

Surah 29. Al-Ankabut

Asad: And thus it is [with most people]: if⁵⁵ thou ask them, "Who is it that has created the heavens and the earth, and made the sun and the moon subservi-ent [to His laws]?" - they will surely answer, "God." How perverted, then, are their minds!⁵⁶

Malik: If you ask the disbelievers as to who has created the heavens and the earth, and subjected the sun and the moon to His laws? They will certainly say: "Allah!" How are they then being deluded away from the truth?

Pickthall: And if thou wert to ask them: Who created the heavens and the earth, and constrained the sun and the moon (to their appointed work)? they would say: Allah. How then are they turned away?

Yusuf Ali: If indeed thou ask them who has created the heavens and the earth and subjected the sun and the moon (to His Law); they will certainly reply "Allah." How are they then deluded away (from the truth)?

Transliteration: Walain saaltahum man khalafa alssamawati waalarda wasakhkhara alshshamsa waalqamara layaqoolunna Allahu faanna yufakoona

Khatab:

If you ask them ?O Prophet? who created the heavens and the earth and subjected the sun and the moon ?for your benefit?, they will certainly say, "Allah!" How can they then be deluded ?from the truth??

Author Comments

55 - Regarding my rendering of la'in as "thus it is: if...", etc., see surah {30}, note [45]. The people spoken of in the sequence are such as do acknowledge the existence of God but have only a vague idea as to what this acknowledgment implies or should imply.

56 - See surah {5}, note [90] The perversion consists in their thinking that they really "believe in God" and nevertheless worshipping false values and allegedly "divine" powers side by side with Him: all of which amounts to a virtual denial of His almightiness and uniqueness.

3493 - Cf. xxiii. 84-89. "Them" in both passages refers to the sort of inconsistent men who acknowledge the power of Allah, but are deluded by false notions into disobedience of Allah's Law and disregard of Allah's Message.

3494 - Cf. xiii. 2, and xxiii. 85. The perfect order and law in Allah's universe should be Signs to man's intelligence to get his own will into tune with Allah's Will; for only so can he hope to attain his full development.

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