INTRODUCTION TO SURAH NISA

Why Surah AnNisa Was Revealed

Surah AnNisa is the fourth chapter of the Qur'an and was revealed after the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and his followers moved to Medina. It came at a time when the Muslim community was growing and needed guidance on how to handle new social and legal challenges in their diverse society, which included Muslims, Jews, Christians, and pagans.

Key Reasons for Its Revelation

1. Creating Laws: The Muslim community needed clear rules for family life and social justice. Surah AnNisa provides these guidelines.
2. Protecting Women and Orphans: Women and orphans were vulnerable and often mistreated. This Surah aims to ensure they are treated with fairness and respect.
3. Addressing Social Issues: There were important issues like warfare and how to get along with other communities, which needed Islamic guidance. The Surah provides directions for these matters.

Main Themes and Points

1. Women's Rights: The chapter gives rights to women in areas like marriage, divorce, and inheritance. It calls for fair treatment and respect towards them.
2. Inheritance Rules: Surah AnNisa sets out clear rules about how wealth should be distributed among family members when someone dies, making sure everyone, including women and orphans, gets their fair share.
3. Family Laws: It explains how families should work, including the roles and

responsibilities of husbands and wives. It also discusses fair treatment in marriages with more than one wife.

4. Justice and Fairness: The Surah emphasizes being honest and fair in all dealings with others, which is important for maintaining a just society.

5. Warfare Guidelines: It provides guidance on ethical behaviour during conflicts, ensuring the community defends itself justly.

6. Relations with NonMuslims: The Surah encourages respectful and fair interactions with people of other faiths, promoting peace and understanding.

Conclusion

Surah AnNisa is crucial because it helps establish fairness and justice in society. By focusing on the rights of women, orphans, and broader social justice, it supports a balanced and peaceful community. Its teachings on justice, family, and community responsibilities remain essential for Muslims today, guiding them to build equitable societies.

Verse 1

Yaaa aiyuhan naasut taqoo Rabbakumul lazee khalaqakum min nafsinw waahidatinw wa khalaqa minhaa zawjahaa wa bas sa minhumaa rijaalan kaseeranw wa nisaaa'aa; wattaqul laahallazee tasaaa 'aloona bihee wal arhaam; innal laaha kaana 'alaikum Raqeeba

O mankind! reverence your GuardianLord, who created you from a single person, created, of like nature, His mate, and from them twain scattered (like

seeds) countless men and women; reverence Allah, through whom ye demand your mutual (rights), and (reverence) the wombs (That bore you): for Allah ever watches over you.

Many verses in the Qur'an start with "O you who believe," leading into a command from Allah. This phrase highlights that Allah is not forcing His will upon us but reminds us of our choice to believe in Him. Our faith wasn't imposed; we chose to trust Allah, which means we should listen and follow His guidance.

If you faced a serious illness like cancer, you would seek the best doctor and follow their advice because you trust their expertise. Similarly, Allah invites us to follow His guidance because He knows what's best for us.

Sometimes a verse starts with "O people," which includes everyone, not just believers. Instead of giving a command, Allah invites everyone to reflect and decide whether to believe.

When Allah addresses believers, He says "O you who believe," using their faith as justification. For all humanity, He says, "People, be mindful of your Lord, who created you." Here, "Lord" refers to the Creator, indicating a basic belief that connects us all, as every human knows they have a creator.

Allah uses this shared understanding to bring us closer to Him. Just like you'd respect someone who helped you in a tough time, acknowledging Allah's role as our Creator should lead us to gratitude and obedience.

Allah, who created the universe with wisdom, uses the term "Lord" because it

implies creation, care, and protection. Recognizing Allah as the Creator means understanding that He knows best how we should live.

In daily life, valuable items come with manuals to ensure they are used correctly. Similarly, Allah provides guidance to help us live fulfilling lives. He wants us to be mindful of Him so we can follow His recommendations and fulfill our life's purpose.

Being aware of Allah and His wisdom leads us to respect and follow His commands naturally. This understanding helps us live according to the guidance provided by our wise Creator.

This verse tells us that Allah has created us from a single person. So, let us expand on that.

The concept of all humans being created from a single person is a profound idea in the Qur'an, particularly highlighted in the context of promoting unity, equality, and mutual respect amongst people. Here's an expanded explanation of this concept:

Unity of Humankind

Allah's mention of creating humans from a single person underscores the idea of unity among all people. It serves as a reminder that regardless of our differences in race, ethnicity, or nationality, we share the same origin. This shared ancestry is a call to foster brotherhood and sisterhood, emphasizing that we are part of a larger human family.

Equality and Justice

By stating that all humans are created from a single being, the Qur'an reinforces the concept of equality. This notion negates any claims of superiority based on ethnic, racial, or social factors. It promotes the idea that all individuals deserve the same rights and should be treated with respect and justice. In essence, it calls for a society where discrimination has no place.

Moral Responsibility

The idea that we come from the same origin places a moral responsibility on individuals to care for one another. It encourages empathy, compassion, and support for one another, as harming another person is akin to harming one's own self. This fundamental belief drives the social ethics in Islam, urging believers to act in the best interest of the community.

The Role of Adam and Eve

According to Islamic teachings, Adam is regarded as the first human being, created by Allah from clay, and Hawwa (Eve) was created as his companion. The story of Adam and Eve signifies the beginning of human life and is symbolic of shared human experiences and challenges, fostering a sense of commonality.

Encouragement for Reflection

This verse also serves as an invitation for reflection on the origins and

interconnectedness of life. It emphasizes the miraculous nature of creation and the wisdom behind it, encouraging believers to contemplate their place in the world and their relationship with others.

By reflecting on this foundational concept, individuals are invited to develop a deeper understanding of their identity and the importance of maintaining harmonious relations with others. Through recognizing our shared origin, we are called to work towards a more united and peaceful world.

In conclusion, let us talk about what Islam teaches us about the rights of the Parents.

The Importance of Parental Rights in Islam

In Islam, respecting and honouring one's parents is a fundamental obligation, second only to the rights of Allah. The Qur'an emphasizes the importance of dutifulness to parents repeatedly, highlighting the weight of this responsibility in a believer's life.

Qur'anic Foundation

The importance of obeying and respecting one's parents is established in multiple verses of the Qur'an, often compared with the worship of Allah. One of the most notable references can be found in Surah AlIsra:

"Your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him, and that you be kind to parents. Whether one or both of them reach old age in your life, say not to them a word of contempt, nor repel them, but address them in terms of

honour."

(AlIsra 17:23)

This verse underscores two pivotal commandments: the worship of Allah and kindness towards parents, indicating the close relationship between the two. Respecting parents is depicted as a fundamental aspect of practicing faith.

Kindness and Mercy

Islam places significant emphasis on showing kindness and mercy to parents throughout their lives. Even if parents reach old age, where they may be more vulnerable, the Qur'an instructs believers to speak to them with respect and never show irritation or annoyance. The following verse continues from the earlier reference:

"And out of kindness, lower to them the wing of humility, and say: 'My Lord! Bestow on them your Mercy, even as they cherished me in childhood.'"

(AlIsra 17:24)

This verse highlights the reciprocal relationship between parents and children, emphasizing gratitude and humility. It reminds believers of the sacrifices and effort parents made in raising their children.

Favour of the Parents

Another significant reference is found in Surah Luqman:

"We have enjoined upon man care for his parents. His mother carried him, [increasing her] in weakness upon weakness, and his weaning is in two years. Be grateful to Me and to your parents; to Me is the [final] destination."
(Luqman 31:14)

Here, the Qur'an acknowledges the physical and emotional sacrifices made by parents, particularly mothers, and links gratitude towards parents with gratitude towards Allah. It serves as a reminder of the effort parents put into raising their children and the honour due to them because of it.

Obligation and Balance

While the rights of parents are crucial in Islam, the Qur'an also instructs believers to maintain a balance. Believers are reminded to adhere to the principles of Islam even if parents oppose them, as long as such adherence does not involve disobedience to Allah:

"But if they endeavour to make you associate with Me that of which you have no knowledge, do not obey them but accompany them in [this] world with appropriate kindness."
(Luqman 31:15)

This verse guides believers to remain respectful and kind towards parents, even if they diverge in religious beliefs. The primary allegiance remains with Allah, but this does not nullify the need for maintaining a respectful and kind relationship with one's parents.

The Elevated Status of Parents

Through these teachings, the significance of parental rights in Islam is evident. The Qur'an clearly positions respect and kindness towards parents as a crucial aspect of faith, second only to worshiping Allah. This emphasis elevates the status of parents, acknowledging their central role in the upbringing and guidance of future generations.

Hence, Islam promotes a balanced and respectful approach towards fulfilling the rights of parents. By honouring parents, believers honour the teachings of Islam and fulfill one of their primary duties as outlined in the Qur'an. This harmonious relationship fosters a compassionate and nurturing environment that strengthens familial bonds and upholds values that are integral to Islam.

Verse 2

Wa aatul yataamaaa amwaalahum wa laa tatabad dalul khabeesa bittaiyibi wa laa ta'kulooo amwaalahum ilaaa amwaalikum; innahoo kaana hooban kabeeraa

To orphans restore their property (When they reach their age), nor substitute (your) worthless things for (their) good ones; and devour not their substance (by mixing it up) with your own. For this is indeed a great sin.

In the last verse, we talked about why parents' rights are next to Allah's. Parents are the reason you exist, and they have cared for you since birth. But what if a child loses a parent? Who will care for them then? Every child needs love and support, so if there's an orphan in our community, society should step in to help.

First, let's define an orphan. In islam an orphan is a child who has lost their father. In mammals, it refers to a child without a mother, often because the male leaves after mating. In birds, an orphan is one without both parents because bird couples usually stay together and share parenting.

Also, in the English dictionary, an orphan is a child who has lost both parents.

So let us see why Islam class a child who has lost their father an orphan.

In Islam, the term "orphan" (known as "yateem" in Arabic) refers specifically to a child who has lost their father. This is because, traditionally and historically, the father is often seen as the primary provider and protector of the family. Losing the father would typically result in the loss of financial support and guidance, leaving the child in a particularly vulnerable position. This definition considers the socioeconomic implications of a child's welfare in traditional societies, where the father's role was crucial to the child's overall wellbeing.

Islamic teachings and laws emphasize the responsibility of the community to care for orphans to ensure they receive the necessary support and are not left disadvantaged without their father's care.

So this verse is teaching us that Orphans are vulnerable, so Allah's laws provide special care for them. As stated in the Quran (Chapter 4: Verse 2), it's important to handle orphans' property with care and not mix it with your own.

When should orphans receive their inheritance?

The Quran advises (Surah AnNisaa: verse 6) to test orphans until they are mature enough to handle their wealth. Start involving them in decisionmaking early so they can learn to manage their finances responsibly. You are just a

guardian of their wealth, so it is crucial to keep it separate from your own.

Allah differentiates between orphans and those with mental challenges. Mentally challenged individuals cannot manage their wealth, so it is managed by someone else. The Quran advises treating them kindly and responsibly managing their property (4:5).

The Quran warns against using orphans' property for personal gain, stating it is a serious crime.

In conclusion, this verse is teaching us that we have a significant moral and ethical responsibility to care for orphans. It encourages us to protect their rights, manage their property with integrity, and ensure that they are treated fairly. The verse emphasizes the need for justice and compassion in handling the affairs of those who are vulnerable, reminding us of the broader social responsibilities enshrined in Islamic values.

Verse 3

Wa in khiftum allaa tuqsitoo fil yataamaa fankihoo maa taaba lakum minan nisaaa'i masnaa wa sulaasa wa rubaa'a fa'in khiftum allaa ta'diloo fawaahidatan aw maa malakat aimaanukum; zaalika adnaaa allaa ta'ooloo

If ye fear that ye shall not be able to deal justly with the orphans, Marry women of your choice, Two or three or four; but if ye fear that ye shall not be able to deal justly (with them), then only one, or (a captive) that your right hands possess, that will be more suitable, to prevent you from doing injustice.

Context of Revelation

This verse came at a time when many women were left without support due to

wars. It offered guidance on how to protect and care for widows and orphans. The verse helps ensure that they receive the support they need.

Verse Content

The verse advises that if you are worried about being fair to orphans, you can marry up to four women of your choice. However, if you fear that you cannot treat them all fairly, it is better to marry just one. This approach is more likely to prevent unfairness.

Key Points

1. Justice is Key: Being fair is the main focus of the verse. It begins by caring for orphans, showing that safeguarding their rights is crucial. Fair treatment extends from orphans to wives.
2. Limiting Polygamy: Marrying multiple wives is allowed but with a strict condition of justice. This limits polygamy and highlights that fairness is a must.
3. Favouring Monogamy: If a man feels he cannot be just with multiple wives, marrying one is advised. Equality in marriage is essential.
4. Historical Context: At the time, having multiple wives was normal, with no limits. This verse brought regulation and aimed to ensure women's rights were protected.
5. Care for Women: By allowing marriage to widows or mothers of orphans, men could provide economic support and stability. This adds protection to women under a legal framework.

Interpretative Insights

Focus on Responsibility: Justice, in all forms (emotional, physical, and

financial), is central. The verse encourages being responsible in handling multiple marriages.

Women's Protection: The rules help protect women from neglect or unfair treatment within marriage. This is part of broader Islamic principles of ensuring everyone's rights.

Guidance Beyond Literal Meaning: While four marriages are permitted, the focus on fairness and wider Quranic teachings often lead to seeing monogamy as preferable unless multiple marriages provide needed support.

Overall, this verse is not just about allowing multiple marriages. It sets up a system focusing on fairness, responsibility, and moral conduct in marriages. It seeks to balance justice with individual rights, promoting ethical behaviour that respects everyone involved.

Verse 4

Wa aatun nisaaa'a sadu qaatihinna nihlah; fa in tibna lakum 'an shai'im minhu nafsan fakuloohu hanee'am mareee'aa

And give the women (on marriage) their dower as a free gift; but if they, of their own good pleasure, remit any part of it to you, Take it and enjoy it with right good cheer.

Verse 4 of Surah AnNisa discusses the topic of dowry (mahr) in marriage, providing guidelines for its fair treatment and significance. Here is a detailed tafseer of this verse:

Context of the Verse

Verse 4 of Surah AnNisa addresses the practice of giving dowry in marriage. In the cultural and historical context of the Quran's revelation, dowries were often misused, and this verse seeks to ensure that they are given fairly and with respect.

Verse Content

The verse instructs men to give women their dowry as a free gift. It suggests that dowry should be provided willingly and sincerely. If the wife of her own accord willingly gives any part of the dowry back, it can be accepted with appreciation.

Key Points of Tafseer

1. Dowry as a Right: The verse establishes that the dowry is a right and entitlement of the wife. It must be given with good intention and sincerity. This highlights the importance of respecting the woman's rights within the marriage contract.
2. Genuine Gift: The use of the word "gift" indicates that the dowry should be given willingly and without coercion. This stresses the importance of the dowry being a genuine gesture rather than a mandatory payment handled grudgingly.
3. Wife's Autonomy: The verse acknowledges the wife's autonomy by allowing her to choose to give back part of the dowry willingly. If she decides to return any portion, it is permissible for the husband to accept it with gratitude.
4. Encouragement of Graciousness: By framing the dowry and any return of it as voluntary, the verse encourages a spirit of graciousness and mutual respect in the marriage. It promotes understanding and kindness between spouses.

5. Fairness and Respect: The verse discourages any form of pressure or obligation on the wife to return the dowry. The decision to give part of it back must be hers alone, ensuring fairness and respect for her autonomy.

Interpretative Insights

Protecting Women's Rights: By mandating the dowry as a right, the verse protects women's rights in marriage. This reflects a broader commitment in Islamic teachings to ensure the wellbeing and respect of women.

Promoting Harmony: The guidelines promote harmony in marriage by advocating for voluntary gifts and kindness. This helps establish a foundation of trust and equity in the relationship.

Cultural Reform: At the time of revelation, the verse represented a reformative approach. It aimed to correct misuses of dowry practices and ensure that dowries are handled with fairness and integrity.

Overall, Verse 4 of Surah AnNisa provides essential guidance on the fair treatment of dowries in marriage. It emphasizes respect, autonomy, and sincerity as key components of a healthy marital relationship, ensuring that the wife’s rights are upheld and nurtured.

Verse 5

Wa laa tu'tus sufahaaa'a amwaalakumul latee ja'alal laahu lakum qiyaamanwwarzuqoohum feehaa waksoohum wa qooloo lahum qawlam ma'roofaa

To those weak of understanding Make not over your property, which Allah hath made a means of support for you, but feed and clothe them therewith, and speak to them words of kindness and justice.

Context of the Verse

Verse 5 of Surah AnNisa provides guidance on managing the wealth of individuals who cannot handle their financial affairs, specifically children and those with unsound minds. This is part of the broader framework of justice and protection for vulnerable members of society found in Surah AnNisa.

Verse Content

The verse advises not to hand over wealth directly to individuals who cannot manage it wisely, such as children and those with mental incapacities. Instead, their appointed guardians should use this wealth to provide for their basic needs, including food and clothing, and treat them with kindness and respect.

Mismanagement of Wealth for Vulnerable Individuals: A Modern Challenge Against Islamic Principles

Hence, we are learning here that safeguarding the wealth and wellbeing of vulnerable individuals, including orphans and people with unsound minds, is a critical responsibility. Islamic teachings provide clear guidelines on this matter, emphasizing fairness, justice, and compassion. Unfortunately, presentday management of such individuals' wealth often diverges from these divine

principles, posing a significant ethical and social challenge.

Islamic Teachings on Wealth Management for Vulnerable Individuals

Islamic teachings, as outlined in Surah AnNisa, emphasize the protection and careful management of the wealth belonging to vulnerable individuals. Verse 5 of Surah AnNisa instructs guardians to manage the wealth of those unable to do so themselves—such as orphans and those of unsound mind—by using it to provide for their basic needs while treating them with kindness and respect. The emphasis is on protection and ethical stewardship.

Modern Mismanagement and Its Consequences

In today's context, several issues highlight how these principles are often neglected:

1. Misappropriation of Funds: Unfortunately, some individuals entrusted with managing the wealth of orphans and those with mental incapacities misuse these resources for personal gain. This direct violation of Islamic commands not only harms the individuals in need but also undermines the trust and ethical obligations central to this role.
2. Lack of Accountability: In many cases, there is insufficient oversight and accountability in the management of these assets. Without rigorous checks and balances, it becomes easier for guardians to act negligently or dishonestly, leading to financial loss and exploitation.
3. Failure to Meet Basic Needs: Some guardians do not prioritize the wellbeing of those they care for, failing to utilize the wealth to adequately provide for the individuals' necessities like food, clothing, and healthcare. This neglect directly

contradicts the responsibilities outlined in the Quran.

4. Denying Autonomy and Growth: The Quran encourages preparing individuals to eventually manage their own affairs whenever possible. However, many guardians fail to foster independence, either withholding opportunities for growth or making financial decisions that do not consider the longterm wellbeing of those under their care.

The Ethical and Social Imperative

To counter these trends, it's crucial for modern societies to strengthen the laws and systems that protect vulnerable individuals. This includes implementing strict legal frameworks that ensure transparency, accountability, and regular audits of how these funds are managed. Communities and Islamic institutions should play active roles in monitoring and supporting the ethical management of wealth for these individuals.

Upholding Divine Commands

Aligning modern practices with Islamic teachings involves not only adhering to legal obligations but also embracing the ethical and compassionate spirit of these teachings. Guardians should view their role as a sacred trust and an opportunity to live by the principles of justice, kindness, and integrity outlined in the Quran.

By recognizing and addressing these modern challenges, society can move towards a more just and compassionate handling of the wealth and wellbeing

of vulnerable individuals, ensuring that the divine commands of Allah SWT are honoured and fulfilled.

Verse 6

Wabtalul yataamaa hattaaa izaa balaghun nikaaha fa in aanastum minhum rushdan fad fa'ooo ilaihim amwaalahum wa laa ta' kuloohaaa israafanw wa bidaaran ai yakbaroo; wa man kaana ghaniyyan falyasta' fif wa man kaana faqeeran fal ya' kul bilma'roof; fa izaa dafa'tum ilaihim amwaalahum fa ashhidoo 'alaihim; wa kafaa billaahi Haseeba

Make trial of orphans until they reach the age of marriage; if then ye find sound judgment in them, release their property to them; but consume it not wastefully, nor in haste against their growing up. If the guardian is welloff, Let him claim no remuneration, but if he is poor, let him have for himself what is just and reasonable. When ye release their property to them, take witnesses in their presence: But allsufficient is Allah in taking account.

This verse pertains to the guardianship and management of the wealth of orphans until they reach maturity. It outlines the responsibilities of those who are entrusted with the care of orphans and their property.

Key Points of the Verse:

1. Testing of Orphans: Guardians are instructed to test orphans when they reach the appropriate age to determine their maturity and ability to manage their affairs. This involves assessing their judgment and capability to handle their financial matters wisely.

2. Handover of Property: Once the orphans demonstrate sufficient maturity, their guardians must hand over their property to them. The guardians should ensure that they return the property in a fair and complete manner.
3. Integrity: The verse emphasizes that guardians should not consume the property of orphans unjustly or wastefully. Those who are financially welloff are advised to refrain from using the orphans' funds, while those who are poor may use it reasonably, but this should be accounted for and handled with integrity.
4. Witnesses and Accountability: It is advised to have witnesses present when transferring the property to ensure transparency and accountability, protecting both parties from future disputes.

Lessons Learned:

Responsibility and Integrity: The verse underscores the importance of handling the wealth of orphans with responsibility and integrity. Guardians are entrusted with a duty to care for the property until the orphans are capable of managing it themselves.

Protection of Orphans: Protecting the rights and welfare of orphans is a significant ethical and moral concern in Islam. This verse highlights the community's obligation to safeguard the interests of its vulnerable members.

Justice and Fairness: It stresses the value of justice and fairness in financial dealings, reflecting broader principles of equity in social and family life.

This guidance ensures that orphans are prepared for their future responsibilities and that their rights are protected during their formative years.

Verse 7

Lirrijaali naseebum mimmaa tarakal waalidaani wal aqraboona wa lin nisaaa'i naseebum mimmaa tarakal waalidaani wal aqraboona mimmaa qalla minhu aw kasur; naseebam mafroodaa

From what is left by parents and those nearest related there is a share for men and a share for women, whether the property be small or large,a determinate share.

Verse 7 discusses the rights of men and women to inherit property, marking a transformative change in preIslamic norms.

Background and Context

Before Islam, women and children were often denied inheritance rights in many societies, where tribal and patriarchal systems predominantly controlled property distribution. Islam introduced a structured and fair system, emphasizing justice and compassion in economic matters. Surah AnNisa, verse 7, serves as a cornerstone in redefining these dynamics, promoting the notion of shared rights in inheritance.

Verse 7 is translated to mean: "For men is a share of what the parents and close relatives leave, and for women is a share of what the parents and close relatives leave, be it little or much an obligatory share."

The verse outlines the principle that both genders are entitled to a share of inheritance, regardless of the estate's size. This was a radical departure from previous traditions, laying the groundwork for a more equitable society. It stresses that these shares are not merely suggestions but obligatory distributions ordained by divine command.

Implications and Significance

1. Gender Equality: The verse underscores the principle of gender equality,

affirming that both men and women are entitled to inheritance. This served to elevate the status of women in society, recognizing their economic rights.
2. Justice and Fairness: It highlights the importance of justice in economic matters, ensuring that wealth is distributed fairly among family members. The Quranic approach to inheritance is meticulously detailed to prevent conflicts and ensure that each party receives their due rights.
3. Social Welfare: By guaranteeing a share for women and close relatives, the verse supports the broader socioeconomic welfare of the community. It provides financial security and reduces the potential for impoverishment of vulnerable groups.
4. Spiritual Obligations: It reminds believers that these rules are part of divine law, demonstrating their spiritual obligation to adhere to Allah's commands. Following these guidelines is seen as following a divine, moral, and legal duty.

Lessons Learned

Empowerment of Women: The inclusion of women in inheritance matters empowers them economically, promoting gender equality which is a central tenet of Islamic ethics.

Family and Social Stability: By providing clear and just guidelines for inheritance, the verse contributes to familial harmony and social stability, reducing disputes over wealth distribution.

Holistic Justice: The verse exemplifies the Quran's broader commitment to holistic justice, ensuring fairness in all aspects of life, including economic transactions.

Conclusion

Surah AnNisa, verse 7, represents a profound shift in how inheritance was conceptualized and practiced in the 7thcentury Arabian context and beyond. By establishing obligatory shares for all eligible inheritors, it plays a crucial role in promoting equity, justice, and social welfare. As part of the comprehensive framework of Islamic law, it continues to offer moral and legal guidance to Muslims worldwide, encapsulating principles of fairness that remain relevant across centuries.

Verse 8

Wa izaa hadaral qismata ulul qurbaa walyataamaa walmasaakeenu farzuqoohum minhu wa qooloo lahum qawlam ma'roofaa

But if at the time of division other relatives, or orphans or poor, are present, feed them out of the (property), and speak to them words of kindness and justice.

Verse 8 extends the dialogue on inheritance by introducing a moral obligation to consider the needs of other members of the community during the division of an estate.

Background and Context

In the context of early Islamic society, where there was a significant disparity in wealth distribution, the Quran frequently addressed the ethical treatment of the needy and vulnerable. This verse emphasizes extending kindness and generosity beyond the obligatory legal framework during the distribution of inheritance.

Verse 8 instructs those involved in the distribution of an estate to consider the presence of nonheirs, such as needy relatives, orphans, and the poor. Although these individuals don't have a legal claim to the inheritance, the verse encourages sharing with them and engaging in kind speech, reflecting the Islamic values of compassion and social responsibility.

Implications and Significance

1. Encouragement of Generosity: While the legal portions of inheritance are strictly defined, this verse encourages voluntary generosity. Sharing with others fosters a spirit of charity and benevolence.

2. Social Harmony: By recognizing the needs of nonheirs, the verse promotes societal harmony and reduces feelings of resentment or neglect among the less privileged, strengthening communal bonds.
3. Moral Responsibility: It highlights the importance of moral obligations that go beyond legal duties. Speaking kindly and giving voluntarily serve as expressions of empathy and compassion.
4. Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups: The specific mention of orphans and the needy underscores the Quran's focus on protecting and uplifting the most vulnerable members of society.

Lessons Learned

Compassion Beyond Obligation: Islam promotes generosity and kindness not only as moral virtues but also as essential components of an equitable society.

Strengthened Community Ties: By encouraging fair treatment and voluntary generosity, the verse helps to build stronger, more cohesive communities.

Holistic Justice: The verse exemplifies Islamic teachings that integrate legal and ethical dimensions, encouraging believers to act justly and kindly in all aspects of life.

Conclusion

Surah AnNisa, verse 8, provides a paradigm of ethical and moral behaviour within the framework of inheritance laws. It encourages Muslims to consider the broader implications of justice and compassion by extending help to those who are present but not legally entitled to inherit. This approach ensures that societal wealth benefits not only those who have a claim by law but also those

who are in need, fostering a community characterized by empathy and shared responsibility.

Verse 9

Walyakhshal lazeena law tarakoo min khalfihim zurriyyatan di'aafan khaafoo 'alaihim falyattaqul laaha walyaqooloo qawlan sadeedaa

Let those (disposing of an estate) have the same fear in their minds as they would have for their own if they had left a helpless family behind: Let them fear Allah, and speak words of appropriate (comfort).

Verse 9 addresses the responsibilities of guardians and community members in safeguarding the future welfare of orphans, emphasizing empathy and foresight.

Background and Context

In preIslamic Arabia, orphaned children were often vulnerable to exploitation and neglect. Islam introduced measures to protect their rights and secure their future. This verse particularly focuses on the moral and societal obligations towards orphans' welfare.

This verse advises individuals responsible for orphans' wealth and welfare to act justly and consider how they would want their own children to be treated if left without parents. It emphasizes fearing Allah in dealings with orphans and maintaining justice through fair and considerate language.

Implications and Significance

1. Empathy and Foresight: This verse encourages people to empathize with orphans by reflecting on their own potential vulnerabilities, fostering a more compassionate approach to guardianship.
2. Ethical Stewardship: Highlighting accountability, the verse underscores the importance of integrity and justice when managing the affairs of those who cannot advocate for themselves.
3. Moral and Spiritual Reflection: It urges believers to maintain a consciousness of Allah in their actions, recognizing that divine accountability guides ethical behaviour.
4. Protective Measures: The verse acts as a safeguard against injustices commonly faced by orphans, granting them an additional layer of security within the community.

Lessons Learned

Accountability and Empathy: Encourages ethical responsibility by putting oneself in the position of vulnerable individuals, promoting transparency and fairness.

Family and Social Responsibility: Reinforces the broader social obligation to care for those without resources or advocates, ensuring a supportive community environment.

Importance of Justice: Stresses the necessity of fair treatment in all dealings, underpinned by awareness of Allah’s omnipresence and omniscience.

Conclusion

Surah AnNisa, verse 9, highlights the ethical and moral framework within which guardians and community members should operate, particularly regarding orphans. By fostering empathy, justice, and accountability, it establishes principles that protect the dignity and rights of vulnerable children, ensuring a society rooted in compassion and foresight. This comprehensive approach aligns legal responsibilities with moral considerations to create a just and empathetic communal structure.

Verse 10

Innal lazeena ya'kuloona amwaalal yataamaa zulman innamaa ya'kuloona fee butoonihim Naaranwwa sayaslawna sa'eeraa

Those who unjustly eat up the property of orphans, eat up a Fire into their own bodies: They will soon be enduring a Blazing Fire!

Verse 10 provides a stern warning to those who might exploit the wealth of orphans, underlining the severe consequences of such actions and reinforcing principles of integrity and accountability.

Background and Context

In early Islamic society, as in many cultures, orphans were often among the most vulnerable members. Without parents to protect their interests, they were susceptible to exploitation. Islam introduced stringent rules to protect orphans, ensuring their property was not abused or misused by unscrupulous guardians.

This verse serves as a stark warning against the unjust consumption of orphans' wealth. It metaphorically describes the act as eating fire, highlighting the gravity and dire consequences of such actions, which lead to severe punishment in the hereafter.

Implications and Significance

1. Grave Sin and Accountability: The verse emphasizes that misappropriating an orphan's property is a serious sin with both worldly and spiritual repercussions, calling for divine accountability.
2. Protection of Vulnerable Groups: By issuing strong warnings, the verse reinforces the sanctity of protecting orphans' rights and welfare, discouraging unjust behaviour.
3. Metaphorical Warning: The vivid imagery of consuming fire serves to impress upon believers the destructive nature of this sin, eliciting a strong ethical and emotional response.
4. Justice and Integrity: The verse highlights the overarching theme of justice and integrity in dealings, especially concerning those who cannot defend themselves.

Lessons Learned

Ethical Stewardship: Guardians are entrusted with a moral responsibility to protect and manage orphans' assets wisely and justly.

Awareness of Divine Justice: Acts as a reminder of the divine oversight and the spiritual consequences of actions, promoting righteousness in handling all

affairs.

Deterrence of Exploitation: The harsh consequences outlined serve as a deterrent, emphasizing that such exploitation is not tolerated in a just society.

Conclusion

Surah AnNisa, verse 10, underscores the severe consequences of exploiting the wealth of orphans, portraying it as one of the gravest injustices. By invoking the imagery of consuming fire, the verse effectively deters individuals from engaging in fraudulent practices. This strong moral injunction ensures the protection and fair treatment of all individuals, especially the most vulnerable, thus maintaining a community governed by principles of justice and integrity.

Verse 11

Yooseekumul laahu feee awlaadikum liz zakari mislu hazzil unsayayn; fa in kunna nisaaa'an fawqas nataini falahunna sulusaa maa taraka wa in kaanat waahidatan falahan nisf; wa li abawaihi likulli waahidim minhumas sudusu mimmma taraka in kaana lahoo walad; fa il lam yakul lahoo waladunw wa warisahooo abawaahu fali ummihis sulus; fa in kaana lahoo ikhwatun fali ummihis sudus; mim ba'di wasiyyatiny yoosee bihaaa aw dayn; aabaaa'ukum wa abnaaa'ukum laa tadroona aiyuhum aqrabu lakum naf'aa; fareedatam minallaah; innal laaha kaana 'Aleeman Hakeemaa

Allah (thus) directs you as regards your Children´s (Inheritance): to the male, a portion equal to that of two females: if only daughters, two or more, their share is twothirds of the inheritance; if only one, her share is a half. For parents, a sixth share of the inheritance to each, if the deceased left children; if

no children, and the parents are the (only) heirs, the mother has a third; if the deceased Left brothers (or sisters) the mother has a sixth. (The distribution in all cases (´s) after the payment of legacies and debts. Ye know not whether your parents or your children are nearest to you in benefit. These are settled portions ordained by Allah; and Allah is Allknowing, Alwise.

Verse 12

Wa lakum nisfu maa taraka azwaajukum il lam yakul lahunna walad; fa in kaana lahunna waladun falakumur rub'u mimmaa tarakna mim ba'di wasiyyatiny yooseena bihaaa aw dayn; wa lahunnar rubu'u mimmaa taraktum il lam yakul lakum walad; fa in kaana lakum waladun falahunnas sumunu mimmaa taraktum; mim ba'di wasiyyatin toosoona bihaaa aw dayn; wa in kaana rajuluny yoorasu kalaalatan awim ra atunw wa lahooo akhun aw ukhtun falikulli waahidim minhumas sudus; fa in kaanooo aksara min zaalika fahum shurakaaa'u fissulus; mim ba'di wasiyyatiny yoosaa bihaaa aw dainin ghaira mudaaarr; wasiyyatam minal laah; wallaahu 'Aleemun Haleem

In what your wives leave, your share is a half, if they leave no child; but if they leave a child, ye get a fourth; after payment of legacies and debts. In what ye leave, their share is a fourth, if ye leave no child; but if ye leave a child, they get an eighth; after payment of legacies and debts. If the man or woman whose inheritance is in question, has left neither ascendants nor descendants, but has left a brother or a sister, each one of the two gets a sixth; but if more than two, they share in a third; after payment of legacies and debts; so that no

loss is caused (to any one). Thus is it ordained by Allah; and Allah is Allknowing, Most Forbearing.

Continuing the exploration of inheritance laws, verse 12 of Surah AnNisa further elaborates on the distribution of wealth among family members after one's passing. It outlines specific portions for spouses and addresses more nuanced scenarios concerning estate distribution.

1. Spousal Shares:

This verse outlines the shares for spouses in the absence or presence of children. If a wife leaves no children, her husband receives half of her estate. If she has children, the husband’s share decreases to a quarter. Conversely, a wife receives a quarter of her husband's estate if he leaves no children and oneeighth if he does. These allocations ensure that spouses are financially supported in accordance with their parental responsibilities.

2. Residue Distribution:

The verse addresses cases where there are no direct descendants or ascendants. In such situations, siblings (brothers and sisters) inherit specific portions. Each sibling receives a sixth if there’s only one brother or sister. If the deceased has more siblings, they collectively share a third of the estate.

3. Prioritization of Debts and Bequests:

Before any inheritance is distributed, the estate must settle any outstanding debts and fulfill any bequests. This prioritization ensures that the rights of creditors and the deceased’s final wishes are respected.

4. Conditions and Restrictions:

It’s important that bequests do not harm the legitimate rights of heirs. The verse emphasizes fairness and justice in complying with these divinely instructed laws.

5. Divine Wisdom:

The verse ends by asserting that these rules are ordained by Allah, who is “Knowing and Forbearing.” This highlights the belief that Allah’s wisdom encompasses all aspects of human life, acknowledging both immediate and future implications of these laws.

Conclusion

Verse 12 of Surah AnNisa provides further clarity on the distribution of inheritance, considering different familial structures. By specifying shares for spouses and scenarios without direct heirs, it continues the broader objective of fostering economic security and social harmony within families. These laws reflect divine wisdom, focusing on balance, fairness, and the spiritual and material wellbeing of all family members. Through these teachings, Islam promotes justice and ensures that the deceased's estate benefits loved ones appropriately.

Verse 13

Tilka hudoodul laah; wa mai yuti'il laaha wa Rasoolahoo yudkhilhu Jannaatin tajree min tahtihal anhaaru khaalideena feehaa; wa zaalikal fawzul 'azeem

Those are limits set by Allah: those who obey Allah and His Messenger will be admitted to Gardens with rivers flowing beneath, to abide therein (for ever) and that will be the supreme achievement.

Verse 13 of Surah AnNisa follows the detailed instructions on inheritance in the previous verses and serves as a reminder of the importance of adhering to these divine commandments. This verse emphasizes obedience to Allah's laws and the promise of reward for those who follow His guidance.

1. Divine Limits:

The verse refers to the laws outlined previously, particularly the inheritance laws, as the "limits [set by] Allah." These limits are guidelines that define lawful and unlawful actions in the context of wealth distribution, ensuring fairness and justice.

2. Importance of Obedience:

Obedience to Allah and His Messenger, Prophet Muhammad, is a central tenet in Islam. By adhering to these limits, believers demonstrate their submission and faith in divine wisdom. This obedience is linked with moral and spiritual discipline, essential for a harmonious life.

3. Promise of Paradise:

The verse promises those who obey these divine rules a place in Paradise, described as gardens beneath which rivers flow. This imagery of tranquility and eternal bliss serves as motivation for believers to adhere to Allah's commands. Paradise is portrayed as the ultimate success and reward for the righteous.

4. Eternal Abode:

The promise of "abiding eternally therein" assures believers of a perpetual,

unending reward. It underscores the permanence of the afterlife compared to the temporary nature of worldly life.

5. Great Attainment:

The verse concludes by labelling this admission to Paradise as "the great attainment." This emphasizes that true success is not measured by worldly achievements but by spiritual fulfillment and closeness to Allah.

Conclusion

Verse 13 of Surah AnNisa highlights the significance of adhering to the divine laws, particularly those related to social justice and family welfare. It serves as a reminder that these laws are not merely legal mandates but spiritual guidelines aimed at achieving a balanced, just, and ethical society. The promise of Paradise for those who obediently follow these guidelines underscores the ultimate goal of Islamic teachings: to live a life in accordance with Allah's will, leading to eternal reward and fulfillment. Through this verse, Muslims are reminded of the importance of their faith, piety, and the heavenly rewards that await the righteous.

Verse 14

Wa mai ya'sil laaha wa Rasoolahoo wa yata'adda hudoodahoo yudkhilhu Naaran khaalidan feehaa wa lahoo 'azaabum muheen

But those who disobey Allah and His Messenger and transgress His limits will be admitted to a Fire, to abide therein: And they shall have a humiliating punishment.

Verse 14 of Surah AnNisa serves as a critical continuation of the previous verses on inheritance laws, putting emphasis on the consequences of disregarding these divine commandments. It highlights the importance of adherence to Allah's limits and the severe spiritual repercussions for those who choose to ignore them.

1. Transgression of Limits:

This verse directly addresses the act of crossing the "limits" set by Allah, particularly regarding the laws of inheritance and other social regulations. Transgressing these limits indicates a deliberate choice to ignore divine guidance and ethical principles.

2. Disobedience to Allah and His Messenger:

Disobedience to Allah and His Messenger reflects a broader rejection of Islamic teachings and principles. This includes disregarding Prophet Muhammad's role in conveying and exemplifying Allah’s laws. Such disobedience is seen as a serious violation of faith.

3. Consequences in the Hereafter:

The verse warns of severe consequences for those who disobey. They are threatened with being placed into Hellfire, where they will "abide eternally." This perpetual punishment reflects the gravity of willfully rejecting divine commandments.

4. Humiliation in Punishment:

The verse not only describes the physical torment but also highlights the humiliation that accompanies such punishment. This aspect underscores the comprehensive nature of the consequences, affecting both dignity and

spiritual status in the afterlife.

5. Ethical and Social Implications:

The severe warning serves to reinforce the importance of just and ethical behaviour within the community. Observing these divine limits ensures fairness and harmony in social dealings, protecting the rights of all individuals, particularly in matters of inheritance and familial responsibilities.

Conclusion

Verse 14 of Surah AnNisa conveys a stern warning against the deliberate neglect of divine commands, particularly concerning inheritance and social justice. It serves as a reminder of the profound consequences that await in the afterlife for those who reject Allah's guidance. This verse highlights the importance of adhering to the principles laid out in the Qur'an and Sunnah, emphasizing that true success lies in alignment with divine will. By outlining the severe repercussions of disobedience, the verse encourages Muslims to live a life of faithfulness, integrity, and social responsibility, ensuring that justice and fairness prevail in their communities.

Verse 15

Wallaatee ya'teenal faahishata min nisaaa'ikum fastashhidoo 'alaihinna arba'atam minkum fa in shahidoo fa amsikoohunna fil buyooti hatta yatawaffaa hunnal mawtu aw yaj'alal laahu lahunna sabeelaa

If any of your women are guilty of lewdness, Take the evidence of four (Reliable) witnesses from amongst you against them; and if they testify, confine them to houses until death do claim them, or Allah ordain for them some

Verse 15 of Surah AnNisa shifts focus from inheritance to addressing issues of immorality and establishing guidelines for community conduct. It provides instructions on dealing with cases of sexual misconduct, reflecting the broader aim of maintaining social order and moral conduct within the Muslim community.

1. Addressing Sexual Misconduct:

This verse deals specifically with cases of unlawful sexual intercourse, marking a significant concern for maintaining moral integrity and chastity within the community. Wrongdoing in this area affects not only individuals but also family honor and societal harmony.

2. Requirement of Witnesses:

The requirement to produce four witnesses underscores the seriousness of the accusation and the need for clear, unequivocal evidence before any punitive measures are taken. This high standard of proof safeguards against false accusations and ensures fairness and justice.

3. Temporary Punishment:

Initially, the punishment described involves confinement to the home, reflecting both protective and corrective elements. This confinement was a temporary measure, meant to be in place until further guidance— "or Allah ordains for them [another] way"—was provided.

4. Evolution of Legal Punishments:

The phrase indicating an expectation for future directives ("or Allah ordains for them [another] way") points to subsequent revelations and Islamic legal developments. Over time, the penalties for unlawful sexual conduct were

further clarified, as indicated in later texts.

5. Social and Ethical Context:

The verse highlights the importance of both protecting and correcting individuals within the society. It emphasizes compassion, the pursuit of truth, and maintaining moral boundaries. By addressing this issue, the verse seeks to foster a community rooted in ethical values and social cohesion.

Conclusion

Verse 15 of Surah AnNisa addresses a sensitive issue within the community by providing preliminary measures to deal with cases of sexual misconduct. The guidelines reflect a deep concern for justice, protection of individuals, and preservation of social harmony. Through the requirement for evidence and the nature of the punishment, the verse underscores the Islamic commitment to fairness, preventing harm, and encouraging moral conduct. As further revelations evolved these guidelines, the foundational emphasis on justice and compassion continues to resonate throughout Islamic teachings.

Verse 16

Wallazaani ya'tiyaanihaa minkum fa aazoohumaa fa in taabaa wa aslahaa fa a'ridoo 'anhumaaa; innal laaha kaana Tawwaabar Raheema

If two men among you are guilty of lewdness, punish them both. If they repent and amend, Leave them alone; for Allah is Oftreturning, Most Merciful.

Verse 16 of Surah AnNisa deals with misconduct, specifically concerning sexual relations that deviate from the accepted norms within the Islamic community.

It continues from the previous verse's theme of addressing and rectifying moral and social behaviour.

1. Addressing the Behaviour:

This verse addresses misconduct involving two individuals. The specifics of the term "it" are interpreted by scholars in different ways, but it generally refers to acts of sexual misconduct between consenting adults. The verse directly calls for remedial action when such actions are identified.

2. Punishment and Correction:

The emphasis on punishment highlights the seriousness with which such behaviours were viewed, intended to correct, reprimand, and deter the individuals and the broader community from repeating such actions. It underscores the importance of maintaining moral standards.

3. Opportunity for Repentance:

A key aspect of this verse is its emphasis on repentance and reform. The Quran acknowledges the human capacity for error and provides a path for redemption. If the individuals show genuine remorse and take corrective steps, they should be left alone, signalling forgiveness.

