasped the most solid handhold, that never breaks. And Allah hears and knows all things. S2

O LORD, hear me as I pray;  
pay attention to my groaning.  
<sup>2</sup>Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God,  
for I will never pray to anyone but you.  
<sup>3</sup>Listen to my voice in the morning, LORD.  
Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait  
expectantly. Psalm 5

O God, listen to my cry!  
Hear my prayer!  
<sup>2</sup>From the ends of the earth,  
I will cry to you for help,  
for my heart is overwhelmed.  
Lead me to the towering rock of safety,  
<sup>3</sup>for you are my safe refuge,  
a fortress where my enemies cannot reach me.  
<sup>4</sup>Let me live forever in your sanctuary,  
safe beneath the shelter of your wings! Psalm 61

<sup>17</sup>"O our God, hear your servant's prayer! Listen as I plead.  
For your own sake, Lord, smile again on your desolate  
sanctuary.

<sup>18</sup>"O my God, listen to me and hear my request. Open your  
eyes and see our wretchedness. See how your city lies in  
ruins—for everyone knows that it is yours. We do not ask  
because we deserve help, but because you are so merciful.

<sup>19</sup>"O Lord, hear. O Lord, forgive. O Lord, listen and act! For  
your own sake, O my God, do not delay, for your people and  
your city bear your name."

<sup>20</sup>I went on praying and confessing my sin and the sins of my  
people, pleading with the LORD my God for Jerusalem, his holy  
mountain. <sup>21</sup>As I was praying, Gabriel, whom I had seen in the  
earlier vision, came swiftly to me at the time of the evening  
sacrifice. <sup>22</sup>He explained to me, "Daniel, I have come here to  
give you insight and understanding. <sup>23</sup>The moment you began

praying, a command was given. I am here to tell you what it was, for God loves you very much. Now listen, so you can understand the meaning of your vision.

<sup>24</sup>"A period of seventy sets of seven has been decreed for your people and your holy city to put down rebellion, to bring an end to sin, to atone for guilt, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to confirm the prophetic vision, and to anoint the Most Holy Place. <sup>25</sup>Now listen and understand! Seven sets of seven plus sixty-two sets of seven will pass from the time the command is given to rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One comes. Jerusalem will be rebuilt with streets and strong defenses, despite the perilous times.

<sup>26</sup>"After this period of sixty-two sets of seven, the Anointed One will be killed, appearing to have accomplished nothing, and a ruler will arise whose armies will destroy the city and the Temple. The end will come with a flood, and war and its miseries are decreed from that time to the very end. <sup>27</sup>He will make a treaty with the people for a period of one set of seven, but after half this time, he will put an end to the sacrifices and offerings. Then as a climax to all his terrible deeds, he will set up a sacrilegious object that causes desecration, until the end that has been decreed is poured out on this defiler." Daniel 9

## The All-Seeing AL-BASIR

<sup>58</sup> Allah commands you to render back your trusts to those to whom they are due; and when you judge between man and man, that you judge with justice: truly how excellent is the teaching which he gives you. For Allah is he who hears and sees all things. S4

<sup>11</sup> He is the creator of the heavens and the earth: he has made for you pairs from among yourselves, and pairs among cattle: by this means does he multiply you: there is nothing whatever like him, and he is the one that hears and sees all things. S42

<sup>4</sup> He it is who created the heavens and the earth in six days,<sup>1[1]</sup> and is moreover firmly established on the throne. He knows what enters within the earth and what comes forth out of it,

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what comes down from heaven and what mounts up to it. And he is with you wherever you may be. And Allah sees well all that you do. S57

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the LORD watch over those who do right; his ears are open to their cries for help. Psalm 34

<sup>1</sup>"Take care! Don't do your good deeds publicly, to be admired, because then you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup>When you give a gift to someone in need, don't shout about it as the hypocrites do—blowing trumpets in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of charity! I assure you, they have received all the reward they will ever get. <sup>3</sup>But when you give to someone, don't tell your left hand what your right hand is doing. <sup>4</sup>Give your gifts in secret, and your Father, who knows all secrets, will reward you. Matthew 5

<sup>6</sup>I looked and I saw a Lamb that had been killed but was now standing between the throne and the four living beings and among the twenty-four elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God that are sent out into every part of the earth. <sup>7</sup>He stepped forward and took the scroll from the right hand of the one sitting on the throne. <sup>8</sup>And as he took the scroll, the four living beings and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp, and they held gold bowls filled with incense—the prayers of God's people!

<sup>9</sup>And they sang a new song with these words:

"You are worthy to take the scroll  
and break its seals and open it.  
For you were killed, and your blood has ransomed people for  
God  
from every tribe and language and people and nation.  
<sup>10</sup>And you have caused them to become God's kingdom and  
his priests.  
And they will reign on the earth." Revelation 5

The Judge AL-HAKAM

<sup>1</sup>Happy are people of integrity,  
who follow the law of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>Happy are those who obey his decrees  
and search for him with all their hearts.

<sup>3</sup>Teach me, O LORD,  
to follow every one of your principles.

<sup>34</sup>Give me understanding and I will obey your law;  
I will put it into practice with all my heart.

<sup>120</sup>I tremble in fear of you;  
I fear your judgments.

<sup>121</sup>Don't leave me to the mercy of my enemies,  
for I have done what is just and right.

<sup>122</sup>Please guarantee a blessing for me.  
Don't let those who are arrogant oppress me!

<sup>123</sup>My eyes strain to see your deliverance,  
to see the truth of your promise fulfilled.

<sup>124</sup>I am your servant;  
deal with me in unfailing love,  
and teach me your principles. Psalm 119

Christ, who suffered for you, is your example. Follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup>He never sinned, and he never deceived anyone. <sup>23</sup>He did not retaliate when he was insulted. When he suffered, he did not threaten to get even. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly. 2 Peter 2

<sup>11</sup>And I saw a great white throne, and I saw the one who was sitting on it. The earth and sky fled from his presence, but they found no place to hide. <sup>12</sup>I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to the things written in the books, according to what they had done. <sup>13</sup>The sea gave up the dead in it, and death and the grave gave up the dead in them. They were all judged according to their deeds. <sup>14</sup>And death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death—the lake of fire. <sup>15</sup>And anyone whose name was not found recorded

in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire. Revelation 20

## The Just AL-ADL

<sup>69</sup> Allah will judge between you on the day of judgment concerning the matters which you differ. S22

<sup>3</sup>'We have fasted before you!' they say. 'Why aren't you impressed? We have done much penance, and you don't even notice it!'

"I will tell you why! It's because you are living for yourselves even while you are fasting. You keep right on oppressing your workers. <sup>4</sup>What good is fasting when you keep on fighting and quarreling? This kind of fasting will never get you anywhere with me. <sup>5</sup>You humble yourselves by going through the motions of penance, bowing your heads like a blade of grass in the wind. You dress in sackcloth and cover yourselves with ashes. Is this what you call fasting? Do you really think this will please the LORD?

<sup>6</sup>"No, the kind of fasting I want calls you to free those who are wrongly imprisoned and to stop oppressing those who work for you. Treat them fairly and give them what they earn.

<sup>7</sup>I want you to share your food with the hungry and to welcome poor wanderers into your homes. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not hide from relatives who need your help.

<sup>8</sup>"If you do these things, your salvation will come like the dawn. Yes, your healing will come quickly. Your godliness will lead you forward, and the glory of the LORD will protect you from behind. <sup>9</sup>Then when you call, the LORD will answer. 'Yes, I am here,' he will quickly reply.

<sup>8</sup>"For I, the LORD, love justice. I hate robbery and wrongdoing. Isaiah 61

<sup>21</sup>But now God has shown us a different way of being right in his sight—not by obeying the law but by the way promised in



the Scriptures long ago. <sup>22</sup>We are made right in God's sight when we trust in Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, no matter who we are or what we have done.

<sup>23</sup>For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard. <sup>24</sup>Yet now God in his gracious kindness declares us not guilty. He has done this through Christ Jesus, who has freed us by taking away our sins. <sup>25</sup>For God sent Jesus to take the punishment for our sins and to satisfy God's anger against us. We are made right with God when we believe that Jesus shed his blood, sacrificing his life for us. God was being entirely fair and just when he did not punish those who sinned in former times. <sup>26</sup>And he is entirely fair and just in this present time when he declares sinners to be right in his sight because they believe in Jesus. Romans 3

## The Kind One AL-LATIF

<sup>63</sup> Do you not see that Allah sends down rain from the sky, and forthwith the earth becomes clothed with green? For Allah is he who understands the finest mysteries, and is well acquainted with them. S22

<sup>9</sup>"This is what the LORD Almighty says: Judge fairly and honestly, and show mercy and kindness to one another. <sup>10</sup>Do not oppress widows, orphans, foreigners, and poor people. And do not make evil plans to harm each other. Zechariah 7

<sup>1</sup>The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is upon me, because the LORD has appointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to announce that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed. Isaiah 61

<sup>7</sup>God blesses those who are merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy. Matthew 5

<sup>28</sup>Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke

upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke fits perfectly, and the burden I give you is light." Matthew 11

<sup>22</sup>But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. Here there is no conflict with the law. Galatians 5

## The Aware One AL-KHABIR

<sup>18</sup> He is the irresistible, watching from above over his worshippers; and he is the wise, acquainted with all things. S6

<sup>30</sup> Truly your Lord provides sustenance in abundance for whom he pleases, and he provides in a just measure. For he knows and regards all his servants. S17

<sup>13</sup> O mankind! We created you from a single pair of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know each other. Truly the most honoured of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. And Allah has full knowledge and is well acquainted with all things. S49

<sup>10</sup>"Be silent, and know that I am God!  
I will be honored by every nation.  
I will be honored throughout the world." Psalm 46

May God be merciful and bless us.  
May his face shine with favor upon us.

<sup>2</sup>May your ways be known throughout the earth,  
your saving power among people everywhere.

<sup>3</sup>May the nations praise you, O God.  
Yes, may all the nations praise you.

<sup>4</sup>How glad the nations will be, singing for joy,  
because you govern them with justice  
and direct the actions of the whole world.

<sup>5</sup>May the nations praise you, O God.  
Yes, may all the nations praise you.

<sup>6</sup>Then the earth will yield its harvests,  
and God, our God, will richly bless us.

<sup>7</sup>Yes, God will bless us,  
and people all over the world will fear him. Psalm 67

<sup>11</sup>But my name is honored by people of other nations from morning till night. All around the world they offer sweet incense and pure offerings in honor of my name. For my name is great among the nations," says the LORD Almighty. Malachi 1

<sup>10</sup>"Beware that you don't despise a single one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels are always in the presence of my heavenly Father. <sup>11</sup> Matthew 18

The Forbearing AL-HALIM

and know that Allah is oft-forgiving, most forbearing. S2

<sup>44</sup> The seven heavens and the earth, and all beings in them, declare his glory: there is not a thing but celebrates his praise; and yet you understand not how they declare his glory! Truly he is oft-forgiving, most forgiving! S17

<sup>41</sup> It is Allah who sustains the heavens and the earth, lest they cease: and if they should fail, there is none not one can sustain them thereafter: truly he is most forbearing, oft-forgiving. S35

<sup>18</sup>"Never seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD. Leviticus 19

"This is what the LORD says: O Israel, my faithless people, come home to me again, for I am merciful. I will not be angry

with you forever. <sup>13</sup>Only acknowledge your guilt. Admit that you rebelled against the LORD your God and committed adultery against him by worshiping idols under every green tree. Confess that you refused to follow me. I, the LORD, have spoken! " Jeremiah 3

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?"

<sup>22</sup>"No!" Jesus replied, "seventy times seven!"

<sup>23</sup>"For this reason, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. <sup>24</sup>In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. <sup>25</sup>He couldn't pay, so the king ordered that he, his wife, his children, and everything he had be sold to pay the debt. <sup>26</sup>But the man fell down before the king and begged him, 'Oh, sir, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.' <sup>27</sup>Then the king was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

<sup>28</sup>"But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment. <sup>29</sup>His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient and I will pay it,' he pleaded. <sup>30</sup>But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and jailed until the debt could be paid in full.

<sup>31</sup>"When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him what had happened. <sup>32</sup>Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>Then the angry king sent the man to prison until he had paid every penny.

<sup>35</sup>"That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters in your heart." Mathew 18

The Mighty One AL-AZIM

<sup>255</sup> There is no god but Allah, the living, the self-subsisting, eternal. No slumber can seize him nor heavens and on earth. Who is there who can intercede in his presence except as he permits? He knows what is before or after or behind them. Nor shall they compass any of his knowledge except as he wills. His throne extends over the heavens and the earth, and he feels no fatigue in guarding and preserving them for he is the most high, the supreme. S2

<sup>4</sup> To him belongs all that is in the heavens and on earth: and he is most high, most great. S42

<sup>96</sup> So celebrate with praises the name of your Lord, the supreme. S56

<sup>7</sup>So Moses went out to meet his father-in-law. He bowed to him respectfully and greeted him warmly. They asked about each other's health and then went to Moses' tent to talk further. <sup>8</sup>Moses told his father-in-law about everything the LORD had done to rescue Israel from Pharaoh and the Egyptians. He also told him about the problems they had faced along the way and how the LORD had delivered his people from all their troubles. <sup>9</sup>Jethro was delighted when he heard about all that the LORD had done for Israel as he brought them out of Egypt.

<sup>10</sup>"Praise be to the LORD," Jethro said, "for he has saved you from the Egyptians and from Pharaoh. He has rescued Israel from the power of Egypt! <sup>11</sup>I know now that the LORD is greater than all other gods, because his people have escaped from the proud and cruel Egyptians." Exodus 18

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!

Praise God in his heavenly dwelling;  
praise him in his mighty heaven!

<sup>2</sup>Praise him for his mighty works;  
praise his unequalled greatness!

<sup>3</sup>Praise him with a blast of the trumpet;  
praise him with the lyre and harp!

<sup>4</sup>Praise him with the tambourine and dancing;  
praise him with stringed instruments and flutes!

<sup>5</sup>Praise him with a clash of cymbals;  
praise him with loud clanging cymbals.

<sup>6</sup>Let everything that lives sing praises to the LORD! Psalm 150

<sup>10</sup>"But you are my witnesses, O Israel!" says the LORD. "And you are my servant. You have been chosen to know me, believe in me, and understand that I alone am God. There is no other God; there never has been and never will be. <sup>11</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other Savior. <sup>12</sup>First I predicted your deliverance; I declared what I would do, and then I did it—I saved you. No foreign god has ever done this before. You are witnesses that I am the only God," says the LORD. <sup>13</sup>"From eternity to eternity I am God. No one can oppose what I do. No one can reverse my actions." Isaiah 43

## Great Forgiver AL-GHAFUR

For Allah is oft-forgiving, most merciful. S2

<sup>7</sup> It may be that Allah will grant love between you and those whom you hold as enemies. For Allah has power and Allah is oft-forgiving, most merciful. S60

<sup>3</sup>So Jesus used this illustration: <sup>4</sup>"If you had one hundred sheep, and one of them strayed away and was lost in the wilderness, wouldn't you leave the ninety-nine others to go and search for the lost one until you found it? <sup>5</sup>And then you would joyfully carry it home on your shoulders. <sup>6</sup>When you arrived, you would call together your friends and neighbors to rejoice with you because your lost sheep was found. <sup>7</sup>In the same way, heaven will be happier over one lost sinner who returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!

<sup>8</sup>"Or suppose a woman has ten valuable silver coins and loses one. Won't she light a lamp and look in every corner of the house and sweep every nook and cranny until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>And when she finds it, she will call in her friends and neighbors to rejoice with her because she has found her lost

coin. <sup>10</sup>In the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's angels when even one sinner repents."

<sup>11</sup>To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: "A man had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger son told his father, 'I want my share of your estate now, instead of waiting until you die.' So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons.

<sup>13</sup>"A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and took a trip to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money on wild living. <sup>14</sup>About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. <sup>15</sup>He persuaded a local farmer to hire him to feed his pigs. <sup>16</sup>The boy became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>"When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired men have food enough to spare, and here I am, dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, <sup>19</sup>and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired man." '

<sup>20</sup>"So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long distance away, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.'

<sup>22</sup>"But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger, and sandals for his feet. <sup>23</sup>And kill the calf we have been fattening in the pen. We must celebrate with a feast, <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began.

<sup>25</sup>"Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, <sup>26</sup>and he asked one of the servants what was going on. <sup>27</sup>'Your brother is back,' he was told, 'and your father has killed the calf we were fattening and has prepared a great feast. We are celebrating because of his safe return.'

<sup>28</sup>"The older brother was angry and wouldn't go in. His father came out and begged him, <sup>29</sup>but he replied, 'All these years

I've worked hard for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends. <sup>30</sup>Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the finest calf we have.'

<sup>31</sup>"His father said to him, 'Look, dear son, you and I are very close, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup>We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!' " Luke 15

## The Thankful One AL-SHAKUR

<sup>30</sup> For he will pay them their wages, and give them more out of his bounty: for he is oft-forgiving, most ready to appreciate. S35

<sup>34</sup> And they will say: Praise be to Allah, who has removed from us sorrow: for our Lord is indeed oft-forgiving, ready to appreciate.

<sup>35</sup> Who has, out of his bounty, settled us in a home that will last: no toil nor sense of weariness shall touch us in it. S35

<sup>23</sup> Allah gives glad tidings about this to his servants who believe and do righteous deeds. Say: No reward do I ask of you for this except the love of those near of kin. And if anyone earns any good, we shall give him an increase of good in respect of it: for Allah is forgiving and most appreciative. S42

<sup>17</sup> If you loan to Allah a beautiful loan, he will double it to your credit, and he will grant you forgiveness: for Allah is most ready to appreciate service, most forbearing,

<sup>18</sup> Knower of what is hidden and what is open, exalted in might, full of wisdom. S64

<sup>6</sup>But I lavish my love on those who love me and obey my commands, even for a thousand generations. Exodus 20



<sup>22</sup>Then turning to his disciples, Jesus said, "So I tell you, don't worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food to eat or clothes to wear. <sup>23</sup>For life consists of far more than food and clothing. <sup>24</sup>Look at the ravens. They don't need to plant or harvest or put food in barns because God feeds them. And you are far more valuable to him than any birds! <sup>25</sup>Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? Of course not! <sup>26</sup>And if worry can't do little things like that, what's the use of worrying over bigger things?

<sup>27</sup>"Look at the lilies and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. <sup>28</sup>And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and gone tomorrow, won't he more surely care for you? You have so little faith! <sup>29</sup>And don't worry about food—what to eat and drink. Don't worry whether God will provide it for you. <sup>30</sup>These things dominate the thoughts of most people, but your Father already knows your needs. <sup>31</sup>He will give you all you need from day to day if you make the Kingdom of God your primary concern.

<sup>32</sup>"So don't be afraid, little flock. For it gives your Father great happiness to give you the Kingdom.

<sup>33</sup>"Sell what you have and give to those in need. This will store up treasure for you in heaven! And the purses of heaven have no holes in them. Your treasure will be safe—no thief can steal it and no moth can destroy it. <sup>34</sup>Wherever your treasure is, there your heart and thoughts will also be.

<sup>35</sup>"Be dressed for service and well prepared, <sup>36</sup>as though you were waiting for your master to return from the wedding feast. Then you will be ready to open the door and let him in the moment he arrives and knocks. <sup>37</sup>There will be special favor for those who are ready and waiting for his return. I tell you, he himself will seat them, put on an apron, and serve them as they sit and eat! <sup>38</sup>He may come in the middle of the night or just before dawn. But whenever he comes, there will be special favor for his servants who are ready!

<sup>39</sup>"Know this: A homeowner who knew exactly when a burglar was coming would not permit the house to be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You must be ready all the time, for the Son of Man will come when least expected." Luke 12

## The Most High AL-ALI

<sup>255</sup> There is no god but Allah, the living, the self-subsisting, eternal. No slumber can seize him nor heavens and on earth. Who is there who can intercede in his presence except as he permits? He knows what is before or after or behind them. Nor shall they compass any of his knowledge except as he wills. His throne extends over the heavens and the earth, and he feels no fatigue in guarding and preserving them for he is the most high, the supreme. S2

<sup>4</sup> To him belongs all that is in the heavens and on earth: and he is most high, most great. S42

<sup>1</sup>In the year King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple. <sup>2</sup>Hovering around him were mighty seraphim, each with six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with the remaining two they flew. <sup>3</sup>In a great chorus they sang, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty! The whole earth is filled with his glory!" <sup>4</sup>The glorious singing shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire sanctuary was filled with smoke.

<sup>5</sup>Then I said, "My destruction is sealed, for I am a sinful man and a member of a sinful race. Yet I have seen the King, the LORD Almighty!"

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphim flew over to the altar, and he picked up a burning coal with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>He touched my lips with it and said, "See, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven. Isaiah 6

<sup>15</sup>The high and lofty one who inhabits eternity, the Holy One, says this: "I live in that high and holy place with those whose spirits are contrite and humble. I refresh the humble and give new courage to those with repentant hearts. Isaiah 57

<sup>8</sup>One day Zechariah was serving God in the Temple, for his order was on duty that week. <sup>9</sup>As was the custom of the priests, he was chosen by lot to enter the sanctuary and burn incense in the Lord's presence. <sup>10</sup>While the incense was being burned, a great crowd stood outside, praying.

<sup>11</sup>Zechariah was in the sanctuary when an angel of the Lord appeared, standing to the right of the incense altar.

<sup>12</sup>Zechariah was overwhelmed with fear. <sup>13</sup>But the angel said, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! For God has heard your prayer, and your wife, Elizabeth, will bear you a son! And you are to name him John. <sup>14</sup>You will have great joy and gladness, and many will rejoice with you at his birth, <sup>15</sup>for he will be great in the eyes of the Lord. He must never touch wine or hard liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even before his birth.

<sup>16</sup>And he will persuade many Israelites to turn to the Lord their God. <sup>17</sup>He will be a man with the spirit and power of Elijah, the prophet of old. He will precede the coming of the Lord, preparing the people for his arrival. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and he will change disobedient minds to accept godly wisdom."

<sup>18</sup>Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I know this will happen? I'm an old man now, and my wife is also well along in years."

<sup>19</sup>Then the angel said, "I am Gabriel! I stand in the very presence of God. It was he who sent me to bring you this good news! <sup>20</sup>And now, since you didn't believe what I said, you won't be able to speak until the child is born. For my words will certainly come true at the proper time."

<sup>21</sup>Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah to come out, wondering why he was taking so long. <sup>22</sup>When he finally did come out, he couldn't speak to them. Then they realized from his gestures that he must have seen a vision in the Temple sanctuary.

<sup>23</sup>He stayed at the Temple until his term of service was over, and then he returned home. <sup>24</sup>Soon afterward his wife, Elizabeth, became pregnant and went into seclusion for five months. <sup>25</sup>"How kind the Lord is!" she exclaimed. "He has taken away my disgrace of having no children!"

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. <sup>28</sup>Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

<sup>29</sup>Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. <sup>30</sup>"Don't be frightened, Mary," the angel told her,

"for God has decided to bless you! <sup>31</sup>You will become pregnant and have a son, and you are to name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!"

<sup>34</sup>Mary asked the angel, "But how can I have a baby? I am a virgin."

<sup>35</sup>The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby born to you will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God.

<sup>36</sup>What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she's already in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup>For nothing is impossible with God." Luke 1

## The Great AL-KABIR

<sup>9</sup> He knows the unseen and that which is open: he is the great, the most high. S13

<sup>30</sup> That is because Allah is the only reality, and because whatever else they invoke besides him is falsehood; and because Allah, he is the most high, most great. S31

<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while you can find him. Call on him now while he is near. <sup>7</sup>Let the people turn from their wicked deeds. Let them banish from their minds the very thought of doing wrong! Let them turn to the LORD that he may have mercy on them. Yes, turn to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup>"My thoughts are completely different from yours," says the LORD. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. <sup>9</sup>For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup>"The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry.

<sup>11</sup>It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will

prosper everywhere I send it. <sup>12</sup>You will live in joy and peace. The mountains and hills will burst into song, and the trees of the field will clap their hands! <sup>13</sup>Where once there were thorns, cypress trees will grow. Where briars grew, myrtles will sprout up. This miracle will bring great honor to the LORD's name; it will be an everlasting sign of his power and love. Isaiah 55

<sup>7</sup>For God is the King over all the earth.

Praise him with a psalm!

<sup>8</sup>God reigns above the nations,  
sitting on his holy throne.

<sup>9</sup>The rulers of the world have gathered together.

They join us in praising the God of Abraham.

For all the kings of the earth belong to God.

He is highly honored everywhere. Psalm 47

How great is the LORD,  
and how much we should praise him  
in the city of our God,  
which is on his holy mountain!

<sup>2</sup>It is magnificent in elevation—  
the whole earth rejoices to see it!

Mount Zion, the holy mountain,  
is the city of the great King! Psalm 48

The Preserver AL-HAFIZ

For my Lord has care and watch over all things. S11

<sup>22</sup>When I led your ancestors out of Egypt, it was not burnt offerings and sacrifices I wanted from them. <sup>23</sup>This is what I told them: 'Obey me, and I will be your God, and you will be my people. Only do as I say, and all will be well!' Jeremiah 7

<sup>23</sup>This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man gloat in his wisdom, or the mighty man in his might, or the rich man in his riches. <sup>24</sup>Let them boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the LORD who is just and righteous, whose love is unfailing, and that I delight in these things. I, the LORD, have spoken! Jeremiah 9

<sup>5</sup>"For the time is coming," says the LORD, "when I will place a righteous Branch on King David's throne. He will be a King who rules with wisdom. He will do what is just and right throughout the land. <sup>6</sup>And this is his name: 'The LORD Is Our Righteousness.' In that day Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety.

<sup>7</sup>"In that day," says the LORD, "when people are taking an oath, they will no longer say, 'As surely as the LORD lives, who rescued the people of Israel from the land of Egypt.' <sup>8</sup>Instead, they will say, 'As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the people of Israel back to their own land from the land of the north and from all the countries to which he had exiled them.' Then they will live in their own land." Jeremiah 23

<sup>12</sup>Jesus said to the people, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't be stumbling through the darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." John 8

<sup>6</sup>Those who heard Jesus use this illustration didn't understand what he meant, <sup>7</sup>so he explained it to them. "I assure you, I am the gate for the sheep," he said. <sup>8</sup>"All others who came before me were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. Wherever they go, they will find green pastures. <sup>10</sup>The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give life in all its fullness.

<sup>11</sup>"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>A hired hand will run when he sees a wolf coming. He will leave the sheep because they aren't his and he isn't their shepherd. And so the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because he is merely hired and has no real concern for the sheep.

<sup>14</sup>"I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, <sup>15</sup>just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice; and there will be one flock with one shepherd.

<sup>17</sup>"The Father loves me because I lay down my life that I may have it back again. <sup>18</sup>No one can take my life from me. I lay

down my life voluntarily. For I have the right to lay it down when I want to and also the power to take it again. For my Father has given me this command." John 10

## The Nourisher AL-MUQIT

The LORD is my shepherd;  
I have everything I need.

<sup>2</sup>He lets me rest in green meadows;  
he leads me beside peaceful streams.

<sup>3</sup>He renews my strength.  
He guides me along right paths,  
bringing honor to his name.

<sup>4</sup>Even when I walk  
through the dark valley of death,  
I will not be afraid,  
for you are close beside me.  
Your rod and your staff  
protect and comfort me.

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a feast for me  
in the presence of my enemies.  
You welcome me as a guest,  
anointing my head with oil.  
My cup overflows with blessings.

<sup>6</sup>Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will live in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23

<sup>3</sup>Listen! I hear the voice of someone shouting, "Make a highway for the LORD through the wilderness. Make a straight, smooth road through the desert for our God. <sup>4</sup>Fill the valleys and level the hills. Straighten out the curves and smooth off the rough spots. <sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. The LORD has spoken!"

<sup>6</sup>A voice said, "Shout!"

I asked, "What should I shout?"

"Shout that people are like the grass that dies away. Their beauty fades as quickly as the beauty of flowers in a field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, and the flowers fade beneath the breath of

the LORD. And so it is with people. <sup>8</sup>The grass withers, and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever."

<sup>9</sup>Messenger of good news, shout to Zion from the mountaintops! Shout louder to Jerusalem—do not be afraid. Tell the towns of Judah, "Your God is coming!" <sup>10</sup>Yes, the Sovereign LORD is coming in all his glorious power. He will rule with awesome strength. See, he brings his reward with him as he comes. <sup>11</sup>He will feed his flock like a shepherd. He will carry the lambs in his arms, holding them close to his heart. He will gently lead the mother sheep with their young. Isaiah 40

## The Reckoner AL-HASIB

When you release their property to them, take witnesses in their presence: but all sufficient is Allah in taking account. S4

<sup>86</sup> When a greeting is offered you, meet it with a greeting even more courteous, or at least of equal courtesy. Allah takes careful account of all things. S86

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to him, "No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own to inherit everything I am giving you." <sup>5</sup>Then the LORD brought Abram outside beneath the night sky and told him, "Look up into the heavens and count the stars if you can. Your descendants will be like that—too many to count!" <sup>6</sup>And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD declared him righteous because of his faith. Genesis 15

<sup>21</sup>But now God has shown us a different way of being right in his sight—not by obeying the law but by the way promised in the Scriptures long ago. <sup>22</sup>We are made right in God's sight when we trust in Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, no matter who we are or what we have done.

<sup>23</sup>For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard. <sup>24</sup>Yet now God in his gracious kindness declares us not guilty. He has done this through Christ Jesus, who has freed us by taking away our sins. <sup>25</sup>For God sent Jesus to take the punishment for our sins and to satisfy God's anger against us.



We are made right with God when we believe that Jesus shed his blood, sacrificing his life for us. God was being entirely fair and just when he did not punish those who sinned in former times. <sup>26</sup>And he is entirely fair and just in this present time when he declares sinners to be right in his sight because they believe in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on our good deeds. It is based on our faith. <sup>28</sup>So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.

Romans 3

<sup>1</sup>Abraham was, humanly speaking, the founder of our Jewish nation. What were his experiences concerning this question of being saved by faith? <sup>2</sup>Was it because of his good deeds that God accepted him? If so, he would have had something to boast about. But from God's point of view Abraham had no basis at all for pride. <sup>3</sup>For the Scriptures tell us, "Abraham believed God, so God declared him to be righteous."

<sup>4</sup>When people work, their wages are not a gift. Workers earn what they receive. <sup>5</sup>But people are declared righteous because of their faith, not because of their work.

<sup>6</sup>King David spoke of this, describing the happiness of an undeserving sinner who is declared to be righteous:

<sup>7</sup>"Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven,  
whose sins are put out of sight.

<sup>8</sup>Yes, what joy for those  
whose sin is no longer counted against them by the Lord."

<sup>23</sup>Now this wonderful truth—that God declared him to be righteous—wasn't just for Abraham's benefit. <sup>24</sup>It was for us, too, assuring us that God will also declare us to be righteous if we believe in God, who brought Jesus our Lord back from the dead. <sup>25</sup>He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised from the dead to make us right with God. Romans 4

The Sublime AL-JALIL

<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD!

