

Surah 41. Ha-Mim

Asad: no falsehood can ever attain to it openly, and neither in a stealthy manner,³⁵ [since it is] bestowed from on high by One who is truly wise, ever to be praised.

Malik: No falsehood can approach it from before or from behind. It is a revelation from the One Who is Wise and Praiseworthy.

Mustafa Khattab:

It cannot be proven false from any angle. ?It is? a revelation from the ?One Who is? All-Wise, Praiseworthy.

Pickthall: Falsehood cannot come at it from before it or behind it. (It is) a revelation from the Wise, the Owner of Praise.

Yusuf Ali: No falsehood can approach it from before or behind it: it is sent down by One Full of Wisdom Worthy of all Praise. ⁴⁵¹⁴

Transliteration: La yateehi albatilu min bayni yadayhi walal min khalfihi tanzeelun min hakeemin hameedin

Author Comments

35 - Lit., "neither from between its hands, nor from behind it", i.e., it cannot be openly changed by means of additions or omissions (Razi), and neither surreptitiously, by hostile or deliberately confusing interpretations. The above is one of the Qur'anic passages on which the great commentator Abu Muslim al-Isfahani (as quoted by Razi) bases his absolute rejection of the theory of "abrogation" (for which see note [87] on [2:106](#)). Since the "abrogation" of any Qur'an verse would have amounted to its ibtal - that is, to an open or implied declaration that it was henceforth to be regarded as null and void - the verse in question would have to be considered "false" (batil) in the context of the Qur'an as it is before us: and this, as Abu Muslim points out, would clearly contradict the above statement that "no falsehood (batil) can ever attain to it".

4514 - Allah's Truth is fully guarded on all sides. No one can get the better of it by attacking it from before or behind it, openly or secretly, or in any way whatever.

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