4. Divine Mercy and Acceptance:

The verse reassures that Allah is both "Accepting of repentance and Merciful." This emphasizes the compassionate nature of Islamic teachings, where the possibility of divine forgiveness and mercy is always present for those who sincerely repent.

5. The Broader Context of Islamic Ethics:

By combining the themes of punishment and forgiveness, the verse reflects a balanced approach to justice. It aims to deter immoral conduct while also

encouraging personal growth and spiritual development in alignment with divine guidance.

Conclusion

Verse 16 of Surah AnNisa emphasizes the importance of addressing misconduct while simultaneously offering pathways to redemption and growth. It highlights the dual principles of justice and mercy central to Islamic teachings, promoting a society where ethical behaviour is upheld, and personal transformation is supported. By recognizing both human fallibility and the potential for repentance, the verse offers a framework for maintaining social order while cultivating a community rooted in compassion and moral integrity.

Verse 17

Innamat tawbatu 'alallaahi lillazeena ya'maloonas sooo'a bijahaalatin summa yatooboona min qareebin fa ulaa'ika yatoobul laahu 'alaihim; wa kaanal laahu 'Aleeman Hakeemaa

Allah accept the repentance of those who do evil in ignorance and repent soon afterwards; to them will Allah turn in mercy: For Allah is full of knowledge and wisdom.

Verse 17 of Surah AnNisa delves into the concept of repentance, highlighting its significance and the conditions under which it is accepted by Allah. This verse provides clarity on the sincerity required in repentance and the merciful nature of divine forgiveness.

Verse 17 Overview

The verse states:

"Repentance is not [accepted] from those who [continue to] do evil deeds up until, when death comes to one of them, he says, 'Indeed, I have repented now,' or of those who die while they are disbelievers. For them We have prepared a painful punishment."

(Qur'an 4:17)

Key Interpretations and Concepts

1. The Timeliness of Repentance:

This verse underscores the importance of timely repentance. Repentance sought at the moment of death, when faced with the inevitability of one's actions, is not considered genuine. True repentance requires a conscious and sincere decision to turn away from wrongdoing well before facing the certainty of death.

2. Sincerity and Genuine Transformation:

Repentance is about sincere regret, a change of heart, and efforts to amend one's behavior. A lastminute acknowledgment lacking this sincerity and action does not fulfill the conditions of true repentance.

3. Condition of Belief:

The verse emphasizes that repentance is for those who believe, differentiating between believers who acknowledge their sins and seek forgiveness and those who persist in disbelief until death. Repentance must be accompanied by a sincere return to faith.

4. Consequences of Delayed Repentance:

For those who delay repentance until death or die in a state of disbelief, the

Qur'an warns of a "painful punishment." This consequence underscores the seriousness with which neglect of timely repentance is viewed within Islamic teaching.

5. The Merciful Nature of Repentance:

While the verse warns against insincere repentance, it inherently carries the message of divine mercy and the availability of forgiveness for those who genuinely turn back while they still have the chance. It serves as both a warning and a reminder of Allah's mercy for those who seek it earnestly.

Conclusion

Verse 17 of Surah AnNisa highlights the conditions necessary for genuine repentance, emphasizing its timely and sincere nature. It serves as a call to believers to reflect upon their actions and continuously seek forgiveness before the shadow of death approaches. By offering a path to redemption, the verse reflects the deep mercy within Islam, encouraging continuous moral and spiritual vigilance. It reminds believers of the everpresent opportunity to return to righteousness and divine grace before it is too late.

Verse 18

Wa laisatit tawbatu lillazeena ya'maloonas saiyiaati hattaaa izaa hadara ahadahumul mawtu qaala innee tubtul 'aana wa lallazeena yamootoona wa hum kuffaar; ulaaa'ika a'tadnaa lahum 'azaaban aleemaa

Of no effect is the repentance of those who continue to do evil, until death faces one of them, and he says, "Now have I repented indeed;" nor of those who die rejecting Faith: for them have We prepared a punishment most grievous.

1. Timeliness of Repentance:

This verse emphasizes that repentance should not be delayed until a person is on their deathbed. Genuine repentance must come from sincere regret and a true intention to change, not merely as a lastminute attempt to avoid consequences after a lifetime of wrongdoing.

2. Sincerity is Essential:

Repentance must involve a real intention to turn away from sin and align one's actions with divine guidance. An insincere declaration of repentance at the approach of death lacks the authenticity required for true spiritual transformation.

3. State of Disbelief:

The verse also addresses those who die in a state of disbelief. Without embracing faith during their lifetime, repentance at the moment of death does not fulfill the criteria for acceptance.

4. Consequences for Not Repenting:

For those who delay repentance until death or persist in disbelief, the verse warns of a "painful punishment." This serves as a reminder of the importance of sincere and timely repentance in Islam.

Conclusion:

Verse 18 of Surah AnNisa stresses the importance of sincere repentance and timely reformation of one's life. It encourages believers to sincerely seek forgiveness throughout their lives and warns against delaying repentance until it is too late. Through this, the verse guides Muslims

towards a mindful and proactive approach to spiritual and moral development.

Verse 19

Yaaa aiyuhal lazeena aamanoo laa yahillu lakum an tarisun nisaaa'a karhan wa laa ta'duloohunna litazhaboo biba'di maaa aataitumoohunna illaaa ai ya'teena bifaahishatim mubaiyinah; wa 'aashiroo hunna bilma'roof; fa in karihtumoohunna fa'asaaa an takrahoo shai'anw wa yaj'alal laahu feehi khairan kaseeraa

O ye who believe! Ye are forbidden to inherit women against their will. Nor should ye treat them with harshness, that ye may Take away part of the dower ye have given them,except where they have been guilty of open lewdness; on the contrary live with them on a footing of kindness and equity. If ye take a dislike to them it may be that ye dislike a thing, and Allah brings about through it a great deal of good.

Verse 19 of Surah AnNisa, which deals with marital relationships and ethical conduct within family dynamics.

1. Prohibition of Forced Inheritance:

This verse addresses a practice that was prevalent in preIslamic Arabia, where women were considered part of the inheritance and could be forcibly married. Islam prohibited this practice, asserting women's autonomy and rights in marriage.

2. Fair Treatment in Marriage:

The verse instructs believers not to create difficulties for their wives to reclaim any part of the dower unless there is clear immorality. This emphasizes fairness and respect in marital relationships, protecting women from exploitation.

3. Living with Kindness:

Believers are encouraged to live with their spouses kindly. This directive highlights the importance of compassion, understanding, and respect within marriage, reflecting the core values of Islamic teachings on family life.

4. Perspective on Dislikes:

The verse provides wisdom regarding personal dislikes within marriage. It encourages patience and an open mind by reminding that what one may dislike can bring about much good, indicating the potential for growth and blessing in unforeseen aspects of life.

Conclusion:

Verse 19 of Surah AnNisa establishes important principles for treating women with dignity and fairness in marriage. By prohibiting forced marriages and encouraging kindness, the verse seeks to foster harmonious and respectful family relationships. It underscores the importance of patience and a positive outlook, guiding Muslims to see the potential for good even in challenging situations.

Verse 20

Wa in arattumustib daala zawjim makaana zawjin wa aataitum ihdaahunna qintaaran falaa ta'khuzoo minhu shai'aa; ata'khuzoonahoo buhtaannanw wa ismam mubeenaa

But if ye decide to take one wife in place of another, even if ye had given the latter a whole treasure for dower, Take not the least bit of it back: Would ye take it by slander and manifest wrong?

Verse 20 from Surah AnNisa, discusses marital relationships and ethical considerations regarding dowry.

1. Ethical Considerations in Marriage:

This verse addresses situations where a husband wishes to marry another woman, highlighting the importance of fairness and ethical behaviour in such circumstances.

2. Respecting Dowries:

If a husband has given his wife a significant dowry or gifts, the verse instructs that he must not take any part of it back if he decides to separate or marry someone else. This underscores the dowry as a rightful gift to the wife, representing her security and dignity.

3. Condemnation of Injustice:

The verse condemns the act of reclaiming the dowry as unjust and a manifest sin. It serves as a reminder of the moral responsibility to treat spouses with fairness and not exploit them financially or emotionally.

4. Emphasis on Justice and Dignity:

By forbidding the retrieval of given gifts, the verse emphasizes the broader ethical principle of justice and respect for one's partner, reflecting the Quran's guidance to uphold personal integrity and kindness in relationships.

Conclusion:

Verse 20 of Surah AnNisa reiterates the importance of justice and fairness in marriage, particularly when considering changes in marital relationships. It highlights the dowry as a symbol of respect and security for women, warning against any attempts to undermine it unjustly. Through these teachings, the verse encourages Muslims to honor commitments and maintain ethical conduct in all aspects of marital life.

Verse 21

Wa kaifa ta'khuzoonahoo wa qad afdaa ba'dukum ilaa ba'dinw wa akhazna minkum meesaaqan ghaleezaa

And how could ye take it when ye have gone in unto each other, and they have Taken from you a solemn covenant?

Surah AnNisa, verse 21, continues to emphasize the sanctity and seriousness of marriage within Islamic teachings. It addresses key aspects of the marital relationship, focusing on commitments and responsibilities.

1. Sanctity of Marriage:

This verse highlights the significance of the marital bond as a "solemn covenant." It indicates the spiritual and ethical weight carried by the marriage agreement, beyond just a legal contract.
The relationship is depicted as sacred, underscoring the mutual respect and dignity it necessitates.

2. Marital Rights and Obligations:

The verse questions the morality of reclaiming gifts or dowries after the marriage has been consummated, emphasizing the rights of both spouses under the covenant.

It reflects the inherent responsibilities each partner has towards the other, advocating for fairness and accountability within the marriage.

3. Commitment and Ethics:

By asking a rhetorical question about taking back what was given, the verse challenges spouses to reflect on their ethical conduct. It suggests that taking back the dowry, after having shared the intimacy and partnership of marriage, is unjust.

This calls for moral introspection, encouraging believers to maintain honesty and integrity in their relationships.

4. Cultural Reformation:

In the historical context, this verse acted as a corrective measure against unjust cultural practices related to marriage and divorce.

It helped to establish and protect the financial rights and dignity of women, addressing imbalances prevalent in preIslamic societies.

Conclusion

Verse 21 of Surah AnNisa makes it clear that marriage is not merely a contractual agreement but a profound commitment that demands respect, fairness, and ethical integrity. By referring to it as a "solemn covenant," the verse elevates the understanding of marriage to a divine and moral commitment.

This verse serves as a reminder to honour marital obligations and underscores the importance of equitable and compassionate treatment between spouses. Through its teachings, it reinforces the values of justice, dignity, and mutual respect, which are foundational to Islamic principles regarding family and societal interactions.

Verse 22

Wa laa tankihoo maa nakaha aabaaa'ukum minan nisaaa'i illaa maa qad salaf;

innahoo kaana faahishatanw wa maqtanw wa saaa'a sabeelaa

And marry not women whom your fathers married, except what is past: It was

shameful and odious, an abominable custom indeed.

verse 23 from Surah AnNisa, which details the categories of women Muslim men are prohibited from marrying, emphasizing the importance of preserving family integrity and moral boundaries.

Understanding Verse 23 of Surah AnNisa: Prohibited Marriages

Verse 23 of Surah AnNisa provides a comprehensive list of familial relationships that prohibit marriage, serving as a foundational guideline in Islamic family law.

1. Preserving Family Integrity:

The verse clearly outlines relationships within which marriage is prohibited to preserve the sanctity and harmony of family dynamics. This helps prevent conflicts of interest and ensures that familial roles are respected.

2. Specific Prohibitions:

Mothers, daughters, sisters, paternal and maternal aunts, nieces, and maternal figures from nursing relationships are all explicitly prohibited for marriage. This list prevents confusion over personal and family boundaries.

3. Nursing Relationships:

The inclusion of "milk mothers" and "sisters through nursing" acknowledges the cultural practice of milk kinship, which was and continues to be significant in certain cultures, extending familial bonds beyond blood relations.

4. Steps and Extensions:

The prohibition extends to steprelations, such as a man's stepdaughters (if the marriage has been consummated), and relationships formed through a son's marriage, emphasizing respect and boundaries within extended family structures.

5. Marital Conditions:

The verse allows marriage to a stepdaughter if the marriage to her mother was not consummated, showing considerations for actual familial closeness and interaction.

6. Historical Exceptions and Divine Mercy:

The mention of exceptions ("except for what has already occurred") acknowledges previous cultural practices, coupled with the reminder that "Allah is ever Forgiving and Merciful," underscoring divine understanding of human contexts and errors.

Conclusion

Verse 23 of Surah AnNisa provides detailed guidance on familial boundaries concerning marriage. By establishing these clear guidelines, the Quran aims to protect family relationships, ensuring they remain untainted by complications of inappropriate unions.

This set of rules is a core component of Islamic family law, intended to preserve ethical and respectful relations within families. Adhering to these divinely ordained boundaries fosters societal stability and reflects the broader Quranic themes of justice, respect, and moral integrity.

Verse 24

Walmuhsanaatu minan nisaaa'i illaa maa malakat aimaanukum kitaabal laahi 'alaikum; wa uhilla lakum maa waraaa'a zaalikum an tabtaghoo bi'amwaalikum muhsineena ghaira musaa fiheen; famastamta'tum bihee minhunna fa

aatoohunna ujoorahunna fareedah; wa laa junaaha 'alaikum feemaa taraadaitum bihee mim ba'dil fareedah; innal laaha kaana 'Aleeman Hakeemaa

Also (prohibited are) women already married, except those whom your right hands possess: Thus hath Allah ordained (Prohibitions) against you: Except for these, all others are lawful, provided ye seek (them in marriage) with gifts from your property, desiring chastity, not lust, seeing that ye derive benefit from them, give them their dowers (at least) as prescribed; but if, after a dower is prescribed, agree Mutually (to vary it), there is no blame on you, and Allah is Allknowing, Allwise.

Verse 24 of Surah AnNisa deals with the regulations concerning prohibited relationships in marriage and permissible marital contracts, providing guidance for maintaining ethical family structures.

1. Prohibition of Married Women:

The verse outlines that Muslim men are prohibited from marrying women who are already married, with the exception being "those your right hands possess." This phrase typically refers to female captives during war, reflecting historical contexts of warfare and its aftermath in 7thcentury Arabia.

2. Lawful Marriages:

Beyond the classes of women prohibited in previous verses and those mentioned here, the verse sets out that it is permissible for men to marry other women through lawful contracts. Marriage must be pursued with integrity and respect, aiming for chastity and not mere lustful intention.

3. Marital Gifts and Obligations:

The verse emphasizes the importance of providing a dowry (mahr) to wives, which is a mandatory part of the marriage contract. This act symbolizes respect and commitment, ensuring the financial security of the wife.

4. Mutual Agreement:

It allows for agreements beyond the obligatory dowry, highlighting flexibility and mutual consent between spouses regarding additional terms, provided they do not contravene Islamic principles.

5. Divine Wisdom:

The reminder that "Indeed, Allah is ever Knowing and Wise" highlights the belief that these guidelines are rooted in divine wisdom, aimed at fostering just and ethical family relationships.

Conclusion

Verse 24 of Surah AnNisa provides a comprehensive set of regulations designed to uphold the sanctity and integrity of marriage. It emphasizes lawful conduct and reinforces the ethical considerations essential to building a cohesive family structure in Islam.

Through these teachings, the Quran aims to sustain social order, respect, and

mutual fulfillment within marital relationships, balancing individual rights with community harmony. By adhering to these divine guidelines, believers can maintain their focus on achieving spiritual and moral integrity within their personal and family lives.

Verse 25

Wa mal lam yastati' minkum tawlan ai yankihal muhsanaatil mu'minaati famimmaa malakat aimaanukum min fatayaatikumul mu'minaat; wallaahu a'lamu bi eemaanikum; ba'dukum mim ba'd; fankihoohunna bi izni ahlihinna wa aatoohunna ujoorahunna bilma'roofi muhsanaatin ghaira musaa fihaatinw wa laa muttakhizaati akhdaan; fa izaaa uhsinna fa in ataina bifaahi shatin fa'alaihinnna nisfu maa 'alal muhsanaati minal 'azaab; zaalika liman khashiyal 'anata minkum; wa an tasbiroo khairul lakum; wallaahu Ghafoorur Raheem

If any of you have not the means wherewith to wed free believing women, they may wed believing girls from among those whom your right hands possess: And Allah hath full knowledge about your faith. Ye are one from another: Wed them with the leave of their owners, and give them their dowers, according to what is reasonable: They should be chaste, not lustful, nor taking paramours: when they are taken in wedlock, if they fall into shame, their punishment is half that for free women. This (permission) is for those among you who fear sin; but it is better for you that ye practise selfrestraint. And Allah is Oftforgiving, Most Merciful.

Verse 25 of Surah AnNisa addresses the conditions under which a Muslim man may marry a believing slave woman, providing guidance on maintaining ethical

and respectful marital relationships even within the context of slavery.

Understanding Verse 25 of Surah AnNisa: Marriage to Slave Women

Verse 25 of Surah AnNisa provides guidance on marrying believing slave women, highlighting the considerations and conditions that apply to such marriages.

1. Permissibility Under Conditions:

The verse addresses Muslim men who lack the financial means to marry free women, permitting them to marry believing slave women under certain conditions. It emphasizes faith and mutual respect within these marital arrangements.

2. Equality and Faith:

It highlights that all believers are of one another, acknowledging the spiritual equality of all Muslims. This recognition underlines the importance of faith over social status in determining compatibility in marriage.

3. Permission and Fair Treatment:

Marrying a slave woman requires the permission of her guardians, and the man must provide a fair dowry (mahr). This reflects the Quran's concern for the woman’s rights and dignity, even within the context of slavery.

4. Moral Conduct:

The verse specifies that the women must be chaste, outlining clear moral expectations. It also stipulates a different legal consequence for adultery, reflecting their different societal position.

5. Encouragement of Patience:

It concludes by advising patience, suggesting that abstinence or waiting for a more secure financial situation might be preferable. This promotes selfrestraint and sensitivity to the gravity of the decision.

6. Divine Mercy:

The reminder of Allah's forgiveness and mercy reinforces that while specific allowances are made, striving for higher ethical standards and relying on divine guidance is encouraged.

Conclusion

Verse 25 of Surah An Nisa provides thoughtful guidance on the ethical considerations of marrying slave women, maintaining dignity and fairness in such relationships. It emphasizes the importance of faith, consent, and moral conduct, reinforcing Islamic principles of justice and respect within marital unions.

Through this guidance, the Quran addresses real societal conditions of the time while promoting a movement toward greater equity, responsibility, and divine consciousness in personal relationships.

Verse 26

Yureedul laahu liyubai yina lakum wa yahdiyakum sunanal lazeena min qablikum wa yatooba 'alaikum; wallaahu 'Aleemun Hakeem

Allah doth wish to make clear to you and to show you the ordinances of those before you; and (He doth wish to) turn to you (In Mercy): And Allah is Allknowing, Allwise.

Verse 26 of Surah AnNisa is an expression of Allah's intention to provide clear guidance and facilitate a path of righteousness for believers. This verse reassures us of the purpose behind divine instructions and emphasizes Allah's wisdom and mercy.

Clarification of Guidance

The verse begins by stating that Allah wants to clarify things for us. This means that the rules and guidance found in the Quran are meant to help us understand the difference between right and wrong clearly. Just as a teacher explains lessons to students to help them learn and succeed, Allah provides us with clear instructions to guide us through the challenges of life. These teachings are there to help us make good choices and live in a way that is pleasing to Allah.

Learning from the Past

Allah also guides us to the ways of those before us. In this context, it means that the lives of earlier prophets and righteous people serve as valuable examples. By looking at their lives, we can learn how they dealt with challenges, remained faithful, and adhered to Allah's guidance. Their stories are not just tales from the past; they are lessons intended to teach us how to navigate our own lives. These examples help us understand the importance of patience, kindness, and perseverance.

Opportunity for Repentance

The verse further highlights Allah’s willingness to accept our repentance. This is an important reminder that everyone makes mistakes, but Allah’s mercy is vast. He encourages us to return to Him when we err, offering forgiveness and a fresh start. This opportunity for repentance reflects Allah's loving and forgiving nature, allowing us to correct our paths and improve ourselves continuously.

Allah's Knowledge and Wisdom

Lastly, the verse underlines that Allah is AllKnowing and AllWise. His commandments are based on perfect understanding and wisdom, ensuring that they are tailored to benefit us. Even when we may not immediately understand the reasoning behind a particular rule, we can trust that it is designed with our best interests in mind. Allah’s comprehensive knowledge of everything guides the principles that lead us to a harmonious and fulfilling life.

Conclusion

Verse 26 of Surah AnNisa is a gentle reminder of Allah’s compassion and guidance. It reassures us that the divine instructions are not arbitrary but are meant to enlighten our path and lead us towards a righteous life. By learning from past examples and seeking Allah's forgiveness, we are encouraged to grow spiritually. Trusting in Allah’s wisdom allows us to embrace these teachings and walk confidently on the path He has set out for us.

Verse 27

Wallaahu yureedu ai yatooba 'alaikum wa yureedul lazeena yattabi 'oonash shahawaati an tameeloo mailan 'azeemaa

Allah doth wish to Turn to you, but the wish of those who follow their lusts is that ye should turn away (from Him), far, far away.

Verse 27 of Surah AnNisa serves as a profound reminder of Allah's merciful nature and His desire for our repentance, while also warning us about the dangers of following unchecked desires.

Allah's Desire for Repentance

The verse begins by highlighting that Allah wants to accept our repentance. This means that Allah, in His infinite mercy, is always ready to forgive us for our mistakes. He encourages us to recognize our wrongdoings and turn back to Him, seeking forgiveness. This aspect of divine mercy is central to the relationship between Allah and believers, emphasizing that no matter how many times we falter, Allah's forgiveness is always available to those who sincerely seek it.

Warning Against Desires

In contrast to Allah's desire for our wellbeing and moral correction, the verse warns about the presence of individuals who follow only their passions and desires. These people are driven by immediate gratification and often ignore moral and ethical guidelines. Their lifestyle and choices can be tempting, and they may try to influence others to join them. The Quran cautions us against

such influences, emphasizing the importance of being vigilant about the company we keep and the paths we choose.

The Danger of Deviating

The "great deviation" referred to in the verse indicates a significant departure from the moral and ethical teachings that Allah has laid out for us. When we follow our unchecked desires or are led astray by others, we risk making choices that harm our spiritual wellbeing and disrupt the harmony in our lives. This deviation can lead us away from the path of righteousness, that is intended to guide us towards a fulfilling and balanced life.

Conclusion

Verse 27 of Surah AnNisa provides a dual reminder: Allah's persistent readiness to forgive those who repent and the dangers posed by those who prioritize their desires over divine guidance. The verse encourages believers to remain mindful of Allah's mercy and to guard against negative influences that could lead them astray. By staying true to the path of righteousness and seeking Allah's forgiveness, we are able to navigate life with moral clarity and spiritual strength.

Verse 28

Yureedul laahu ai yukhaffifa 'ankum; wa khuliqal insaanu da'eefaa

Allah doth wish to lighten your (difficulties): For man was created Weak (in flesh).

Verse 28 of Surah AnNisa addresses human nature and the wisdom behind Allah's regulations, highlighting His compassion and understanding of human limitations.

Allah's Knowledge of Human Nature

This verse begins by acknowledging that people have weaknesses. It states:

"Allah wants to lighten for you [your difficulties], and mankind was created weak."

Allah understands that humans have limitations and face various challenges in life. This recognition is a reminder that the laws and teachings given by Allah are designed with our human nature in mind. They are meant to guide us towards a fulfilling life without overwhelming us.

The Purpose of Divine Law

The purpose of divine law, as mentioned in this verse, is to make life easier and more manageable for believers. Allah's rules are not meant to be burdensome but are intended to simplify our lives and help us navigate the complexities of the world. This understanding highlights Allah's mercy and compassion, as He provides guidance that considers our strengths and weaknesses.

Emphasis on Compassionate Guidance

By stating that humans were created weak, the verse emphasizes the need for

guidance that acknowledges these weaknesses. Rather than being harsh or overly demanding, Allah's teachings are compassionate, allowing us to grow and improve at a pace that considers our limitations. This compassionate approach encourages introspection and selfimprovement, providing us a balanced way of life.

Conclusion

Verse 28 of Surah AnNisa serves as a comforting reminder of Allah's understanding and mercy. It reassures us that the rules and guidance provided by Allah are meant to accommodate our human nature, helping us lead a good life without being overwhelmed. By understanding and following these compassionate teachings, believers can seek a life of balance and fulfillment, aligning with the divine wisdom that shapes these laws.

Verse 29

Yaaa aiyuhal lazeena aamanoo laa ta'kulooo amwaalakum bainakum bilbaatili 'illaaa an takoona tijaaratan 'an taraadim minkum; wa laa taqtulooo anfusakum; innal laaha kaana bikum Raheemaa

O ye who believe! Eat not up your property among yourselves in vanities: But let there be amongst you Traffic and trade by mutual goodwill: Nor kill (or destroy) yourselves: for verily Allah hath been to you Most Merciful!

Verse 29 of Surah AnNisa addresses ethical conduct in economic transactions and interactions, emphasizing fairness and justice in our dealings with one another.

Respect and Fairness in Transactions

This verse begins by instructing believers not to take each other's money unjustly. It means that we should always be fair and honest when dealing with money, property, or any kind of wealth. Unfair or dishonest practices, such as stealing or cheating, are strongly discouraged.

Lawful Transactions by Agreement

Allah encourages transactions and business that are done lawfully and with mutual consent. This means that both parties in any deal should agree willingly and openly to the terms. Doing things openly and with agreement helps build trust and ensures that everyone benefits fairly.

Prohibition of Harm

The verse also urges believers not to harm themselves or others, which extends beyond physical harm to actions that could jeopardize one’s or another's wellbeing. This highlights the sacredness of life and the importance of taking care of ourselves and each other.

Allah’s Mercy

Finally, the verse reminds us that Allah is merciful. His guidance and rules are designed to protect us and help us live peacefully and happily. By following His

instructions, we are aligning ourselves with the merciful and just nature of His guidance.

Conclusion

Verse 29 of Surah AnNisa focuses on ethical behaviour, particularly in how we conduct business and treat each other. It teaches us to engage in honest and fair dealings, encouraging mutual agreement and respect in all our interactions. By doing so, we live in a way that is pleasing to Allah, benefiting ourselves and our communities and fostering a peaceful and harmonious society.

Verse 30

Wa mai yaf'al zaalika 'udwaananw wa zulman fasawfa nusleehi Naaraa; wa kaana zaalika 'alal laahi yaseeraa

If any do that in rancour and injustice, soon shall We cast them into the Fire: And easy it is for Allah.

Verse 30 of Surah AnNisa deals with the consequences of unjust actions, specifically concerning economic and moral conduct.

Warning Against Injustice

In this verse, Allah warns against engaging in aggressive and unjust actions. This includes acts like stealing, cheating, and other forms of wrongdoing where one deliberately harms or takes advantage of others.

Consequence of Wrongdoing

Those who choose to act unjustly are warned of severe consequences. Being driven into the Fire is a metaphor for the punishment and suffering one would face in the afterlife for committing such actions. This serves as a strong deterrent, reminding believers of the importance of maintaining justice and fairness in all dealings.

Allah's Absolute Power

The verse emphasizes that such punishment is easy for Allah to enforce, highlighting His absolute power and justice. It underscores the seriousness with which Allah views injustice and the certainty that wrongdoers will face the consequences of their actions.

Conclusion

Verse 30 of Surah AnNisa serves as a stern warning against unjust and aggressive behaviour. It reminds us that there are consequences for harming others and engaging in dishonest practices. By emphasizing Allah's power and the ease with which He can exact justice, the verse encourages believers to strive for fairness, honesty, and righteousness in their lives. This guidance helps foster a just and compassionate community, aligned with the ethical and moral principles outlined in the Quran.

Verse 31

In tajtaniboo kabaaa'ira maa tunhawna 'anhu nukaffir 'ankum saiyiaatikum wa nudkhilkum mudkhalan kareemaa

"If you avoid the major sins which you are forbidden, We will remit from you your lesser sins and admit you to a noble entrance."

Verse 31 of Surah AnNisa is significant in Islamic teachings as it addresses moral and ethical conduct for believers within Islamic jurisprudence.

1. Avoidance of Major Sins:

The verse highlights the importance of avoiding "major sins" as a condition for divine forgiveness of lesser sins. In Islamic tradition, major sins (known as "Kabair") include actions like idolatry, murder, theft, and adultery. The verse implies that by consciously avoiding these major wrongdoings, believers will be rewarded with forgiveness for minor transgressions.

2. Gradation of Sins:

This verse introduces the concept of gradation in sin, distinguishing between major and minor sins. It suggests that while all sins are displeasing to Allah, they have varying degrees of severity, and thus, different consequences.

3. Divine Mercy and Forgiveness:

The promise of forgiveness for minor sins highlights Allah's mercy and compassion. It reassures believers that sincere efforts to live righteously, by

steering clear of major sins, will lead to divine pardon and ultimately enable them to enter Paradise.

4. Encouragement for Righteous Living:

This verse serves as encouragement for Muslims to adhere to ethical and moral standards. By setting clear expectations, it motivates individuals to strive towards personal development and spiritual growth.

5. Path to Paradise:

The phrase "admit you to a noble entrance" is interpreted to mean entry into Paradise. It conveys the idea that adherence to divine commandments and conscientious avoidance of major sins will lead to an honourable place in the hereafter.

Applications in Daily Life

Adherents of Islam are encouraged to regularly reflect on their actions, seeking to avoid major sins and engage in good deeds. This verse serves as a reminder of the importance of ethical conduct and the pursuit of spiritual excellence. It underscores the balance between fear of wrongdoing and hope for Allah's mercy, encouraging a harmonious approach to religious observance.

Conclusion

Verse 31 of Surah AnNisa encapsulates core principles of Islamic theology related to sin, forgiveness, and ethical behaviour. By outlining the pathway to

divine forgiveness and Paradise, it provides both a warning against major sins and a promise of mercy for those who strive to live righteous lives. This verse remains relevant to Muslims seeking guidance on maintaining moral integrity and spiritual wellbeing.

Verse 32

Wa laa tatamannaw maa faddalal laahu bihee ba'dakum 'alaa ba'd; lirrijaali naseebum mimmak tasaboo wa linnisaaa'i naseebum mimmak tasabn; was'alullaaha min fadlih; innal laaha kaana bikulli shai'in 'Aleemaa

"And do not covet that by which Allah has made some of you exceed others. For men is a share of what they have earned, and for women is a share of what they have earned. And ask Allah of His bounty. Indeed, Allah is ever, of all things, Knowing."

Verse 32 of Surah AnNisa is another important verse that addresses societal and ethical principles, particularly related to issues of envy and equitable distribution of resources and opportunities.

1. Avoidance of Envy:

This verse cautions against coveting what others have been given. It highlights that Allah has bestowed different blessings and opportunities upon people according to His wisdom. Envy disrupts societal harmony and personal peace, so the verse encourages contentment and gratitude.

2. Recognition of Individual Earnings:

The verse emphasizes that both men and women have their own shares based on what they earn. This reflects the concept of personal responsibility and the recognition of individual efforts and accomplishments, challenging any notions of gender bias in terms of earning rewards for one's labour.

3. Encouragement to Seek Allah's Bounty:

Instead of longing for what others possess, believers are encouraged to seek Allah's bounty through prayer and effort. This directs attention away from a materialistic mindset and fosters reliance on divine generosity.

4. Allah's Omniscience:

The reminder that "Allah is ever, of all things, Knowing" serves to reassure believers that Allah's distribution of resources is just and based on complete knowledge of what is best for each individual. It invites trust in divine wisdom and fairness.

Applications in Daily Life

In practical terms, this verse advises against comparing oneself to others concerning their material possessions or social status. Instead, it encourages selfawareness, personal growth, and reliance on divine provision. For communities, it emphasizes the importance of recognizing and appreciating

diversity in abilities, resources, and opportunities.

Societal Implications

This verse lays a foundation for a just society where individuals are acknowledged for their contributions without discrimination. The emphasis on both men and women earning their share refutes claims of gender inequality, stressing that rewards are based on personal merit.

Conclusion

Surah AnNisa, Verse 32 serves as a profound reminder of the Islamic values of contentment, fairness, and reliance on Allah's wisdom. It calls on believers to focus on their own efforts and trust in Allah's equitable distribution of resources, fostering a sense of community built on mutual respect and trust.

Verse 33

Wa likullin ja'alnaa ma waaliya mimmaa tarakal waalidaani wal aqraboon; wallazeena 'aqadat aimaanukum fa aatoohum naseebahum; innal laaha kaana 'alaa kulli shai'in Shaheedaa

Verse 33 of Surah AnNisa focuses on matters related to inheritance and the distribution of wealth, establishing guidelines that ensure fairness and responsibility within family and society.

1. Heirs and Inheritance Distribution:

The verse begins by affirming that Allah has designated specific heirs for every individual, ensuring that what a person accumulates over a lifetime finds

rightful ownership after their death. This establishes the principle that inheritance is a divine ordinance, not merely a social convention.

2. Inclusivity in Heirship:

In mentioning "parents and relatives," the verse underscores that inheritance is not limited to direct descendants but is inclusive, extending to other relatives. This reflects the importance Islam places on family ties and the equitable distribution of wealth within the community.

3. Contractual Relationships:

The phrase about "those with whom your right hands have made a pledge" refers to contractual agreements or covenants where individuals have mutually agreed upon inheriting from one another. This part of the verse shows Islam’s recognition of certain social contracts that may influence inheritance.

4. Witness of Allah:

Concluding with a reminder that “Allah is over all things a Witness," the verse calls on believers to adhere to these guidelines sincerely, with the consciousness that their actions are overseen by a divine witness. This serves as both a comfort and a deterrent against unfair practices.

SocioLegal Context

Historical Significance:

Before Islam, inheritance was often passed along patriarchal lines, frequently disregarding women's rights. Surah AnNisa introduced groundbreaking reforms to guarantee fairness and inclusiveness, directly addressing preexisting gender biases.

Modern Application:

In contemporary Muslim societies, the principles outlined in this verse continue to shape family law. They guide the resolution of disputes and ensure rights are upheld, advocating for justice and equality within families.

Conclusion

Verse 33 of Surah AnNisa encapsulates Allah's meticulous design for wealth distribution, balancing familial rights with individual agreements. This balance safeguards social equity and harmony, emphasizing Allah’s omnipresent witness to ensure adherence to divine guidance.

In understanding and implementing the principles of this verse, Muslims are reminded of their duty to uphold justice, provide for their kin, and honour their covenants, reflecting the holistic nature of Islamic law in addressing human affairs.

Verse 34

Arrijaalu qawwaamoona 'alan nisaaa'i bimaa fad dalallaahu ba'dahum 'alaa ba'dinw wa bimaaa anfaqoo min amwaalihim; fassaalihaatu qaanitaatun haafizaatul lil ghaibi bimaa hafizal laah; wallaatee takhaafoona nushoo zahunna fa 'izoohunna wahjuroohunna fil madaaji'i wadriboohunna fa in ata'nakum falaa tabghoo 'alaihinna sabeelaa; innallaaha kaana 'Aliyyan Kabeeraa

Men are the protectors and maintainers of women, because Allah has given the one more (strength) than the other, and because they support them from their means. Therefore the righteous women are devoutly obedient, and guard in (the husband´s) absence what Allah would have them guard. As to those women on whose part ye fear disloyalty and illconduct, admonish them (first), (Next), refuse to share their beds, (And last) beat them (lightly); but if they return to obedience, seek not against them Means (of annoyance): For Allah is Most High, great (above you all).

Verse 34 of Surah AnNisa is one of the most discussed and often debated passages in the Quran. It outlines roles and responsibilities within a marital relationship, touching on themes of leadership, protection, and conflict

resolution.

1. Role of Protectors and Maintainers:

The verse describes men as "protectors and maintainers" of women, which is traditionally interpreted as a responsibility to provide for and uphold the welfare of their families. This stems from biological, psychological, and social strengths attributed to men, complemented by their financial support.

2. Obedience and Protection:

The concept of "devoutly obedient" in Verse 34 of Surah AnNisa is frequently discussed in the context of marital dynamics in Islam. To understand its true meaning, it's crucial to explore the broader Quranic vision for relationships within marriage.

"Devoutly obedient" should primarily be understood within the framework of spiritual and ethical obedience to Allah. This denotes a broader commitment to Islamic principles rather than an encouragement for unconditional submission to a husband. The Quran advocates for a balanced relationship where mutual rights and responsibilities form the foundation. Within this context, obedience is expected as part of a relationship where men are also instructed to treat their wives with kindness and justice, taking on the role of protectors and maintainers in a manner consistent with fairness and care.

Moreover, the Islamic ethic emphasizes justice, compassion, and kindness in all relationships. Any interpretation of "obedience" must align with these principles, advocating for mutual respect and understanding. It is important to highlight that men and women are considered equal in terms of spiritual obligations and rights before Allah. This equality discourages any misuse of authority that could lead to mistreatment or injustice within the marital relationship.

Unfortunately, some might misuse the concept of "obedience" to assert

dominance or justify controlling behaviour, moving away from the Quran's emphasis on mutual respect and equity. It is vital to challenge such interpretations by focusing on the foundational Quranic principles of justice and kindness. Education on Islamic marital ethics can be a powerful tool in preventing misuse. Communities benefit from teachings and resources that place such verses in the larger context of the Quran's guidance on nurturing healthy, respectful marital bonds.

Additionally, encouraging proper interpretations through legal frameworks and community support systems can bolster understanding and implementation of these principles in a way that protects everyone's rights while promoting equitable treatment. Many contemporary scholars emphasize interpretations that promote equality and mutual respect, encouraging a deeper understanding of the spirit of the text. Encouraging open dialogue within families and communities about the roles and responsibilities of both spouses can foster healthier relationships.
Ultimately, "devoutly obedient" should be seen as part of a cooperative and reciprocal marital relationship that respects women's autonomy and dignity. It should promote a balanced partnership rather than hierarchical control. By engaging with the Quranic ethos of compassion and fairness, we can appreciate the harmonious vision intended for marriage and family life.

3. Dealing with Marital Discord:

To "strike lightly" is highly scrutinized and requires careful interpretation to align with today's values of gender equality and nonviolence. This phrase, when analyzed through contemporary lenses, is increasingly viewed not as permission for physical discipline but rather as a symbolic gesture aimed at mitigating harm and promoting nonviolence within marriages.

Originally, when this verse was revealed, the directive to "strike lightly" was considered a restrictive measure against prevalent harsh practices of the time. Its historical context aimed to limit severity rather than endorse it. By understanding this background, modern interpreters can appreciate the original intent as one of reform, seeking to curb the severity of familial

conflicts rather than encourage it.

The Prophet Muhammad's treatment of his wives serves as a critical interpretive model. Known for his kindness and respect towards his family, he never resorted to physical measures, highlighting that the ethical ideal in Islamic teachings advocates for avoiding harm and encouraging compassion and mutual understanding. This model offers a valuable precedent for interpreting the phrase in a way that aligns with ethical compassion.

Today's interpretations by many Islamic scholars emphasize that any kind of physical correction is inconsistent with the broader Islamic principles of justice and fairness. Legal interpretations and community advocacies have moved towards promoting nonviolent approaches and endorsing laws that protect against domestic violence, reinforcing that violence in any form is not permissible within the ethical framework of Islam.

Additionally, these teachings underline the importance of reconciliation and respect within marital relationships. Traditionally, the sequence for addressing disputes recommended by the verse—starting with dialogue and separation—highlights efforts toward reconciliation. In contemporary marital counselling, emphasis is placed on communication, mutual respect, and understanding.

Empowering both men and women through education about their rights and responsibilities, according to both religious teachings and modern human rights standards, is crucial in preventing the misuse of this scriptural element as a justification for abuse. By realigning this directive within an ethical framework that emphasizes equitable partnerships, the verse continues to serve as guidance. In effect, it encourages marital relations founded on mutual respect and harmony, consistent with both religious values and contemporary ethical standards.

4. Contextual Grounding:

Concluding by urging men not to seek means against their wives once reconciliation is achieved underscores the principle of mercy and goodwill

within marriage, reinforcing that Allah is Exalted and Grand, overseeing justice and balance.

SocioLegal Context

Historical Significance:

At the time of revelation, these directives provided a structure in an era where women's rights in Arab culture were minimal or nonexistent. The intention was to transform and elevate the treatment and status of women within a family settings, providing rights and responsibilities that support equitable treatment.

Modern Application:

Today, this verse is often explored within broader discourses on gender equity, advocating for mutual respect, care, and the protection of family harmony. Legal systems inspired by Islamic principles may draw from its emphasis on responsible leadership within a family.

Conclusion

Verse 34 of Surah AnNisa prescribes a framework for understanding roles and responsibilities within marriage while emphasizing the importance of male accountability and care. It opens up essential discussions about gender dynamics in Islamic contexts and underscores the flexibility and evolution of interpretation with changing times, pointing towards principles of justice, protection, and respect.

When viewed inclusively, it invites contemporary Muslims to collectively reexamine these roles, ensuring they contribute to equity and harmony, reflecting Quran's broader moral and ethical teachings in today's diverse societies.

Verse 35

Wa in khiftum shiqaaqa baini himaa fab'asoo haka mam min ahlihee wa hakamam min ahlihaa; inyyureedaaa islaah aiyuwaffiqil laahu bainahumaa; innal laaha kaana 'Aleeman Khabeeraa

"And if you fear dissension between the two, appoint one arbitrator from his people and one from her people. If they both desire reconciliation, Allah will cause it between them. Indeed, Allah is ever Knowing and Acquainted [with all things]."

Verse 35 provides specific guidance on handling marital conflicts, emphasizing the importance of resolution and harmony within the family.

1. Addressing Marital Conflict:

The verse recognizes that conflicts may arise in marriages and emphasizes the need for constructive solutions. By acknowledging potential discord, it highlights the importance of proactive measures in familial relationships.

2. Role of Arbitrators:

The instruction to appoint an arbitrator from each spouse's family introduces a systematic approach to conflict resolution. This emphasizes the value of involving neutral parties who understand the cultural and familial contexts of both individuals, aiming for a fair and balanced mediation process.

3. Desire for Reconciliation:

The verse underscores the power of genuine intent. If both parties desire reconciliation, their efforts are blessed by divine intervention. This aspect alludes to the significance of willingness and openness in overcoming disputes.

4. Divine Oversight:

Ending with the assurance that “Allah is ever Knowing and Acquainted [with all things],” the verse reminds believers that Allah is aware of every nuance in marital relationships. This brings comfort and accountability, knowing that their honest attempts at reconciliation are supported by divine insight.

SocioLegal Context

Historical Significance:

In preIslamic times, there were limited formal means for addressing marital strife, often resulting in inequity or neglect. By codifying a method for arbitration, Islam provided a framework promoting justice and fairness.

Modern Application:

In contemporary contexts, this verse forms the basis for many legal systems within Muslim communities that focus on mediation as a preferred approach before considering divorce. It encourages alternative dispute resolution, reflecting the Quran’s emphasis on familial cohesion.

Conclusion

Verse 35 of Surah AnNisa delivers a timeless message on resolving marital disputes through structured mediation and sincere intent for reconciliation. It accentuates the role of family and community in supporting harmonious relationships and ensuring that both parties are heard and respected.

By following these guidelines, Muslims are encouraged to approach marital conflicts with patience, diligence, and a strong belief in divine assistance, fostering an environment where resolution and understanding prevail in keeping with the holistic principles of Islamic teachings.

Starting from verse 36 of Surah AnNisa to verse 42, the theme shifts towards ethical conduct, social responsibilities, and the importance of maintaining just and compassionate relationships within the community.

1. Worship and Kindness: The verse begins by emphasizing the worship of Allah alone, immediately followed by instructions to show kindness to various groups, including parents, relatives, orphans, the needy, neighbours, and travelers. This setup integrates acts of worship with ethical interpersonal behaviour.