Let the whole earth sing to the LORD!  
<sup>2</sup>Sing to the LORD; bless his name.  
Each day proclaim the good news that he saves.  
<sup>3</sup>Publish his glorious deeds among the nations.  
Tell everyone about the amazing things he does.  
<sup>4</sup>Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise!  
He is to be revered above all the gods.  
<sup>5</sup>The gods of other nations are merely idols,  
but the LORD made the heavens!  
<sup>6</sup>Honor and majesty surround him;  
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

<sup>7</sup>O nations of the world, recognize the LORD;  
recognize that the LORD is glorious and strong.  
<sup>8</sup>Give to the LORD the glory he deserves!  
Bring your offering and come to worship him.  
<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in all his holy splendor.  
Let all the earth tremble before him.  
<sup>10</sup>Tell all the nations that the LORD is king.  
The world is firmly established and cannot be shaken.  
He will judge all peoples fairly.

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice!  
Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise!  
<sup>12</sup>Let the fields and their crops burst forth with joy!  
Let the trees of the forest rustle with praise  
<sup>13</sup>before the LORD!  
For the LORD is coming!  
He is coming to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness  
and all the nations with his truth.

<sup>97:1</sup>The LORD is king! Let the earth rejoice!  
Let the farthest islands be glad.  
<sup>2</sup>Clouds and darkness surround him.  
Righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.  
<sup>3</sup>Fire goes forth before him  
and burns up all his foes.  
<sup>4</sup>His lightning flashes out across the world.  
The earth sees and trembles.  
<sup>5</sup>The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,

before the Lord of all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>The heavens declare his righteousness;  
every nation sees his glory.

<sup>7</sup>Those who worship idols are disgraced—  
all who brag about their worthless gods—  
for every god must bow to him.

<sup>8</sup>Jerusalem has heard and rejoiced,  
and all the cities of Judah are glad  
because of your justice, LORD!

<sup>9</sup>For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth;  
you are exalted far above all gods.

<sup>10</sup>You who love the LORD, hate evil!  
He protects the lives of his godly people  
and rescues them from the power of the wicked.

<sup>11</sup>Light shines on the godly,  
and joy on those who do right.

<sup>12</sup>May all who are godly be happy in the LORD  
and praise his holy name! Psalm 96 and 97

<sup>11</sup>God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end. Ecclesiastes 3

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud <sup>5</sup>or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. <sup>6</sup>It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. <sup>7</sup>Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. 1 Corinthians 13

<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>But anyone who does not love does not know God—for God is love.

<sup>9</sup>God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him.

<sup>10</sup>This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

<sup>11</sup>Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love has been brought to full expression through us.

<sup>13</sup>And God has given us his Spirit as proof that we live in him and he in us. <sup>14</sup>Furthermore, we have seen with our own eyes and now testify that the Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>All who proclaim that Jesus is the Son of God have God living in them, and they live in God. <sup>16</sup>We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in him.

God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. <sup>17</sup>And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we are like Christ here in this world. 1 John 4

## The Bountiful One AL-KARIM

<sup>40</sup> Said one who had knowledge of *Al-Kitab*: I will bring it to you within the twinkling of an eye! Then when Sulayman saw it placed firmly before him, he said: This is by the grace of my Lord to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! And if anyone is grateful, truly his gratitude is a gain for his own soul; but if any is ungrateful, truly my Lord is free of all needs, supreme in honour! S29

<sup>1</sup>Even the wilderness will rejoice in those days. The desert will blossom with flowers. <sup>2</sup>Yes, there will be an abundance of flowers and singing and joy! The deserts will become as green as the mountains of Lebanon, as lovely as Mount Carmel's pastures and the plain of Sharon. There the LORD will display his glory, the splendor of our God.

<sup>3</sup>With this news, strengthen those who have tired hands, and encourage those who have weak knees. <sup>4</sup>Say to those who are afraid, "Be strong, and do not fear, for your God is coming to

destroy your enemies. He is coming to save you." <sup>5</sup>And when he comes, he will open the eyes of the blind and unstop the ears of the deaf. <sup>6</sup>The lame will leap like a deer, and those who cannot speak will shout and sing! Springs will gush forth in the wilderness, and streams will water the desert. <sup>7</sup>The parched ground will become a pool, and springs of water will satisfy the thirsty land. Marsh grass and reeds and rushes will flourish where desert jackals once lived.

<sup>8</sup>And a main road will go through that once deserted land. It will be named the Highway of Holiness. Evil-hearted people will never travel on it. It will be only for those who walk in God's ways; fools will never walk there. <sup>9</sup>Lions will not lurk along its course, and there will be no other dangers. Only the redeemed will follow it. <sup>10</sup>Those who have been ransomed by the LORD will return to Jerusalem, singing songs of everlasting joy. Sorrow and mourning will disappear, and they will be overcome with joy and gladness. Isaiah 35

Your heavenly Father already knows all your needs, <sup>33</sup>and he will give you all you need from day to day if you live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern. Matthew 6

<sup>22</sup>But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. Galatians 5

<sup>10</sup>For God is the one who gives seed to the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will give you many opportunities to do good, and he will produce a great harvest of generosity in you. 2 Corinthians 9

<sup>1</sup>Later on God tested Abraham's faith and obedience. "Abraham!" God called.

"Yes," he replied. "Here I am."

<sup>2</sup>"Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will point out to you."

<sup>3</sup>The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son Isaac. Then he chopped wood to build a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place where God had told him to go. <sup>4</sup>On the third day of the journey, Abraham saw the place in the distance. <sup>5</sup>"Stay here with the donkey," Abraham told the young men. "The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back."

<sup>6</sup>Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac's shoulders, while he himself carried the knife and the fire. As the two of them went on together, <sup>7</sup>Isaac said, "Father?"

"Yes, my son," Abraham replied.

"We have the wood and the fire," said the boy, "but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?"

<sup>8</sup>"God will provide a lamb, my son," Abraham answered. And they both went on together.

<sup>9</sup>When they arrived at the place where God had told Abraham to go, he built an altar and placed the wood on it. Then he tied Isaac up and laid him on the altar over the wood. <sup>10</sup>And Abraham took the knife and lifted it up to kill his son as a sacrifice to the LORD. <sup>11</sup>At that moment the angel of the LORD shouted to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Yes," he answered. "I'm listening."

<sup>12</sup>"Lay down the knife," the angel said. "Do not hurt the boy in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld even your beloved son from me."

<sup>13</sup>Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering on the altar in place of his son. <sup>14</sup>Abraham named the place "The LORD Will Provide." This name has now become a proverb: "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

<sup>15</sup>Then the angel of the LORD called again to Abraham from heaven, <sup>16</sup>"This is what the LORD says: Because you have obeyed me and have not withheld even your beloved son, I swear by my own self that <sup>17</sup>I will bless you richly. I will multiply your descendants into countless millions, like the stars of the sky and the sand on the seashore. They will conquer their enemies, <sup>18</sup>and through your descendants, all the nations of the earth will be blessed—all because you have obeyed me." Genesis 22

This letter is from Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.

I am writing to God's chosen people who are living as foreigners in the lands of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, the province of Asia, and Bithynia. <sup>2</sup>God the Father chose you long ago, and the Spirit has made you holy. As a result, you have obeyed Jesus Christ and are cleansed by his blood.

May you have more and more of God's special favor and wonderful peace. 1 Peter 1

## The Jealous Guardian AR-RAQIB

Allah always watches over you. S4

<sup>2</sup>"I am the LORD your God, who rescued you from slavery in Egypt.

<sup>3</sup>"Do not worship any other gods besides me.

<sup>4</sup>"Do not make idols of any kind, whether in the shape of birds or animals or fish. <sup>5</sup>You must never worship or bow down to them, for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God who will not share your affection with any other god! I do not leave unpunished the sins of those who hate me, but I punish the children for the sins of their parents to the third and fourth generations. <sup>6</sup>But I lavish my love on those who love me and obey my commands, even for a thousand generations. Exodus 20

<sup>6</sup>O Jerusalem, I have posted watchmen on your walls; they will pray to the LORD day and night for the fulfillment of his promises. Take no rest, all you who pray. <sup>7</sup>Give the LORD no rest until he makes Jerusalem the object of praise throughout the earth. Isaiah 62

<sup>2</sup>I am jealous for you with the jealousy of God himself. For I promised you as a pure bride to one husband, Christ. <sup>3</sup>But I fear that somehow you will be led away from your pure and simple devotion to Christ, just as Eve was deceived by the serpent. <sup>4</sup>You seem to believe whatever anyone tells you, even if they preach about a different Jesus than the one we preach, or a different Spirit than the one you received, or a

different kind of gospel than the one you believed. 2  
Corinthians 11

Don't you realize that friendship with this world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again, that if your aim is to enjoy this world, you can't be a friend of God. <sup>5</sup>What do you think the Scriptures mean when they say that the Holy Spirit, whom God has placed within us, jealously longs for us to be faithful? <sup>6</sup>He gives us more and more strength to stand against such evil desires. As the Scriptures say,

"God sets himself against the proud,  
but he shows favor to the humble." James 4

### The Responsive One AL-MUJIB

ask forgiveness of him, and turn to him: for my Lord is near,  
ready to answer. S11

<sup>20</sup>So Ahab summoned all the people and the prophets to Mount Carmel. <sup>21</sup>Then Elijah stood in front of them and said, "How long are you going to waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him! But if Baal is God, then follow him!" But the people were completely silent.

<sup>22</sup>Then Elijah said to them, "I am the only prophet of the LORD who is left, but Baal has 450 prophets. <sup>23</sup>Now bring two bulls. The prophets of Baal may choose whichever one they wish and cut it into pieces and lay it on the wood of their altar, but without setting fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood on the altar, but not set fire to it. <sup>24</sup>Then call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers by setting fire to the wood is the true God!" And all the people agreed.

<sup>25</sup>Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "You go first, for there are many of you. Choose one of the bulls and prepare it and call on the name of your god. But do not set fire to the wood."

<sup>26</sup>So they prepared one of the bulls and placed it on the altar. Then they called on the name of Baal all morning, shouting, "O



Baal, answer us!" But there was no reply of any kind. Then they danced wildly around the altar they had made.

<sup>27</sup>About noontime Elijah began mocking them. "You'll have to shout louder," he scoffed, "for surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or he is relieving himself. Or maybe he is away on a trip, or he is asleep and needs to be wakened!"

<sup>28</sup>So they shouted louder, and following their normal custom, they cut themselves with knives and swords until the blood gushed out. <sup>29</sup>They raved all afternoon until the time of the evening sacrifice, but still there was no reply, no voice, no answer.

<sup>30</sup>Then Elijah called to the people, "Come over here!" They all crowded around him as he repaired the altar of the LORD that had been torn down. <sup>31</sup>He took twelve stones, one to represent each of the tribes of Israel, <sup>32</sup>and he used the stones to rebuild the LORD'S altar. Then he dug a trench around the altar large enough to hold about three gallons. <sup>33</sup>He piled wood on the altar, cut the bull into pieces, and laid the pieces on the wood. Then he said, "Fill four large jars with water, and pour the water over the offering and the wood." After they had done this, <sup>34</sup>he said, "Do the same thing again!" And when they were finished, he said, "Now do it a third time!" So they did as he said, <sup>35</sup>and the water ran around the altar and even overflowed the trench.

<sup>36</sup>At the customary time for offering the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet walked up to the altar and prayed, "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, prove today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant. Prove that I have done all this at your command. <sup>37</sup>O LORD, answer me! Answer me so these people will know that you, O LORD, are God and that you have brought them back to yourself."

<sup>38</sup>Immediately the fire of the LORD flashed down from heaven and burned up the young bull, the wood, the stones, and the dust. It even licked up all the water in the ditch! <sup>39</sup>And when the people saw it, they fell on their faces and cried out, "The LORD is God! The LORD is God!" <sup>40</sup>Then Elijah commanded, "Seize all the prophets of Baal. Don't let a single one escape!" So the people seized them all, and Elijah took them down to the Kishon Valley and killed them there. 1 Kings 18

<sup>1</sup>When Ahab got home, he told Jezebel what Elijah had done and that he had slaughtered the prophets of Baal. <sup>2</sup>So Jezebel sent this message to Elijah: "May the gods also kill me if by this time tomorrow I have failed to take your life like those whom you killed."

<sup>3</sup>Elijah was afraid and fled for his life. He went to Beersheba, a town in Judah, and he left his servant there. <sup>4</sup>Then he went on alone into the desert, traveling all day. He sat down under a solitary broom tree and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."

<sup>5</sup>Then he lay down and slept under the broom tree. But as he was sleeping, an angel touched him and told him, "Get up and eat!" <sup>6</sup>He looked around and saw some bread baked on hot stones and a jar of water! So he ate and drank and lay down again.

<sup>7</sup>Then the angel of the LORD came again and touched him and said, "Get up and eat some more, for there is a long journey ahead of you."

<sup>8</sup>So he got up and ate and drank, and the food gave him enough strength to travel forty days and forty nights to Mount Sinai, the mountain of God. <sup>9</sup>There he came to a cave, where he spent the night.

But the LORD said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

<sup>10</sup>Elijah replied, "I have zealously served the LORD God Almighty. But the people of Israel have broken their covenant with you, torn down your altars, and killed every one of your prophets. I alone am left, and now they are trying to kill me, too."

<sup>11</sup>"Go out and stand before me on the mountain," the LORD told him. And as Elijah stood there, the LORD passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup>And after the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

And a voice said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

<sup>14</sup>He replied again, "I have zealously served the LORD God Almighty. But the people of Israel have broken their covenant with you, torn down your altars, and killed every one of your prophets. I alone am left, and now they are trying to kill me, too."

<sup>15</sup>Then the LORD told him, "Go back the way you came, and travel to the wilderness of Damascus. When you arrive there, anoint Hazael to be king of Aram. <sup>16</sup>Then anoint Jehu son of Nimshi to be king of Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel-meholah to replace you as my prophet. <sup>17</sup>Anyone who escapes from Hazael will be killed by Jehu, and those who escape Jehu will be killed by Elisha! <sup>18</sup>Yet I will preserve seven thousand others in Israel who have never bowed to Baal or kissed him!" 1 Kings 19

## The Saving One AL-WASI

<sup>115</sup> To Allah belong the east and the west: wherever you turn, there is the presence of Allah. For Allah is all-embracing, all-knowing. S2

<sup>261</sup> The parable of those who spend their substance in the way of Allah is that of a grain of corn: it grows seven ears, and each ear has a hundred grains. Allah gives manifold increase to whom he pleases: and Allah cares for all and he knows all things. S2

Allah promises you his forgiveness and bounties. And Allah cares for all and he knows all things. S2

<sup>1</sup>Out of the stump of David's family will grow a shoot—yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root. <sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>He will delight in obeying the LORD. He will never judge by appearance, false evidence, or hearsay. <sup>4</sup>He will defend the poor and the exploited. He will rule against the wicked and destroy them with the breath of his mouth. <sup>5</sup>He will be clothed with fairness and truth.

<sup>6</sup>In that day the wolf and the lamb will live together; the leopard and the goat will be at peace. Calves and yearlings will be safe among lions, and a little child will lead them all. <sup>7</sup>The cattle will graze among bears. Cubs and calves will lie down together. And lions will eat grass as the livestock do. <sup>8</sup>Babies will crawl safely among poisonous snakes. Yes, a little child will put its hand in a nest of deadly snakes and pull it out unharmed. <sup>9</sup>Nothing will hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain. And as the waters fill the sea, so the earth will be filled with people who know the LORD.

<sup>10</sup>In that day the heir to David's throne will be a banner of salvation to all the world. The nations will rally to him, for the land where he lives will be a glorious place. Isaiah 11

<sup>1</sup>"Look at my servant, whom I strengthen. He is my chosen one, and I am pleased with him. I have put my Spirit upon him. He will reveal justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will be gentle—he will not shout or raise his voice in public. <sup>3</sup>He will not crush those who are weak or quench the smallest hope. He will bring full justice to all who have been wronged. <sup>4</sup>He will not stop until truth and righteousness prevail throughout the earth. Even distant lands beyond the sea will wait for his instruction."

<sup>5</sup>God, the LORD, created the heavens and stretched them out. He created the earth and everything in it. He gives breath and life to everyone in all the world. And it is he who says, <sup>6</sup>"I, the LORD, have called you to demonstrate my righteousness. I will guard and support you, for I have given you to my people as the personal confirmation of my covenant with them. And you will be a light to guide all nations to me. <sup>7</sup>You will open the eyes of the blind and free the captives from prison. You will release those who sit in dark dungeons. Isaiah 42

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, all of you in far-off lands! The LORD called me before my birth; from within the womb he called me by name. <sup>2</sup>He made my words of judgment as sharp as a sword. He has hidden me in the shadow of his hand. I am like a sharp arrow in his quiver.

<sup>3</sup>He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, and you will bring me glory."

<sup>4</sup>I replied, "But my work all seems so useless! I have spent my strength for nothing and to no purpose at all. Yet I leave it all in the LORD's hand; I will trust God for my reward."

<sup>5</sup>And now the LORD speaks—he who formed me in my mother's womb to be his servant, who commissioned me to bring his people of Israel back to him. The LORD has honored me, and my God has given me strength. <sup>6</sup>He says, "You will do more than restore the people of Israel to me. I will make you a light to the Gentiles, and you will bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

<sup>7</sup>The LORD, the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel, says to the one who is despised and rejected by a nation, to the one who is the servant of rulers: "Kings will stand at attention when you pass by. Princes will bow low because the LORD has chosen you. He, the faithful LORD, the Holy One of Israel, chooses you." Isaiah 49

<sup>18</sup>Now this is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>19</sup>Joseph, her fiancé, being a just man, decided to break the engagement quietly, so as not to disgrace her publicly.

<sup>20</sup>As he considered this, he fell asleep, and an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to go ahead with your marriage to Mary. For the child within her has been conceived by the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All of this happened to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet:

<sup>23</sup>"Look! The virgin will conceive a child!

She will give birth to a son,  
and he will be called Immanuel  
(meaning, God is with us)."

<sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord commanded. He brought Mary home to be his wife, <sup>25</sup>but she remained a virgin until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus. Matthew 1

The Wise AL-HAKIM

<sup>129</sup> "Our Lord! Send among them a messenger of their own, who shall rehearse your signs to them and instruct them in *Al-Kitab* and wisdom, and sanctify them: for you are the exalted in might, the wise." S2

<sup>27</sup> And if all the trees on earth were pens and the ocean were ink, with seven oceans behind it to add to its supply, yet would not the words of Allah be exhausted: for Allah is exalted in power, full of wisdom S31

<sup>2</sup> The revelation of *Al-Kitab* is from Allah, the exalted in power, full of wisdom. S46

<sup>1</sup> Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, let it declare the praises and glory of Allah: for he is the exalted in might, the wise.

<sup>2</sup> To him belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth: it is he who gives life and death; and he has power over all things.

<sup>3</sup> He is the first and the last, the evident and the immanent: and he has full knowledge of all things. S57

For I am God—I alone! I am God, and there is no one else like me. <sup>10</sup>Only I can tell you what is going to happen even before it happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish. Isaiah 46

<sup>8</sup>"My thoughts are completely different from yours," says the LORD. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. <sup>9</sup>For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup>"The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry. <sup>11</sup>It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces

fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it. Isaiah 55

<sup>25</sup>God is able to make you strong, just as the Good News says. It is the message about Jesus Christ and his plan for you Gentiles, a plan kept secret from the beginning of time. <sup>26</sup>But now as the prophets foretold and as the eternal God has commanded, this message is made known to all Gentiles everywhere, so that they might believe and obey Christ. <sup>27</sup>To God, who alone is wise, be the glory forever through Jesus Christ. Amen. Romans 16

<sup>18</sup>I know very well how foolish the message of the cross sounds to those who are on the road to destruction. But we who are being saved recognize this message as the very power of God. <sup>19</sup>As the Scriptures say,

"I will destroy human wisdom  
and discard their most brilliant ideas."

<sup>20</sup>So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world's brilliant debaters? God has made them all look foolish and has shown their wisdom to be useless nonsense. <sup>21</sup>Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never find him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save all who believe. <sup>22</sup>God's way seems foolish to the Jews because they want a sign from heaven to prove it is true. And it is foolish to the Greeks because they believe only what agrees with their own wisdom. <sup>23</sup>So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended, and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense. <sup>24</sup>But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the mighty power of God and the wonderful wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>This "foolish" plan of God is far wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God's weakness is far stronger than the greatest of human strength. 1 Corinthians 1

<sup>15</sup>Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for Christians everywhere, <sup>16</sup>I have never stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, <sup>17</sup>asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to

give you spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. <sup>18</sup>I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the wonderful future he has promised to those he called. I want you to realize what a rich and glorious inheritance he has given to his people.

<sup>19</sup>I pray that you will begin to understand the incredible greatness of his power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power <sup>20</sup>that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. <sup>21</sup>Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else in this world or in the world to come. <sup>22</sup>And God has put all things under the authority of Christ, and he gave him this authority for the benefit of the church. <sup>23</sup>And the church is his body; it is filled by Christ, who fills everything everywhere with his presence. Ephesians 1

## The Affectionate One AL-WADUD

<sup>90</sup> But ask forgiveness of your Lord, and turn to him: for my Lord is indeed full of mercy and loving kindness. S11

<sup>13</sup> It is he who creates from the very beginning, and he can restore.

<sup>14</sup> And he is the oft-forgiving, full of loving kindness,

<sup>15</sup> Lord of the throne of glory, S85

<sup>11</sup>Dear brothers and sisters, I close my letter with these last words: Rejoice. Change your ways. Encourage each other. Live in harmony and peace. Then the God of love and peace will be with you. 2 Corinthians 13

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. <sup>28</sup>Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"



<sup>29</sup>Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. <sup>30</sup>"Don't be frightened, Mary," the angel told her, "for God has decided to bless you! <sup>31</sup>You will become pregnant and have a son, and you are to name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!"

<sup>34</sup>Mary asked the angel, "But how can I have a baby? I am a virgin."

<sup>35</sup>The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby born to you will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she's already in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup>For nothing is impossible with God." Luke 1

<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>But anyone who does not love does not know God—for God is love.

<sup>9</sup>God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. <sup>10</sup>This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. 1 John 4

<sup>13</sup>For only I, the Son of Man, have come to earth and will return to heaven again. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so I, the Son of Man, must be lifted up on a pole, <sup>15</sup>so that everyone who believes in me will have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>God did not send his Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it. John 3

<sup>44</sup>Then he said, "When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me by Moses and the prophets and in

the Psalms must all come true." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand these many Scriptures. <sup>46</sup>And he said, "Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah must suffer and die and rise again from the dead on the third day. <sup>47</sup>With my authority, take this message of repentance to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: 'There is forgiveness of sins for all who turn to me.' <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of all these things.

<sup>49</sup>"And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven." Luke 24

## Most Glorious AL-MAJID

The grace of Allah and his blessings on you, O you people of the house, for he is indeed worthy of all praise, full of all glory. S11

<sup>24</sup>And now, all glory to God, who is able to keep you from stumbling, and who will bring you into his glorious presence innocent of sin and with great joy. <sup>25</sup>All glory to him, who alone is God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Yes, glory, majesty, power, and authority belong to him, in the beginning, now, and forevermore. Amen. Jude 25

<sup>13</sup>As my vision continued that night, I saw someone who looked like a man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. <sup>14</sup>He was given authority, honor, and royal power over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. His rule is eternal—it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed. Daniel 7

<sup>1</sup>Six days later Jesus took Peter and the two brothers, James and John, and led them up a high mountain. <sup>2</sup>As the men watched, Jesus' appearance changed so that his face shone like the sun, and his clothing became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly, Moses and Elijah appeared and began talking with Jesus. <sup>4</sup>Peter blurted out, "Lord, this is wonderful! If you want

me to, I'll make three shrines, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

<sup>5</sup>But even as he said it, a bright cloud came over them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, and I am fully pleased with him. Listen to him." <sup>6</sup>The disciples were terrified and fell face down on the ground.

<sup>7</sup>Jesus came over and touched them. "Get up," he said, "don't be afraid." <sup>8</sup>And when they looked, they saw only Jesus with them. <sup>9</sup>As they descended the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen until I, the Son of Man, have been raised from the dead." Matthew 17

<sup>12</sup>Peter saw his opportunity and addressed the crowd. "People of Israel," he said, "what is so astounding about this? And why look at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power and godliness? <sup>13</sup>For it is the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, the God of all our ancestors who has brought glory to his servant Jesus by doing this. This is the same Jesus whom you handed over and rejected before Pilate, despite Pilate's decision to release him. <sup>14</sup>You rejected this holy, righteous one and instead demanded the release of a murderer. <sup>15</sup>You killed the author of life, but God raised him to life. And we are witnesses of this fact!

<sup>16</sup>"The name of Jesus has healed this man—and you know how lame he was before. Faith in Jesus' name has caused this healing before your very eyes.

<sup>17</sup>"Friends, I realize that what you did to Jesus was done in ignorance; and the same can be said of your leaders. <sup>18</sup>But God was fulfilling what all the prophets had declared about the Messiah beforehand—that he must suffer all these things. <sup>19</sup>Now turn from your sins and turn to God, so you can be cleansed of your sins. <sup>20</sup>Then wonderful times of refreshment will come from the presence of the Lord, and he will send Jesus your Messiah to you again. <sup>21</sup>For he must remain in heaven until the time for the final restoration of all things, as God promised long ago through his prophets. <sup>22</sup>Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up a Prophet like me from among your own people. Listen carefully to everything he tells you.'  
<sup>23</sup>Then Moses said, 'Anyone who will not listen to that Prophet will be cut off from God's people and utterly destroyed.'

<sup>24</sup>"Starting with Samuel, every prophet spoke about what is happening today. <sup>25</sup>You are the children of those prophets, and you are included in the covenant God promised to your ancestors. For God said to Abraham, 'Through your descendants all the families on earth will be blessed.'<sup>26</sup>When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you people of Israel, to bless you by turning each of you back from your sinful ways." Acts 3

<sup>1</sup>Then as I looked, I saw a door standing open in heaven, and the same voice I had heard before spoke to me with the sound of a mighty trumpet blast. The voice said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after these things." <sup>2</sup>And instantly I was in the Spirit, and I saw a throne in heaven and someone sitting on it! <sup>3</sup>The one sitting on the throne was as brilliant as gemstones—jasper and carnelian. And the glow of an emerald circled his throne like a rainbow. <sup>4</sup>Twenty-four thrones surrounded him, and twenty-four elders sat on them. They were all clothed in white and had gold crowns on their heads. <sup>5</sup>And from the throne came flashes of lightning and the rumble of thunder. And in front of the throne were seven lampstands with burning flames. They are the seven spirits of God. <sup>6</sup>In front of the throne was a shiny sea of glass, sparkling like crystal.

In the center and around the throne were four living beings, each covered with eyes, front and back. <sup>7</sup>The first of these living beings had the form of a lion; the second looked like an ox; the third had a human face; and the fourth had the form of an eagle with wings spread out as though in flight. <sup>8</sup>Each of these living beings had six wings, and their wings were covered with eyes, inside and out. Day after day and night after night they keep on saying,

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty—  
the one who always was, who is, and who is still to come."

<sup>9</sup>Whenever the living beings give glory and honor and thanks to the one sitting on the throne, the one who lives forever and ever, <sup>10</sup>the twenty-four elders fall down and worship the one who lives forever and ever. And they lay their crowns before the throne and say,

<sup>11</sup>"You are worthy, O Lord our God,  
to receive glory and honor and power.  
For you created everything,  
and it is for your pleasure that they exist and were created."

<sup>5:1</sup>And I saw a scroll in the right hand of the one who was sitting on the throne. There was writing on the inside and the outside of the scroll, and it was sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup>And I saw a strong angel, who shouted with a loud voice: "Who is worthy to break the seals on this scroll and unroll it?" <sup>3</sup>But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll and read it.

<sup>4</sup>Then I wept because no one could be found who was worthy to open the scroll and read it. <sup>5</sup>But one of the twenty-four elders said to me, "Stop weeping! Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the heir to David's throne, has conquered. He is worthy to open the scroll and break its seven seals."

<sup>6</sup>I looked and I saw a Lamb that had been killed but was now standing between the throne and the four living beings and among the twenty-four elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God that are sent out into every part of the earth. <sup>7</sup>He stepped forward and took the scroll from the right hand of the one sitting on the throne. <sup>8</sup>And as he took the scroll, the four living beings and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp, and they held gold bowls filled with incense—the prayers of God's people!

<sup>9</sup>And they sang a new song with these words:

"You are worthy to take the scroll  
and break its seals and open it.  
For you were killed, and your blood has ransomed people for  
God  
from every tribe and language and people and nation.  
<sup>10</sup>And you have caused them to become God's kingdom and  
his priests.  
And they will reign on the earth."

<sup>11</sup>Then I looked again, and I heard the singing of thousands and millions of angels around the throne and the living beings and the elders. <sup>12</sup>And they sang in a mighty chorus:

"The Lamb is worthy—the Lamb who was killed.  
He is worthy to receive power and riches  
and wisdom and strength  
and honor and glory and blessing."

<sup>13</sup>And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. They also sang:

"Blessing and honor and glory and power  
belong to the one sitting on the throne  
and to the Lamb forever and ever." Revelation 4-5

## The Resurrector AL-BAITH

And truly the hour will come: there can be no doubt about it, or about the fact that Allah will raise up all who are in the graves. S22

<sup>25</sup>Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die like everyone else, will live again. <sup>26</sup>They are given eternal life for believing in me and will never perish. John 11

<sup>12</sup>Then he turned to his host. "When you put on a luncheon or a dinner," he said, "don't invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbors. For they will repay you by inviting you back. <sup>13</sup>Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>Then at the resurrection of the godly, God will reward you for inviting those who could not repay you." Luke 14

<sup>1</sup>Now let me remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you before. You welcomed it then and still do now, for your faith is built on this wonderful message. <sup>2</sup>And it is this Good News that saves you if you firmly

believe it—unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place.

<sup>3</sup>I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me—that Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. <sup>4</sup>He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, as the Scriptures said. <sup>5</sup>He was seen by Peter and then by the twelve apostles. <sup>6</sup>After that, he was seen by more than five hundred of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died by now. <sup>7</sup>Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, I saw him, too, long after the others, as though I had been born at the wrong time. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of all the apostles, and I am not worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted the church of God.

<sup>10</sup>But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favor on me—and not without results. For I have worked harder than all the other apostles, yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace. <sup>11</sup>So it makes no difference whether I preach or they preach. The important thing is that you believed what we preached to you.

<sup>12</sup>But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup>For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. <sup>14</sup>And if Christ was not raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your trust in God is useless. <sup>15</sup>And we apostles would all be lying about God, for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave, but that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. <sup>16</sup>If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. <sup>17</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless, and you are still under condemnation for your sins. <sup>18</sup>In that case, all who have died believing in Christ have perished! <sup>19</sup>And if we have hope in Christ only for this life, we are the most miserable people in the world.

