

Allah is but a negation of other gods; there is no store of positive riches in his character; he does not sympathize with the manifold growth of human activity; the inspiration he affords is a negative inspiration, an impulse of hostility to what is over against him, not an impulse to strive after high and fair ideals. He remains eternally apart upon a frosty throne; his voice is heard, but he cannot condescend. He does not enter into humanity, and therefore he cannot render to humanity the highest services.

—*Allan Menzies*

The author of an elementary work on Islam, which is widely read and much esteemed in Turkey, names as the attributes of God—life, knowledge, power, will, hearing, seeing, and speech. “If all the infidels became believers, he would gain no advantage; if all believers became infidels, he would suffer no loss.” “He wills the unbelief of the unbeliever and the irreligion of the wicked.”

—*Edward Sell*

The natural result of giving to ritual this unique position as the first obligation of man is to leave him free in his quest for self-gratification. Let it not be supposed that there is no recognition of sin in Islam. It is everywhere denounced. But it is everywhere treated as calling for retribution, not reform. Repentance is simply regret for the punishment of sin. And when the Mohammedan sinner has suffered in hell for penalty appropriate to his case, he is fit for admission to blessedness in God's eternal favor without change of character.

—*Henry Otis Dwight*