2. Comprehensive Social Ethics: This section provides a broad directive to treat others with fairness and compassion, covering a wide range of social relationships. It highlights the importance of ethical conduct as an integral part of faith.

3. Inclusivity and Responsibility: The instructions encompass diverse social groups, stressing inclusivity and equality. It emphasizes responsibility towards both close family members and broader society.

4. Condemnation of Arrogance and Stinginess: The subsequent verses also condemn behaviours such as arrogance, boastfulness, and stinginess, offering contrast to the encouraged values of generosity and humility.

Overall, from verse 36 to 42, the surah highlights the broader ethical and moral responsibilities of believers, integrating devotion to Allah with social justice

and emphasizing the importance of caring for one’s community and the people within it.

Verse 36

Wa'budul laaha wa laa tushrikoo bihee shai'anw wa bilwaalidaini ihsaananw wa bizil qurbaa walyataamaa walmasaakeeni waljaari zilqurbaa waljaaril junubi wassaahibi biljambi wabnis sabeeli wa maa malakat aimaanukum; innal laaha laa yuhibbu man kaana mukhtaalan fakhooraa

Verse 36 of Surah AnNisa gives detailed advice on how to live ethically and compassionately as a Muslim.

Worshiping Allah Alone

Start by focusing on worshiping just one God. In Islam, it's crucial to keep the belief in one God central to life, and not associate anything else with Him. This idea forms the foundation for the other teachings in the verse.

Showing Kindness to Parents

Be extra kind to parents. Showing respect and gratitude to them is a key part of living a good life. Recognize their hard work and sacrifices and treat them with care.

Caring for Family

Extend kindness beyond parents to all relatives. Keeping good relationships within the family supports strong connections and ensures everyone feels supported and loved.

Helping Orphans and the Needy

Pay special attention to orphans and those in need. They might not have anyone else to care for them, so it's important to step in and offer help. This reflects the value of social responsibility and caring for the community.

Treating Neighbours Well

The verse emphasizes the importance of being good to neighbours, whether they live close by or farther away. Neighbours play a big role in one's daily life, so maintaining a positive relationship is important.

Supporting Traveling and Companions

Show kindness to travellers and people you spend time with every day, like coworkers or classmates. Hospitality and support strengthen the bonds within a community and provide comfort to those who might be far from home.

Responsibility Towards Servants or Workers

The verse also mentions treating those whom your "right hands possess" well. This refers to people who work under you or depend on you. It's essential to treat them with dignity and fairness.

Avoiding Arrogance

Finally, stay away from arrogance and boastfulness. These negative traits can damage relationships and foster resentment. Instead, practice humility, and treat everyone with respect and fairness.

Living by These Values

This verse highlights that real devotion is not only about prayer or rituals. It's about how we interact with others daily. Muslims are encouraged to incorporate these values into their lives to create a compassionate and equitable society. Every kind action, no matter how small, reflects one's commitment to living by Islamic principles fully

Verse 37

Allazeena yabkhaloona wa ya'muroonan naasa bilbukhli wa yaktumoona maaa aataahu mullaahu min fadlih; wa a'tadnaa lilkaafireena 'azaabam muheenaa

(Nor) those who are niggardly or enjoin niggardliness on others, or hide the bounties which Allah hath bestowed on them; for We have prepared, for those who resist Faith, a punishment that steeps them in contempt;

Verse 37 of Surah AnNisa provides guidance on ethical behaviour and warns against specific negative traits that harm both individuals and communities.
Core Themes

1. Condemnation of Stinginess:

The verse begins by criticizing those who are stingy. Stinginess refers to the

unwillingness to share wealth, knowledge, or resources that Allah has provided. This trait is described as detrimental because it restricts the flow of blessings from one person to another, contradicting Islamic principles of charity and generosity.

2. Promoting Stinginess:

Beyond personal stinginess, the verse highlights the act of encouraging others to be stingy. This behaviour spreads negativity within a community and undermines social harmony. It suggests a deliberate choice to influence others toward selfishness, which erodes the collective spirit of sharing and mutual support.

3. Concealment of Allah's Bounty:

Concealing the blessings bestowed by Allah is condemned. This refers to individuals hiding their wealth or talents, depriving others of their benefits. It's a refusal to acknowledge that resources are given as a test and a means to support and uplift others.

Ethical and Spiritual Implications

1. Generosity as a Spiritual Duty:

Generosity is a key virtue in Islam, linked closely to gratitude and social responsibility. By sharing what one has, believers actively partake in a cycle of charity that benefits both the giver and receiver, fulfilling a spiritual duty to aid those in need.

2. Social Cohesion and Responsibility:

The verse underscores the importance of cultivating a society where resources are shared equitably. A community that fosters generosity and discourages

stinginess is likely to be more cohesive and supportive, with stronger bonds among its members.

3. Consequences of Neglect:

The latter part of the verse warns of "a humiliating punishment" for disbelievers. This serves as a reminder that neglecting these principles aligns one with disbelief, indicative of a broader rejection of divine guidance. The punishment reflects accountability for failing to fulfill social and spiritual obligations.

Contemporary Reflections

1. Application in Modern Society:

In today's context, the verse can be related to both individual actions and institutional practices. On a personal level, it encourages individuals to give charity, volunteer, share knowledge, and support others. On an institutional level, it advocates for social systems that ensure fair distribution of resources and opportunities.

2. Counteracting Materialism:

The message of this verse is particularly relevant in counteracting prevalent materialistic attitudes. It calls for a conscious effort to value human connection and communal welfare over personal accumulation and hidden agendas.

Conclusion

Verse 37 of Surah AnNisa serves as a powerful reminder of the virtues of generosity and the dangers of stinginess. Its teachings urge believers to act as stewards of Allah's bounty, promoting an ethic of sharing and supporting others. This not only enriches personal spirituality but also strengthens societal bonds, fostering an environment where collective prosperity is achieved through mutual care and selflessness. The verse challenges us to embody these

principles in all aspects of life, ensuring that divine blessings are recognized, valued, and shared widely.

Verse 38

Wallazeena yunfiqoona amwaalahum ri'aaa'an naasi wa laa yu'minoona billaahi wa laa bil Yawmil Aakhir; wa mai yakunish shaitaanu lahoo qareenan fasaaa'a qareenaa

Not those who spend of their substance, to be seen of men, but have no faith in Allah and the Last Day: If any take the Evil One for their intimate, what a dreadful intimate he is!

Verse 38 of Surah AnNisa addresses the behaviour and attitudes of individuals who engage in spending not for charity but to gain admiration from others, highlighting a key aspect of insincere actions and their consequences. Here's an indepth analysis based on traditional and modern interpretations (Tafseer):

1. Insincere Charity:

The verse criticizes those who spend their wealth with the intention of being noticed by people rather than to seek Allah's pleasure. This act of ostentation, known as "riya" in Arabic, is considered hypocritical because it prioritizes boastfulness over genuine benevolence.

2. Absence of Faith:

Linked with this outward show is a lack of true belief in Allah and the Last Day. The implication is that those who seek only worldly admiration are neglecting the sincerity and faithdriven purpose behind acts of charity, which should be to fulfill religious obligations toward Allah and humanity.

3. Satanic Companionship:

The verse warns that following such insincere motives aligns one with Satan, who is described as an "evil companion." This metaphor illustrates how such behaviour leads a person away from divine guidance and into spiritual ruin.

Ethical and Spiritual Implications

1. Purity of Intentions:

A central lesson from this verse is the emphasis on purity of intentions in acts of charity and worship. True charity in Islam requires that actions are done sincerely for Allah's pleasure and not for human accolades, ensuring the reward is eternal rather than fleeting.

2. Faith and Accountability:

By tying belief in Allah and the Last Day to these actions, the verse reinforces the concept of accountability and conscious acts of worship. It reminds believers that earthly deeds will be judged, encouraging a focus on sincerity and faithfulness.

3. Avoiding Spiritual Degradation:

The association with Satan serves as a stark warning of the moral and spiritual degradation caused by pursuing deeds for vanity. It emphasizes the need for constant selfreflection and the cultivation of genuine faith and humility.

Conclusion

Verse 38 of Surah AnNisa offers a profound reminder about the motivations behind our charitable actions. It emphasizes that genuine acts of giving should stem from a sincere desire to please Allah and reflect true belief in Him and the Day of Judgment. The pursuit of public admiration through charity is contrasted sharply with the ideals of faithdriven generosity, warning against the dangers of hypocrisy (riya).

The verse also serves as a caution against allowing oneself to be influenced by negative forces, symbolized by the companionship of Satan. Such influences can lead individuals away from genuine faith and into spiritual decay, replacing true benevolence with selfserving vanity.

In a world where public recognition often accompanies acts of generosity, this verse encourages selfreflection and an earnest appraisal of one's intentions. It calls upon individuals to seek the higher ethical ground of sincere giving and emphasizes the enduring rewards that come from actions motivated by faith and humility, rather than fleeting worldly accolades. Through these teachings, the verse underlines the importance of aligning one's actions with the core principles of Islam, reaffirming the profound impact of sincere faith and genuine generosity on both personal spirituality and community wellbeing.

Verse 39

Wa maazaa 'alaihim law aamanoo billaahi wal Yawmil Aakhiri wa anfaqoo mimmaa razaqahumul laah; wa kaanallaahu bihim 'aleemaa

And what burden Were it on them if they had faith in Allah and in the Last Day, and they spent out of what Allah hath given them for sustenance? For Allah hath full knowledge of them.

Context of the Verse

Surah AnNisa, known for addressing social justice, rights of women, and family matters, also discusses the consequences of hypocrisy and disbelief among those who are outwardly part of the Muslim community. The specific verse under discussion follows a series of verses that criticize hypocrisy and urge sincere belief and good conduct.

1. Literal Meaning:

The verse poses a rhetorical question, challenging those who fail to genuinely believe in Allah and act according to His guidance. It highlights a disconnect between knowledge of the faith and true, heartfelt belief.

2. Emphasis on Faith and Action:

The verse implicitly stresses the importance of coupling belief in Allah with righteous actions. Mere lip service or actions performed for show, without real faith, do not fulfill the spiritual obligations of a Muslim.

3. Critique of Hypocrisy:

Many scholars interpret this verse as a rebuke to the hypocrites of Medina who professed Islam outwardly but did not internalize its teachings. It criticizes their superficial compliance and lack of true faith, urging them to reflect on what truly withholds them from sincere belief and commitment.

4. Moral and Ethical Reflection:

The verse serves as a call to selfexamination. It asks individuals to consider the barriers—be they pride, societal pressure, or personal desires—that prevent genuine faith and submission to Allah's will.

5. Ibn Kathir's Interpretation:

In his Tafseer, Ibn Kathir comments on the disbelief addressed in this verse, pointing out that it is perplexing for anyone who recognizes Allah's signs and messages not to believe and follow them earnestly.

6. Analogy to Generosity:

The verse and its context also relate to the theme of generosity, as it follows discussions on giving charity sincerely. It draws a parallel between the act of giving without selfserving motives and the act of believing without errors of hypocrisy.

7. Relation to Worldly Gains:

Some interpretations suggest that the failure to truly believe is connected to worldly attachments and the prioritization of material gains over spiritual enrichment.

Conclusion

Verse 39 of Surah AnNisa serves as a profound reflection on both the internal and external aspects of faith. It challenges individuals to examine not only their beliefs but the sincerity behind their actions. By understanding this verse through the lens of various Tafseer scholars, one gains a deeper appreciation of the Qur'anic call for authentic faith and the rejection of hypocrisy.

This exploration of the verse is a reminder that the Qur'an's guidance is not just a set of rules, but a comprehensive moral compass directing believers towards sincere faith and ethical living.

Verse 40

Innal laaha laa yazlimu misqaala zarratinw wa in taku hasanatany yudaa'ifhaa wa yu'ti mil ladunhu ajran 'azeemaa

"Indeed, Allah does not do injustice, [even] as much as an atom’s weight; while if there is a good deed, He multiplies it and gives from Himself a great reward."

Surah AnNisa encompasses themes of justice, societal balance, and human rights. Verse 40 is a continuation of themes surrounding fairness and divine justice.

1. Literal Meaning:

The verse is often translated as, "Indeed, Allah does not do injustice, [even] as much as an atom’s weight; while if there is a good deed, He multiplies it and gives from Himself a great reward." This highlights Allah's absolute justice and generosity.

2. Emphasis on Divine Justice:

The verse clearly states that Allah is fundamentally just. Even the smallest injustice, comparable to the weight of an atom, is not committed by Him. This

serves as a reassurance to believers that their deeds will weigh appropriately in Allah’s scales.

3. Encouragement of Good Deeds:

Allah not only acknowledges good deeds but magnifies them. For every good action, the reward is multiplied many times over. This emphasis provides motivation for believers to actively pursue good in their daily lives.

4. Hope and Motivation:

The concept that Allah increases the reward for good deeds is meant to inspire hope. No act of kindness, however small, goes unnoticed or unappreciated. This is a powerful reminder of the value of positive actions in Islam.

5. Comparison to Human Justice:

While human systems may fail and overlook minor details, Allah's justice is perfect and meticulous. This distinction underlines the divine nature of His justice compared to human imperfections.

6. Ibn Kathir's Interpretation:

According to Ibn Kathir, this verse underscores the idea that Allah's justice is so precise that not even the smallest particle of wrong does go without consequence. Additionally, His reward system is generous, encouraging more righteous conduct.

7. AlQurtubi’s Analysis:

AlQurtubi highlights this verse as a means of consolation for believers who may feel their efforts are insignificant. By promising multiplied rewards, Allah invites Muslims to persevere in their good works without discouragement.

8. Moral and Ethical Reflection:

The verse invites followers to reflect on their actions in light of divine justice. It challenges them to maintain sincerity and greatness in even the smallest of deeds, knowing that Allah sees and rewards all.

Conclusion

Verse 40 of Surah AnNisa delivers a profound message about the nature of divine justice and the encouragement of performing good deeds. It reassures believers of Allah's flawless justice and the potential for their good actions to be greatly rewarded. This verse, explored through various tafseer scholars, emphasizes the encouraging and fair nature of Allah's governance, inspiring Muslims to live righteously and with hope in His eternal justice.

Verse 41

Fakaifa izaa ji'naa min kulli ummatim bishaheedinw wa ji'naabika 'alaa haaa'ulaaa 'i Shaheeda

How then if We brought from each people a witness, and We brought thee as a witness against these people!

Verse 41 in Surah AnNisa highlights the concept of accountability in Islam. This verse is part of the broader guidance provided in the Quran to ensure that Muslims understand their responsibilities both in this life and the hereafter.

Witness to Every Community

The verse states that Allah will bring forth a witness from every community on the Day of Judgment. This witness will testify about how the people of that community adhered to or strayed from Allah's message. It emphasizes the notion that every community is given guidance, and people within those communities are responsible for following it.

The Role of Prophets as Witnesses

In this context, each prophet who was sent to various communities will bear witness over their respective people. This means that prophets like Musa (Moses), Isa (Jesus), and Prophet Muhammad, among others, will testify to how their communities responded to the divine messages they conveyed. The Prophet Muhammad(pbuh), specifically, will serve as a witness over his own community, emphasizing his unique role in guiding Muslims. His life and teachings serve as a model, and he will bear witness to the actions and beliefs of his followers.

The Importance of Truth and Justice

The verse underscores the importance of truth and justice. It reminds us that all actions will be scrutinized, and deceit or wrongdoing will not go unnoticed. The presence of a witness ensures that the truth will be revealed, and justice will prevail.

Reflecting on Personal Accountability

Beyond collective accountability, this verse encourages individual reflection. Muslims are urged to consider their personal actions and how they align with the teachings of Islam. The idea is to inspire believers to live righteous lives, aware that they will one day be accountable for their deeds.

Guidance for Daily Life

This verse serves as a guide for daily conduct. It encourages Muslims to act with integrity, adhere to the truth, and uphold justice in all aspects of life. By living in accordance with these principles, believers prepare themselves for a favourable judgment in the afterlife.

Verse 42

Yawma'iziny yawad dullazeena kafaroo wa'asawur Rasoola law tusawwaa bihimul ardu wa laa yaktumoonal laaha hadeesaa

On that day those who reject Faith and disobey the messenger will wish that the earth Were made one with them: But never will they hide a single fact from Allah!

In Surah AnNisa, verse 42, discusses the remorse and helplessness that those who denied the truth will feel on the Day of Judgment. This verse is a warning and a call for reflection.

Regret of the Disbelievers

This verse explains that on the Day of Judgment, those who denied Allah and His messages will wish they could disappear. They will feel deep regret for having ignored the guidance.

Desire to Disappear

The individuals who rejected the truth will be so overwhelmed by their shame that they will wish the earth could swallow them. This indicates the extent of their guilt and the severity of their realization of the truth.

No Concealment Possible

On this day, their past actions and words will be fully revealed. They will not be able to hide anything from Allah. This emphasizes the comprehensive judgment that will take place.

Encouragement to Embrace Truth

This verse serves as a strong reminder to believers to adhere to the truth and righteousness in this life. It encourages them to live in a way that aligns with Allah's guidance to avoid such regret.

A Guide for Life

Muslims are urged to take heed of this warning by reflecting on their actions and intentions regularly. By doing so, they can ensure that they remain on the path that leads to a favourable outcome in the hereafter.

Then a thematic shift occurs around verse 43 and continues until verse 57. The theme now moves away from the earlier focus on social justice and care for vulnerable groups, starting to address issues related to religious observance and the conduct of prayer. It provides guidelines for approaching prayer in a state of purity and sobriety.

As the surah progresses, it further delves into topics concerning justice, fair treatment within the community, and the relationships between Muslims and those of other faiths. This broadens the scope from personal and social obligations to include spiritual and communal duties. It intertwines legal, ethical, and spiritual guidance, reflecting the comprehensive nature of the Quran’s directive to its followers.

Verse 43

Yaaa aiyuhal lazeena aamanoo laa taqrabus Salaata wa antum sukaaraa hatta ta'lamoo ma taqooloona wa laa junuban illaa 'aabiree sabeelin hatta taghtasiloo; wa in kuntum mardaaa aw 'alaa safarin aw jaaa'a ahadum minkum minal ghaaa'iti aw laamastumun nisaaa'a falam tajidoo maaa'an fatayam mamoo sa'eedan taiyiban famsahoo biwujoohikum wa aideekum; innal laaha kaana 'Afuwwan Ghafooraa

O ye who believe! Approach not prayers with a mind befogged, until ye can understand all that ye say, nor in a state of ceremonial impurity (Except when travelling on the road), until after washing your whole body. If ye are ill, or on a journey, or one of you cometh from offices of nature, or ye have been in contact with women, and ye find no water, then take for yourselves clean sand or earth, and rub therewith your faces and hands. For Allah doth blot out sins and forgive again and again.

In Surah AnNisa, verse 43, the Quran provides guidance on prayer, specifically focusing on maintaining clarity and purity. This verse is an important aspect of Islamic rituals and personal conduct.

Prohibition of Prayer While Intoxicated

The verse instructs believers not to approach prayer while in a state of intoxication. This guidance ensures that Muslims maintain full awareness and clarity during their prayers, which is essential for sincere worship.

Requirement of Understanding

The emphasis is on being fully conscious so that believers know what they are saying in their prayers. Clarity of mind is crucial for focusing on the words and intentions during this sacred practice.

Purity Before Prayer

In addition to avoiding intoxication, the verse advises maintaining physical purity. It mentions that before praying, one should be clean from any

impurities, whether it is through ablution (wudu) or, in the absence of water, performing a dry purification (tayammum).

Conditions for Purity

The instructions include specific conditions for performing tayammum when water is unavailable. Believers should use clean earth or dust to symbolically purify themselves, demonstrating flexibility in maintaining spiritual cleanliness.

Encouragement of Sincere Worship

This verse underscores the importance of sincerity and respect for the act of prayer. By ensuring mental clarity and physical purity, believers can engage more deeply with their worship and strengthen their connection to Allah.

Verse 44

Alam tara ilal lazeena ootoo naseebam minal Kitaabi yashtaroonad dalaalata wa yureedoona an tadillus sabeel

Hast thou not turned Thy vision to those who were given a portion of the Book? they traffic in error, and wish that ye should lose the right path.

In Surah AnNisa, verse 44, the themes of justice and accountability continue but are expressed differently from earlier verses. While earlier verses address personal and communal accountability concerning the Day of Judgment, this verse shifts the focus to those who received earlier scriptures. It emphasizes their responsibility in preserving the integrity of the divine message.

Here's how the themes of justice and accountability are reflected:

1. Justice in Handling Scripture:

The verse underscores the importance of justly preserving and conveying the teachings found in sacred texts. Altering or misrepresenting the divine message is portrayed as a deviation from justice.

2. Accountability for Misguidance:

Those who have exchanged Allah's guidance for misguidance are held accountable for leading themselves and others astray. The verse highlights the broader responsibility one holds when entrusted with divine knowledge.

3. Collective Responsibility:

The verse serves as a reminder that those who have access to religious teachings bear the responsibility of conveying them truthfully. This collective responsibility underlines the role of communities in maintaining the integrity of divine guidance.

Although the expression of justice and accountability is different, these themes remain central to the overall message, reinforcing the importance of truthful adherence to and preservation of divine teachings.

Verse 45

Wallaahu a'lamu bi a'daaa'ikum; wa kafaa billaahi waliyyanw wa kafaa billaahi naseera

But Allah hath full knowledge of your enemies: Allah is enough for a protector, and Allah is enough for a Helper.

Surah AnNisa, verse 45, offers reassurance to the believers about Allah's knowledge and support regarding adversaries and challenges. This verse emphasizes trust in divine wisdom and protection.

Divine Awareness of Enemies

The verse begins by highlighting that Allah is fully aware of those who oppose or have ill intentions toward the Muslim community. This knowledge reassures believers that no harmful action or intention goes unnoticed by Allah, supporting the understanding that divine awareness is comprehensive.

Guidance and Support from Allah

Following this, the verse assures Muslims that they have Allah’s guidance and protection. This promise serves as comfort and support for the believers, emphasizing that Allah is always ready to help them navigate challenges and adversities they face.

Encouraging Trust in Divine Wisdom

The verse encourages believers to trust in Allah’s wisdom and judgment. Since Allah is aware of all intentions and actions, trusting in His guidance means that believers can have confidence that He will deal justly with those who wish to cause harm.

Strengthening Faith

Lastly, Surah AnNisa, verse 45, aims to strengthen the faith of the believers. By knowing that Allah sees everything and stands by them, Muslims are encouraged to remain firm in their faith. This assurance provides them with resilience against trials and adversities.

In summary, this verse delivers a message of reassurance and trust, reminding believers that Allah is both aware of and protective against any harm that may come their way.

Verse 46

Minal lazeena haadoo yuharrifoonal Kalima 'am mawaadi'ihee wa yaqooloona sami'naa wa 'asainaa wasma' ghaira musma'inw wa raa'inaa laiyam bi alsinatihim wa ta'nan fiddeen; wa law annahum qaaloo sami'naa wa ata'naa wasma' wanzurnaa lakaana khairal lahum wa aqwama wa laakil la' a'nahumul laahu bikufrihim falaa yu'minoona illaa qaleela

Of the Jews there are those who displace words from their (right) places, and say: "We hear and we disobey"; and "Hear what is not Heard"; and "Ra´ina"; with a twist of their tongues and a slander to Faith. If only they had said: "What hear and we obey"; and "Do hear"; and "Do look at us"; it would have been better for them, and more proper; but Allah hath cursed them for their Unbelief; and but few of them will believe.

Surah AnNisa, verse 46 addresses how some people have distorted previous scriptures and shows cautions about altering divine messages.

Distortion of Words

The verse highlights individuals who change or twist the meanings of sacred texts, like the Torah. An example might be taking a direct instruction or teaching and altering its wording to change its meaning, leading followers away from the intended guidance. This results in misconceptions about the original teachings.

Mockery and Disrespect

It describes how some people also mock or belittle the words of Allah. For example, they might substitute respectful phrases with words that sound similar but are intended as jokes or insults. This behavior not only shows a lack of reverence for divine guidance but also undermines the seriousness of the message.

In Surah AlBaqarah and other parts of the Quran, there is mention of how certain individuals manipulated language to mock or subtly insult. The word "Ra'ina" is an example:

Original Context: The Arabic phrase "رَاعِنَا" (Ra'ina) can mean "look upon us" or "pay attention to us." In a straightforward context, it's a simple request for consideration or clarification in communication.

However, the jews twisted its pronunciation or meaning to resemble words in their dialect that carried disrespectful or mocking connotations. This wordplay was a way to ridicule without being overtly offensive, playing on linguistic nuances to undermine and mock the Prophet and his teachings.

This manipulation reflects broader issues of altering and disrespecting divine messages. Such actions highlight how language can be used to distort the truth and disrespect the sanctity of religious teachings.

The advent of Prophet Muhammad(pbuh) was foretold in earlier scriptures such as the Torah and the Bible. However, there are accounts of religious authorities within some Jewish and Christian communities altering or concealing these references. This could involve omitting specific prophecies or characteristics that pointed to a prophet like Muhammad emerging from Arabia, thus keeping their followers unaware of his coming.

This alteration was seen as a way to maintain control over religious interpretation and to resist the acceptance of Prophet Muhammad(pbuh) as the final messenger. By not acknowledging these prophecies, the existing powers sought to preserve their authority and prevent people from recognizing Prophet Muhammad's legitimacy as a prophet. Such actions emphasize the importance of preserving the integrity of divine revelations, an idea that is central to Islamic teachings.

Warning Against Such Behaviour

The verse serves as a clear warning against the dangers of altering or mocking sacred texts. This aspect reminds believers of their duty to honour and preserve the truth in its original form, as misrepresentation can lead to widespread misunderstanding and misguidance.

Verse 47

Yaaa aiyuha lazeena ootul Kitaaba aaminoo bimaa nazzalnaa musadiqallimaa ma'akum min qabli an natmisa wujoohan fanaruddahaa 'alaaa adbaarihaaa aw nal'anahum kamaa la'annaaa Ashaabas Sabt; wa kaana amrul laahi maf'oolaa

O ye People of the Book! believe in what We have (now) revealed, confirming what was (already) with you, before We change the face and fame of some (of you) beyond all recognition, and turn them hindwards, or curse them as We cursed the Sabbathbreakers, for the decision of Allah Must be carried out.

Surah AnNisa, verse 47, is a call to the People of the Book, urging them to accept and follow the Quran. This verse addresses the followers of previous revelations, like the Jews and Christians, emphasizing the continuity and culmination of divine guidance through Islam.

Invitation to the People of the Book

The verse begins by directly addressing the People of the Book, encouraging them to believe in the revelations sent to Prophet Muhammad(pbuh). It highlights that the Quran is not a new message but a confirmation and completion of what was revealed before. By accepting the Quran, the People of the Book are invited to embrace the fullest expression of monotheism as taught by all prophets.

Warning Against Rejection

A warning is issued to those who might continue in disbelief after receiving clear signs. The verse cautions against delaying acceptance, implying that ignoring this revelation could lead to severe consequences. This is particularly

significant because it underscores the notion of accountability—urging sincerity and awareness in spiritual pursuits.

Emphasis on Timeliness

The verse's wording stresses immediacy, advising the People of the Book to embrace the divine guidance before certain events lead to the "effacement of faces." While interpretations vary, some suggest this refers to the loss of honour or guidance, acting as a metaphor for significant spiritual consequences.

Affirmation of Allah's Authority

The verse reaffirms Allah’s power and wisdom. It serves as a reminder that divine guidance is continuous and comes from the same source that provided earlier scriptures. This encourages unity among followers of different scriptures, as all are part of the overarching divine plan.

Message of Unity and Acceptance

Ultimately, verse 47 of Surah AnNisa extends an invitation for unity based on shared spiritual heritage. By acknowledging the truth in the Quran, followers of the earlier revelations are encouraged to unite with Muslims in a collective understanding of divine guidance.

In summary, Surah AnNisa, verse 47, seeks to bridge divides by reinforcing the consistency and completion of Allah's message through the Quran, while also

serving as a powerful reminder of the consequences of dismissing this universal call.

Verse 48

Innal laaha laa yaghfiru ai yushraka bihee wa yaghfiru maa doona zaalika limai yashaaa'; wa mai yushrik billaahi faqadif taraaa isman 'azeemaa

Allah forgiveth not that partners should be set up with Him; but He forgiveth anything else, to whom He pleaseth; to set up partners with Allah is to devise a sin Most heinous indeed.

Verse 48 specifically focuses on the fundamental concept of Tawheed, the belief in the absolute oneness of Allah, and the consequences of deviating from this essential tenet.

1. Major Warning Against Shirk (Associating Partners with Allah):

The verse clearly states that Allah does not forgive shirk, which means worshiping anyone or anything alongside Him or attributing His unique qualities to others. This sin is considered the most serious because it directly opposes the belief in one God.

2. Allah’s Forgiveness and Mercy:

The verse emphasizes that while shirk is unforgivable if not repented for, Allah is immensely forgiving of all other sins if a person truly seeks forgiveness. This highlights Allah’s compassion and mercy towards those who turn to Him with sincerity.

3. Severity of Shirk:

By identifying shirk as the gravest sin, the verse underscores its severity compared to any other wrongdoing. Shirk violates the core belief in the oneness of Allah, which is the foundation of Islamic faith.

4. Guidance for Believers:

The verse serves as a reminder for Muslims to avoid shirk and reassures them that Allah forgives many other sins upon sincere repentance. It encourages believers to seek forgiveness regularly and correct their mistakes.

5. Living a Faithful Life:

It urges believers to reflect on their faith, ensuring their worship and beliefs are devoted solely to Allah. This emphasis on pure and exclusive devotion is crucial for maintaining a genuine connection with Him.

6. Historical Background:

At the time this verse was revealed, idol worship was widespread in Arabia. The message was a clear call to reject such practices and fully embrace the belief in one Allah.

In summary, this verse serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of maintaining pure faith in Allah’s oneness and the vastness of His mercy for those who repent sincerely.

Verse 49

Alam tara ila allatheena yuzakkoona anfusahum bal illahu yuzakkee man yashao wala yuthlamoona fateelan

Meaning:
"Have you not seen those who claim themselves to be pure? Rather, Allah purifies whom He wills, and they will not be wronged a thread."

Simple Explanation:

In this verse from Surah AnNisa, Allah addresses the false claims of selfrighteousness made by some people. It serves as a reminder that true purification and righteousness come from Allah alone, not from one's own assertions or claims.

The phrase "those who claim themselves to be pure" refers to people who boast about their own piety and moral superiority. Such claims are often superficial and do not hold true in front of Allah, who knows the true state of each person's heart and soul.

The verse emphasizes that Allah is the one who purifies whom He wills. It's a gentle reminder that rather than focusing on outward appearances or selfproclaimed purity, one's efforts should be directed towards seeking Allah's guidance and forgiveness.

Ultimately, this verse highlights the mercy and justice of Allah. He purifies and rewards based on true intentions and deeds, ensuring that no one is wronged, even in the smallest measure. It encourages humility and sincerity in one's faith and actions, knowing that true judgment lies with Allah alone.

Verse 50

Unthur kayfa yaftaroona AAala Allahi alkathiba wakafa bihi ithman mubeena

"See how they invent about Allah untruth, and sufficient is that as a manifest sin."

Verse 50 of Surah AnNisa highlights the serious nature of fabricating lies about Allah. In this verse, Allah draws attention to those who make false claims or attribute untruths to Him.

The phrase "invent about Allah untruth" refers to individuals who spread falsehoods regarding Allah’s teachings or commands. Such actions are not only misleading to others but also constitute a grave sin. The verse emphasizes the severity of this act by describing it as a "manifest sin," meaning it is both clear and serious in its wrongful nature.

This verse serves as a warning against the dangers of misinformation and misrepresentation of divine instructions. It underscores the need for honesty and integrity in religious matters. Spreading false interpretations or claims

about Allah’s words can lead not only to personal misguidance but also to the misguidance of others.

In essence, this verse reminds believers to be cautious and truthful in how they speak about Allah's message, recognizing the weight and responsibility that comes with discussing divine matters.

Verse 52

Alam tara ilal lazeena 'ootoo naseebam minal kitaabi yu'minoona bil Jibti wat Taaghooti wa yaqooloona lillazeena kafaroo haaa ulaaa'i ahdaa minal lazeena aamanoo sabeelaa

Hast thou not turned Thy vision to those who were given a portion of the Book? they believe in sorcery and Evil, and say to the Unbelievers that they are better guided in the (right) way Than the believers!

Verse 52 of Surah AnNisa addresses the serious consequences for those who turn away from the path of righteousness and divine guidance. Being cursed by Allah signifies being deprived of His mercy and support, which are crucial for success in both worldly and spiritual endeavours.

Examples and Insights

1. Rejecting Core Beliefs:

Individuals who knowingly reject foundational beliefs after having received guidance may fall into this category. For example, someone who was taught the importance of honesty and integrity might knowingly choose deception for personal gain, despite understanding its moral ramifications.

2. Spreading Misinformation:

Those who intentionally spread false interpretations or distort religious teachings for personal or political gain can lead others astray. This includes manipulating texts to justify harmful actions or practices that are against the essence of the faith.

3. Persisting in Injustice:

Engaging in acts of injustice, such as oppression or exploitation, despite knowing these actions are wrong, illustrates a deliberate turning away from divine principles. For instance, leaders who oppress people or systems that exploit the vulnerable, while aware of their religious ethical teachings, align with this transgression.

4. Disregarding Divine Guidance:

This could refer to ignoring spiritual intelligence and pursuing paths that are clearly marked as erroneous by divine teachings. Engaging in constant, willful behaviour that goes against moral and ethical standards after receiving clear guidance exemplifies this disregard.

Consequences and Reflection

The verse highlights that those who earn the divine curse find themselves without any true ally or support, emphasizing the absolute need for divine approval in achieving real success. It serves as a potent reminder of the

consequences of knowingly deviating from the path of truth and integrity.

Encouragement to Return

However, it also gently implies hope; by understanding these warnings, individuals are encouraged to seek forgiveness and return to the right path. This reflection can be a starting point for individuals and communities to reassess their actions and attitudes, aiming for alignment with the divine path and the cultivation of virtues like truthfulness, justice, and compassion.

In summary, this verse encourages introspection and the pursuit of actions that align with the divine will, ensuring that one remains within the fold of divine mercy and blessing.

Verse 53

Am lahum naseebum minal mulki fa izal laa yu'toonan naasa naqeeraa

Have they a share in dominion or power? Behold, they give not a farthing to their fellowmen?

Verse 53 of Surah AnNisa questions the sense of entitlement and selfishness often exhibited by those who might possess worldly power or authority. It highlights human tendencies toward greed and the importance of generosity and fairness.

Examples and Insights

1. Hoarding Wealth:

This verse points out that people in positions of power may tend to hoard resources, refusing even the smallest share to others. An example might be a wealthy individual who doesn't share their wealth with those in need, despite having more than enough.

2. Lack of Generosity:

It illustrates how, if left to their own devices, humans with power might not show even minimal generosity. For instance, a leader who withholds resources from their people, focusing only on personal gain, reflects this behaviour.

3. Selfish DecisionMaking:

Those who have a share of authority might make decisions based solely on selfinterest rather than considering the wellbeing of all. This can relate to businesses prioritizing profits over fair wages for employees.

4. False Sense of Ownership:

The verse challenges the belief some might have in their own dominion. In reality, all control and authority ultimately belong to Allah. This perspective encourages humility and an understanding that worldly power is temporary and should be used responsibly.

Reflection on Divine Justice

This verse serves as a reminder that true justice and generosity come from Allah. Unlike human rulers who might favour selfish terms, divine justice ensures that everyone receives their due.

Encouragement for Fairness

The message encourages individuals to practice generosity and fairness, emulating divine qualities in their lives. It urges those with power to share resources and support the community, reflecting a more equitable and compassionate society.

By fostering generosity and recognizing the temporary nature of power, individuals and leaders can work towards a fair and supportive community, aligning with the values this verse promotes

Verse 54

Am yahsudoonan naasa 'alaa maaa aataahumul laahu min fadlihee faqad aatainaaa Aala Ibraaheemal Kitaaba wal Hikmata wa aatainaahum mulkan 'azeemaa

Or do they envy mankind for what Allah hath given them of His bounty? but We had already given the people of Abraham the Book and Wisdom, and conferred upon them a great kingdom.

Verse 54, addresses the issue of envy and the blessings bestowed by Allah on His prophets and chosen people.

1. Envy and Jealousy:

The verse begins by questioning why people feel jealous or envious of others who receive blessings or favour from Allah. Envy is discouraged because it's an unhealthy emotion that can lead to negative behaviour and disrupt community harmony.

2. Allah's Wisdom:

The verse reminds us that Allah, in His wisdom, distributes blessings and riches as He sees fit. This distribution isn't arbitrary; it's based on Allah's understanding of what each individual or community needs.

3. The Example of Abraham's Family:

Allah points to the example of Prophet Abraham's family, who were bestowed with the Scriptures, wisdom, and a powerful kingdom. This reference highlights that being given such gifts comes with responsibilities and trials, not just material benefits.

4. Lessons Learned:

The verse emphasizes learning from the past. Those who have been given great blessings, like the family of Abraham, faced challenges and had to uphold their faith and obedience to Allah. This serves as a reminder that with great gifts come great responsibilities and accountability.

5. Encouragement for Gratitude:

This verse encourages us to be grateful for what we have and to avoid comparing ourselves with others out of envy. Gratitude helps us lead a more content and fulfilling life, acknowledging that Allah's wisdom encompasses all aspects of His creation.

In summary, Surah AnNisa, verse 54, teaches us to avoid envy, recognize Allah's wisdom in the distribution of His favours, and be grateful for our own blessings while understanding the responsibilities that may come with them.

Verse 55

Faminhum man aamana bihee wa minhum man sadda 'anh; wa kafaa bi Jahannama sa'eeraa

Some of them believed, and some of them averted their faces from Him: And enough is Hell for a burning fire.

Verse 55 continues the discussion surrounding the reactions of people to the blessings and guidance sent by Allah.

1. Diverse Reactions:

The verse explains that people had differing reactions to the divine messages and prophets sent by Allah. Some believed in the messages and embraced the teachings, while others rejected or turned away from them.

2. Freedom of Choice:

This demonstrates the freedom given to humanity to choose their path—whether to follow the guidance provided by Allah or to turn away. Each individual's choice is significant and shapes their spiritual journey.

3. Consequences of Choice:

The verse highlights the consequences of these choices. For those who turn away or reject the divine guidance, there is a warning of Hell as a fitting recompense for their actions. This underscores the serious nature of the choices people make concerning their faith.

4. Importance of Belief:

By mentioning belief, the verse places importance on faith as a key component of one's relationship with Allah. It encourages reflection on one's beliefs and the sincerity of one's commitment to following divine guidance.

5. Divine Justice:

The notion of Hell as a consequence for disbelief emphasizes Allah's justice. While Allah is merciful and forgiving, there is also a system of accountability in place for those who consciously reject His guidance.

The overall lesson of this verse revolves around choice and accountability. It reminds believers of the importance of deeply considering their faith, the consequences of their actions, and the need to be conscious of the spiritual journey they are on.

Verse 56

Innal lazeena kafaroo bi Aayaatinaa sawfa nusleehim Naaran kullamaa nadijat julooduhum baddalnaahum juloodan ghairahaa liyazooqul 'azaab; innallaaha kaana 'Azeezan Hakeemaa

Those who reject our Signs, We shall soon cast into the Fire: as often as their skins are roasted through, We shall change them for fresh skins, that they may taste the penalty: for Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise.

Verse 56, addresses the consequences for those who reject Allah's signs and offers a vivid description of the punishment awaiting those who persist in disbelief.

1. Rejection of Divine Signs:

The verse begins by describing the fate of those who persistently reject or disbelieve in Allah's signs and revelations. This rejection is a conscious choice to turn away from the guidance.

2. Description of Punishment:

It vividly depicts the punishment in Hell, where the skins of the disbelievers are roasted. This imagery emphasizes the severity and the reality of the

consequences of disbelief.

3. Continuous Experience:

The punishment is described as ongoing, with the skins being replaced continuously so that the disbelievers can "taste the punishment" repeatedly. This indicates that the suffering is not momentary but continuous.

4. Power and Wisdom of Allah:

The verse concludes by highlighting two attributes of Allah: His might and His wisdom. This reinforces the idea that Allah has the power to execute justice and that there is wisdom in His decisions, including the administration of punishment.

5. Reminder of Accountability:

This serves as a stern reminder of the accountability every individual faces for their actions and beliefs. It encourages selfexamination and sincere adherence to faith.

The primary lesson of this verse is the importance of recognizing and accepting divine guidance. It serves as a powerful reminder of the consequences of disbelief and the ultimate justice of Allah, encouraging individuals to lead a life aligned with faith and righteousness.

Verse 57

Wallazeena aamanoo wa 'amilus saalihaati sanud khiluhum jannaatin tajree min tahtihal anhaaru khaalideena feehaaa abadaa, lahum feehaaa azwaajum mutahharatun wa nudkhiluhum zillan zaleelaa

But those who believe and do deeds of righteousness, We shall soon admit to Gardens, with rivers flowing beneath, their eternal home: Therein shall they have companions pure and holy: We shall admit them to shades, cool and ever deepening.

Verse 57 of this chapter is a significant verse that offers insight into the rewards awaiting the righteous in the afterlife.

This verse offers Muslims a profound glimpse into the eternal rewards that await those who live a life of righteousness. This verse highlights the divine promise of paradise as a reward for faith and good deeds, painting a picture of eternal contentment and fulfillment.

Themes and Analysis:

1. Faith and Righteous Deeds:

The verse begins by stressing the importance of faith and righteous conduct. This combination is repeatedly emphasized throughout the Quran as the pathway to achieving Allah's pleasure and eternal success. Belief in Allah, coupled with the practice of good deeds, forms the foundation of a Muslim's life and endeavours.

2. Gardens Beneath Which Rivers Flow:

The imagery of gardens with flowing rivers is a recurring symbol of the ultimate paradise in the Quran. It represents the abundance, peace, and eternal respite that await the believers. Such a vision is not only one of physical comfort but also symbolizes spiritual and emotional fulfilment.

3. Eternal Dwellings:

The promise of residing in these gardens forever underscores the eternal nature of the Hereafter's rewards. Unlike the temporary and often fleeting

pleasures of this world, the joy and satisfaction of paradise are depicted as everlasting.

4. Purified Spouses:

The verse also highlights the reward of having pure spouses, indicating the complete and perfect relationships that will exist in the afterlife, free from the imperfections and challenges found in worldly relationships.

5. Cool Shades:

The notion of shade provides a metaphor for relief and comfort, protecting the inhabitants from any form of discomfort, symbolizing the comprehensive peace that the hereafter offers.

Significance:

Verse 57 of Surah AnNisa reassures believers of the tangible and intangible rewards that await them, serving as motivation to adhere to the path of righteousness. It provides a blueprint for a successful life by emphasizing belief coupled with action. The promise of paradise serves as a moral compass and a source of hope, reminding Muslims of the transient nature of worldly challenges.

Conclusion:

The verse is more than just a description of the paradise; it is an invitation to all individuals to reflect upon their lives, actions, and the ultimate purpose of human existence. It encourages Muslims to strive for excellence in their spiritual and moral conduct, holding fast to the belief that their efforts will lead to an everlasting reward in the divine paradise prepared by Allah.

By pondering over such verses, believers can find solace and strength in their faith, knowing that their adherence to the principles of Islam will lead to a fulfilling and eternal afterlife.

Verse 58

Innal laaha ya'murukum an tu'addul amaanaati ilaaa ahlihaa wa izaa hakamtum bainan naasi an tahkumoo bil'adl; innal laaha ni'immaa ya'izukum bih; innal laaha kaana Samee'am Baseeraa

Allah doth command you to render back your Trusts to those to whom they are due; And when ye judge between man and man, that ye judge with justice: Verily how excellent is the teaching which He giveth you! For Allah is He Who heareth and seeth all things.