<sup>20</sup>But the fact is that Christ has been raised from the dead. He has become the first of a great harvest of those who will be raised to life again.

<sup>21</sup>So you see, just as death came into the world through a man, Adam, now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man, Christ. <sup>22</sup>Everyone dies because all of us

are related to Adam, the first man. But all who are related to Christ, the other man, will be given new life. <sup>23</sup>But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised first; then when Christ comes back, all his people will be raised.

<sup>24</sup>After that the end will come, when he will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father, having put down all enemies of every kind. <sup>25</sup>For Christ must reign until he humbles all his enemies beneath his feet. <sup>26</sup>And the last enemy to be destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup>For the Scriptures say, "God has given him authority over all things." (Of course, when it says "authority over all things," it does not include God himself, who gave Christ his authority.) <sup>28</sup>Then, when he has conquered all things, the Son will present himself to God, so that God, who gave his Son authority over all things, will be utterly supreme over everything everywhere. 1 Corinthians 15

<sup>35</sup>But someone may ask, "How will the dead be raised? What kind of bodies will they have?" <sup>36</sup>What a foolish question! When you put a seed into the ground, it doesn't grow into a plant unless it dies first. <sup>37</sup>And what you put in the ground is not the plant that will grow, but only a dry little seed of wheat or whatever it is you are planting. <sup>38</sup>Then God gives it a new body—just the kind he wants it to have. A different kind of plant grows from each kind of seed. <sup>39</sup>And just as there are different kinds of seeds and plants, so also there are different kinds of flesh—whether of humans, animals, birds, or fish.

<sup>40</sup>There are bodies in the heavens, and there are bodies on earth. The glory of the heavenly bodies is different from the beauty of the earthly bodies. <sup>41</sup>The sun has one kind of glory, while the moon and stars each have another kind. And even the stars differ from each other in their beauty and brightness.

<sup>42</sup>It is the same way for the resurrection of the dead. Our earthly bodies, which die and decay, will be different when they are resurrected, for they will never die. <sup>43</sup>Our bodies now disappoint us, but when they are raised, they will be full of glory. They are weak now, but when they are raised, they will be full of power. <sup>44</sup>They are natural human bodies now, but when they are raised, they will be spiritual bodies. For just as there are natural bodies, so also there are spiritual bodies.

<sup>45</sup>The Scriptures tell us, "The first man, Adam, became a living person." But the last Adam—that is, Christ—is a life-



giving Spirit. <sup>46</sup>What came first was the natural body, then the spiritual body comes later. <sup>47</sup>Adam, the first man, was made from the dust of the earth, while Christ, the second man, came from heaven. <sup>48</sup>Every human being has an earthly body just like Adam's, but our heavenly bodies will be just like Christ's.

<sup>49</sup>Just as we are now like Adam, the man of the earth, so we will someday be like Christ, the man from heaven.

<sup>50</sup>What I am saying, dear brothers and sisters, is that flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. These perishable bodies of ours are not able to live forever.

<sup>51</sup>But let me tell you a wonderful secret God has revealed to us. Not all of us will die, but we will all be transformed. <sup>52</sup>It will happen in a moment, in the blinking of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, the Christians who have died will be raised with transformed bodies. And then we who are living will be transformed so that we will never die. <sup>53</sup>For our perishable earthly bodies must be transformed into heavenly bodies that will never die.

<sup>54</sup>When this happens—when our perishable earthly bodies have been transformed into heavenly bodies that will never die—then at last the Scriptures will come true:

"Death is swallowed up in victory.

<sup>55</sup>O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?"

<sup>56</sup>For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. <sup>57</sup>How we thank God, who gives us victory over sin and death through Jesus Christ our Lord!

<sup>58</sup>So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and steady, always enthusiastic about the Lord's work, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless. 1 Corinthians 15

## The Witness ASH-SHAHID

Is it not enough that your Lord witnesses all things? S41

This letter is from Paul, Jesus Christ's slave, chosen by God to be an apostle and sent out to preach his Good News. <sup>2</sup>This Good News was promised long ago by God through his

prophets in the holy Scriptures. <sup>3</sup>It is the Good News about his Son, Jesus, who came as a man, born into King David's royal family line. <sup>4</sup>And Jesus Christ our Lord was shown to be the Son of God when God powerfully raised him from the dead by means of the Holy Spirit. <sup>5</sup>Through Christ, God has given us the privilege and authority to tell Gentiles everywhere what God has done for them, so that they will believe and obey him, bringing glory to his name.

<sup>6</sup>You are among those who have been called to belong to Jesus Christ, <sup>7</sup>dear friends in Rome. God loves you dearly, and he has called you to be his very own people.

May grace and peace be yours from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>8</sup>Let me say first of all that your faith in God is becoming known throughout the world. How I thank God through Jesus Christ for each one of you. <sup>9</sup>God knows how often I pray for you. Day and night I bring you and your needs in prayer to God, whom I serve with all my heart by telling others the Good News about his Son.

<sup>10</sup>One of the things I always pray for is the opportunity, God willing, to come at last to see you. <sup>11</sup>For I long to visit you so I can share a spiritual blessing with you that will help you grow strong in the Lord. <sup>12</sup>I'm eager to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours. In this way, each of us will be a blessing to the other.

<sup>13</sup>I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to visit you, but I was prevented until now. I want to work among you and see good results, just as I have done among other Gentiles. <sup>14</sup>For I have a great sense of obligation to people in our culture and to people in other cultures, to the educated and uneducated alike. <sup>15</sup>So I am eager to come to you in Rome, too, to preach God's Good News.

<sup>16</sup>For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—Jews first and also Gentiles. <sup>17</sup>This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life." Romans 1

<sup>4</sup>This letter is from John to the seven churches in the province of Asia. Grace and peace from the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come; from the sevenfold Spirit before his throne; <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the commander of all the rulers of the world.

All praise to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us. <sup>6</sup>He has made us his kingdom and his priests who serve before God his Father. Give to him everlasting glory! He rules forever and ever! Amen!

<sup>7</sup>Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven. And everyone will see him—even those who pierced him. And all the nations of the earth will weep because of him. Yes! Amen!

<sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end," says the Lord God. "I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come, the Almighty One." Revelation 1

## The Truth AL-HAQQ

This is so, because Allah is the reality: it is he who gives life to the dead, and it is he who has power over all things. S22

<sup>116</sup> Therefore exalted be Allah, the king, the reality: there is no god but he, the Lord of the throne of honour! S23

<sup>1</sup>"Don't be troubled. You trust God, now trust in me. <sup>2</sup>There are many rooms in my Father's home, and I am going to prepare a place for you. If this were not so, I would tell you plainly. <sup>3</sup>When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. <sup>4</sup>And you know where I am going and how to get there."

<sup>5</sup>"No, we don't know, Lord," Thomas said. "We haven't any idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

<sup>6</sup>Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. John 14

In the beginning the Word already existed. He was with God, and he was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>He created everything there is. Nothing exists that he didn't

make. <sup>4</sup>Life itself was in him, and this life gives light to everyone. <sup>5</sup>The light shines through the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.

<sup>6</sup>God sent John the Baptist <sup>7</sup>to tell everyone about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony.

<sup>8</sup>John himself was not the light; he was only a witness to the light. <sup>9</sup>The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was going to come into the world.

<sup>10</sup>But although the world was made through him, the world didn't recognize him when he came. <sup>11</sup>Even in his own land and among his own people, he was not accepted. <sup>12</sup>But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. <sup>13</sup>They are reborn! This is not a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan—this rebirth comes from God.

<sup>14</sup>So the Word became human and lived here on earth among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father. John 1

<sup>21</sup>Jesus replied, "Believe me, the time is coming when it will no longer matter whether you worship the Father here or in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You Samaritans know so little about the one you worship, while we Jews know all about him, for salvation comes through the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the time is coming and is already here when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for anyone who will worship him that way. <sup>24</sup>For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth."

<sup>25</sup>The woman said, "I know the Messiah will come—the one who is called Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

<sup>26</sup>Then Jesus told her, "I am the Messiah!" John 4

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you keep obeying my teachings. <sup>32</sup>And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8

<sup>17</sup>Make them pure and holy by teaching them your words of truth. John 17

<sup>4</sup>He is the Rock; his work is perfect.

Everything he does is just and fair.  
He is a faithful God who does no wrong;  
how just and upright he is! Deuteronomy 32.4

<sup>18</sup>Open my eyes to see  
the wonderful truths in your law. Psalm 119

<sup>16</sup>All who invoke a blessing or take an oath will do so by the  
God of truth. Isaiah 65

<sup>23</sup>This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man gloat in  
his wisdom, or the mighty man in his might, or the rich man in  
his riches. <sup>24</sup>Let them boast in this alone: that they truly know  
me and understand that I am the LORD who is just and  
righteous, whose love is unending, and that I delight in these  
things. I, the LORD, have spoken! Jeremiah 9

<sup>8</sup>No, O people, the LORD has already told you what is good,  
and this is what he requires: to do what is right, to love mercy,  
and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6

<sup>8</sup>Then this message came to Zechariah from the LORD: <sup>9</sup>"This  
is what the LORD Almighty says: Judge fairly and honestly, and  
show mercy and kindness to one another. <sup>10</sup>Do not oppress  
widows, orphans, foreigners, and poor people. And do not  
make evil plans to harm each other.

<sup>11</sup>"Your ancestors would not listen to this message. They  
turned stubbornly away and put their fingers in their ears to  
keep from hearing. <sup>12</sup>They made their hearts as hard as stone,  
so they could not hear the law or the messages that the LORD  
Almighty had sent them by his Spirit through the earlier  
prophets. Zechariah 7

The Enabler AL-WAKIL

Allah suffices, and he is the best disposer of affairs. S3

<sup>3</sup> And put your trust in Allah, and enough is Allah as a disposer  
of affairs. S33

Lord of the east and the west: there is no god but he: take him therefore for disposer of affairs. S73

<sup>22</sup>Then Jesus said to the disciples, "Have faith in God. <sup>23</sup>I assure you that you can say to this mountain, 'May God lift you up and throw you into the sea,' and your command will be obeyed. All that's required is that you really believe and do not doubt in your heart. <sup>24</sup>Listen to me! You can pray for anything, and if you believe, you will have it. <sup>25</sup>But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too." <sup>26</sup> Mark 11

<sup>12</sup>I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. <sup>13</sup>For I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength I need. <sup>14</sup>But even so, you have done well to share with me in my present difficulty. Philippians 4

<sup>6</sup>God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out when you have faith that God is speaking through you. <sup>7</sup>If your gift is that of serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, do a good job of teaching. <sup>8</sup>If your gift is to encourage others, do it! If you have money, share it generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly. Romans 12

<sup>10</sup>God has given gifts to each of you from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Manage them well so that God's generosity can flow through you. <sup>11</sup>Are you called to be a speaker? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Are you called to help others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then God will be given glory in everything through Jesus Christ. All glory and power belong to him forever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 4

The Powerful AL-QAWI

<sup>19</sup> Gracious is Allah to his servants: he gives sustenance to whom he pleases: and he has power and can carry out his will.  
S42

<sup>22</sup>God's way seems foolish to the Jews because they want a sign from heaven to prove it is true. And it is foolish to the Greeks because they believe only what agrees with their own wisdom. <sup>23</sup>So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended, and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense. <sup>24</sup>But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the mighty power of God and the wonderful wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>This "foolish" plan of God is far wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God's weakness is far stronger than the greatest of human strength. 1 Corinthians 1

Dear Theophilus:

In my first book I told you about everything Jesus began to do and teach <sup>2</sup>until the day he ascended to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions from the Holy Spirit. <sup>3</sup>During the forty days after his crucifixion, he appeared to the apostles from time to time and proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. On these occasions he talked to them about the Kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup>In one of these meetings as he was eating a meal with them, he told them, "Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you what he promised. Remember, I have told you about this before. <sup>5</sup>John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>6</sup>When the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, are you going to free Israel now and restore our kingdom?"

<sup>7</sup>"The Father sets those dates," he replied, "and they are not for you to know. <sup>8</sup>But when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

<sup>9</sup>It was not long after he said this that he was taken up into the sky while they were watching, and he disappeared into a

cloud. <sup>10</sup>As they were straining their eyes to see him, two white-robed men suddenly stood there among them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here staring at the sky? Jesus has been taken away from you into heaven. And someday, just as you saw him go, he will return!" Acts 1

<sup>17</sup>One day while Jesus was teaching, some Pharisees and teachers of religious law were sitting nearby. (It seemed that these men showed up from every village in all Galilee and Judea, as well as from Jerusalem.) And the Lord's healing power was strongly with Jesus. <sup>18</sup>Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a sleeping mat. They tried to push through the crowd to Jesus, <sup>19</sup>but they couldn't reach him. So they went up to the roof, took off some tiles, and lowered the sick man down into the crowd, still on his mat, right in front of Jesus. <sup>20</sup>Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

<sup>21</sup>"Who does this man think he is?" the Pharisees and teachers of religious law said to each other. "This is blasphemy! Who but God can forgive sins?"

<sup>22</sup>Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you think this is blasphemy? <sup>23</sup>Is it easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven' or 'Get up and walk'? <sup>24</sup>I will prove that I, the Son of Man, have the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, take your mat, and go on home, because you are healed!"

<sup>25</sup>And immediately, as everyone watched, the man jumped to his feet, picked up his mat, and went home praising God. <sup>26</sup>Everyone was gripped with great wonder and awe. And they praised God, saying over and over again, "We have seen amazing things today." Luke 5

<sup>18</sup>Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given complete authority in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup>Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28



<sup>5</sup>We don't go around preaching about ourselves; we preach Christ Jesus, the Lord. All we say about ourselves is that we are your servants because of what Jesus has done for us. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made us understand that this light is the brightness of the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>But this precious treasure—this light and power that now shine within us—is held in perishable containers, that is, in our weak bodies. So everyone can see that our glorious power is from God and is not our own. 2 Corinthians 4

<sup>17</sup>When Jesus arrived at Bethany, he was told that Lazarus had already been in his grave for four days. <sup>18</sup>Bethany was only a few miles down the road from Jerusalem, <sup>19</sup>and many of the people had come to pay their respects and console Martha and Mary on their loss. <sup>20</sup>When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask."

<sup>23</sup>Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again."

<sup>24</sup>"Yes," Martha said, "when everyone else rises, on resurrection day."

<sup>25</sup>Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die like everyone else, will live again. <sup>26</sup>They are given eternal life for believing in me and will never perish. Do you believe this, Martha?"

<sup>27</sup>"Yes, Lord," she told him. "I have always believed you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who has come into the world from God." <sup>28</sup>Then she left him and returned to Mary. She called Mary aside from the mourners and told her, "The Teacher is here and wants to see you." <sup>29</sup>So Mary immediately went to him.

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had stayed outside the village, at the place where Martha met him. <sup>31</sup>When the people who were at the house trying to console Mary saw her leave so hastily, they assumed she was going to Lazarus's grave to weep. So they followed her there. <sup>32</sup>When Mary arrived and saw Jesus, she fell down at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

<sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping and saw the other people wailing with her, he was moved with indignation and was deeply troubled. <sup>34</sup>"Where have you put him?" he asked them.

They told him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Then Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup>The people who were standing nearby said, "See how much he loved him." <sup>37</sup>But some said, "This man healed a blind man. Why couldn't he keep Lazarus from dying?"

<sup>38</sup>And again Jesus was deeply troubled. Then they came to the grave. It was a cave with a stone rolled across its entrance. <sup>39</sup>"Roll the stone aside," Jesus told them.

But Martha, the dead man's sister, said, "Lord, by now the smell will be terrible because he has been dead for four days."

<sup>40</sup>Jesus responded, "Didn't I tell you that you will see God's glory if you believe?" <sup>41</sup>So they rolled the stone aside. Then Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, thank you for hearing me. <sup>42</sup>You always hear me, but I said it out loud for the sake of all these people standing here, so they will believe you sent me." <sup>43</sup>Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup>And Lazarus came out, bound in graveclothes, his face wrapped in a headcloth. Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him go!"  
John 11

This letter is from Simon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ.

I am writing to all of you who share the same precious faith we have, faith given to us by Jesus Christ, our God and Savior, who makes us right with God.

<sup>2</sup>May God bless you with his special favor and wonderful peace as you come to know Jesus, our God and Lord, better and better.

<sup>3</sup>As we know Jesus better, his divine power gives us everything we need for living a godly life. He has called us to receive his own glory and goodness! <sup>4</sup>And by that same mighty power, he has given us all of his rich and wonderful promises. He has promised that you will escape the decadence all around you caused by evil desires and that you will share in his divine nature. 2 Peter 1

<sup>11</sup>Then I looked again, and I heard the singing of thousands and millions of angels around the throne and the living beings and the elders. <sup>12</sup>And they sang in a mighty chorus:

"The Lamb is worthy—the Lamb who was killed.  
He is worthy to receive power and riches  
and wisdom and strength  
and honor and glory and blessing."

<sup>13</sup>And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. They also sang:

"Blessing and honor and glory and power  
belong to the one sitting on the throne  
and to the Lamb forever and ever." Revelation 5

## The Firm One AL-MATIN

<sup>58</sup> For Allah is he who gives sustenance, Lord of power, steadfast. S51

<sup>25</sup>In ages past you laid the foundation of the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

<sup>26</sup>Even they will perish, but you remain forever;  
they will wear out like old clothing.

You will change them like a garment,  
and they will fade away.

<sup>27</sup>But you are always the same;  
your years never end. Psalm 102

<sup>47</sup>I will show you what it's like when someone comes to me, listens to my teaching, and then obeys me. <sup>48</sup>It is like a person who builds a house on a strong foundation laid upon the underlying rock. When the floodwaters rise and break against the house, it stands firm because it is well built. <sup>49</sup>But anyone who listens and doesn't obey is like a person who builds a house without a foundation. When the floods sweep down against that house, it will crumble into a heap of ruins." Luke 6

<sup>10</sup>Because of God's special favor to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful. <sup>11</sup>For no one can lay any other foundation than the one we already have—Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup>Now anyone who builds on that foundation may use gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. <sup>13</sup>But there is going to come a time of testing at the judgment day to see what kind of work each builder has done. Everyone's work will be put through the fire to see whether or not it keeps its value. <sup>14</sup>If the work survives the fire, that builder will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup>But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builders themselves will be saved, but like someone escaping through a wall of flames.  
1 Corinthians 3

<sup>8</sup>It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>And even when he reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith—for he was like a foreigner, living in a tent. And so did Isaac and Jacob, to whom God gave the same promise. <sup>10</sup>Abraham did this because he was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God. Hebrews 11

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a beautiful bride prepared for her husband.

<sup>3</sup>I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, the home of God is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. <sup>4</sup>He will remove all of their sorrows, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. For the old world and its evils are gone forever."

<sup>5</sup>And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making all things new!" And then he said to me, "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>And he also said, "It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and

the End. To all who are thirsty I will give the springs of the water of life without charge! <sup>7</sup>All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children. <sup>8</sup>But cowards who turn away from me, and unbelievers, and the corrupt, and murderers, and the immoral, and those who practice witchcraft, and idol worshipers, and all liars—their doom is in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur. This is the second death."

<sup>9</sup>Then one of the seven angels who held the seven bowls containing the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come with me! I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."

<sup>10</sup>So he took me in spirit to a great, high mountain, and he showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God. <sup>11</sup>It was filled with the glory of God and sparkled like a precious gem, crystal clear like jasper. <sup>12</sup>Its walls were broad and high, with twelve gates guarded by twelve angels. And the names of the twelve tribes of Israel were written on the gates. <sup>13</sup>There were three gates on each side—east, north, south, and west. <sup>14</sup>The wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them were written the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>The angel who talked to me held in his hand a gold measuring stick to measure the city, its gates, and its wall. <sup>16</sup>When he measured it, he found it was a square, as wide as it was long. In fact, it was in the form of a cube, for its length and width and height were each 1,400 miles. <sup>17</sup>Then he measured the walls and found them to be 216 feet thick (the angel used a standard human measure).

<sup>18</sup>The wall was made of jasper, and the city was pure gold, as clear as glass. <sup>19</sup>The wall of the city was built on foundation stones inlaid with twelve gems: the first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, <sup>20</sup>the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst.

<sup>21</sup>The twelve gates were made of pearls—each gate from a single pearl! And the main street was pure gold, as clear as glass.

<sup>22</sup>No temple could be seen in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. <sup>23</sup>And the city has no need of sun or moon, for the glory of God illuminates the city,

and the Lamb is its light. <sup>24</sup>The nations of the earth will walk in its light, and the rulers of the world will come and bring their glory to it. <sup>25</sup>Its gates never close at the end of day because there is no night. <sup>26</sup>And all the nations will bring their glory and honor into the city. <sup>27</sup>Nothing evil will be allowed to enter—no one who practices shameful idolatry and dishonesty—but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

## The Protecting Friend AL-WALI

<sup>28</sup> He is the one that sends down rain after men have given up all hope, and scatters his mercy. And he is the protector, worthy of all praise. S42

<sup>17</sup>"Should I hide my plan from Abraham?" the LORD asked. <sup>18</sup>"For Abraham will become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth will be blessed through him. <sup>19</sup>I have singled him out so that he will direct his sons and their families to keep the way of the LORD and do what is right and just. Then I will do for him all that I have promised." Genesis 18

<sup>8</sup>Whenever Moses went out to the Tent of Meeting, all the people would get up and stand in their tent entrances. They would all watch Moses until he disappeared inside. <sup>9</sup>As he went into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and hover at the entrance while the LORD spoke with Moses. <sup>10</sup>Then all the people would stand and bow low at their tent entrances. <sup>11</sup>Inside the Tent of Meeting, the LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. Afterward Moses would return to the camp, but the young man who assisted him, Joshua son of Nun, stayed behind in the Tent of Meeting. Exodus 33

<sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you obey me. <sup>15</sup>I no longer call you servants, because a master doesn't confide in his servants. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me. <sup>16</sup>You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce fruit that will last, so that the

Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name. <sup>17</sup>I command you to love each other. John 15

"Write this letter to the angel of the church in Laodicea. This is the message from the one who is the Amen—the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation:

<sup>15</sup>"I know all the things you do, that you are neither hot nor cold. I wish you were one or the other! <sup>16</sup>But since you are like lukewarm water, I will spit you out of my mouth! <sup>17</sup>You say, 'I am rich. I have everything I want. I don't need a thing!' And you don't realize that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked. <sup>18</sup>I advise you to buy gold from me—gold that has been purified by fire. Then you will be rich. And also buy white garments so you will not be shamed by your nakedness. And buy ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see. <sup>19</sup>I am the one who corrects and disciplines everyone I love. Be diligent and turn from your indifference.

<sup>20</sup> "Look! Here I stand at the door and knock. If you hear me calling and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal as friends. <sup>21</sup>I will invite everyone who is victorious to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne.

<sup>22</sup>Anyone who is willing to hear should listen to the Spirit and understand what the Spirit is saying to the churches." Revelation 3

## The Praiseworthy AL-HAMID

<sup>26</sup> To Allah belong all things in heaven and earth: truly Allah is he that is free of all wants, worthy of all praise. S31

<sup>15</sup>Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices shouting in heaven: "The whole world has now become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever."

<sup>16</sup>And the twenty-four elders sitting on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped him. <sup>17</sup>And they said,

"We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,  
the one who is and who always was,  
for now you have assumed your great power  
and have begun to reign.

<sup>18</sup>The nations were angry with you,  
but now the time of your wrath has come.  
It is time to judge the dead and reward your servants.  
You will reward your prophets and your holy people,  
all who fear your name, from the least to the greatest.  
And you will destroy all who have caused destruction on the  
earth." Revelation 19

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!

How good it is to sing praises to our God!  
How delightful and how right! Psalm 147

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens!

Praise him from the skies!

<sup>2</sup>Praise him, all his angels!

Praise him, all the armies of heaven!

<sup>3</sup>Praise him, sun and moon!

Praise him, all you twinkling stars!

<sup>4</sup>Praise him, skies above!

Praise him, vapors high above the clouds!

<sup>5</sup>Let every created thing give praise to the LORD,  
for he issued his command, and they came into being.

Psalm 148

<sup>14</sup>The blind and the lame came to him, and he healed them there in the Temple. <sup>15</sup>The leading priests and the teachers of religious law saw these wonderful miracles and heard even the little children in the Temple shouting, "Praise God for the Son of David." But they were indignant <sup>16</sup>and asked Jesus, "Do you hear what these children are saying?"



"Yes," Jesus replied. "Haven't you ever read the Scriptures? For they say, 'You have taught children and infants to give you praise.'" Matthew 21

<sup>8</sup>Many in the crowd spread their coats on the road ahead of Jesus, and others cut leafy branches in the fields and spread them along the way. <sup>9</sup>He was in the center of the procession, and the crowds all around him were shouting,

"Praise God!

Bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

<sup>10</sup>Bless the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Praise God in highest heaven!"

<sup>11</sup>So Jesus came to Jerusalem and went into the Temple. He looked around carefully at everything, and then he left because it was late in the afternoon. Then he went out to Bethany with the twelve disciples. Mark 11

<sup>36</sup>Then the crowds spread out their coats on the road ahead of Jesus. <sup>37</sup>As they reached the place where the road started down from the Mount of Olives, all of his followers began to shout and sing as they walked along, praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen.

<sup>38</sup>"Bless the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven

and glory in highest heaven!"

<sup>39</sup>But some of the Pharisees among the crowd said, "Teacher, rebuke your followers for saying things like that!"

<sup>40</sup>He replied, "If they kept quiet, the stones along the road would burst into cheers!" Luke 19

<sup>12</sup>The next day, the news that Jesus was on the way to Jerusalem swept through the city. A huge crowd of Passover visitors <sup>13</sup>took palm branches and went down the road to meet him. They shouted,

"Praise God!

Bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hail to the King of Israel!"

<sup>14</sup>Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, fulfilling the prophecy that said:

<sup>15</sup>"Don't be afraid, people of Israel.  
Look, your King is coming,  
sitting on a donkey's colt."

<sup>16</sup>His disciples didn't realize at the time that this was a fulfillment of prophecy. But after Jesus entered into his glory, they remembered that these Scriptures had come true before their eyes. John 12

## The Reconciler AL-MUHSI

<sup>9</sup>Then Jesus told this story to some who had great self-confidence and scorned everyone else: <sup>10</sup>"Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a dishonest tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The proud Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: 'I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everyone else, especially like that tax collector over there! For I never cheat, I don't sin, I don't commit adultery, <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.'

<sup>13</sup>"But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.'<sup>14</sup>I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For the proud will be humbled, but the humble will be honored." Luke 18

<sup>1</sup>Afterward the LORD spoke to Abram in a vision and said to him, "Do not be afraid, Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward will be great."

<sup>2</sup>But Abram replied, "O Sovereign LORD, what good are all your blessings when I don't even have a son? Since I don't have a son, Eliezer of Damascus, a servant in my household, will inherit all my wealth. <sup>3</sup>You have given me no children, so one of my servants will have to be my heir."

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to him, "No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own to inherit everything I am giving you." <sup>5</sup>Then the LORD brought Abram outside beneath the night sky and told him, "Look up into the heavens and count the stars if you can. Your descendants will be like that—too many to count!" <sup>6</sup>And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD declared him righteous because of his faith. Genesis 15

<sup>18</sup>Christ is the head of the church, which is his body. He is the first of all who will rise from the dead, so he is first in everything. <sup>19</sup>For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, <sup>20</sup>and by him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of his blood on the cross. <sup>21</sup>This includes you who were once so far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions, <sup>22</sup>yet now he has brought you back as his friends. He has done this through his death on the cross in his own human body. As a result, he has brought you into the very presence of God, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault. <sup>23</sup>But you must continue to believe this truth and stand in it firmly. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. The Good News has been preached all over the world, and I, Paul, have been appointed by God to proclaim it. Colossians 1

<sup>18</sup>All this newness of life is from God, who brought us back to himself through what Christ did. And God has given us the task of reconciling people to him. <sup>19</sup>For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. This is the wonderful message he has given us to tell others. <sup>20</sup>We are Christ's ambassadors, and God is using us to speak to you. We urge you, as though Christ himself were here pleading with you, "Be reconciled to God!" <sup>21</sup>For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ. 2 Corinthians 5

The Originator or The Innovator AL-MUBDI

Or, who originates creation, then repeats it, and who gives you sustenance from heaven and earth? Can there be another god besides Allah? Say, Bring forth your argument, if you are telling the truth! S27

Do they not see how Allah originates creation, then repeats it: truly that is easy for Allah. S29

It is he who creates from the very beginning, and he can restore. S85

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.  
Genesis 1

<sup>1</sup>This is what the LORD says: "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Could you ever build me a temple as good as that? Could you build a dwelling place for me? <sup>2</sup>My hands have made both heaven and earth, and they are mine. I, the LORD, have spoken! Isaiah 66

<sup>35</sup>Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came over and spoke to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do us a favor."

<sup>36</sup>"What is it?" he asked.

<sup>37</sup>"In your glorious Kingdom, we want to sit in places of honor next to you," they said, "one at your right and the other at your left."

<sup>38</sup>But Jesus answered, "You don't know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the bitter cup of sorrow I am about to drink? Are you able to be baptized with the baptism of suffering I must be baptized with?"

<sup>39</sup>"Oh yes," they said, "we are able!"

And Jesus said, "You will indeed drink from my cup and be baptized with my baptism, <sup>40</sup>but I have no right to say who will sit on the thrones next to mine. God has prepared those places for the ones he has chosen."

<sup>41</sup>When the ten other disciples discovered what James and John had asked, they were indignant. <sup>42</sup>So Jesus called them together and said, "You know that in this world kings are tyrants, and officials lord it over the people beneath them.

<sup>43</sup>But among you it should be quite different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup>and whoever wants to be first must be the slave of all. <sup>45</sup>For even I, the Son of Man, came here not to be served but to serve others, and to give my life as a ransom for many." Mark 10

<sup>7</sup>Now the Festival of Unleavened Bread arrived, when the Passover lambs were sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>Jesus sent Peter and John ahead and said, "Go and prepare the Passover meal, so we can eat it together."

<sup>9</sup>"Where do you want us to go?" they asked him.

<sup>10</sup>He replied, "As soon as you enter Jerusalem, a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him. At the house he enters, <sup>11</sup>say to the owner, 'The Teacher asks, Where is the guest room where I can eat the Passover meal with my disciples?' <sup>12</sup>He will take you upstairs to a large room that is already set up. That is the place. Go ahead and prepare our supper there." <sup>13</sup>They went off to the city and found everything just as Jesus had said, and they prepared the Passover supper there.

<sup>14</sup>Then at the proper time Jesus and the twelve apostles sat down together at the table. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said, "I have looked forward to this hour with deep longing, anxious to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. <sup>16</sup>For I tell you now that I won't eat it again until it comes to fulfillment in the Kingdom of God."

<sup>17</sup>Then he took a cup of wine, and when he had given thanks for it, he said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. <sup>18</sup>For I will not drink wine again until the Kingdom of God has come."

