

التفسير المحرر

Meaning: I begin my reading and recitation, seeking blessings in the name of Allah, Ar-Rahman (the Most Compassionate): the One with vast mercy that encompasses all His creation, and Ar-Rahim (the Most Merciful): the One with special mercy, which He bestows exclusively upon His believing servants.

Al-Hamd: Used to describe the Praised One, Glorified is He, with perfection, along with love and veneration for Him, the Mighty and Majestic. All praises are due to Him, none deserves them except Allah alone, as He is the Master, the Owner, and the Disposer of all His creation.

Ar-Rahmān: The One Whose extensive mercy encompasses all His creation, and Ar-Rahīm: The One with special mercy, which He bestows exclusively upon His believing servants.

The Disposer of all His creation by His command and decree on the Day of Recompense and Reckoning.

We worship none but You, humbling ourselves to You alone, with no partner, and we seek help from none but You alone, with no partner.

Guide us to the clear path which has no crookedness, and grant us success in pursuing it, and make us firm upon it.

The path of those whom Allah has blessed with guidance, who recognized the truth and acted upon it; they are not like the Jews who incurred Allah's

wrath, nor like the Christians who were ignorant of the truth and thus worshipped Allah without knowledge.

These disjointed letters with which this Surah and others begin are meant to demonstrate the miraculous nature of the Qur'an; they show the inability of creation to produce anything like it, even though it is composed of these Arabic letters that they speak with.

This is the Qur'an. There is no doubt that it is true in itself and that it was revealed from Allah Almighty, as it does not contain anything that gives rise to doubt. It is guidance away from misguidance, and light and clarification for those who guard themselves from Allah Almighty's wrath and punishment, by fulfilling what Allah Almighty has commanded and avoiding what He has forbidden.

Among the traits of the righteous believers is their belief in and acknowledgment of the unseen, such as faith in Allah Almighty, His angels, His books, His messengers, and the Last Day. They perform the prayers with their prescribed limits, essential pillars, and obligations as Allah Almighty has commanded, and they give out (in charity) from the good provision of what their Lord has granted them.

Among the traits of the righteous is that they believe in the Qur'an, which was revealed to Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon

him), and they also believe in all the previous divine scriptures before the mission of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). They have an unwavering belief in the resurrection and the rising, the reward and punishment, the reckoning and the scale (of deeds), and other matters that Allah Almighty has prepared for His creation on the Day of Judgment.

Indeed, those who possess all the aforementioned qualities of the righteous are upon light, clear evidence, and insight from their Lord Almighty. They are also successful in attaining what they sought to attain and in being saved from what they sought to escape.

Indeed, those who disbelieve, it is the same for them whether you warn them or do not warn them, they will not believe in what you have brought them of the truth, O Messenger.

Allah has sealed their hearts, so they do not benefit from guidance, and upon their eyes is a covering, so they do not see guidance, and for them is the punishment of the Fire.

The hypocrites say with their tongues, "We believe in Allah and the resurrection on the Day of Judgment," but it is merely a statement without true faith.

These hypocrites seek to deceive Allah and the believers by revealing faith outwardly while concealing disbelief inwardly. In reality, they are

the ones deceived by their actions, thinking they are deceiving their Lord and the believers. This is due to Allah's forsaking them in this world and the Hereafter, and yet they do not realize that they are deceived.

In the hearts of these hypocrites is doubt and hypocrisy; so Allah increased them in doubt and hypocrisy. And for them is a painful punishment because of their lies in their claim of faith, and because of their denying Allah and His Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

When it is said to the hypocrites, "Do not spread corruption on the earth by hypocrisy, disbelief, disobedience to Allah, taking disbelievers as allies, and hindering from the path of Allah, among other things," they claim that their acts of corruption are acts of reform.

Unquestionably, it is they who truly defy the command of Allah Almighty, with disbelief and sins, but they do not know nor realize that their actions are corruption in reality.

When it is said to the hypocrites, "Believe in Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and what he has brought from Allah Almighty, as the companions of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and all who have believed in him have done," they say, "Shall we believe as the ignorant, those with weak judgment and little knowledge of benefits and harms, have

believed, and thus be on the same path as them?"—meaning the companions (may Allah be pleased with them). Indeed, these hypocrites are the true fools, for they spread corruption on earth while thinking that they are doing good, and this itself is the foolishness.

When the hypocrites meet the believers, they declare their belief to them in hypocrisy. But when they are alone with their leaders, from the chiefs of the disbelievers, polytheists, and hypocrites, they say, "Indeed, we are with you on your religion; we were only mocking them by saying to them: We believe in Allah and the Last Day."

Allah Almighty mocks them by granting them the outward rulings given to the believers, such as the protection of their lives and wealth. However, He distinguishes between them and the believers in the Hereafter, casting them into the lowest depths of the Fire. This is Allah's recompense for their mockery of the believers. He increases them—in terms of respite and leaving them—in their obstinacy and rebellion in disbelief, wandering in confusion and misguidance, unable to find a way out of it.

Those are the hypocrites who exchanged guidance for misguidance, so they lost by taking misguidance and leaving guidance; and, in doing so, they were not rightly guided.

The likeness of the hypocrites who believed or outwardly professed faith and then disbelieved is like that of someone who kindles a fire to illuminate and benefit from it. When the fire lights up what is around the kindler, allowing him to see what benefits and harms him, the light is extinguished, taking away what benefits them—the light—and leaving them with what harms them—burning and smoke. They remain in multiple layers of darkness, including the darkness of night and the darkness that follows the loss of light, which is more intense than the initial darkness. This signifies that the hypocrites saw the truth or benefited from it temporarily, as they preserved their lives and secured their wealth. Yet, they disbelieved after their belief, leaving in their hearts the heat of disbelief and doubts, and they remain in the darkness of disbelief, doubts, and hypocrisy.

They do not hear guidance, nor do they speak it, nor do they perceive it with their hearts, nor do they return to the guidance they sold for misguidance.

Or the likeness of the hypocrites is that of rainfall from the sky. This signifies the Qur'an, which was sent down from Allah Almighty, and in which the hypocrites profess belief with their tongues. With this rain are layers of darkness: the darkness of the night, the darkness of the clouds, and the darkness of the rain, i.e., the doubt, disbelief, and hypocrisy of

the hypocrites. Along with it is thunder, i.e., the warnings and prohibitions of the Qur'an, and lightning, i.e., the arguments and proofs of the Qur'an that dazzle them. They put their fingers in their ears to avoid hearing the sounds of the thunderbolts, i.e., the verses of the Qur'an that contain legal obligations, warnings, and others. It means that they avoid hearing the warnings and threats of the Noble Qur'an, fearing the fulfillment of the warning that Allah has promised them in the Qur'an, and fearing the punishment of Allah upon them for their hypocrisy, either immediately in this world or later in the Hereafter. And Allah encompasses the disbelievers with His power and knowledge, so they cannot escape Him, and their caution avails them nothing.