Verse 58 of Surah AnNisa addresses the principles of justice and trust, forming part of the foundational ethical guidelines in Islam.

Justice and Trust:

Surah AnNisa is a crucial chapter in the Quran that extensively covers the

principles of social justice, ethics, and human rights. Verse 58, in particular, deals with the principles of trust and justice, offering guidance on governance and personal conduct.

Themes and Analysis:

1. The Command to Uphold Trusts:

This verse begins by emphasizing the importance of rendering trusts. Trusts here can refer to various forms of responsibilities, promises, and duties—ranging from personal obligations to public office roles. The verse underscores that fulfilling such trusts is a divine command, crucial for maintaining social harmony and integrity.

2. Judging with Justice:

Alongside fulfilling trusts, the verse stresses the need for fair and just judgment. Whether it is legal matters or daily interpersonal conflicts, the expectation is for truth and fairness to prevail. Justice is a core value in Islam, essential for peaceful coexistence and community welfare.

3. Divine Instruction and Wisdom:

The verse describes Allah's instructions as excellent, reflecting their divine origin and wisdom. Emphasizing both the ethical and practical benefits of justice and trustworthiness, these guidelines lead to a righteous and balanced societal structure.

4. Allah as AllHearing and AllSeeing:

The conclusion of the verse serves as a reminder of Allah's omnipotence. As Allah is ever Hearing and Seeing, individuals are encouraged to uphold integrity in private and public life, aware that their actions are observed by the Divine.

Significance:

Verse 58 of Surah AnNisa serves as a guiding principle for individuals and leaders alike. It highlights the essential Islamic values of accountability, fairness, and justice, laying the foundation for ethical governance and community relations. This verse calls upon all Muslims to reflect these virtues in their actions and decisions.

Application:

In Governance: Leaders and those in power are reminded of their duty to honour the trusts placed in them by the public, exercising authority with fairness and equity.

In Personal Conduct: Every individual is encouraged to fulfill their commitments and engage in fair dealings, whether in business, family, or community settings.

By adhering to the principles outlined in this verse, a just and trustworthy society can flourish, leading to peace, stability, and mutual respect among people of different backgrounds and beliefs.

Conclusion:

Verse 58 of Surah AnNisa remains a timeless piece of ethical guidance, emphasizing justice and trust as cornerstones of a harmonious and morally upright society. It calls on believers to embody these values and reflects the

intricate balance between divine commandments and human responsibilities in the pursuit of peace and justice.

This verse continues to inspire Muslims globally, helping them navigate the complexities of modern living while adhering to the enduring principles of their faith.

Verse 59

Yaaa aiyuhal lazeena aamanooo atee'ul laaha wa atee'ur Rasoola wa ulil amri minkum fa in tanaaza'tum fee shai'in faruddoohu ilal laahi war Rasooli in kuntum tu'minoona billaahi wal yawmil Aakhir; zaalika khairunw wa ahsanu ta'weelaa

O ye who believe! Obey Allah, and obey the Messenger, and those charged with authority among you. If ye differ in anything among yourselves, refer it to Allah and His Messenger, if ye do believe in Allah and the Last Day: That is best, and most suitable for final determination.

Verse 59 of Surah AnNisa is a pivotal verse that discusses the themes of authority, obedience, and governance within an Islamic context. This verse offers guidance on the relationship between the community and its leaders and between believers and divine commandments.

Themes and Analysis:

1. Hierarchy of Obedience:

The verse begins by commanding believers to obey Allah, then the Messenger (Prophet Muhammad), and finally, those in authority. This establishes a clear hierarchy where divine commandments take precedence, followed by prophetic teachings, and finally, human authority.

2. Authority and Governance:

"Those in authority among you" can be interpreted as leaders, rulers, scholars, or anyone in a position of legitimate power and responsibility. The verse emphasizes their role in guiding the community according to Islamic principles, and the importance of obeying them as long as their directives align with the teachings of Islam.

3. Conflict Resolution:

The verse provides a method for resolving disputes by suggesting that disagreements be referred back to Allah and the Messenger. This implies consulting the Quran and Hadith for guidance, ensuring decisions are rooted in Islamic teachings.

4. Faith and Accountability:

By stating "if you should believe in Allah and the Last Day," the verse ties obedience and conflict resolution to faith and accountability. It reminds believers of the importance of adhering to these principles as part of their responsibility toward their faith and its tenets.

Significance:

Verse 59 of Surah AnNisa highlights the importance of structured authority and the balance between obedience to Allah, the Prophet, and those in charge. It provides a model for effective governance, encouraging trust and adherence to leadership that is just and righteous.

Conclusion:

Verse 59 offers comprehensive insights into the organizational structure of an Islamic society. By emphasizing obedience within a defined hierarchy and encouraging resolution through divine guidance, it fosters a community based on faith, justice, and cooperation. This verse continues to influence the political and social dynamics of Muslim communities, underscoring the timeless nature of the Quran's guidance in establishing harmony and equity.

Verse 60

Alam tara ilal lazeena yaz'umoona annahum amanoo bimaa unzilaa ilaika wa maaa unzila min qablika yureedoona ai yatahaakamooo ilat Taaghooti wa qad umirooo ai yakfuroo bihi, wa yureedush Shaitaanu ai yudillahum dalaalam ba'eedaa

Hast thou not turned Thy vision to those who declare that they believe in the revelations that have come to thee and to those before thee? Their (real) wish is to resort together for judgment (in their disputes) to the Evil One, though they were ordered to reject him. But Satan´s wish is to lead them astray far away (from the right).

Verse 60 of Surah AnNisa addresses the issue of hypocrisy and the failure to submit to divine law, critiquing those who seek judgment from sources other than what Allah has revealed. This verse is a strong admonition against turning to nonIslamic authorities for decisions that should be grounded in Islamic principles.

Hypocrisy and Divine Law: Insights into Verse 60 of Surah AnNisa

Themes and Analysis:

1. Claim of Belief Versus Action:

The verse highlights a discrepancy between professed belief in Allah's revelations and contradictory actions. These individuals claim to believe in the Quran and prior scriptures yet turn to Taghut (false deities or unjust rulers) for judgment, undermining their own professed faith.

2. Rejection of False Authorities:

Muslims are commanded to reject Taghut, representing entities and systems that lead away from divine guidance.

3. The Role of Satan:

The verse warns of Satan's role in tempting people to stray from true faith and divine law. By influencing individuals to seek guidance outside of Islamic teachings, Satan aims to lead them far from the path ordained by Allah.

4. Hypocrisy and Its Consequences:

This verse serves as a critique of hypocrisy within the Muslim community. The gap between belief and practice poses a significant threat to the integrity and harmony of the community, emphasizing the need for sincerity in both faith and action.

Significance:

Verse 60 serves as a stern reminder to remain steadfast in adhering to Islamic law and principles. It warns believers about the dangers of hypocrisy and the influence of Satan in diverting them from their faith.

Conclusion:

Verse 60 of Surah AnNisa sharply addresses the inconsistency between professed beliefs and actions among those who stray from Islamic principles. By urging the rejection of false authorities and highlighting the dangers of hypocrisy, the verse calls for a sincere commitment to faith, reinforcing the importance of aligning words with deeds. This guiding principle continues to resonate, reminding Muslims of the importance of sincerity and adherence to divine law in all aspects of life.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE ABOVE

In our busy lives, it's easy to forget the important things that guide us. For Muslims, it's vital to live with sincerity and follow Allah's rules in everything we do. This helps us grow as better people and create a community full of good

values.

What is Sincerity?

Sincerity means doing things with a pure heart. It's about making sure our actions are for Allah alone, not for showing off or gaining praise from others. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) reminded us that our actions are judged by our intentions, so having the right intention is essential.

Following Divine Law

Following Shariah, or divine law, is another important aspect. This law teaches us how to behave in all areas of life, like being honest when we deal with others, treating people fairly, and living with compassion.

How to Apply These in Everyday Life

1. Personal Acts: When you pray or give charity, make sure you're doing it for Allah and not to impress others.

2. Dealing with People: Be kind and patient, treating everyone with the respect that Islam encourages.

3. At Work or School: Always be honest and fair, whether you're working, studying, or in any dealings with others.

4. Reflect: Take time to think about your actions and intentions. This helps you stay on the right path and improve continuously.

By living sincerely and following divine guidance, Muslims can lead fulfilling

lives. These principles help create a peaceful and harmonious society, where everyone’s actions are rooted in honesty and goodness.

Verse 61

Wa izaa qeela lahum ta'aalaw ilaa maaa anzalallaahu wa ilar Rasooli ra aital munaafiqeena yasuddoona 'anka sudoodaa

When it is said to them: "Come to what Allah hath revealed, and to the Messenger": Thou seest the Hypocrites avert their faces from thee in disgust.

Verse 61 talks about hypocrisy in faith referring to the inconsistency between what individuals profess to believe and how they actually behave. This disparity can weaken one's personal faith and disrupt the harmony of the Muslim community

Hypocrisy in faith happens when people say they believe in Islam but their actions show otherwise. This can harm their faith and the community. Here are some examples:

1. Picking and Choosing: Following some Islamic rules but ignoring others, like praying but being dishonest in business.

2. Public vs. Private: Acting religious in public but behaving differently in private, such as lying or gossiping.

3. Ignoring Islamic Guidance: Choosing solutions that go against Islamic teachings in personal disputes for convenience.

4. Seeking Approval: Changing Islamic practices to fit in with others, like skipping prayers.

5. Charity for Show: Giving to charity for praise instead of genuine intention.

Effects of Hypocrisy:

It weakens personal faith and breaks community trust.

People are held accountable for their actions in Islam.

How to Overcome Hypocrisy:

Regularly check your intentions to ensure they are for Allah.

Practice Islam consistently in all areas of life.

Ask Allah for guidance and forgiveness.

Surround yourself with sincere community members for support.

By addressing these issues, Muslims can align their actions with their faith and strengthen both personal and community life.

Verse 62

Fakaifa izaaa asaabathum museebatum bimaa qaddamat aideehim summa jaaa'ooka yahlifoona billaahi in aradnaaa illaaa ihsaananw wa tawfeeqaa

How then, when they are seized by misfortune, because of the deeds which they hands have sent forth? Then their come to thee, swearing by Allah: "We meant no more than goodwill and conciliation!"

Verse 62 addresses the inconsistency between the professed beliefs and actions of certain individuals who claim to be Muslims but whose behaviour contradicts their stated faith.

The Verse in Context

Themes and Message

1. Behaviour of Hypocrites:

The verse highlights a behavioural pattern often seen in hypocrites: when faced with the consequences of their wrong actions, they attempt to justify themselves with insincere excuses or false oaths. Despite their harmful actions, they claim to have intended only good, attempting to mask their hypocrisy and deceit.

2. Accountability of Actions:

The verse underscores the essential Islamic principle that individuals will face the consequences of their actions. It serves as a reminder that deeds done with ill intent cannot be covered up by insincere words or deceptive justifications.

3. Sincerity in Faith:

A key lesson from this verse is the emphasis on sincerity and congruence between belief and actions. The Quran repeatedly urges believers to ensure

that their actions are a true reflection of their faith, advocating for honesty, integrity, and genuine devotion.

4. Repentance and Correction:

Although the verse is critical of hypocritical behaviour, it also implicitly invites individuals to repent and correct their ways. Islam places great importance on the opportunity for repentance and the ability to return to righteous behaviour after recognizing one's faults.

To Add Clarity, let us look at its Historical Context

Historical Context: Scholars often reference the incidents in early Islamic history where certain individuals would outwardly profess loyalty to the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ (peace be upon him) but would secretly conspire against the Muslim community. This verse, therefore, serves as a rebuke to such behaviour and a warning to others.

Moral and Ethical Guidance: This verse advises Muslims against developing dual personalities—one that is shown to people and another that is hidden and deceitful.

Spiritual Reflection: The verse encourages believers to self reflect and assess their true intentions. It serves as a reminder that Allah is aware of what lies in the hearts of individuals, and thus, sincerity and genuine repentance form the core measures of accountability.

Conclusion

Verse 62 of Surah AnNisa serves as a profound reminder of the importance of sincerity in faith and actions. It challenges individuals to align their internal beliefs with their external actions, avoiding the pitfalls of hypocrisy. By urging reflection, accountability, and sincerity, this Quranic verse guides Muslims towards a more faithful and unified practice of their religion, endeavouring to live with integrity and honesty in all aspects of life.

Verse 63

Ulaaa'ikal lazeena ya'la mullaahu maa fee quloobihim fa a'rid 'anhum wa 'izhum wa qul lahum feee anfusihim qawlam baleeghaa

Those men,Allah knows what is in their hearts; so keep clear of them, but admonish them, and speak to them a word to reach their very souls.

The historical context of the revelation of verse 63, is rooted in addressing the behaviour and challenges faced by the early Muslim community in Medina. This period involved guiding the community through issues related to social justice, ethical behaviour, and proper conduct among the believers.

In Medina, the Muslim community was diverse and included sincere believers, recent converts, and some who outwardly professed Islam but still held reservations or maintained ties with other groups. This verse was revealed in part to address the attitude of the "Munafiqun" (hypocrites), individuals who pretended to follow Islam but were insincere in their beliefs. Their inconsistent behaviour and disruptive influence posed challenges to the unity and strength of the nascent Muslim community.

In this context, the verse serves to remind the Prophet Muhammad(pbuh) and the believers to be aware of Allah’s knowledge of everyone's true intentions and to deal with any disruptions or insincerities with wisdom and patience. The emphasis is on using effective communication and offering sincere advice, aiming to guide people towards sincerity and truthfulness in their faith and everyday actions.

Verse 64

Wa maa arsalnaa mir Rasoolin illaa liyutaa'a bi iznil laah; wa law annahum 'iz zalamooo anfusahum jaaa'ooka fastaghfarul laaha wastaghfara lahumur Rasoolu la wajadul laaha Tawwaabar Raheemaa

We sent not a messenger, but to be obeyed, in accordance with the will of Allah. If they had only, when they were unjust to themselves, come unto thee and asked Allah´s forgiveness, and the Messenger had asked forgiveness for them, they would have found Allah indeed Oftreturning, Most Merciful.

Verse 64 of Surah AnNisa is a significant verse in the Quran that teaches us about the importance of seeking forgiveness and understanding the role of Prophet Muhammad(pbuh) as a messenger of Allah.

The Role of the Messenger:

The verse begins by reminding us that Allah sends messengers so that we listen to them and follow their guidance. These messengers, like Prophet Muhammad, help lead us on the right path by teaching us what Allah wants from us.

Seeking Forgiveness:

It talks about what we should do when we realize we've made a mistake. If someone has wronged themselves, the verse says they should approach the Prophet and ask for Allah's forgiveness. This act shows sincerity and a desire to correct one's actions.

Allah’s Mercy and Forgiveness:

The verse reassures us that Allah is very merciful and forgiving. If we sincerely repent for our mistakes and seek forgiveness, Allah is always ready to accept our repentance and forgive us.

In simple terms, this verse teaches us about the importance of turning back to Allah whenever we make mistakes, seeking guidance and forgiveness, and understanding the supportive role of the Prophet. It reassures us of the neverending mercy of Allah, encouraging us to always strive to do our best and correct our wrongs.

Verse 65

Falaa wa Rabbika laa yu'minoona hattaa yuhakkimooka fee maa shajara bainahum summa laa yajidoo feee anfusihim harajam mimmaa qadaita wa yusal limoo tasleemaa

But no, by the Lord, they can have no (real) Faith, until they make thee judge in all disputes between them, and find in their souls no resistance against Thy decisions, but accept them with the fullest conviction.

Verse 65 of Surah AnNisa, emphasizes the importance of accepting the Prophet Muhammad's guidance and decisions.

Let us look how they can be applied to presentday:

1. Following the Sunnah:

We must look to the Sunnah (the practices and sayings of the Prophet Muhammad) for guidance in our daily lives. This includes ethical decisionmaking, community interactions, and personal behaviour. By adhering to these teachings, believers strive to embody the principles of Islam in a manner consistent with the Prophet's example.

2. Resolving Disputes:

The principle of seeking solutions based on the Prophet's teachings can guide how conflicts are resolved within families, communities, and religious circles today. Using his life as a benchmark for fairness and compassion helps ensure that resolutions align with Islamic values.

3. Personal Reflection and Growth:

The verse encourages believers to internalize Islamic teachings sincerely. In the present day, this involves selfreflection and striving to align one's actions with Islamic principles, fostering humility and acceptance of divine guidance.

4. Unity and Community:

By embracing the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad(pbuh) without reservation, communities can work towards unity and cohesion. This unity is particularly important in today’s diverse societies, where differences can lead to misunderstandings and divisions.

5. Guidance from Religious Scholars:

In contemporary times, religious scholars help interpret Islamic teachings, including those of the Prophet, for presentday issues. Seeking their insights can be seen as a way of turning to the Prophet’s guidance in the context of modern challenges.

Overall, the teachings of this verse encourage Muslims today to follow the Prophet's example sincerely, apply his guidance to modern situations, and seek unity and peace through adherence to Islamic principles.

Verse 66

Wa izal la aatainaahum mil ladunnaaa ajran 'azeemaa

And We should then have given them from our presence a great reward;

Verse 66 presents a hypothetical situation rather than describing an actual command given to the believers. The context here is rhetorical, used to illustrate the challenges and the depth of commitment required in true faith.

This hypothetical scenario mentioned in the verse serves to test and highlight the sincerity of one's faith. It indicates that while such extreme sacrifices (like sacrificing one's life or leaving home) were not literally demanded at that moment, if such commands were given, only a few would show the level of obedience and devotion required.

The larger context is about obedience to Allah and the Prophet, and how genuine faith includes readiness to submit completely to divine commands, even if those commands involve great personal sacrifice. This helps illustrate the nature of true belief and the challenges of living by faith.

In practice, this verse encourages believers to reflect on their willingness to make sacrifices for their faith and to evaluate the sincerity of their commitment to following divine guidance.

Verse 67

Wa izal la aatainaahum mil ladunnaaa ajran 'azeemaa

And We should then have given them from our presence a great reward;

Verse 67 of this chapter highlights the importance of following the guidance provided by Allah and His Messenger, Prophet Muhammad. This verse encourages believers to adhere to the righteous path laid out for them to achieve success and security in their lives.

The Essence of the Verse

This verse reassures believers that if they follow what Allah has instructed and live by the teachings of the Prophet, they will be rightly guided. The message emphasizes that ultimate success lies in obedience to divine guidance, which provides the framework for living a life of integrity and purpose.

Why Guidance is Important

Clarity in Life:

Guidance from Allah and the Prophet offers clear instructions for how to live, which helps remove confusion and provides a sense of purpose.

Moral Compass:

It provides a strong foundation for understanding right from wrong, helping believers make ethical choices.

Sense of Security:

Knowing one is on the right path brings a sense of spiritual security and peace.

Community and Unity:

Following shared guidelines helps create a sense of unity and community among believers.

Practical Implications

For believers, this verse is a reminder to constantly seek Allah's guidance in all aspects of life, whether personal decisions, social interactions, or moral dilemmas. It encourages learning about and reflecting on the teachings of the Quran and the Prophet to apply these principles every day.

Conclusion

Verse 67 of Surah AnNisa serves as a powerful reminder of the significance of divine guidance. It calls upon individuals to commit to the teachings shared by Allah and the Prophet, ensuring their actions align with the path of righteousness. By doing so, believers can achieve a harmonious and fulfilled life, grounded in faith and ethical living.

Verse 68

Wa la Hadainaahum Siraatam mustaqeemaa

And We should have shown them the Straight Way.

Verse 68 continues the discussion of divine guidance, emphasizing the rewards for those who sincerely follow Allah's path.

The Essence of the Verse

Verse 68 of Surah AnNisa promises that Allah will guide believers to a straight path if they follow His commands and believe in His wisdom. It assures that those who remain faithful and adhere to Allah's instructions will find themselves on the right path, leading to ultimate success and happiness.

Tafseer

1. Promise of Guidance:

Allah reassures believers that they are not alone in their journey. By following His guidance, they will be directed toward a path that brings peace and fulfillment.

2. Reward of Obedience:

The verse emphasizes that obedience and faithfulness to Allah result in clear direction in life, minimizing confusion and uncertainty.

3. Path to Success:

Aligning one's life with divine teachings is depicted as the key to achieving both worldly and spiritual success.

Practical Implications

Faith and Trust: Believers are encouraged to place their trust in Allah's wisdom and direction, confident in His plans.

Consistency in Practice: Regularly engaging with the teachings of the Quran and the Prophet can help maintain one's path of righteousness.

Community and Support: The idea of a straight path fosters a sense of community among believers, as they share a common goal and direction.

Conclusion

Verse 68 of Surah AnNisa offers reassurance and hope to believers. It highlights the importance of adherence to Allah's guidance and the positive outcomes it brings. By trusting in divine wisdom, believers are promised a life of clarity, purpose, and ultimate success, paving the way to spiritual and moral fulfillment.

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The Essence of the Verse

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Verse 69

Wa manyyuti'il laaha war Rasoola fa ulaaa'ika ma'al lazeena an'amal laahu 'alaihim minan nabiyyeena wassiddeeqeena washshuhadaaa'i wassaaliheen; wa hasuna ulaaa'ika rafeeqaa

“And whoever obeys Allah and the Messenger, then they will be in the company of those upon whom Allah has bestowed favor: the prophets, the steadfast affirmers of truth, the martyrs, and the righteous. And excellent are those as companions.”

Verse 69 of Surah AnNisa is a significant verse that highlights the spiritual rewards of obedience to Allah and His Messenger.

1. Obedience to Allah and His Messenger:

The verse underscores the importance of following the commands of Allah and the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). This obedience is presented as the pathway to achieving a noble spiritual status.

Such obedience involves both actions and beliefs that align with the guidance provided in the Quran and the Sunnah (practices of the Prophet).

2. Company of the Blessed:

The verse promises that those who obey Allah and the Messenger will join a distinguished group of individuals in the afterlife. These groups are described as:

Prophets (Anbiya): Messengers chosen by Allah to guide humanity. Their lives are the highest examples of faith and perseverance.

The Truthful (Siddiqin): People who exemplify integrity and uphold the

truth throughout their lives. They are sincere in their faith and actions.

Martyrs (Shuhada): Those who sacrifice their lives in the path of truth and justice. Martyrdom is considered a noble and honourable status in Islam.

The Righteous (Salihin): Individuals who live virtuous lives, fulfilling their duties to Allah and to others.

3. Significance of Companionship:

Being in the company of such spiritually elevated individuals is depicted as a great honour. It reflects the ultimate success and is a motivation for believers to strive for excellence in their faith and actions.

This companionship is not only a reward in the hereafter but also serves as a source of inspiration and guidance in this life.

4. Encouragement for Believers:

The verse serves as encouragement for Muslims to remain steadfast in their faith and practice, assuring them that their efforts will be rewarded with the best of companions in the afterlife.

It is a reminder of the significant spiritual benefits of following the divine path, fostering hope and dedication among believers.

Conclusion

Verse 69 of Surah AnNisa provides a motivational perspective for Muslims, emphasizing the profound impact and rewards of obedience to divine guidance. By aspiring to join the ranks of the prophets, truthful, martyrs, and righteous, believers are encouraged to maintain a sincere and devout life, striving for excellence in both personal faith and communal responsibilities.

Verse 70

Zaalikal fadlu minal laah; wa kafaa billaahi 'Aleemaa
"That is the bounty from Allah, and sufficient is Allah as Knower."

Such is the bounty from Allah: And sufficient is it that Allah knoweth all.

Tafseer

Divine Bounty and Favour:

This verse highlights that the companionship with prophets, truthful ones, martyrs, and the righteous, as mentioned in the previous verse, is a special favour or bounty from Allah. It is not a result of mere human effort but a reflection of Allah's mercy and grace towards His believers.

Acknowledgment of Allah's Role:

By attributing such a reward as a bounty from Allah, the verse underscores the belief that all good and success in life and the hereafter are gifts from Allah. It reminds believers that their achievements are rooted in divine favour rather than just personal merits.

3. Sufficiency of Allah's Knowledge:

The phrase "sufficient is Allah as Knower" affirms that Allah has complete knowledge of all actions, intentions, and the sincerity of every individual's faith. This assures believers that even if their efforts and righteousness go unrecognized by others, they are always known and

rewarded by Allah.

It reassures that Allah's awareness is perfect and complete, emphasizing that He is the ultimate judge of all deeds, understanding both the apparent and the hidden dimensions of human actions.

4. Encouragement to Believers:

The verse encourages believers to maintain their faith and deeds without concern for worldly recognition. It inspires them to focus on pleasing Allah, knowing that His knowledge and reward are what truly matter.

This perspective provides comfort, especially in situations where one's good deeds may be overlooked or misunderstood by others.

5. Perspective on Worldly and Spiritual Success:

By calling the rewards a "bounty," the verse indicates that the true measure of success is aligned with spiritual and moral achievements granted by Allah, rather than just worldly accomplishments.

Conclusion

Verse 70 of Surah AnNisa serves as a gentle reminder and encouragement for Muslims to place their trust in Allah's wisdom and knowledge. It highlights the importance of seeking divine approval above all else, assuring believers of Allah's encompassing knowledge and

the true value of His rewards. This understanding fosters humility, gratitude, and a focus on sincere devotion.

Verse 71

Yaaa aiyuhal lazeena aamanoo khuzoo hizrakum fanfiroo subaatin awin firoo jamee'aa

"That is the bounty from Allah, and sufficient is Allah as Knower."

Tafseer

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Verse 71

Yaaa aiyuhal lazeena aamanoo khuzoo hizrakum fanfiroo subaatin awin firoo jamee'aa

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O ye who believe! Take your precautions, and either go forth in p

Context of Revelation

The revelation of this verse is linked to the period when Muslims were facing threats from their enemies. It was revealed to prepare the Muslim community in Medina for potential conflicts and to encourage strategic thinking in warfare. The context was the need for prudence and readiness during times of uncertainty and potential attacks.

Tafseer

1. Addressing the Believers: The verse starts with "O you who have believed," which is a direct call to the Muslims, indicating that what follows is of significant importance to their faith and community conduct.
2. Taking Precaution: The command to "take your precaution" underscores the necessity of being vigilant and prepared. In the historical context, this referred to being aware of enemy movements

and potential threats, ensuring the security of the Muslim community.

3. Going Forth in Companies or Together: This part of the verse suggests different strategies based on the situation:

In Companies: Engaging in smaller groups could imply tactical guerrilla warfare, covert operations, or reconnaissance missions.

All Together: Mobilizing as a whole community would be applicable in situations requiring a fullscale defensive or offensive action.

Practical Lessons Derived

1. Preparedness and Caution: The verse teaches the importance of being prepared and cautious. This can extend beyond physical warfare to include preparedness in personal and professional life to handle crises.

2. Strategic Planning: It highlights the importance of strategic planning and flexibility in approaches, which can be applied in modern settings such as business strategies, conflict resolution, and crisis management.

3. Community Cohesion: The call for either organized groups or unified action emphasizes the need for community cohesion. It underscores that success often lies in collective action, collaboration, and unity in the face of challenges.

4. Faith and Action: The verse balances faith with action, reminding believers that while reliance on Allah is crucial, it must be coupled with practical effort and strategic planning.

In summary, verse 71 of Surah AnNisa provides timeless guidance not just in the context of warfare, but in everyday life by stressing preparedness, strategic thinking, and the importance of unified

community actions. These principles remain relevant in nurturing a resilient and cohesive society.

Verse 72

Wa inna minkum lamal la yubatti'anna fa in asaabatkum museebatun qaala qad an'amal laahu 'alaiya iz lam akum ma'ahum shaheeda

There are certainly among you men who would tarry behind: If a misfortune befalls you, they say: "Allah did favour us in that we were not present among them."

Verse 72 of Surah AnNisa presents a message about the nature of commitment and sacrifice in the face of adversity, especially within the context of community and collective responsibility. This verse particularly deals with the attitudes and behaviours of people in times of communal or societal trials.

Tafseer

The verse roughly translates to highlight the behaviour and attitudes of those who are hesitant to partake in communal struggles or warfare. It draws attention to those who prefer to stay behind and observe rather than actively participate, expecting rewards without bearing responsibilities.

Historical Context

In the early days of Islam, the Muslim community faced numerous challenges, including hostile tribes and societies that posed threats to their safety and religious freedom. During these times, collective effort and commitment were crucial for the community's survival and prosperity. This verse was revealed to address the differing attitudes among the people—those who were readily willing to support and protect their community and those who hesitated, preferring comfort over hardship.

Key Lessons and Applications

1. Commitment and Responsibility: This verse teaches the importance of being committed to one's responsibilities, especially in times of need. It encourages believers to support their community actively and not simply remain as passive observers expecting benefits without effort.
2. Collective Effort: The emphasis is on the strength found in unity and collective action. Just as the early Muslim community needed collaboration for survival, modern communities require collective effort to tackle challenges and pursue common goals.
3. Courage and Sacrifice: The verse also highlights the need for courage and the willingness to make sacrifices when necessary. It serves as a reminder that personal comfort should not come at the expense of communal duties.
4. Everyday Application: In today's world, the principle behind this verse can be applied in various spheres of life. Whether it's participating in community service, contributing to social causes, or simply being a

reliable friend or family member, the message encourages active involvement and dedication.

Conclusion

Verse 72 of Surah AnNisa serves as a timeless reminder of the values of commitment, courage, and collective responsibility. By implementing these principles in everyday life, individuals can contribute positively to their communities, ensuring strength and harmony in the face of adversities. This approach not only honours the teachings of this verse but also fosters a supportive and resilient society.

Verse 73

Wa la'in asaabakum fadlum minal laahi la yaqoolanna ka al lam takum bainakum wa bainahoo mawaddatuny yaa laitanee kuntu ma'ahum fa afooza fawzan 'azeemaa

But if good fortune comes to you from Allah, they would be sure to say as if there had never been Ties of affection between you and them "Oh! I wish I had been with them; a fine thing should I then have made of it!"

Verse 73 of Surah AnNisa continues to explore themes related to community dynamics and personal motivations during times of trial. It particularly focuses on the attitudes of certain individuals when faced with victory or hardship.

Tafseer

This verse emphasizes the attitude of those who experience relief or joy when a community finds success or gains without their personal involvement. It scrutinizes the behaviour of individuals who only participate in community efforts when there is a clear advantage to them, often expressing regret or criticism when they miss out on these benefits.

Historical Context

In the early Islamic period, the Muslim community often navigated through battles, social reforms, and the establishment of justice. This context required collective participation and sacrifice. Meanwhile, there were individuals who hesitated to commit unless there was a guaranteed reward, reflecting a conditional allegiance that this verse addresses.

Key Lessons and Applications

1. SelfInterest vs. Collective Good: This verse highlights the distinction between acting out of selfinterest and truly committing to the collective good. It encourages believers to reflect on their motivations and align their actions with broader community interests rather than personal gain.
2. Consistency in Support: The verse emphasizes the importance of consistent support and participation, regardless of immediate personal benefits. It teaches that true commitment involves steadfastness in all circumstances.

3. Reflecting on Intentions: Believers are urged to examine their intentions and motivations. Are they supporting their communities out of genuine commitment, or are their actions driven by the prospect of reward? This introspection is crucial for sincere and meaningful involvement.

4. Everyday Application: In modern contexts, this teaching can be applied by ensuring that our contributions to work, family, or community projects are driven by genuine care and responsibility. It encourages supporting causes not just for personal recognition or rewards, but for the inherent benefits to the community.

Conclusion

Verse 73 of Surah AnNisa serves as a call to examine one's motivations and commitment to the community. By understanding and implementing the principles of sincerity, consistency, and genuine support, individuals can foster cooperation and trust in their social environments. This approach aligns individual efforts with communal wellbeing, fostering a more supportive and harmonious society.

Verse 74 of Surah AnNisa addresses the notion of striving in the path of justice and righteousness. It focuses on the qualities and motivations of those who dedicate themselves to fighting for noble causes and how they are rewarded for their sacrifices.

Tafseer

This verse calls upon believers to genuinely strive in the cause of Allah, emphasizing that those who do so in pursuit of righteousness and justice will find great reward, whether they achieve victory or face hardships. The underlying message is a call to courage and conviction, rooted in faith and the determination to uphold justice.

Historical Context

During the early Islamic era, the Muslim community was often in conflict with opposing forces that threatened their existence and belief systems. This verse was revealed to inspire courage and to rally the believers in their collective struggle for protection and establishment of justice.

Key Lessons and Applications

1. Courage and Commitment: The verse emphasizes the importance of courage in the face of adversity. It encourages believers to be resolute in standing up for justice and righteousness, irrespective of the challenges.
2. Purposeful Struggle: It highlights that the struggle for justice should be rooted in noble intentions and the greater good. The verse reminds believers that their efforts should be driven by a commitment to righteousness and the welfare of the community.
3. Divine Reward: The promise of reward is made clear, assuring believers that their sacrifices do not go unnoticed, whether they experience immediate success or not. This reward is not limited to worldly gains but extends to spiritual fulfillment.
4. Everyday Application: In present times, this teaching can be applied by advocating for justice and engaging in activities that promote fairness

and equity within communities. It can include speaking out against injustices, supporting those in need, or undertaking initiatives that contribute to societal welfare.

Conclusion

Verse 74 of Surah AnNisa serves as a powerful reminder of the values of courage, commitment, and purposeful action in the pursuit of justice and righteousness. By internalizing and applying these principles in everyday life, individuals can contribute to the creation of a just and equitable society, reinforcing the teachings of Islam in promoting harmony and fairness for all.

Verse 75

Wa maa lakum laa tuqaatiloona fee sabeelil laahi walmustad'afeena minar rijaali wannisaaa'i walwildaanil lazeena yaqooloona Rabbanaaa akhrijnaa min haazihil qaryatiz zaalimi ahluhaa waj'al lanaa mil ladunka waliyanw waj'al lanaa mil ladunka naseeraa

And why should ye not fight in the cause of Allah and of those who, being weak, are illtreated (and oppressed)? Men, women, and children, whose cry is: "Our Lord! Rescue us from this town, whose people are oppressors; and raise for us from thee one who will protect; and raise for us from thee one who will help!"

Verse 75 of Surah AnNisa highlights the importance of advocating for and protecting the oppressed. It urges believers to feel compassion and responsibility toward those who are suffering and to strive for justice and liberation from tyranny.

Tafseer

This verse draws attention to the plight of those who are weak and oppressed, especially vulnerable groups such as the elderly, women, and children. It calls on believers to take up the cause of these individuals, fighting against oppression and seeking their freedom and improvement of their condition.

Historical Context

During the time of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), the early Muslim community faced persecution, and many were oppressed simply for their beliefs. This verse speaks directly to the necessity of standing up for those who cannot defend themselves and highlights the communal responsibility of Muslims to combat injustice.

Key Lessons and Applications

1. Compassion and Empathy: The verse highlights the need for compassion and empathy for those who are vulnerable. It encourages believers to be mindful of others' suffering and to foster a caring and supportive community.
2. Act against Oppression: It underscores the importance of taking action

against any form of oppression. This includes advocating for those who are wronged and working to establish justice and equality within society.

3. Collective Responsibility: The call to action in this verse emphasizes that addressing injustice and helping the oppressed is a collective responsibility. The strength of a community lies in its ability to uplift and protect its weakest members.

4. Moral and Social Obligation: The guidance provided in this verse can be applied in modern contexts through participating in initiatives aimed at social justice, engaging in advocacy efforts, supporting humanitarian causes, and raising awareness about issues affecting marginalized groups.

5. Personal Role: On an individual level, believers are encouraged to examine how they can contribute to alleviating suffering in their everyday surroundings, whether through volunteering, supporting local charities, or simply being a voice for those who may not have one.

Conclusion

The tafseer of verse 75 of Surah AnNisa serves as a reminder of the importance of advocating for justice and supporting the oppressed. By actively engaging in this pursuit, believers can foster a sense of compassion and social responsibility, ensuring that the principles of justice, equality, and support for the vulnerable are upheld in society. This approach aligns deeply with the ethical and moral teachings of Islam, which aim to create a more just and harmonious world for all.

Verse 76

Allazeena aamanoo yuqaatiloona fee sabeelil laahi wallazeena kafaroo yuqaatiloona fee sabeelit Taaghoot faqaatiloo awliyaaa'ash Shaitaan; inna kaidash Shaitaani kaana da'eefa

Those who believe fight in the cause of Allah, and those who reject Faith Fight in the cause of Evil: So fight ye against the friends of Satan: feeble indeed is the cunning of Satan.

Verse 76 of Surah AnNisa distinguishes between those who strive for righteousness and those who seek to spread corruption. It underscores the importance of aligning one's efforts with the principles of justice and truth.

Tafseer

This verse explains that believers should strive in the path of Allah to support justice and goodness, while those who oppose these values are aligned with evil forces, notably represented by tyranny and oppression. The verse serves as a reminder of the ongoing struggle between righteousness and falsehood.

Historical Context

The early Muslim community faced numerous challenges from opposing groups intent on hindering their mission to establish justice and monotheism. This context helps explain the importance of recognizing the forces of good and evil and the moral imperative to support the

former.

Key Lessons and Applications

1. Alignment with Goodness: The verse encourages individuals to consciously align themselves with principles that advance justice and righteousness, as opposed to those that promote harm and corruption.
2. Understanding the Struggle: The ongoing struggle between justice and oppression is highlighted, and believers are called to actively participate in actions that support positive and noble causes.
3. Spiritual Warfare: The verse can be interpreted beyond physical combat to include the spiritual and social dimensions of fighting against injustice and promoting ethical behaviour.
4. Everyday Application: This teaching can be applied in modern contexts by supporting policies and actions that promote fairness and by resisting injustice in various forms, whether at a community or global level.
5. Personal Integrity: On a personal level, the verse encourages individuals to uphold truth and moral integrity in their daily lives, aligning their actions with the principles of fairness and ethical conduct.

Conclusion

Verse 76 of Surah AnNisa underscores the critical distinctions between forces of good and evil and calls for active participation in the pursuit of justice and righteousness. By embracing these principles, believers can contribute to creating a more just and equitable society, reflecting the core teachings of Islam in fostering peace and harmony.

Verse 77

Alam tara ilal lazeena qeela lahum kuffooo aidiyakum wa aqeemus Salaata wa aaatuz Zakaata falammaa kutiba 'alaihimul qitaalu izaa fareequm minhum yakhshaw nan naasa kakhashyatil laahi aw ashadda khashyah; wa qaaloo Rabbanaa lima katabta 'alainal qitaala law laaa akhkhartanaa ilaaa ajalin qareeb; qul mataa'ud dunyaa qaleelunw wal Aakhiratu khairul limanit taqaa wa laa tuzlamoona fateelaa

Hast thou not turned Thy vision to those who were told to hold back their hands (from fight) but establish regular prayers and spend in regular charity? When (at length) the order for fighting was issued to them, behold! a section of them feared men as or even more than they should have feared Allah: They said: "Our Lord! Why hast Thou ordered us to fight? Wouldst Thou not Grant us respite to our (natural) term, near (enough)?" Say: "Short is the enjoyment of this world: the Hereafter is the best for those who do right: Never will ye be dealt with unjustly in the very least!

Historical context

Allah addresses a segment of believers who were eager for fighting during the peaceful Makkan period but hesitated and grew fearful when fighting became obligatory after the migration to Medina. The verse contrasts the fleeting nature of worldly life with the immense rewards of

the Hereafter, encouraging believers to prioritize the eternal over the temporary.

Hence, the verse highlights the change in some Muslims' attitudes between the Makkan and Medinan periods. During the persecution in Mecca, some desired to fight but were instructed to focus on prayer and charity. After moving to Medina, when defensive fighting was permitted, some who had previously wanted to fight became afraid and questioned the command, showing more fear of people than of Allah.

Practical implications

This verse underscores the temporary nature of worldly life compared to the eternal Hereafter, urging believers to prioritize eternal rewards. It illustrates that true faith involves consistent submission to Allah's commands, differentiating those driven by personal desires from those who fully submit. The verse also notes the human tendency to fear people more than Allah and emphasizes the importance of fearing only God.

Lessons learned

Key lessons include recognizing the wisdom in divine timing and the necessity of following leadership. The verse also points to the inconsistency of human desires and the importance of inner reflection and purification before seeking external change. The ending assures believers of perfect divine justice and full reward for their good deeds.

Verse 78

Ayna maa takoonoo yudrikkumul mawtu wa law kuntum fee buroojim mushai yadah; wa in tusibhum hasanatuny yaqooloo haazihee min indil laahi wa in tusibhum saiyi'atuny yaqooloo haazihee min 'indik; qul kullum min 'indillaahi famaa lihaaa 'ulaaa'il qawmi laa yakaadoona yafqahoona hadeesaa

"Wherever ye are, death will find you out, even if ye are in towers built up strong and high!" If some good befalls them, they say, "This is from Allah"; but if evil, they say, "This is from thee" (O Prophet). Say: "All things are from Allah." But what hath come to these people, that they fail to understand a single fact?

Historical Context

Verse 78 of Surah AnNisa was revealed in a context where the early Muslim community faced various ideological and physical challenges. During the time in Medina, Muslims were encountering both external threats from disbelievers and internal challenges from hypocrites within their ranks.

The specific reason for the revelation of this verse ties to the attitudes of the hypocrites and some among the Muslims regarding fate and divine decree. These groups tended to attribute any beneficial event or success to Allah's favour, while blaming unfavorable or adverse outcomes, especially in battles or hardships, on the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and his leadership. They failed to acknowledge that all events, whether seemingly good or bad, are part of Allah's comprehensive plan and wisdom.

The verse was sent down to correct this flawed perspective, emphasizing that everything is ultimately from Allah. It aimed to teach the community about the nature of divine will, fostering a matured faith resilient in the face of both prosperity and adversity. The reminder was

that nothing, including death, can be circumvented by human means, highlighting the importance of trusting in Allah's decree and focusing on one's responsibilities and faithfulness.

This revelation served to consolidate the faith of the believers, encouraging them to rely on Allah alone and not be swayed by negative attitudes that compromised their collective strength and unity.

Tafseer

This verse emphasizes the inevitability of death and reminds believers that it cannot be escaped, no matter how secure their circumstances may appear. The phrase "towers of lofty construction" signifies the highest levels of perceived security, yet it is made clear that death is a certainty.

The second part of the verse addresses the tendency of some people to attribute positive events to divine favour while blaming humans for negative occurrences. The message here is to understand the concept of divine will: everything that happens is part of Allah’s plan and wisdom.

Practical Implications

1. Active Faith and Trust: Believers are encouraged to trust in Allah’s wisdom and timing, accepting both the good and the challenging times as part of a divine plan that they may not fully comprehend.
2. Encouragement in Adversity: The verse provides comfort to those facing hardship by reinforcing that such experiences are part of a larger

divine purpose. It encourages a mindset of patience and resilience.

3. Acknowledgment of Human Limitations: It teaches humility by reminding believers of their limitations in controlling life's outcomes. Life's unpredictability is an integral part of the test of faith.

4. Equanimity in Success and Failure: Recognizing that all events, whether perceived as good or bad, are from Allah encourages balanced reactions to life's ups and downs, fostering gratitude and patience.

Lessons Learned

Certainty of Death: Understanding and accepting death's inevitability helps believers prioritize their deeds and focus on spiritual growth and preparation for the Hereafter.

Holistic View of Decree: Learning that both misfortunes and blessings are from Allah fosters a comprehensive understanding of the divine decree, encouraging trust, and reliance on Allah in all matters.

Awareness and Acceptance: By attributing every occurrence to Allah, believers cultivate awareness of divine presence, prompting them to reflect on their actions and intentions.

Verse 78 of Surah AnNisa imparts valuable wisdom for leading a life grounded in faith, patience, and acceptance, urging believers to maintain perspective and resilience regardless of life's circumstances.

Verse 79

"Ma asabaka min hasanatin fa mina Allah, wa ma asabaka min sayyiatin fa min nafsik, wa arsalnaka lilnaasi rasoolanw wa kafa billahi shaheedaa."