<sup>19</sup>Then he took a loaf of bread; and when he had thanked God for it, he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, "This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>20</sup>After supper he took another cup of wine and said, "This wine is the token of God's new covenant to save you—an agreement sealed with the blood I will pour out for you.

<sup>21</sup>"But here at this table, sitting among us as a friend, is the man who will betray me. <sup>22</sup>For I, the Son of Man, must die since it is part of God's plan. But how terrible it will be for my betrayer!" Luke 22

<sup>23</sup>For this is what the Lord himself said, and I pass it on to you just as I received it. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took a loaf of bread, <sup>24</sup>and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup>In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and you, sealed by the shedding of my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it." <sup>26</sup>For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord's death until he comes again. 1  
Corinthians 11

<sup>1</sup>Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits at God's right hand in the place of honor and power. <sup>2</sup>Let heaven fill your thoughts. Do not think only about things down here on earth. <sup>3</sup>For you died when Christ died, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>And when Christ, who is your real life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.

<sup>5</sup>So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual sin, impurity, lust, and shameful desires. Don't be greedy for the good things of this life, for that is idolatry. <sup>6</sup>God's terrible anger will come upon those who do such things. <sup>7</sup>You used to do them when your life was still part of this world. <sup>8</sup>But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. <sup>9</sup>Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old evil nature and all its wicked deeds. <sup>10</sup>In its place you have clothed yourselves with a brand-new nature that is continually being renewed as you learn more and more about Christ, who created this new nature within you. <sup>11</sup>In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us.

<sup>12</sup>Since God chose you to be the holy people whom he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>You must make allowance for each other's faults and forgive the person who

offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. <sup>14</sup>And the most important piece of clothing you must wear is love. Love is what binds us all together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are all called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

<sup>16</sup>Let the words of Christ, in all their richness, live in your hearts and make you wise. Use his words to teach and counsel each other. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do or say, let it be as a representative of the Lord Jesus, all the while giving thanks through him to God the Father. Colossians 3

## The Restorer AL-MUID

<sup>13</sup> It is he who creates from the very beginning, and he can restore. S85

The LORD is my shepherd;  
I have everything I need.

<sup>2</sup>He lets me rest in green meadows;  
he leads me beside peaceful streams.

<sup>3</sup>He renews my strength.  
He guides me along right paths,  
bringing honor to his name. Psalm 23

<sup>5</sup>But happy are those who have the God of Israel as their  
helper,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God.

<sup>6</sup>He is the one who made heaven and earth,  
the sea, and everything in them.

He is the one who keeps every promise forever,

<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to the oppressed  
and food to the hungry.

The LORD frees the prisoners.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts the burdens of those bent beneath their loads.

The LORD loves the righteous.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD protects the foreigners among us.

He cares for the orphans and widows,  
but he frustrates the plans of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD will reign forever.

O Jerusalem, your God is King in every generation! Psalm  
146

<sup>14</sup>Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit's power. Soon he became well known throughout the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He taught in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup>When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures. <sup>17</sup>The scroll containing the messages of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him, and he unrolled the scroll to the place where it says:

<sup>18</sup>"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
for he has appointed me to preach Good News to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim  
that captives will be released,  
that the blind will see,  
that the downtrodden will be freed from their oppressors,  
<sup>19</sup>and that the time of the Lord's favor has come." Luke 4

<sup>6</sup>When the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, are you going to free Israel now and restore our kingdom?"

<sup>7</sup>"The Father sets those dates," he replied, "and they are not for you to know. <sup>8</sup>But when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1

The Giver of Life AL-MUHYI

It is Allah that gives life and death, and Allah sees well all that you do. S3



<sup>23</sup> And truly, it is we who give life, and who give death: it is we who remain inheritors. S15

Then contemplate the memorials of Allah's mercy! How he gives life to the earth after its death: truly the same will give life to the men who are dead: for he has power over all things. S30

<sup>1</sup> Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, let it declare the praises and glory of Allah: for he is the exalted in might, the wise.

<sup>2</sup> To him belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth: it is he who gives life and death; and he has power over all things.

<sup>3</sup> He is the first and the last, the evident and the immanent: and he has full knowledge of all things. S57

<sup>7</sup>And the LORD God formed a man's body from the dust of the ground and breathed into it the breath of life. And the man became a living person. Genesis 2

<sup>11</sup>You will show me the way of life,  
granting me the joy of your presence  
and the pleasures of living with you forever. Psalm 16

<sup>39</sup>Look now; I myself am he!  
There is no god other than me!  
I am the one who kills and gives life;  
I am the one who wounds and heals;  
no one delivers from my power! Deuteronomy 32

<sup>1</sup>Large crowds followed Jesus as he came down the mountainside. <sup>2</sup>Suddenly, a man with leprosy approached Jesus. He knelt before him, worshiping. "Lord," the man said, "if you want to, you can make me well again."

<sup>3</sup>Jesus touched him. "I want to," he said. "Be healed!" And instantly the leprosy disappeared. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to him, "Go right over to the priest and let him examine you. Don't talk to anyone along the way. Take along the offering required in

the law of Moses for those who have been healed of leprosy, so everyone will have proof of your healing." Matthew 8

<sup>27</sup>After Jesus left the girl's home, two blind men followed along behind him, shouting, "Son of David, have mercy on us!"

<sup>28</sup>They went right into the house where he was staying, and Jesus asked them, "Do you believe I can make you see?"

"Yes, Lord," they told him, "we do."

<sup>29</sup>Then he touched their eyes and said, "Because of your faith, it will happen." <sup>30</sup>And suddenly they could see! Jesus sternly warned them, "Don't tell anyone about this." <sup>31</sup>But instead, they spread his fame all over the region. Matthew 9

<sup>11</sup>Soon afterward Jesus went with his disciples to the village of Nain, with a great crowd following him. <sup>12</sup>A funeral procession was coming out as he approached the village gate. The boy who had died was the only son of a widow, and many mourners from the village were with her. <sup>13</sup>When the Lord saw her, his heart overflowed with compassion. "Don't cry!" he said. <sup>14</sup>Then he walked over to the coffin and touched it, and the bearers stopped. "Young man," he said, "get up." <sup>15</sup>Then the dead boy sat up and began to talk to those around him! And Jesus gave him back to his mother.

<sup>16</sup>Great fear swept the crowd, and they praised God, saying, "A mighty prophet has risen among us," and "We have seen the hand of God at work today." <sup>17</sup>The report of what Jesus had done that day spread all over Judea and even out across its borders. Luke 7

## Giver of Death AL-MUMIT

<sup>1</sup> Whatever is in the heavens and on earth, let it declare the praises and glory of Allah: for he is the exalted in might, the wise.

<sup>2</sup> To him belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth: it is he who gives life and death; and he has power over all things.

<sup>3</sup> He is the first and the last, the evident and the immanent: and he has full knowledge of all things. S57

<sup>24</sup>For Christ has entered into heaven itself to appear now before God as our Advocate. He did not go into the earthly place of worship, for that was merely a copy of the real Temple in heaven. <sup>25</sup>Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, like the earthly high priest who enters the Most Holy Place year after year to offer the blood of an animal. <sup>26</sup>If that had been necessary, he would have had to die again and again, ever since the world began. But no! He came once for all time, at the end of the age, to remove the power of sin forever by his sacrificial death for us.

<sup>27</sup>And just as it is destined that each person dies only once and after that comes judgment, <sup>28</sup>so also Christ died only once as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again but not to deal with our sins again. This time he will bring salvation to all those who are eagerly waiting for him. Hebrews 9

<sup>3</sup>First, I want to remind you that in the last days there will be scoffers who will laugh at the truth and do every evil thing they desire. <sup>4</sup>This will be their argument: "Jesus promised to come back, did he? Then where is he? Why, as far back as anyone can remember, everything has remained exactly the same since the world was first created."

<sup>5</sup>They deliberately forget that God made the heavens by the word of his command, and he brought the earth up from the water and surrounded it with water. <sup>6</sup>Then he used the water to destroy the world with a mighty flood. <sup>7</sup>And God has also commanded that the heavens and the earth will be consumed by fire on the day of judgment, when ungodly people will perish.

<sup>8</sup>But you must not forget, dear friends, that a day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise to return, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to perish, so he is giving more time for everyone to repent. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief. Then the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise, and everything in them will disappear in fire,

and the earth and everything on it will be exposed to judgment. 2 Peter 3

<sup>11</sup>Come, my children, and listen to me,  
and I will teach you to fear the LORD.

<sup>12</sup>Do any of you want to live  
a life that is long and good?

<sup>13</sup>Then watch your tongue!  
Keep your lips from telling lies!

<sup>14</sup>Turn away from evil and do good.  
Work hard at living in peace with others.

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the LORD watch over those who do right;  
his ears are open to their cries for help.

<sup>16</sup>But the LORD turns his face against those who do evil;  
he will erase their memory from the earth. Psalm 34

## The Ever Living AL-HAYY

<sup>255</sup> There is no god but Allah, the living, the self-subsisting, eternal. No slumber can seize him nor heavens and on earth. Who is there who can intercede in his presence except as he permits? He knows what is before or after or behind them. Nor shall they compass any of his knowledge except as he wills. His throne extends over the heavens and the earth, and he feels no fatigue in guarding and preserving them for he is the most high, the supreme. S2

<sup>2</sup> Allah! There is no God but he, the living, the self-subsisting, eternal S3

<sup>58</sup> And put your trust in him who lives and dies not; and celebrate his praise; S25

<sup>65</sup> He is the living one: there is no god but he: call upon him, giving him sincere devotion. Praise be to Allah, Lord of the universe! S40

The one who existed from the beginning is the one we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched

him with our own hands. He is Jesus Christ, the Word of life.  
<sup>2</sup>This one who is life from God was shown to us, and we have seen him. And now we testify and announce to you that he is the one who is eternal life. 1 John 1

<sup>23</sup>That same day some Sadducees stepped forward—a group of Jews who say there is no resurrection after death. They posed this question: <sup>24</sup>"Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies without children, his brother should marry the widow and have a child who will be the brother's heir.'  
<sup>25</sup>Well, there were seven brothers. The oldest married and then died without children, so the second brother married the widow. <sup>26</sup>This brother also died without children, and the wife was married to the next brother, and so on until she had been the wife of each of them. <sup>27</sup>And then she also died. <sup>28</sup>So tell us, whose wife will she be in the resurrection? For she was the wife of all seven of them!"

<sup>29</sup>Jesus replied, "Your problem is that you don't know the Scriptures, and you don't know the power of God. <sup>30</sup>For when the dead rise, they won't be married. They will be like the angels in heaven. <sup>31</sup>But now, as to whether there will be a resurrection of the dead—haven't you ever read about this in the Scriptures? Long after Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had died, God said, <sup>32</sup>'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' So he is the God of the living, not the dead."

<sup>33</sup>When the crowds heard him, they were impressed with his teaching. Matthew 22

<sup>13</sup>But Moses protested, "If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they won't believe me. They will ask, 'Which god are you talking about? What is his name?' Then what should I tell them?"

<sup>14</sup>God replied, "I AM THE ONE WHO ALWAYS IS. Just tell them, 'I AM has sent me to you.' " <sup>15</sup>God also said, "Tell them, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.' This will be my name forever; it has always been my name, and it will be used throughout all generations. Exodus 3

<sup>10</sup>But the LORD is the only true God, the living God. He is the everlasting King! The whole earth trembles at his anger. The nations hide before his wrath.

<sup>11</sup>Say this to those who worship other gods: "Your so-called gods, who did not make the heavens and earth, will vanish from the earth." Jeremiah 10

<sup>3</sup>I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me—that Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. <sup>4</sup>He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, as the Scriptures said. <sup>5</sup>He was seen by Peter and then by the twelve apostles. <sup>6</sup>After that, he was seen by more than five hundred of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died by now. <sup>7</sup>Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, I saw him, too, long after the others, as though I had been born at the wrong time. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of all the apostles, and I am not worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted the church of God. 1 Corinthians 15

<sup>50</sup>What I am saying, dear brothers and sisters, is that flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. These perishable bodies of ours are not able to live forever.

<sup>51</sup>But let me tell you a wonderful secret God has revealed to us. Not all of us will die, but we will all be transformed. <sup>52</sup>It will happen in a moment, in the blinking of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, the Christians who have died will be raised with transformed bodies. And then we who are living will be transformed so that we will never die. <sup>53</sup>For our perishable earthly bodies must be transformed into heavenly bodies that will never die.

<sup>54</sup>When this happens—when our perishable earthly bodies have been transformed into heavenly bodies that will never die—then at last the Scriptures will come true:

"Death is swallowed up in victory.

<sup>55</sup>O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?"

<sup>56</sup>For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. <sup>57</sup>How we thank God, who gives us victory over sin and death through Jesus Christ our Lord!

<sup>58</sup>So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and steady, always enthusiastic about the Lord's work, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless. 1 Corinthians 15

<sup>19</sup>Jesus replied, "I assure you, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does. <sup>20</sup>For the Father loves the Son and tells him everything he is doing, and the Son will do far greater things than healing this man. You will be astonished at what he does. <sup>21</sup>He will even raise from the dead anyone he wants to, just as the Father does. <sup>22</sup>And the Father leaves all judgment to his Son, <sup>23</sup>so that everyone will honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. But if you refuse to honor the Son, then you are certainly not honoring the Father who sent him.

<sup>24</sup>"I assure you, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.

<sup>25</sup>"And I assure you that the time is coming, in fact it is here, when the dead will hear my voice—the voice of the Son of God. And those who listen will live. <sup>26</sup>The Father has life in himself, and he has granted his Son to have life in himself. <sup>27</sup>And he has given him authority to judge all mankind because he is the Son of Man. <sup>28</sup>Don't be so surprised! Indeed, the time is coming when all the dead in their graves will hear the voice of God's Son, <sup>29</sup>and they will rise again. Those who have done good will rise to eternal life, and those who have continued in evil will rise to judgment. <sup>30</sup>But I do nothing without consulting the Father. I judge as I am told. And my judgment is absolutely just, because it is according to the will of God who sent me; it is not merely my own. John 5

<sup>24</sup>One of the disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>They told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side."

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. He said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!"

<sup>28</sup>"My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaimed.

<sup>29</sup>Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who haven't seen me and believe anyway."

<sup>30</sup>Jesus' disciples saw him do many other miraculous signs besides the ones recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life. John 20

## The Self Subsisting, Resurrected One AL-QAYYUM

<sup>65</sup> He is the living one: there is no god but he: call upon him, giving him sincere devotion. Praise be to Allah, Lord of the universe! S40

<sup>10</sup>"But you are my witnesses, O Israel!" says the LORD. "And you are my servant. You have been chosen to know me, believe in me, and understand that I alone am God. There is no other God; there never has been and never will be. <sup>11</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other Savior. <sup>12</sup>First I predicted your deliverance; I declared what I would do, and then I did it—I saved you. No foreign god has ever done this before. You are witnesses that I am the only God," says the LORD. <sup>13</sup>"From eternity to eternity I am God. No one can oppose what I do. No one can reverse my actions." Isaiah 43

<sup>6</sup>"This is what the LORD, Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty, says: I am the First and the Last; there is no other God. <sup>7</sup>Who else can tell you what is going to happen in the days ahead? Let them tell you if they can and thus prove their power. Let them do as I have done since ancient times. <sup>8</sup>Do not tremble; do not be afraid. Have I not proclaimed from ages past what my purposes are for you? You are my witnesses—is



there any other God? No! There is no other Rock—not one!"  
Isaiah 44

<sup>20</sup>But the fact is that Christ has been raised from the dead. He has become the first of a great harvest of those who will be raised to life again.

<sup>21</sup>So you see, just as death came into the world through a man, Adam, now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man, Christ. <sup>22</sup>Everyone dies because all of us are related to Adam, the first man. But all who are related to Christ, the other man, will be given new life. <sup>23</sup>But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised first; then when Christ comes back, all his people will be raised.

<sup>24</sup>After that the end will come, when he will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father, having put down all enemies of every kind. 1 Corinthians 15

<sup>25</sup>Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die like everyone else, will live again. <sup>26</sup>They are given eternal life for believing in me and will never perish. John 11

## The Finder AL-WAJID

<sup>19</sup>You once spoke in a vision to your prophet and said,  
"I have given help to a warrior.

I have selected him from the common people to be king.

<sup>20</sup>I have found my servant David.

I have anointed him with my holy oil.

<sup>21</sup>I will steady him,

and I will make him strong.

<sup>22</sup>His enemies will not get the best of him,  
nor will the wicked overpower him.

<sup>23</sup>I will beat down his adversaries before him  
and destroy those who hate him.

<sup>24</sup>My faithfulness and unfailing love will be with him,  
and he will rise to power because of me.

<sup>25</sup>I will extend his rule from the Mediterranean Sea in the  
west

to the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in the east.

<sup>26</sup>And he will say to me, 'You are my Father,  
my God, and the Rock of my salvation.'  
<sup>27</sup>I will make him my firstborn son,  
the mightiest king on earth.  
<sup>28</sup>I will love him and be kind to him forever;  
my covenant with him will never end.  
<sup>29</sup>I will preserve an heir for him;  
his throne will be as endless as the days of heaven. Psalm  
89

<sup>7</sup>I can never escape from your spirit!  
I can never get away from your presence!  
<sup>8</sup>If I go up to heaven, you are there;  
if I go down to the place of the dead, you are there.  
<sup>9</sup>If I ride the wings of the morning,  
if I dwell by the farthest oceans,  
<sup>10</sup>even there your hand will guide me,  
and your strength will support me.  
<sup>11</sup>I could ask the darkness to hide me  
and the light around me to become night—  
<sup>12</sup>but even in darkness I cannot hide from you.  
To you the night shines as bright as day.  
Darkness and light are both alike to you. Psalm 139

<sup>1</sup>Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. <sup>2</sup>This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such despicable people—even eating with them!

<sup>3</sup>So Jesus used this illustration: <sup>4</sup>"If you had one hundred sheep, and one of them strayed away and was lost in the wilderness, wouldn't you leave the ninety-nine others to go and search for the lost one until you found it? <sup>5</sup>And then you would joyfully carry it home on your shoulders. <sup>6</sup>When you arrived, you would call together your friends and neighbors to rejoice with you because your lost sheep was found. <sup>7</sup>In the same way, heaven will be happier over one lost sinner who returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!

<sup>8</sup>"Or suppose a woman has ten valuable silver coins and loses one. Won't she light a lamp and look in every corner of

the house and sweep every nook and cranny until she finds it?  
9And when she finds it, she will call in her friends and  
neighbors to rejoice with her because she has found her lost  
coin. 10In the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's  
angels when even one sinner repents." Luke 15

## The Magnificent One AL-MAJID

41At the sound of Mary's greeting, Elizabeth's child leaped  
within her, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

42Elizabeth gave a glad cry and exclaimed to Mary, "You are  
blessed by God above all other women, and your child is  
blessed. 43What an honor this is, that the mother of my Lord  
should visit me! 44When you came in and greeted me, my baby  
jumped for joy the instant I heard your voice! 45You are  
blessed, because you believed that the Lord would do what he  
said."

46Mary responded,

"Oh, how I praise the Lord.

47How I rejoice in God my Savior!

48For he took notice of his lowly servant girl,  
and now generation after generation  
will call me blessed.

49For he, the Mighty One, is holy,  
and he has done great things for me.

50His mercy goes on from generation to generation,  
to all who fear him.

51His mighty arm does tremendous things!  
How he scatters the proud and haughty ones!

52He has taken princes from their thrones  
and exalted the lowly.

53He has satisfied the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away with empty hands.

54And how he has helped his servant Israel!  
He has not forgotten his promise to be merciful.

55For he promised our ancestors—Abraham and his children—  
to be merciful to them forever." Luke 1

<sup>8</sup>That night some shepherds were in the fields outside the village, guarding their flocks of sheep. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terribly frightened, <sup>10</sup>but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news of great joy for everyone! <sup>11</sup>The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born tonight in Bethlehem, the city of David! <sup>12</sup>And this is how you will recognize him: You will find a baby lying in a manger, wrapped snugly in strips of cloth!"

<sup>13</sup>Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God:

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and peace on earth to all whom God favors." Luke 2

<sup>4</sup>But may all who search for you  
be filled with joy and gladness.  
May those who love your salvation  
repeatedly shout, "God is great!" Psalm 70

I give you thanks, O LORD, with all my heart;  
I will sing your praises before the gods.  
<sup>2</sup>I bow before your holy Temple as I worship.  
I will give thanks to your name  
for your unfailing love and faithfulness,  
because your promises are backed  
by all the honor of your name.

<sup>3</sup>When I pray, you answer me;  
you encourage me by giving me the strength I need.

<sup>4</sup>Every king in all the earth will give you thanks, O LORD,  
for all of them will hear your words.

<sup>5</sup>Yes, they will sing about the LORD's ways,  
for the glory of the LORD is very great.

<sup>6</sup>Though the LORD is great, he cares for the humble,  
but he keeps his distance from the proud. Psalm 138

<sup>18</sup>One day as Jesus was alone, praying, he came over to his disciples and asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

<sup>19</sup>"Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say you are one of the other ancient prophets risen from the dead."

<sup>20</sup>Then he asked them, "Who do you say I am?"

Peter replied, "You are the Messiah sent from God!"

<sup>21</sup>Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about this. <sup>22</sup>"For I, the Son of Man, must suffer many terrible things," he said. "I will be rejected by the leaders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. I will be killed, but three days later I will be raised from the dead."

<sup>23</sup>Then he said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must put aside your selfish ambition, shoulder your cross daily, and follow me. <sup>24</sup>If you try to keep your life for yourself, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for me, you will find true life. <sup>25</sup>And how do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose or forfeit your own soul in the process? <sup>26</sup>If a person is ashamed of me and my message, I, the Son of Man, will be ashamed of that person when I return in my glory and in the glory of the Father and the holy angels. <sup>27</sup>And I assure you that some of you standing here right now will not die before you see the Kingdom of God."

<sup>28</sup>About eight days later Jesus took Peter, James, and John to a mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup>And as he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothing became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup>Then two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared and began talking with Jesus. <sup>31</sup>They were glorious to see. And they were speaking of how he was about to fulfill God's plan by dying in Jerusalem.

<sup>32</sup>Peter and the others were very drowsy and had fallen asleep. Now they woke up and saw Jesus' glory and the two men standing with him. <sup>33</sup>As Moses and Elijah were starting to leave, Peter, not even knowing what he was saying, blurted out, "Master, this is wonderful! We will make three shrines—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>34</sup>But even as he was saying this, a cloud came over them; and terror gripped them as it covered them.

<sup>35</sup>Then a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him." <sup>36</sup>When the voice died away,

Jesus was there alone. They didn't tell anyone what they had seen until long after this happened. Luke 9

## The Unique One AL-WAHID

<sup>163</sup> And your God is one God: there is no god but he, most gracious, most merciful. S2

<sup>4</sup> Truly, truly, your God is one. S37

<sup>14</sup>All right then, the Lord himself will choose the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel—'God is with us.' Isaiah 7

<sup>20</sup>As he considered this, he fell asleep, and an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to go ahead with your marriage to Mary. For the child within her has been conceived by the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All of this happened to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet:

<sup>23</sup>"Look! The virgin will conceive a child!  
She will give birth to a son,  
and he will be called Immanuel  
(meaning, God is with us)." Matthew 1

In the beginning the Word already existed. He was with God, and he was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>He created everything there is. Nothing exists that he didn't make. <sup>4</sup>Life itself was in him, and this life gives light to everyone. <sup>5</sup>The light shines through the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.

<sup>6</sup>God sent John the Baptist <sup>7</sup>to tell everyone about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. <sup>8</sup>John himself was not the light; he was only a witness to the light. <sup>9</sup>The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was going to come into the world.

<sup>10</sup>But although the world was made through him, the world didn't recognize him when he came. <sup>11</sup>Even in his own land and among his own people, he was not accepted. <sup>12</sup>But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. <sup>13</sup>They are reborn! This is not a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan—this rebirth comes from God.

<sup>14</sup>So the Word became human and lived here on earth among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father. John 1

<sup>3</sup>And they were singing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb:

"Great and marvelous are your actions,  
Lord God Almighty.

Just and true are your ways,  
O King of the nations.

<sup>4</sup>Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name?  
For you alone are holy.

All nations will come and worship before you,  
for your righteous deeds have been revealed." Revelation 15

## The One AL-AHAD

<sup>4</sup>"Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. <sup>5</sup>And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. Deuteronomy 6.4

<sup>29</sup>Jesus replied, "The most important commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is the one and only Lord. <sup>30</sup>And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' <sup>31</sup>The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these." Mark 12

<sup>14</sup>Despised though you are, O Israel, don't be afraid, for I will help you. I am the LORD, your Redeemer. I am the Holy One of Israel.' Isaiah 41

<sup>4</sup>Our Redeemer, whose name is the LORD Almighty, is the Holy One of Israel. Isaiah 47

<sup>9</sup>And the LORD will be king over all the earth. On that day there will be one LORD—his name alone will be worshiped. Zechariah 14

<sup>25</sup>Jesus replied, "I have already told you, and you don't believe me. The proof is what I do in the name of my Father. <sup>26</sup>But you don't believe me because you are not part of my flock. <sup>27</sup>My sheep recognize my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them away from me, <sup>29</sup>for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. So no one can take them from me. <sup>30</sup>The Father and I are one."

<sup>31</sup>Once again the Jewish leaders picked up stones to kill him. <sup>32</sup>Jesus said, "At my Father's direction I have done many things to help the people. For which one of these good deeds are you killing me?"

<sup>33</sup>They replied, "Not for any good work, but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, have made yourself God."

<sup>34</sup>Jesus replied, "It is written in your own law that God said to certain leaders of the people, 'I say, you are gods!' <sup>35</sup>And you know that the Scriptures cannot be altered. So if those people, who received God's message, were called 'gods,' <sup>36</sup>why do you call it blasphemy when the Holy One who was sent into the world by the Father says, 'I am the Son of God'? <sup>37</sup>Don't believe me unless I carry out my Father's work. <sup>38</sup>But if I do his work, believe in what I have done, even if you don't believe me. Then you will realize that the Father is in me, and I am in the Father." John 10

<sup>20</sup>"I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me because of their testimony. <sup>21</sup>My prayer for all of them is that they will be one, just as you and I are one, Father—that just as you are in me and I am in you, so they will be in us, and the world will believe you sent me.

<sup>22</sup>"I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are— <sup>23</sup>I in them and you in me, all being perfected into one. Then the world will know that you sent me and will understand that you love them as much as you love



me. <sup>24</sup>Father, I want these whom you've given me to be with me, so they can see my glory. You gave me the glory because you loved me even before the world began! John 17

<sup>1</sup>Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.

<sup>2</sup>Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.

<sup>3</sup>Always keep yourselves united in the Holy Spirit, and bind yourselves together with peace.

<sup>4</sup>We are all one body, we have the same Spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future. <sup>5</sup>There is only one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>and there is only one God and Father, who is over us all and in us all and living through us all. <sup>7</sup>However, he has given each one of us a special gift according to the generosity of Christ. <sup>8</sup>That is why the Scriptures say,

"When he ascended to the heights,  
he led a crowd of captives  
and gave gifts to his people."

<sup>9</sup>Notice that it says "he ascended." This means that Christ first came down to the lowly world in which we live. <sup>10</sup>The same one who came down is the one who ascended higher than all the heavens, so that his rule might fill the entire universe.

Ephesians 4

## The Eternal AS-SAMAD

<sup>2</sup> Allah, the eternal, absolute; S112

<sup>33</sup>Then Abraham planted a tamarisk tree at Beersheba, and he worshiped the LORD, the Eternal God, at that place. Genesis 21

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD, I tell myself;

O LORD my God, how great you are!

You are robed with honor and with majesty;

<sup>2</sup>you are dressed in a robe of light.

You stretch out the starry curtain of the heavens;

<sup>3</sup>you lay out the rafters of your home in the rain clouds.

You make the clouds your chariots;  
you ride upon the wings of the wind.

<sup>4</sup>The winds are your messengers;  
flames of fire are your servants.

<sup>5</sup>You placed the world on its foundation  
so it would never be moved.

<sup>6</sup>You clothed the earth with floods of water,  
water that covered even the mountains.

<sup>7</sup>At the sound of your rebuke, the water fled;  
at the sound of your thunder, it fled away.

<sup>8</sup>Mountains rose and valleys sank  
to the levels you decreed.

<sup>9</sup>Then you set a firm boundary for the seas,  
so they would never again cover the earth.

<sup>10</sup>You make the springs pour water into ravines,  
so streams gush down from the mountains.

<sup>11</sup>They provide water for all the animals,  
and the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

<sup>12</sup>The birds nest beside the streams  
and sing among the branches of the trees.

<sup>13</sup>You send rain on the mountains from your heavenly home,  
and you fill the earth with the fruit of your labor.

<sup>14</sup>You cause grass to grow for the cattle.  
You cause plants to grow for people to use.

You allow them to produce food from the earth—

<sup>15</sup>wine to make them glad,  
olive oil as lotion for their skin,  
and bread to give them strength.

<sup>16</sup>The trees of the LORD are well cared for—  
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.

<sup>17</sup>There the birds make their nests,  
and the storks make their homes in the firs.

<sup>18</sup>High in the mountains are pastures for the wild goats,  
and the rocks form a refuge for rock badgers.

<sup>19</sup>You made the moon to mark the seasons  
and the sun that knows when to set.

<sup>20</sup>You send the darkness, and it becomes night,  
when all the forest animals prowl about.

<sup>21</sup>Then the young lions roar for their food,

but they are dependent on God.  
22At dawn they slink back  
into their dens to rest.  
23Then people go off to their work;  
they labor until the evening shadows fall again.  
  
24O LORD, what a variety of things you have made!  
In wisdom you have made them all.  
The earth is full of your creatures.  
25Here is the ocean, vast and wide,  
teeming with life of every kind,  
both great and small.  
26See the ships sailing along,  
and Leviathan, which you made to play in the sea.  
27Every one of these depends on you  
to give them their food as they need it.  
28When you supply it, they gather it.  
You open your hand to feed them, and they are satisfied.  
29But if you turn away from them, they panic.  
When you take away their breath, they die  
and turn again to dust.  
30When you send your Spirit, new life is born  
to replenish all the living of the earth.  
  
31May the glory of the LORD last forever!  
The LORD rejoices in all he has made!  
32The earth trembles at his glance;  
the mountains burst into flame at his touch.  
33I will sing to the LORD as long as I live.  
I will praise my God to my last breath!  
34May he be pleased by all these thoughts about him,  
for I rejoice in the LORD.  
35Let all sinners vanish from the face of the earth;  
let the wicked disappear forever.  
As for me—I will praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD! Psalm 104

31"But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. 32All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will

separate them as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup>He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left. <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to those on the right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. <sup>35</sup>For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. <sup>36</sup>I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.' Matthew 25

<sup>4</sup>Long ago, even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. <sup>5</sup>His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave him great pleasure.