The lightning, due to its intense brightness and strong light, with their weak eyesight, is almost about to take away their sight and blind them. Meaning: the intense light of the Qur'an—with its clear proofs and shining evidence, with which they see the truth very clearly—is unbearable for their weak insights. When the light of truth appears to them and shines in their hearts, they walk by its light and take a few steps, but it does not settle in their hearts, which are darkened by strong doubts and suspicions, so it soon extinguishes, leaving them standing in confusion, returning to their denial. In this state, they are in doubt and

hesitation. This is a threat and warning to them of taking away their hearing and sight as a punishment for their hypocrisy and disbelief. Allah is capable of inflicting what He has promised upon this group of hypocrites, so let them beware of Allah's wrath and punishment, sooner or later, for indeed, nothing ever can escape Him, glorified and exalted be He.

O people, worship Allah Almighty for He is the One Who brought you and those before you into existence from nothingness, so that you may attain the rank of piety.

Worship your Lord also, for it is He Who made the earth spread out like a bed, firm and stable for mankind to settle upon, and made the sky a ceiling, and sent down rain from the clouds; thereby producing various kinds of fruits for people as provision. So do not set up equals or, as you claim, rivals to Allah, for He is the One Who created you and provided for you; so He alone is deserving of your sincere worship, without any partners, while you know that He is the One God, with no equal or partner in creation, provision, or anything else.

If you—O disbelievers and hypocrites—are in doubt concerning the revelation of the Qur'an from Allah Almighty upon Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), then produce a chapter like it from yourselves, and seek help from whoever you wish other than Allah Almighty, from

all those who would testify for you and agree with you in denying that this Qur'an is from Allah, such as your allies and partners, if you are truthful in your claim that the Qur'an is fabricated speech made up by a human.

If you cannot produce a chapter like that of the Qur'an—and you will never be able to do so—then shield yourselves from the torment of the Fire by adhering to His commands and avoiding His prohibitions, so that you may save yourselves from the Fire into which the disobedient among people and stones will be cast to fuel and kindle it. This Fire has been prepared in advance for all those who disbelieve, who reject the truth, and refuse to submit to it. As for the stones, it is said they are sulfur stones, which are the hottest when heated, and it is also said they refer to the idols.

O Messenger, inform those who have believed in Allah, the Almighty, and have believed in you and in what you have brought from Allah Almighty and have affirmed their belief with righteous deeds—inform them with glad tidings that in the Hereafter they will have Gardens beneath which rivers flow, under their trees, plantations, and chambers. Every time they are provided with a fruit from the trees of Paradise, they will think it is the same fruit they were given before in the world due to its resemblance in appearance, or that it is what they were given earlier in Paradise. However, they are

given fruits that resemble each other in color and appearance, but the taste is different. And those who believe and do righteous deeds will have purified spouses in the Gardens, free from any harm, dislike, or suspicion, both physically and spiritually purified. They will abide in the Gardens forever, secure from death and the cessation of bliss.

Verily, Allah Almighty is not restrained by modesty from setting forth any parables, regardless of what it may be, even if it is as insignificant and small as a mosquito or anything larger than it, or smaller. This is due to the wisdom contained within parables and the clarification of the truth. As for those who have affirmed and believed with their hearts and limbs, they know that this parable is indeed the truth, so they believe in it and reflect upon it. However, those who disbelieve, they object and are bewildered, saying, "What did Allah intend by this parable?" Indeed, setting forth an example in the Qur'an with something insignificant is a test that distinguishes the believer from the disbeliever. It is a means of misguidance for many people, namely the hypocrites and disbelievers, and a means of guidance for many people, namely the believers. Allah, the Glorified, does not misguide by this parable except those who deviate from His obedience, from among the people of disbelief and

hypocrisy, and this is what His wisdom and justice necessitate.

Allah Almighty describes those who deviate from the truth with the parable given, stating that they are the ones who break the covenant made with them after it has been affirmed. This is the command of Allah Almighty to believe in Him and all His messengers, including Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), as He enjoined upon the Children of Israel, which their disbelievers broke. They sever all that Allah Almighty has commanded to be joined, such as kinship ties, belief in the prophets, and other religious obligations, and they spread corruption on earth through disbelief and sins. By their disbelief and actions they commit, they have gone astray, depriving themselves of the true gain of attaining Allah's mercy and achieving eternal success.

How can you disbelieve in Allah when you were nothing and He brought you into existence, creating you from nothingness? He brought you into this world and bestowed upon you various blessings. Then He will cause you to die upon the completion of your appointed terms, and then He will bring you back to life for resurrection and gathering. Then you will return to Him, and He will recompense you for your deeds.

Allah, Glorified and Exalted, is the One Who, out of His grace and generosity, brought into existence

everything on earth for your benefit, enjoyment, and reflection. After Allah Almighty created the earth, He rose and ascended to create the heavens, fashioning them with precision and perfection. He is All-Knowing of what He creates and how He creates it, and His knowledge encompasses all that He has created.

And remember, O Muhammad, when your Lord said to the angels that He would place a vicegerent on earth, namely Adam (peace be upon him), and his progeny after him, succeeding one another, generation after generation. The angels asked their Lord, seeking understanding and not objecting: What is the wisdom in establishing the progeny of Adam on earth, when they will spread corruption therein and shed blood among themselves, while we are not appointed as successors on earth, even though we constantly glorify You with praises and sanctify You, describing You as pure from all impurities? Allah said to the angels: I know what is hidden from you of the benefits and wisdom that will result from the creation of humankind, including that there will be among them messengers, prophets, the truthful, and others who will fulfill the servitude to Allah, the Blessed and Exalted.

Allah taught Adam (peace be upon him) the names of everything. Then Allah presented those named things to the angels, challenging them, and

commanded them to inform Him of the names of what was shown to them, if they were really truthful in their claim of having knowledge of things and deserving superiority over Adam.

The angels said, Glory be to You! We do not know anything except what You have taught us. Indeed, it is You Who are the All-Knowing without being taught, the All-Wise Who places things in their proper places, for He is Wise in His creation and command, and in teaching whom He wills.

Allah said, "O Adam, inform the angels of the names of the things they did not know." When Adam informed them of those names, naming each thing by its name, his virtue and honor (peace be upon him) became evident over the angels. Allah then affirmed that He had previously told them that He knows everything hidden from creation, whether in the heavens or on the earth, as He knows what the angels reveal and what they conceal.

And remember when We said to all the angels, "Prostrate before Adam"—as an honor and veneration for him and an act of worship to Allah—so they all hastened to prostrate, except Iblīs; he refused to prostrate, was arrogant towards the command of Allah and towards Adam, and was one of the disbelievers.

Allah said, "O Adam! Live with your wife, Eve, in Paradise and eat both of you from its abundant and

delightful provisions without hardship, enjoying the variety of fruits and its produce wherever you please. But do not approach this tree, which I have forbidden you to eat from, or else you both will be among the wrongdoers for disobeying My command."

Satan led them into sin and error, thus distancing them from the Garden and removing them from the abundant provision and blissful life they had enjoyed there, by their eating from the tree. Allah Almighty said to Adam, Eve, and Iblīs, "Descend to the earth, as enemies to one another. You will settle upon its surface, living and enjoying what I provide for you, until an appointed term, which is the end of your lifespans. And you will settle within its belly, buried until a specified time, which is the coming of the Hour."

