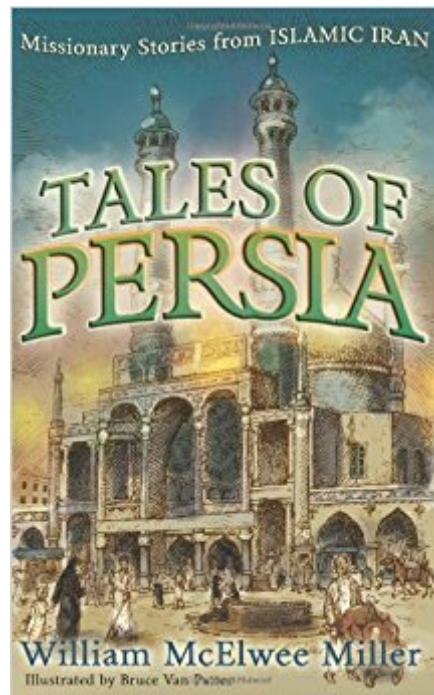




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Tales Of Persia: Missionary Stories From Islamic Iran



Synopsis

News from the Middle East finds us wherever we live in today's world. Children often wonder about this far-removed land, while parents struggle to teach their children about Islam. Tales of Persia is a timely book of missionary tales that will teach readers about Islam and encourage a new generation of Christians. Tales of Persia is especially useful for family devotions and Sunday school classes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Tales of Persia is a gem that I want my grandchildren to read. Much that we hear about Iran is frightening. Here we learn about another side—children, moms and dads, shepherds, sick people—and missionaries who take risks to bring healing and news about Jesus to Iranian people. The contagious love of God for Iranians shines through on every page." --Roger Greenway, editor of Samuel Zwemer's *Islam and the Cross*

William Miller spent forty-three years as a missionary to Iran where he translated and prepared several books and Bible commentaries in Farsi. He is the author of *A Christian Response to Islam*.

Good stories!

Great book. Factual stories. Experienced author. Iran will come back to Christ! Grant it Lord of the harvest in our generation.

Excellent resource, written well.

This is written by a Presbyterian missionary who was born in Kentucky and was a missionary in what is now Iran for 43 years from about 1920 until the 1960s. He has a sweet, endearing way of writing to children. It is obvious he has a heart for the Iranian people and a heart for children. He writes of his own experiences and of others who have ministered in Iran, including the man who first went to Iran as a missionary in 1887 and the man who was the first one to translate parts of the Bible into the Persian language. I love missionary stories and I have read a fair bit about Iran, but there was much in this book that I didn't know so I think adults will enjoy this book as much as children. Some of the chapters tell stories that are used as parables, such as the time he talked with one man about his sheep fold and how a shepherd protects his sheep. Those chapters were fine, but I preferred the chapters that gave me a bit of history or a remarkable story, such as the time he met a man who had become saved through reading the Bible but had gone over ten years without seeing another Christian. There are so many fascinating stories to be read in this book! He also does a good job of explaining things, explaining what Muslims believe, explaining geography, explaining customs and above all explaining spiritual things. I should say that I only had time to read about a third of this book but I hope to get back to it one day. I started reading it to get an idea what the children in my church will be reading, but I will go back to it for my own sake.

In order to support his family, Gasem worked hard in his little shop in the bazaar in Meshed, Iran. Every day at lunch time, he would close his shop buy some bread and cheese and go home to share it with his family. One day, the grocer wrapped the cheese in the page of a book. After the meal Gasem read the story on the page to his family. It was so interesting that Gasem continued to request the cheese be wrapped in that particular book's pages. The book was a Persian New Testament. And the pages of that New Testament introduced the whole family to Christ. Tales of Persia is full of wonderful, true stories. First published in 1979 for family reading, this simple, profound book just had to be published once again for us to read. In 1919, Presbyterian missionary William Miller answered his Lord's call to go to Persia, now known by its ancient name of Iran. He fell in love with the people and the country, living there until the late 1960s. This humble, caring man writes delightfully, with empathy and minimal fuss, about his adventures, the people he cherished, both missionary and native, and his Lord. Van Patter's black and white sketches draw out the meaning behind each story. Willing to learn from Muslims about Islam, Miller approached the people

at their level, introducing Christ in ways they could understand. He does the same for us in this book, tying it all together with Scripture. The customs, mores, religion, everyday life, and the heart of these people become alive and real to the reader. You may have already met Miller through his book for the adult reader, *A Christian Response to Islam*. This author has a deep understanding of his subject and a talent for presenting the deeper truths at an understandable level. Although written primarily for older elementary school age, *Tales of Persia* appeals to all ages from preschool to adult. Homeschoolers will delight in the fact that long before it was called homeschooling, Miller's mother taught her son at home. *Tales of Persia* will be cherished by many: the individual reader, family reading circle, Sunday School, VBS, church camp, the homebound, and those thinking of becoming a missionary. It will make a useful aid for introducing people to the need to answer a call from the Lord. Meet missionaries in covered wagons; a shepherd boy and his lost sheep; Sa'eed the brave doctor, both beloved and hated; the little girl Fatima who loved Christ and dared all for Him; and many more. *Tales of Persia* is a book to enjoy and learn from. - Donna Eggett, Christian Book Previews.com

I love that my son can learn about Iran and Middle Eastern culture through missionary tales.

Used this book in teaching students about the culture in Iran and the people who live there. Stories are from long ago and some were too lengthy for the time frame I had allotted, so I split it up over several days. The kids were very interested though. (Grades 2-4 and 5-8.)

Mr. Miller spent forty-three years as a missionary of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Islamic people of Iran. He shares these tales of people he met or heard of in his time there. Some lived many years ago, and some he was privileged to lead to Christ himself. He tells his stories simply, as a grandfather or Sunday School teacher to young children. Here is a typical paragraph at the end of a chapter. "All this happened because a Christian man [not referring to the author], whose heart was full of the Spirit of God, made a missionary journey to Damghan. There he had so much love for a proud Muslim mulla that he wept over his lost condition. It is love like this that God uses to bring people to Himself." These stories give a picture of rural life in Iran and missionaries who went there. We meet all kinds of people in these pages, ones who came to know the Lord Jesus in different ways and how that affected their lives. This would be a great book for reading aloud to the family.

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