<sup>6</sup>So we praise God for the wonderful kindness he has poured out on us because we belong to his dearly loved Son. <sup>7</sup>He is so rich in kindness that he purchased our freedom through the blood of his Son, and our sins are forgiven. <sup>8</sup>He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding. Ephesians 1

<sup>17</sup>And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites when he judges. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time as foreigners here on earth. <sup>18</sup>For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver. <sup>19</sup>He paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. <sup>20</sup>God chose him for this purpose long before the world began, but now in these final days, he was sent to the earth for all to see. And he did this for you.

<sup>21</sup>Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And because God raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory, your faith and hope can be placed confidently in God. <sup>22</sup>Now you can have sincere love for each other as brothers and sisters because you were cleansed from your sins when you accepted the truth of the Good News. So see to it that you really do love each other intensely with all your hearts.

<sup>23</sup>For you have been born again. Your new life did not come from your earthly parents because the life they gave you will end in death. But this new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living word of God. <sup>24</sup>As the prophet says,

"People are like grass that dies away;  
their beauty fades as quickly as the beauty of wildflowers.  
The grass withers,  
and the flowers fall away.

<sup>25</sup>But the word of the Lord will last forever."

And that word is the Good News that was preached to you. 1  
Peter 1

For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. <sup>15</sup>That is why he is the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, so that all who are invited can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised them. For Christ died to set them free from the penalty of the sins they had committed under that first covenant. Hebrews 9

<sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6.23

## The Decreeer AL-QADIR

<sup>81</sup> Is not he who created the heavens and the earth able to create the like of it? Yes, indeed for he is the creator supreme, of skill and knowledge infinite.

<sup>82</sup> Truly, when he intends a thing, his command is, Be, and it is. S36

<sup>33</sup> Do they not see that Allah, who created the heavens and the earth, and never wearied with their creation, is able to give life to the dead? Yes, truly he has power over all things. S46

<sup>40</sup> Has not he the power to give life to the dead? S75

<sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, "This is what the LORD says to Zerubbabel: It is not by force nor by strength, but by my Spirit, says the LORD Almighty. Zechariah 4

<sup>1</sup>This is what the LORD says to Cyrus, his anointed one, whose right hand he will empower. Before him, mighty kings will be paralyzed with fear. Their fortress gates will be opened, never again to shut against him. <sup>2</sup>This is what the LORD says: "I will go before you, Cyrus, and level the mountains. I will smash down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron. <sup>3</sup>And I will give you treasures hidden in the darkness—secret riches. I will do this so you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, the one who calls you by name.

<sup>4</sup>"And why have I called you for this work? It is for the sake of Jacob my servant, Israel my chosen one. I called you by name when you did not know me. <sup>5</sup>I am the LORD; there is no other God. I have prepared you, even though you do not know me, <sup>6</sup>so all the world from east to west will know there is no other God. I am the LORD, and there is no other. <sup>7</sup>I am the one who creates the light and makes the darkness. I am the one who sends good times and bad times. I, the LORD, am the one who does these things. <sup>8</sup>Open up, O heavens, and pour out your righteousness. Let the earth open wide so salvation and righteousness can sprout up together. I, the LORD, created them.

<sup>9</sup>"Destruction is certain for those who argue with their Creator. Does a clay pot ever argue with its maker? Does the clay dispute with the one who shapes it, saying, 'Stop, you are doing it wrong!' Does the pot exclaim, 'How clumsy can you be!' <sup>10</sup>How terrible it would be if a newborn baby said to its father and mother, 'Why was I born? Why did you make me this way?' "

<sup>11</sup>This is what the LORD, the Creator and Holy One of Israel, says: "Do you question what I do? Do you give me orders about the work of my hands? <sup>12</sup>I am the one who made the earth and created people to live on it. With my hands I stretched out the heavens. All the millions of stars are at my command. <sup>13</sup>I will raise up Cyrus to fulfill my righteous purpose, and I will guide

all his actions. He will restore my city and free my captive people—and not for a reward! I, the LORD Almighty, have spoken!" Isaiah 45

## The Determiner AL-MUQTADIR

<sup>44</sup> Protection comes from Allah, the true one. He is the best to reward, and the best to give success.

<sup>45</sup> Set forth to them the comparison of the life of this world: it is like the rain which we send down from the skies: the earth's vegetation absorbs it, but soon it becomes dry stubble, which the winds do scatter: it is Allah who prevails over all things.

S18

<sup>1</sup>"Look at my servant, whom I strengthen. He is my chosen one, and I am pleased with him. I have put my Spirit upon him. He will reveal justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will be gentle—he will not shout or raise his voice in public. <sup>3</sup>He will not crush those who are weak or quench the smallest hope. He will bring full justice to all who have been wronged. <sup>4</sup>He will not stop until truth and righteousness prevail throughout the earth. Even distant lands beyond the sea will wait for his instruction."  
Isaiah 42

<sup>14</sup>Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, "Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. <sup>15</sup>Some of you are saying these people are drunk. It isn't true! It's much too early for that. People don't get drunk by nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, what you see this morning was predicted centuries ago by the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>In the last days, God said,  
I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your young men will see visions,  
and your old men will dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup>In those days I will pour out my Spirit

upon all my servants, men and women alike,  
and they will prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will cause wonders in the heavens above  
and signs on the earth below—  
blood and fire and clouds of smoke.

<sup>20</sup>The sun will be turned into darkness,  
and the moon will turn bloodred,  
before that great and glorious day of the Lord arrives.

<sup>21</sup>And anyone who calls on the name of the Lord  
will be saved.'

<sup>22</sup>"People of Israel, listen! God publicly endorsed Jesus of Nazareth by doing wonderful miracles, wonders, and signs through him, as you well know. <sup>23</sup>But you followed God's prearranged plan. With the help of lawless Gentiles, you nailed him to the cross and murdered him. <sup>24</sup>However, God released him from the horrors of death and raised him back to life again, for death could not keep him in its grip. <sup>25</sup>King David said this about him:

'I know the Lord is always with me.  
I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me.

<sup>26</sup>No wonder my heart is filled with joy,  
and my mouth shouts his praises!  
My body rests in hope.

<sup>27</sup>For you will not leave my soul among the dead  
or allow your Holy One to rot in the grave.

<sup>28</sup>You have shown me the way of life,  
and you will give me wonderful joy in your presence.'

<sup>29</sup>"Dear brothers, think about this! David wasn't referring to himself when he spoke these words I have quoted, for he died and was buried, and his tomb is still here among us. <sup>30</sup>But he was a prophet, and he knew God had promised with an oath that one of David's own descendants would sit on David's throne as the Messiah. <sup>31</sup>David was looking into the future and predicting the Messiah's resurrection. He was saying that the Messiah would not be left among the dead and that his body would not rot in the grave.

<sup>32</sup>"This prophecy was speaking of Jesus, whom God raised from the dead, and we all are witnesses of this. <sup>33</sup>Now he sits



on the throne of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today. <sup>34</sup>For David himself never ascended into heaven, yet he said,

'The LORD said to my Lord,  
Sit in honor at my right hand  
<sup>35</sup>until I humble your enemies,  
making them a footstool under your feet.'

<sup>36</sup>So let it be clearly known by everyone in Israel that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified to be both Lord and Messiah!"

<sup>37</sup>Peter's words convicted them deeply, and they said to him and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"

<sup>38</sup>Peter replied, "Each of you must turn from your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>This promise is to you and to your children, and even to the Gentiles—all who have been called by the Lord our God." Acts 2

<sup>22</sup>So Paul, standing before the Council, addressed them as follows: "Men of Athens, I notice that you are very religious, <sup>23</sup>for as I was walking along I saw your many altars. And one of them had this inscription on it—'To an Unknown God.' You have been worshiping him without knowing who he is, and now I wish to tell you about him.

<sup>24</sup>"He is the God who made the world and everything in it. Since he is Lord of heaven and earth, he doesn't live in man-made temples, <sup>25</sup>and human hands can't serve his needs—for he has no needs. He himself gives life and breath to everything, and he satisfies every need there is. <sup>26</sup>From one man he created all the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand which should rise and fall, and he determined their boundaries.

<sup>27</sup>"His purpose in all of this was that the nations should seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us. <sup>28</sup>For in him we live and move and exist. As one of your own poets says, 'We are his offspring.' <sup>29</sup>And since this is true, we shouldn't think of

God as an idol designed by craftsmen from gold or silver or stone. <sup>30</sup>God overlooked people's former ignorance about these things, but now he commands everyone everywhere to turn away from idols and turn to him. <sup>31</sup>For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead."

<sup>32</sup>When they heard Paul speak of the resurrection of a person who had been dead, some laughed, but others said, "We want to hear more about this later." <sup>33</sup>That ended Paul's discussion with them, <sup>34</sup>but some joined him and became believers. Among them were Dionysius, a member of the Council, a woman named Damaris, and others. Acts 17

<sup>4</sup>Come to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by the people, but he is precious to God who chose him.

<sup>5</sup>And now God is building you, as living stones, into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are God's holy priests, who offer the spiritual sacrifices that please him because of Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>As the Scriptures express it,

"I am placing a stone in Jerusalem,  
a chosen cornerstone,  
and anyone who believes in him  
will never be disappointed."

<sup>7</sup>Yes, he is very precious to you who believe. But for those who reject him,

"The stone that was rejected by the builders  
has now become the cornerstone."

<sup>8</sup>And the Scriptures also say,

"He is the stone that makes people stumble,  
the rock that will make them fall."

They stumble because they do not listen to God's word or obey it, and so they meet the fate that has been planned for them.

<sup>9</sup>But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are a kingdom of priests, God's holy nation, his very own possession. This is so you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

<sup>10</sup>"Once you were not a people;  
now you are the people of God.  
Once you received none of God's mercy;  
now you have received his mercy." 1 Peter 2

### The Expediter AL-MUQADDIM

<sup>13</sup>As my vision continued that night, I saw someone who looked like a man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence.  
<sup>14</sup>He was given authority, honor, and royal power over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. His rule is eternal—it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed. Daniel 7

<sup>26</sup>"So if someone tells you, 'Look, the Messiah is out in the desert,' don't bother to go and look. Or, 'Look, he is hiding here,' don't believe it! <sup>27</sup>For as the lightning lights up the entire sky, so it will be when the Son of Man comes. <sup>28</sup>Just as the gathering of vultures shows there is a carcass nearby, so these signs indicate that the end is near.

<sup>29</sup>"Immediately after those horrible days end,

the sun will be darkened,  
the moon will not give light,  
the stars will fall from the sky,  
and the powers of heaven will be shaken.

<sup>30</sup>And then at last, the sign of the coming of the Son of Man will appear in the heavens, and there will be deep mourning among all the nations of the earth. And they will see the Son of Man arrive on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.  
<sup>31</sup>And he will send forth his angels with the sound of a mighty

trumpet blast, and they will gather together his chosen ones from the farthest ends of the earth and heaven. Matthew 24

<sup>28</sup>And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. <sup>29</sup>For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn, with many brothers and sisters. <sup>30</sup>And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And he gave them right standing with himself, and he promised them his glory.

<sup>31</sup>What can we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? <sup>32</sup>Since God did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't God, who gave us Christ, also give us everything else?

<sup>33</sup>Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? Will God? No! He is the one who has given us right standing with himself. <sup>34</sup>Who then will condemn us? Will Christ Jesus? No, for he is the one who died for us and was raised to life for us and is sitting at the place of highest honor next to God, pleading for us.

<sup>35</sup>Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or are hungry or cold or in danger or threatened with death? <sup>36</sup>(Even the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") <sup>37</sup>No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

<sup>38</sup>And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from his love. Death can't, and life can't. The angels can't, and the demons can't. Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow, and even the powers of hell can't keep God's love away.

<sup>39</sup>Whether we are high above the sky or in the deepest ocean, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8

<sup>4</sup>This letter is from John to the seven churches in the province of Asia. Grace and peace from the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come; from the sevenfold Spirit before his throne; <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful

witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the commander of all the rulers of the world.

All praise to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us. <sup>6</sup>He has made us his kingdom and his priests who serve before God his Father. Give to him everlasting glory! He rules forever and ever! Amen!

<sup>7</sup>Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven. And everyone will see him—even those who pierced him. And all the nations of the earth will weep because of him. Yes! Amen!

<sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end," says the Lord God. "I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come, the Almighty One." Revelation 1

## The Delayer AL-MUAKHKHIR

<sup>1</sup>This is another vision that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

<sup>2</sup>In the last days, the Temple of the LORD in Jerusalem will become the most important place on earth. People from all over the world will go there to worship. <sup>3</sup>Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the Temple of the God of Israel. There he will teach us his ways, so that we may obey him." For in those days the LORD's teaching and his word will go out from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>The LORD will settle international disputes. All the nations will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. All wars will stop, and military training will come to an end. <sup>5</sup>Come, people of Israel, let us walk in the light of the LORD! Isaiah 2

<sup>5</sup>"For the time is coming," says the LORD, "when I will place a righteous Branch on King David's throne. He will be a King who rules with wisdom. He will do what is just and right throughout the land. <sup>6</sup>And this is his name: 'The LORD Is Our Righteousness.' In that day Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety.

<sup>7</sup>"In that day," says the LORD, "when people are taking an oath, they will no longer say, 'As surely as the LORD lives, who rescued the people of Israel from the land of Egypt.' <sup>8</sup>Instead, they will say, 'As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the

people of Israel back to their own land from the land of the north and from all the countries to which he had exiled them.' Then they will live in their own land." Jeremiah 23

<sup>1</sup>This message came to Jeremiah from the LORD early in the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah, king of Judah. <sup>2</sup>The LORD said, "Stand out in front of the Temple of the LORD, and make an announcement to the people who have come there to worship from all over Judah. Give them my entire message; include every word. <sup>3</sup>Perhaps they will listen and turn from their evil ways. Then I will be able to withhold the disaster I am ready to pour out on them because of their sins. Jeremiah 26

## The First AL-AWWAL

He is the first and the last, the evident and the immanent: and he has full knowledge of all things. S57

<sup>6</sup>"This is what the LORD, Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty, says: I am the First and the Last; there is no other God. <sup>7</sup>Who else can tell you what is going to happen in the days ahead? Let them tell you if they can and thus prove their power. Let them do as I have done since ancient times. <sup>8</sup>Do not tremble; do not be afraid. Have I not proclaimed from ages past what my purposes are for you? You are my witnesses—is there any other God? No! There is no other Rock—not one!" Isaiah 44

<sup>33</sup>After they arrived at Capernaum, Jesus and his disciples settled in the house where they would be staying. Jesus asked them, "What were you discussing out on the road?" <sup>34</sup>But they didn't answer, because they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down and called the twelve disciples over to him. Then he said, "Anyone who wants to be the first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else." Mark 9

<sup>35</sup>Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came over and spoke to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do us a favor."

<sup>36</sup>"What is it?" he asked.

<sup>37</sup>"In your glorious Kingdom, we want to sit in places of honor next to you," they said, "one at your right and the other at your left."

<sup>38</sup>But Jesus answered, "You don't know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the bitter cup of sorrow I am about to drink? Are you able to be baptized with the baptism of suffering I must be baptized with?"

<sup>39</sup>"Oh yes," they said, "we are able!"

And Jesus said, "You will indeed drink from my cup and be baptized with my baptism, <sup>40</sup>but I have no right to say who will sit on the thrones next to mine. God has prepared those places for the ones he has chosen."

<sup>41</sup>When the ten other disciples discovered what James and John had asked, they were indignant. <sup>42</sup>So Jesus called them together and said, "You know that in this world kings are tyrants, and officials lord it over the people beneath them. <sup>43</sup>But among you it should be quite different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup>and whoever wants to be first must be the slave of all. <sup>45</sup>For even I, the Son of Man, came here not to be served but to serve others, and to give my life as a ransom for many." Mark 10

<sup>5</sup>Your attitude should be the same that Christ Jesus had. <sup>6</sup>Though he was God, he did not demand and cling to his rights as God. <sup>7</sup>He made himself nothing; he took the humble position of a slave and appeared in human form. <sup>8</sup>And in human form he obediently humbled himself even further by dying a criminal's death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Because of this, God raised him up to the heights of heaven and gave him a name that is above every other name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2

The Last AL-AKHIR

He is the first and the last, the evident and the immanent:  
and he has full knowledge of all things. S57

<sup>25</sup>"But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and that he will stand upon the earth at last. <sup>26</sup>And after my body has decayed, yet in my body I will see God! <sup>27</sup>I will see him for myself. Yes, I will see him with my own eyes. I am overwhelmed at the thought! Job 19

<sup>8</sup>"Write this letter to the angel of the church in Smyrna. This is the message from the one who is the First and the Last, who died and is alive:

<sup>9</sup>"I know about your suffering and your poverty—but you are rich! I know the slander of those opposing you. They say they are Jews, but they really aren't because theirs is a synagogue of Satan. <sup>10</sup>Don't be afraid of what you are about to suffer. The Devil will throw some of you into prison and put you to the test. You will be persecuted for 'ten days.' Remain faithful even when facing death, and I will give you the crown of life.

<sup>11</sup> "Anyone who is willing to hear should listen to the Spirit and understand what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Whoever is victorious will not be hurt by the second death. Revelation 2

The Manifest AZ-ZAHIR

He is the first and the last, the evident and the immanent:  
and he has full knowledge of all things. S57

<sup>13</sup>But Moses told the people, "Don't be afraid. Just stand where you are and watch the LORD rescue you. The Egyptians that you see today will never be seen again. <sup>14</sup>The LORD himself will fight for you. You won't have to lift a finger in your defense!" Exodus 14

<sup>16</sup>Then after I had given the papers to Baruch, I prayed to the LORD: <sup>17</sup>"O Sovereign LORD! You have made the heavens and earth by your great power. Nothing is too hard for you! <sup>18</sup>You are loving and kind to thousands, though children suffer for



their parents' sins. You are the great and powerful God, the LORD Almighty. <sup>19</sup>You have all wisdom and do great and mighty miracles. You are very aware of the conduct of all people, and you reward them according to their deeds. <sup>20</sup>You performed miraculous signs and wonders in the land of Egypt—things still remembered to this day! And you have continued to do great miracles in Israel and all around the world. You have made your name very great, as it is today. Jeremiah 32

<sup>1</sup>While Jeremiah was still confined in the courtyard of the guard, the LORD gave him this second message: <sup>2</sup>"The LORD, the Maker of the heavens and earth—the LORD is his name—says this: <sup>3</sup>Ask me and I will tell you some remarkable secrets about what is going to happen here. <sup>4</sup>For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: Though you have torn down the houses of this city and even the king's palace to get materials to strengthen the walls against the siege weapons of the enemy, <sup>5</sup>the Babylonians will still enter. The men of this city are already as good as dead, for I have determined to destroy them in my terrible anger. I have abandoned them because of all their wickedness.

<sup>6</sup>"Nevertheless, the time will come when I will heal Jerusalem's damage and give her prosperity and peace. <sup>7</sup>I will restore the fortunes of Judah and Israel and rebuild their cities. <sup>8</sup>I will cleanse away their sins against me, and I will forgive all their sins of rebellion. <sup>9</sup>Then this city will bring me joy, glory, and honor before all the nations of the earth! The people of the world will see the good I do for my people and will tremble with awe!

<sup>10</sup>"This is what the LORD says: You say, 'This land has been ravaged, and the people and animals have all disappeared.' Yet in the empty streets of Jerusalem and Judah's other towns, there will be heard once more <sup>11</sup>the sounds of joy and laughter. The joyful voices of bridegrooms and brides will be heard again, along with the joyous songs of people bringing thanksgiving offerings to the LORD. They will sing,

'Give thanks to the LORD Almighty, for the LORD is good.  
His faithful love endures forever!'

For I will restore the prosperity of this land to what it was in the past, says the LORD.

<sup>12</sup>"This is what the LORD Almighty says: This land—though it is now desolate and the people and animals have all disappeared—will once more see shepherds leading sheep and lambs. <sup>13</sup>Once again their flocks will prosper in the towns of the hill country, the foothills of Judah, the Negev, the land of Benjamin, the vicinity of Jerusalem, and all the towns of Judah. I, the LORD, have spoken!

<sup>14</sup>"The day will come, says the LORD, when I will do for Israel and Judah all the good I have promised them. <sup>15</sup>At that time I will bring to the throne of David a righteous descendant, and he will do what is just and right throughout the land. <sup>16</sup>In that day Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And their motto will be 'The LORD is our righteousness!' <sup>17</sup>For this is what the LORD says: David will forever have a descendant sitting on the throne of Israel. <sup>18</sup>And there will always be Levitical priests to offer burnt offerings and grain offerings and sacrifices to me."

<sup>19</sup>Then this message came to Jeremiah from the LORD: <sup>20</sup>"If you can break my covenant with the day and the night so that they do not come on their usual schedule, <sup>21</sup>only then will my covenant with David, my servant, be broken. Only then will he no longer have a descendant to reign on his throne. The same is true for my covenant with the Levitical priests who minister before me. <sup>22</sup>And as the stars cannot be counted and the sand on the seashores cannot be measured, so I will multiply the descendants of David, my servant, and the Levites who minister before me."

<sup>23</sup>The LORD gave another message to Jeremiah. He said, <sup>24</sup>"Have you heard what people are saying?—'The LORD chose Judah and Israel and then abandoned them!' They are sneering and saying that Israel is not worthy to be counted as a nation. <sup>25</sup>But this is the LORD's reply: I would no more reject my people than I would change my laws of night and day, of earth and sky. <sup>26</sup>I will never abandon the descendants of Jacob or David, my servant, or change the plan that David's descendants will rule the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Instead, I will restore them to their land and have mercy on them."

Jeremiah 33

<sup>1</sup>"Don't be troubled. You trust God, now trust in me. <sup>2</sup>There are many rooms in my Father's home, and I am going to prepare a place for you. If this were not so, I would tell you plainly. <sup>3</sup>When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. <sup>4</sup>And you know where I am going and how to get there."

<sup>5</sup>"No, we don't know, Lord," Thomas said. "We haven't any idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

<sup>6</sup>Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known who I am, then you would have known who my Father is. From now on you know him and have seen him!"

<sup>8</sup>Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and we will be satisfied."

<sup>9</sup>Jesus replied, "Philip, don't you even yet know who I am, even after all the time I have been with you? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking to see him? <sup>10</sup>Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. <sup>11</sup>Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or at least believe because of what you have seen me do.

<sup>12</sup>"The truth is, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. <sup>13</sup>You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, because the work of the Son brings glory to the Father. <sup>14</sup>Yes, ask anything in my name, and I will do it!  
John 14

<sup>26</sup>"But I will send you the Counselor—the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will tell you all about me. <sup>27</sup>And you must also tell others about me because you have been with me from the beginning. John 15

<sup>12</sup>"Oh, there is so much more I want to tell you, but you can't bear it now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not be presenting his own ideas; he will be telling you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. <sup>14</sup>He will bring me glory by revealing to you whatever he receives from me. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine; this is

what I mean when I say that the Spirit will reveal to you whatever he receives from me. John 16

All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous deeds have been revealed." Revelation 15

## The Hidden AL-BATIN

He is the first and the last, the evident and the immanent: and he has full knowledge of all things. S57

<sup>2</sup>And God continued, "I am the LORD. <sup>3</sup>I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob as God Almighty, though I did not reveal my name, the LORD, to them. Exodus 6

<sup>1</sup>Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

<sup>2</sup>This I declare of the LORD:

He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I am trusting him.

<sup>3</sup>For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from the fatal plague.

<sup>4</sup>He will shield you with his wings.

He will shelter you with his feathers.

His faithful promises are your armor and protection.

<sup>5</sup>Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night, nor fear the dangers of the day,

<sup>6</sup>nor dread the plague that stalks in darkness, nor the disaster that strikes at midday.

<sup>7</sup>Though a thousand fall at your side, though ten thousand are dying around you, these evils will not touch you.

<sup>8</sup>But you will see it with your eyes; you will see how the wicked are punished.

<sup>9</sup>If you make the LORD your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter,

<sup>10</sup>no evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your dwelling.

<sup>11</sup>For he orders his angels

to protect you wherever you go.

<sup>12</sup>They will hold you with their hands  
to keep you from striking your foot on a stone.

<sup>13</sup>You will trample down lions and poisonous snakes;  
you will crush fierce lions and serpents under your feet!

<sup>14</sup>The LORD says, "I will rescue those who love me.  
I will protect those who trust in my name.

<sup>15</sup>When they call on me, I will answer;  
I will be with them in trouble.

I will rescue them and honor them.

<sup>16</sup>I will satisfy them with a long life  
and give them my salvation." Psalm 91

<sup>26</sup>Jesus also said, "Here is another illustration of what the Kingdom of God is like: A farmer planted seeds in a field, <sup>27</sup>and then he went on with his other activities. As the days went by, the seeds sprouted and grew without the farmer's help, <sup>28</sup>because the earth produces crops on its own. First a leaf blade pushes through, then the heads of wheat are formed, and finally the grain ripens. <sup>29</sup>And as soon as the grain is ready, the farmer comes and harvests it with a sickle."

<sup>30</sup>Jesus asked, "How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What story should I use to illustrate it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a tiny mustard seed. Though this is one of the smallest of seeds, <sup>32</sup>it grows to become one of the largest of plants, with long branches where birds can come and find shelter." Mark 4

<sup>20</sup>One day the Pharisees asked Jesus, "When will the Kingdom of God come?"

Jesus replied, "The Kingdom of God isn't ushered in with visible signs. <sup>21</sup>You won't be able to say, 'Here it is!' or 'It's over there!' For the Kingdom of God is among you." Luke 17

## The Ruler AL-WALI

Shout joyful praises to God, all the earth!

<sup>2</sup>Sing about the glory of his name!

Tell the world how glorious he is.

<sup>3</sup>Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!  
Your enemies cringe before your mighty power.  
<sup>4</sup>Everything on earth will worship you;  
they will sing your praises,  
shouting your name in glorious songs."

<sup>5</sup>Come and see what our God has done,  
what awesome miracles he does for his people! Psalm 66

May God be merciful and bless us.  
May his face shine with favor upon us.

<sup>2</sup>May your ways be known throughout the earth,  
your saving power among people everywhere.  
<sup>3</sup>May the nations praise you, O God.  
Yes, may all the nations praise you.

<sup>4</sup>How glad the nations will be, singing for joy,  
because you govern them with justice  
and direct the actions of the whole world.

<sup>5</sup>May the nations praise you, O God.  
Yes, may all the nations praise you. Psalm 67

<sup>6</sup>For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. And the government will rest on his shoulders. These will be his royal titles: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His ever expanding, peaceful government will never end. He will rule forever with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David. The passionate commitment of the LORD Almighty will guarantee this! Isaiah 9

<sup>1</sup>Out of the stump of David's family will grow a shoot—yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root. <sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>He will delight in obeying the LORD. He will never judge by appearance, false evidence, or hearsay. <sup>4</sup>He will defend the poor and the exploited. He will

rule against the wicked and destroy them with the breath of his mouth. <sup>5</sup>He will be clothed with fairness and truth.

<sup>6</sup>In that day the wolf and the lamb will live together; the leopard and the goat will be at peace. Calves and yearlings will be safe among lions, and a little child will lead them all. <sup>7</sup>The cattle will graze among bears. Cubs and calves will lie down together. And lions will eat grass as the livestock do. <sup>8</sup>Babies will crawl safely among poisonous snakes. Yes, a little child will put its hand in a nest of deadly snakes and pull it out unharmed. <sup>9</sup>Nothing will hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain. And as the waters fill the sea, so the earth will be filled with people who know the LORD.

<sup>10</sup>In that day the heir to David's throne will be a banner of salvation to all the world. The nations will rally to him, for the land where he lives will be a glorious place. Isaiah 11

<sup>9</sup>Pray like this:

Our Father in heaven,

may your name be honored.

<sup>10</sup>May your Kingdom come soon.

May your will be done here on earth,  
just as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup>Give us our food for today,

<sup>12</sup>and forgive us our sins,

just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us.

<sup>13</sup>And don't let us yield to temptation,

but deliver us from the evil one. Matthew 6

## The Highest One AL-MUTAALI

<sup>9</sup> He knows the unseen and that which is open: he is the great, the most high. S9

<sup>26</sup>Then Nebuchadnezzar came as close as he could to the door of the flaming furnace and shouted: "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!" So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stepped out of the fire. <sup>27</sup>Then the princes, prefects, governors, and advisers

crowded around them and saw that the fire had not touched them. Not a hair on their heads was singed, and their clothing was not scorched. They didn't even smell of smoke! Daniel 3

<sup>24</sup>" 'This is what the dream means, Your Majesty, and what the Most High has declared will happen to you. <sup>25</sup>You will be driven from human society, and you will live in the fields with the wild animals. You will eat grass like a cow, and you will be drenched with the dew of heaven. Seven periods of time will pass while you live this way, until you learn that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world and gives them to anyone he chooses. <sup>26</sup>But the stump and the roots were left in the ground. This means that you will receive your kingdom back again when you have learned that heaven rules. Daniel 5

<sup>18</sup>But in the end, the holy people of the Most High will be given the kingdom, and they will rule forever and ever." Daniel 7

## The Righteous AL-BARR

<sup>28</sup> Truly, we did call to him from of old: truly it is he, the beneficent, the merciful! S52

<sup>7</sup>The law of the LORD is perfect,  
reviving the soul.

The decrees of the LORD are trustworthy,  
making wise the simple.

<sup>8</sup>The commandments of the LORD are right,  
bringing joy to the heart.

The commands of the LORD are clear,  
giving insight to life.

<sup>9</sup>Reverence for the LORD is pure,  
lasting forever.

The laws of the LORD are true;  
each one is fair.

<sup>10</sup>They are more desirable than gold,  
even the finest gold.

They are sweeter than honey,



even honey dripping from the comb.

<sup>11</sup>They are a warning to those who hear them;  
there is great reward for those who obey them.

<sup>12</sup>How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart?  
Cleanse me from these hidden faults.

<sup>13</sup>Keep me from deliberate sins!

Don't let them control me.

Then I will be free of guilt  
and innocent of great sin.

<sup>14</sup>May the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart  
be pleasing to you,  
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. Psalm 19

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it.

The world and all its people belong to him.

<sup>2</sup>For he laid the earth's foundation on the seas  
and built it on the ocean depths.

<sup>3</sup>Who may climb the mountain of the LORD?

Who may stand in his holy place?

<sup>4</sup>Only those whose hands and hearts are pure,  
who do not worship idols  
and never tell lies.

<sup>5</sup>They will receive the LORD's blessing  
and have right standing with God their savior.

<sup>6</sup>They alone may enter God's presence  
and worship the God of Israel. Psalm 24

<sup>1</sup>Happy are people of integrity,  
who follow the law of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>Happy are those who obey his decrees  
and search for him with all their hearts.

<sup>3</sup>They do not compromise with evil,  
and they walk only in his paths.

<sup>4</sup>You have charged us  
to keep your commandments carefully.

<sup>5</sup>Oh, that my actions would consistently  
reflect your principles!

<sup>6</sup>Then I will not be disgraced  
when I compare my life with your commands.

<sup>7</sup>When I learn your righteous laws,  
I will thank you by living as I should!

<sup>8</sup>I will obey your principles.  
Please don't give up on me!