Allah, the Almighty, taught Adam words through which his repentance would be achieved. Adam (peace be upon him) received them with acceptance, acknowledged his sin, and sought forgiveness and mercy from Allah Almighty. Thus, Allah accepted his repentance and showed him mercy. Indeed, He is ever accepting of repentance, guiding His servant to repentance first and accepting it thereafter. He is the Most Merciful towards His believing servants, singling them out for His mercy, Exalted is He.

Speaking to Adam, Hawa', and Iblis, Allah said: "Descend all together from Paradise. Whenever a scripture or a messenger comes to you or your descendants, clarifying the path and guiding you to it, and you follow it, you will have complete security and everlasting joy. You will not fear what lies ahead, nor will you grieve over what you have missed of worldly matters."

As for those who disbelieve and do not follow the guidance of Allah Almighty, and deny the truth, rejecting the divine or cosmic signs, they are the dwellers of the Fire, remaining there forever, never to exit therefrom.

O Children of Ya'qub (Jacob), remember the blessings of Allah upon you, including those blessings that will be mentioned in this noble Surah. Mentioning these blessings requires that they be grateful to Allah for them by entering His religion and following His Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Do not go against the covenant of Allah Almighty, which He entrusted to you: to believe in Him, Exalted be He, and in His messengers, including Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). And to establish His laws and declare the truth that you know. For surely, if you fulfill Allah's covenant to you, He will fulfill what He promised you: the expiation of sins and entry into Paradise. And fear Me alone.

And believe in the Qur'an which Allah has revealed to Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), confirming what is with you from the Torah, and do not be the first to disbelieve in it and in the one upon whom it was revealed, Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). And do not exchange My verses for a fleeting worldly gain, such as retaining positions and wealth, and thus abandoning faith in Me and following My Messenger for the sake of the world and its desires. And fear Me alone, for this necessitates prioritizing faith in Allah's verses over any fleeting desires.

And do not mix the truth that Allah Almighty has revealed with the falsehood that you have fabricated, so that they become indistinguishable, or show falsehood in the guise of truth. And do not conceal the truth—including the prophethood of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)—while you know it, and you know the great harm this act of yours causes to the people.

And perform the prayer with its pillars and obligations in the best manner, give the obligatory charity to its deserving recipients, and pray with those who pray—including Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his companions (may Allah be pleased with them)—and be one of them.

Do you enjoin people to believe and do good, while you neglect yourselves and do not command yourselves with that, while you read and study the Torah among you, knowing from it what you have been commanded of good, and what befalls you if you fall short? Do you not have minds to perceive your misguidance and deter you from falling into it?

And seek help in all matters of this world and the Hereafter with patience and prayer. Prayer is burdensome and arduous on the soul, but it is easy and light for those who are humble and submissive to Allah, and the effect of this humility is evident on their limbs.

And these humble ones are those who are certain of their return to Allah Almighty and their gathering unto Him on the Day of Judgement.

O Children of Jacob, remember the blessings of Allah upon you in a manner that leads you to gratitude, including entering His religion and following His noble Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). And remember that I favoured you over all other nations of your time by sending messengers from among you and revealing scriptures to you, along with other special blessings.

Seek protection against the Day when no soul will settle a debt owed by another, and no one—no matter who they are—will be able to help anyone else, even if they are from their closest kin, in the

slightest way. No intercession will ever be accepted from any soul on behalf of another if it is a disbeliever. As for the believer, intercession will be accepted with Allah's permission for the intercessor and His approval of the one for whom intercession is made. No ransom will be accepted from them, and they will have no one to save them from the punishment of Allah Almighty.

And O Children of Israel, remember My favor upon you when I saved your forefathers from the followers of Pharaoh and his people and his assembly, who were subjecting them to the worst and severe torment, by slaughtering the male children and keeping the females alive; to humiliate them, disgrace them, and weaken them. And the saving of the forefathers is a saving for them; and in Our saving of your forefathers from your enemy is a great favor for you from your Lord.

And remember, O Children of Israel, when We parted the sea for you and separated its parts so that you could walk on dry land between the parts of the sea. Allah Almighty saved you from Pharaoh and his people, and Allah Almighty drowned them all, allowing the Children of Israel to witness them with their own eyes as they were drowning.

And remember, O Children of Israel, the appointment We made with Moses for the completion of forty nights. Then you worshipped the calf after Moses had departed to the

appointment, and you were wrongdoers by placing worship in its improper place.

Then We forgave you by erasing the trace of your sin of worshipping the calf, and We did not punish you, so that you may be among the grateful for the favor of Allah Almighty upon you by pardoning.

And remember Our giving Moses the Torah, which distinguishes between truth and falsehood, so that you may be guided by following the truth within it.

And remember when Moses (peace be upon him) called out to his people, "O my people, indeed you have wronged yourselves by taking the calf as a god to worship. Therefore, repentance is incumbent upon you, so repent from this heinous crime against the One Who brought you into existence from nothing, for He alone is worthy of worship. This is to be done by killing each other; that is better for you in the sight of Allah Almighty." Then He accepted your repentance, for He is accepting of repentance, the Possessor of vast mercy.

And remember when you said to Moses (peace be upon him), "We will not believe you nor acknowledge what you have brought us until we see Allah openly, looking at Him with our own eyes." So Allah punished you with the thunderbolt, and you died while looking at one another when death overtook you.

Then We brought you back to life after your death by the thunderbolt that destroyed you, so that you may be grateful for My favor upon you by reviving you.

And We made the thin white cloud to shade you, to protect you from the heat of the sun in the wilderness, and We sent down to you a good and easy provision: manna and quails. "Al-mann" (manna) is said to be everything Allah Almighty bestowed upon them of food and drink, which is obtained without effort or hardship. It is also said to be something resembling white honey, sweet, descending on the trees like dew. "Al-salwa" (quails) is a bird, said to be the quail, or resembling the quail. And We said to them: Eat of the good things We have provided for you, like this manna and quails, but they did not respond to Our blessings with gratitude, so they wronged themselves by exposing themselves to the wrath of Allah Almighty and His punishment. They did not wrong Us, for Allah, Glorified and Exalted, is not harmed by the disobedience of His creation, nor is He benefited by their obedience.

And remember when We said to the Children of Israel, Enter the city of Bait al-Maqdis (Jerusalem) and eat from it wherever you wish, in abundance and ease. Enter one of its gates bowing humbly, and ask Allah to relieve you of your sins and transgressions. If you, O Children of Israel, do as

you have been commanded, We will cover your sins and forgive them, and We will increase in faith or good deeds, by Our grace—sooner or later—those who excel in worshipping Allah and those who excel in kindness to creation in various ways of goodness.

The wrongdoers among them changed the word they were commanded to say with something else, saying instead of "Hittah" (Absolve us): "Hintah" (A grain in a hair). If they altered the word despite its simplicity, then altering the action was even more likely; thus, they entered, dragging themselves on their rears. So Allah sent down upon those who replaced the word they were commanded with another, a punishment from the heavens due to their turning away from obedience to Allah to His disobedience.

And remember when Moses asked Us for water for the Children of Israel to drink, so We said to him, "Strike the stone with your staff." He did so, and twelve springs of fresh water gushed forth from the stone, as a facilitation for them and a blessing from Allah upon them. Each of the twelve tribes of the Children of Israel knew its place to drink from these springs that emerged from the stone, so they did not compete with one another over water, but drank in contentment. Allah said, "Eat and drink from the provision of Allah, and do not act wickedly, spreading corruption on the earth."

