

he left Mecca, to go on the Hegira, are short messages that he gave then, and then there are longer messages later on in which he deals with all the various matters of the arrangement of the religion and of his followers. Now these messages were not originally selected. They were given and they were written down, a great many of them, by his followers. Dr. Robert Dick Wilson used to say that an example of a                    impassioned preaching it is hard to find anything to compare with the Koran, with the vivid style in which he speaks of the terrible ~~fa~~ite of those eternally condemned and then the way he turns to describe the joys of those who are saved and the way in which he goes from one side to the other and he dwells on this feature and that, and the impassioned image                    with which he drives it home, he certainly was a master of the Arabic language and a master impassioned orator. Now these messages were given, these addresses in the earlier part of his life, later they deal with all sorts of matters of belief and doctrine and of organization of his followers, but after his death they were collected and when they were collected they did not know of any proper way to arrange them and they ~~d~~idn't know when they had been given and so they simply arranged them in order of length, so the longest ones are first and the shortest ones at the end. They were arranged in order of length and that means that the latest ones come at the beginning and the older ones at the end, because the earlier ones on the whole are shorter than the later ones. They were arranged in this order in order of length and put together, there was a certain amount of revision by later followers of Mohammed, but within say 30 years after his death there was a definite form that was accepted that ~~was~~ been held ever since and in contrast to Christianity, one of the great glories of Islam is that the Koran is untranslated. You can get an idea of it, but the language has so much it takes on from its Arabic style and Arabic flavor that the saying is that you must read it in the original. One of the glories of the Bible is that it is so eminently translatable and while you can maybe the exact meaning you have to