<sup>9</sup>How can a young person stay pure?  
By obeying your word and following its rules.

<sup>10</sup>I have tried my best to find you—  
don't let me wander from your commands.

<sup>11</sup>I have hidden your word in my heart,  
that I might not sin against you.

<sup>12</sup>Blessed are you, O LORD;  
teach me your principles.

<sup>13</sup>I have recited aloud  
all the laws you have given us.

<sup>14</sup>I have rejoiced in your decrees  
as much as in riches.

<sup>15</sup>I will study your commandments  
and reflect on your ways.

<sup>16</sup>I will delight in your principles  
and not forget your word. Psalm 119

## Accepter of Repentance AT-TAWWAB

<sup>37</sup> Then Adam learned from his Lord words of inspiration, and his Lord turned towards him; for he is oft-returning, most merciful. S2

<sup>3</sup> Celebrate the praises of your Lord, and pray for his forgiveness: for he is oft-returning. S110

<sup>1</sup>This change of plans upset Jonah, and he became very angry. <sup>2</sup>So he complained to the LORD about it: "Didn't I say before I left home that you would do this, LORD? That is why I ran away to Tarshish! I knew that you were a gracious and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. I knew how easily you could cancel your plans for

destroying these people. <sup>3</sup>Just kill me now, LORD! I'd rather be dead than alive because nothing I predicted is going to happen."

<sup>4</sup>The LORD replied, "Is it right for you to be angry about this?"  
Jonah 4

<sup>2</sup>"I, the LORD, was very angry with your ancestors. <sup>3</sup>Therefore, say to the people, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD Almighty.' <sup>4</sup>Do not be like your ancestors who would not listen when the earlier prophets said to them, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: Turn from your evil ways and stop all your evil practices.'  
Zechariah 1

<sup>1</sup>"O Israel, come back to me," says the LORD. "If you will throw away your detestable idols and go astray no more, <sup>2</sup>and if you will swear by my name alone, and begin to live good, honest lives and uphold justice, then you will be a blessing to the nations of the world, and all people will come and praise my name." Jeremiah 4

<sup>14</sup>Do what is good and run from evil—that you may live! Then the LORD God Almighty will truly be your helper, just as you have claimed he is. <sup>15</sup>Hate evil and love what is good; remodel your courts into true halls of justice. Perhaps even yet the LORD God Almighty will have mercy on his people who remain.  
Amos 5

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist began preaching in the Judean wilderness. His message was, <sup>2</sup>"Turn from your sins and turn to God, because the Kingdom of Heaven is near."  
<sup>3</sup>Isaiah had spoken of John when he said,

"He is a voice shouting in the wilderness:  
'Prepare a pathway for the Lord's coming!  
Make a straight road for him!' "  
Matthew 3

<sup>12</sup>When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he left Judea and returned to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>But instead of going to Nazareth, he went to Capernaum, beside the Sea of Galilee, in

the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. <sup>14</sup>This fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy:

<sup>15</sup>"In the land of Zebulun and of Naphtali,  
beside the sea, beyond the Jordan River—  
in Galilee where so many Gentiles live—

<sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light.

And for those who lived in the land where death casts its  
shadow,  
a light has shined."

<sup>17</sup>From then on, Jesus began to preach, "Turn from your sins  
and turn to God, because the Kingdom of Heaven is near."  
Matthew 4

<sup>32</sup>"This prophecy was speaking of Jesus, whom God raised  
from the dead, and we all are witnesses of this. <sup>33</sup>Now he sits  
on the throne of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand.  
And the Father, as he had promised, gave him the Holy Spirit  
to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today. <sup>34</sup>For  
David himself never ascended into heaven, yet he said,

'The LORD said to my Lord,  
Sit in honor at my right hand  
<sup>35</sup>until I humble your enemies,  
making them a footstool under your feet.'

<sup>36</sup>So let it be clearly known by everyone in Israel that God has  
made this Jesus whom you crucified to be both Lord and  
Messiah!"

<sup>37</sup>Peter's words convicted them deeply, and they said to him  
and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"

<sup>38</sup>Peter replied, "Each of you must turn from your sins and  
turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for  
the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of  
the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>This promise is to you and to your children,  
and even to the Gentiles—all who have been called by the Lord  
our God." <sup>40</sup>Then Peter continued preaching for a long time,  
strongly urging all his listeners, "Save yourselves from this  
generation that has gone astray!"

<sup>41</sup>Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church—about three thousand in all. <sup>42</sup>They joined with the other believers and devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, sharing in the Lord's Supper and in prayer. Acts 2

<sup>27</sup>"His purpose in all of this was that the nations should seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us. <sup>28</sup>For in him we live and move and exist. As one of your own poets says, 'We are his offspring.' <sup>29</sup>And since this is true, we shouldn't think of God as an idol designed by craftsmen from gold or silver or stone. <sup>30</sup>God overlooked people's former ignorance about these things, but now he commands everyone everywhere to turn away from idols and turn to him. <sup>31</sup>For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead." Acts 17

## The Avenger AL-MUNYAQIM

<sup>39</sup>Look now; I myself am he!

There is no god other than me!

I am the one who kills and gives life;

I am the one who wounds and heals;

no one delivers from my power!

<sup>40</sup>Now I raise my hand to heaven

and declare, "As surely as I live,

<sup>41</sup>when I sharpen my flashing sword

and begin to carry out justice,

I will bring vengeance on my enemies

and repay those who hate me.

<sup>42</sup>I will make my arrows drunk with blood,

and my sword will devour flesh—

the blood of the slaughtered and the captives,

and the heads of the enemy leaders." "

<sup>43</sup>"Rejoice with him, O heavens,

and let all the angels of God worship him,

for he will avenge the blood of his servants.

He will take vengeance on his enemies  
and cleanse his land and his people." Deuteronomy 32

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, the God to whom vengeance belongs,  
O God of vengeance, let your glorious justice be seen!

<sup>2</sup>Arise, O judge of the earth.  
Sentence the proud to the penalties they deserve.

<sup>3</sup>How long, O LORD?  
How long will the wicked be allowed to gloat?

<sup>4</sup>Hear their arrogance!  
How these evildoers boast!

<sup>5</sup>They oppress your people, LORD,  
hurting those you love.

<sup>6</sup>They kill widows and foreigners  
and murder orphans.

<sup>7</sup>"The LORD isn't looking," they say,  
"and besides, the God of Israel doesn't care."

<sup>8</sup>Think again, you fools!  
When will you finally catch on?

<sup>9</sup>Is the one who made your ears deaf?  
Is the one who formed your eyes blind?

<sup>10</sup>He punishes the nations—won't he also punish you?  
He knows everything—doesn't he also know what you are  
doing?

<sup>11</sup>The LORD knows people's thoughts,  
that they are worthless!

<sup>12</sup>Happy are those whom you discipline, LORD,  
and those whom you teach from your law.

<sup>13</sup>You give them relief from troubled times  
until a pit is dug for the wicked.

<sup>14</sup>The LORD will not reject his people;  
he will not abandon his own special possession.

<sup>15</sup>Judgment will come again for the righteous,  
and those who are upright will have a reward.

<sup>16</sup>Who will protect me from the wicked?  
Who will stand up for me against evildoers?

<sup>17</sup>Unless the LORD had helped me,  
I would soon have died.

<sup>18</sup>I cried out, "I'm slipping!"  
and your unfailing love, O LORD, supported me.  
<sup>19</sup>When doubts filled my mind,  
your comfort gave me renewed hope and cheer.

<sup>20</sup>Can unjust leaders claim that God is on their side—  
leaders who permit injustice by their laws?

<sup>21</sup>They attack the righteous  
and condemn the innocent to death.

<sup>22</sup>But the LORD is my fortress;  
my God is a mighty rock where I can hide.

<sup>23</sup>God will make the sins of evil people fall back upon them.  
He will destroy them for their sins.  
The LORD our God will destroy them. Psalm 94

<sup>15</sup>Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were  
loud voices shouting in heaven: "The whole world has now  
become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will  
reign forever and ever."

<sup>16</sup>And the twenty-four elders sitting on their thrones before  
God fell on their faces and worshiped him. <sup>17</sup>And they said,

"We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,  
the one who is and who always was,  
for now you have assumed your great power  
and have begun to reign.

<sup>18</sup>The nations were angry with you,  
but now the time of your wrath has come.  
It is time to judge the dead and reward your servants.  
You will reward your prophets and your holy people,  
all who fear your name, from the least to the greatest.  
And you will destroy all who have caused destruction on the  
earth." Revelation 11

## The Pardoner AL-AFUW

<sup>148</sup> Allah loves not that evil should be noised abroad in public  
speech, except where injustice has been done; for Allah is he  
who hears and knows all things.

<sup>149</sup> Whether you publish a good deed or conceal it or cover evil with pardon, truly Allah does blot out sins and has power. S4

<sup>60</sup> It is decreed that if one has retaliated to no greater extent than the injury received, and is again set upon inordinately, Allah will help him: for Allah is one that blots out sins and forgives. S22

<sup>14</sup>The sinners in Jerusalem shake with fear. "Which one of us," they cry, "can live here in the presence of this all-consuming fire?" <sup>15</sup>The ones who can live here are those who are honest and fair, who reject making a profit by fraud, who stay far away from bribes, who refuse to listen to those who plot murder, who shut their eyes to all enticement to do wrong. <sup>16</sup>These are the ones who will dwell on high. The rocks of the mountains will be their fortress of safety. Food will be supplied to them, and they will have water in abundance.

<sup>17</sup>Your eyes will see the king in all his splendor, and you will see a land that stretches into the distance. <sup>18</sup>You will think back to this time of terror when the Assyrian officers outside your walls counted your towers and estimated how much plunder they would get from your fallen city. <sup>19</sup>But soon they will all be gone. These fierce, violent people with a strange, unknown language will disappear.

<sup>20</sup>Instead, you will see Zion as a place of worship and celebration. You will see Jerusalem, a city quiet and secure. <sup>21</sup>The LORD will be our Mighty One. He will be like a wide river of protection that no enemy can cross. <sup>22</sup>For the LORD is our judge, our lawgiver, and our king. He will care for us and save us. <sup>23</sup>The enemies' sails hang loose on broken masts with useless tackle. Their treasure will be divided by the people of God. Even the lame will win their share! <sup>24</sup>The people of Israel will no longer say, "We are sick and helpless," for the LORD will forgive their sins. Isaiah 33

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>I trust in you, my God!

Do not let me be disgraced,

or let my enemies rejoice in my defeat.

<sup>3</sup>No one who trusts in you will ever be disgraced,



but disgrace comes to those who try to deceive others.

<sup>4</sup>Show me the path where I should walk, O LORD;  
point out the right road for me to follow.

<sup>5</sup>Lead me by your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God who saves me.  
All day long I put my hope in you.

<sup>6</sup>Remember, O LORD, your unfailing love and compassion,  
which you have shown from long ages past.

<sup>7</sup>Forgive the rebellious sins of my youth;  
look instead through the eyes of your unfailing love,  
for you are merciful, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is good and does what is right;  
he shows the proper path to those who go astray.

<sup>9</sup>He leads the humble in what is right,  
teaching them his way.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD leads with unfailing love and faithfulness  
all those who keep his covenant and obey his decrees.

<sup>11</sup>For the honor of your name, O LORD,  
forgive my many, many sins.

<sup>12</sup>Who are those who fear the LORD?  
He will show them the path they should choose.

<sup>13</sup>They will live in prosperity,  
and their children will inherit the Promised Land.

<sup>14</sup>Friendship with the LORD is reserved for those who fear him.  
With them he shares the secrets of his covenant.

<sup>15</sup>My eyes are always looking to the LORD for help,  
for he alone can rescue me from the traps of my enemies.

<sup>16</sup>Turn to me and have mercy on me,  
for I am alone and in deep distress.

<sup>17</sup>My problems go from bad to worse.  
Oh, save me from them all!

<sup>18</sup>Feel my pain and see my trouble.  
Forgive all my sins. Psalm 25

Have mercy on me, O God,  
because of your unfailing love.

Because of your great compassion,  
blot out the stain of my sins.

<sup>2</sup>Wash me clean from my guilt.  
Purify me from my sin.

<sup>3</sup>For I recognize my shameful deeds—  
they haunt me day and night.

<sup>4</sup>Against you, and you alone, have I sinned;  
I have done what is evil in your sight.  
You will be proved right in what you say,  
and your judgment against me is just.

<sup>5</sup>For I was born a sinner—  
yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.

<sup>6</sup>But you desire honesty from the heart,  
so you can teach me to be wise in my inmost being.

<sup>7</sup>Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean;  
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

<sup>8</sup>Oh, give me back my joy again;  
you have broken me—  
now let me rejoice.

<sup>9</sup>Don't keep looking at my sins.  
Remove the stain of my guilt.

<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God.  
Renew a right spirit within me.

<sup>11</sup>Do not banish me from your presence,  
and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>Restore to me again the joy of your salvation,  
and make me willing to obey you.

<sup>13</sup>Then I will teach your ways to sinners,  
and they will return to you.

<sup>14</sup>Forgive me for shedding blood, O God who saves;  
then I will joyfully sing of your forgiveness. Psalm 51

<sup>43</sup>"You have heard that the law of Moses says, 'Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy. <sup>44</sup>But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! <sup>45</sup>In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and on the unjust, too. <sup>46</sup>If you love only those who

love you, what good is that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. <sup>47</sup>If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that. <sup>48</sup>But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.  
Matthew 5

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?"

<sup>22</sup>"No!" Jesus replied, "seventy times seven!"

<sup>23</sup>"For this reason, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. <sup>24</sup>In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. <sup>25</sup>He couldn't pay, so the king ordered that he, his wife, his children, and everything he had be sold to pay the debt. <sup>26</sup>But the man fell down before the king and begged him, 'Oh, sir, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.' <sup>27</sup>Then the king was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

<sup>28</sup>"But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment. <sup>29</sup>His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient and I will pay it,' he pleaded. <sup>30</sup>But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and jailed until the debt could be paid in full.

<sup>31</sup>"When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him what had happened. <sup>32</sup>Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>Then the angry king sent the man to prison until he had paid every penny.

<sup>35</sup>"That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters in your heart." Matthew 18

## The Compassionate AR-RAUF

<sup>30</sup> On the day when every soul will be confronted with all the good it has done, it will wish there were a great distance

between it and its evil. But Allah cautions you to remember himself. And Allah is full of kindness to those that serve him.  
S3

<sup>18</sup>"Come now, let us argue this out," says the LORD. "No matter how deep the stain of your sins, I can remove it. I can make you as clean as freshly fallen snow. Even if you are stained as red as crimson, I can make you as white as wool. <sup>19</sup>If you will only obey me and let me help you, then you will have plenty to eat. Isaiah 1

<sup>15</sup>The high and lofty one who inhabits eternity, the Holy One, says this: "I live in that high and holy place with those whose spirits are contrite and humble. I refresh the humble and give new courage to those with repentant hearts. <sup>16</sup>For I will not fight against you forever; I will not always show my anger. If I did, all people would pass away—all the souls I have made. <sup>17</sup>I was angry and punished these greedy people. I withdrew myself from them, but they went right on sinning. <sup>18</sup>I have seen what they do, but I will heal them anyway! I will lead them and comfort those who mourn. <sup>19</sup>Then words of praise will be on their lips. May they have peace, both near and far, for I will heal them all," says the LORD. <sup>20</sup>"But those who still reject me are like the restless sea. It is never still but continually churns up mire and dirt. <sup>21</sup>There is no peace for the wicked," says my God. Isaiah 57

'This is what the LORD says: O Israel, my faithless people, come home to me again, for I am merciful. I will not be angry with you forever. <sup>13</sup>Only acknowledge your guilt. Admit that you rebelled against the LORD your God and committed adultery against him by worshiping idols under every green tree. Confess that you refused to follow me. I, the LORD, have spoken!' "

<sup>14</sup>"Return home, you wayward children," says the LORD, "for I am your husband. I will bring you again to the land of Israel—one from here and two from there, from wherever you are scattered. <sup>15</sup>And I will give you leaders after my own heart, who will guide you with knowledge and understanding. Jeremiah 3

<sup>6</sup>"I am the LORD, and I do not change. That is why you descendants of Jacob are not already completely destroyed.  
<sup>7</sup>Ever since the days of your ancestors, you have scorned my laws and failed to obey them. Now return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty. Malachi 3

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is merciful and gracious;  
he is slow to get angry and full of unfailing love.

<sup>9</sup>He will not constantly accuse us,  
nor remain angry forever.

<sup>10</sup>He has not punished us for all our sins,  
nor does he deal with us as we deserve.

<sup>11</sup>For his unfailing love toward those who fear him  
is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth.

<sup>12</sup>He has removed our rebellious acts  
as far away from us as the east is from the west.

<sup>13</sup>The LORD is like a father to his children,  
tender and compassionate to those who fear him.

<sup>14</sup>For he understands how weak we are;  
he knows we are only dust.

<sup>15</sup>Our days on earth are like grass;  
like wildflowers, we bloom and die.

<sup>16</sup>The wind blows, and we are gone—  
as though we had never been here.

<sup>17</sup>But the love of the LORD remains forever  
with those who fear him.

His salvation extends to the children's children

<sup>18</sup>of those who are faithful to his covenant,  
of those who obey his commandments! Psalm 103

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good!  
His faithful love endures forever. Psalm 106

My heart is confident in you, O God;  
no wonder I can sing your praises!

Wake up, my soul!

<sup>2</sup>Wake up, O harp and lyre!

I will waken the dawn with my song.

<sup>3</sup>I will thank you, LORD, in front of all the people.

I will sing your praises among the nations.

<sup>4</sup>For your unfailing love is higher than the heavens.  
Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.  
<sup>5</sup>Be exalted, O God, above the highest heavens.  
May your glory shine over all the earth. Psalm 108

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!

I will thank the LORD with all my heart  
as I meet with his godly people.  
<sup>2</sup>How amazing are the deeds of the LORD!  
All who delight in him should ponder them.  
<sup>3</sup>Everything he does reveals his glory and majesty.  
His righteousness never fails.  
<sup>4</sup>Who can forget the wonders he performs?  
How gracious and merciful is our LORD!  
<sup>5</sup>He gives food to those who trust him;  
he always remembers his covenant.  
<sup>6</sup>He has shown his great power to his people  
by giving them the lands of other nations.  
<sup>7</sup>All he does is just and good,  
and all his commandments are trustworthy.  
<sup>8</sup>They are forever true,  
to be obeyed faithfully and with integrity.  
<sup>9</sup>He has paid a full ransom for his people.  
He has guaranteed his covenant with them forever.  
What a holy, awe-inspiring name he has!  
<sup>10</sup>Reverence for the LORD is the foundation of true wisdom.  
The rewards of wisdom come to all who obey him.

Praise his name forever! Psalm 111

From the depths of despair, O LORD,  
I call for your help.  
<sup>2</sup>Hear my cry, O Lord.  
Pay attention to my prayer.  
<sup>3</sup>LORD, if you kept a record of our sins,  
who, O Lord, could ever survive?  
<sup>4</sup>But you offer forgiveness,  
that we might learn to fear you. Psalm 130

<sup>7</sup>God blesses those who are merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy. Matthew 5

<sup>35</sup>"Love your enemies! Do good to them! Lend to them! And don't be concerned that they might not repay. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to the unthankful and to those who are wicked. <sup>36</sup>You must be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate. Luke 6

## King Over All Earthly Kingdoms MALIK-UL-MALIK

<sup>26</sup> Say: "O Allah! Lord of power, you give power to whom you please, and you strip off power from whom you please: you endue with honour whom you please, and you bring low whom you please: In your hand is all good. Truly, over all things you have power. S3

<sup>4</sup>Every king in all the earth will give you thanks, O LORD,  
for all of them will hear your words.

<sup>5</sup>Yes, they will sing about the LORD's ways,  
for the glory of the LORD is very great.

<sup>6</sup>Though the LORD is great, he cares for the humble,  
but he keeps his distance from the proud. Psalm 138

For I am a great king," says the LORD Almighty, "and my name is feared among the nations! Malachi 2

<sup>13</sup>And I command you before God, who gives life to all, and before Christ Jesus, who gave a good testimony before Pontius Pilate, <sup>14</sup>that you obey his commands with all purity. Then no one can find fault with you from now until our Lord Jesus Christ returns. <sup>15</sup>For at the right time Christ will be revealed from heaven by the blessed and only almighty God, the King of kings and Lord of lords. <sup>16</sup>He alone can never die, and he lives in light so brilliant that no human can approach him. No one has ever seen him, nor ever will. To him be honor and power forever. Amen. 1 Timothy 6

<sup>11</sup>Then I saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. And the one sitting on the horse was named Faithful and True. For he judges fairly and then goes to war. <sup>12</sup>His eyes were bright like flames of fire, and on his head were many crowns. A name was written on him, and only he knew what it meant. <sup>13</sup>He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and his title was the Word of God. <sup>14</sup>The armies of heaven, dressed in pure white linen, followed him on white horses. <sup>15</sup>From his mouth came a sharp sword, and with it he struck down the nations. He ruled them with an iron rod, and he trod the winepress of the fierce wrath of almighty God. <sup>16</sup>On his robe and thigh was written this title: King of kings and Lord of lords. Revelation 19

### Possessor of Sublimity DHUL-JALAL-WAL-IKRAM

<sup>26</sup> All that is on earth will perish:

<sup>27</sup> But the face of your Lord will remain, full of majesty, bounty and honour. S57

<sup>78</sup> Blessed be the name of your Lord, full of majesty, bounty and honour. S57

O LORD, our Lord, the majesty of your name fills the earth!  
Your glory is higher than the heavens.

<sup>2</sup>You have taught children and nursing infants  
to give you praise.

They silence your enemies  
who were seeking revenge.

<sup>3</sup>When I look at the night sky and see the work of your  
fingers—

the moon and the stars you have set in place—

<sup>4</sup>what are mortals that you should think of us,  
mere humans that you should care for us?

<sup>5</sup>For you made us only a little lower than God,  
and you crowned us with glory and honor.

<sup>6</sup>You put us in charge of everything you made,



giving us authority over all things—  
7the sheep and the cattle  
and all the wild animals,  
8the birds in the sky, the fish in the sea,  
and everything that swims the ocean currents.  
  
9O LORD, our Lord, the majesty of your name fills the earth!  
Psalm 8

I will thank you, LORD, with all my heart;  
I will tell of all the marvelous things you have done.  
2I will be filled with joy because of you.  
I will sing praises to your name, O Most High.

3My enemies turn away in retreat;  
they are overthrown and destroyed before you.  
4For you have judged in my favor;  
from your throne, you have judged with fairness.

5You have rebuked the nations and destroyed the wicked;  
you have wiped out their names forever.  
6My enemies have met their doom;  
their cities are perpetual ruins.  
Even the memory of their uprooted cities is lost.

7But the LORD reigns forever,  
executing judgment from his throne.  
8He will judge the world with justice  
and rule the nations with fairness.

9The LORD is a shelter for the oppressed,  
a refuge in times of trouble.  
10Those who know your name trust in you,  
for you, O LORD, have never abandoned anyone who  
searches for you.

11Sing praises to the LORD who reigns in Jerusalem.  
Tell the world about his unforgettable deeds.  
12For he who avenges murder cares for the helpless.  
He does not ignore those who cry to him for help.

<sup>13</sup>LORD, have mercy on me.

See how I suffer at the hands of those who hate me.

Snatch me back from the jaws of death.

<sup>14</sup>Save me, so I can praise you publicly at Jerusalem's gates,  
so I can rejoice that you have rescued me.

<sup>15</sup>The nations have fallen into the pit they dug for others.

They have been caught in their own trap.

<sup>16</sup>The LORD is known for his justice.

The wicked have trapped themselves in their own snares.

<sup>17</sup>The wicked will go down to the grave.

This is the fate of all the nations who ignore God.

<sup>18</sup>For the needy will not be forgotten forever;

the hopes of the poor will not always be crushed.

<sup>19</sup>Arise, O LORD!

Do not let mere mortals defy you!

Let the nations be judged in your presence!

<sup>20</sup>Make them tremble in fear, O LORD.

Let them know they are merely human. Psalm 9

<sup>6</sup>I looked and I saw a Lamb that had been killed but was now standing between the throne and the four living beings and among the twenty-four elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God that are sent out into every part of the earth. <sup>7</sup>He stepped forward and took the scroll from the right hand of the one sitting on the throne. <sup>8</sup>And as he took the scroll, the four living beings and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp, and they held gold bowls filled with incense—the prayers of God's people!

<sup>9</sup>And they sang a new song with these words:

"You are worthy to take the scroll

and break its seals and open it.

For you were killed, and your blood has ransomed people for  
God

from every tribe and language and people and nation.  
<sup>10</sup>And you have caused them to become God's kingdom and  
his priests.  
And they will reign on the earth."

<sup>11</sup>Then I looked again, and I heard the singing of thousands  
and millions of angels around the throne and the living beings  
and the elders. <sup>12</sup>And they sang in a mighty chorus:

"The Lamb is worthy—the Lamb who was killed.  
He is worthy to receive power and riches  
and wisdom and strength  
and honor and glory and blessing."

<sup>13</sup>And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and  
under the earth and in the sea. They also sang:

"Blessing and honor and glory and power  
belong to the one sitting on the throne  
and to the Lamb forever and ever."

<sup>14</sup>And the four living beings said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four  
elders fell down and worshiped God and the Lamb. Revelation  
5

<sup>9</sup>After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every  
nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of  
the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white  
and held palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>And they were  
shouting with a mighty shout, "Salvation comes from our God  
on the throne and from the Lamb!"

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels were standing around the throne and  
around the elders and the four living beings. And they fell face  
down before the throne and worshiped God. <sup>12</sup>They said,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength  
belong to our God forever and forever. Amen!"

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the twenty-four elders asked me, "Who are these who are clothed in white? Where do they come from?"

<sup>14</sup>And I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows."

Then he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and made them white. <sup>15</sup>That is why they are standing in front of the throne of God, serving him day and night in his Temple. And he who sits on the throne will live among them and shelter them. <sup>16</sup>They will never again be hungry or thirsty, and they will be fully protected from the scorching noontime heat. <sup>17</sup>For the Lamb who stands in front of the throne will be their Shepherd. He will lead them to the springs of life-giving water. And God will wipe away all their tears." Revelation 7

## The Equitable AL-MUQSIT

<sup>18</sup> There is no god but he: that is the witness of Allah, his angels, and those endued with knowledge, standing firm on justice. There is no god but he, the exalted in power, the wise. S3

<sup>13</sup>"You must use accurate scales when you weigh out merchandise, <sup>14</sup>and you must use full and honest measures. <sup>15</sup>Yes, use honest weights and measures, so that you will enjoy a long life in the land the LORD your God is giving you. <sup>16</sup>Those who cheat with dishonest weights and measures are detestable to the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 25

<sup>1</sup>The LORD hates cheating, but he delights in honesty. Proverbs 11

<sup>7</sup>Here is a sample of John's preaching to the crowds that came for baptism: "You brood of snakes! Who warned you to flee God's coming judgment? <sup>8</sup>Prove by the way you live that you have really turned from your sins and turned to God. Don't just say, 'We're safe—we're the descendants of Abraham.' That proves nothing. God can change these stones here into children of Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the ax of God's judgment is poised, ready to sever your roots. Yes, every tree that does not

produce good fruit will be chopped down and thrown into the fire."

<sup>10</sup>The crowd asked, "What should we do?"

<sup>11</sup>John replied, "If you have two coats, give one to the poor. If you have food, share it with those who are hungry."

<sup>12</sup>Even corrupt tax collectors came to be baptized and asked, "Teacher, what should we do?"

<sup>13</sup>"Show your honesty," he replied. "Make sure you collect no more taxes than the Roman government requires you to."

<sup>14</sup>"What should we do?" asked some soldiers.

John replied, "Don't extort money, and don't accuse people of things you know they didn't do. And be content with your pay." Luke 3

<sup>1</sup>As Jesus and the disciples approached Jerusalem, they came to the town of Bethphage on the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of them on ahead. <sup>2</sup>"Go into the village over there," he said, "and you will see a donkey tied there, with its colt beside it. Untie them and bring them here. <sup>3</sup>If anyone asks what you are doing, just say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will immediately send them." <sup>4</sup>This was done to fulfill the prophecy,

<sup>5</sup>"Tell the people of Israel,  
'Look, your King is coming to you.  
He is humble, riding on a donkey—  
even on a donkey's colt.' "

<sup>6</sup>The two disciples did as Jesus said. <sup>7</sup>They brought the animals to him and threw their garments over the colt, and he sat on it.

<sup>8</sup>Most of the crowd spread their coats on the road ahead of Jesus, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup>He was in the center of the procession, and the crowds all around him were shouting,

"Praise God for the Son of David!  
Bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Praise God in highest heaven!"

<sup>10</sup>The entire city of Jerusalem was stirred as he entered. "Who is this?" they asked.

<sup>11</sup>And the crowds replied, "It's Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

<sup>12</sup>Jesus entered the Temple and began to drive out the merchants and their customers. He knocked over the tables of the money changers and the stalls of those selling doves. <sup>13</sup>He said, "The Scriptures declare, 'My Temple will be called a place of prayer,' but you have turned it into a den of thieves!"  
Matthew 20

## The Gatherer AL-JAME

<sup>9</sup> Our Lord, you are he that will gather mankind together against a day about which there is no doubt; for Allah never fails in his promise. S3

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD gave me this message: <sup>5</sup>"This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: The good figs represent the exiles I sent from Judah to the land of the Babylonians. <sup>6</sup>I have sent them into captivity for their own good. I will see that they are well treated, and I will bring them back here again. I will build them up and not tear them down. I will plant them and not uproot them. <sup>7</sup>I will give them hearts that will recognize me as the LORD. They will be my people, and I will be their God, for they will return to me wholeheartedly. Jeremiah 24

<sup>6</sup>"I will also bless the Gentiles who commit themselves to the LORD and serve him and love his name, who worship him and do not desecrate the Sabbath day of rest, and who have accepted his covenant. <sup>7</sup>I will bring them also to my holy mountain of Jerusalem and will fill them with joy in my house of prayer. I will accept their burnt offerings and sacrifices, because my Temple will be called a house of prayer for all nations. <sup>8</sup>For the Sovereign LORD, who brings back the outcasts of Israel, says: I will bring others, too, besides my people Israel." Isaiah 56

<sup>30</sup>And then at last, the sign of the coming of the Son of Man will appear in the heavens, and there will be deep mourning among all the nations of the earth. And they will see the Son of Man arrive on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup>And he will send forth his angels with the sound of a mighty trumpet blast, and they will gather together his chosen ones from the farthest ends of the earth and heaven. Matthew 24

<sup>1</sup>"I assure you, anyone who sneaks over the wall of a sheepfold, rather than going through the gate, must surely be a thief and a robber! <sup>2</sup>For a shepherd enters through the gate. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they follow him because they recognize his voice. <sup>5</sup>They won't follow a stranger; they will run from him because they don't recognize his voice."

