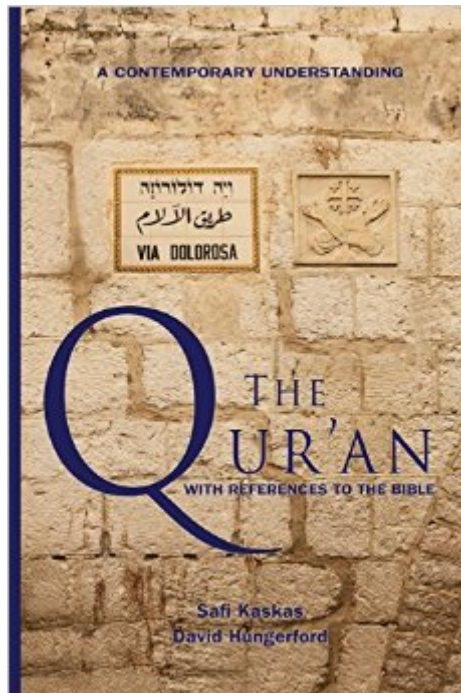


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The Qur'an - With References To The Bible: A Contemporary Understanding



Synopsis

Drs. Kaskasâ™ and Hungerfordâ™s underlying motivation for the translation and inclusion of the extensive footnotes are not intended to promote a particular school of Islam or Christian apologetics. These exist in abundance. Their goal is to build bridges of better understanding, undermine radicalism and enlighten ignorance. This powerful instrument offers Muslims and Christians a fresh insight on the âœstraight pathâ• to reconciling with God and man; sorely needed and missing from other translations.Â

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This work, 'The Quran: A Contemporary Understanding' is unique, timely, and essential. It is unique in that it represents the work of Muslims and Christians in collaboration together, offering the world a perspective on the Qur'an that has never been given in quite this way before. Classic Muslim commentators such as Al Biqai have in the past suggested that the Qur'an and Bible be read in 'conversation' as it were. But this is the first time to my knowledge that a Muslim has, or Muslims have, engaged in such an effort in the actual publication of the Qur'an. It is timely for perhaps obvious reasons: the news is almost daily filled with examples of conflict between the west and the Muslim world, with inflammatory comments, often rooted in stereotype and misinformation, by Christians and Muslims and Jews. The news is also filled with evidence of conflict among Muslims themselves as to how to understand and interpret the actions of some of their fellow Muslims. In short, the debate about what constitutes true Islam is rapidly becoming one of the questions for the world, and more especially for Muslims themselves. This is why this work is also essential. In

religions centered to a major degree upon their respective books, and here I refer especially to Islam and Christianity, attempts to actually understand those books, and understand them in the ways they were originally intended to be understood, should be encouraged and lauded and publicized. This is even more the case when such attempts at understanding do so by overtly reading the texts together and helping others to do the same. This volume encourages precisely that: the myriad references to the previous books (Taurat/Zabur/Injil, or the "Bible" as commonly understood by Christians) contained in the footnotes encourage the reader to compare for themselves what is being said in all the books. Having the citations printed in full makes such comparison easy. One hopes that the fruit of such labor will result in much more than private illumination and insight, though this in itself would be cause for thanks. 'The Quran: a Contemporary Understanding' offers the opportunity for a deeper common understanding of the texts, and more vital common appreciation for one another.

The timeliness of this book can best be measured by the tensions which are growing around our world. The growing hate speech and violence against Muslims in our country coupled with the terror attacks in San Bernardino, Brussels and Paris are all representative of the importance for such a book to help promote a common understanding to dealing with our differences and under mind the root causes of radicalism. This book represents a powerful tool to equipping and empowering groups promoting bridges to a common ground. I recommend it to anyone who wants to be part of the reconciliation process.

I have only gotten through a few chapters of this extraordinary book and I am so incredibly moved by it. This book has the power to change lives, misperceptions, and ideologies that no longer serve a purpose. The Christian and Muslim divide can start bridging together in a way that no one has ever thought possible until now. I recommend this to anyone who wants to learn more about the commonalities of these two religions.

In the year 2007 an article published by The Economist entitled "The Battle of the Books" stated that "Christians and Muslims have one striking thing in common: they are both people of the book." And they both have an obligation to spread the Word. The article concluded that "the Bible and the Quran will continue to exercise a dramatic influence over human events, for both good and ill. The twigs of the burning bush are still aflame with the fire of God." Since then I have been wondering that instead of "battle

of the books can a structured framework for common ground from point of view of method and analytical structure between these two major faiths develop from their very respective books of faith as the best way to build bridges to reflect their historical relationship given that they are both people of the book? To my extreme satisfaction I have finally come across an indispensable study by Dr. Safi Kasis and Dr. David Hungerford entitled "The Qur'an - with References to the Bible: A Contemporary Understanding" that not only exhaustively addressed my burning desire but provides for and represents the Qur'an in a simple way that is easy to understand and shows the common ground that both Christianity and Islam have. I highly encourage everyone interested to learn more about the commonality of Islam and Christianity through this publication. Perhaps even the most fundamentalist of forces of both sides would think twice if they read carefully the arguments and penetrating analysis of commentary put forward as an indisputable road map for why we must strive for inclusiveness. The authors, who are clearly very much at home have made such a vigorous and determined effort to explore the undeniable important conceptual link between the Quran and the Bible; and this alone is a landmark contribution of importance to adherents of both faiths, not merely to specialist historians of the discipline. Whoever writes the history of the Quran with reference to the Bible will have to come to terms with the powerful arguments and extensive documentation provided by this study. This is a major contribution to 21st century literature in religious thought. It is destined to become a time-honored seminal work that must be read and reread. With this book, Dr. Safi Kaskas and Dr. David Hungerford may have already won an important victory in the battle for the minds and hearts of the younger generation of Muslim and Christians.

I believe that this new Qur'an is one of the most significant books published in the last decade. If every Christian and every Muslim were to read each other's holy books and use this tool to better understand, it could lead to an new era of mutual respect and even admiration. May it be so. May this book help us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves...

Mr. Kaskas and Dr. Hungerford have written an eye-opening book that will change the mindset of people throughout the world. I share this book with everybody I can - It's a must read.

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