"Whatever good reaches you is from Allah, but whatever evil befalls you is from yourself. And We have sent you, [O Muhammad], to the people as a messenger, and sufficient is Allah as Witness."

Why the Verse Was Revealed

Verse 79 of Surah AnNisa was revealed as a continuation and clarification of the preceding verse (4:78). During the Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) time in Medina, there were debates and misunderstandings regarding the nature of events — whether they were divinely ordained or brought about by human actions.

The verse clarifies the misconception some people had about attributing misfortunes to external sources or blaming the Prophet himself for negative outcomes. This distinction was necessary to foster personal accountability and correct theological understanding within the Muslim community.

Tafseer

Verse 79 emphasizes two essential concepts:

1. Divine Sources of Good: Any good or positive outcome is attributed

directly to the mercy and favour of Allah. This reinforces the idea that all blessings and successes ultimately come from Allah, encouraging gratitude and humility.

2. Human Responsibility for Evil: When negative experiences or misfortunes occur, they arise due to human actions or errors. This distinction holds individuals accountable for their mistakes and misdeeds, promoting selfreflection and the need for personal growth and rectification.

3. Role of the Messenger: The latter part of the verse reaffirms the role of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as a Messenger sent by Allah, highlighting that his mission and message are divinely sanctioned. It reinforces trust in his leadership, with Allah as the ultimate witness to the truth of his prophethood.

Practical Implications

Accountability: The verse cultivates a sense of personal responsibility. Believers are encouraged to reflect on their actions and understand that negative consequences often result from personal failings rather than external factors.

Gratitude and Trust: By recognizing that all good is from Allah, believers are prompted to show gratitude and place their trust in Allah's wisdom and mercy.

SelfImprovement: Understanding that evil comes from oneself encourages continuous selfimprovement and repentance, seeking to

align one's actions with divine guidance.

Reinforcing Prophetic Authority: The verse underscores the Prophet’s divinely appointed role, urging believers to have faith in his teachings and the divine message.

Lessons Learned

DivineGraciousness and Mercy: Acknowledging Allah as the source of all good nurtures a profound sense of gratitude and a positive outlook on life.

Verse 80

"Man yutiAAi alrrasoola faqad ataa AAallaaha waman tawalla fa ma arsalnaka AAalayhim hafeetha."

"He who obeys the Messenger has indeed obeyed Allah; but he who turns away We have not sent you over them as a guardian."

Why the Verse Was Revealed

Verse 80 was revealed to further emphasize the importance of obedience to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and to clarify the relationship between obeying the Prophet and obeying Allah. At the time, Muslims were establishing the framework of Islamic governance

and community life in Medina. This period required strong adherence to divine guidance conveyed through the Prophet's teachings.

There were individuals who questioned or disregarded the Prophet's authority, and this verse was revealed to affirm that obedience to the Prophet is equivalent to obedience to Allah, as he is the Messenger conveying Allah's commands.

Tafseer

Verse 80 underscores two critical themes:

1. Obedience to the Messenger and Allah: The verse explicitly connects obedience to the Prophet with obedience to Allah, indicating that following the Prophet's teachings is obligatory for those who submit to Allah. The Messenger acts as the conduit for Allah's guidance, making his directives a reflection of divine commandments.
2. Limits of the Prophet's Role: It also highlights that the Prophet's role is not to enforce belief or guard over people's actions. His responsibility is to convey the message clearly, and it is up to individuals to choose their path. This underscores the principle of personal accountability in faith.

Practical Implications

Authority of the Sunnah: The verse establishes the authority of the Prophet's Sunnah (traditions) as an essential part of practicing Islam. Following the Prophet's example is integral to obeying Allah.

Individual Choice: It emphasizes personal responsibility, as the ultimate decision to obey lies with each individual, despite the Prophet's guidance.

Conduct in Community: Recognizing the Prophet's role encourages unity and adherence to his teachings, promoting harmony within the Muslim community.

Lessons Learned

1. Integration of Faith and Practice: The verse highlights the necessity of aligning one's actions with the teachings of the Prophet to truly obey Allah. This builds a holistic approach to faith where understanding and practice are linked.
2. Emphasis on Personal Responsibility: It underscores that while guidance is provided, the acceptance and practice of it lie with the individual. This stresses the importance of making conscious, faithdriven choices.
3. Respecting Prophetic Guidance: By linking obedience to the Prophet with obedience to Allah, believers are reminded to honour and follow the Prophet's teachings sincerely and diligently.

In summary, Verse 80 of Surah AnNisa provides critical insight into the relationship between divine guidance and prophetic authority. It affirms that adherence to the Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) teachings is a manifestation of obedience to Allah, while also highlighting the

prophetic mission’s limitations in enforcing faith, thus fostering a sense of personal accountability and responsibility among believers.

Verse 81

"Wa yaqooloona taatun faitha barazoo min AAindika bayyata taifatun minhum ghayra allathee taqool wAllahu yaktubu ma yubayyitoona faaAArid AAanhum watawakkal AAala Allahi wakafa biAllahi wakeela."

"And they say, '[We pledge] obedience'; but when they leave you, a group of them spends the night determining to do other than what you say. But Allah records what they plan by night. So leave them and rely upon Allah. And sufficient is Allah as Disposer of affairs."

Why the Verse Was Revealed

Verse 81 was revealed to address the behaviour of some individuals in the Muslim community who, outwardly, pledged allegiance and obedience to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), yet secretly intended to contravene his commands. This was particularly pertinent during a time when the Muslim community was consolidating its base in Medina and was vulnerable to both internal dissent and external threats.

This verse exposes the hypocrisy of these individuals and emphasizes Allah’s awareness of their deceitful actions. It serves to remind the Prophet and the believers to trust in Allah as their protector and helper, rather than getting enmeshed in worrying about the hypocrites’ plans.

Tafseer

1. Hypocrisy Unveiled: The verse clearly identifies the dual behaviour of certain people who display obedience publicly but secretly plot to undermine the Prophet's directives. It highlights their insincerity and the futility of their hidden agendas, as Allah is fully aware of their actions.
2. Divine Awareness and Recording: Allah's recording of their plans signifies the comprehensive nature of His knowledge and the inevitability of accountability for their secretive misconduct.
3. Reliance on Divine Support: The Prophet is instructed to overlook their hidden plots and continue placing his trust in Allah, emphasizing that Allah's protection and guidance are sufficient in managing such deceit.

Practical Implications

Addressing Hypocrisy: The verse encourages addressing and recognizing hypocrisy without being overly perturbed by those who act deceitfully, trusting in divine justice.

Trust in Allah: It reinforces reliance on Allah amid challenges posed by internal dissent, advocating for a focus on fulfilling one's duties and missions.

Faith Community Unity: Encouraging transparency and sincerity within the community helps build trust and unity, important for communal strength and integrity.

Lessons Learned

1. Divine Omniscience: The verse assures believers that Allah is constantly aware and documents all actions, guarding against deceit and hypocrisy effectively.
2. Faith and Trust: It teaches that when faced with challenges or opposition, believers should maintain their focus and trust on Allah's support and justice.
3. Sincere Allegiance: This verse stresses the importance of honesty and sincerity in pledging allegiance, whether to divine commands or community leadership, ensuring that outward actions reflect internal resolutions.

Overall, Verse 81 of Surah AnNisa provides a framework for handling deceit within a community, emphasizing the importance of reliance on Allah and the value of sincerity in both speech and action. The reminder of Allah's encompassing awareness serves as a deterrence against hypocrisy while encouraging steadfastness and trust among true believers.

Verse 82

"Afala yatadabbaroona alqurana walaw kana min AAindi ghayri Allahi lawajadoo feehi ikhtilafan katheera."

"Then do they not reflect upon the Qur'an? If it had been from [any]

other than Allah, they would have found within it much contradiction."

Why the Verse Was Revealed

This verse was revealed to address skeptics and critics of the Qur'an who doubted its divine origin. At the time of its revelation, some individuals, particularly those who opposed the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), questioned the authenticity and consistency of the Qur'an.

The verse serves as a challenge to these skeptics to engage in thoughtful reflection on the text. By encouraging examination and reflection, it highlights the coherence and divine nature of the Qur'an and argues that any text of human origin would exhibit numerous inconsistencies.

Tafseer

1. Invitation to Contemplate: The verse emphasizes the importance of reflecting on the Qur'an's teachings and structure. It encourages deep contemplation to understand the profound wisdom and consistency of the divine message.
2. Evidence of Divine Origin: The lack of contradictions within the Qur'an is presented as evidence of its divine origin. Unlike humancreated texts, it retains coherence across various themes, laws, and guidance, despite being revealed over 23 years under different circumstances.
3. Encouraging Intellectual Engagement: The verse challenges readers to use reason and intellect to discern the truth, promoting an analytical approach to understanding faith.

Practical Implications

Encouragement of Reflection: Believers are encouraged to engage in ongoing reflection and study of the Qur'an to gain deeper insights into its messages and guidance.

Strengthening of Faith: Understanding the Qur'an's consistency and coherence strengthens believers' faith and confidence in its divine origin and guidance.

Intellectual Approach to Faith: The verse fosters an environment where questioning and understanding religious texts are part of faith practice, encouraging a reasoned and informed belief system.

Lessons Learned

1. Critical Reflection: The verse underscores the importance of using reason and contemplation to appreciate the depth and coherence of the Qur'anic message, fostering a relationship with the text based on understanding.
2. Affirmation of Divine Consistency: Recognizing the Qur'an's lack of contradictions reaffirms its divine nature, providing a foundation for trust and adherence to its teachings.
3. Open Invitation to Inquiry: It encourages an environment where intellectual inquiry is valued in faith, allowing individuals to explore and question within the framework of Islamic teachings.

Verse 82 of Surah AnNisa invites believers and skeptics alike to engage deeply with the Qur'an, blending faith with intellectual examination. It

challenges readers to recognize the divine origin of the Qur'an through its unparalleled consistency and coherence, thereby strengthening faith and commitment to its teachings.

Verse 83

Wa idha jaaahum amrun minal amani aw almashwara, iza jaaahum amrun minal amani aw almashwara.

"And when there comes to them a matter regarding safety or fear, they disperse it. If only they had referred it to the Messenger or to those in authority among them. Then the ones who could draw conclusions from it would have known it."

Why Was the Verse Revealed?

This verse addresses a specific issue faced by the early Muslim community in Medina. It was revealed in response to situations involving the dissemination of news, particularly concerning matters of security or fear in the community, such as battles, conflicts, or any issues that might threaten the stability of the Muslim society. Instead of discussing such matters with trusted authorities, some individuals were spreading rumors or jumping to conclusions, which could create further unrest and confusion.

Tafseer

Importance of Authority: The verse emphasizes the importance of

referring critical matters to leaders and knowledgeable individuals rather than spreading information recklessly. This approach fosters unity and ensures that the community responds with wisdom.

Trust in Leadership: The command to consult and discuss with the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) or those in authority reflects the critical role of effective leadership in guiding community matters. The verse underscores that authorities are better equipped to draw conclusions and respond appropriately to issues.

Consequences of Dispersing Information: By dispersing matters of safety or urgency without proper consultation, individuals jeopardize their community. The verse implies that this reckless behaviour can lead to misunderstandings and chaos.

Practical Implications

1. Consultation and Collaboration: In modern times, this verse serves as a reminder of the importance of seeking counsel and collaborating with knowledgeable individuals or leaders during times of uncertainty or crisis. It promotes the idea of utilizing wisdom and collective expertise rather than relying on individual opinions or hastily formed conclusions.

2. Avoiding Rumors: The verse highlights the dangers of spreading unverified information, especially in sensitive matters. It stresses the need to verify facts and rely on credible sources before making any judgments or statements.

3. Empowerment of Leadership: The verse also implies that strong leadership is essential in managing community affairs effectively. In contemporary societies, this translates to trusting leaders who are responsible and capable of making informed decisions during

challenging times.

Lessons Learned

1. The Value of Unity: The verse teaches that unity and collective decisionmaking are vital for a community's wellbeing. By consulting those in authority and knowledgeable members, communities can navigate challenges more effectively.

2. The Role of Knowledge: Knowledge and expertise are paramount. It encourages individuals to seek out those who have the background and understanding necessary to address issues thoughtfully and accurately.

3. Responsibility in Communication: Individuals must be responsible in how they communicate, particularly in matters that impact the safety and security of others. This lesson is crucial in today’s world, where misinformation can spread rapidly, leading to unnecessary panic and discord.

Conclusion

Verse 83 of Surah AnNisa emphasizes the significance of consulting with trusted figures in times of safety and fear. It teaches valuable principles about unity, the importance of reliable information, and the role of knowledgeable leadership. By adhering to these principles, communities can foster resilience, reduce misunderstandings, and effectively manage challenges in both personal and collective contexts.

Verse 84

Faqtil fee sabiili Allahi laa tu’kil nafsin illaa wus’aha, waqooloonaa ilallazeena kafaru in tuqataloo, wa in tukhrajoo, wa in tukhrajoo, fawqoo alladhina kafaru.

Translation

"Fight in the cause of Allah those who fight you but do not transgress limits; and kill them wherever you find them, and drive them out from where they have driven you out. And persecution is worse than killing."

Why Was the Verse Revealed?

Verse 84 of Surah AnNisa was revealed in the context of the various battles and conflicts that early Muslims faced, particularly in relation to the Quraysh tribe of Mecca and other hostile tribes. It addresses the necessity of selfdefense for Muslims who were facing persecution and aggression from their enemies. This verse delineates the boundaries for warfare, emphasizing that while fighting is permitted, it must be within the limits set by Allah.

Tafseer

Permitted Aggression: The verse recognizes the reality of conflict and granting permission to defend oneself when attacked. However, it also establishes that Muslims should only fight those who actively combat them and should not initiate aggression unnecessarily.

Transgression Prohibited: The phrase "do not transgress limits" indicates that even in warfare, ethical considerations must be respected. Muslims are instructed to avoid acts of indiscriminate violence or cruelty against noncombatants and ensure that their actions are justifiable.

Persecution versus Killing: The verse emphasizes that the pain of persecution (i.e., oppression and injustice) is worse than the act of killing. This highlights the severity of suffering faced by the Muslim community under hostile conditions and underscores the idea that Islam does not advocate violence without cause.

Practical Implications

1. SelfDefense: The verse outlines the principle of selfdefense, teaching that fighting is justified only when one is under attack and that Muslims may retaliate against those who initiate hostilities.
2. Moral Conduct in Warfare: The instructions regarding not transgressing limits during conflict are crucial. They serve as a reminder for soldiers and individuals involved in any form of conflict to maintain ethical behavior and respect human dignity, regardless of the circumstances.
3. Understanding Oppression: The warning that persecution is worse than killing encourages individuals to recognize the broader implications of oppression. It emphasizes the importance of addressing injustices in peaceful ways when possible.

Lessons Learned

1. The Importance of Justice: The verse highlights that justice should always prevail, even in times of conflict. Muslims must ensure their actions reflect righteousness and fairness, aligning with the broader Islamic principles of compassion.
2. Boundaries in Conflict: It teaches that while Muslims can defend themselves, there are boundaries that must not be surpassed. Engaging

in conflict should always be a last resort, approached with caution, and respect for human life.

3. Awareness of Oppression: The acknowledgment that persecution is more severe than killing serves as a reminder to prioritize efforts in combating oppression and working towards justice. This calls for advocacy against injustices faced by individuals and communities.

Conclusion

Verse 84 of Surah AnNisa provides important guidance regarding warfare, selfdefense, and the ethical considerations that should be observed during conflicts. It emphasizes justice, moral conduct, and the importance of addressing oppression. By adhering to these principles, communities can promote peace, uphold ethical standards, and work toward building a more just society.

Verse 85

Wa man yashfa’ shafa’atan hasanatan yakun lahu naseebu minha; wa man yashfa’ shafa’atan sayyi’atan yakun lahu kiflun minha; wa kaana Allahu ‘ala kulli shay’in muqeetaa.

"And whoever intercedes for a good cause will have a share in it, and whoever intercedes for an evil cause will have a part of it; and ever is Allah, over all things, Disposer of affairs."

Why Was the Verse Revealed?

Verse 85 of Surah AnNisa was revealed to clarify the importance of

intercession and the moral responsibility that comes with it. The verse emphasizes both the positive and negative outcomes of interceding on behalf of others, promoting a sense of accountability in one's actions. It serves to remind the Muslim community about the implications of advocating for others, whether for good or ill.

Tafseer

Intercession Defined: The term "intercede" refers to the act of pleading or advocating for someone else. This verse distinguishes between two types of intercession: one that leads to good outcomes and another that can cause harm or injustice.

Good Intercession: Those who advocate for positive actions or causes will receive a reward for their efforts. This instills in individuals a sense of responsibility to support good and just deeds.

Negative Intercession: Conversely, interceding for harmful or unjust actions results in one being accountable for that wrongdoing. It underscores that individuals cannot escape the consequences of their actions, especially when they advocate for evil.

Practical Implications

1. Responsibility in Advocacy: The verse highlights the importance of being mindful of the causes one supports or advocates for. Individuals must be cautious about their involvement in interceding for actions or decisions that may lead to negative consequences.

2. Importance of Positive Influence: It encourages individuals to act as advocates for justice and righteousness, reinforcing the role of community members in supporting noble causes and assisting those in

need.

3. Accountability: The verse serves as a reminder that individuals are responsible for their actions and the implications that arise from advocating for others, whether in legal, social, or community contexts.

Lessons Learned

1. The Dual Nature of Intercession: The verse provides insight into the dual nature of intercession, teaching that not all forms of advocacy are beneficial. It encourages a cautious and thoughtful approach to supporting others.

2. Promote Goodness: The emphasis on having a share in good intercession encourages individuals to pursue positive actions and help foster a more compassionate and just society.

3. Awareness of Consequences: The acknowledgment that advocating for evil incurs responsibility cultivates an understanding of the moral and ethical consequences of one's actions, thus promoting a more intentional approach to interceding for others.

Conclusion

Verse 85 of Surah AnNisa illustrates the significance of intercession and the inherent responsibilities that come with it. It encourages individuals to act as advocates for good causes while promoting accountability for actions that may lead to harm. By embracing these principles, communities can contribute to a society that values justice, compassion, and positive advocacy.

Verse 86

Wa idha hutaithum bi tameda shaytan, fa kaanuu la hum bihi laaatu raa’a, wa izah tuhsabzid tht đội ha sahwan.

"And when you are greeted with a greeting, greet in return with what is better than it or [at least] return it equally. Indeed, Allah is ever, over all things, Accountable."

Why Was the Verse Revealed?

Verse 86 of Surah AnNisa was revealed to provide guidance on the proper conduct of greeting and responding to others, emphasizing the significance of kindness and etiquette in social interactions. It serves as a reminder for the Muslim community to foster an atmosphere of respect and goodwill among its members.

Tafseer

Greeting Etiquette: The verse highlights the importance of responding to greetings in a manner that shows respect and warmth. It encourages Muslims to reciprocate greetings with a similar or better response, reinforcing the idea of goodwill within the community.

Upholding Good Manners: The emphasis on responding "with what is better" signifies the value placed on kindness and generosity. It encourages individuals to go beyond mere politeness and aim for excellence in their social interactions.

Accountability: The concluding part of the verse stresses that Allah is

aware of all actions and interactions. This serves to remind Muslims that they will be held accountable for how they treat others, emphasizing the importance of maintaining good character and sincerity in their dealings.

Practical Implications

1. Promoting Kindness: The verse serves as a practical guideline for fostering kindness in everyday interactions. Muslims are encouraged to create a culture of warmth and respect, facilitating healthy and positive relationships within their communities.
2. Respecting Others: The principle of responding to greetings with kindness promotes respect among individuals of different backgrounds. It encourages Muslims to uphold dignity in their interactions, regardless of the circumstances.
3. Building Community: By promoting the practice of thoughtful greetings, the verse contributes to community cohesion and enhances social bonds, which is essential for a strong and united society.

Lessons Learned

1. The Power of Greetings: The verse emphasizes the importance of greetings as more than just formalities; they are opportunities to express goodwill and foster connections with others.
2. The Significance of Reciprocity: It teaches that responses should always be meaningful and considerate, encouraging individuals to strive for excellence in their interactions.
3. Accountability in Actions: The awareness that one will be accountable for their actions cultivates mindfulness about how to treat others, promoting a culture of integrity and respect.

Conclusion

Verse 86 of Surah AnNisa highlights the importance of etiquette in social interactions, particularly in greetings. It underscores the value of kindness and respect while reminding the Muslim community of their responsibilities to one another. By embracing the teachings of this verse, individuals can foster a more compassionate and respectful society, ultimately strengthening community bonds and mutual understanding.

Verse 87

Allah yattawafas alanfusa hina mawtiha wallati lam tamut fi manamihafayumsikullati qad qudir 'alayha almawtu wa yursilu alukhra ila ajalin mussamma. Inna fi dhalika la ayatin liqawmin yatafakkarun.

"Allah takes the souls at the time of their death, and those that do not die during their sleep. Then He keeps those for which He has decreed death and releases the others for a specified term. Indeed, in that are signs for a people who reflect."

Why Was the Verse Revealed?

Verse 87 of Surah AnNisa was revealed to elucidate the concept of death and the divine decree surrounding it. The verse addresses the nature of death and the process of the soul being taken by Allah, highlighting that death is not merely an end but part of a divine plan. It emphasizes that both the living and the deceased should reflect on the signs that point to

Allah’s power and wisdom.

Tafseer

Divine Authority Over Souls: This verse illustrates that Allah has full control over the souls, taking them at the moment of death and during sleep. Sleep is metaphorically referred to as a minor form of death, showing the fragility of human life and the power that Allah wields over it.

Predetermined Time: The phrase "for a specified term" indicates that every individual has a predetermined lifespan. Allah knows when each person’s time on earth will end, and this concept reinforces the belief in divine destiny (Qadar).

Encouragement to Reflect: The verse concludes by encouraging reflection on these signs. It invites believers to contemplate the nature of life and death, prompting them to recognize the greatness of Allah and the inevitability of mortality.

Practical Implications

1. Understanding Life and Death: This verse encourages individuals to appreciate the temporary nature of life and the inevitability of death. It serves as a reminder to live life meaningfully and purposefully while adhering to moral and ethical principles.

2. Composure in the Face of Death: Recognizing Allah’s control over life and death can provide comfort during times of loss or grief. It reassures believers that death is a natural part of life decreed by Allah.

3. Encouragement for Reflection: The reminder to reflect on these signs

nurtures a mindset of mindfulness and encourages individuals to seek spiritual growth, ultimately strengthening their relationship with Allah.

Lessons Learned

1. The Fragility of Life: The verse emphasizes the transient nature of human existence and encourages individuals to be humble and grateful for the time they have.
2. Divine Control: Understanding that Allah has the ultimate authority over life and death reinforces the concept of trust (Tawakkul) in Allah's plan and wisdom.
3. Call to Contemplation: The invitation to reflect on the signs of Allah serves as a reminder for believers to pursue knowledge and understanding, deepening their awareness of the world and their faith.

Conclusion

Verse 87 of Surah AnNisa provides profound insights into the nature of life, death, and divine authority. It emphasizes the need for reflection on these aspects, encouraging individuals to live with purpose and mindfulness. By internalizing the lessons from this verse, believers can cultivate a deeper understanding of their existence, the inevitability of death, and the power of Allah, ultimately leading to a more meaningful and spiritually enriched life.

Verse 88

Fa ma lakum fi almunafiqeen fayi ghalakoon bihim kaifa wa man aradallahu an yu'azhibahum fa lan tajida lahum sabila.

"So what is [the matter] with you that you are divided about the hypocrites, while Allah has made them fall away because of what they earned? Do you wish to guide those whom Allah has misguided? And he whom Allah misguides for him there is no guide."

Why Was the Verse Revealed?

Verse 88 of Surah AnNisa addresses the behaviour of some Muslims who were overly concerned with the hypocrites (munafiqeen) among them. This concern arose particularly during a time of conflict and tension, as early Muslims were trying to identify and understand the attitudes and actions of those who claimed to be their allies but exhibited insincerity. The verse indicates Allah's judgment regarding the hypocrites and emphasizes that their fate is determined by their deeds.

Tafseer

Divine Judgment on Hypocrites: The verse points out that Allah has chosen to misguide these hypocrites due to their actions and choices. Their hypocrisy is a reflection of their true intentions and desires, which ultimately leads to divine rejection.

Concern for Guidance: The rhetorical question in the verse highlights the absurdity of attempting to guide those who have intentionally

chosen to stray from the truth. It serves as a reminder that guidance is solely in Allah's hands, and individuals cannot alter someone's fate if Allah has decreed their misguidance.

Understanding the Nature of Faith: The verse emphasizes that true belief is demonstrated through sincere actions. Hypocrites may profess faith outwardly, but their intentions and actions contradict their claims. This highlights the importance of aligning one's behavior with their beliefs.

Practical Implications

1. Recognizing Sincerity: The verse teaches the importance of discernment in relationships and recognizing those whose actions reflect true commitment to their faith. Muslims are encouraged to be vigilant about the company they keep and to strive for sincerity in their own actions.
2. Focusing on Personal Accountability: Instead of becoming overly concerned with the actions of others, individuals should focus on their own faith and conduct. The verse encourages believers to selfreflect and ensure their actions align with their beliefs.
3. Understanding Divine Wisdom: The verse illustrates that Allah's wisdom governs all matters, including guidance and misguidance. Muslims are reminded that they should trust in Allah's plan and recognize that every individual's ultimate fate is in His control.

Lessons Learned

1. The Dangers of Hypocrisy: The verse serves as a warning about the

dangers of hypocrisy within the community. It encourages believers to examine their intentions and ensure they are sincere in their faith and actions.

2. The Limitations of Human Guidance: The acknowledgment that guidance ultimately comes from Allah highlights the limitations of human intervention. This emphasizes the importance of seeking truth and guidance through sincere prayer and reflection.

3. Commitment to Faith: The verse reinforces the importance of committing to one's faith with integrity, urging believers to align their actions with their beliefs and avoid falling into hypocrisy.

Conclusion

Verse 88 of Surah AnNisa offers profound insights into the nature of belief, the consequences of hypocrisy, and the importance of sincerity in one's faith. It serves as a reminder for Muslims to focus on personal accountability and trust in Allah's wisdom regarding guidance and misguidance. By embracing the lessons from this verse, individuals can strengthen their faith, cultivate sincerity, and enhance their connection with Allah.

Verse 89

Ulaa'ika humu a'adaan 'alayhim salaatun 'inda rabbihim wa rahmatun wa ulaa'ika humu almuhtadun.

"It is they who are truly the losers; and they will not find for themselves any protector."

Why Was the Verse Revealed?

Verse 89 of Surah AnNisa was revealed in the context of addressing the consequences faced by hypocrites and those who turn away from Allah's guidance. The verse serves to highlight the stark reality of the fate awaiting those who choose to disbelieve or show insincerity in their faith despite being presented with the truth.

Tafseer

Consequences of Disbelief: This verse directly addresses the hypocrites by stating that they are the real losers. Their choices lead to spiritual loss and separation from the mercy of Allah. It emphasizes that those who reject faith or act dishonestly will ultimately find themselves in a state of despair.

No Protector for the Hypocrites: The phrase "they will not find for themselves any protector" signifies that in times of trouble, those who have acted hypocritically will have no one to turn to for aid. This underscores the importance of sincere faith and the futility of relying on false pretenses.

Divine Mercy for the Righteous: The contrast between the hypocrites and the believers is made clear; true believers will attain Allah's mercy and affirmation, signifying a hopeful outcome for those who are sincere

in their faith.

Practical Implications

1. Understanding the Nature of True Loss: The verse teaches that genuine loss is spiritual. It serves as a reminder for individuals to evaluate what they prioritize in life—whether it is material gains or true faith.
2. The Importance of Sincerity: This verse encourages believers to pursue sincerity in their actions and beliefs. It highlights the importance of authentic faith rather than superficial declarations.
3. Awareness of Consequences: The recognition that hypocrites will have no protector encourages individuals to action in ways that foster genuine faith and seek Allah's guidance openly.

Lessons Learned

1. The Gravity of Hypocrisy: The verse reflects on the serious consequences of hypocrisy. It serves as a cautionary reminder for believers to remain true to their faith and to refrain from insincere practices.
2. Value of Allah's Mercy: Understanding that true protection comes from Allah reinforces the belief that sincere faith and prayer can lead to His guidance and mercy.
3. Seeking Truth: The verse prompts individuals to seek the truth and commit to an authentic practice of faith, reminding believers to align their actions with their core beliefs and values.

Conclusion

Verse 89 of Surah AnNisa serves as a strong reminder about the consequences of hypocrisy and the importance of sincerity in faith. It emphasizes the ultimate outcomes for believers versus hypocrites. By internalizing the lessons from this verse, individuals can pursue a deeper connection with Allah, seek authenticity in their faith, and strive to avoid the pitfalls of insincerity, ultimately leading to a life filled with spiritual fulfillment and divine connection.

Verse 90

Illā alladhīna yasīlūna ʾilā qawmin baynakum wabaynahum mīthāqun ʾaw jāʾūkum ḥaṣirat sudūruhum ʾayy yuqātilūkum ʾaw yuqātilu qawmahum، walaw shāʾa ʾallāhu lasallaṭahum ʿalaykum falaqāātalūkum; fain tazāʿamtu famasūʾu ʾalladhīna tawallaw; wallāhu bima taʿmalūna baṣīr.

Except for those who:

Join a group (qawm) with whom there is a treaty or pact,
Or come to you with hearts filled with fear, intending not to fight but to seek peace.

They are reluctant to fight or are hesitant, and their hearts are wary. If Allah had willed, He could have empowered them against you, but this is not His

wish. Consequently, they may be fighting you or their own people. If they choose to stay peaceful and abstain from conflict, then Allah has not made a way for you against them.

Why the Verse Was Revealed:

This verse addresses the situation of certain disbelievers or hypocrites who, while having a treaty with Muslims, may be hesitant or unwilling to fight, or might seek peace due to fear or political circumstances. It clarifies that Islam does not compel people to fight when they are trying to avoid conflict and are sincere in seeking peace.

Tafseer:

The verse indicates that:

Muslims are allowed to fight only those disbelievers who are actively fighting or breaking a treaty.
Those who seek peace and have hearts filled with fear or hesitation to fight are not enemies in the true sense.
Such individuals are to be handled with leniency and peace, provided they refrain from hostility.
The verse highlights Allah's knowledge of the hearts and intentions of people; His will prevails, but people are free to choose their actions.

It emphasizes that Islamic rulings permit fighting only under justifiable circumstances — namely, when the enemy actively fights or breaches treaties.

Practical Implications:

Muslims should honour peace agreements with those who seek peace.

Aggression or hostility justifies fighting, but leniency should be shown to those who are hesitant or seeking peace.
It promotes patience and understanding in dealing with hesitant or fearful enemies.
Leaders and Muslims must judge situations with wisdom, ensuring that fighting is justified and not out of unjust aggression.

Lessons Learned:

The importance of assessing the intentions and sincerity of others in conflict situations.
The value of peace and diplomacy when the other party shows reluctance or fears conflict.
That divine wisdom governs the course of actions, and not all situations require conflict.
The need for justice and mercy in warfare.

Conclusion:

Surah AnNisa (4:90) teaches that Islam prioritizes peace and justice. It permits fighting only against those who fight and breach treaties, while encouraging peace with those who are hesitant or seek reconciliation. The verse underscores Allah's omniscience regarding human intentions and reminds believers to approach conflicts with justice, patience, and wisdom, prioritizing peace whenever possible.

Verse 91

Satajidoona aakhareena yureedoona ai ya'manookum wa ya'manoo qawmahum kullamaa ruddoo ilal fitnati urkisoo feehaa; fa illam ya'tazilookum wa yulqoo ilaykumu alsalam wa yakfuo aidiyaahum fakhuzoohum

waqutoohum haithu saqiftumoohum; wa ulaaa'ika ja'alnaa lakum 'alayhim sultaanam mubeen.

You will find others among them who wish to make you believe in false peace and to believe in their claims. Whenever they are turned back to fitnah (trial, discord, or temptation), they fall into it again and again. If they do not refrain from this behaviour, and do not cease their hostility—if they offer peace but do not genuinely intend to be peaceful, and they are ready to attack—you are to seize and fight them wherever you meet them. Allah has established a clear authority (proof) over them.

Why the Verse Was Revealed:

This verse was revealed in the context of hypocrites and treacherous enemies who outwardly claimed to be peaceful but secretly harboured hostility. They pretended to understand and accept the faith while secretly supporting discord or supporting enemies against Muslims. When confronted, some would feign peace but would be willing to betray or attack when opportunity arose.

The verse provides guidance to the Prophet and Muslims on how to handle situations where individuals or groups pretend to seek peace but have malicious intentions underneath their words.

Tafseer:

This verse indicates that:

Certain individuals among the disbelievers or hypocrites seek to deceive Muslims by pretending to be peaceful.

When such people are faced with threats or are restrained temporarily, they often fall back into their hostile behaviour, supporting discord and supporting enemies.
If these individuals persist in their treachery or do not cease their hostility, Muslims are justified in fighting them wherever they are found.
The phrase "sultaan mubeen" (a clear, explicit authority or proof) signifies divine authority and clarity in the justification for such actions, emphasizing that Allah's guidance and decree are the ultimate authority in these matters.

The verse underscores the importance of acting decisively against those who betray trust and support discord, while also recognizing the importance of peace for those genuinely seeking it.

Practical Implications:

Muslims should be cautious of those who outwardly claim peace but secretly work against them.
Negotiations and treaties should be taken seriously, but if such individuals or groups breach their trust or support hostility, action becomes justified.
Justice and self defense are vital, and Muslims are permitted to confront and fight these treacherous enemies when necessary.
Recognize that divine guidance and authority underpin the justification for such actions.

Lessons Learned:

The importance of discerning sincerity from superficial claims.
The necessity of vigilance and readiness to defend the community against treachery.
The significance of adhering to divine guidance, which provides clarity and justice in dealing with enemies.
The importance of balancing patience with firmness when confronting threats.

Conclusion:

Surah AnNisa (4:91) teaches that while peace should be pursued, it is justified to confront and fight those who betray trust and support discord when they do not cease their hostility. The verse emphasizes divine authority and wisdom, encouraging believers to act with justice, discernment, and awareness of underlying motives. It reminds Muslims that divine guidance provides the clear criteria for justifiable actions in times of conflict, always prioritizing justice and righteousness.

Verse 92

Wa ma kana li mu'minin an yaqtula mu'minan illa khata'an; wa man qatala mu'minan khata'an fa taHreeru raqabatim mu'minahin wa diyatum musallamatun ilaaa ahliheee illa an yassaddaqoo; fa in kaana min qawmin 'aduwwil lakum wa huwa mu'minun fa taHreeru raqabatim mu'minah; wa in kaana min qawmin bainakum wa bainahum meesaaqun fadiyatum musallamatun ilaa ahlihee wa taHreeru raqabatim mu'minah; faman lam yajid fa Siyaamu shahraini mutataabi'aini tawbatan minal laah; wa kanaa laahu 'Aleeman hakeema

Never should a believer kill a believer; but (If it so happens) by mistake, (Compensation is due): If one (so) kills a believer, it is ordained that he should free a believing slave, and pay compensation to the deceased´s family, unless they remit it freely. If the deceased belonged to a people at war with you, and he was a believer, the freeing of a believing slave (Is enough). If he belonged to a people with whom ye have treaty of Mutual alliance, compensation should be paid to his family, and a believing slave be freed. For those who find this beyond their means, (is prescribed) a fast for two months running: by way of repentance to Allah: for Allah hath all knowledge and all wisdom.

Context and Reason for Revelation:

This verse was revealed to outline the rulings concerning accidental killing (khata'), emphasizing justice, mercy, and repentance. It addresses situations where someone unintentionally kills a fellow Muslim and details compensation and repentance procedures to uphold justice and human dignity.

Tafseer:

1. Prohibition of killing believers: It is a grave sin for a Muslim to kill another Muslim, whether intentionally or unintentionally. The exception here is *khata'*, or accidental killing, which is addressed specifically.

2. Punishment for accidental killing:
Freedom of a believing slave: The primary expiation (kaffara) is freeing a Muslim slave, signifying the importance of human dignity and the value of freeing slaves.

Blood money (Diyat): Payment to the family of the deceased to compensate for their loss, unless they choose to forgive it as charity.

3. For those from different nations with a treaty:
If the killer belongs to a nation with whom Muslims have a treaty, and the victim is a believer, then freeing a believing slave suffices.

4. For those from enemies or other nations:

The same rule applies: freeing a believing slave, emphasizing justice even when the attacker is from an enemy group.

5. If a believer cannot find a slave to free:

Fasting two consecutive months: This serves as a spiritual expiation and repentance to seek Allah's forgiveness.

6. God's Attribute: The verse ends by reminding us of Allah's knowledge and wisdom in establishing these laws.

Practical Implications:

Respect for life: It underscores the sanctity of Muslim life and the severe consequences of wrongful killing.
Justice and mercy: Provides a framework that balances justice (blood money and expiation) with mercy (forgiveness and repentance).
Restoration and repentance: Encourages sincere repentance through fasting when other means are unavailable.
Treaty obligations: Reinforces fair treatment of non-Muslims with whom Muslims have treaties and the importance of justice in such dealings.

Key Lessons:

1. Killing a believer is a major sin, except in cases of unintentional mistake, which still demands compensation and repentance.
2. Freedom, blood money, and fasting are the three prescribed means of expiation for accidental killing.
3. Justice and mercy are integral to Islamic law.
4. Repentance and seeking Allah's forgiveness are vital for atonement.
5. Respect for treaties and fair dealings with all people are emphasized.

Conclusion:

This verse reflects the Islamic principles of justice, mercy, and accountability. It recognizes human error but lays down measures to uphold dignity and justice, offering means for sincere repentance and reconciliation after unintentional harm. It also emphasizes the value of life and the importance of safeguarding it through justice and mercy.

Verse 93

Wa man yaqtul mu'minan muta'ammidan fajaazaa'uhu Jahannamu khaalidan feeha wa ghadiba Allahu 'alayhi wa la'anahu wa a'adda lahu 'azaaban 'azeema."

Meaning:
And whoever kills a believer intentionally, his punishment is Hell to abide therein, and Allah's anger and curse are upon him, and He has prepared for him a severe punishment.

Tafseer:

This verse emphasizes the severe consequences of intentionally killing a believing person. A "mu'min" (believer) is considered a person who firmly believes in Allah and His Messenger. The act of intentionally taking a believer's life is regarded as a grave sin with devastating spiritual and worldly repercussions.

The verse states that this individual will dwell forever in Hell ("khaalidan feeha"). The use of "khaalidan" indicates eternal punishment, emphasizing the gravity of the act. Additionally, Allah's anger ("ghadaba Allahu 'alayhi") and curse ("la'anahu") are upon the murderer, reflecting divine displeasure.

The verse also mentions that Allah has prepared a "Azaaban 'Azeema" — a severe punishment — highlighting the seriousness and the divine justice in response to such a heinous act.

Practical Implications:

1. Sanctity of Life: This verse underscores the sacredness of human life, especially the life of a believer, which must be protected.
2. Accountability: It reminds Muslims of the importance of accountability and the severe consequences of unlawful killing.
3. Justice and Justice Systems: Highlights the need for justice systems to prevent and punish such acts, upholding the sanctity of life.
4. Spiritual Awareness: Encourages believers to uphold righteousness and avoid actions that invoke Allah's wrath and curse.
5. Repentance: For those who may have committed major sins, the verse indirectly emphasizes the importance of sincere repentance and turning back to Allah.

Key Lessons:

The severity of murder in Islam cannot be understated, especially when the victim is a believer.
Divine justice is swift and severe for those who commit such acts.
The act of killing a believer unjustly has eternal consequences, emphasizing its gravity in Islamic teachings.
Muslims are urged to preserve life and avoid any form of violence or injustice.
It highlights Allah's attributes of justice, anger, and punishment, reminding believers of their accountability.

Conclusions:

This verse acts as a stern warning against the unlawful killing of believers. It emphasizes the sanctity of human life and the severe punishment for violating this sanctity, both in this world and the Hereafter. It also reflects Allah's justice, His anger at such sins, and His promise of severe punishment for those who commit them. Muslims should be mindful of their actions, uphold justice, and seek Allah's forgiveness if they fall into sins, aiming to protect life and maintain righteousness.

Verse 94

Yā ayyuhal-ladhīna āmanū idhā ḍarabtum fī sabīli llāhi fa-tabayyanū wa-lā taqūlū liman alqā ilaykum as-salāma lasta muʾminan tabtaghūna ʿaraḍa l-ḥayāti d-dunyā fa-ʿinda llāhi maghānimu kathīrahun; kadhālika kuntum min qablu fa-manna llāhu ʿalaykum fa-tabayyanū; innallāha kāna bimā taʿmalūna khabīran

O you who have believed, when you go forth (to fight) in the cause of Allah, investigate; and do not say to one who gives you (a greeting of) peace "You are not a believer," aspiring for the goods of worldly life; for with Allah are many acquisitions. You (yourselves) were like that before; then Allah conferred His favor upon you, so investigate. Indeed Allah is ever, with what you do, acquainted.

Tafseer

This verse was revealed in response to an incident where some of the Prophet's (peace be upon him) companions killed a shepherd from the Banu Sulaym tribe who had greeted them with as-salāmu ʿalaykum (the Islamic greeting of peace). The companions suspected he was pretending to be a Muslim to save his sheep and seized his flock as war spoils.

Practical Implications

Significance of salam: The greeting is a distinguishing symbol of Islam, and its use by someone should be taken as a sign of their affiliation with the Muslim community unless proven otherwise.

Prohibition of suspicion: Believers are forbidden from digging into a person's inner faith based on mere doubt; outward profession of Islam is sufficient to afford them protection under Islamic law.

Warning against worldly greed: The verse condemns prioritizing temporary gains (like the shepherd's sheep) over justice, reminding believers that Allah holds far greater rewards in the Hereafter.

Empathy through reflection: The phrase "you were like that before" references the companions' own past, when they hid their faith out of fear — encouraging them to empathize with those who may be in a similar situation.

Key points from classical and modern Tafseer

In conflict situations: When engaging in any form of struggle (physical or otherwise) in Allah's cause, take time to verify the identity and intentions of others, especially those who offer peace.

In daily life: Avoid judging others' faith based on appearance or assumptions. Treat anyone who identifies as a Muslim with respect and fairness.

Against greed: Prioritize spiritual rewards over material gains, and do not let desire for worldly things lead to unjust actions.

For community building: Recognize that the Muslim community includes people at different stages of faith, and extend grace to those who may be hiding their beliefs due to circumstances.

6. Key Lessons

1. Discernment over haste: Always seek clarity before acting, rather than making decisions based on suspicion.

2. The value of salam: The greeting is not just a formality but a promise of peace and belonging.

3. Empathy and humility: Remember your own journey and be compassionate towards others who may be struggling.

4. Rejection of worldly greed: Material possessions are temporary; Allah's

rewards are eternal.

5. Allah’s awareness: Nothing we do is hidden from Allah, so we must act with integrity at all times.

Conclusion

Surah Al-Nisa Verse 94 is a timeless reminder of the importance of justice, empathy, and discernment in the life of a believer. It warns against the dangers of suspicion and greed, while emphasizing the significance of the Islamic greeting as a symbol of peace and community. By reflecting on our own past and treating others with grace, we can uphold the true teachings of Islam and avoid falling into the same mistakes as the companions in the incident that led to this verse’s revelation.

Verse 95

Laa yastawil qaa'idoona Minal mu'mineena ghairu uliddarari walmujaahidoona fee sabeelil laahi bi amwaalihim wa anfusihim; faddalal laahul mujaahideena bi amwaalihim wa anfusihim 'alalqaa'ideena darajah; wa kullanw wa'adal laahul husnaa; wa faddalal laahul mujaahideena 'alal qaa'ideena ajran 'azeemaa

The companions of the Fire and the companions of Paradise are not equal. The companions of Paradise — they are the successful ones.

Tafseer

This verse highlights the fundamental contrast between two groups: those who are destined for Hell ("Aṣḥābu alnaar") and those who will attain Paradise ("Aṣḥābu aljannati").

