



In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

# Submitters Perspective

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## Reverencing God

[4:131] *To GOD belongs everything in the heavens and the earth, and we have enjoined on those who received the scripture before you, and enjoined on you, that you shall reverence GOD. If you disbelieve, then to GOD belongs everything in the heavens and the earth. GOD is in no need, Praiseworthy.*

[5:35] *O you who believe, you shall reverence GOD and seek the ways and means to Him, and strive in His cause, that you may succeed.*

[9:119] *O you who believe, you shall reverence GOD, and be among the truthful.*

[23:1-2] *Successful indeed are the believers; who are reverent during their Contact Prayers (Salat).*

Throughout the Quran, as shown in the verses above, God tells us that we are to reverence Him and be reverent of Him at all times, especially during our contact prayers (Salat). But what does it mean to be reverent?

The Merriam-Webster's English dictionary defines reverence (noun) as: **(1) honor or respect felt or shown: deference; especially: profound adoring respect;**  
**(2) a gesture of respect (as a bow).**

The 1913 Webster's Revised Un-

bridged dictionary defines reverence (n.) as: **profound respect and esteem mingled with fear and affection, as for a holy being or place.**

From these definitions it seems what God is telling us is that submitters must honor, respect, fear and love Him. That seems simple enough, and for the One who created everything and every-one and who sustains us in every possible way, it is not a lot to ask.

So, what do we need to do to carry out this commandment to reverence God? By God's grace, as always, God doesn't leave us without answers.

Reverencing God means being aware of and honoring Him in our lives. It means being deeply respectful of Him in our worship. Those who reverence God—worship Him and obey Him. This starts to make sense when we stop to consider the purpose of our life here on this earth. Our sole mission as far as this world goes is to choose God as our only Lord and Master and to worship Him alone in hopes of redeeming ourselves back into His eternal kingdom (51:56). In order to accomplish this we must submit all that we are to Him; we must reverence God; we must worship God; we must *obey* God.

[7:56] *Do not corrupt the earth after it has been set straight, and worship Him out of reverence, and out of hope. Surely, GOD's mercy is attainable by the righteous.*

[29:16] *Abraham said to his people, "You shall worship GOD, and reverence Him. This is better for you, if you only knew.*

[24:52] *Those who obey GOD and His messenger, and reverence GOD and observe Him, these are the triumphant ones.*

God tells us in these verses that we should worship him "out of reverence and out of hope" (7:56, 32:16). We should worship God out of respect and out of profound awe. Notice though that in verse 29:16 God tells us to worship and reverence Him. This means that not only do we have to "go through the motions" of worshipping God by abiding by His commandments and carrying out the rites decreed for us, but our hearts must be fully devoted as we worship. Our hearts must fill with respect, honor and love of God.

**Reverencing God means putting God's commandments above all else. Reverencing God is a continuous act of wor-**

*(Continued on page 2)*

*(Continued from page 1)*

ship; it is abiding by the laws He has dictated for us, behaving in the manner that pleases Him, and advocating righteousness and forbidding evil. Those who reverence God never place personal gain (3:199) or the laws of men (5:44) above the laws of God.

*[3:199] Surely, some followers of the previous scriptures do believe in GOD, and in what was revealed to you, and in what was revealed to them. They reverence GOD, and they never trade away GOD's revelations for a cheap price. These will receive their recompense from their Lord. GOD is the most efficient in reckoning.*

*[5:44] We have sent down the Torah,\* containing guidance and light. Ruling in accordance with it were the Jewish prophets, as well as the rabbis and the priests, as dictated to them in GOD's scripture, and as witnessed by them. Therefore, do not reverence human beings; you shall reverence Me instead. And do not trade away My revelations for a cheap price. Those who do not rule in accordance with GOD's revelations, are the disbelievers.*

Reverencing God means respecting and honoring the guidelines (laws) which He has laid down for us (16:50-51) and fearing the consequences of going against these guidelines and displeasing our Lord, our Creator, and our Provider. By reverencing God, as submitters, we uphold our end of the covenant we make with God when we claim to believe and worship God alone. We set up no idols beside Him. We hold His commandments dear to our hearts and make every effort to please Him, and never do we "trade away God's revelations for a cheap price," (3:199) never do we place this temporary life as a priority over Him and His eternal kingdom.

The reverence for God, allows our **souls to be receptive to God's message** (8:29, 26:108, 43:63, 87:9-10). Reverence lets our hearts soften up for **God's message (39:23)**.