And remember, O Children of Israel, when you expressed to Moses (peace be upon him) your weariness and dislike for the manna and quails, saying, "We cannot endure this food. So, call upon your Lord for us to bring forth from the earth its herbs, cucumbers, garlic, lentils, and onions." Moses said to them, "Would you take what is inferior in value and worth in life, in exchange for what is better in value and worth? These foods you requested are not rare, but abundant; in any town you enter, you will find this sustenance you seek." Thus, humiliation and disgrace were imposed upon them, and the mark of poverty, need, and greed became attached to them. They also incurred the wrath of Allah. This was their recompense for their disbelief in the signs of Allah, both cosmic and legislative, and their unjust killing of the prophets of Allah. This recompense, or their disbelief in the signs of Allah and the killing of His prophets, was due to their disobedience to Allah—either by committing the prohibitions or by neglecting the commandments—and their persistence in transgressing the limits set by Allah.

Indeed, those who have believed refers to the nation of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and the Jews who followed Moses (peace be upon him) before their religion was abrogated and altered, and the Christians who followed Jesus (peace be upon him) before their

religion was abrogated and altered, and the Sabians, referring to the devoted Sabians who remained upon their natural disposition of Tawhīd (monotheism) and prohibited injustice, indecency, and other immoral acts, without adhering to a specific creed or sect, and without introducing disbelief. Whoever among these past communities did good and obeyed, they will have their reward with Allah Almighty, and they will have eternal happiness. They will not fear for what awaits them, nor will they grieve over what they leave behind.

And remember when We took a solemn covenant from you to believe in Him and His messengers, and to adhere to His laws, and We raised the mountain above you to frighten you, so that you would acknowledge what you took the covenant upon, and act upon it. And We said to you: Receive the Torah which We have given you, with determination and resolve, diligence and activity, and remember what is in it by reciting it, learning what is in it, contemplating it, and acting according to its requirements, so that you may be among the righteous.

Then you turned away after this firm covenant, breaking it by neglecting to act upon it. Had it not been for Allah's honor upon you, and His acceptance of your repentance, and sending the messengers, the last of whom is Muhammad (peace

and blessings be upon him), you would have been among the doomed in this world and the Hereafter.

And indeed, O assembly of Jews, you knew what befell those among you who transgressed the command to refrain from fishing on the Sabbath. They resorted to trickery, overstepping the bounds set by Allah, the Almighty. When they did so, Allah transformed them by His power into apes, despised and humiliated.

We made this punishment a deterrent for those in their time and those who came after them, and a beneficial reminder for the mindful, so that they may be restrained by it and take heed.

And remember, O Children of Israel, when Moses (peace be upon him) said to your forefathers, "Indeed, Allah commands you to slaughter a cow so that they may strike the dead man with part of it, and he will come to life and inform them of his murderer." They said, "Do you make fun of us?" Moses (peace be upon him) replied, "I seek refuge in Allah from being ignorant, speaking without benefit, or mocking people."

The people of Moses, being obstinate and making things difficult for themselves, said, Ask your Lord for us, O Moses, to clarify for us the nature of this cow. Moses (peace be upon him) said to them: Allah Almighty says, The cow you inquire about is neither old and decrepit nor young, but is of middle age, between extremely old and extremely young. Now

that you have been given the knowledge, sacrifice the cow you have been commanded to sacrifice, so that you may find the killer of your slain one.

The people of Moses said to him, Ask your Lord to make clear to us the color of the cow to be sacrificed. Moses said, Allah says: It is a yellow cow, pure and bright in color, bringing joy to those who look at it due to its great beauty and appearance.

They said, Ask your Lord, O Moses, to clarify for us more about the description of the cow to be sacrificed, for the matter of the cows has become confusing to us. And indeed, if Allah wills, we will be guided to this cow.

Moses (peace be upon him) said to them: Indeed, Allah Almighty says, "The cow you have been commanded to sacrifice is not one trained for work; it is not prepared for tilling the earth or watering the crops. It is free from any defect, and its bright yellow skin is not mixed with any other color." They said, "Now the truth concerning the cow has become clear, and you, O Moses, have brought us its distinguishing features, so we can recognize it." So they found it and sacrificed it, although they were about to leave it unslaughtered.

And remember, O Children of Israel, when you killed a soul and disputed among yourselves about it, each denying the murder and blaming others. But Allah Almighty was to reveal what you were

concealing regarding the matter of the murder and the identification of the killer.

So We said, "Strike the slain man with a part of the cow." They struck him, and he was brought to life by the permission of Allah, the Almighty, and he informed them of his murderer. Just as Allah Almighty brought this slain man to life in this world, so will He bring the dead to life after their death, resurrecting them on the Day of Judgement. Allah Almighty shows you clear signs of His perfect power in reviving the dead and resurrecting them after their demise, so that you may understand and refrain from what harms you, and abstain from disobeying Him, the Glorious and Exalted.

Then your hearts became hardened after witnessing the revival of the slain man and other signs. Your hearts, in their hardness and rigidity, are like stones, or even harder than stones. Indeed, stones, despite their hardness, are better than the hearts of those people; those whose hearts do not soften or show humility. This is because there are types of stones from which rivers of water flow, and there are types that soften and crack, allowing water to emerge, and there are those that fall from heights out of fear of Allah, the Blessed and Exalted. And indeed, Allah, the Glorified, is not unaware of their wicked deeds, nor is He heedless of them. Rather, He keeps full account of them and will repay them in full measure.

Do you expect, O believers, that the Jews will believe you concerning what your Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) has brought, when a group of them used to hear the word of Allah recited in His Book, the Torah, and then alter it, change it, and divert its meanings to other than what Allah intended, while they know that they are false and fabricating lies against Allah?

When the hypocrites among the Jews meet the believers—the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his companions—they say, "We believe," with their tongues in hypocrisy, explaining to them that the awaited Prophet, who was foretold, matches the descriptions found in their books with this Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). And when these hypocrites among the Jews depart, and are alone with their companions, those who do not practice hypocrisy among them say, disapprovingly to those who do, "Do you inform the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his companions of what Allah has taught us in the Torah and decreed upon us?! So that this acknowledgment becomes a proof for these believers against us before Allah on the Day of Judgment, that we knew the truth and abandoned acting upon it. Do you not have understanding in your minds, so you know that you should not inform them of this, so it does not become a proof against you?"

Do they say such things and not know that their secrets and declarations are the same to Allah Almighty? For Allah knows what the Jews conceal of disbelief and denial, and what they hide of mutual blame for revealing what they have shown to the believers, just as He knows what they declare to the believers by saying: We have believed.

Among the Jews are those who do not know how to read or write and have no knowledge of the Torah. They have only tales and false hopes they have invented themselves, such as their claim, "None shall enter Paradise unless he be a Jew or a Christian," and their saying, "The Fire will not touch us except for a few days," and other such claims. They have nothing but mere conjectures.

