



NEW MUSLIM  
ACADEMY


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READ IN THE NAME OF YOUR LORD

# BENEFITS OF *The* **QURAN**








The very first Quranic verse revealed to Prophet Muhammad was: “Read! In the name of your Lord who created.”

From the first words of revelation, we are ordered to read and recite – an act that symbolizes pursuing knowledge. The Quran is a book of both instruction and inspiration, and in it, God asks us to read. Many faiths advocate for believing in things that overtly contradict the logical mind. The Quran, however, actively asks the reader to be in a constant state of reflection and discovery.





Within the pages of the Quran, God calls us to reflect on the alternation of night and day, to marvel at the beauty of the stars and to appreciate the trees, animals and other life forms that we benefit from on a daily basis.

“Say, ‘Travel throughout the earth and see how He brings life into being: and He will bring the next life into being. God has power over all things’” [29:20].

God asks us to explore the world, to put ourselves on a path of discovery and reflection and to witness to His Oneness by understanding the absolute and utter perfection and balance that He has created in our surroundings.

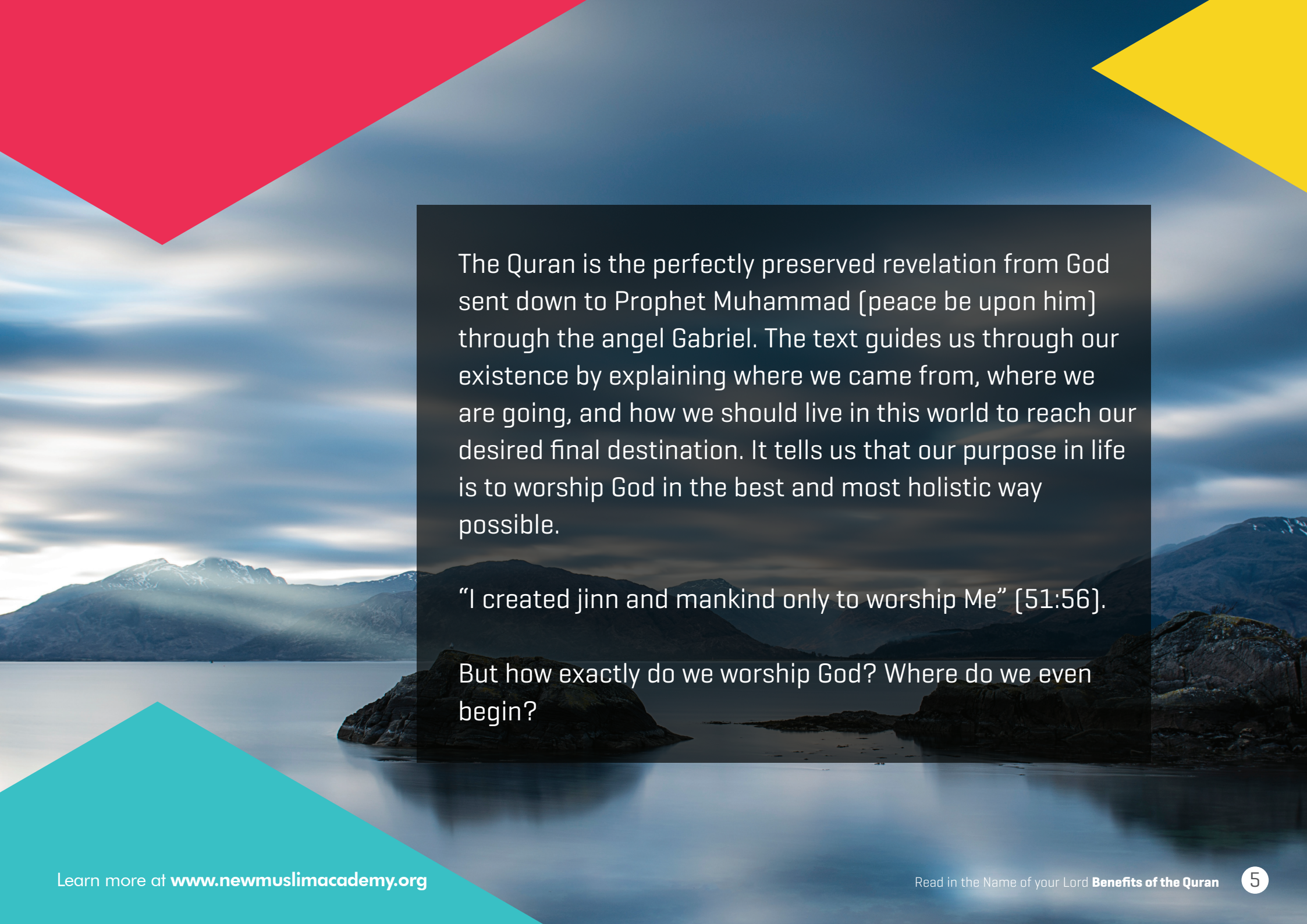




The Quran fulfills many purposes. In addition to being a book of religious instruction, it's a light that guides its readers in dark moments and through confusing pathways, it's a merciful comfort to the broken-hearted, and it's a soothing balm to the wounded soul.

Speaking about this book, God says, "People, a teaching from your Lord has come to you, a healing for what is in [your] hearts, and guidance and mercy for the believers" [10:57].






The Quran is the perfectly preserved revelation from God sent down to Prophet Muhammad [peace be upon him] through the angel Gabriel. The text guides us through our existence by explaining where we came from, where we are going, and how we should live in this world to reach our desired final destination. It tells us that our purpose in life is to worship God in the best and most holistic way possible.

“I created jinn and mankind only to worship Me” [51:56].

But how exactly do we worship God? Where do we even begin?