*[8:29] O you who believe, if you reverence GOD, He will enlighten you, remit your sins, and forgive you. GOD*

*possesses infinite grace.*

*[39:23] GOD has revealed herein the best Hadith; a book that is consistent, and points out both ways (to Heaven and Hell). The skins of those who reverence their Lord cringe therefrom, then their skins and their hearts soften up for GOD's message. Such is GOD's guidance; He bestows it upon whomever He wills. As for those sent astray by GOD, nothing can guide them.*

**God's submitting creatures know** this, and the Quran describes the reverent nature of His creations. Immovable rocks, majestic mountains and the very heavens reverence God. Should not the human take heed?

*[2:74] Despite this, your hearts hardened like rocks, or even harder. For there are rocks from which rivers gush out. Others crack and release gentle streams, and other rocks cringe out of reverence for GOD. GOD is never unaware of anything you do.*

*[42:5] The heavens above them almost shatter, out of reverence for Him, and the angels praise and glorify their Lord, and they ask forgiveness for those on earth. Absolutely, GOD is the Forgiver, Most Merciful.*

*[59:21] If we revealed this Quran to a mountain, you would see it trembling, crumbling, out of reverence for GOD. We cite these examples for the people, that they may reflect.*

Praise be to God for His guidance and mercy. As He tells us, the Quran is fully detailed (6:114, 7:52, 10:37). The Quran provides us with the guidelines of what God expects from us, and how He expects us to live. May God help us obey His commandments to stay devoted to Him Alone, and to reverence Him Alone.

*[16:49-51] To GOD prostrates everything in the heavens and everything on earth—every creature—and so do the angels; without the least arrogance. **They reverence their Lord, high above them, and they do what they are commanded to do. GOD has proclaimed: "Do not worship two gods; there is only one god. You shall reverence Me alone."***

*Stephanie*

## VERSES ON GOD'S WONDROUS SIGNS ANIMALS

*[45:3-4] The heavens and the earth are full of proofs for the believers. Also in your creation, and the creation of all the animals, there are proofs for people who are certain.*

*[6:38] All the creatures on earth, and all the birds that fly with wings, are communities like you. We did not leave anything out of this book. To their Lord, all these creatures will be summoned.*

*[22:18] Do you not realize that to GOD prostrates everyone in the heavens and the earth, and the sun, and the moon, and the stars, and the mountains, and the trees, and the animals, and many people? Many others among the people are committed to doom. Whomever GOD shames, none will honor him. Everything is in accordance with GOD's will.*

*[35:28] Also, the people, the animals, and the livestock come in various colors. This is why the people who truly reverence GOD are those who are knowledgeable. GOD is Almighty, Forgiving.*

*[16:79] Do they not see the birds committed to fly in the atmosphere of the sky? None holds them up in the air except GOD. This should be (sufficient) proof for people who believe*

*[24:45] And GOD created every living creature from water. Some of them walk on their bellies, some walk on two legs, and some walk on four. GOD creates whatever He wills. GOD is Omnipotent.*

## Science vs. Religion

*“Science without religion is lame”  
—Albert Einstein*

From the invention of the wheel to the invention of the microchip to the invention of whatever new amazing thing is being worked on today, man is always searching for ways to make life easier and better. **We’ll never know who actually invented the wheel, but there are records of its use in Mesopotamia as early as 3500 BC. Without it, the industrial revolution could never have happened, and we’d still be walking or riding horses to visit friends in the next village. But it happened. Someone (or maybe several people) got the inspiration, perhaps by watching a round stone roll down a hill, that if you rounded off the corners of a rock, it would move easily and smoothly. And the rest, as they say, is history.**

In the mid-1980s, on the fiftieth anniversary of the invention of the computer, I saw Konrad Zuse on the Today Show. He patented an idea in 1936 that eventually became the modern electronic computer. **But he said that he couldn’t take credit. He felt that all inventions were out there and then God placed them into someone’s head at the right time. (I’m paraphrasing—I can’t remember exactly what he said, but this was the gist of it, and I’m sure he did mention God).**

I recently came across a quote from John Muir. Muir was our foremost environmentalist. He is responsible for saving much of the US wilderness areas for all of us to enjoy, and he founded the Sierra Club, which carries on that mission today. But in his younger days he was an inventor of many small and practical items. He never patented anything and someone asked him **why. His response: “All improvements and inventions ought to be the property of the human race. No inventor has the right to profit by an invention for which he deserves no credit. The idea of it was really inspired by the Almighty.”** While

copyrights & patents are a necessary and integral part of the knowledge-economy we live in, Muir’s premise endures, that all beneficial ideas do in fact come from the Almighty. He is the One who gave us the brain and the ability to reason. And He provides inspiration.