A great destruction and a terrible punishment will befall those who distort the Torah, writing false and fabricated things with their own hands, then falsely and deceitfully claim that it is the truth from Allah, the Blessed and Exalted, in order to gain worldly benefits. For them is a severe punishment and a great destruction due to what their hands have written of lies and fabrications against Allah, the Almighty. They will also face punishment and destruction as a recompense for taking the unlawful in exchange for what their hands have done of falsification and distortion.

And the Jews said, "Our bodies will not meet the Fire of the Hereafter except for a few days, then we

will be saved from it." Say, O Muhammad, to those Jews who claimed for themselves what they claimed, "Do you have a covenant from Allah that proves the truth of your claim? If there has been a covenant, then you have an excuse for what you said; for Allah does not break His covenant, nor does He fail in His promise. Or do you attribute falsehood to Allah and fabricate lies out of audacity against Him, Exalted is He?"

It is not as you wished, O Jews. But whoever associates partners with Allah and is surrounded by sins and transgressions from every side, with no escape, and dies without repenting, they will be the ones dwelling in the Fire eternally; they will never be taken out of it.

But those who believed and affirmed with their tongues and hearts, and confirmed that with their limbs, so they performed righteous deeds sincerely for Allah the Exalted, and in following the Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) these are the inhabitants of Paradise, residing therein forever; they will never be taken out of it.

And remember, O assembly of Jews, when We took a solemn covenant from you to believe in Allah Almighty, and His messengers, and to adhere to His law, and We raised the mountain above you to frighten you; so that you would acknowledge what you were covenanted to and act upon it. And We said to them: Receive the Torah which We have

given you with determination and resolve, as well as diligence and vigor. Listen to the words of Allah Almighty with acceptance, responsiveness, and compliance. Their response to all that was: "We heard Your words with our ears, and we disobeyed what we were commanded with our actions. The love of the calf and its worship mingled with their hearts and penetrated their depths, and this occurred to them due to their disbelief and denial of the truth. Say, O Muhammad, to these Jews who claim to believe in what was revealed to them, "How evil is that which your 'faith' commands you: the killing of prophets, the worship of the calf, and disobedience, if you are truthful in your claim of faith."

And remember when We took a covenant from you and from your forefathers before, that you shall not kill one another, nor expel one another from your homes unjustly. After taking this covenant upon you, you remained upon it, and you acknowledged its knowledge and validity, and you bore witness to it. Thus, it remains with you, neither forgotten nor denied.

After that covenant, and your acknowledgment and testimony to it, you broke the covenant that was taken from you: some of you killing others, and some of you driving others from their homes without right, and you assisted against your own people in disobedience to Allah, exceeding His

limits. And if they come to you as captives, you strive to free them from captivity by paying the ransom, in compliance with what you were commanded in your Book regarding the ransom of captives, even though it was also forbidden to you in your Book to expel them from their homes and to kill them. Do you then believe in some of the Torah's rulings and disbelieve in some? For those among you, O Jews, who fall into this, there is nothing but disgrace as an immediate punishment in this world. Among such punishments was the empowerment of the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) over them, who killed some of them, took others as captives, and expelled the rest from their homes. And on the Day of Resurrection, those of you who did this, O Jews, will return from the disgrace of this world to the greatest torment in the Hereafter. And Allah, in His perfect knowledge and watchfulness, nothing is hidden from Him, nor does He forget anything, Glorified and Exalted is He, but He preserves your deeds and enumerates them for you, so that He may recompense you for them.

Those who have exchanged the fleeting pleasures of this world for the everlasting bliss of the Hereafter, no alleviation will be given to them from the punishment of the Day of Judgment, neither in time nor in severity, and no one will rescue them from the punishment of Allah Almighty.

Indeed, We gave Moses (peace be upon him) the Torah, and after him, We sent prophets to the Children of Israel, following one another on the path and law of Moses. We gave Jesus (peace be upon him) miracles that demonstrated his truthfulness and affirmed his prophethood, such as bringing the dead back to life and healing the sick, among others, and We supported him with Gabriel (peace be upon him), strengthening and assisting him. Is it that whenever a prophet came to you, O Children of Israel, to bind you to laws contrary to your desires, it became difficult for you, and you acted arrogantly and transgressed against them, preferring your whims over their guidance, so you denied a group of them and killed another group?

The Jews claimed as an excuse for their disbelief, "Our hearts are wrapped in coverings, so we do not understand." But it is not as they falsely claimed. Rather, Allah has expelled them from His mercy due to their disbelief. They believed in only a small part of what they were obligated to believe, but such belief does not benefit them.

When the Qur'an, which Allah revealed to Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), came to the Jews, confirming what they had in the Torah, and before the coming of the Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) with the Qur'an, they used to seek victory through his coming over their enemies from among the

idolaters when they fought them, and they threatened them with his aid. But when what they recognized of the truth and the description of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) came to them, they disbelieved and denied him out of envy and spite. Allah curses them for their disbelief; thus, Allah expelled them and distanced them from His mercy. This judgment applies to every disbeliever.

How evil is the thing for which they sold themselves: disbelief! They chose disbelief and took it, and they offered themselves to the Fire, knowing the truth of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and that whoever denies him, the Fire is his end. They chose disbelief and surrendered themselves to the Fire, driven by their transgression and envy of those whom Allah Almighty chose to bestow His great favor upon, apart from His servants. They envied Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) for being from the descendants of Ishmael and not from the Children of Israel. The Jews returned deserving and carrying another wrath from Allah upon them due to their denial of the message of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) in addition to the first wrath they earned for past sins. For those who deny the prophethood of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon

him) from all people, there is a punishment from Allah in which they are humiliated and disgraced.

When it was said to the Jews during the time of the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him), "Believe in the Qur'an which Allah has revealed," they replied, "Our belief in the Torah suffices us," and they denied what came after the Torah from the Books of Allah that He sent to His messengers (peace be upon them). Yet, what Allah Almighty revealed is the truth, confirming what is with them in the Torah. So why do they believe in what was revealed to them and disbelieve in its counterpart?! Their disbelief in the Qur'an is disbelief in what is in their hands. Say, O Muhammad, to these Jews: If you are truthful in your claim of faith in the Torah, then why did you kill—referring to their forefathers—the prophets who came to you, while you knew their truthfulness, and the Torah commanded you to follow and obey them?! This is a refutation of their claim, "We believe in what was sent down to us."

O assembly of Jews, indeed, your prophet Moses (peace be upon him) brought you clear signs and decisive proofs of his truthfulness, such as the staff and the hand, among other miracles. Yet, you disbelieved in what Moses (peace be upon him) brought to you of the oneness of Allah, and you made the calf into a god and worshipped it after Moses had gone to Mount Sinai to speak with his

Lord. By doing so, you transgressed the limits set by Allah, the Almighty. The Torah, which you claim to adhere to, does not command you to worship the calf; thus, your claim of faith in the Torah is false.

And remember, O assembly of Jews, when We took a solemn covenant from you to believe in Allah Almighty, and His messengers, and to adhere to His law, and We raised the mountain above you to frighten you; so that you would acknowledge what you were covenanted to and act upon it. And We said to them: Receive the Torah which We have given you with determination and firmness, and diligence and activity, and listen to the words of Allah Almighty with acceptance, response, and compliance. And their response to what preceded was that they said, We heard with our ears Your words, and we disobeyed with our actions what we were commanded. The love of the calf and its worship mingled with their hearts and penetrated their depths, and this occurred to them due to their disbelief and denial of the truth. Say, O Muhammad, to these Jews who claim to believe in what was revealed to them: How evil is that which your faith commands you, the killing of prophets, the worship of the calf, and disobedience, if you are truthful in your claim of faith.

