

The choice between "**enduring**" (Saheeh International) and "**everlasting**" (The Clear Quran by Dr. Mustafa Khattab) highlights how translators navigate the tension between literal accuracy and theological impact.

Here are the key textual and philosophical lessons we can draw from this specific translation difference:

1. The Temporal vs. Eternal Nuance

- "**Enduring**" (Saheeh International): Stays closer to the literal root *b-q-y* (to remain/survive). It emphasizes the **process of outlasting** everything else. While the material world decays, these deeds stay behind, remaining relevant and intact. [1]
- "**Everlasting**" (Khattab): Leaps forward to the ultimate result. It emphasizes the **eternal nature** of the reward. It frames the deeds not just as survivors of time, but as infinite in the afterlife.

2. Form vs. Impact in Translation Philosophy

- **Formal Equivalence**: Saheeh International often prioritizes a more literal, word-for-word match. "Enduring" accurately captures the ongoing state of the deeds relative to the fleeting nature of worldly wealth and children mentioned earlier in the verse (Surah Al-Kahf, 18:46).
- **Dynamic Equivalence**: Khattab prioritizes modern English clarity and emotional impact. To a contemporary English speaker, "everlasting" immediately contrasts against "temporary," making the spiritual lesson instantly digestible without needing a root-word analysis. [2]

3. The Contextual Lesson of Surah Al-Kahf

The overarching theme of Surah Al-Kahf is the fleeting nature of worldly illusions (wealth, status, material power) versus spiritual reality.

- "Enduring" reminds you of the **timeline**: everything around you will vanish, but these deeds will stick around.
- "Everlasting" reminds you of the **destination**: the consequences of these deeds stretch out into infinity.

Summary of Lessons

When reading translations, a single word shift can change your focus from **durability** (how a deed outlasts the world) to **infinity** (how a deed lives forever in eternity). Both definitions are linguistically correct, but they highlight different angles of the same spiritual truth.

If you are analyzing specific verses, let me know:

- What **other verses or chapters** are you comparing?

- Which **specific themes** (e.g., mercy, justice, time) are you tracking?
- Do you want to bring in a **third translator** (like Pickthall or Yusuf Ali) for comparison?

Let me know how you would like to expand your translation analysis.

[1] <https://www.facebook.com>

[2] <https://image-static.collegedunia.com>