*[3:188] Those who boast about their works, and wish to be praised for something they have not really done, should not think that they can evade the retribution. They have incurred a painful retribution.*

Willis Carrier received what he called a **“flash of genius” in 1911 while waiting for a train. I don’t know if he attributed it to God, but he did acknowledge that it came from outside of himself. He was inspired to figure out ways to control temperature and humidity, and from that inspiration, air conditioning was born.**

We know that God is the source of all knowledge. *No one attains any knowledge except as He wills.*

*[2:255] Some scientists, inventors, geniuses have been able to grasp that fact. Einstein said, “Science without religion is lame. Religion without science is blind.” He had no trouble understanding that religion and science are not incompatible. In fact, they need each other. He knew that God was the Creator and that being appreciative was a huge part of living. He said, “There are two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.”*

He was a scientist, and therefore had great respect for science, but he was also conscious of the beauty and joy of the world. “It would be possible to describe everything scientifically, but it would make no sense; it would be without meaning, as if you described a Beethoven symphony as a variation of wave pressure.”

The following Einstein quote is from a work called The Merging of Spirit and Science. This acknowledges that God *is science*. **“The most beautiful and most profound experience is the sensation of the mystical. It is the sower of all true science. He to whom this emotion is a stranger, who can no**

longer wonder and stand rapt in awe, is as good as dead. To know that what is impenetrable to us really exists, manifesting itself as the highest wisdom and the most radiant beauty which our dull faculties can comprehend only in their primitive forms—this knowledge, this feeling is at the center of true religiousness.”

*[2:2-3, 5] This scripture is infallible; a beacon for the righteous; who believe in the unseen, observe the Contact Prayers (Salat), and from our provisions to them, they give to charity. These are guided by their Lord; these are the winners.*

*[25:62] He is the One who designed the night and the day to alternate: a sufficient proof for those who wish to take heed, or to be appreciative.*

*[39:66] Therefore, you shall worship GOD alone, and be appreciative.*

Lydia

\* \* \* \* \*

The Shape of the Earth\*

*[39:5] He created the heavens and the earth truthfully. He rolls the night over the day, and rolls the day over the night.\* He committed the sun and the moon, each running for a finite period. Absolutely, He is the Almighty, the Forgiving.*

\*39:5 This verse clearly informs us that the earth is round. The Arabic for “He rolls” (Yukawwir) is derived from the Arabic word for “ball” (Kurah). Since the Earth is not exactly round, a specific reference to its shape is given in 79:30. The Quran is replete with scientific information that became known to us centuries after the revelation of the Quran. See Appendix 20.

The Big Bang Theory Confirmed\*

*[21:30] Do the unbelievers not realize that the heaven and the earth used to be one solid mass that we exploded into existence? And from water we made all living things. Would they believe?*

\*21:30 The Big Bang Theory is now supported by the Creator’s infallible mathematical code (Appendix 1). Thus, it is no longer a theory; it is a law, a proven fact.

MASJID TUCSON United Submitters International

PO Box 43476 Tucson AZ 85733-3476 USA

Tel/Fax: (520) 323 7636

internet web site [www.masjiduntucson.org](http://www.masjiduntucson.org)

e-mail: [info@masjiduntucson.org](mailto:info@masjiduntucson.org) [masjiduntucson@gmail.com](mailto:masjiduntucson@gmail.com)

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## A “Christian” Hymn

The following was written in 1848 and made into a hymn for Christian church services in 1915. It truly reflects the concept of an Omnipotent, Omnipresent God who created everything around us, and it reminds us of our need to be appreciative of those gifts. It also reminds us that “submission” can be found in all religions.

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful:  
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,  
Each little bird that sings;  
He made their glowing colors,  
He made their tiny wings.

The purple-headed mountain,  
The river running by,  
The sunset and the morning  
That brightens up the sky.

The cold wind in the winter,  
The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden;  
He made them every one.

He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.

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*God Willing*

**28<sup>th</sup>**

## Annual Conference United Submitters

**August 16-18, 2013**

**Tucson, Arizona**



God willing, the 28<sup>th</sup> annual conference of United Submitters International will be in Tucson AZ, on August 16, 17 and 18.

We will include more details in subsequent issues of the *Submitters Perspective*, God willing. You can keep an eye on the web site for details as well:

[www.masjiduntucson.org/conference/](http://www.masjiduntucson.org/conference/)

But save the dates and start planning for another special gathering of submitters.

God willing, see you in August.