The phrase "Lā yastawil" (they are not equal) emphasizes that there is a

complete disparity in their states, rewards, and outcomes. Those who follow Allah's guidance and obey His commands are considered "Aṣḥābu aljannati"—the true winners and successful in both this life and the Hereafter.

Conversely, those who disobey or reject faith are destined for the Fire, a state of enduring misery and punishment.

This verse serves as a clear and powerful reminder of the importance of choosing the right path and that ultimate success depends on faith, righteousness, and obedience to Allah.

Practical Implications:

1. Choice of Path: Muslims are reminded that their actions determine their ultimate fate—either Paradise or Hell.
2. Encouragement to Righteousness: Striving for faith and good deeds is the way to attain success.
3. Avoidance of Disobedience: Disobedience and rejection of faith lead to failure and eternal punishment.
4. Promise of Success: True success in Islam is achieving entry into Paradise, which requires sincere faith and righteous actions.
5. Awareness of Final Outcomes: Encourages believers to remain mindful of their actions and stay committed to righteousness.

Key Lessons:

Contrast of outcomes: There is a stark difference between those who follow guidance and those who reject it.
Ultimate success: Success in Islam is not worldly possessions but entering Paradise.
Responsibility: Everyone is responsible for their choices and actions that lead to either success or failure.
Divine justice: Allah ensures that the righteous are rewarded and the

disobedient face consequences.
Motivation for righteousness: The promise of Paradise encourages believers to stay steadfast in faith and righteous deeds.

Conclusion

This verse emphasizes that there is no equivalence between the winners and the losers in the grand scheme of life and afterlife. The real success is attaining Allah's pleasure and entering Paradise, which is reserved for those who believe, obey, and strive for righteousness. It urges believers to reflect on their choices and actions and to understand that ultimate victory belongs to those who earn Allah's mercy through sincere faith and good conduct.

It also reminds Muslims that the stakes are high and that their efforts in this life are crucial for their eternal future.

Verse 96

Darajātin minhu wa maghfiratan wa raḥmatin; wa kān Allahu Ghafooran Raḥīma."

Degrees [of reward] from Him, forgiveness, and mercy; and Allah is Forgiving and Most Merciful."

Tafseer

This verse highlights the multifaceted blessings Allah grants to His righteous servants.
"Darajātin minhu" (degrees from Him): Refers to the levels and ranks of reward Allah bestows upon believers, which can vary based on their faith, efforts, and sincerity.
"Maghfiratan" (forgiveness): Emphasizes Allah's capacity to forgive sins, wiping away past misdeeds and granting purification.

"Raḥmatin" (mercy): Reflects Allah’s boundless compassion and kindness towards His creation.

The phrase "wa kān Allahu Ghafooran Raḥīma" underscores Allah’s attributes of being forgiving and merciful, reassuring believers that Allah's mercy encompasses all things and that sincere repentance and righteous deeds will lead to divine pardon and kindness.

This verse conveys that Allah's blessings are broad and abundant, encompassing multiple levels of reward, forgiveness for sins, and divine mercy, all of which motivate believers to strive sincerely in worship and righteous actions.

Practical Implications

1. Hope in Allah’s Rewards: Believers should remain hopeful that Allah’s mercy and forgiveness are vast and accessible.
2. Strive for Righteousness: Pursue good deeds and sincere faith to attain Allah’s high grades and blessings.
3. Turn to Allah in Repentance: No matter the severity of sins, Allah’s capacity to forgive is immense; sincere repentance brings forgiveness.
4. Trust in Allah’s Mercy: Recognize that Allah’s mercy surpasses all shortcomings and mistakes.
5. Aim for Higher Ranks: Strive to elevate your faith and righteousness to attain higher degrees from Allah.

Key Lessons

Allah’s blessings include varied levels of rewards, which motivate believers to increase in righteous actions.
Forgiveness is a central aspect of Allah’s mercy, reassuring believers of His readiness to pardon.
Allah’s mercy is vast, encompassing both forgiveness for sins and generous

rewards.
Sincere repentance and good deeds are the means to unlock Allah’s mercy and elevate one’s spiritual status.
Believers should always combine hope for Allah’s mercy with sincere efforts to earn His pleasure.

Conclusion

This verse exemplifies the boundless mercy and forgiveness of Allah, encouraging believers to remain eager and hopeful for His blessings. It reminds us that Allah’s reward is not limited but available at various levels, depending on our sincerity and efforts. The attributes "Ghafoor" (Forgiving) and "Raheem" (Merciful) serve as inspiring attributes that should motivate Muslims to seek Allah’s forgiveness constantly and strive for righteousness, knowing that Allah’s mercy is greater than any mistake and His rewards are generous and attainable.

May Allah grant us the opportunity to earn His mercy and forgiveness through sincere worship and good conduct.

Verse 97

Inna allazeena tawaffahumu almaaa'ikatu zaalimee anfusihim qaaloo feema kuntum qaaloona kunnaa mustad'afeena fee al-ardi qaaloo alam takun ardu Allahi w saadatan fatahjooro feeha fama_wahum jahanamu wa saaat maseeraa

This verse discusses the state of those who die in a state of injustice or oppression. The angels ask these souls where they were while they were alive, and they reply that they were weak and oppressed on Earth. The angels then remind them that Allah’s earth is vast, and they could have emigrated to places where they could have lived with safety and dignity. As a result of their failure to do so, their eventual abode is Hell, which is a terrible place to settle.

Practical Implications:

The importance of seeking safety and better environments:

The verse emphasizes the need to seek refuge or migrate from oppressive situations if possible, in order to preserve one's faith and dignity.

Accountability in the Hereafter: Even if one was oppressed or weak, failure to seek means of escape or relief can have serious consequences on the Day of Judgment.

The value of patience and perseverance: While Islam recognizes hardships, it encourages seeking solutions, such as migration or establishing safety, rather than passively accepting oppression.

Responsibility to avoid complacency: Believers are encouraged to take action to improve their circumstances, especially when they witness injustice, within their capacity.

Key Lessons:

Migration and striving for safety: If a Muslim faces severe oppression that endangers their faith or life, migrating to a safer place is not only permissible but sometimes obligatory.
Consequences of neglecting opportunities: Failing to act to improve one's situation can lead to disastrous outcomes in the Hereafter.
Allah's mercy and justice: Despite our weaknesses and mistakes, Allah provides opportunities and warnings. Muslims are encouraged to take action and not remain passive.
The importance of patience: If migration or escape is difficult, patience is a vital virtue, but one should also seek lawful means of relief.

Conclusion:

This verse reminds us of the importance of taking proactive measures to seek safety, justice, and a suitable environment for practicing our faith. It underscores personal responsibility and the fact that neglecting opportunities to improve one's situation can have severe consequences in the Hereafter. Muslims are encouraged to be patient, seek lawful solutions, and trust in Allah’s justice and mercy.

Verse 98

Illal mustad'afeena minar rijali wannisaaa'i walwildaani laa yastatee'oona heelatanw wa laa yahtadoona sabeela

This verse speaks about those who are helpless—specifically, weak men, women, and children—who are unable to find ways or means to escape oppression or seek justice. It emphasizes that these vulnerable groups are not blameworthy if they cannot defend themselves or find a way out of their difficult circumstances.

Practical Implications:

Compassion for the Weak and Oppressed: Islam recognizes the vulnerability of certain groups—women, children, and the weak—and urges believers to show compassion and support for them.

No blame on the helpless: Those who are genuinely powerless and unable to change their situation are not responsible for their circumstances, especially in the context of oppression or injustice.

Moral responsibility of the community: It is the duty of the Muslim community and authorities to help and protect these vulnerable groups, ensuring they are not neglected or exploited.

Recognition of limitations: The verse acknowledges human limitations and that

not everyone is capable of taking action or finding solutions in oppressive environments.

Key Lessons:

Empathy and support: Muslims should be empathetic towards those who lack the capacity to defend themselves and should assist them.
Avoid blame on the helpless: If someone is genuinely unable to act due to weakness or incapacity, they bear no sin or blame.
Community responsibility: Society has the responsibility to protect and aid the weak, especially in situations of injustice and hardship.
Patience and perseverance: Vulnerable groups should be patient and rely on Allah while the community strives to provide relief and justice.

Conclusion:

This verse reminds us of the importance of compassion towards the weak and helpless. It clarifies that those unable to defend themselves or find solutions due to their circumstances are excused and not blameworthy. It emphasizes the moral duty of the Muslim community to support and protect vulnerable groups, embodying principles of mercy and justice.

Verse 99

Fa ulaaa'ika 'asal laahu aiya'fa wa 'anhu; wa kaanal laahu 'Afuwwan Ghafooraa.*

It is hoped that Allah will forgive them; and Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.

Tafseer

This verse refers to those individuals who, despite their faults or mistakes, are still hoped to be forgiven by Allah. The phrase "It is hoped" (عسى, 'asā') indicates a possibility rooted in Allah's mercy rather than certainty. Allah's attributes of Afuww (Most Pardoning) and Ghafoor (Most Forgiving) underscore His boundless mercy and readiness to forgive sins when sincere repentance is made.

This verse encourages believers not to lose hope in Allah's mercy, especially towards those who have erred or committed sins. It also serves as a reminder that Allah's mercy surpasses His punishment, and even if someone is deserving of punishment, Allah's forgiveness can encompass them if they supplicate sincerely.

Reason for Revelation

The verse was revealed in the context of people who initially refused to migrate to Medina or were hesitant in their faith, causing them to be perceived as sinful or disobedient. Despite this, the verse offers hope that Allah may forgive their shortcomings if they repent and seek His mercy, emphasizing Allah's forgiving nature.

Practical Implications

Always maintain hope in Allah's mercy: No matter how severe the sin, Allah's mercy is greater.
Sincerely seek Allah's forgiveness: Repent genuinely and turn to Allah with humility.
Avoid despair: Do not give up hope on Allah's mercy regardless of past mistakes.
Encourage others: Promote hope and repentance among fellow Muslims, emphasizing Allah's forgiving nature.

Key Lessons:

1. Allah’s attributes of forgiveness and mercy are vast: We should always turn to Him in hope.
2. Repentance is encouraged: Sincere repentance can wipe away sins.
3. Avoid despair: No sin is too great to be forgiven if one sincerely seeks Allah’s mercy.
4. Believers should support each other: Encouraging mercy and forgiveness enhances community bonds.

Conclusion:

This verse embodies the hope that Allah’s mercy can encompass even those who have committed sins or made mistakes, provided they turn sincerely in repentance. It highlights the importance of maintaining a positive outlook towards Allah’s forgiveness and emphasizing the qualities of mercy and forgiveness in our lives and interactions.

Verse 100

Wa man yuhajir fee sabeelil laahi yajid fil ardi muraaghaman kaseeranw wa sa'at; wa mai yakhruj mim baitihee muhaajiran ilal laahi wa Rasoolihee summa yudrikhul mawtu faqad waqa'a ajruhoo 'alal laah; wa kaanal laahu Ghafoorar Raheemaa.*

And whoever emigrates in the cause of Allah will find on the earth many locations to settle in and abundance. And whoever leaves his home as an emigrant to Allah and His Messenger and then death overtakes him, his reward is indeed with Allah. And Allah is Most Forgiving, Most Merciful.

Why was this verse revealed

The verse was revealed in the context of the migration of early Muslims from Mecca to Medina (Hijrah). Muslims faced severe persecution, and migration was a necessary step for their safety and practice of Islam.
The verse reassures them of the divine reward and the vast opportunities available through sincere migration for Allah's cause.

Tafseer

Context: This verse highlights the virtue of hijrah (migration) for the sake of Allah, particularly when facing persecution or injustice. It assures believers that Allah will provide ample opportunities and resources for them when they migrate.
Key Ideas: The verse emphasizes that migration for Allah's cause is rewarded by Allah Himself, even if death occurs before reaching the destination. This serves as an encouragement for believers to stand firm in their faith and be willing to sacrifice worldly ties.

Practical Implications

Encouragement to migrate: For Muslims today, this signifies the importance of making sacrifices for their faith and righteousness.
Patience in adversity: Even if death occurs during such sacrifices, Allah’s reward is guaranteed.
Trust in Allah: Trust that Allah will provide and facilitate success if the intention is sincere.

Key Lessons:

Migration and sacrifice in the path of Allah are highly valued and richly rewarded.
Allah’s mercy is vast; He forgives and is compassionate.
Commitment to faith involves sacrifices, and Allah ensures that such sacrifices

are recognized and rewarded.
Death does not negate the reward of sincere efforts for Allah’s cause.

6. Conclusion:

This verse encourages believers to be steadfast in their faith, willing to migrate or make sacrifices for righteousness, trusting that Allah’s mercy and provisions are vast. It teaches that even if life's circumstances lead to death during such efforts, divine reward and mercy are assured by Allah.

Verse 101

Wa izā darabtum fil ardi falaisa 'alaikum junaahun an taqsaroo minaṣṣalāti in khiftum ai yaftinakumul lazeena kafaroo; innal kaafirna kaanoo lakum 'aduwwam mubeenaa

And when you travel (or journey) in the land, there is no sin upon you if you shorten the prayer, if you fear that those who disbelieve may try to harm or trap you. Verily, the disbelievers are open enemies to you.

Why the verse was revealed

This verse was revealed in the context of travellers and soldiers during the time of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). It addresses the permissibility of shortening prayers (qasr) during travel, especially when there is a genuine fear of harm or temptation from enemies. The verse allows Muslims to combine and shorten their prayers to ease their obligations during dangerous or challenging circumstances. This not only provides flexibility but also emphasizes the importance of safety and caution.

Tafseer

Context of Travel: The verse deals with situations where Muslims are traveling or on a journey. Traveling can be difficult, and prayer obligations might become strenuous.
Permission to Shorten Prayer: Normally, Muslims pray four rak'ahs for Dhuhr, Asr, and Isha, but during travel, this can be shortened to two rak'ahs (qasr).
Reason for Relaxation: The verse explicitly states that there is no sin if Muslims shorten their prayers when they fear harm from enemies. The key condition is fear (khawf), which can be physical danger or being misled or tempted by enemies.
Enemies' Nature: The verse highlights that disbelievers often pose a threat and are enemies to Muslims, which justifies the need for caution and flexibility in worship during turbulent times.

Modern Context:

Many scholars and Islamic organizations confirm that these allowances are valid today, especially as they are rooted in the teachings and practices of the Prophet (peace be upon him).
Muslims in nontraveling circumstances may still combine prayers if they face valid reasons like illness or difficulty in praying at the scheduled times.

Shortening (Qasr) Prayer:

Condition: When a Muslim is travelling (usually defined as a journey of approximately 48 miles or more), they are permitted to shorten the fourunit prayers (Dhuhr, Asr, and Isha) to two units.
Ruling: This is a well established practice based on the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). It offers ease and flexibility for travellers.

Combining (Jama') or Joining Prayers:

Condition: Combining prayers (Dhuhr with Asr, or Maghrib with Isha) is permitted
When one is traveling.

Practical Implications

If you are traveling, it is permissible to shorten and combine prayers.
If you are not traveling but face genuine hardship or difficulty in timely prayer (e.g., illness, heavy work, or unexpected circumstances), combining prayers is allowed.

Important Note

These concessions are meant for ease and not to be overused. They should be applied reasonably and with sincere intention.
It is always good to consult local scholars or follow the rulings of your community's Islamic authority for guidance suited to your specific situation.

Key Lessons

1. Flexibility in Deen: Islam provides allowances and concessions to facilitate worship during difficulties or hazards.
2. Importance of Safety: Preserving life and safety is a priority, and worship can be adjusted accordingly.
3. Awareness of Adversaries: Recognizing the hostility of enemies encourages Muslims to take necessary precautions.
4. Balance: Muslims should strive to maintain their religious duties while also taking care of their safety during travel or adversity.

Conclusion

This verse embodies the compassionate and pragmatic nature of Islamic rulings. It recognizes the realities of travel and danger, providing a balanced approach that maintains the integrity of worship while considering safety concerns. Muslims are encouraged to be mindful of their circumstances and to observe the flexibility granted by Allah, especially when facing threats from enemies, reinforcing both the importance of faith and prudence.

Verse 102

Transliteration

Wa itha kunta feehim fa aqamta lahaumus Salaata faltaqum ta'ifa tum minhum ma'aka wal ya'khuzoo aslihatihim fa itha sajadoo fal yakoonoo min waraaa'ikum wal ta'ti ta'ifa tun ukhraa lam yusalloo falyusalloo ma'aka wal ya'khuzoo hizrahum wa aslihatahum; waddal lazeena kafaroo law taghfuloona 'anaslihatikum wa amti'atikum fa yameeloona 'alaikum mailatanw waahidah; wa laa junaaha 'alaykum in kaana bikum azam mimmatarin aw kuntum mardaa'an tada'oo aslihatakum wa khuzoo hizrakum; innal laaha a'adda lilkafireena 'azaaban muheenaa.

And when you are among them and lead them in prayer, let a group of them stand with you, taking their weapons. When they have prostrated, let them be behind you, and another group come forward who have not yet prayed. They will pray with you, and they should take their precautions and their weapons. The disbelievers wish that you neglect your weapons and your baggage so that they might attack you all at once. But there is no blame upon you if you are hindered by rain or you are ill for leaving your belongings. Allah has prepared for the disbelievers a humiliating punishment.

Why Was This Verse Revealed?

This verse was revealed in the context of the battle of Tabuk, when Muslims were preparing for a military expedition. The situation involved instructions for prayer in the context of warfare, emphasizing the importance of maintaining security, vigilance, and preparedness even during acts of worship like prayer. The verse addresses the specific scenario where the Muslim soldiers are praying, some taking weapons to safeguard themselves, reflecting the circumstances of the time when threats from enemies were imminent.

Practical Implications

1. Balancing Worship and Security: Muslims are advised to uphold their prayers but also remain cautious and prepared for any threats. Prayer does not negate the need for vigilance.
2. Flexibility in Worship: Under certain circumstances like rain or illness, Muslims are allowed to leave their weapons or baggage behind for safety, highlighting Islam's practical and flexible approach.
3. Collective Responsibility: The verse encourages cooperation during prayer and in military preparedness, emphasizing unity and awareness.
4. Avoiding Complacency: The verse warns against neglecting security, as enemies may exploit such moments of complacency.

Key Lessons

Prudence and preparedness are essential, even during acts of worship.
Religious practice should adapt to circumstances without compromising safety.
Unity and discipline are vital, especially in challenging situations like warfare.
Islam encourages flexibility in worship and daily life to accommodate genuine hardships.

Conclusion

This verse highlights the importance of harmonizing faith and life's realities. It teaches that while worship is fundamental, maintaining vigilance and safety is equally crucial, especially in dangerous circumstances. The verse also reflects the broader Islamic principle of considering practical needs and hardships while upholding religious duties.

Verse 103

Fa izaa qadaitumus Salaata fazkurul laaha qiyaamanw wa qu'oodanw wa 'alaa junoobikum; fa izatma'nantum fa aqeemus Salaah; innas Salaata kaanat 'alal mu'mineena kitaabam mawqootaa.

And when you have completed the prayer, then remember Allah standing, sitting, or lying down. But when you are secure, then establish the prayer. Indeed, prayer has been decreed upon the believers at stated times."

Why the Verse Was Revealed:

This verse was revealed in the context of instructions regarding the proper observance of Salah (prayer). It emphasizes the importance of remembering Allah even in situations where one is busy or resting. During the time of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), Muslims sometimes delayed or neglected prayers, so Allah showed via this verse that prayers should be performed punctually and with mindfulness, whether in a state of movement, sitting, or lying down. It also underlines the importance of establishing prayers at their prescribed times.

Tafseer

This verse provides guidance on maintaining the remembrance of Allah and the performance of Salah.

The key points include:

Remembering Allah after completing the prayer: The verse begins with a command to remember Allah in various postures—standing, sitting, or lying down—highlighting that remembrance should be ongoing, not limited to the prayer itself.
Relating to the state of security: The verse acknowledges that in circumstances of security and ease, Muslims should establish the Salah properly and on time.
Timing of the Salah: The phrase "kitabam mawqootaa" (at prescribed times) underscores the importance of praying at the fixed times ordained by Allah, which is a fundamental aspect of Islamic worship.
Flexibility in Remembrance: The inclusion of different postures signifies the flexibility in how Muslims can remember Allah, showing that remembrance is

not confined to a specific action or posture.

Practical Implications:

1. Consistency in Prayer: Muslims should strive to perform their prayers on time and with full concentration, regardless of circumstances.
2. Continuous Remembrance: Remembering Allah should be a continuous act, not limited to just the actions of prayer but extending throughout daily life.
3. Flexibility: The ability to remember Allah in different postures indicates that worship can be adapted to one's comfort and situation.
4. Emphasis on Punctuality: It is essential to observe the prayer times as prescribed to ensure the spiritual health and discipline.

Key Lessons:

The importance of establishing Salah at its prescribed times.
Remember Allah often, in various postures and situations.
Worship and remembrance of Allah should be ongoing, not confined to specific moments.
Flexibility in worship demonstrates the mercy of Islam, accommodating different circumstances.

Conclusion:

This verse reminds Muslims to be steadfast in performing their prayers punctually and to keep Allah in their thoughts throughout the day, regardless of their activity or situation. It emphasizes that prayer is a vital aspect of faith, and remembrance of Allah should be an integral part of a believer's life, helping to strengthen faith and keep one mindful of Allah’s presence everywhere.

Verse 104

Wa laa tahinoo fibtighaaa'il qawmi in takoonoo ta'lamoona fa innahum ya'lamoona kamaa ta'lamoona wa tarjoona minal laahi maa laa yarjoon; wa kaanal laahu 'Aleeman Hakeemaa.

And do not weaken in pursuit of the enemy, seeking the lower part of the land. If you should be suffering, so are they suffering as well. But you hope from Allah that for which they do not hope. And Allah is EverKnower, EverWise."

Why the Verse Was Revealed:

This verse was revealed during the Battle of Uhud and other occasions where Muslims faced challenges and hardships. It serves as guidance to maintain confidence and avoid despair, emphasizing that difficulties are shared by both sides. It also encourages believers to remain hopeful and trust in Allah's wisdom and plan, even when facing hardship.

Tafseer

This verse provides important moral and strategic guidance:

Avoid Weakness and Despair: Muslims are advised not to weaken or lose hope ("laa tahinoo") in the face of adversity and enemy threats. This is a reminder to stay firm and resilient.

Shared Suffering: The phrase "if you are suffering, so are they suffering" highlights that hardships and struggles are universal; they affect both believers and opponents, which should encourage patience and perseverance.

Hope from Allah: Despite difficulties, believers are encouraged to maintain hope in Allah's mercy, help, and plans—hoping for rewards and victory that only Allah can grant.

Divine Knowledge and Wisdom: The concluding part emphasizes that Allah is

"EverKnowing" and "EverWise," indicating that Allah's plans and wisdom are beyond human comprehension, and one should trust in His judgment.

Practical Implications:

1. Resilience in Difficulties: Muslims should remain steadfast and avoid despair during hardships or battles.
2. Patience and Perseverance: Recognize that struggles are shared and that patience is essential for perseverance.
3. Hope in Allah: Maintain trust and hope in Allah's mercy and aid, even when the situation seems bleak.
4. Trust in Divine Wisdom: Accept that Allah's plans are wise and perfect, and things happen according to His knowledge and wisdom.

Key Lessons:

Hardships are part of life and shared by all, reinforcing the need for resilience.
A believer should never lose hope in Allah's mercy, regardless of the difficulty.
Trust in Allah's wisdom is crucial in times of adversity.
Staying firm and hopeful strengthens both faith and character.

Conclusion:

This verse reminds Muslims to stay resilient and hopeful during times of hardship, trusting that Allah's wisdom and plan are perfect. It encourages patience, perseverance, and reliance on Allah's mercy, reinforcing the idea that divine knowledge and wisdom surpass human understanding. Not giving in to despair, and maintaining faith, are key aspects of a strong Muslim character.

Verse 105

Innaa anzalnaa ilaykal Kitaaba bilhaqqi litahkuma bainan naasi bimaaa araakal laah; wa laa takul lilkhaaa'ineena khaseemaa.

Translation

Indeed, We have sent down to you the Book in truth so that you may judge among the people by that which Allah has shown you. And do not be for the treacherous an advocate."

Why the Verse Was Revealed:

This verse was revealed to remind the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) of his divine responsibility as a just judge and messenger of Allah's guidance. It emphasizes that he is to judge according to what Allah has revealed in the Qur'an and not to follow personal desires or succumb to injustice. It also condemns aiding or supporting those who betray others unfaithfully, warning against siding with oppressors or wrongdoers.

The following historical event is related to the revelation of this verse:

During the early period of the Hijrah in Madinah, a man named Tu'mah (or Bashir ibn Ubayriq) from the Banu Zafar tribe of the Ansar stole a shield (or coat of mail) belonging to Rifa'ah, another Ansar. To avoid punishment, Tu'mah, along with his kinsmen and supporters from the Banu Zafar, conspired to frame a Jewish man named Zayd ibn al-Samin by placing the stolen item in his house. When the shield was found, Zayd pleaded innocence, but Tu'mah's supporters launched a propaganda campaign, arguing that as a non-Muslim, Zayd was untrustworthy and his denial should be ignored. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was about to rule against Zayd based on the apparent evidence and the pressure from the Banu Zafar, but before he could do so, Verse 105 and subsequent verses were revealed.

This verse emphasizes that the Quran was revealed as a source of truth to

guide judgment, and Muslims should not advocate for the dishonest or let tribal loyalty or prejudice override justice. It served as a reminder to the Prophet and the Muslim community to uphold fairness and equality for all, regardless of religion or social status.

Tafseer

This verse highlights several vital principles:

Divine Revelation as the Basis for Judgment: Allah's revelation (the Qur'an) is the ultimate criterion for judging disputes, ensuring justice is rooted in divine law.
Judgment According to Allah’s Guidance: The Prophet is instructed to judge among people based solely on what Allah has shown him, promoting fairness and righteousness.
Condemnation of Supporting Wrongdoers: The phrase "and do not be for the treacherous an advocate" warns Muslims and leaders against helping those who betray others or act unjustly, emphasizing integrity and righteousness.
Recognition of the Truth: The verse underscores that the Qur'an was sent down in truth, serving as a universal and divine source of justice.

Practical Implications:

1. Judge by Divine Law: Leaders, judges, and individuals should resolve disputes based on the commands of Allah and the teachings of the Qur'an.
2. Avoid Supporting Oppressors: One must not support or favour tyrants, traitors, or those who commit injustice.
3. Uphold Justice and Fairness: Upholding justice is a fundamental obligation for Muslims, grounded in divine guidance.
4. Trust in Revelation: Faithfulness to Allah’s revealed guidance ensures justice and righteousness.

Key Lessons:

Justice must be based on Allah’s revealed law.
Leaders and Muslims should avoid aiding oppressors or betrayers.
The Qur'an provides the true and ultimate standard for judging disputes.
Personal bias or desire should never override divine guidance in judgments.

Conclusion:

This verse reminds Muslims, especially those in positions of judgment and leadership, to base their decisions and fairness on Allah’s guidance as revealed in the Qur'an. Siding with the oppressors or betrayers is condemned, emphasizing integrity and justice. Trust in Allah’s revealed law ensures righteousness and that justice is served according to divine wisdom and truth.

Verse 106

Waistaġfiru Allāha inna Allāha kāna Ghafooran Raheema

And seek forgiveness of Allah. Indeed, Allah is EverForgiving, Most Merciful.

Why the verse was revealed

This verse emphasizes the importance of seeking Allah's forgiveness (istighfar). It highlights that despite humans' efforts to turn to Allah and do good deeds, they are prone to mistakes and sins. Therefore, Allah encourages believers to regularly seek His forgiveness, trusting in His mercy. The verse was revealed to remind believers to constantly ask for Allah’s pardon and to underline His infinite mercy.

Tafseer

This verse is part of the broader context where Allah instructs the believers, especially during times of sin or after committing mistakes, to seek His forgiveness. The phrase "Waistaġfiru Allāha" (and seek forgiveness from Allah) signifies khilāf (the act of turning away from sins and returning to Allah).

The attributes "Ghafoor" (the Forgiving) and "Raheem" (the Merciful) are among Allah's most emphasized qualities. They remind believers that Allah's mercy surpasses His wrath, and He is always ready to forgive those who sincerely repent.

This verse encourages a proactive attitude towards repentance, emphasizing that Allah's mercy is immense and accessible to all who seek it genuinely.

Practical implications

1. Regular repentance: Believers should cultivate the habit of seeking Allah's forgiveness frequently, not just after major sins.
2. Humility: Recognizing human fallibility and constantly turning back to Allah fosters humility and sincerity.
3. Trust in Allah's mercy: Believers should always hope for Allah's mercy and forgiveness, even after committing sins, knowing that Allah is forgiving and merciful.

Lessons learned

The act of seeking forgiveness is essential in maintaining a pure heart and relationship with Allah.
Allah's attributes of being "Ghafoor" and "Raheem" assure believers that His

mercy is greater than their sins.
Sins should not lead to despair, but instead should motivate believers to seek Allah’s pardon sincerely.
Repentance is a continuous process in a believer's life.

Conclusion

Verse 106 of Surah AnNisa serves as a powerful reminder of Allah’s boundless mercy and the importance of seeking His forgiveness. It encourages humility, ongoing repentance, and confidence in Allah’s forgiving nature. Regularly asking for forgiveness helps purify the heart, strengthen faith, and maintain a close relationship with Allah.

Verse 107

Wa laa tujāadil 'anil lazeena yakhtaanoona anfusahum; innal laaha laa yuhibbuman kaana khawwaanan aseema*

And do not dispute concerning those who deceive themselves. Certainly, Allah does not love the treacherous and sinful.

Why the Verse Was Revealed:

This verse was revealed concerning the incident involving some hypocrites and individuals who were engaged in deceitful behaviours, including cheating, lying, or betraying others. It emphasizes that Muslims should avoid arguing or defending such people, especially when they are openly engaged in wrongdoing, because Allah disapproves of betrayal and sinful conduct.

Tafseer

This verse advises believers not to engage in disputes or arguments on behalf of those who are involved in treachery or sin. The phrase "yakhtanoona anfusahum" refers to those who deceive themselves by engaging in acts that are harmful to their own souls through dishonesty, betrayal, or sin. The verse underscores that Allah's dislike is toward those who are treacherous ("khawwaan") and sinful ("aseem").

The reasoning is that defending or justifying wrongful actions of such individuals contradicts the principles of justice and righteousness promoted in Islam. It also warns against being sympathetic or supportive of those who dwell in sin and betrayal.

Practical Implications:

Avoid defending or supporting sinful or treacherous individuals, as it contradicts Islamic morals.
Be cautious when involved in disputes, making sure one's position is just and not influenced by bias or favouritism toward wrongdoers.
Promote truth and justice rather than engaging in arguments that may support falsehood or betrayal.

Lessons Learned:

1. Reject betrayal and sin: Islam encourages believers to avoid supporting or defending those who commit sins or betray trust.
2. Avoid unnecessary disputes: Muslims should focus on truthfulness and justice rather than engaging in futile or harmful arguments.
3. Allah's disapproval of treachery: Recognize that betraying trust or being sinful is disliked by Allah, and believers should strive to stay away from such behaviours.
4. Be mindful of whom we support: Support and uphold righteousness, justice, and truthfulness in dealings with others.

Conclusion:

This verse highlights the importance of integrity, justice, and sincerity in dealings with others. Muslims are directed to avoid defending or engaging in arguments on behalf of those involved in deception or sin, recognizing that Allah disapproves of betrayal and evil. It encourages believers to uphold righteousness and to be cautious in their judgments and support, focusing on justice and moral uprightness.

Verse 108

Yastakhfoon mina annasi wa laa yastakhfoona mina allahi wa huwa ma'ahum iz yubaiyitoona maa laa yardaa minal qawl; wa kaana allahu bimaa ya'maloona muheetaa*

They hide themselves from people, but they do not hide themselves from Allah, and He is with them when they plot secretly, even as they plot that which pleases Him not. And Allah is encompassing of what they do.

Why the Verse Was Revealed:

This verse describes the behaviour of those who secretly conspire or hide their real intentions from people but forget that Allah is always aware of their actions. It was revealed to warn believers about the futility of hiding from Allah’s knowledge, emphasizing that Allah’s awareness surpasses human perceptions. The verse serves as a reminder that no secret or plan can escape Allah’s knowledge and control.

Tafseer

This verse condemns the act of secretly scheming or plotting against others with malicious intent while pretending to be innocent or harmless before people. It emphasizes that such individuals cannot hide their actions from Allah, Who is always present and aware of everything.

It highlights the concept that Allah is "Muheet" — encompassing all things, including secret plans and intentions. Even if people hide their plans and actions from others, Allah's knowledge includes everything happening in the depths of their hearts and minds.

The verse also alludes to the fact that some may feel secure from being observed by humans, but they are ultimately under Allah's watch — which should inspire fear and accountability.

Practical Implications:

Be honest and transparent: Do not engage in secret plots or dishonest actions, as Allah is fully aware of everything.
Remember Allah's omnipresence: Recognize that Allah's knowledge encompasses all that we do, encouraging us to be truthful and sincere.
Avoid malicious scheming: Refrain from secretly plotting harm against others, as it is displeasing to Allah.
Cultivate sincerity: Perform actions for the sake of Allah alone, knowing He sees all intentions.

Lessons Learned:

1. Avoid secret evil plans: Such plotting is ultimately futile because Allah's knowledge is complete.
2. Allah's omnipresence: Realize that nothing escapes Allah's awareness, even if it is hidden from people.
3. Accountability before Allah: We will be held accountable for our intentions

and secret actions.
4. Promote honesty and integrity: Strive to act openly and righteously, aligning actions with faith and sincerity.

Conclusion:

This verse emphasizes the importance of sincerity and transparency in one's actions and intentions. It reminds believers that Allah's omnipresence and complete knowledge make it impossible to hide anything from Him. The warning against secret plotting encourages upright conduct, sincerity, and accountability before Allah, fostering a moral and honest community rooted in faith.

Verse 109

Haa antum haaa'ulaa'i jaadaltum 'anhum fil hayaatid dunyaa famai yujaadilul laaha 'anhum Yawmal Qiyaamati am mai yakoonu 'alayhim wakeelaa*

Behold, you are the ones who argue in this world on their behalf. But who will argue with Allah for them on the Day of Resurrection, or who will be their protector against Allah?

Why the Verse Was Revealed:

This verse addresses the misguided tendency of some people to defend or advocate for others in worldly life, even when those others are deserving of punishment or are engaging in sinful behaviour. It warns that such efforts are futile because, on the Day of Judgment, Allah alone will judge and decree justice. The verse emphasizes that no advocate or protector will be able to defend wrongdoers before Allah, and everyone will be accountable for their actions.

Tafseer

This verse uses the example of individuals who defend or argue in favour of wrongdoers during worldly life. However, it clarifies that such arguments or defences will not be of any benefit on the Day of Resurrection because Allah's judgment is final and beyond any worldly defence.

It highlights a profound reality: the inconsequentiality of worldly arguments and advocacy when facing divine justice. The verse underscores that the ultimate authority belongs to Allah alone, and no one can serve as an advocate or protector for others against His decree on the Day of Judgment.

The phrase “mai yajaadilullah” (who will argue with Allah) emphasizes the futility of arguments and appeals against Divine justice. The second part, “am mai yakoonu 'alayhim wakeela,” questions whether anyone can act as a guardian or protector for those deserving punishment.

Practical Implications:

Focus on accountability: Recognize that ultimately, everyone is responsible for their own actions, and nobody can defend wrongdoers in front of Allah.
Avoid false hopes of worldly advocacy: Don’t rely solely on worldly influence or arguments, especially when faced with divine judgment.
Encourage justice: Strive to act justly and sincerely, knowing that divine justice is inevitable and all-encompassing.
Prepare for the Hereafter: Live righteously, as the real account and protection occur in the Hereafter with Allah’s judgment.

Lessons Learned:

1. Worldly arguments are futile before Allah: Human efforts to defend or justify wrongdoers have no weight in divine judgment.
2. Allah's judgment is final: He alone will judge each person with perfect justice

on the Day of Resurrection.
3. Everyone is accountable: We are responsible for our own deeds, and no protector will be able to shield wrongdoers.
4. Live with awareness of the Hereafter: Motivate yourself to act righteously in this life, knowing that divine justice is supreme.

Conclusion:

This verse serves as a powerful reminder that no worldly arguments or defenses will benefit anyone before Allah on the Day of Judgment. It emphasizes the sovereignty of divine justice and encourages believers to live righteous lives, aware of their accountability to Allah. It also highlights that true justice is in Allah's Hands alone, and trusting in His judgment is essential for faith.

Verse 110

Waman ya'mal sooan aw yazlim nafsahoo summa yastaghfiril laaha yajidil laaha Ghafooran Raheema

And whoever commits evil or wrongs himself, then seeks forgiveness from Allah, will find Allah Forgiving and Merciful.

Why the Verse Was Revealed:

This verse emphasizes the mercy of Allah and the importance of seeking His forgiveness after committing sins or acts of injustice. It was revealed to encourage believers to turn back to Allah with repentance, no matter the severity of their mistakes, affirming that Allah's mercy encompasses all sins if they are truly repented for.

Tafseer

This verse underscores two key points:

1. The Reality of Human Fallibility: Everyone is susceptible to committing sins or wrongdoings, including wrongful acts against oneself or others.

2. The Power of Repentance and Forgiveness: Despite these mistakes, Allah's attribute as "Ghafoor" (Forgiving) and "Raheem" (Merciful) means that sincere repentance can erase sins and faults.

The phrase "yastaghfiril laaha" (seeks forgiveness from Allah) is a crucial act of humility, recognizing one's faults and turning sincerely to Allah in repentance.

The verse assures believers that Allah's mercy is vast — anyone who errs and then sincerely seeks Allah's forgiveness will find Him merciful, forgiving, and compassionate.

Practical Implications:

Regular Seeking of Forgiveness: Muslims are encouraged to frequently seek Allah's forgiveness (istighfar), especially after mistakes and sins.
Never despair of Allah's Mercy: No sin is too great as long as one turns sincerely to Allah.
Accountability and Repentance: Acknowledge one's faults, feel remorse, and resolve not to repeat sins.
Maintain hope in Allah's mercy: Even after wrongful actions, sincere repentance opens the door to Allah's mercy and forgiveness.

Lessons Learned:

1. Mistakes are part of human nature, but Allah’s mercy is greater.
2. Sincere repentance can erase sins and lead to Allah’s forgiveness.
3. Humility before Allah is essential when seeking forgiveness.
4. Constantly seek Allah’s mercy and trust in His forgiveness and compassion.

Conclusion:

This verse inspires hope and encourages Muslims to turn to Allah for forgiveness after any wrongdoing. It reinforces the understanding that Allah's mercy is allencompassing, and no matter how great the sins, sincere repentance will lead to forgiveness. It promotes humility, remorse, and a committed effort to avoid repeating sins, knowing that Allah is forgiving and merciful.

Verse 111

Wa mai yakisib isman fa innama yaksibuhoo ‘ala nafsihi wa kana Allahu ‘Aleeman Hakīmaa

And whoever earns sin, earns it only against himself. And Allah is Knowing and Wise.

Context and Explanation:

This verse emphasizes personal responsibility regarding one’s sins and wrongdoings. It clearly states that the harm of sin largely falls upon the sinner himself, not others, because each individual bears the consequences of their own actions. The verse also highlights Allah’s knowledge (’Alim) and wisdom (Hakim), reassuring believers that Allah is fully aware of their deeds and that His actions are guided by wisdom.

Tafseer

Ownership of Sin:

The phrase "fa innama yaksibuhoo ‘ala nafsihi" (he earns it only against himself) underscores that sins are personal; one cannot harm others falsely or unjustly without burdening oneself. It discourages blaming others and encourages self accountability.

Allah’s Knowledge and Wisdom:

The attributes "’Alim" (Knowing) and "Hakim" (Wise) serve to remind believers that Allah’s judgment is perfect, just, and based on His complete knowledge and wisdom. Nothing escapes His awareness, and His decisions are always just.

Implication of Personal Responsibility:

Every individual is responsible for their actions, and they will eventually face the consequences, either in this world or the Hereafter. Good deeds bring reward, and sins bring consequences, but Allah’s justice ensures fairness and wisdom in His dealings.

Practical Implications:

Muslims should take responsibility for their actions and avoid blaming others.
Recognizing that sins primarily affect oneself encourages believers to avoid misconduct.
Continual self evaluation and repentance are vital to spiritual growth.
Trust in Allah’s knowledge and wisdom provides comfort and patience in facing life’s ups and downs.

Lessons Learned:

Personal accountability is essential in Islam; each individual is responsible for their deeds.
Sins committed have effects primarily on the sinner itself, serving as a natural consequence.
Allah's attributes of 'Alim and Hakim assure us of justice rooted in complete knowledge and wisdom.
We should seek forgiveness and strive for good deeds, trusting in Allah's perfect judgment.

Conclusion:

Verse 111 highlights the importance of personal responsibility and accountability for one's actions. It reassures believers that Allah's justice is perfect, and He is fully aware of everything they do. By understanding these attributes and teachings, Muslims are encouraged to live conscientiously, repent sincerely, and trust in Allah's wisdom and justice.

Verse 112

Wa mai yaksib khateee'atan aw isman summa yarmi bihee bareee'an faqadih tamala buhtaananw wa ismam mubeenaa

"And whoever earns a sin or wrongs himself but then falsely accuses someone innocent, he indeed bears a false accusation and a manifest sin."

Context and Explanation:

This verse addresses the grave sin of falsely accusing others of wrongdoing, especially accusations of adultery or similar serious crimes. It emphasizes that such false accusations are not only sinful but also a major injustice that leads

to falsehood and slander, which are grave sins in Islam.

Tafseer

Earning Sin or Wronging Oneself:

The phrase "yaksib khateee'atan" indicates that a person who commits a sin has wronged himself; sins harm the individual's own spiritual and moral integrity.

Falsely Accusing Innocent People:

When someone fabricates accusations, especially by falsely claiming someone committed a serious sin (like adultery or theft), they commit a major sin. The verse condemns such behaviour strongly because it damages both the victim's reputation and societal trust.

The Grave Sin of False Accusation:
Falsely accusing an innocent person without proof is considered a "buhtaan" (slander), which the Qur'an explicitly condemns. The verse indicates that doing so is not only a sin but also entails "a manifest sin" (ismam mubeenaa), emphasizing its severity.

- **Implication of Dishonesty and Injustice:**

The verse underscores the importance of justice and honesty. Falsely accusing others is an injustice that leads to severe consequences both in this world and the Hereafter because it involves bearing false witness and dishonouring another person unjustly.

Practical Implications:

Muslims should avoid making false accusations or spreading slander about others.
Presumption of innocence and seeking evidence before accusations are vital virtues.
Justice and honesty uphold societal morality and trust.
Repentance is necessary if one has falsely accused someone, seeking Allah's forgiveness for that sin.

Lessons Learned:

False accusation (buhtaan) is a major sin and a form of injustice.
Protect your tongue from spreading falsehood and slander.
Justice and honesty are fundamental in Islam; avoid unjustly harming others.
Sincerity, truthfulness, and caution in speech are essential moral qualities.

Conclusion:

Verse 112 warns against the serious sin of falsely accusing innocent people, highlighting that this act involves bearing falsehood and a major sin ("ismam mubeenaa"). It emphasizes the importance of justice, truthfulness, and integrity in social dealings. Muslims are encouraged to avoid slander and to maintain fairness, seeking Allah's refuge from such grave sins.

FURTHER INFORMATION

INCIDENT RELATED TO THIS VERSE

The incident of the false accusation against Aisha (RA):

Background:
During the Prophet Muhammad's (SAW) expedition known as the Battle of Banu Mustaliq, Aisha (RA), the beloved wife of Prophet Muhammad (SAW), was temporarily left behind due to a lost necklace. She was later found and returned to the caravan after a search.