Say, O Muhammad, to these Jews, "If the bliss of the Hereafter is exclusively for you alone, apart from the rest of humanity, as you claim, then wish

for death, and ask for it, if you are truthful in your claim."

The Jews will never wish for death because of what they have earned from disbelief and sins, including their rejection of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and concealing his description found in their Torah. Allah knows the wrongdoers; He is neither unaware of them nor heedless, but rather He is preserving their deeds, and He will recompense them for their wrongdoing.

It is certain, O Muhammad, that you will find these Jews the most eager of people for life in this world, and the most averse to death, because they know what awaits them in the Hereafter of punishment. And you will find their love for staying and long life in this world surpasses even the polytheists. One of them wishes—it is said, any one of the Jews, and it is said, any one of the polytheists—out of his eagerness to remain in this transient life, that his life would be extended to a thousand years. However, even if they were to live for the mentioned lifespan, it would not benefit them in any way nor avert any punishment from them. And Allah Almighty sees all that they do; nothing of it is hidden from Him, and He will recompense them for it.

Say, O Muhammad, to these Jews who claimed that what prevented them from believing in your message was that your ally, Gabriel (peace be upon

him), is their enemy—say to them, "Whoever is an enemy to Gabriel (peace be upon him), let him know that it is he who has brought down the Qur'an to your heart." Gabriel only descends by the command of Allah Almighty, and this means that by saying this, they are indeed opposing Allah Almighty in truth. The Qur'an was revealed in a manner that is consistent with the other divine scriptures that preceded it, such as the Torah, and is in agreement with them. It is an indication of the truth and glad tidings from Allah Almighty specifically for the believers. Among its glad tidings is what Allah Almighty has informed them of the eternal bliss prepared for them in the Hereafter.

Whoever opposes Allah Almighty, or any of those mentioned from the angels in general, or specifically Jibrīl (Gabriel) and Mīkā'il (Michael), or from the rest of Allah's noble messengers among mankind, such as Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), whoever opposes them or any one of them is indeed a disbeliever, and Allah Almighty takes him as an enemy; for He, Exalted is He, opposes every disbeliever.

We have sent down to you, O Muhammad, in what has been revealed to you from the Qur'an, verses that are clear signs of the truth of your prophethood. These clear verses have reached a great level of clarity and evidence of the truth, and have reached a state where none rejects them or

denies them except those who have departed from the obedience of Allah and refrained from adhering to His Sharia.

Is it that whenever the Jews made a commitment to uphold a covenant, a group among them would break it and cast it aside, abandoning its fulfillment? Indeed, most of the Jews do not truly affirm the truth, neither in terms of belief, speech, or action. Their lack of faith is what led them to reject the covenants, including their rejection of the covenant to believe in Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and follow him.

When a messenger sent by Allah Almighty came to the Jews, namely Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), who came to them with his description matching what is in the Torah, a group of the Jews, the people of the Torah, abandoned the Torah which Allah had revealed to them, by not entering the religion of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him); they ignored it, as if they did not know what is in the Torah about the prophecy of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the command to follow him.

The Jews followed what the devils fabricated and falsely attributed to Solomon, claiming that he practiced magic and that his great kingdom was established through it. Solomon (peace be upon him) was not a disbeliever practicing magic or

teaching it to others, for magic is disbelief. Rather, those who disbelieved due to magic were the devils who taught it to people, leading them astray. The Jews also followed the magic that was revealed to the two angels, Hārūt and Mārūt, in Babylon, Iraq. These two angels did not teach anyone magic without first advising them, saying, "We are here to teach magic as a test and trial for the children of Adam, so do not disbelieve in Allah by learning and practicing magic." People learned magic from the two angels, using it for reprehensible acts, the greatest of which was causing separation between a husband and wife, despite the love and mercy between them. However, these learners of magic from the angels and those who performed such vile acts could not harm anyone except by Allah's universal permission, meaning by His power and will. The magic that these practitioners learned was pure harm to them in this world, with no benefit whatsoever. Those Jews knew that whoever exchanged the Book of Allah and the following of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) for magic would have no share in the Hereafter. What an evil substitute was the magic they learned, in place of the Book of Allah and following His messengers (peace be upon them), if they only knew that they sold themselves and their share in the Hereafter for what harms them in this world as well, and does not benefit them.

And if they had chosen faith and piety instead of sorcery, Allah would have rewarded them with what is far better for them than what they sought in this world, if they but knew, they would have believed and feared Allah.

O you who believe! Do not say to your Prophet, "Rā'inā," for although you may mean it as a request for consideration, the Jews used it to mean "foolish" in mockery of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). So Allah forbade it to prevent such a mockery. Instead, say "Unzhurnā," meaning "wait for us and give us time to understand and learn from you." And listen to his commands with the intent to respond and obey. And for the disbelievers among the Jews and others, there is a painful torment in the Hereafter.

The disbelievers from among the People of the Book and the polytheists do not like that Allah should send down any good to the believers from Him, and among that is the Qur'an revealed to Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). And Allah favors with His mercies whom He wills from His servants with His knowledge and wisdom, and among that is granting prophethood and the message to Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him); for he is a mercy to him and others, and He Almighty is the possessor of vast and abundant bounty.

Whatever ruling of a verse We abrogate and replace or change, or whatever revelations We erase from the heart of the Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his Companions (may Allah be pleased with them), We bring forth something better than what We have abrogated or erased from the heart of the Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his Companions (may Allah be pleased with them), or something similar in its goodness and benefits. You have come to know and it has become clear to you that Allah has power over all things, including His ability to abrogate what He wills and confirm what He wills, and He rules as He wills.

You know that Allah Almighty is the Owner of all His creation and disposes of them as He wills; for to Him belongs the creation and the command. Likewise, He judges among His servants as He wills, and there is none to overturn His judgment. And you have none besides Allah, the Mighty and Majestic, to take charge of you, to bring you good, and you have none besides Allah Almighty to help you and to ward off evil from you.

Do you wish to question your Messenger, Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), who was sent to all of mankind, with questions of obstinacy or objection, or by proposing to produce signs, as the predecessors of the Jews

questioned Mūsā (Moses) (peace be upon him) with similar questions? And whoever takes disbelief in exchange for faith has strayed from the middle path and turned to its sides, which lead him to the ways of destruction.

Many of the People of the Book wish that the believers would turn back from their faith and disbelieve, and they have strived for that, employing schemes. This wish stems from the envy deeply rooted in their hearts towards the believers for what Allah has granted them of His bounty, guiding them to His straight path. This envy only arose after the clear truth became evident to them. So leave the punishment of the People of the Book for their vile words, the malice in their hearts, and the deceit of their actions; refrain from blaming and reproaching them, and turn away from all of that, as if nothing had happened, until Allah brings about His command for you regarding them, and decrees for them what He wills, which will soothe your hearts and remove the anger from your chests. Indeed, Allah is capable of all things, and nothing ever escapes His power.