The Quran, in partnership with the sunnah [the sayings and traditions of Prophet Muhammad], outlines exactly how we as believers should go about worshiping God. It instructs us about the five daily prayers, the obligation of fasting in Ramadan, the zakah [charity] that we must pay out of our wealth to the less fortunate in our communities, and the pilgrimage to Makkah. Similarly, the Quran is the main source from which we derive our knowledge of God. In its pages, He describes in vivid detail His Oneness and His names and attributes so that while we are worshiping Him, we understand who we are worshiping and why.



# Reading and contemplating **THE QURAN**

We know that there is great beauty and benefit in reading the Quran, but it may be difficult to learn how to read and pronounce a language that is completely foreign to you. While frustration can take hold and push you to give up, try to remember that just the act of persistently trying, even while stuttering and making errors, will bring about a great reward from God.

Prophet Muhammad once said, “Indeed the one who recites the Quran beautifully, smoothly, and precisely, will be in the company of the noble and obedient angels. As for the one who recites with difficulty, stammering or stumbling through its verses, then he will have twice that reward.”





Here are three benefits [among many] of reading and contemplating the verses of God:

## **1. You will be from the “best” of people**

Prophet Muhammad said, “The best of you are the ones who learn the Qur’an and teach it to others.”

Your status in the sight of God goes up when you learn the words and meanings of the Quran and make an effort to compassionately pass on that knowledge to others in your life. By conveying what you’ve learned to other people, no matter how little, you’re directly fulfilling one of the Prophet’s commands: “Convey from me, even if it is one verse.”



## 2. Your good deeds will accumulate

Prophet Muhammad said, “Whoever reads a letter from the Book of God, he will have a reward. And that reward will be multiplied by ten. I am not saying that “Alif, Laam, Meem” is a letter, rather I am saying that “Alif” is a letter, “laam” is a letter and “meem” is a letter.”

We live in a world where it’s increasingly easy to commit sins – we nearly have the whole world at our fingertips or in our pockets. From leaving unkind comments on social media posts and looking at toxic images, to losing our tempers in a fast-paced society, not a day goes by when we haven’t fallen into some kind of negative deed.



The Prophet once said, “Follow up a bad deed with a good deed which will wipe it out, and behave well towards the people.”