A rumour spread among the Muslim community falsely accusing Aisha (RA) of infidelity. The incident caused much distress and division among the Muslims until Allah revealed verses condemning such slander.

This event was the context for the revelation of verses condemning false accusations and slander, specifically the verses surrounding *Surah AnNur (24:4)* and related revelations. Verse 112 of Surah AnNisa also serves as a moral reminder about the seriousness of false accusations and bearing false witness.

The event reinforced the importance of justice, cautious speech, and the grave sin of accusing innocent people without proof. It also demonstrated the severity of lying and slander in Islam.

Verse 113

Wa law laa fadlullāhi ‘alaika wa raḥmatuhu laḥamatta ṭā’ifatun minhum ai yudillooka wa mā yudillūna illaaa anfusahum wa mā yaḍurrūnaka min shayin wa anzala Allahu ‘alaikal Kitaaba wal ḥikmata wa ‘allamaka maa lam takun ta’lamu wa kaana fadlu Allāhi ‘alaika ‘azeema

And if it had not been for Allah’s grace upon you and His mercy, a group among them would have tried to cause you trouble. But they only harm themselves, and they cannot harm you at all. Allah has revealed to you the Book and wisdom, and He has taught you what you did not know. And Allah’s grace upon you is great."

Why the Verse Was Revealed:

This verse was revealed to comfort and reassure the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and the believers during a time of tension and conflict with some enemies or hypocrites who may have plotted against him. It emphasizes that

any efforts to harm him or his mission would not succeed because Allah's support, guidance, and mercy are with him. Additionally, it reminds believers of the blessings and knowledge Allah has given them, which they would not have had without His grace.

Tafseer

This verse highlights several important points. First, it reminds us that Allah's grace and mercy are the true sources of strength for the Prophet and believers. Without Allah's favour, no matter how many enemies or obstacles there are, they cannot truly cause harm. The people who try to cause trouble only end up harming themselves because their actions are based on envy or malice, and they have no real power to hurt the righteous. Conversely, Allah's support shields the Prophet and the believers from such harm.

Secondly, the verse reflects on Allah's blessings of knowledge and wisdom. Allah has granted the Prophet (SAW) and the believers knowledge they previously did not possess. This knowledge and understanding have come directly from Allah, showing His generosity and favour. It also indicates that Allah's grace is immense and encompasses every aspect of life – guiding, teaching, and supporting believers in their righteous path.

Practical Implications:

Believers should trust in Allah's support and mercy, especially when facing opposition or difficulties.
One should recognize that any success or progress is a result of Allah's grace, not solely personal effort.
Muslims should be grateful for the knowledge and guidance Allah has provided, realizing these are His blessings.
During times of hardship, believers should remember that Allah's support is greater than any worldly harm or opposition.

Lessons Learned:

Reliance on Allah's grace and mercy is essential for strength and success in life.
People who plot against others often harm only themselves, not the intended victim.
Allah's knowledge and wisdom are vast and are given to His servants to help them navigate life.
Gratitude for Allah's blessings is important, and recognition of His support gives believers patience and hope.

Conclusion:

This verse teaches us that Allah's grace, mercy, and knowledge are the greatest sources of strength and protection for believers. No matter how many enemies plot against us, they cannot succeed if Allah is supporting us. We should always be grateful for the guidance Allah has given us and trust in His support. Remembering Allah's blessings fosters humility, gratitude, and reliance on Him, especially during difficult times.

May Allah enable us to follow His guidance, appreciate His blessings, and seek His mercy in all circumstances. Ameen.

Verse 114

Laa khaira fee kaseerim min najwaahum illaa man amara bisadaqatin aw ma'roofin aw islaahin bainan naas; wa mai yaf'al zaalikab tighaaa'a mardaatil laahi fa sawfa nu'teehi ajran 'azeemaa

There is no good in much of their private conversation, except for those who advocate charity, kindness, or reconciliation between people. And whoever does that seeking Allah's pleasure, We will give him a great reward.

Why the Verse Was Revealed:

This verse was revealed to guide the believers about the nature of secret conversations and their proper purpose. During the time of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW), some people would gather and gossip or plot secretly, which often led to harm, disputes, or breaches of trust. The verse clarifies that most private conversations are usually not beneficial or good unless they involve encouraging charity, good deeds, or reconciliation. It also emphasizes that anyone who speaks for such noble causes, seeking Allah's approval, will be greatly rewarded by Allah.

Tafseer

This verse highlights that not all secret or private discussions are harmful — in fact, some are highly praiseworthy. Specifically, the verse mentions that talking secretly about charity, good behaviour, or resolving disputes between people is considered beneficial and commendable. Such conversations promote societal harmony and personal righteousness. For these noble intentions, Allah promises a great reward.

On the other hand, most secret conversations, such as gossip, slander, or plots, are considered harmful and discouraged. The verse warns that engaging in such unbeneficial talks purely for worldly gains or malicious reasons yields no good and can even lead to spiritual harm. The key is the intention behind the conversation; if the aim is seeking Allah’s satisfaction by promoting righteousness, then it is praiseworthy and rewarded.

This verse teaches believers to carefully evaluate their private talks and ensure their intentions align with seeking Allah’s pleasure. It encourages discussions that bring about positive change, promote kindness, and settle disputes, which are vital for a healthy and peaceful society.

Practical Implications:

Muslims should be mindful of their secret conversations, ensuring they aim for good, charity, and reconciliation rather than gossip or harmful plots.
The verse reminds us that seeking Allah's pleasure in our words and actions is the key to earning great rewards.
Engaging in righteous discussions can strengthen social bonds and promote justice and kindness.
Avoiding harmful or unnecessary private talks helps maintain integrity and dignity.

Lessons Learned:

Not all secret conversations are bad; some are highly valuable and rewarded if motivated by righteousness.
The intention behind speech matters greatly; seeking Allah's pleasure transforms even private talks into acts of worship.
Promoting charity, goodness, and reconciliation are noble acts that have divine reward and foster peace among people.
Guarding one's tongue and choosing words wisely is essential to maintain purity and gain Allah's favour.

Conclusion:

This verse teaches us that most private conversations are not beneficial, but those that encourage charity, good behaviour, or reconciliation are a blessing. When done with sincere intention to seek Allah's pleasure, such talks become acts of worship that earn immense reward. Muslims should strive to cultivate noble discussions that improve society and help build bonds of trust and kindness. By doing so, they fulfill the divine guidance and earn Allah's great reward, leading to personal spiritual growth and a harmonious community.

Transliteration

Wa mai yushaaqiqir Rasoola mim ba'di maa tabaiyana lahul huda wa yattabi' ghaira sabeelil mu'mineena nuwallihee ma tawallaa wa nuslihee Jahannama wa saaa'at maseeraa.*

Meaning

And whoever opposes the Messenger after guidance has been made clear to him and follows other than the way of the believers, We will give him what he has chosen, and expose him to Jahannam — and it is an evil destination."

Reasons for Revelation

This verse was revealed in the context of people who, after receiving clear guidance from the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), choose to oppose him and deviate from the path of the believers. It emphasizes the serious consequence of rejecting the Messenger’s guidance and following unIslamic or misguided paths intentionally after the truth has been made evident. It serves as a stern warning to those who turn away from the truth knowingly and willingly.

Tafseer

"Who opposes the Messenger": This refers to individuals or groups who reject the Prophet’s teachings, oppose his commands, or follow their own desires instead of divine guidance.
"After guidance has been made clear": This signifies the clarity of the message brought by the Prophet — the truth has been made evident through the Quran, Hadith, and the signs of God.

"Follows other than the way of the believers": Indicates deviating from the path of the righteous, the companions, and the consensus of the Muslim community.
"We will give him what he has chosen": This part implies that Allah allows such a person to follow their own desires and choices, which may lead to their destruction.
"Expose him to Jahannam": The ultimate punishment for such a deviation and opposition is Hellfire.
"And it is an evil destination": Hell is described as the worst and most undesirable place.

Practical Implications:

Muslims are encouraged to follow the teachings of the Prophet and unite with the community of believers.
It highlights the importance of adhering to divine guidance after it is made clear.
It serves as a warning against rejecting the truth out of arrogance, stubbornness, or personal desires.
It reminds believers to be cautious and sincere in following the Prophet's example and not deviate from the right path.

Lessons Learned:

1. The gravity of opposing the Prophet and rejecting guidance.
2. The importance of unity among believers and following the righteous companions.
3. Allah's justice in giving people the freedom of choice but also warning of severe consequences.
4. The importance of seeking guidance with humility and sincerity.
5. The necessity of adherence to the Qur'an and Sunnah.

Conclusion

This verse underscores the critical importance of adhering to divine guidance and the community of believers. It warns against stubbornness and opposition to truth after it has been clarified. Muslims are advised to remain steadfast, humble, and committed to the teachings of Islam, knowing that opposition and deviation can lead to severe punishment.

Verse 116

Transliteration

Innal laaha laa yaghfiru ai yushraka bihee wayaghfiru maa doona zaalika limai yashaaa'; wa mai yushrik billaahi faqad dalla dalaalam ba'eedaa.*

Meaning

Indeed, Allah does not forgive associating others with Him (shirk), but He forgives anything else of whoever He wills; but whoever commits shirk (associates others with Allah), then certainly he has gone far astray."

Context of Revelation (Asbab alNuzul)

This verse was revealed in the context of clarifying Allah’s stance regarding shirk (associating partners with Allah). It emphasizes that shirk is a major sin which Allah will not forgive if a person dies without repenting from it. However, other sins may be forgiven if He wills. The verse highlights the severity of shirk and the importance of sincere tawheed (belief in the Oneness of Allah).

Tafseer

"Innal laaha laa yaghfiru ai yushraka bihee": Allah’s steadfast position is that

He will not forgive shirk in any circumstance if one dies without repenting. This underscores the gravity of associating others with Allah, which is considered the worst sin in Islam.

"Wayaghfiru maa doona zaalika limai yashaaa'": Allah may forgive all sins other than shirk if He wishes. His mercy is vast, and He is forgiving and merciful to His servants.

"Wa mai yushrik billaahi faqad dalla dalaalam ba'eedaa": The one who commits shirk has indeed strayed far away from the straight path and the truth. This emphasizes the dangerous nature of shirk and the importance of avoiding it at all costs.

Practical Implications:

1. Avoid shirk at all costs: Since Allah does not forgive shirk if not repented from, Muslims should strive to worship Allah alone, without associating any partners with Him.

2. Repentance is crucial: For other sins, sincere repentance can lead to Allah's forgiveness, highlighting the importance of turning back to Allah after mistakes.

3. Maintain Tawheed (Oneness of Allah): The core message is to uphold the pure monotheism and avoid any form of idol worship or polytheism.

4. Seeking Allah's forgiveness: Even when committing other sins, Muslims should constantly seek Allah's mercy and forgiveness, trusting in His ability to forgive all except shirk.

Lessons Learned:

The severity of shirk and its unforgiveness if not repented.

The boundless mercy of Allah in forgiving all sins except shirk.
The importance of sincere devotion solely to Allah.
The need for continuous repentance and striving for monotheism.

Conclusions:

This verse serves as a stern reminder of the danger of shirk and the necessity of maintaining pure monotheism. It highlights Allah's justice and mercy, motivating believers to avoid associating partners with Him and to seek His forgiveness for all other sins. It also underscores the importance of sincere Tawheed as the foundation of faith and the key to earning Allah's forgiveness and mercy.

Verse 117

In yad'oona min dooniheee illaaa inaasanw wa iny yad'oona illaaa Shaitaanam mareedaa.

They call upon instead besides Him nothing but females, and they call upon nothing but a rebellious Satan."

Meaning:

They invoke other than Allah only female deities, and they invoke nothing but a rebellious Satan.

This verse criticizes the false gods and idols that people worship besides Allah, describing them as females and attributing to them qualities associated with Satan, the rebel and enemy of humanity.

Context of Revelation (Asbab alNuzul):

This verse was revealed in the context of the polytheists' practices, especially during the time of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), where they worshipped idols, some of which they considered female deities such as Lat, Uzza, and Manat. The verse condemns these practices by describing the false gods as not only nondivine but also as rebellious and cursed entities aligned with Satan.

Tafseer (Explanation):

"Yad'oona min dooniheee illaa inaasanw": The people call upon deities besides Allah, which are considered false and powerless. These are typically idols or their personifications, often attributed feminine qualities, reflecting the polytheistic practices of the Arabs.

"Wa iny yad'oona illaa Shaitaanam mareedaa": Instead of gods or deities, they are actually calling upon Satan, who is described as rebellious and cursed. The phrase "mareedaa" (rebellious) indicates that Satan is hostile, disobedient, and opposed to Allah's guidance.

The verse emphasizes that these false gods are not divine but are, in fact, rebellious and cursed beings aligned with Satan, the enemy of humanity.

Practical Implications:

1. Affirm Monotheism: This verse reminds Muslims of the importance of worshipping only Allah and avoiding idolatry or associating partners with Him.

2. Beware of false deities and corrupt influences: The mention of Satan as the caller indicates that many false beliefs or practices are influenced by evil forces. Muslims should remain vigilant against such influences.

3. Recognize the enmity of Satan: He is the clear enemy who misleads humans

away from the truth. Muslims are encouraged to seek refuge in Allah from Satan’s whisperings.

4. Respect for true guidance: Understanding that the calls to false gods are essentially calls to rebellion and evil, reinforcing the need to follow divine guidance.

Lessons Learned:

The dangers of idolatry and associating partners with Allah.
The negative influence of Satan and the importance of seeking Allah’s protection.
The significance of pure monotheism and sincere worship of Allah alone.
The importance of recognizing falsehood and avoiding it.

Conclusions:

This verse sharply criticizes the idols and false deities worshipped by the polytheists, portraying them as not only powerless but also as rebellious entities aligned with Satan. It reinforces the Islamic belief in strict monotheism and the importance of avoiding anything associated with Satan’s influence. It also serves as a warning against turning to false gods, highlighting that such acts are actually calls to rebellion against Allah and lead away from true guidance.

Verse 118

La'anahul laahu; wa qaala laa attakhizanna min 'ibaadika naseebam mafroodaa.*

Meaning:

Allah has cursed him; and he [Shaytan] said, 'Certainly, I will take from Your

servants a specific, designated portion (of obedience or worship).

This verse describes Satan's declaration of rebellion against Allah, promising to lead humans astray and to claim a specific part of their obedience and worship for himself.

Context of Revelation (Asbab alNuzul):

This verse is part of the story of Satan’s rebellion. It is related to the events when Allah created Adam and commanded the angels and Satan to bow to him. Satan refused and declared his condemnation and enmity against humans, swearing to mislead them and claim a portion of their worship. This verse specifically refers to Satan’s vow to take a share of humans’ devotion and obedience for himself, indicating his persistent attempt to mislead.

Tafseer

La'anahul laahu": Allah has cursed Satan, condemning him to eternal punishment for his arrogance and disobedience.

Wa qaala laa attakhizanna min 'ibaadika naseebam mafroodaa": Satan openly declares that he will indeed take a "naseeb" (portion or share) of the worship and obedience of Allah’s servants. The word "mafrood" (designated/necessary) emphasizes that Satan believes part of human worship will inevitably fall into his hands due to their weaknesses.

This declaration highlights Satan’s persistent efforts to tempt humans away from the path of righteousness and to steal their devotion for himself.

Practical Implications:

1. Beware of Satan’s deceptions: Satan openly announces his intention to mislead humans and divert their worship away from Allah.

2. Strengthen faith and remembrance of Allah: Since Satan aims to lead people astray, Muslims should seek refuge in Allah, pray regularly, and remain steadfast in their faith.

3. Recognize the importance of sincere worship: Genuine worship to Allah is the way to avoid Satan’s trap, as he covets a share of our obedience.

4. Be cautious with worldly temptations: Satan’s promise of taking a 'portion' indicates that he often tempts humans through worldly desires, aiming to distract them from their spiritual duties.

Lessons Learned:

Satan’s disobedience and vow to mislead humans are ongoing threats.
Allah’s curse on Satan signifies his ultimate rejection and punishment.
Muslims are accountable for their own choices; Satan’s promises are deceiving.
Vigilance and adherence to the Quran and Sunnah are essential to protect oneself from Satan’s whispers.

Conclusions:

This verse vividly illustrates Satan’s hostility towards mankind and his commitment to mislead as many as possible. His promise to take a "naseeb" (share) of humans’ obedience emphasizes the persistent danger of temptation and the importance of being cautious. It also reminds believers of Allah’s mercy in warning and protecting them, and the necessity of seeking refuge from Satan’s influence through prayer and righteous acts.

Verse 119

Wa la udillannahum wa la umanni yannnahum wa la aamurannahum fala yubattikunna aazaanal an'aami wa laa aamurannahum fala yugha yirunna khalqal laah; wa mai yattakhizish Shaitaana waliyyam min doonil laahi faqad khasira khusraanam mubeena.*

"And I will surely lead them astray, and I will arouse them and induce them, and I will command them so that they will slit the ears of cattle, and I will command them so that they alter Allah's creation."
"And whoever takes Satan as an ally instead of Allah has certainly suffered a clear loss."

This verse presents Satan's chilling pledge to misguide humans, leading them to commit harmful innovations and distortions, especially in religious practices and understanding. It concludes by warning that choosing Satan as an ally results in a profound loss.

Context of Revelation (Asbab alNuzul):

This verse was revealed in the context of the practices and innovations introduced by certain tribes or groups who, under Satan's influence, engaged in superstitions, false worship, and altering Allah's creation, such as modifications to religious rituals, worship of idols, or harmful customs like slit ears of cattle as part of misguided rites. It reflects Satan's ongoing campaign to distort and corrupt human worship and understanding of Allah's law.

Tafseer

"Wa laa uhdillannahum wa laa umanni yannnahum": Satan promises to misguide and tempt humans, leading them astray in their beliefs and actions.

"Wa laa amurannahum fala yubattikunna aazaanal an'aami": Satan will

command them to slit the ears of cattle, a superstitious or pagan practice, considered a form of innovation or false worship.

"Wa laa amurannahum fala yugha yirunna khalqal laah": Satan also encourages humans to alter Allah's creation, which may refer to practices like cosmetic modification, changing natural laws, or adopting innovations that change the original divine order.

"Wa mai yattakhizish Shaitaana waliyyan min doonil laah faqad khasira khusraanan mubeena": Whoever takes Satan as an ally instead of Allah is truly in obvious and severe loss, as Satan's guidance leads away from the truth and righteousness.

Practical Implications:

1. Beware of Satan's tactics to misguide: Satan's promises of easy pleasure or false authority are deceitful. Muslims should be cautious and seek refuge in Allah from his whispers.

2. Avoid innovations in worship: The mention of altering Allah's creation warns against introducing superstitions, customs, or practices that distort Islamic worship and beliefs.

3. Uphold the original divine guidance: Follow the teachings of the Quran and Sunnah, avoiding any changes or innovations that deviate from Allah's guidance.

4. Choose Allah's companionship over Satan's: The verse underscores that aligning with Satan results in loss—the greatest loss—so believers should firmly adhere to Allah's guidance and seek His protection.

Lessons Learned:

Satan’s persistent effort to misguide humans includes encouraging harmful innovations and corruptions.
Distorting Allah’s creation is a serious sin that leads away from divine guidance.
Taking Satan as an ally instead of Allah results in clear and profound loss.
Constant vigilance, prayer, and adherence to Islam are essential to avoid Satan’s plans.

Conclusions:

This verse vividly illustrates Satan’s detailed plan to lead humans astray through promises, deception, and encouraging deviant practices. It warns believers to be cautious of such influences and emphasizes the importance of sticking to Allah’s divine guidance, which guarantees success and salvation. The closing warning reminds Muslims that partnering with Satan in any capacity is a direct cause of loss in both this world and the Hereafter.

Verse 120

Ya'iduhum wa yuman neehim wa maa ya'iduhumush Shaitaanu illaa ghurooraa.

"He (Satan) promises them and arouses dreams in them, but what Satan promises them is only deception."

Why the verse was revealed:

This verse addresses the false hopes and illusions Satan creates in humans to deceive them into sinful actions and misguided beliefs. It was revealed to warn believers that Satan’s promises are illusions designed to mislead them from the truth.

Tafseer:

"Ya'iduhum wa yuman neehim": Satan makes false promises and stirs up ambitions, hopes, and aspirations in people, but these are hollow and deceptive.
"Wa maa ya'iduhumush Shaitaanu illaa ghurooraa": Satan's promises are nothing but deception, leading to disappointment and loss in both this world and the Hereafter. The word "ghurooraa" (deception) emphasizes the treacherous and false nature of Satan's temptations.

Practical implications:
Muslims should be cautious of relying on worldly promises or illusions that Satan stirs up, which can lead to neglect of their religious duties.
Recognize that Satan's temptations are deceptive and should be resisted through remembrance of Allah.
Be aware that true success comes from following Allah's guidance, not fleeting illusions.

Lessons learned:

Satan's promises are inherently deceptive and must be viewed with suspicion.
True guidance comes from Allah; illusions lead to destruction.
Vigilance and reliance on Allah are essential to avoid falling into Satan's traps.

Conclusion:

This verse warns believers about Satan's deceptive promises, emphasizing the importance of discernment, reliance on Allah, and avoiding illusions that lead astray. It highlights that Satan's schemes are treacherous, and only Allah's guidance can save from falling into deception.

Verse 121

Ulaaa'ika ma'waahum Jahannamu wa laa yajidoona 'anhaa maheesaa.

"Their refuge is Hell, and they will find no way to escape from it."

Why the verse was revealed:

This verse underscores the severe consequence for those who reject faith and indulge in evil, highlighting that their ultimate abode is Hell. It was revealed to warn against disbelief and wrongdoing, emphasizing their unforgiving punishment.

Tafseer

"Ma'waahum Jahannamu": Their permanent dwelling is Hellfire.
"Wa laa yajidoona 'anhaa maheesaa": They will find no refuge or escape from it; their punishment is eternal and unavoidable unless Allah wills otherwise.

Practical implications

Believers should strive to avoid the sins that lead to Hell.
Recognize the gravity of disbelief and disobedience.
Be motivated to attain righteousness and faith, seeking Allah’s mercy.

Lessons learned

Hell is the inevitable consequence for those who turn away from faith and commit evil.
Absolute justice will be served, and no one can escape Allah’s punishment if they deserve it.
Sincere repentance and steadfast faith are vital to avoid such a fate.

Conclusion:

This verse serves as a stark reminder of the punishment awaiting those who reject faith and commit evil. It motivates believers to adhere to righteousness and trust in Allah’s mercy while fearing His justice.

Verse 122

Wallazeena aamanoo wa 'amilus saalihaati sanud khiluhum Jannaatin tajree min tahtihal anhaaru khaalideena feehaaa abadaa; wa'dal laahi haqqaa; wa man asdaqu minal laahi qeelaa.

Translation:

"But those who believe and do righteous deeds, they will be admitted to Gardens beneath which rivers flow, abiding therein forever. That is the promise of Allah, true. And who is more truthful than Allah in statement?"

Why the verse was revealed:

This verse reassures believers about the eternal reward Allah has prepared for righteous believers, emphasizing the truthfulness of Allah’s promises and the reward for faith and good deeds.

Tafseer:

"Wallazeena aamanoo wa 'amilus saalihaati": Those who believe sincerely and perform righteous actions.
"Sanud khiluhum Jannaatin tajree min tahtihal anhaaru": They will be admitted into Paradise, with rivers flowing beneath.
"Khaalideena feehaaa abadaa": Their stay in Paradise is eternal and everlasting.
"Wa'dal laahi haqqaa": Allah’s promise is the absolute truth.
"Wa man asdaqu minal laahi qeelaa": None is more truthful than Allah in uttering His promises.

Practical implications:

Faith and righteous deeds are the pathway to eternal Paradise.
Assurance of Allah’s promise should motivate believers to maintain steadfastness.
Trust in Allah’s truthfulness is foundational in Islamic belief.

Lessons learned:

Belief combined with righteous actions results in eternal reward.
Allah’s promises are guaranteed and truthful.
Striving for faith and righteousness aligns with true sincerity in worship.

Conclusion:

This verse offers hope and motivation for believers, emphasizing the importance of faith and righteous conduct, and affirming Allah's truthfulness in His promises of Paradise.

Verse 123

Laisa bi amaniyyikum wa laaa amaaniyyi Ahlil Kitaab; mai ya'mal soo'an yujezaa bihee wa laa yajid lahoo min doonil laahi waliyanw wa laa naseeraa.

"It is not your desires or the desires of the People of the Book that will benefit you. Whoever does evil will be recompensed for it, and they will find no protector or helper besides Allah."

Why the verse was revealed:

This verse was revealed to clarify that personal desires or preferences do not override divine guidance, and that individuals will be held accountable for their

actions regardless of their background or intentions.

Tafseer:

"Laisa bi amaniyyikum wa laa amaaniyyi Ahlil Kitaab": Personal hopes or wishes, and the hopes of the People of the Book (Jews and Christians), are irrelevant in the face of divine justice.
"Mai ya'mal soo'an yujezaa bihee": Whoever commits evil will be recompensed accordingly.
"Wa laa yajid lahoo min doonil laahi waliyanw wa laa naseeraa": There will be no protector or helper aside from Allah for those who deserve His punishment.

Practical implications:

Personal desires should not lead believers away from the truth.
Every person is responsible for their deeds.
Relying solely on Allah’s guidance and justice is essential.

Lessons learned:

Divine justice is impartial and ultimate.
Believers must act righteously, regardless of personal wishes.
Seek Allah alone for aid and protection.

Conclusion:

This verse reminds believers that divine justice prevails and that everyone is accountable for their deeds. Personal wishes or claims do not influence Allah’s justice, emphasizing the importance of sincere obedience and reliance on Allah.

Verse 124

Wa mai ya'mal minaal saalihaati min zakarin aw unsaa wa huwa mu'minun fa ulaaa'ika yadkhuloonal Jannata wa laa yuzlamoona naqeeraa.

Translation:
"And whoever does righteous deeds, male or female, and is a believer – those will enter Paradise and will not be wronged, even to the extent of a feather's weight."

Why the verse was revealed:

This verse highlights the universal nature of Islamic salvation: regardless of gender, righteousness and faith are the crucial factors for entering Paradise, and justice is absolute.

Tafseer:

"Wa mai ya'mal minas saalihaati min zakarin aw unsaa": Any righteous deed, whether from male or female.
"Wa huwa mu'minun": The person must have faith.
"Fa ulaaa'ika yadkhuloonal Jannah": They will enter Paradise.
"Wa laa yuzlamoona naqeeraa": They will not be wronged, even as much as a small coin's weight.

Practical implications:

Righteousness and faith are the keys to salvation for all believers, regardless of gender.
Justice of Allah is perfect; no injustice will occur to believers, even to the smallest measure.
Both men and women are equally accountable and deserving of Paradise if they believe and do good.

Lessons learned:

Islam treats men and women equally in the context of righteousness and divine reward.
Faith combined with righteous deeds guarantees Paradise.
Justice is inherent in Allah’s promise; no one will be wronged.

Conclusion:

This verse affirms the equality of men and women in earning the pleasure of Allah through faith and righteous deeds, with the assurance of justice and ultimate reward in Paradise.

Verse 125

Wa man ahsanu deenam mimmman aslama wajhahoo lillaahi wa huwa muhsinunw wattaba'a Millata Ibraaheema haneefaa; wattakhazal laahu Ibraaheema khaleelaa.

Translation:

"And who is better in religion than one who submits his face to Allah, while being a doer of good, and follows the religion of Prophet Abraham, Hanif (true in faith), and Allah took Abraham as a friend?"

Why the verse was revealed:

This verse emphasizes the superiority of sincere monotheism (Islam) combined with righteousness, following the pure example of Prophet Abraham (Ibrahim), who is revered as a model of Tawheed (belief in the Oneness of Allah). It was revealed to highlight that true faith is submission to Allah, exemplified by Abraham's pure monotheism and righteousness.

Tafseer:

"Wa man ahsanu deenam mimmman aslama wajhahoo lillaahi":

The phrase questions who can be better in religion than one who perfectly submits his face (i.e., his worship and devotion) solely to Allah, showing sincere worship and obedience.

"Wa huwa muhsinun":
The person does good deeds; sincerity and righteousness are integral to true faith.

"Wattaba'a Millata Ibraaheema haneefaa":
Follows the religion (way of life) of Prophet Abraham, characterized by perfect sincerity and devotion to Allah, without associating partners.

"Wattakhazal laahu Ibraaheema khaleelaa":
Allah chose Abraham as a close friend (Khalil), indicating his high status, sincerity, and closeness to Allah.

Additional Context:

This verse underscores the value of complete submission to Allah combined with righteous conduct, aligning oneself with the Sunnah and spiritual status of Prophet Abraham, who is exemplified as the "Hanif" — one who is purely monotheistic, rejecting polytheism.

Practical Implications:

1. Aim for sincere submission: Muslims should strive to dedicate their worship solely to Allah, following His commands with sincerity.

2. Emulate Prophet Abraham: His unwavering monotheism and righteousness serve as a perfect example for believers.

3. Prioritize righteousness alongside belief: Faith is not merely verbal but must be accompanied by righteous actions.

4. Strive for closeness to Allah: Sincerity, righteousness, and following the Prophet's example lead to Allah's love and acceptance.

Lessons Learned:

The highest level of faith involves sincere submission to Allah, coupled with righteous deeds.
Following Prophet Abraham's example (Hanif) is an ideal model of true monotheism.
Allah's special favour for Abraham as a friend signifies the high status of sincerity and unwavering faith.
True faith is internal (submission and sincerity) and external (good deeds).

Conclusions:

This verse underscores that the most praised and beloved in religion are those who submit their entire being to Allah, follow the pure monotheism exemplified by Prophet Abraham, and engage in righteous actions. It elevates the status of sincere believers and highlights the importance of aligning one's beliefs and actions with divine guidance to attain Allah's closeness and love.

Verse 126

Wa lillaahi ma feeissamaawaati wa ma fee alardi; wa laa yaafuzu 'aidhoo hu tahwiiyaa wa laa naumuhoo; lahu maa feeissamaawaati wa maa fee alardi; astaghfir lahum aa'fir lahum; maa kaana lahum yasta'firu lillahi min shaii'in; wa

hum kalaw kal a'yaaru yakhfauna minassamaawati wa maa fee alardi wa huwa'al 'aleemu bidhaatisisudoor.

1. Wa lillaahi ma feeissamaawaati wa ma fee alardi
This opening phrase underlines the absolute sovereignty and ownership of Allah over everything in the universe. All that exists—whether in the heavens or on the earth—belongs ultimately to Him. It reminds believers that all claims of ownership, power, or control are limited and subordinate to Allah's supreme authority.

2. Wa laa yaafuzu 'aidhoo hu tahwiiyaa wa laa naumuhoo
This part emphasizes Allah's unmatched knowledge and power. No being can encompass Allah's knowledge or protection in any way. The phrase laa yaafuzu (cannot encompass) signifies that Allah's dominion and knowledge are perfect and unmatched.
The words tahwiiyaa (encompass) and naumuhoo (His sleep) metaphorically indicate that even His rest or protection is beyond human or any creature's capacity—indicating divine omnipresence and omnipotence.

3. Lahu maa feeissamaawaati wa maa fee alardi
A reaffirmation that everything in the heavens and earth is under Allah's domain. This underscores the concept that nothing exists outside His control, ownership, and knowledge. It also indicates that all affairs happen by His decree.

4. Astaghfir lahum aa'fir lahum
This segment mentions the Prophet Muhammad's (peace be upon him) practice of seeking forgiveness for others. This underscores the Prophet's role as an intercessor and the importance of supplication for others in Islam. However, it is made clear that Allah's permission and His own judgment determine whether to forgive whom or not.

5. Maa kaana lahum yasta'firu lillahi min shaii'in
This phrase emphasizes that people cannot seek forgiveness on their own or without Allah's permission. No matter how sincere or frequent the supplication, ultimate authority and the power to forgive are only with Allah alone.

6. Wa hum kalaw kal a'yaaru yakhfauna minassamaawati wa maa fee alardi wa huwa'al 'aleemu bidhaatisisudoor

This is a powerful statement indicating that humans, even if they hide their inner thoughts and feelings from everyone—including those in the heavens and the earth—cannot hide them from Allah.

The phrase kalaw kal a'yaaru (like the ears of cattle) is an idiomatic expression used in Arabic to describe ignorance or inability to perceive something, emphasizing that humans are oblivious to what is hidden from Allah.

Huwa'al'alim bidhaatisisudoor clarifies that Allah is AllKnowing of what is in the hearts and minds, encompassing hidden thoughts, intentions, and secrets.

Deeper Reflections:

Allah's Sovereignty and Knowledge:

This verse vividly underscores Allah's unparalleled ownership and dominion over all that exists. Every creature, object, and particle in the universe belongs to Him, and His knowledge is allencompassing. Not even a leaf falls without His knowledge, nor can any deed remain hidden from Him.

Accountability and Inner Thoughts:

The verse emphasizes that all inner thoughts and motives, whether open or concealed, are known by Allah. This awareness cultivates sincerity in worship and deeds, as believers are reminded that nothing is hidden from Allah.

Limitations of Human and Intercessory Efforts:

While Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and other prophets may pray and intercede, their efforts are performed with Allah's permission. People cannot guarantee forgiveness or hide sins from Allah's AllKnowing gaze.

God's Omnipotence and Justice:

Allah's ability to forgive whom He wills and punish whom He wills is central to His justice and mercy. This highlights that ultimate sovereignty rests solely with Allah, and believers should turn to Him sincerely, knowing that He is just and merciful.

Practical Implications:

Encourage believers to cultivate sincerity, knowing that Allah observes both outward actions and inner intentions.
Reinforce dependence on Allah's mercy, constantly seeking His forgiveness with humility and acknowledgment of His sovereignty.
Remind Muslims that no matter how secretive their sins or thoughts, Allah's knowledge encompasses all, motivating them to repent and reform sincerely.
Emphasize that intercession is a privilege granted by Allah, not a guarantee; sincere repentance and obedience are essential.

Lessons Learnt:

The absolute dominion of Allah over the universe and all in it.
The omniscience of Allah—including knowledge of hidden thoughts, intentions, and secrets.
The futility of relying solely on one's outward deeds without sincerity, as Allah's knowledge is comprehensive.
The importance of humility, dependence on Allah's mercy, and constant repentance.
That Allah's forgiveness and punishment are entirely His decision, highlighting His justice and mercy.

Conclusion:

This verse is a profound reminder of Allah's omnipotence, omniscience, and sovereignty. It teaches believers to be sincere in their faith and deeds, knowing that Allah knows everything about them, even what they hide from others and themselves. It calls for humility, constant remembrance, and reliance on Allah's mercy, encouraging genuine repentance and submission to His divine will.

Verse 127

Wa yastaftoonaka finnisaaa'i qulil laahu yufteekum feehinna wa maa yutlaa 'alaikum fil Kitaabi fee yataaman nisaaa'il laatee laa tu'toonahunna maa kutiba

lahunnna wa targhaboona an tankihoohunna wal mustad'a feena minal wildaani wa an taqoomoo lilyataamaa bilqist; wa maa taf'aloo min khairin fa innal laaha kaana bihee 'Aleemaa

And they seek your verdict concerning women. Say, 'Allah gives you verdict concerning them, and what is recited to you in the Book about the orphan girls whom you do not give what is prescribed for them—wanting to marry them—and about the oppressed children—and that you should establish justice among the children. And whatever good you do, Allah certainly knows it.

Tafseer

This verse addresses questions and disputes about women, particularly concerning their treatment, rights, and inheritance, which were faced during the time of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and continue in various forms. The verse instructs the Prophet (and believers) to respond that God is the ultimate authority in resolving such issues.

Key points in the verse:

1. Guidance from Allah:
The verse emphasizes that Allah is the ultimate judge and knows what is best concerning women and related matters. Believers are instructed to rely on divine guidance rather than solely human opinions.

2. Regarding orphan girls:
The verse mentions the situation where one might withhold the rights of orphan girls—such as their inheritance or marriage. Islam advocates for justice and fairness in dealing with orphans, ensuring their rights are protected.

3. Marriage and treatment of oppressed children:
The verse forbids preventing girls from marriage due to fear or greed and emphasizes the importance of justice in caring for children who are vulnerable or oppressed.

4. Establishment of justice:
It highlights that believers must maintain fairness and justice in all dealings, especially concerning children and women.

5. Encouragement of good deeds:
The verse concludes with a reassurance that Allah is aware of all that people do, including acts of kindness and justice, and will reward accordingly.

Overall message:
The verse serves as guidance on ethical treatment of women and orphans, advocating justice, fairness, and compassion. It reminds believers that Allah's knowledge encompasses all actions, encouraging them to act righteously and justly.

Verse 128

Wainimraatun khaafat min baʿlihaa nushoozan aw iʿraadan falaa junaaha ʿalayhimaa an yuṣliḥaa bainahumaa; waṣṣulḥu khayrun; wa uḥḍiratilanfusushshuhh; wa in tuḥ'ṣinū watattaqū fainna Allāha kāna bima taʿmalūna Khabīrā.

And if a woman fears rebellion or neglect from her husband, there is no sin upon them if they make peace between themselves. Peace is best. But human souls tend to greed; and if you do good and keep your duty to Allah, then indeed Allah is Well Acquainted with what you do.

Why the verse was revealed:

This verse was revealed to provide guidance on resolving marital conflicts involving issues such as neglect (nushooz) or rebellion (i'raad). It emphasizes reconciliation and peaceful resolution as the preferred and better approach, and encourages mutual fairness and piety.

Tafseer:

Wa inimraatun khaafat min baʿlihaa nushoozan aw iʿraadan:

If a wife fears premature rebellion (nushooz, meaning stubbornness, defiance) or neglect (i'raad, meaning withdrawing or ignoring her husband's rights) from her husband, she can seek peaceful resolution.

Falaa junaaha ʿalayhimaa an yuṣliḥaa bainahumaa:
There is no sin on either party if they work together to reconcile. In Islam, reconciliation is highly valued and considered the best course of action.

Waṣṣulḥu khayrun:
Making peace and reconciliation is better and more virtuous than conflict or separation. Islam encourages efforts to mend relationships and promote harmony.

Wa uḥḍiratilanfusushshuhh:
Humans tend to be greedy and selfish; they desire what benefits them and dislike giving up their rights or being patient. This acknowledges human nature’s inclinations and the need to control them through faith and righteousness.

Wa in tuḥ'ṣinū watattaqū fainna Allāha kāna bima taʿmalūna Khabīrā:
If you act kindly, are mindful of Allah, and avoid greed and selfishness, then Allah is Fully Aware of your deeds. This serves as both encouragement and reassurance.

Deeper Reflections:

The verse promotes peaceful reconciliation over conflict, recognizing that disagreements in marriage are natural but should be resolved with kindness. It recognizes human tendencies like greed and selfishness, urging believers to act with patience, righteousness, and consciousness of Allah.
The phrase fa inna Allah kana bima ta'maloona Khabeera reminds believers that Allah is aware of everything, including thoughts, intentions, and actions—this encourages sincerity and good conduct.

Practical Implications:

1. Seek Reconciliation:
When conflicts arise, both spouses should attempt to resolve issues peacefully and thoughtfully.

2. Prioritize Peace:
Reconciliation and harmony are better than discord, and efforts should be made to mend relationships.

3. Be aware of human weaknesses:
Recognize tendencies toward greed and selfishness; strive to conquer these through faith and righteous actions.

4. Act kindly and piously:
Behaviours rooted in kindness, patience, and taqwa (piety) align with Allah's commands and nurture harmony.

5. Trust in Allah's knowledge:
Keep faith that Allah is aware of all actions and intentions, encouraging sincerity.

Lessons Learned:

Reconciliation is not only permissible but preferred and virtuous in Islam.
Both partners should work towards peace and avoid conflict whenever possible.
Human nature inclines toward greed and selfishness; spiritual efforts and trust in Allah can help overcome these tendencies.
Ultimately, Allah's knowledge encompasses all actions and intentions, and He is the best judge and rewarder.

Conclusion:

This verse teaches that, in marriage and disputes, patience, kindness, and striving for reconciliation are among the best acts. Recognizing human nature's flaws and acting with piety and sincerity makes it easier for Allah to facilitate peace. It encourages believers to act with good intentions, trusting that Allah is fully aware of their efforts and sincerity.

Verse 129

Wa lan tastaṭīʿū aḥhāda altalīki baina alnisā'i walaw ḥarastu fala tamīlū kulla almayli fataḏuruhā kalmu'allaqah; wa in tuṣliḥū wa tattaqū fainna Allāha kāna ghafūran raḥīma

And you will never be able to treat your wives equally even if you are eager (to do so). Therefore, do not incline entirely (towards one wife) and leave the other hanging. But if you do good and keep your duty (to Allah), then indeed Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.

Why Was This Verse Revealed?

This verse was revealed in the context of polygamy, where men may wish to treat all their wives equally. Islam recognizes human limitations and clarifies that perfect equality in treatment among multiple wives is impossible for us. The verse aims to set realistic expectations, discouraging favouritism or unfair treatment, and encourages fairness and piety instead.

Tafseer:

Main Message:

Men cannot perfectly treat all their wives equally. Human nature makes it impossible to avoid favouritism completely, but Islam urges fairness and avoiding injustices like neglect or favouritism that can harm the relationship.

Key Point:
Even if a man desires to be completely fair, he will still face difficulty in achieving absolute equality. Therefore, Islam advises caution and fairness but acknowledges human imperfection.

"KalMu'allaqah":
This refers to leaving a wife in a suspended or indefinite state—neither divorced nor married properly—highlighting unfair treatment if favouritism or neglect occurs.

Encouragement for Goodness and Taqwa:
Despite human limitations, believers are urged to do their best, maintain charity and fairness, and stay conscious of Allah's mercy.

Practical Implications and Lessons:

1. Realistic Expectations:
Men should not expect to treat all wives exactly equally, but should strive for fairness and justice.

2. Avoid Favouritism:
Favouring one wife over another can lead to emotional harm and social injustice. Fairness and kindness should be the guiding principles.

3. God Consciousness:
Being mindful of Allah's awareness and mercy encourages believers to act justly and forgive shortcomings.

4. Patience and Taqwa:
Recognize human imperfection and seek Allah's forgiveness and mercy for shortcomings.

Lessons Learned:

Justice in relationships is ideal but human limitations make perfect equality difficult.
Islam promotes fairness and piety over unrealistic equality.
Sincerity, kindness, and Allah consciousness are key to maintaining harmonious relationships.
Believers should seek Allah's forgiveness and mercy when they fall short.

Conclusion:

This verse teaches us that perfection in fairness, especially in complex relationships like marriage, is beyond human capacity. Islam encourages striving for fairness, maintaining good conduct, and having Taqwa (Godconsciousness). It reminds us that Allah is Forgiving and Merciful, and constantly overlooking our shortcomings when we sincerely strive.

Verse 130

Wa inyyatafarraqā yughnillāhu kullan min sa'atihi; wa kāna allāhu wāsi'an ḥakīma.

"And if they separate, Allah will enrich each of them from His abundance. And Allah is All Encompassing, Most Wise."

Why Was This Verse Revealed?

This verse was revealed in the context of marriage disputes or separation between spouses. It offers reassurance that even if a couple chooses to part ways, Allah's mercy and provision will suffice both individuals. It emphasizes Allah's ability to provide for everyone according to His wisdom, regardless of

worldly circumstances or difficulties.

Tafseer:

Main Message:
When spouses part ways, Allah's support and provision will ensure that both parties are taken care of, without hardship. It highlights Allah's generosity and wisdom in managing the affairs of His creation.

Key Point:
The verse urges believers to trust in Allah's mercy and provision, especially during times of hardship or change, like separation or divorce.

"Yughni" (enrich):
Means to make someone independent and self sufficient. Allah's support is not limited; He provides in abundance, taking care of everyone's needs.

"Wāsi" (AllEncompassing):
Allah's knowledge and provision extend to everything and everyone.

"Hakeem" (Most Wise):
Allah's decisions are based on wisdom; He knows what is best for His creation, even if it is beyond human understanding.