And establish the prayer with its limits and obligations completely as Allah, the Almighty, has commanded, and give the Zakah as it has been prescribed. And whatever good you do, it will not be lost; rather, it is preserved and stored for them

with the All-Seeing, the All-Knowing, who is not unaware of any of your apparent and hidden deeds.

The Jews said, "None shall enter Paradise except one who is a Jew," and the Christians said, "None shall enter Paradise except one who is a Christian." These claims made by the Jews and the Christians are merely falsehoods and vain desires they wish upon Allah without any right. Say to them, O Muhammad, "Bring forth your proof for these claims if you are truthful in what you assert."

It is not as they claimed. Rather, whoever sincerely dedicates their deeds to Allah alone, without associating any partners with Him, and follows the Sharia of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) will have their reward with Allah, the Almighty. They are the people of Paradise alone. They will have no fear about what awaits them in the Afterlife, and they will be in perpetual joy, not grieving over what they have missed in this world.

The Jews said, The religion of the Christians is false, and there is no truth in it whatsoever. And the Christians said, The religion of the Jews is false, and there is no truth in it whatsoever. However, these claimants from the Jews and Christians read their books and know what truth is in them. The Jews read the Torah, which includes the prophecy of Jesus and the truth of his prophethood, and the Christians read the Gospel, which includes the truth

of Moses and the affirmation of the Torah. So how can each of them claim that there is no truth in the other's religion whatsoever?! And just as these said, the ignorant among the Arab polytheists and others said to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his Companions: You are upon nothing. So Allah Almighty will judge and decide between these differing ones—those who say to each other: You are upon nothing of the truth—on the Day of Resurrection, and He will recompense every false claimant for their falsehood.

No one does greater wrong than those who prevent worship in the Houses of Allah, striving with all their might to corrupt them both physically and spiritually. Allah has forbidden those who endeavor to ruin His Houses, both physically and spiritually, from entering them except with hearts filled with fear—fear of a divine punishment befalling them, or fear of the believers punishing them. For them is disgrace and humiliation in this world, whether through killing, captivity, paying the jizyah (poll tax), public disgrace, or otherwise. As for the Hereafter, they will have a great punishment and severe torment.

To Allah, Blessed and Exalted, belongs the dominion of the direction from which the sun rises and the dominion of the direction where it sets, and to Him belongs all that lies between them of directions and creations. Wherever you are and

wherever you turn in your prayers towards the direction ordained by Allah, you are indeed turning towards Allah, the Mighty and Majestic, in truth. For when the worshiper turns towards the Qiblah, he truly faces the Face of Allah, Glorified and Exalted. Indeed, Allah, the Mighty and Majestic, is vast in mercy, forgiveness, and knowledge, abundant in generosity and bounty, and possesses other beautiful attributes. He is the All-Knowing, encompassing all things, and nothing ever escapes His knowledge.

They say, "Allah has taken a son for Himself." The Jews said, "Uzair" (Ezra) is the son of Allah," and the Christians said, "The Messiah is the son of Allah," and the idolaters said, "The angels are the daughters of Allah." Exalted is Allah and greatly above having a son, as they fabricated. Rather, He is the Owner of all that is in the heavens and all that is on the earth. He is their Creator and He manages them as He wills, and all are His servants without exception, in submission to His command. How then could He have a son from among them?!

The Creator of the heavens and the earth from nothing, without any prior example; how can they claim He has a son and make for Him an equal, a partner, or a part of Him? Exalted is He, Glorious is His majesty! Indeed, when He wills something, it suffices Him to say to it, "Be," and it is, according to what Allah Almighty wills. Among such creations is

the Messiah, Jesus (peace be upon him), whom He created by the word "Be."

The ignorant ones—i.e., the Arab idolaters or the Jews and Christians—demanded, "Why does Allah not speak to us to confirm His Messenger Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)? Or why is a miracle not sent to us to prove the truth of what he has brought?" This request was made out of obstinacy and stubbornness, for indeed many signs have already come to them proving the truth of the Prophet's mission (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) including the Noble Qur'an. Their words echo those of the previous nations, such as the Jews and Christians and others. The hearts of the disbelievers are alike in rejecting the truth, obstinacy, and stubbornness; hence, their statements are similar, even if their sects and methods differ. We have indeed made clear the signs proving the truth of the messengers (peace be upon them)—including Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)—but this is for those whose constant trait is certainty; it is they who benefit from the signs, not those who doubt them.

Indeed, We have sent you with the truth, O Muhammad, so your mission is true, and what you have brought from Allah Almighty is true. You are a bearer of glad tidings to those who obey you, of attaining happiness in this world and the Hereafter,

and a warner and admonisher to those who disobey you, of misery in this world and the Hereafter. And you are not accountable, O Muhammad, for the persistence of the disbelievers—the dwellers of the Fire who will remain therein—upon their disbelief; you will not be questioned about them after you have conveyed the truth to them; your duty is only to convey, and their reckoning is with Allah Almighty.

The Jews will never be pleased with you until you leave the religion of Islam and embrace their religion, and the Christians will never be pleased with you until you leave the religion of Islam and embrace their religion. Say, O Muhammad, in response to them for not following their creed: Guidance is not what you are upon as you claim, but what I have been sent with is the true guidance of Allah; for it is the straight, sound, and complete religion. Allah Almighty addresses His Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the nation follows him in this, saying: If you follow their desires, O Muhammad, then know that you will have none to take charge of your affairs; to bring you good, or any helper to support you against Allah Almighty; to ward off harm from you.

Allah praises those among the People of the Book who uphold His scripture, saying, "Those to whom We have given the Book follow it as it should be

followed, not daring to alter it or deny the glad tidings of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) mentioned therein with his attributes and descriptions. They are the ones who believe in the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). But those among the People of the Book who disbelieve in their scripture given to them by Allah Almighty—by distorting it, altering it, and denying the established prophethood of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)—have indeed deprived themselves of Allah’s mercy.

O Children of Jacob, remember the blessings I bestowed upon your forefathers, a remembrance that leads you to gratitude through submission to Allah, by entering His religion and following His noble Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Among these are the blessings mentioned in this noble Surah. Remember that I favoured you over all other nations of your time by sending messengers from among you, revealing scriptures to you, and other special blessings.

Protect yourselves against the Day of Judgement by shielding yourselves from the torment of Allah Almighty. On that day, no soul shall fulfill the due right of another, nor will anyone—no matter who they are—be able to help anyone else, even if they are their closest kin, in the slightest way. No ransom will be accepted from them, and no intercession will benefit any soul for another if it is an outright

disbeliever. However, for the believer, intercession will be accepted by Allah's permission for the intercessor and His approval of the one interceded for. They will have no one to save them from the torment of Allah Almighty.

And remember, O Muhammad, when Allah tested His close friend Abraham (peace be upon him) with duties He prescribed upon him, and Abraham (peace be upon him) fulfilled them completely. Allah said to him, "Indeed, I will make you a leader for the people to follow and emulate you." Abraham said, "My Lord, and also from my descendants, make leaders." Allah Almighty said, "The rank of leadership in religion will not be attained by any of the wrongdoers from among your descendants."

