Wisdom: Imams Jafar al-Sadiq and Muhammad al-Baqir on interpreting the Qur'an

"Regarding what you do not know out of what has come down to you (the Noble Quran), you must try to keep silent. (Or else) refer the same for confirmation to the divinely guided Imams (p) so that they may lead you to the correct interpretation. They will also dispel its obscurity and make you aware of the truth. Then the Imam quoted the verse: ‘Ask the people of understanding in case you do not know.’ [21:7]"

Imam Jafar al-Sadiq (p)
Usul al-Kafi, Book 2, Chapter 16, Tradition 10

"Speak only about what you know. Regarding what you do not know say ‘God knows best’. Verily, a person may single out any verse from the Noble Qur’an (and interpret it wrongly) and may fall down deeper than the distance between the Heaven and the Earth."

Imam Muhammad al-Baqir (p)
Usul al-Kafi, Book 2, Chapter 11, Tradition 4

See also: His Highness the Aga Khan on the Imam’s authority and discretion in interpreting the Qur’an

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See also: His Highness the Aga Khan on interpreting the Qur'an

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