<sup>6</sup>Those who heard Jesus use this illustration didn't understand what he meant, <sup>7</sup>so he explained it to them. "I assure you, I am the gate for the sheep," he said. <sup>8</sup>"All others who came before me were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. Wherever they go, they will find green pastures. <sup>10</sup>The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give life in all its fullness. John 10

<sup>12</sup>In those days you were living apart from Christ. You were excluded from God's people, Israel, and you did not know the promises God had made to them. You lived in this world without God and without hope. <sup>13</sup>But now you belong to Christ Jesus. Though you once were far away from God, now you have been brought near to him because of the blood of Christ.

<sup>14</sup>For Christ himself has made peace between us Jews and you Gentiles by making us all one people. He has broken down the wall of hostility that used to separate us. <sup>15</sup>By his death he ended the whole system of Jewish law that excluded the Gentiles. His purpose was to make peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new person from the two groups. <sup>16</sup>Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death, and our hostility toward each

other was put to death. <sup>17</sup>He has brought this Good News of peace to you Gentiles who were far away from him, and to us Jews who were near. <sup>18</sup>Now all of us, both Jews and Gentiles, may come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us. Ephesians 2

## The Rich One AL-GHANI

Allah is free of all wants, and he is most forbearing. S2

<sup>7</sup> If you reject Allah, truly Allah has no need of you; but he likes not ingratitude from his servants: if you are grateful, he is pleased with you. S39

<sup>8</sup>I have no complaint about your sacrifices  
or the burnt offerings you constantly bring to my altar.

<sup>9</sup>But I want no more bulls from your barns;  
I want no more goats from your pens.

<sup>10</sup>For all the animals of the forest are mine,  
and I own the cattle on a thousand hills.

<sup>11</sup>Every bird of the mountains  
and all the animals of the field belong to me.

<sup>12</sup>If I were hungry, I would not mention it to you,  
for all the world is mine and everything in it.

<sup>13</sup>I don't need the bulls you sacrifice;  
I don't need the blood of goats.

<sup>14</sup>What I want instead is your true thanks to God;  
I want you to fulfill your vows to the Most High.

<sup>15</sup>Trust me in your times of trouble,  
and I will rescue you,  
and you will give me glory." Psalm 50

<sup>9</sup>You take care of the earth and water it,  
making it rich and fertile.

The rivers of God will not run dry;  
they provide a bountiful harvest of grain,  
for you have ordered it so.

<sup>10</sup>You drench the plowed ground with rain,  
melting the clods and leveling the ridges.  
You soften the earth with showers



and bless its abundant crops.

<sup>11</sup>You crown the year with a bountiful harvest;  
even the hard pathways overflow with abundance.

<sup>12</sup>The wilderness becomes a lush pasture,  
and the hillsides blossom with joy.

<sup>13</sup>The meadows are clothed with flocks of sheep,  
and the valleys are carpeted with grain.  
They all shout and sing for joy! Psalm 65

<sup>17</sup>"I love all who love me. Those who search for me will surely find me. <sup>18</sup>Unending riches, honor, wealth, and justice are mine to distribute. <sup>19</sup>My gifts are better than the purest gold, my wages better than sterling silver! <sup>20</sup>I walk in righteousness, in paths of justice. <sup>21</sup>Those who love me inherit wealth, for I fill their treasuries. Proverbs 8

<sup>4</sup>True humility and fear of the LORD lead to riches, honor, and long life. Proverbs 22

<sup>23</sup>This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man gloat in his wisdom, or the mighty man in his might, or the rich man in his riches. <sup>24</sup>Let them boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the LORD who is just and righteous, whose love is unfailing, and that I delight in these things. I, the LORD, have spoken! Jeremiah 9

<sup>14</sup>Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit's power. Soon he became well known throughout the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He taught in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup>When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures. <sup>17</sup>The scroll containing the messages of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him, and he unrolled the scroll to the place where it says:

<sup>18</sup>"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
for he has appointed me to preach Good News to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim  
that captives will be released,  
that the blind will see,

that the downtrodden will be freed from their oppressors,  
<sup>19</sup>and that the time of the Lord's favor has come." Luke 4

## The Enricher AL-MUGHNI

<sup>11</sup>"The LORD will give you an abundance of good things in the land he swore to give your ancestors—many children, numerous livestock, and abundant crops. <sup>12</sup>The LORD will send rain at the proper time from his rich treasury in the heavens to bless all the work you do. You will lend to many nations, but you will never need to borrow from them. <sup>13</sup>If you listen to these commands of the LORD your God and carefully obey them, the LORD will make you the head and not the tail, and you will always have the upper hand. <sup>14</sup>You must not turn away from any of the commands I am giving you today to follow after other gods and worship them. Deuteronomy 32

<sup>1</sup>"Arise, Jerusalem! Let your light shine for all the nations to see! For the glory of the LORD is shining upon you. <sup>2</sup>Darkness as black as night will cover all the nations of the earth, but the glory of the LORD will shine over you. <sup>3</sup>All nations will come to your light. Isaiah 60

Your heavenly Father already knows all your needs, <sup>33</sup>and he will give you all you need from day to day if you live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern. Matthew 6

Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. The Good News has been preached all over the world, and I, Paul, have been appointed by God to proclaim it.

<sup>24</sup>I am glad when I suffer for you in my body, for I am completing what remains of Christ's sufferings for his body, the church. <sup>25</sup>God has given me the responsibility of serving his church by proclaiming his message in all its fullness to you Gentiles. <sup>26</sup>This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past, but now it has been revealed to his own holy people. <sup>27</sup>For it has pleased God to tell his people that the

riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. For this is the secret: Christ lives in you, and this is your assurance that you will share in his glory.

<sup>28</sup>So everywhere we go, we tell everyone about Christ. We warn them and teach them with all the wisdom God has given us, for we want to present them to God, perfect in their relationship to Christ. <sup>29</sup>I work very hard at this, as I depend on Christ's mighty power that works within me. Colossians 1

<sup>4</sup>Long ago, even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. <sup>5</sup>His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave him great pleasure.

<sup>6</sup>So we praise God for the wonderful kindness he has poured out on us because we belong to his dearly loved Son. <sup>7</sup>He is so rich in kindness that he purchased our freedom through the blood of his Son, and our sins are forgiven. <sup>8</sup>He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.

<sup>9</sup>God's secret plan has now been revealed to us; it is a plan centered on Christ, designed long ago according to his good pleasure. <sup>10</sup>And this is his plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth. <sup>11</sup>Furthermore, because of Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us from the beginning, and all things happen just as he decided long ago. <sup>12</sup>God's purpose was that we who were the first to trust in Christ should praise our glorious God. <sup>13</sup>And now you also have heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. <sup>14</sup>The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us everything he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. Ephesians 1

<sup>4</sup>But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so very much, <sup>5</sup>that even while we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's special favor that you have been saved!) <sup>6</sup>For he raised us from the dead along with Christ, and we are seated with him in the heavenly realms—all because we are one with Christ Jesus.

<sup>7</sup>And so God can always point to us as examples of the incredible wealth of his favor and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us through Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>God saved you by his special favor when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. <sup>9</sup>Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. <sup>10</sup>For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. Ephesians 2

<sup>14</sup>When I think of the wisdom and scope of God's plan, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, <sup>15</sup>the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. <sup>16</sup>I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you mighty inner strength through his Holy Spirit. <sup>17</sup>And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. <sup>18</sup>And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love really is. <sup>19</sup>May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Ephesians 3

## The Preventer AL-MANI

How the king rejoices in your strength, O LORD!

He shouts with joy because of your victory.

<sup>2</sup>For you have given him his heart's desire;

you have held back nothing that he requested. Psalm 21

<sup>10</sup>A single day in your courts

is better than a thousand anywhere else!

I would rather be a gatekeeper in the house of my God

than live the good life in the homes of the wicked.

<sup>11</sup>For the LORD God is our light and protector.

He gives us grace and glory.

No good thing will the LORD withhold

from those who do what is right.

<sup>12</sup>O LORD Almighty,

happy are those who trust in you. Psalm 84

<sup>33</sup>Once when he was in the synagogue, a man possessed by a demon began shouting at Jesus, <sup>34</sup>"Go away! Why are you bothering us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One sent from God."

<sup>35</sup>Jesus cut him short. "Be silent!" he told the demon. "Come out of the man!" The demon threw the man to the floor as the crowd watched; then it left him without hurting him further.

<sup>36</sup>Amazed, the people exclaimed, "What authority and power this man's words possess! Even evil spirits obey him and flee at his command!" <sup>37</sup>The story of what he had done spread like wildfire throughout the whole region. Luke 4

## The Destroyer AD-DARR

<sup>5</sup>Now the LORD observed the extent of the people's wickedness, and he saw that all their thoughts were consistently and totally evil. <sup>6</sup>So the LORD was sorry he had ever made them. It broke his heart. <sup>7</sup>And the LORD said, "I will completely wipe out this human race that I have created. Yes, and I will destroy all the animals and birds, too. I am sorry I ever made them." <sup>8</sup>But Noah found favor with the LORD. Genesis 6

O God, we have heard it with our own ears—  
our ancestors have told us  
of all you did in other days,  
in days long ago:

<sup>2</sup>You drove out the pagan nations  
and gave all the land to our ancestors;  
you crushed their enemies,  
setting our ancestors free.

<sup>3</sup>They did not conquer the land with their swords;  
it was not their own strength that gave them victory.  
It was by your mighty power that they succeeded;  
it was because you favored them and smiled on them.

<sup>4</sup>You are my King and my God.  
You command victories for your people.

<sup>5</sup>Only by your power can we push back our enemies;  
only in your name can we trample our foes.

<sup>6</sup>I do not trust my bow;  
I do not count on my sword to save me.

<sup>7</sup>It is you who gives us victory over our enemies;  
it is you who humbles those who hate us.

<sup>8</sup>O God, we give glory to you all day long  
and constantly praise your name.

*Interlude*

<sup>9</sup>But now you have tossed us aside in dishonor.  
You no longer lead our armies to battle.

<sup>10</sup>You make us retreat from our enemies  
and allow them to plunder our land.

<sup>11</sup>You have treated us like sheep waiting to be slaughtered;  
you have scattered us among the nations.

<sup>12</sup>You sold us—your precious people—for a pittance.  
You valued us at nothing at all.

<sup>13</sup>You have caused all our neighbors to mock us.  
We are an object of scorn and derision to the nations around  
us.

<sup>14</sup>You have made us the butt of their jokes;  
we are scorned by the whole world.

<sup>15</sup>We can't escape the constant humiliation;  
shame is written across our faces.

<sup>16</sup>All we hear are the taunts of our mockers.  
All we see are our vengeful enemies.

<sup>17</sup>All this has happened despite our loyalty to you.  
We have not violated your covenant.

<sup>18</sup>Our hearts have not deserted you.  
We have not strayed from your path.

<sup>19</sup>Yet you have crushed us in the desert.  
You have covered us with darkness and death.

<sup>20</sup>If we had turned away from worshiping our God  
or spread our hands in prayer to foreign gods,

<sup>21</sup>God would surely have known it,  
for he knows the secrets of every heart.

<sup>22</sup>For your sake we are killed every day;

we are being slaughtered like sheep.

<sup>23</sup>Wake up, O Lord! Why do you sleep?

Get up! Do not reject us forever.

<sup>24</sup>Why do you look the other way?

Why do you ignore our suffering and oppression?

<sup>25</sup>We collapse in the dust,

lying face down in the dirt.

<sup>26</sup>Rise up! Come and help us!

Save us because of your unfailing love. Psalm 44

<sup>5</sup>"Who will feel sorry for you, Jerusalem? Who will weep for you? Who will even bother to ask how you are? <sup>6</sup>You have forsaken me and turned your back on me," says the LORD. "Therefore, I will raise my clenched fists to destroy you. I am tired of always giving you another chance. <sup>7</sup>I will winnow you like grain at the gates of your cities and take away everything you hold dear. I will destroy my own people, because they refuse to turn back to me from all their evil ways. Jeremiah 15

<sup>28</sup>"Don't be afraid of those who want to kill you. They can only kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup>Not even a sparrow, worth only half a penny, can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. <sup>30</sup>And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup>So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to him than a whole flock of sparrows. Matthew 10

"We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,  
the one who is and who always was,  
for now you have assumed your great power  
and have begun to reign.

<sup>18</sup>The nations were angry with you,

but now the time of your wrath has come.

It is time to judge the dead and reward your servants.

You will reward your prophets and your holy people,

all who fear your name, from the least to the greatest.

And you will destroy all who have caused destruction on the earth." Revelation 11

## The Propitious AN-NAFI

<sup>1</sup>Afterward the LORD spoke to Abram in a vision and said to him, "Do not be afraid, Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward will be great."

<sup>2</sup>But Abram replied, "O Sovereign LORD, what good are all your blessings when I don't even have a son? Since I don't have a son, Eliezer of Damascus, a servant in my household, will inherit all my wealth. <sup>3</sup>You have given me no children, so one of my servants will have to be my heir."

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to him, "No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own to inherit everything I am giving you." <sup>5</sup>Then the LORD brought Abram outside beneath the night sky and told him, "Look up into the heavens and count the stars if you can. Your descendants will be like that—too many to count!" <sup>6</sup>And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD declared him righteous because of his faith. Genesis 15

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; serve me faithfully and live a blameless life. <sup>2</sup>I will make a covenant with you, by which I will guarantee to make you into a mighty nation." <sup>3</sup>At this, Abram fell face down in the dust. Then God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"This is my covenant with you: I will make you the father of not just one nation, but a multitude of nations! <sup>5</sup>What's more, I am changing your name. It will no longer be Abram; now you will be known as Abraham, for you will be the father of many nations. <sup>6</sup>I will give you millions of descendants who will represent many nations. Kings will be among them!

<sup>7</sup>"I will continue this everlasting covenant between us, generation after generation. It will continue between me and your offspring forever. And I will always be your God and the God of your descendants after you. <sup>8</sup>Yes, I will give all this land of Canaan to you and to your offspring forever. And I will be their God. Genesis 17

<sup>1</sup>The LORD appeared again to Abraham while he was camped near the oak grove belonging to Mamre. One day about noon, as Abraham was sitting at the entrance to his tent, <sup>2</sup>he



suddenly noticed three men standing nearby. He got up and ran to meet them, welcoming them by bowing low to the ground. <sup>3</sup>"My lord," he said, "if it pleases you, stop here for a while. <sup>4</sup>Rest in the shade of this tree while my servants get some water to wash your feet. <sup>5</sup>Let me prepare some food to refresh you. Please stay awhile before continuing on your journey."

"All right," they said. "Do as you have said."

<sup>6</sup>So Abraham ran back to the tent and said to Sarah, "Quick! Get three measures of your best flour, and bake some bread."

<sup>7</sup>Then Abraham ran out to the herd and chose a fat calf and told a servant to hurry and butcher it. <sup>8</sup>When the food was ready, he took some cheese curds and milk and the roasted meat, and he served it to the men. As they ate, Abraham waited on them there beneath the trees.

<sup>9</sup>"Where is Sarah, your wife?" they asked him.

"In the tent," Abraham replied.

<sup>10</sup>Then one of them said, "About this time next year I will return, and your wife Sarah will have a son."

Now Sarah was listening to this conversation from the tent nearby. <sup>11</sup>And since Abraham and Sarah were both very old, and Sarah was long past the age of having children, <sup>12</sup>she laughed silently to herself. "How could a worn-out woman like me have a baby?" she thought. "And when my master—my husband—is also so old?"

<sup>13</sup>Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh? Why did she say, 'Can an old woman like me have a baby?' <sup>14</sup>Is anything too hard for the LORD? About a year from now, just as I told you, I will return, and Sarah will have a son." <sup>15</sup>Sarah was afraid, so she denied that she had laughed. But he said, "That is not true. You did laugh." <sup>16</sup>Then the men got up from their meal and started on toward Sodom. Abraham went with them part of the way.

<sup>17</sup>"Should I hide my plan from Abraham?" the LORD asked.

<sup>18</sup>"For Abraham will become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth will be blessed through him. <sup>19</sup>I have singled him out so that he will direct his sons and their families to keep the way of the LORD and do what is right and just. Then I will do for him all that I have promised." Genesis

<sup>1</sup>Later on God tested Abraham's faith and obedience.  
"Abraham!" God called.

"Yes," he replied. "Here I am."

<sup>2</sup>"Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will point out to you."

<sup>3</sup>The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son Isaac. Then he chopped wood to build a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place where God had told him to go. <sup>4</sup>On the third day of the journey, Abraham saw the place in the distance. <sup>5</sup>"Stay here with the donkey," Abraham told the young men. "The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and then we will come right back."

<sup>6</sup>Abraham placed the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac's shoulders, while he himself carried the knife and the fire. As the two of them went on together, <sup>7</sup>Isaac said, "Father?"

"Yes, my son," Abraham replied.

"We have the wood and the fire," said the boy, "but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?"

<sup>8</sup>"God will provide a lamb, my son," Abraham answered. And they both went on together.

<sup>9</sup>When they arrived at the place where God had told Abraham to go, he built an altar and placed the wood on it. Then he tied Isaac up and laid him on the altar over the wood. <sup>10</sup>And Abraham took the knife and lifted it up to kill his son as a sacrifice to the LORD. <sup>11</sup>At that moment the angel of the LORD shouted to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Yes," he answered. "I'm listening."

<sup>12</sup>"Lay down the knife," the angel said. "Do not hurt the boy in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld even your beloved son from me."

<sup>13</sup>Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering on the altar in place of his son. <sup>14</sup>Abraham named the place "The LORD Will Provide." This name has now become a proverb: "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

<sup>15</sup>Then the angel of the LORD called again to Abraham from heaven, <sup>16</sup>"This is what the LORD says: Because you have obeyed me and have not withheld even your beloved son, I

swear by my own self that <sup>17</sup>I will bless you richly. I will multiply your descendants into countless millions, like the stars of the sky and the sand on the seashore. They will conquer their enemies, <sup>18</sup>and through your descendants, all the nations of the earth will be blessed—all because you have obeyed me." Genesis 22

<sup>1</sup>One day Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he went deep into the wilderness near Sinai, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup>Suddenly, the angel of the LORD appeared to him as a blazing fire in a bush. Moses was amazed because the bush was engulfed in flames, but it didn't burn up. <sup>3</sup>"Amazing!" Moses said to himself. "Why isn't that bush burning up? I must go over to see this."

<sup>4</sup>When the LORD saw that he had caught Moses' attention, God called to him from the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

"Here I am!" Moses replied.

<sup>5</sup>"Do not come any closer," God told him. "Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground." <sup>6</sup>Then he said, "I am the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." When Moses heard this, he hid his face in his hands because he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup>Then the LORD told him, "You can be sure I have seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard their cries for deliverance from their harsh slave drivers. Yes, I am aware of their suffering. <sup>8</sup>So I have come to rescue them from the Egyptians and lead them out of Egypt into their own good and spacious land. It is a land flowing with milk and honey—the land where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites live. <sup>9</sup>The cries of the people of Israel have reached me, and I have seen how the Egyptians have oppressed them with heavy tasks. <sup>10</sup>Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You will lead my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." Exodus 3

<sup>12</sup>Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Take these people up to the Promised Land.' But you haven't told me whom you will send with me. You call me by name and tell me I have found favor with you. <sup>13</sup>Please, if this is really so, show me your intentions so I will understand you more fully

and do exactly what you want me to do. Besides, don't forget that this nation is your very own people."

<sup>14</sup>And the LORD replied, "I will personally go with you, Moses. I will give you rest—everything will be fine for you."

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses said, "If you don't go with us personally, don't let us move a step from this place. <sup>16</sup>If you don't go with us, how will anyone ever know that your people and I have found favor with you? How else will they know we are special and distinct from all other people on the earth?"

<sup>17</sup>And the LORD replied to Moses, "I will indeed do what you have asked, for you have found favor with me, and you are my friend." Exodus 33

<sup>22</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, <sup>23</sup>"Instruct Aaron and his sons to bless the people of Israel with this special blessing:

<sup>24</sup>"May the LORD bless you  
and protect you.

<sup>25</sup>May the LORD smile on you  
and be gracious to you.

<sup>26</sup>May the LORD show you his favor  
and give you his peace.'

<sup>27</sup>This is how Aaron and his sons will designate the Israelites as my people, and I myself will bless them." Numbers 6

<sup>9</sup>"These sons of Jacob were very jealous of their brother Joseph, and they sold him to be a slave in Egypt. But God was with him <sup>10</sup>and delivered him from his anguish. And God gave him favor before Pharaoh, king of Egypt. God also gave Joseph unusual wisdom, so that Pharaoh appointed him governor over all of Egypt and put him in charge of all the affairs of the palace. Acts 7

<sup>46</sup>"David found favor with God and asked for the privilege of building a permanent Temple for the God of Jacob. <sup>47</sup>But it was Solomon who actually built it. Acts 7

The Light AN-NUR

<sup>35</sup> Allah is the light of the heavens and the earth. The parable of his light is as if there were a niche and within it a lamp: the lamp enclosed in glass: the glass as it were a brilliant star: lit from a blessed tree, an olive, neither of the east nor of the west, whose oil is almost luminous, though fire scarce touched it: light upon light! Allah guides whom he will to his light: Allah sets forth parables for men: and Allah knows all things.

<sup>36</sup> Lit is such a light in houses, which Allah has permitted to be raised to honour; for the celebration, in them, of his name: in them is he glorified in the mornings and in the evenings, S24

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>The earth was empty, a formless mass cloaked in darkness. And the Spirit of God was hovering over its surface. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that it was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light "day" and the darkness "night." Together these made up one day. Genesis 1

<sup>20</sup>Leaving Succoth, they camped at Etham on the edge of the wilderness. <sup>21</sup>The LORD guided them by a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night. That way they could travel whether it was day or night. <sup>22</sup>And the LORD did not remove the pillar of cloud or pillar of fire from their sight. Exodus 13

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>"Command the people of Israel to provide you with pure olive oil for the lampstand, so it can be kept burning continually. <sup>3</sup>Aaron will set it up outside the inner curtain of the Most Holy Place in the Tabernacle and must arrange to have the lamps tended continually, from evening until morning, before the LORD. This is a permanent law for you, and it must be kept by all future generations. <sup>4</sup>The lamps on the pure gold lampstand must be tended continually in the LORD's presence. Leviticus 24

<sup>48</sup>So Solomon made all the furnishings of the Temple of the LORD:

the gold altar,  
the gold table for the Bread of the Presence,  
<sup>49</sup>the gold lampstands, five on the south and five on the north,  
in front of the Most Holy Place,  
the flower decorations, lamps, and tongs, all of gold,  
<sup>50</sup>the cups, lamp snuffers, basins, dishes, and firepans, all of  
pure gold.  
the doors for the entrances to the Most Holy Place and the  
main room of the Temple, with their fronts overlaid with  
gold.

<sup>51</sup>So King Solomon finished all his work on the Temple of the  
LORD. Then Solomon brought all the gifts his father, David, had  
dedicated—the silver, the gold, and the other utensils—and he  
stored them in the treasuries of the LORD's Temple. 1 Kings 7

<sup>1</sup>"Be just and fair to all," says the LORD. "Do what is right and  
good, for I am coming soon to rescue you. <sup>2</sup>Blessed are those  
who are careful to do this. Blessed are those who honor my  
Sabbath days of rest by refusing to work. And blessed are  
those who keep themselves from doing wrong. Isaiah 56

<sup>8</sup>"If you do these things, your salvation will come like the  
dawn. Yes, your healing will come quickly. Your godliness will  
lead you forward, and the glory of the LORD will protect you  
from behind. <sup>9</sup>Then when you call, the LORD will answer. 'Yes, I  
am here,' he will quickly reply. Isaiah 58

<sup>19</sup>"No longer will you need the sun or moon to give you light,  
for the LORD your God will be your everlasting light, and he will  
be your glory. <sup>20</sup>The sun will never set; the moon will not go  
down. For the LORD will be your everlasting light. Your days of  
mourning will come to an end. <sup>21</sup>All your people will be  
righteous. They will possess their land forever, for I will plant  
them there with my own hands in order to bring myself glory.  
<sup>22</sup>The smallest family will multiply into a large clan. The tiniest  
group will become a mighty nation. I, the LORD, will bring it all  
to pass at the right time." Isaiah 60

<sup>1</sup>"Look at my servant, whom I strengthen. He is my chosen  
one, and I am pleased with him. I have put my Spirit upon him.

He will reveal justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will be gentle—he will not shout or raise his voice in public. <sup>3</sup>He will not crush those who are weak or quench the smallest hope. He will bring full justice to all who have been wronged. <sup>4</sup>He will not stop until truth and righteousness prevail throughout the earth. Even distant lands beyond the sea will wait for his instruction."

<sup>5</sup>God, the LORD, created the heavens and stretched them out. He created the earth and everything in it. He gives breath and life to everyone in all the world. And it is he who says, <sup>6</sup>"I, the LORD, have called you to demonstrate my righteousness. I will guard and support you, for I have given you to my people as the personal confirmation of my covenant with them. And you will be a light to guide all nations to me. <sup>7</sup>You will open the eyes of the blind and free the captives from prison. You will release those who sit in dark dungeons. Isaiah 42

<sup>12</sup>When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he left Judea and returned to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>But instead of going to Nazareth, he went to Capernaum, beside the Sea of Galilee, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. <sup>14</sup>This fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy:

<sup>15</sup>"In the land of Zebulun and of Naphtali,  
beside the sea, beyond the Jordan River—  
in Galilee where so many Gentiles live—

<sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light.

And for those who lived in the land where death casts its  
shadow,  
a light has shined."

<sup>17</sup>From then on, Jesus began to preach, "Turn from your sins and turn to God, because the Kingdom of Heaven is near."

<sup>18</sup>One day as Jesus was walking along the shore beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—fishing with a net, for they were commercial fishermen. <sup>19</sup>Jesus called out to them, "Come, be my disciples, and I will show you how to fish for people!" <sup>20</sup>And they left their nets at once and went with him.

<sup>21</sup>A little farther up the shore he saw two other brothers, James and John, sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, mending their nets. And he called them to come, too. <sup>22</sup>They immediately followed him, leaving the boat and their father behind.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus traveled throughout Galilee teaching in the synagogues, preaching everywhere the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed people who had every kind of sickness and disease. <sup>24</sup>News about him spread far beyond the borders of Galilee so that the sick were soon coming to be healed from as far away as Syria. And whatever their illness and pain, or if they were possessed by demons, or were epileptics, or were paralyzed—he healed them all. <sup>25</sup>Large crowds followed him wherever he went—people from Galilee, the Ten Towns, Jerusalem, from all over Judea, and from east of the Jordan River. Matthew 4

## The Guide AL-HADI

<sup>3</sup>Listen! I hear the voice of someone shouting, "Make a highway for the LORD through the wilderness. Make a straight, smooth road through the desert for our God. <sup>4</sup>Fill the valleys and level the hills. Straighten out the curves and smooth off the rough spots. <sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. The LORD has spoken!" Isaiah 40

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist began preaching in the Judean wilderness. His message was, <sup>2</sup>"Turn from your sins and turn to God, because the Kingdom of Heaven is near." <sup>3</sup>Isaiah had spoken of John when he said,

"He is a voice shouting in the wilderness:  
'Prepare a pathway for the Lord's coming!  
Make a straight road for him!' "

<sup>11</sup>"I baptize with water those who turn from their sins and turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is far greater than I am—so much greater that I am not even worthy to be



his slave. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.  
12He is ready to separate the chaff from the grain with his winnowing fork. Then he will clean up the threshing area, storing the grain in his barn but burning the chaff with never-ending fire." Matthew 3

1After dark one evening, a Jewish religious leader named Nicodemus, a Pharisee, 2came to speak with Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are proof enough that God is with you."

3Jesus replied, "I assure you, unless you are born again, you can never see the Kingdom of God."

4"What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb and be born again?"

5Jesus replied, "The truth is, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. 6Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives new life from heaven. 7So don't be surprised at my statement that you must be born again. 8Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit."

9"What do you mean?" Nicodemus asked.

10Jesus replied, "You are a respected Jewish teacher, and yet you don't understand these things? 11I assure you, I am telling you what we know and have seen, and yet you won't believe us. 12But if you don't even believe me when I tell you about things that happen here on earth, how can you possibly believe if I tell you what is going on in heaven? 13For only I, the Son of Man, have come to earth and will return to heaven again. 14And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so I, the Son of Man, must be lifted up on a pole, 15so that everyone who believes in me will have eternal life.

16"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. 17God did not send his Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it.

18"There is no judgment awaiting those who trust him. But those who do not trust him have already been judged for not believing in the only Son of God. 19Their judgment is based on this fact: The light from heaven came into the world, but they

loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. <sup>20</sup>They hate the light because they want to sin in the darkness. They stay away from the light for fear their sins will be exposed and they will be punished. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is right come to the light gladly, so everyone can see that they are doing what God wants." John 3

<sup>35</sup>Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. No one who comes to me will ever be hungry again. Those who believe in me will never thirst. <sup>36</sup>But you haven't believed in me even though you have seen me. <sup>37</sup>However, those the Father has given me will come to me, and I will never reject them. <sup>38</sup>For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do what I want. <sup>39</sup>And this is the will of God, that I should not lose even one of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them to eternal life at the last day. <sup>40</sup>For it is my Father's will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life—that I should raise them at the last day." John 6

<sup>12</sup>Jesus said to the people, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't be stumbling through the darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." John 8

"I assure you, I am the gate for the sheep," he said. <sup>8</sup>"All others who came before me were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. Wherever they go, they will find green pastures. <sup>10</sup>The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give life in all its fullness.

<sup>11</sup>"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>A hired hand will run when he sees a wolf coming. He will leave the sheep because they aren't his and he isn't their shepherd. And so the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because he is merely hired and has no real concern for the sheep.

<sup>14</sup>"I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, <sup>15</sup>just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice; and there will be one flock with one shepherd.

<sup>17</sup>"The Father loves me because I lay down my life that I may have it back again. <sup>18</sup>No one can take my life from me. I lay down my life voluntarily. For I have the right to lay it down when I want to and also the power to take it again. For my Father has given me this command." John 10

<sup>25</sup>Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die like everyone else, will live again. <sup>26</sup>They are given eternal life for believing in me and will never perish. John 11

<sup>44</sup>Jesus shouted to the crowds, "If you trust me, you are really trusting God who sent me. <sup>45</sup>For when you see me, you are seeing the one who sent me. <sup>46</sup>I have come as a light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer remain in the darkness. John 12

The Scriptures declare, 'The one who shares my food has turned against me,' and this will soon come true. <sup>19</sup>I tell you this now, so that when it happens you will believe I am the Messiah. <sup>20</sup>Truly, anyone who welcomes my messenger is welcoming me, and anyone who welcomes me is welcoming the Father who sent me."

<sup>21</sup>Now Jesus was in great anguish of spirit, and he exclaimed, "The truth is, one of you will betray me!"

<sup>22</sup>The disciples looked at each other, wondering whom he could mean. <sup>23</sup>One of Jesus' disciples, the one Jesus loved, was sitting next to Jesus at the table. <sup>24</sup>Simon Peter motioned to him to ask who would do this terrible thing. <sup>25</sup>Leaning toward Jesus, he asked, "Lord, who is it?"