And remember, O Muhammad, when We made the Sacred House a place that people long for continuously, returning to it even if they visit it multiple times. We made it a sanctuary for them, where they feel secure regarding their lives and possessions, and even animals and inanimate objects are safe within it. Take from the stations of Abraham (peace be upon him), which are the rites of Hajj, such as Arafat, Muzdalifah, and the stoning of the Jamarat, among others, as places for worship, remembrance, and supplication. This includes performing the two Rak'ahs of Tawaf behind the Station of Abraham (peace be upon him). We

revealed to Abraham and Ishmael (peace be upon them) a confirmed command to purify the House of Allah from polytheism, disbelief, idols, filth, and impurities for those who perform Tawaf around the Ka'bah, those who stay in the Sacred Mosque, and those who pray therein.

And remember when Abraham (peace be upon him) said, "My Lord, make Makkah a place where its people are safe from fear, and provide the believers among its people with various kinds of fruits." Allah Almighty said, "And indeed, the disbeliever will also receive his worldly provision, but it is little in both time and quality compared to the complete and everlasting bliss of the Hereafter. Then I will compel him, against his will, to the Fire, and how wretched is the return to the torment of the Fire!

And remember when Abraham was raising the foundations of the Ka'bah, and Ishmael was assisting him by carrying the stones, they both said, "Our Lord, accept the building of this House from us; indeed, You are the All-Hearing of our words, the All-Knowing of our deeds and intentions."

Our Lord, make us perpetually humble towards You, glorified are You, in obedience to You, compliant with Your decree, and surrendered to Your command. And make some of our descendants a community surrendered to You, obedient to Your command, and humble towards Your decree, exalted and sublime. Show us the rites of pilgrimage

and the places of worship therein, and make them known to us so that we may perceive them. Guide us to repentance, so we may return from disobedience to obedience to You. You alone, glorified are You, are the Acceptor of Repentance, by first guiding Your servant to repentance and then accepting it from him. You alone are the Most Merciful, bestowing Your mercy upon Your believing servants.

Our Lord, and raise among our descendants a messenger from themselves who will recite to them Your Book which You reveal to him, and teach them the meanings of the Qur'an, and teach them the Sunnah, and purify them from associating partners with Allah, and nourish their morals with the oneness of Allah Almighty, and obedience to Him. Indeed, You alone are the All-Mighty, Whom nothing can overpower in what He wills, so grant us and our descendants what we have requested from You. And You alone are the All-Wise, who places everything in its appropriate place, so grant us what benefits us and benefits our descendants.

No one deviates from al-Hanīfiyyah (the pure monotheism), the religion of Abraham, the close friend of Allah (peace be upon him), except those whose souls are ignorant, reckless, and misguided. Indeed, We chose and selected Abraham in this world, and he is among the successful and blessed in the Hereafter, in the highest company with his

fellow messengers and prophets (peace and blessings be upon them).

And remember when his Lord Almighty said to Abraham, "Devote your religion and monotheism sincerely to Me, and submit to it with all humility, submission, and love." Abraham immediately responded, saying, "I have submitted to Allah, the Creator of the slaves, their Provider, and the Disposer of their affairs."

Abraham (peace be upon him) entrusted this word, "I have surrendered to the Lord of the worlds," which represents the Hanīfism, to his sons, and likewise did his grandson Jacob, son of Isaac, entrust it to his sons. Indeed, Allah, the Mighty and Majestic, has chosen for you this religion that you know, so do not neglect it, nor abandon it in your lives. Rather, adhere to it and uphold it, so that Allah Almighty may grant you death while adhering to it.

Were you, O assembly of Jews who deny Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), witnesses present when the signs of death approached your father Jacob (peace be upon him)? And did you witness Jacob as he questioned his sons, testing them, "What will you worship after my death?" They said, "We will worship Allah, your deity and the deity of your fathers: Abraham, Ishmael, and Isaac (peace be upon them)—He who alone is worthy of worship. We associate none with

Him in worship, submitting to Him, yielding to His command, and being devoted to His worship.

That was a group that has passed away, and your affiliation with them will not benefit you, O Jews and Christians, if you do not do good that benefits you. Each of you has their own deeds, whether good or evil, and no one else will share in them. You will not be held accountable for the deeds of your predecessors, but you will be held accountable for your own deeds.

The Jews said to the believers, "Be Jews, and you will be guided," and the Christians said to them, "Be Christians, and you will be guided." Say to them, O Muhammad, that true guidance is not found in your religion of Judaism or Christianity, but rather in embracing the religion of Abraham (peace be upon him), whose essence is steadfastness on the path of monotheism and turning away from the path of polytheism. Abraham (peace be upon him) was not among the idol worshippers, nor was he a Jew or a Christian.

Say, [O believers], "We have believed in Allah and the Qur'an which has been revealed to us, and in what was revealed to Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, and the prophets from the descendants of Jacob. We believe in what Allah Almighty gave to Moses of the Torah and miracles, and what He gave to Jesus of the Gospel and miracles, and what was given to the rest of the prophets (peace be upon

them all). We make no distinction between any of them in faith—believing in some and rejecting others; rather, we have faith in all of them. We submit to Allah Almighty alone, both outwardly and inwardly, and we humbly surrender to Him in obedience and yield to Him in servitude.

If the Jews and the Christians believe in every aspect as you have believed, O Muslims, including belief in all the Books of Allah and all His Messengers (peace be upon them), then they are rightly guided to truth and goodness. Yet if they turn away from the truth after the evidence has been established against them, and do not believe as you believed, then know, O believers, that they intend to oppose and be hostile towards you. However, Allah will suffice you, O Muhammad, against them, protect you from their harm, and grant you victory over them. He is indeed the All-Hearing of what they say, and the All-Knowing of what they conceal and reveal, of their schemes and various evils.

Hold firmly to the religion of Allah, Islam, and uphold it in the best manner. For none has a religion better than that of Allah. We are sincere, submissive, and humble to Him alone, with the obligatory love due to Him, exalted is He.

Say, O Muhammad, to these Jews and Christians, "Do you argue with us and dispute regarding the Oneness of Allah to invalidate the religion of Islam,

claiming that you have more right to Allah than we do? How can you claim this when the Lord of all is One, for He is our Lord and your Lord? Each of us has our deeds for which Allah will recompense us. You are not better than us; rather, we have more right to Allah than you, for we do not associate anything with Him in worship, whereas you associate others with Him."

Or do you say, O People of the Book, that Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, and the prophets from Jacob's descendants were on your religion, either Judaism or Christianity, claiming thereby that you are more entitled to those noble messengers than the Muslims?! Say to them, O Muhammad, if they claim that, "Are you more knowledgeable about the religion they were upon, or is Allah?" And no one does greater wrong in concealing the testimony than those who hide what Allah has revealed in His Books, that these mentioned prophets were Muslims. And Allah is not unaware of you; rather, He is fully aware of your deeds, and He has recorded them, both small and great. Nothing is hidden from Him, and He will recompense you for them.

That was a group that has passed away, and your affiliation with them will not benefit you, O Jews and Christians, if you do not do good that benefits you. Each of you has their own deeds, whether good or evil, and no one will be affected by the deeds of

another. You will not be held accountable for the actions of your predecessors, but you will be held accountable for your own actions.

Index

No table of contents entries found

en463v2.1 - 06/09/2026