The Quran and its Message

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سَلَّمٌ عَلَيْكُمُ

Salamun Alaikum (Peace be upon you)

FOLLOW THOSE THAT ASK OF NO FEE

Joseph A Islam

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I have always wondered how money inevitably becomes closely associated with religious practices and the wider clergy.

It reminds me of a narrative captured in Surah Yasin of a man that came running from the farther end of the city asking his people to follow the message bearers that had been sent to warn them who were asking for **NO** fee.

I have always wondered about the wisdom behind not asking for a fee. From the context of the verses it almost seems to have been used as support for both their authenticity and sincerity. Those that are intent to do good and spread true guidance only wish to do so to seek favour from their Lord, not people.

036.021

"Follow those who ask of you no fee (Arabic: ajran), and who are rightly guided"

The Arabic term 'Ajran' implies any form of reward, recompense, compensation or payment for service.

This theme is picked up in other verses of the Quran with regards other messengers of God.

12.103-104

"And most men will not believe though you desire it eagerly. And you do not ask them for a reward for this; it is nothing but a reminder for all mankind"

038.086

"Say: "No reward do I ask of you for this, nor am I a pretender.

042.023

"That is (the Bounty) whereof God gives glad tidings to His Servants who believe and do righteous deeds. Say: "**No reward do I ask of you for this** except the love of those near of kin." And if any one earns any good, We shall give him an increase of good in respect of it: for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most ready to appreciate (service)"

052.040

"Or is it that you ask for a reward, so that they are burdened with a load of debt?"

006.090

Those were the (prophets) who received God's guidance: follow the guidance they received; Say: "No reward for this do I ask of you: This is no less than a message for the nations."

068.046

"Or is it that you ask them for a reward, so that they are burdened with a load of debt?"

PROPHET NOAH (pbuh)

026:109

"No reward do I ask of you for it: my reward is only from the Lord of the Worlds"

PROPHET HUD (pbuh)

026:127

"No reward do I ask of you for it: my reward is only from the Lord of the Worlds"

PROPHET SALEH (pbuh)

026:145

"No reward do I ask of you for it: my reward is only from the Lord of the Worlds"

PROPHET LOT (pbuh)

026:164

"No reward do I ask of you for it: my reward is only from the Lord of the Worlds"

PROPHET SHOAIB (pbuh)

026:180

"No reward do I ask of you for it: my reward is only from the Lord of the Worlds"

010.072

"But if you turn back, I did not ask for any reward from you; my reward is only with God, and I am commanded that I should be of those who submit"

FINAL THOUGHTS

How many religious authorities, clerics, preachers or spiritual guides exercise a tacit expectation of some kind of reward for their services?

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