<sup>26</sup>Jesus said, "It is the one to whom I give the bread dipped in the sauce." And when he had dipped it, he gave it to Judas, son of Simon Iscariot. <sup>27</sup>As soon as Judas had eaten the bread, Satan entered into him. Then Jesus told him, "Hurry. Do it now." <sup>28</sup>None of the others at the table knew what Jesus meant. <sup>29</sup>Since Judas was their treasurer, some thought Jesus was telling him to go and pay for the food or to give some money to the poor. <sup>30</sup>So Judas left at once, going out into the night.

<sup>31</sup>As soon as Judas left the room, Jesus said, "The time has come for me, the Son of Man, to enter into my glory, and God will receive glory because of all that happens to me. <sup>32</sup>And God will bring me into my glory very soon. <sup>33</sup>Dear children, how brief are these moments before I must go away and leave you! Then, though you search for me, you cannot come to me—just as I told the Jewish leaders. <sup>34</sup>So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. <sup>35</sup>Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." John 13

<sup>1</sup>"Don't be troubled. You trust God, now trust in me. <sup>2</sup>There are many rooms in my Father's home, and I am going to prepare a place for you. If this were not so, I would tell you plainly. <sup>3</sup>When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. <sup>4</sup>And you know where I am going and how to get there."

<sup>5</sup>"No, we don't know, Lord," Thomas said. "We haven't any idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

<sup>6</sup>Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known who I am, then you would have known who my Father is. From now on you know him and have seen him!"

<sup>8</sup>Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and we will be satisfied."

<sup>9</sup>Jesus replied, "Philip, don't you even yet know who I am, even after all the time I have been with you? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking to see him? <sup>10</sup>Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. <sup>11</sup>Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or at least believe because of what you have seen me do. John 14

<sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup>He cuts off every branch that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. <sup>3</sup>You have already been pruned for greater fruitfulness by the message I have given you. <sup>4</sup>Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful apart from me.

<sup>5</sup>"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Anyone who parts from me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. <sup>7</sup>But if you stay joined to me and my words remain in you, you may ask any request you like, and it will be granted! <sup>8</sup>My true disciples produce much fruit. This brings great glory to my Father. John 15

<sup>5</sup>"But now I am going away to the one who sent me, and none of you has asked me where I am going. <sup>6</sup>Instead, you are very sad. <sup>7</sup>But it is actually best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Counselor won't come. If I do go away, he will come because I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will convince the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. <sup>9</sup>The world's sin is unbelief in me. <sup>10</sup>Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more. <sup>11</sup>Judgment will come because the prince of this world has already been judged.

<sup>12</sup>"Oh, there is so much more I want to tell you, but you can't bear it now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not be presenting his own ideas; he will be telling you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. <sup>14</sup>He will bring me glory by revealing to you whatever he receives from me. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine; this is what I mean when I say that the Spirit will reveal to you whatever he receives from me.

<sup>16</sup>"In just a little while I will be gone, and you won't see me anymore. Then, just a little while after that, you will see me again."

<sup>17</sup>The disciples asked each other, "What does he mean when he says, 'You won't see me, and then you will see me'? And what does he mean when he says, 'I am going to the Father'? <sup>18</sup>And what does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand."

<sup>19</sup>Jesus realized they wanted to ask him, so he said, "Are you asking yourselves what I meant? I said in just a little while I will be gone, and you won't see me anymore. Then, just a little while after that, you will see me again. <sup>20</sup>Truly, you will weep and mourn over what is going to happen to me, but the world

will rejoice. You will grieve, but your grief will suddenly turn to wonderful joy when you see me again. <sup>21</sup>It will be like a woman experiencing the pains of labor. When her child is born, her anguish gives place to joy because she has brought a new person into the world. <sup>22</sup>You have sorrow now, but I will see you again; then you will rejoice, and no one can rob you of that joy. <sup>23</sup>At that time you won't need to ask me for anything. The truth is, you can go directly to the Father and ask him, and he will grant your request because you use my name. <sup>24</sup>You haven't done this before. Ask, using my name, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy. John 16

<sup>1</sup>Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. <sup>2</sup>She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and I don't know where they have put him!"

<sup>3</sup>Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see. <sup>4</sup>The other disciple outran Peter and got there first. <sup>5</sup>He stooped and looked in and saw the linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, <sup>7</sup>while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying to the side. <sup>8</sup>Then the other disciple also went in, and he saw and believed— <sup>9</sup>for until then they hadn't realized that the Scriptures said he would rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup>Then they went home.

<sup>11</sup>Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. <sup>12</sup>She saw two white-robed angels sitting at the head and foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. <sup>13</sup>"Why are you crying?" the angels asked her.

"Because they have taken away my Lord," she replied, "and I don't know where they have put him."

<sup>14</sup>She glanced over her shoulder and saw someone standing behind her. It was Jesus, but she didn't recognize him. <sup>15</sup>"Why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who are you looking for?"

She thought he was the gardener. "Sir," she said, "if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him."

<sup>16</sup>"Mary!" Jesus said.

She turned toward him and exclaimed, "Teacher!"

<sup>17</sup>"Don't cling to me," Jesus said, "for I haven't yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them that I am ascending to my Father and your Father, my God and your God."

<sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, "I have seen the Lord!" Then she gave them his message.

<sup>19</sup>That evening, on the first day of the week, the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. <sup>20</sup>As he spoke, he held out his hands for them to see, and he showed them his side. They were filled with joy when they saw their Lord! <sup>21</sup>He spoke to them again and said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>Then he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you refuse to forgive them, they are unforgiven."

<sup>24</sup>One of the disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>They told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side."

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. He said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!"

<sup>28</sup>"My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaimed.

<sup>29</sup>Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who haven't seen me and believe anyway."

<sup>30</sup>Jesus' disciples saw him do many other miraculous signs besides the ones recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life.

<sup>21:1</sup>Later Jesus appeared again to the disciples beside the Sea of Galilee. This is how it happened. <sup>2</sup>Several of the disciples were there—Simon Peter, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples.

<sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said, "I'm going fishing."

"We'll come, too," they all said. So they went out in the boat, but they caught nothing all night.

<sup>4</sup>At dawn the disciples saw Jesus standing on the beach, but they couldn't see who he was. <sup>5</sup>He called out, "Friends, have you caught any fish?"

"No," they replied.

<sup>6</sup>Then he said, "Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you'll get plenty of fish!" So they did, and they couldn't draw in the net because there were so many fish in it.

<sup>7</sup>Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his tunic (for he had stripped for work), jumped into the water, and swam ashore. <sup>8</sup>The others stayed with the boat and pulled the loaded net to the shore, for they were only out about three hundred feet. <sup>9</sup>When they got there, they saw that a charcoal fire was burning and fish were frying over it, and there was bread.

<sup>10</sup>"Bring some of the fish you've just caught," Jesus said. <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore. There were 153 large fish, and yet the net hadn't torn.

<sup>12</sup>"Now come and have some breakfast!" Jesus said. And no one dared ask him if he really was the Lord because they were sure of it. <sup>13</sup>Then Jesus served them the bread and the fish.

<sup>14</sup>This was the third time Jesus had appeared to his disciples since he had been raised from the dead. John 21

<sup>1</sup>Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath. He was eager to destroy the Lord's followers, so he went to the high priest. <sup>2</sup>He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains.



<sup>3</sup>As he was nearing Damascus on this mission, a brilliant light from heaven suddenly beamed down upon him! <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?"

<sup>5</sup>"Who are you, sir?" Saul asked.

And the voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting! <sup>6</sup>Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

<sup>7</sup>The men with Saul stood speechless with surprise, for they heard the sound of someone's voice, but they saw no one! <sup>8</sup>As Saul picked himself up off the ground, he found that he was blind. <sup>9</sup>So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus. He remained there blind for three days. And all that time he went without food and water.

<sup>10</sup>Now there was a believer in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, calling, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord!" he replied.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord said, "Go over to Straight Street, to the house of Judas. When you arrive, ask for Saul of Tarsus. He is praying to me right now. <sup>12</sup>I have shown him a vision of a man named Ananias coming in and laying his hands on him so that he can see again."

<sup>13</sup>"But Lord," exclaimed Ananias, "I've heard about the terrible things this man has done to the believers in Jerusalem! <sup>14</sup>And we hear that he is authorized by the leading priests to arrest every believer in Damascus."

<sup>15</sup>But the Lord said, "Go and do what I say. For Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup>And I will show him how much he must suffer for me." Acts 9

<sup>1</sup>Five days later Ananias, the high priest, arrived with some of the Jewish leaders and the lawyer Tertullus, to press charges against Paul. <sup>2</sup>When Paul was called in, Tertullus laid charges against Paul in the following address to the governor:

"Your Excellency, you have given peace to us Jews and have enacted reforms for us. <sup>3</sup>And for all of this we are very grateful to you. <sup>4</sup>But lest I bore you, kindly give me your attention for only a moment as I briefly outline our case against this man. <sup>5</sup>For we have found him to be a troublemaker, a man who is constantly inciting the Jews throughout the world to riots and

rebellions against the Roman government. He is a ringleader of the sect known as the Nazarenes. <sup>6</sup>Moreover he was trying to defile the Temple when we arrested him. <sup>7</sup> <sup>8</sup>You can find out the truth of our accusations by examining him yourself." <sup>9</sup>Then the other Jews chimed in, declaring that everything Tertullus said was true.

<sup>10</sup>Now it was Paul's turn. The governor motioned for him to rise and speak. Paul said, "I know, sir, that you have been a judge of Jewish affairs for many years, and this gives me confidence as I make my defense. <sup>11</sup>You can quickly discover that it was no more than twelve days ago that I arrived in Jerusalem to worship at the Temple. <sup>12</sup>I didn't argue with anyone in the Temple, nor did I incite a riot in any synagogue or on the streets of the city. <sup>13</sup>These men certainly cannot prove the things they accuse me of doing.

<sup>14</sup>"But I admit that I follow the Way, which they call a sect. I worship the God of our ancestors, and I firmly believe the Jewish law and everything written in the books of prophecy. <sup>15</sup>I have hope in God, just as these men do, that he will raise both the righteous and the ungodly. <sup>16</sup>Because of this, I always try to maintain a clear conscience before God and everyone else.

<sup>17</sup>"After several years away, I returned to Jerusalem with money to aid my people and to offer sacrifices to God. <sup>18</sup>My accusers saw me in the Temple as I was completing a purification ritual. There was no crowd around me and no rioting. <sup>19</sup>But some Jews from the province of Asia were there—and they ought to be here to bring charges if they have anything against me! <sup>20</sup>Ask these men here what wrongdoing the Jewish high council found in me, <sup>21</sup>except for one thing I said when I shouted out, 'I am on trial before you today because I believe in the resurrection of the dead!' "

<sup>22</sup>Felix, who was quite familiar with the Way, adjourned the hearing and said, "Wait until Lysias, the garrison commander, arrives. Then I will decide the case." <sup>23</sup>He ordered an officer to keep Paul in custody but to give him some freedom and allow his friends to visit him and take care of his needs.

<sup>24</sup>A few days later Felix came with his wife, Drusilla, who was Jewish. Sending for Paul, they listened as he told them about faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup>As he reasoned with them about righteousness and self-control and the judgment to come,

Felix was terrified. "Go away for now," he replied. "When it is more convenient, I'll call for you again." <sup>26</sup>He also hoped that Paul would bribe him, so he sent for him quite often and talked with him.

<sup>27</sup>Two years went by in this way; then Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus. And because Felix wanted to gain favor with the Jewish leaders, he left Paul in prison.

<sup>25:1</sup>Three days after Festus arrived in Caesarea to take over his new responsibilities, he left for Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>where the leading priests and other Jewish leaders met with him and made their accusations against Paul. <sup>3</sup>They asked Festus as a favor to transfer Paul to Jerusalem. (Their plan was to waylay and kill him.) <sup>4</sup>But Festus replied that Paul was at Caesarea and he himself would be returning there soon. <sup>5</sup>So he said, "Those of you in authority can return with me. If Paul has done anything wrong, you can make your accusations."

<sup>6</sup>Eight or ten days later he returned to Caesarea, and on the following day Paul's trial began. <sup>7</sup>On Paul's arrival in court, the Jewish leaders from Jerusalem gathered around and made many serious accusations they couldn't prove. <sup>8</sup>Paul denied the charges. "I am not guilty," he said. "I have committed no crime against the Jewish laws or the Temple or the Roman government."

<sup>9</sup>Then Festus, wanting to please the Jews, asked him, "Are you willing to go to Jerusalem and stand trial before me there?"

<sup>10</sup>But Paul replied, "No! This is the official Roman court, so I ought to be tried right here. You know very well I am not guilty. <sup>11</sup>If I have done something worthy of death, I don't refuse to die. But if I am innocent, neither you nor anyone else has a right to turn me over to these men to kill me. I appeal to Caesar!"

<sup>12</sup>Festus conferred with his advisers and then replied, "Very well! You have appealed to Caesar, and to Caesar you shall go!"

<sup>13</sup>A few days later King Agrippa arrived with his sister, Bernice, to pay their respects to Festus. <sup>14</sup>During their stay of several days, Festus discussed Paul's case with the king. "There is a prisoner here," he told him, "whose case was left for me by Felix. <sup>15</sup>When I was in Jerusalem, the leading priests

and other Jewish leaders pressed charges against him and asked me to sentence him. <sup>16</sup>Of course, I quickly pointed out to them that Roman law does not convict people without a trial. They are given an opportunity to defend themselves face to face with their accusers.

<sup>17</sup>"When they came here for the trial, I called the case the very next day and ordered Paul brought in. <sup>18</sup>But the accusations made against him weren't at all what I expected. <sup>19</sup>It was something about their religion and about someone called Jesus who died, but whom Paul insists is alive. <sup>20</sup>I was perplexed as to how to conduct an investigation of this kind, and I asked him whether he would be willing to stand trial on these charges in Jerusalem. <sup>21</sup>But Paul appealed to the emperor. So I ordered him back to jail until I could arrange to send him to Caesar."

<sup>22</sup>"I'd like to hear the man myself," Agrippa said.

And Festus replied, "You shall—tomorrow!"

<sup>23</sup>So the next day Agrippa and Bernice arrived at the auditorium with great pomp, accompanied by military officers and prominent men of the city. Festus ordered that Paul be brought in. <sup>24</sup>Then Festus said, "King Agrippa and all present, this is the man whose death is demanded both by the local Jews and by those in Jerusalem. <sup>25</sup>But in my opinion he has done nothing worthy of death. However, he appealed his case to the emperor, and I decided to send him. <sup>26</sup>But what shall I write the emperor? For there is no real charge against him. So I have brought him before all of you, and especially you, King Agrippa, so that after we examine him, I might have something to write. <sup>27</sup>For it doesn't seem reasonable to send a prisoner to the emperor without specifying the charges against him!"

<sup>26:1</sup>Then Agrippa said to Paul, "You may speak in your defense."

So Paul, with a gesture of his hand, started his defense: <sup>2</sup>"I am fortunate, King Agrippa, that you are the one hearing my defense against all these accusations made by the Jewish leaders, <sup>3</sup>for I know you are an expert on Jewish customs and controversies. Now please listen to me patiently!

<sup>4</sup>"As the Jewish leaders are well aware, I was given a thorough Jewish training from my earliest childhood among my

own people and in Jerusalem. <sup>5</sup>If they would admit it, they know that I have been a member of the Pharisees, the strictest sect of our religion. <sup>6</sup>Now I am on trial because I am looking forward to the fulfillment of God's promise made to our ancestors. <sup>7</sup>In fact, that is why the twelve tribes of Israel worship God night and day, and they share the same hope I have. Yet, O king, they say it is wrong for me to have this hope! <sup>8</sup>Why does it seem incredible to any of you that God can raise the dead?

<sup>9</sup>"I used to believe that I ought to do everything I could to oppose the followers of Jesus of Nazareth. <sup>10</sup>Authorized by the leading priests, I caused many of the believers in Jerusalem to be sent to prison. And I cast my vote against them when they were condemned to death. <sup>11</sup>Many times I had them whipped in the synagogues to try to get them to curse Christ. I was so violently opposed to them that I even hounded them in distant cities of foreign lands.

<sup>12</sup>"One day I was on such a mission to Damascus, armed with the authority and commission of the leading priests. <sup>13</sup>About noon, Your Majesty, a light from heaven brighter than the sun shone down on me and my companions. <sup>14</sup>We all fell down, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to fight against my will.'

<sup>15</sup>" 'Who are you, sir?' I asked.

"And the Lord replied, 'I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting. <sup>16</sup>Now stand up! For I have appeared to you to appoint you as my servant and my witness. You are to tell the world about this experience and about other times I will appear to you. <sup>17</sup>And I will protect you from both your own people and the Gentiles. Yes, I am going to send you to the Gentiles, <sup>18</sup>to open their eyes so they may turn from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God. Then they will receive forgiveness for their sins and be given a place among God's people, who are set apart by faith in me.' Acts 24 and 25

## The Purpose Setter AL-BADI

<sup>117</sup> To him is due the primal origin of the heavens and the earth: when he decrees a matter, he says to it: "Be", and it is. S2

<sup>101</sup> To him is due the primal origin of the heavens and the earth: how can he have a son when he has no consort? He created all things, and he has full knowledge of all things. S6

<sup>15</sup>Truly, O God of Israel, our Savior, you work in strange and mysterious ways. <sup>16</sup>All who make idols will be humiliated and disgraced. <sup>17</sup>But the LORD will save the people of Israel with eternal salvation. They will never again be humiliated and disgraced throughout everlasting ages. <sup>18</sup>For the LORD is God, and he created the heavens and earth and put everything in place. He made the world to be lived in, not to be a place of empty chaos.

"I am the LORD," he says, "and there is no other. <sup>19</sup>I publicly proclaim bold promises. I do not whisper obscurities in some dark corner so no one can understand what I mean. And I did not tell the people of Israel to ask me for something I did not plan to give. I, the LORD, speak only what is true and right.

<sup>20</sup>"Gather together and come, you fugitives from surrounding nations. What fools they are who carry around their wooden idols and pray to gods that cannot save! <sup>21</sup>Consult together, argue your case, and state your proofs that idol worship pays. Who made these things known long ago? What idol ever told you they would happen? Was it not I, the LORD? For there is no other God but me—a just God and a Savior—no, not one! <sup>22</sup>Let all the world look to me for salvation! For I am God; there is no other. <sup>23</sup>I have sworn by my own name, and I will never go back on my word: Every knee will bow to me, and every tongue will confess allegiance to my name."

<sup>24</sup>The people will declare, "The LORD is the source of all my righteousness and strength." And all who were angry with him will come to him and be ashamed. <sup>25</sup>In the LORD all the generations of Israel will be justified, and in him they will boast. Isaiah 45

<sup>18</sup>Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will give us later. <sup>19</sup>For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. <sup>20</sup>Against its will, everything on earth was subjected to God's curse. <sup>21</sup>All creation anticipates the day when it will join God's

children in glorious freedom from death and decay. <sup>22</sup>For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup>And even we Christians, although we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, also groan to be released from pain and suffering. We, too, wait anxiously for that day when God will give us our full rights as his children, including the new bodies he has promised us. <sup>24</sup>Now that we are saved, we eagerly look forward to this freedom. For if you already have something, you don't need to hope for it. <sup>25</sup>But if we look forward to something we don't have yet, we must wait patiently and confidently.

<sup>26</sup>And the Holy Spirit helps us in our distress. For we don't even know what we should pray for, nor how we should pray. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. <sup>27</sup>And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will. <sup>28</sup>And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. <sup>29</sup>For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn, with many brothers and sisters. <sup>30</sup>And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And he gave them right standing with himself, and he promised them his glory.

<sup>31</sup>What can we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? <sup>32</sup>Since God did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't God, who gave us Christ, also give us everything else?

<sup>33</sup>Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? Will God? No! He is the one who has given us right standing with himself. <sup>34</sup>Who then will condemn us? Will Christ Jesus? No, for he is the one who died for us and was raised to life for us and is sitting at the place of highest honor next to God, pleading for us.

<sup>35</sup>Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or are hungry or cold or in danger or threatened with death? <sup>36</sup>(Even the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like

sheep.") <sup>37</sup>No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

<sup>38</sup>And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from his love. Death can't, and life can't. The angels can't, and the demons can't. Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow, and even the powers of hell can't keep God's love away.

<sup>39</sup>Whether we are high above the sky or in the deepest ocean, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8

<sup>1</sup>I, Paul, am a prisoner of Christ Jesus because of my preaching to you Gentiles. <sup>2</sup>As you already know, God has given me this special ministry of announcing his favor to you Gentiles. <sup>3</sup>As I briefly mentioned earlier in this letter, God himself revealed his secret plan to me. <sup>4</sup>As you read what I have written, you will understand what I know about this plan regarding Christ. <sup>5</sup>God did not reveal it to previous generations, but now he has revealed it by the Holy Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets.

<sup>6</sup>And this is the secret plan: The Gentiles have an equal share with the Jews in all the riches inherited by God's children. Both groups have believed the Good News, and both are part of the same body and enjoy together the promise of blessings through Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup>By God's special favor and mighty power, I have been given the wonderful privilege of serving him by spreading this Good News.

<sup>8</sup>Just think! Though I did nothing to deserve it, and though I am the least deserving Christian there is, I was chosen for this special joy of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ. <sup>9</sup>I was chosen to explain to everyone this plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning.

<sup>10</sup>God's purpose was to show his wisdom in all its rich variety to all the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms. They will see this when Jews and Gentiles are joined together in his church. <sup>11</sup>This was his plan from all eternity, and it has now been carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>12</sup>Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come fearlessly into God's presence, assured of his glad welcome.

<sup>13</sup>So please don't despair because of what they are doing to



me here. It is for you that I am suffering, so you should feel honored and encouraged. Ephesians 3

## The Everlasting AL-BAQI

<sup>26</sup> All that is on earth will perish:

<sup>27</sup> But the face of your Lord will remain, full of majesty, bounty and honour. S55

<sup>25</sup>In ages past you laid the foundation of the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

<sup>26</sup>Even they will perish, but you remain forever;  
they will wear out like old clothing.

You will change them like a garment,  
and they will fade away.

<sup>27</sup>But you are always the same;  
your years never end. Psalm 102

. <sup>11</sup>God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end. Ecclesiastes 3

<sup>13</sup>Here is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is the duty of every person. <sup>14</sup>God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad. Ecclesiastes 12

<sup>14</sup>And the Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then, finally, the end will come. Matthew 24

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily hinders our progress. And let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us. <sup>2</sup>We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from start to finish. He was willing to die a shameful death on the cross because of the joy he knew

would be his afterward. Now he is seated in the place of highest honor beside God's throne in heaven. <sup>3</sup>Think about all he endured when sinful people did such terrible things to him, so that you don't become weary and give up. <sup>4</sup>After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin.

<sup>5</sup>And have you entirely forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you, his children? He said,

"My child, don't ignore it when the Lord disciplines you, and don't be discouraged when he corrects you.

<sup>6</sup>For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes those he accepts as his children."

<sup>7</sup>As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Whoever heard of a child who was never disciplined? <sup>8</sup>If God doesn't discipline you as he does all of his children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really his children after all. <sup>9</sup>Since we respect our earthly fathers who disciplined us, should we not all the more cheerfully submit to the discipline of our heavenly Father and live forever? Hebrews 12

## The Inheritor AL-WARITH

<sup>23</sup> And truly, it is we who give life, and who give death: it is we who remain inheritors. S15

For I still have true servants there. <sup>9</sup>I will preserve a remnant of the people of Israel and of Judah to possess my land. Those I choose will inherit it and serve me there. <sup>10</sup>For my people who have searched for me, the plain of Sharon will again be filled with flocks, and the valley of Achor will be a place to pasture herds. Isaiah 65

<sup>17</sup>"Look! I am creating new heavens and a new earth—so wonderful that no one will even think about the old ones anymore. <sup>18</sup>Be glad; rejoice forever in my creation! And look! I will create Jerusalem as a place of happiness. Her people will be a source of joy. <sup>19</sup>I will rejoice in Jerusalem and delight in

my people. And the sound of weeping and crying will be heard no more.

<sup>20</sup>"No longer will babies die when only a few days old. No longer will adults die before they have lived a full life. No longer will people be considered old at one hundred! Only sinners will die that young! <sup>21</sup>In those days, people will live in the houses they build and eat the fruit of their own vineyards. <sup>22</sup>It will not be like the past, when invaders took the houses and confiscated the vineyards. For my people will live as long as trees and will have time to enjoy their hard-won gains. <sup>23</sup>They will not work in vain, and their children will not be doomed to misfortune. For they are people blessed by the LORD, and their children, too, will be blessed. <sup>24</sup>I will answer them before they even call to me. While they are still talking to me about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers! <sup>25</sup>The wolf and lamb will feed together. The lion will eat straw like the ox. Poisonous snakes will strike no more. In those days, no one will be hurt or destroyed on my holy mountain. I, the LORD, have spoken!" Isaiah 65

<sup>22</sup>"As surely as my new heavens and earth will remain, so will you always be my people, with a name that will never disappear," says the LORD. Isaiah 66

<sup>5</sup>God blesses those who are gentle and lowly,  
for the whole earth will belong to them. Matthew 5

<sup>31</sup>"But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate them as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup>He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left. <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to those on the right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. <sup>35</sup>For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. <sup>36</sup>I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.' Matthew 25

<sup>20</sup>Then Jesus turned to his disciples and said,

"God blesses you who are poor,  
for the Kingdom of God is given to you. Luke 6.20

<sup>11</sup>We also pray that you will be strengthened with his glorious power so that you will have all the patience and endurance you need. May you be filled with joy, <sup>12</sup>always thanking the Father, who has enabled you to share the inheritance that belongs to God's holy people, who live in the light. <sup>13</sup>For he has rescued us from the one who rules in the kingdom of darkness, and he has brought us into the Kingdom of his dear Son. <sup>14</sup>God has purchased our freedom with his blood and has forgiven all our sins. Colossians 1

<sup>11</sup>We also pray that you will be strengthened with his glorious power so that you will have all the patience and endurance you need. May you be filled with joy, <sup>12</sup>always thanking the Father, who has enabled you to share the inheritance that belongs to God's holy people, who live in the light. <sup>13</sup>For he has rescued us from the one who rules in the kingdom of darkness, and he has brought us into the Kingdom of his dear Son. <sup>14</sup>God has purchased our freedom with his blood and has forgiven all our sins. 1 Peter 1

<sup>5</sup>And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making all things new!" And then he said to me, "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>And he also said, "It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give the springs of the water of life without charge! <sup>7</sup>All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children. Revelation 21

## The Right Guide AR-RASHID

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is good and does what is right;  
he shows the proper path to those who go astray.

<sup>9</sup>He leads the humble in what is right,  
teaching them his way.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD leads with unfailing love and faithfulness

all those who keep his covenant and obey his decrees Psalm  
25

<sup>105</sup>Your word is a lamp for my feet  
and a light for my path. Psalm 119

"Stop oppressing the helpless and stop making false  
accusations and spreading vicious rumors! <sup>10</sup>Feed the hungry  
and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from  
the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as  
day. <sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually, watering your life  
when you are dry and keeping you healthy, too. Isaiah 58

### The Patient One AS-SABUR

<sup>1</sup>This change of plans upset Jonah, and he became very  
angry. <sup>2</sup>So he complained to the LORD about it: "Didn't I say  
before I left home that you would do this, LORD? That is why I  
ran away to Tarshish! I knew that you were a gracious and  
compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing  
love. I knew how easily you could cancel your plans for  
destroying these people. <sup>3</sup>Just kill me now, LORD! I'd rather be  
dead than alive because nothing I predicted is going to  
happen."

<sup>4</sup>The LORD replied, "Is it right for you to be angry about this?"  
Jonah 4

<sup>1</sup>The LORD told Moses, "Prepare two stone tablets like the  
first ones. I will write on them the same words that were on  
the tablets you smashed. <sup>2</sup>Be ready in the morning to come up  
Mount Sinai and present yourself to me there on the top of the  
mountain. <sup>3</sup>No one else may come with you. In fact, no one is  
allowed anywhere on the mountain. Do not even let the flocks  
or herds graze near the mountain."

<sup>4</sup>So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the first ones. Early  
in the morning he climbed Mount Sinai as the LORD had told  
him, carrying the two stone tablets in his hands.

<sup>5</sup>Then the LORD came down in a pillar of cloud and called out  
his own name, "the LORD," as Moses stood there in his  
presence. <sup>6</sup>He passed in front of Moses and said, "I am the

LORD, I am the LORD, the merciful and gracious God. I am slow to anger and rich in unfailing love and faithfulness. <sup>7</sup>I show this unfailing love to many thousands by forgiving every kind of sin and rebellion. Even so I do not leave sin unpunished, but I punish the children for the sins of their parents to the third and fourth generations."

<sup>8</sup>Moses immediately fell to the ground and worshiped. <sup>9</sup>And he said, "If it is true that I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, then please go with us. Yes, this is an unruly and stubborn people, but please pardon our iniquity and our sins. Accept us as your own special possession."

<sup>10</sup>The LORD replied, "All right. This is the covenant I am going to make with you. I will perform wonders that have never been done before anywhere in all the earth or in any nation. And all the people around you will see the power of the LORD—the awesome power I will display through you. <sup>11</sup>Your responsibility is to obey all the commands I am giving you today. Exodus 34

<sup>5</sup>O Lord, you are so good, so ready to forgive,  
so full of unfailing love for all who ask your aid.

<sup>6</sup>Listen closely to my prayer, O LORD;  
hear my urgent cry.

<sup>7</sup>I will call to you whenever trouble strikes,  
and you will answer me. Psalm 86

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is merciful and gracious;  
he is slow to get angry and full of unfailing love.

<sup>9</sup>He will not constantly accuse us,  
nor remain angry forever.

<sup>10</sup>He has not punished us for all our sins,  
nor does he deal with us as we deserve.

<sup>11</sup>For his unfailing love toward those who fear him  
is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth.

<sup>12</sup>He has removed our rebellious acts  
as far away from us as the east is from the west.

<sup>13</sup>The LORD is like a father to his children,  
tender and compassionate to those who fear him.

<sup>14</sup>For he understands how weak we are;  
he knows we are only dust.

<sup>15</sup>Our days on earth are like grass;

like wildflowers, we bloom and die.

<sup>16</sup>The wind blows, and we are gone—  
as though we had never been here.

<sup>17</sup>But the love of the LORD remains forever  
with those who fear him.

His salvation extends to the children's children

<sup>18</sup>of those who are faithful to his covenant,  
of those who obey his commandments! Psalm 103

<sup>12</sup>Since God chose you to be the holy people whom he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>You must make allowance for each other's faults and forgive the person who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. <sup>14</sup>And the most important piece of clothing you must wear is love. Love is what binds us all together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are all called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

<sup>16</sup>Let the words of Christ, in all their richness, live in your hearts and make you wise. Use his words to teach and counsel each other. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do or say, let it be as a representative of the Lord Jesus, all the while giving thanks through him to God the Father. Colossians 3