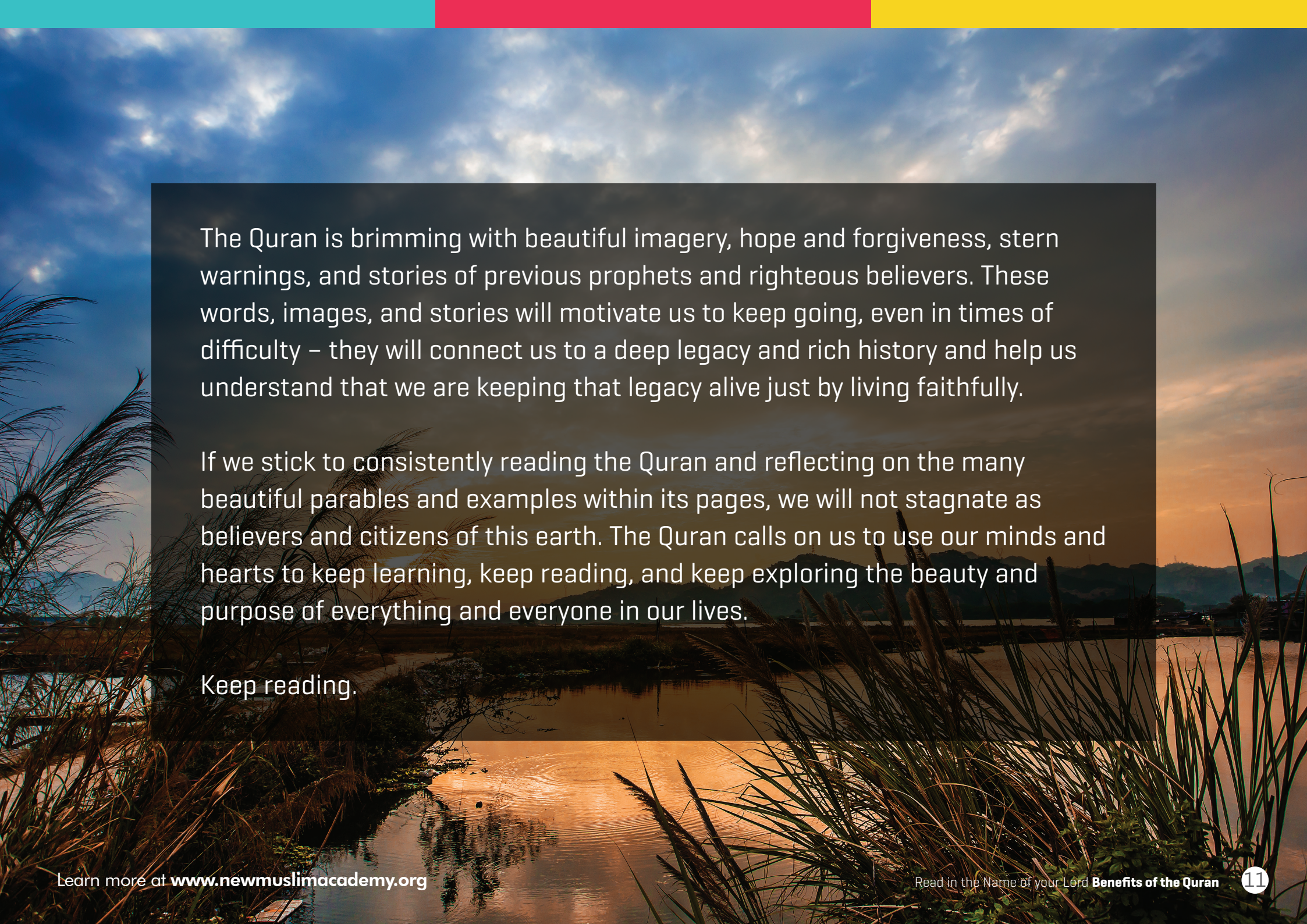
Reading and contemplating the Quran literally wipes sins from your record. Every time you follow a bad deed with a good deed, you are nullifying the bad from your record.

### **3. You'll (figuratively) smell awesome!**

Prophet Muhammad said, “The example of a believer who recites the Quran is that of a citron [a citrus fruit] which is good in taste and good in smell. And the believer who does not recite the Quran is like a date which has a good taste but no smell...”

The similes used in this saying of the Prophet mean that whatever is good and positive within you will be radiated outwards. Every person you interact with during your day should be left with a positive and happy experience.





The Quran is brimming with beautiful imagery, hope and forgiveness, stern warnings, and stories of previous prophets and righteous believers. These words, images, and stories will motivate us to keep going, even in times of difficulty – they will connect us to a deep legacy and rich history and help us understand that we are keeping that legacy alive just by living faithfully.

If we stick to consistently reading the Quran and reflecting on the many beautiful parables and examples within its pages, we will not stagnate as believers and citizens of this earth. The Quran calls on us to use our minds and hearts to keep learning, keep reading, and keep exploring the beauty and purpose of everything and everyone in our lives.

Keep reading.