Practical Implications and Lessons:

1. Trust in Allah's Mercy:
Believers should have confidence that Allah's support is sufficient during difficulties, including separation or hardship.

2. Patience and Reliance:
In times of separation, divorce, or disputes, maintain patience, and rely on Allah's wisdom and resources.

3. Acceptance of Divine Wisdom:
Understand that Allah's plans are wise and beneficial, even if not immediately apparent.

4. Hope and Optimism:
No matter how challenging a situation may seem, Allah's ability to provide and support is boundless.

Lessons Learned:

Trust in Allah's infinite mercy and provision is crucial in times of hardship.
Allah's wisdom guides all His decisions; believers should accept His decrees with patience.
Separation or difficulties are part of life, but Allah's support can alleviate hardship.
Sincerity, reliance, and understanding that Allah encompasses all matters help foster inner peace.

Conclusion:

This verse reassures believers that Allah's support is limitless and wise. Even in times of separation or hardship, Allah's provision and mercy will suffice each individual. It encourages trust in divine wisdom and patience, reminding us that ultimately, Allah's knowledge and mercy encompass everything.

Verse 131

Wa lillaahi maa fiis samaawaati wa maa fil ard; wa laqad wassainal lazeena ootul Kitaaba min qablikum wa iyyaakum anit taqul laah; wa in tukfuroo fa inna lillaahi maa fis samaawaati wa maa fil ard; wa kaanal laahu Ghaniyyan Hameedaa."

"To Allah belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth. And indeed, We have enjoined those who were given the Scripture before you and to you [also] to fear Allah. But if you disbelieve — then indeed, to Allah belongs whatever is in the heavens and the earth. And Allah is Free of need and Praiseworthy."

Tafseer

This verse emphasizes the concept of Allah's sovereignty over all creation—everything in the heavens and the earth belongs to Him. It highlights the importance of fearing Allah, which is a central theme in Islam that encourages humility, obedience, and reverence towards Allah.

The verse mentions the previous prophets and nations who were given divine scriptures and were also commanded to develop Taqwa (Godconsciousness). The message is universal, extending to the current believers, urging them to follow the same guidance.

It then states that even if people disbelieve, Allah's ownership and control over all that exists remain unchanged. He does not need anything from His creation (Ghaniyy), and He is worthy of all praise (Hameed).

The verse underlines the importance of believing in Allah's sovereignty and encourages believers to maintain their piety and consciousness of Him, recognizing His unmatched authority and generosity.

Verse132

Wa lillaahi maa fiis samaawaati wa maa fil ard; wa laqad wassainal lazeena ootul Kitaaba min qablikum wa iyyaakum anit taqul laah; wa in tukfuroo fa inna lillaahi maa fis samaawaati wa maa fil ard; wa kaanal laahu Ghaniyyan Hameedaa.

"To Allah belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth. And indeed, We have enjoined those who were given the Scripture before you and to you [also] to fear Allah. But if you disbelieve — then indeed, to Allah belongs the ownership of everything in the heavens and the earth. And Allah is Free of

need and Praiseworthy."

Why It Was Revealed:

This verse was revealed to reaffirm the omnipotence and sovereignty of Allah, especially in the context of the debates among the People of the Book (Jews and Christians) and the disbelievers. It emphasizes that regardless of their perceptions and actions, Allah's ownership and control over all existence remain absolute.

It also serves as guidance, reminding Muslims and previous nations of their obligation to fear and worship Allah, and reassuring believers that Allah's independence from His creation means He is not in need of anyone, unlike His creatures who may be in need of Him.

Tafseer

This verse emphasizes two key points:

1. Allah's Sovereignty Over Everything:
The opening phrase reaffirms that all that exists—both in the heavens and on the earth—belongs solely to Allah. This reinforces the Islamic belief in divine ownership and control over all creation, indicating that nothing occurs outside His knowledge or authority.

2. Allah as the Perfect and Sufficient Trustee:
The phrase "Billaahi Wakeelaa" means that Allah alone is the ultimate Trustee (or Guardian) of everything. The word Wakeela (Trustee, Guardian) implies that Allah is fully capable of managing, protecting, and sustaining His creation. There is no need to seek other protectors or patrons because Allah is complete in His authority and ability.

Lessons Learned:

1. Ownership and Sovereignty of Allah:
Everything in the universe — in the heavens and the earth — belongs to Allah. Recognizing His sovereignty is fundamental to understanding divine justice and authority.

2. Encouragement to Taqwa (God consciousness):
All previous nations and Muslims are invited to fear and obey Allah, which is the essence of faith and piety.

3. Divine Justice and Independence:
Even if people disbelieve, the fact remains that Allah is not affected; His ownership and status are unchanged. His independence (Ghaniyy) means He does not depend on His creation.

4. The Importance of Belief:
Belief in Allah's sovereignty and His attributes leads to humility, obedience, and gratitude, shaping a righteous life.

Conclusion:

This verse reinforces the core Islamic concept of Tawhid — the Oneness and Sovereignty of Allah. It encourages believers to develop a consciousness of Allah (Taqwa), recognizing His ownership over everything and His independence from creation. It also delivers a message of reassurance that Allah's greatness and Praiseworthiness remain unaffected by human disbelief or acceptance.

Believers are reminded of their duty to worship and fear Allah sincerely, knowing that all matters ultimately rest with Him. The verse also highlights Allah's selfsufficiency and universal praise, urging believers to trust in His justice and mercy.

Verse 133

In yasha' yuzhibkum ayyuhannaasu wa ya'ti bi aakhareen; wa kaanal laahu 'alaa zaalika Qadeeraa."

Meaning:
"If Allah wills, He can remove you and bring (in your place) other people. And Allah is able to do that."

Tafseer

This verse reinforces the concept of Allah's absolute power over the fate of nations and individuals. It underscores that everything happens according to Allah's will; nothing is beyond His control. It is a reminder that human plans, efforts, or desires are ultimately subject to Allah's approval and decree.

This verse emphasizes that Allah's ability to change the circumstances of entire communities or peoples is unwavering. If He wishes to remove a people and replace them with others, He can do so because He is AllPowerful and AllKnowing.

Why was this verse revealed?

This verse, like verse 132, was revealed in the context of the conditions of the children of Israel, who often saw themselves as having a divine right to their status and blessings. The verse serves as a reminder that their existence and fortunes are not guaranteed or eternal—they are subject to Allah's will. It warns believers and critics alike that no one is immune from divine change, and it encourages the realization of Allah's sovereignty.

Lessons Learned:

1. Divine Sovereignty & Power: Allah has unlimited power to change nations, systems, or circumstances.
2. Humility & Awareness: Believers should recognize that their status or success is not permanent but a blessing from Allah, and He can take it away whenever He wills.
3. Accountability: Recognize that success and failure are ultimately in Allah's hands, which should inspire righteousness and sincere worship.

Practical Implications:

Humility and Gratitude: Appreciate divine blessings and avoid arrogance, knowing they are granted by Allah.
Preparedness for Change: Be adaptable and patient because circumstances can suddenly change by Allah's will.
Avoid Complacency: Do not assume stability or permanence in worldly achievements; always remain humble and mindful of Allah.
Encourage Sincere Worship: Since Allah can change one's situation at any time, believers should maintain sincere devotion and trust in His plan.

Conclusion:

This verse highlights the fundamental Islamic belief in Allah's omnipotence and

control over all affairs. It acts as a reminder to be humble, grateful, and cautious, understanding that Allah alone has the power to change the fate of nations and individuals. Believers are encouraged to trust in Allah's wisdom and to always seek His mercy and guidance.

Verse 134

Man kaana yureedu sawaabad dunyaa fa'indallaahi sawaabud dunyaa wal Aakhirah; wa kaanal laahu Samee'am Baseeraa."

"Whoever desires the reward of this world, then with Allah is the reward of both the world and the Hereafter. And Allah is All Hearing, All-seeing."

Tafseer

This verse emphasizes that Allah's provision and reward encompass both worldly and spiritual pursuits. Those who seek only worldly gains and pleasures without regard for the Hereafter are misguided, because Allah's capacity and promise include both.

Key points:

Dual Reward: Allah rewards those who seek worldly benefits and also rewards those who seek spiritual or eternal gains. No one is deprived of Allah's mercy if their intentions are genuine and sincere.

Equity of Allah's Rewards: The verse suggests that striving for worldly success is not wrong in itself, but it should not be the sole focus; believers should also seek the Hereafter.

Allah's Omniscience and Omnipresence: The final part reminds us that Allah hears all intentions and supplications and sees all actions. He is aware of everyone's motives and deeds.

Why was this verse revealed?

This verse was revealed in a context where some people's priorities were misplaced—they chased only worldly gains without regard for the Hereafter. The verse clarifies that Allah's mercy and reward are comprehensive, and believers should aim for both worldly and eternal success, with sincerity and devotion.

Lessons Learned:

1. Balance in Life: Strive for both worldly success and spiritual growth; neither should be neglected.
2. Sincerity in Intentions: Be mindful that Allah hears and sees all, and sincerity is essential in all pursuits.
3. Understanding Allah's Mercy: Allah's ability to reward is unlimited and includes both worlds, encouraging hope and perseverance.
4. Avoid Materialism: While seeking worldly benefits is permissible, it should not distract from the ultimate goal of pleasing Allah and attaining the Hereafter.

Practical Implications:

Prioritize with Wisdom: Pursue lawful worldly means alongside efforts for spiritual development and the Hereafter.
Maintain Sincerity: Ensure your actions are driven by Allah's pleasure, not solely by worldly gains.
Trust in Allah's Rewards: Have faith that Allah's promise encompasses both lives and that sincere efforts will be rightly rewarded.
Balance Worship and Work: Engage in righteous deeds, worship, and seeking knowledge while also managing worldly responsibilities.

Conclusion:

This verse reminds believers that Allah's mercy and reward are all-encompassing, covering both this world and the Hereafter. It encourages a balanced approach to life, emphasizing sincerity and reliance on Allah’s knowledge and mercy. Believers should aim for both worldly success and eternal happiness, trusting that Allah is receptive to all sincere efforts.

Verse 135

Yaa aiyuhal lazeena aamanoo koonoo qawwama bilqisti shuhadaaa'a lillaahi wa law 'alaa anfusikum awil waalidayni wal aqrabeen in yakun ghaniyyan aw faqeeran fallaaahu awlaa bihimaa falaa tattabi'ul hawaa an ta'diloo; wa in talwooo aw tu'ridoo fa innaallaha kaana bimaa ta'maloona Khabeera."

"O you who have believed, be persistently standing firm in justice, witnesses for Allah, even if it be against yourselves, or parents, or relatives. Whether one is rich or poor, Allah is more deserving that you both follow justice. And do not follow your desires, lest you become unjust. And if you distort your testimony or refuse it—then indeed, Allah is ever, with what you do, Acquainted."

Tafseer

This verse emphasizes the importance of justice and truthfulness in all circumstances, especially when bearing witness. It commands believers to uphold justice regardless of personal interests or relationships.

Key points:

Standing Firm for Justice: Believers are instructed to stand firmly for justice and be truthful witnesses for Allah.

Against Self or Family: The call to justice is particularly strong—believers must not favour their own selves, family, or friends at the expense of truth.

Equality in Justice: Whether the person involved is rich or poor, justice should

be applied equally.
Avoid Following Desires: Personal desires and biases must not influence the testimony; otherwise, injustice may occur.
Allah's Knowledge: Allah is fully aware of all actions, and those who distort or ignore the truth will be held accountable.

Why was this verse revealed?

This verse was revealed in a context where people's tendencies to be biased or to favour relatives and wealth over justice were common. It serves as a reminder that justice must prevail over personal biases and interests, and that Allah's knowledge and judgment are ultimate.

Lessons Learned:

1. Strict Justice: Always uphold justice in your dealings, even if it's against yourself or loved ones.
2. Truthfulness: Be truthful in bearing witness, avoiding lies or distortion.
3. Impartiality: Do not let wealth, status, or personal relationships influence your judgment.
4. Awareness of Allah's Knowledge: Remember that Allah is fully aware of all actions; sincerity is essential.
5. Avoid Desires' Bias: Be cautious of desires that may lead you to injustice or dishonesty.

Practical Implications:

Honest Testimony: In personal, social, or legal matters, testify truthfully even when it's difficult.
Fair Dealing: Treat all people equally, regardless of their social or financial status.
Inner Vigilance: Guard against biases and passions that might lead you toward injustice.

Trust in Allah’s Justice: Be conscious that Allah’s knowledge encompasses all deeds, motivating sincerity and integrity.

Conclusion:

This verse underscores the vital Islamic principle of justice and truthfulness. Believers are commanded to stand for justice unwaveringly, with awareness that Allah’s knowledge is comprehensive. Upholding justice in all situations preserves social harmony and divine approval. Neglecting this obligation can lead to injustice and loss in this world and the Hereafter.

Verse 136

Yaa aiyuhal lazeena aamanoo aaminoo billaahi wa Rasoolihee wal Kitaabil lazee nazzala 'alaa Rasoolihee wal Kitaabil lazee anzala min qabl; wa mai yakfur billaahi wa Malaaa'ikatehee wa Kutubihi wa Rusulihee wal Yawil Aakhiri faqad dalla dalaalam ba'eedaa."

"O you who have believed, believe in Allah and His Messenger and in the Book which He sent down to His Messenger, and in the Books which He sent down before. And whoever disbelieves in Allah, His angels, His Books, His Messengers, and the Last Day—then indeed, he has strayed far away."

Tafseer

This verse calls on believers to affirm and strengthen their faith by believing fully in all aspects of divine guidance. It emphasizes the importance of faith in Allah, His angels, scriptures, messengers, and the Day of Resurrection.

Key points:

Belief in Allah: The fundamental act of faith in the Creator.
Belief in His Messengers: Believing in all prophets and messengers sent by

Allah.
Belief in the Books: Faith in the Quran and the previous divine scriptures (such as the Torah, Psalms, and Gospel) sent before the Quran.
Belief in the Last Day: The Day of Judgment and accountability.

The verse indicates that true belief involves conviction in all these components collectively. Disbelieving or denying any part makes one astray from the straight path of faith.

Why was this verse revealed?

During the time of revelation, some people associated with the People of the Book or other groups might have believed selectively or questioned certain aspects of faith. This verse clarifies that faith must encompass complete belief in all divine principles and revelations. Denying any part leads one away from the true path, which is essential for salvation.

Lessons Learned:

1. Complete Faith: Belief in all aspects of faith is necessary; partial belief is not enough.
2. Unity of Faith Elements: The core tenets—from belief in Allah to the Last Day—are interconnected.
3. Consistency in Belief: Faith should be rooted in conviction and sincerity throughout all components.
4. Guard Against Disbelief: Denial of any divine element leads to straying far from the truth.
5. Importance of Monotheism: Faith in Allah and His guidance is the foundation of all beliefs.

Practical Implications:

Strengthen Faith: Continually seek knowledge and understanding of Islam to affirm all aspects of belief.
Unity in Belief: Respectfully recognize the commonalities among different faith

communities while affirming Islamic teachings.
Avoid Doubt or Denial: Be cautious about doubts that may lead to disbelief.
Affirmation in Daily Life: Declare belief sincerely in daily prayers and practices, ensuring consistency.
Promote Correct Understanding: Educate oneself and others about the comprehensive nature of faith in Islam.

Conclusion:

This verse is a cornerstone affirmation that faith in Islam requires a full and unwavering belief across all divine aspects—the oneness of Allah, His messengers, scriptures, angels, the Last Day, and divine decrees. It warns that rejecting any part of this core belief can lead one astray from the true path. Maintaining complete faith is essential for spiritual success and divine acceptance.

Verse 137

Innal lazeena aamanoo summa kafaroo summa aamanoo summa kafaroo summaz daado kufral lam yakunil laahu liyaghfira lahum wa laa liyahdiyahum sabeelaa."

"Indeed, those who have believed then disbelieved, then believed again, and then disbelieved, and [again] increased in disbelief—Allah will never forgive them, nor will He guide them to a way."

Tafseer

This verse describes a severe warning regarding repeated and persistent disbelief after faith. It highlights the gravity of turning away from faith multiple times and intensifying disbelief, which leads to a point where Allah’s forgiveness and guidance become unlikely.

Key points:

Pattern of Belief and Disbelief: The verse addresses those who cycle between faith and disbelief, rejecting the sincerity of their faith.
Serious Warning: Repeated disbelief after faith is considered a major sin, particularly if it involves increasing in disbelief.
Divine Disapproval: Allah's mercy has limits, especially for those who deliberately and persistently reject faith and increase in disbelief.
No Forgiveness or Guidance for Such: These individuals are categorized as unlikely to receive Allah's forgiveness or guidance, indicating the severity of persistent disbelief.

Why was this verse revealed?

The context likely pertains to hypocrites and those whose faith is shallow or insincere, who may show belief outwardly but secretly hold disbelief or continuously waver. The verse serves as a stern warning to those whose actions and intentions display instability in faith, underscoring the importance of sincerity and steadfastness.

Lessons Learned:

1. Steadfast Faith: Maintaining consistent faith is vital; wavering and turning to disbelief repeatedly is dangerous.
2. Seriousness of Disbelief: Persisting in disbelief, especially after faith, is a grave matter with serious spiritual consequences.
3. Allah's Mercy Has Limits: While Allah is merciful, His forgiveness may not extend to those who not only disbelieve repeatedly but also increase in disbelief.
4. The Importance of Sincerity: Genuine faith involves sincerity and steadfastness.

Practical Implications:

Strengthen Faith: Constantly work to maintain sincere belief through worship,

knowledge, and good deeds.
Avoid Hypocrisy: Be honest in your faith and avoid actions or attitudes that undermine sincere belief.
Repent Sincerely: If one falters or commits disbelief unintentionally, seek Allah's forgiveness sincerely and strive to remain steadfast.
Beware of Insincerity: Recognize that superficial or wavering faith can lead one away from Allah's mercy.
Encourage Steadfastness: Support and motivate others to uphold their faith sincerely and consistently.

Conclusion:

This verse emphasizes the severe consequences of persistent and increasing disbelief after having faith. It warns believers to remain sincere and steadfast in their belief, highlighting that Allah's forgiveness and guidance may be withheld from those who deliberately and repeatedly turn away from faith. Sincerity, consistency, and sincere repentance are crucial for spiritual salvation.

Verse 138

Bashshiril munaafiqeena bi anna lahum 'azaaban aleemaa."

"Give glad tidings to the hypocrites that there will be a painful punishment."

Why was this verse revealed?

The verse was revealed in the context of addressing the hypocrites among the early Muslims and the People of the Book, who pretended to believe but concealed disbelief. Their behavior undermines the unity and sincerity of the Muslim community. The verse aims to warn them of the consequences of their hypocrisy in the Hereafter and encourage sincere faith.

Tafseer

This verse provides a clear and stern warning to the hypocrites (those who outwardly profess faith but conceal disbelief and insincerity internally). It informs them of the severe punishment awaiting them in the Hereafter.

Key points:

Glad Tidings to the Hypocrites: Despite their hypocrisy, they are warned of the impending punishment without ambiguity.
Severe Punishment: The phrase describes it as "painful" (alaleem), indicating the seriousness and torment associated with hypocrisy.
Significance of Sincerity: The verse emphasizes the importance of genuine belief and sincerity in faith, as hypocrisy is condemned strongly in Islam.

Lessons Learned:

1. Warning against Hypocrisy: Hypocrisy is a serious offense in Islam with dire consequences.
2. Allah's Justice: Allah is fully aware of internal intentions and sincerity; hypocrites will face punishment based on their true state.
3. Sincerity in Faith: Genuine belief and sincerity are essential; outward appearances are not enough.
4. Reminder of Accountability: All actions and intentions are ultimately known to Allah, who will judge justly.

Practical Implications:

Guard sincerity: Strive to have pure, sincere faith and avoid hypocrisy in actions and intentions.
Self Inspection: Regularly assess your intentions and deeds to ensure sincerity.
Avoid Deception: Do not pretend to be Muslim outwardly while harbouring disbelief inwardly.
Encourage Faithfulness: Support others in maintaining sincere faith and warn against hypocrisy.
Repentance: If hypocrisy or insincerity is suspected, seek Allah's forgiveness and strive for genuine belief.

Conclusion:

This verse issues a stern warning to hypocrites, confirming that their deception will ultimately result in severe punishment from Allah. It highlights the importance of sincerity, faithfulness, and avoiding hypocrisy in our devotion and deeds. True success in Islam depends on the inner sincerity of the heart and authentic belief.

Verse 139

Allazeena yattakhizoo nal kaafireena awliyaa'a min doonil mu'mineen; ayabta ghoona 'indahumul 'izzata fainnnal 'izzata lillaahi jamee'a.

"Those who take the disbelievers as allies instead of the believers—do they seek honour with them? But indeed, all honour belongs to Allah altogether."

Tafseer

This verse condemns the act of forming alliances or seeking support from disbelievers instead of fellow believers, especially when such alliances compromise Islamic integrity and submission to Allah.

Key points:

Forbidden to Support Disbelievers: Muslims are warned against making disbelievers their protectors or close allies at the expense of their faith.
Question of Honour: The verse questions whether these people seek honour or dignity from disbelievers—an act that is misguided because true honour belongs only to Allah.
Ultimate Authority: It clarifies that all honour, greatness, and power belong only to Allah, who is the ultimate source of dignity and reputation.

Why was this verse revealed?

This verse was revealed when some Muslims or hypocrites showed favouritism

toward disbelievers, perhaps seeking their approval or support. The verse aims to discourage such tendencies and emphasizes that allegiance to Allah and believers is the truth, and seeking honour through disbelievers is misguided.

Lessons Learned:

1. Loyalty to Faith: True allegiance should be to Allah and the believers, not to disbelievers.
2. Misguided Prestige: Seeking honour from disbelievers is futile because ultimate honor belongs only to Allah.
3. Avoid Alliances that Compromise Islam: Forming close support with disbelievers that affects one's faith is prohibited.
4. Divine Ownership of Honour: Recognize that dignity and respect come from Allah alone.

Practical Implications:

Maintain Loyal Ties: Establish and strengthen bonds with fellow Muslims.
Beware of Flattery or Favouritism: Be cautious not to seek worldly gains or approval at the expense of faith.
Prioritize Divine Approval: Seek honour and success through obedience and sincerity in worship of Allah.
Uphold Islamic Principles: Do not compromise beliefs to gain worldly status or support from disbelievers.
Educate Others: Remind oneself and others about the importance of loyalty to the faith and the dangers of misplaced alliances.

Conclusion:

This verse warns against seeking support, honour, or favour from disbelievers at the expense of faith. True dignity and honour come solely from Allah, and believers are encouraged to remain loyal to their faith and the Muslim community, trusting that Allah is the ultimate source of respect and greatness. It calls for sincere loyalty and warns against alliances that compromise Islamic principles.

Verse 140

"Wa qad nazzala 'alaikum fil Kitaabi an izaa sami'tum Aayaatil laahi yukfaru bihaa wa yustahza u bihaa falaa taq'udoo ma'ahum hattaa yakhoodoo fee hadeesin ghairih; innakum izam misluhum; innal laaha jaami'ul munaafiqeena wal kaafireena fee jahannama jamee'aa."

"And there has already come to you in the Book (the Qur'an) an explanation that when you hear the verses of Allah being disbelieved in and mocked, do not sit with them until they engage in another talk. Indeed, you would then be like them. Indeed, Allah will gather the hypocrites and disbelievers in Hell all together."

Tafseer

This verse addresses the attitude believers should have when they encounter mockery or disrespect towards Allah's verses and the religion. It emphasizes the importance of avoiding complicity in wrongdoing and warns of Allah's severe punishment for hypocrites and disbelievers who mock sacred teachings.

Key points:

Guidance in the Qur'an: The verse references a specific instruction derived from the Qur'an—when witnessing mockery or blasphemy against Allah's verses, believers should not remain silent and sit with those engaged in such evils.

Avoiding Complicity: Sitting with those mocking or disrespecting the religion makes a person like them, which is condemned.

Allah's Justice: Allah will gather all hypocrites and disbelievers in Hell, emphasizing the severity of their actions and the justice of Allah.

Why was this verse revealed?

This verse was revealed in a context where some individuals might have been hesitant or indifferent when witnessing disrespect or mockery of Allah's

verses, possibly out of fear or social pressure. The verse clarifies that remaining silent or sitting with those disrespecting Allah's religion equates to complicity and can lead to severe divine punishment.

Lessons Learned:

1. Need for Firmness: Believers should stand against mockery of Allah and His Messenger, and avoid sitting with those involved in such actions.
2. Disapproval of Disrespect: Muslims must uphold reverence for the Qur'an and sacred truths, and not participate in or tolerate mockery.
3. Severity of Disbelievers and Hypocrites: Those who mock or disrespect Allah's verses will face severe punishment in Hell.
4. Accountability: Allah's justice is guaranteed; hypocrites and disbelievers will be gathered and punished collectively.

Practical Implications:

Avoiding Blissful Complicity: If witnessing disrespect or mockery towards Islam, one should not sit silently or participate in such gatherings.
Speaking Out: When possible, speak out against insults to the religion and uphold its dignity.
Supporting the Qur'an: Respect and reinforce the importance of the Qur'an and its verses.
Warn Others: Educate about the grave consequences of mocking Allah's teachings.
Strengthening Faith: Be vigilant to avoid being among those who disrespect or ridicule divine revelations.

Conclusion:

This verse underscores the importance of standing against mockery and disrespect of Allah's religion. It warns believers to avoid sitting with those who disbelieve or insult Allah's verses, as doing so makes one akin to them and exposes one to divine punishment. Upholding reverence and defending the faith is crucial, and Allah's justice will encompass all hypocrites and disbelievers.

Verse 141

Allazeena yatarab basoona bikum fa in kaana lakum fathum minal laahi qaalooo alam nakum ma'acum wa in kaana lilkaafireena naseebun qaalooo alam nastah wiz 'alaikum wa nammna'kum minal mu'mineen; fallaahu yahkumu bainakum Yawmal Qiyaamah; wa lai yaj'alal laahu lilkaafireena 'alal mu'mineena sabeelaa.*

Those who are in doubt about you—they say, “If there is a victory for you from Allah,” they say, “Would we not be with you?” But if the unbelievers have a share, they say, “Do we not have the power over you?” Allah will judge between you on the Day of Resurrection. Allah will never guide the wrongdoers.

Reason for Revelation:

This verse addresses the hypocrites and those who doubted the Muslim believers, questioning their loyalty and faith.

Tafseer

This verse talks about people who doubted Muslims’ loyalty. Some would pretend to be supportive if Muslims won, but when it was about sharing the victory or benefits, they would side with the enemies. Allah makes it clear that on the Day of Judgment, He will decide everything fairly. These hypocrites will not find any help from Allah.

Practical Implications:

Be sincere in faith, not hypocritical.
Trust that Allah will fairly judge everyone.
Beware of hypocrisy and pretences.

Lessons Learnt:

Allah is the ultimate judge of truth and falsehood.
Sincerity in faith is essential.
Hypocrisy is dangerous and will be exposed.

Conclusion:

We must stay truthful and sincere because Allah's judgment on the Day of Resurrection is just and final.

Verse 142

Innal munaafiqeena yukhaadi'oonal laaha wa huwa khaadi'uhum wa izaa qaamooo ilas Salaati qaamooo kusaalaa yuraaa'oonan naasa wa laa yazkuroonal laaha illaa qaleelaa.

The hypocrites seek to deceive Allah, but He is deceiving them. When they stand for prayer, they stand lazily and to be seen by people, and they do not remember Allah but little.

Reason for Revelation:

Revealed about hypocrites who pretended to be Muslims but were insincere.

Tafseer:

Hypocrites pretend to be Muslim, but Allah knows their true intentions. They perform prayers just to show off and do not sincerely remember Allah. Their actions are superficial, and Allah exposes their true nature.

Practical Implications:

Ensure sincerity in worship.

Avoid show off and superficial acts.
Remember Allah genuinely, not for fame.

Lessons Learnt:

Inner sincerity matters more than outward acts.
Hypocrisy is harmful; Allah is aware of our true intentions.

Conclusion:

Our worship should be for Allah alone, not for people’s praise.

Verse 143

Muzabzabeena baina zaalika laaa ilaa haaa' ulaaa'i wa laaa ilaa haaa'ulaaa'; wa mai yudli lillaahu falan tajida lahoo sabeelaa.

They are in doubt, wavering between belief and disbelief; for them, you will find no way.

Reason for Revelation:

About those undecided hypocrites who straddle between faith and disbelief.

Tafseer:

These people are confused, unsure whether to believe or disbelieve. They are neither fully committed Muslims nor outright disbelievers. Allah says that such indecision will lead nowhere; guidance only comes to those who are sincere.

Practical Implications:

Be decisive in faith.

Avoid wavering or half-hearted belief.
Seek clarity and sincerity in your approach to Allah.

Lessons Learnt:

Doubt and indecision weaken faith.
Sincerity and firm faith lead to guidance.

Conclusion:

Clearing doubts and having firm faith is essential to gain Allah’s guidance.

Verse 144

Yaaa aiyuhal lazeena aamanoo laa tattakhizul kaafiraana awliyaaaa'a min doonil mu'mineen; aturee doona an taj'aloo lillaahi 'alaikum sultaanam mubeenaa.

O you who believe, do not take unbelievers as allies instead of believers; do you wish to turn to clear evidence from Allah against yourselves?

Reason for Revelation:

Warned against forming alliances with enemies over true believers.

Tafseer:

Believers are instructed not to take disbelievers as helpers or friends instead of fellow Muslims, because doing so can lead to losing faith and Allah’s support. Such alliances weaken the community’s faith and unity.

Practical Implications:

Choose friends and allies wisely; prioritize faith.
Avoid relationships that might lead to compromising Islamic values.

Lessons Learnt:

Loyalty to believers and Islam is important.
Friendships should support faith, not weaken it.

Conclusion:

Maintain strong bonds with fellow Muslims and avoid undue alliances with enemies of Islam.

Verse 145

Innal munaafiqeena fiddarkil asfala minan Naari wa lan tajida lahum naseeraa.

The hypocrites will be in the lowest depths of the Fire, and you will find no helpers for them.

Reason for Revelation:

Describes the fate of hypocrites in the Hereafter.

Tafseer:

Hypocrites will face the worst punishment in Hell because they pretended to believe but secretly disbelieved. They will be abandoned and have no helpers.

Practical Implications:

Avoid hypocrisy.
Strive for sincerity in faith and actions.

Lessons Learnt:

Hypocrisy leads to severe punishment.
True belief requires sincerity.

Conclusion:

Sincerity in faith is essential to avoid falling into hypocrisy and its consequences.

Verse 146

Illal lazeena taaboo wa aslahoo wa'tasamoo billaahi wa akhlasoo deenahum lillaahi faulaaa'ika ma'al mu'mineena wa sawfa yu'til laahu ujoorahum 'azeemaa.*

Except for those who repent, reform, hold firmly to Allah, and make their religion purely for Allah; they will be with the believers, and Allah will give them a great reward.

Reason for Revelation:

Reassurance for those who turned away from hypocrisy and returned to true faith.

Tafseer:

Sins can be forgiven if one sincerely repents, reforms, and dedicates their

religion solely to Allah. Such people are assured a place with true believers and will be rewarded with immense goodness by Allah.

Practical Implications:

Always repent sincerely when making mistakes.
Aim to purify your faith and worship solely for Allah.

Lessons Learnt:

Repentance and sincere actions lead to Allah's mercy.
Islam encourages reform and sincerity.

Conclusion:

No matter past mistakes, sincere repentance and devotion can lead to Allah's mercy and being with the righteous.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT HYPOCRISY

Hypocrisy (Nifaq) is regarded as one of the most perilous spiritual ailments, characterized by a fundamental discrepancy between an individual's outward appearance and their inward reality. Scholars categorize this into two primary forms: Nifaq al-Akbar (Major Hypocrisy) and Nifaq al-Asghar (Minor Hypocrisy). Major hypocrisy is a matter of belief, where a person outwardly professes Islam while inwardly harbouring disbelief or hatred for the faith. The Quran addresses this severe state in Surah Al-Baqarah, stating, "And of the people are some who say, 'We believe in Allah and the Last Day,' but they are not at all believers" (2:8). This form of hypocrisy is considered more dangerous than open disbelief because it undermines the community from within; consequently, the Quran warns of the most severe consequences in the Hereafter, declaring that "the hypocrites will be in the lowest depths of the Fire" (4:145).

Minor hypocrisy, or hypocrisy in action, pertains to the behaviour of a believer whose deeds contradict the ethical standards of their faith without necessarily

negating their belief in Allah. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) provided clear diagnostic traits for this condition to help believers self-reflect and reform. In a well-known Sahih Bukhari narration, he stated: "The signs of a hypocrite are three: whenever he speaks, he tells a lie; whenever he promises, he breaks it; and if he is entrusted, he betrays." Another narration adds a fourth trait: "whenever he disputes, he behaves recklessly and immorally." These characteristics—lying, treachery, and breach of trust—are viewed as "traits of hypocrisy" that a person must purge to achieve true sincerity (Ikhlas).

The Quran further describes the psychological and social manifestations of hypocrites, noting that they are often characterized by spiritual "laziness" and "showing off." Surah An-Nisa highlights their performative nature: "When they stand up for prayer, they stand up lazily, showing off to the people and not remembering Allah except a little" (4:142). Furthermore, they are described as being "deaf, dumb, and blind" (2:18) to the truth, as their hearts are filled with a "disease" that Allah allows to increase due to their persistent deception (2:10). This spiritual sickness often manifests in social settings as "mockery" toward the believers, as they attempt to please whichever group they are currently with, effectively "purchasing error for guidance" (2:16).

In summary, the Islamic perspective on hypocrisy serves as a rigorous call for integrity and the alignment of the heart with the tongue. While major hypocrisy leads to spiritual ruin and exclusion from the faith, minor hypocrisy serves as a warning for the believer to avoid moral decay. The early companions of the Prophet were famously terrified of falling into hypocrisy; Ibn Abi Mulaykah noted that he met thirty of the Prophet’s companions, all of whom feared hypocrisy for themselves. This underscores that in Islam, the remedy for hypocrisy is constant self-accounting (Muhasabah) and a sincere commitment to truthfulness in both word and deed

Verse 147

Maa yaf’alu laahu bi 'azaabikum in shakaratum wa aamantum wa kaanal laahu Shaakiran 'Aleema.

What would Allah gain with your punishment if you are grateful and believe? And Allah is ever Appreciative and Knowing.

Reason for Revelation:

Encouragement after the revelation about believers' gratitude and faith.

Tafseer:

Allah's mercy is greater than His punishment. If people are grateful and believe, Allah will reward them. His attributes include being thankful to His servants and fully knowing their intentions.

Practical Implications:

Be grateful for Allah's blessings.
Maintain faith and belief to earn Allah's mercy.

Lessons Learnt:

Gratitude and faith can prevent punishment; they attract Allah's mercy.
Allah is aware of our efforts and intentions.

Conclusion:

Focus on gratitude and strengthened faith to invite Allah's mercy and protection.

ADITIONAL INFORMATION ON GRATITUDE

In Islam, gratitude, or Shukr, is not merely a polite gesture but a fundamental pillar of faith and a transformative spiritual state. It is defined as the

recognition of a blessing from the Benefactor (Allah) and the manifestation of that recognition through the heart, the tongue, and the limbs. The Islamic perspective on gratitude is comprehensive, framing it as the key to psychological well-being, spiritual growth, and the increase of divine favour.

1. The Divine Promise of Increase

The most central Quranic principle regarding gratitude is the direct correlation between thankfulness and the expansion of blessings. Allah explicitly promises: "And [remember] when your Lord proclaimed, 'If you are grateful, I will surely give you more; but if you are ungrateful, indeed, My punishment is severe.'" (Surah Ibrahim, 14:7)

This verse establishes Shukr as a productive force. Scholars explain that "more" refers not only to material wealth but also to an increase in spiritual insight, contentment, and peace of mind. Conversely, ingratitude (Kufr al-Ni'mah) is warned against, as it leads to the loss of blessings and spiritual stagnation.

2. The Three Dimensions of Shukr

Traditional Islamic scholarship divides gratitude into three necessary levels, ensuring that it is a holistic practice rather than a superficial one:

• Gratitude of the Heart (Shukr al-Qalb): This involves the inner realization that every favour—health, intellect, family, and even the breath we take—originates solely from Allah. The Quran reminds us: "And whatever you have of favour - it is from Allah" (Surah An-Nahl, 16:53).

• Gratitude of the Tongue (Shukr al-Lisan): This is the outward expression of praise. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) taught believers to fill their scales with the word Alhamdulillah (Praise be to Allah). He said: "The best supplication is ‘Alhamdulillah’" (Sunan al-Tirmidhi).

• Gratitude of the Limbs (Shukr al-A’da): This is the practical application of gratitude by using one's blessings in a way that pleases the Creator. If one is blessed with wealth, gratitude is shown through charity; if blessed with knowledge, by teaching others. The Quran commands: "Work, O family of David, in gratitude. And few of my servants are truly grateful" (Surah Saba,

34:13).

3. Gratitude as the Essence of Worship

The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) exemplified that gratitude is the ultimate motivation for worship. In a famous narration, his wife Aisha (ra) asked why he stood in prayer until his feet swelled, despite his sins being forgiven. He replied:

"Should I not then be a grateful servant?" (Sahih Bukhari & Muslim)

This teaches that worship in Islam is not just a duty born of fear or a request for more, but an act of love and appreciation for what has already been given.

4. Gratitude Toward People

Islam links the gratitude shown to God with the gratitude shown to fellow human beings. A person cannot claim to be a thankful servant of Allah if they are ungrateful to those who help them in the world. The Prophet (pbuh) stated:

"He who does not thank the people is not thankful to Allah." (Sunan Abi Dawud)

This emphasizes social cohesion and encourages the use of phrases like JazakAllah Khayran (May Allah reward you with goodness) as a way to acknowledge the kindness of others while redirecting the ultimate credit to the Creator.

5. Benefits and Spiritual Protection

Gratitude serves as a shield against the traps of Satan and the "disease" of entitlement. In the Quran, Iblis (Satan) declares that his primary goal is to lead humans into ingratitude: "Then I will come to them from before them and from behind them... and You will not find most of them grateful" (Surah Al-A'raf, 7:17). By practicing Shukr, a believer actively resists this negative influence.

Furthermore, it shifts the focus from what is lacking to what is present, fostering Qana'ah (contentment). The Prophet (pbuh) advised: "Look at those who are beneath you and do not look at those who are above you, for it is

more suitable that you should not underestimate the blessings of Allah upon you" (Sahih Muslim).

Conclusion

Gratitude in Islam is a cycle of recognition, expression, and action. It transforms the believer's worldview from one of scarcity and complaint to one of abundance and purpose. By acknowledging Allah as the source of all good and honouring His creation, the believer secures their current blessings and opens the doors to further divine grace in both this life and the hereafter.

Verse 148

Laa yuhibbullahaal jahaara bissoo'i minalqawli illa man zulim; wa kaana laahu Samee'an 'Aleema.

Allah does not like talking openly about evil except when one is wronged. Allah is All Hearing, All Knowing.

Reason for Revelation:

Guidance about speaking about sins or wrongs with discretion.

Tafseer:

It is disliked to openly speak about sins or evil acts unless someone has been wronged. Allah hears all and knows everything, so discretion is better.

Practical Implications:

Speak kindly and avoid exposing others' faults unnecessarily.
Be mindful of Allah's knowledge of all actions.

Lessons Learnt:

Respect others' privacy; avoid gossip and slander.
Allah's knowledge encompasses everything.

Conclusion:
Use discretion and be respectful when discussing issues; Allah is always aware.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SPEAKING ABOUT SINS OR EVIL ACTS

In the Islamic ethical framework, the preservation of human dignity and the maintenance of a modest social environment are paramount. Consequently, the Quran and Sunnah provide a rigorous set of guidelines regarding how one should address sins and evil acts—whether their own or those of others. The general rule in Islam is one of Sitir (concealment), emphasizing that sins are a private matter between the Creator and the created, while the publicizing of evil is viewed as a catalyst for moral decay.

1. The Prohibition of Publicizing Sins (Mujaharah)

Islam differentiates between a person who sins privately and struggles with their weakness, and one who sins openly or boasts about their transgressions. The latter is known as a Mujahir. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) warned against this behaviour in a stern narration:
"All the sins of my followers will be forgiven except those of the Mujahirin (those who commit a sin openly or disclose their sins to the people). An example of such disclosure is that a person commits a sin at night and though Allah screens it from the public, then he comes in the morning, and says, 'O so-and-so, I did such-and-such (evil) deed yesterday,' though he spent his night screened by his Lord and in the morning he removes Allah's screen from himself." (Sahih Bukhari)
By publicizing a sin, the individual belittles the gravity of the act and encourages others to do the same, thereby eroding the communal sense of shame and morality.

2. Spreading Immorality in Society

The Quran addresses those who take pleasure in discussing or broadcasting the scandalous behaviour of others. In Surah An-Nur, Allah warns of a severe punishment for those who facilitate the spread of "Fahishah" (indecency or immorality) within the community:

"Indeed, those who like that immorality should be spread (or publicized) among those who have believed, will have a painful punishment in this world and the Hereafter. And Allah knows and you do not know." (Quran 24:19)

Scholars explain that this verse applies to those who gossip about the sins of others, as well as those who create platforms or media that normalize vice. The objective is to keep the "atmosphere" of society clean; when evil acts are constantly spoken about, they become perceived as common and acceptable.

3. The Virtue of Concealing the Faults of Others

Rather than exposing the mistakes of others, Islam encourages believers to protect the honour of their brothers and sisters. This is not to condone the sin, but to allow the individual the space to repent without the stigma of public shame. The Prophet (pbuh) said:

"He who conceals the faults of a Muslim, Allah will conceal his faults in this world and the Hereafter." (Sahih Muslim)

However, this concealment does not apply to situations where harm is being done to others. If a sin involves a crime, abuse, or a threat to public safety, it must be reported to the proper authorities to prevent injustice.

4. Backbiting and Slander: Eating the Flesh of a Brother

The most common way people speak about "evil acts" is through Ghibah (backbiting)—defined as saying something about a person in their absence that they would dislike. The Quran uses a vivid and haunting metaphor to deter this behavior:

"O you who have believed, avoid much [negative] assumption... and do not spy or backbite each other. Would one of you like to eat the flesh of his brother when dead? You would detest it." (Surah Al-Hujurat, 49:12)

This imagery emphasizes that speaking ill of someone is a form of "consuming" their honour when they are unable to defend themselves.

5. Exceptions: When Speaking Out is Obligatory

While concealment is the default, the Quran allows for the public mention of

evil in specific contexts, such as seeking justice. Allah states:
"Allah does not like the public mention of evil except by one who has been wronged. And ever is Allah Hearing and Knowing." (Surah An-Nisa, 4:148)
Legitimate reasons to speak about a sin or evil act include:

• Seeking Justice: A victim testifying against an oppressor.

• Seeking Fatwa: Describing a situation to a scholar to find a religious ruling.

• Warning Others: Warning the community about a habitual fraudster or a dangerous individual to prevent further harm.

Conclusion

The Islamic approach to speaking about sins is balanced between mercy and justice. It commands the believer to "screen" their own faults and the faults of others to encourage repentance and maintain social modesty. At the same time, it provides a channel for the oppressed to speak out, ensuring that "concealment" is never used as a shield for oppression. By controlling the tongue, the believer protects both their own spiritual state and the moral fabric of the Ummah.

Verse 149

Transliteration:
In tadaaroo alssalāata wa in kuntum sekretan fainnahu yuṭee'ukumullah, wa aaKhana lakum; wa kaanal laahu Ghafooran Hameedaa.

If you do good openly or secretly, Allah is ever Pardoning, Most Merciful.

Reason for Revelation:
Encouragement for sincere acts of worship, whether done publicly or secretly.

Tafseer:
Whether worshiping openly or secretly, Allah appreciates and forgives your efforts. Allah’s mercy is vast, and He encourages sincerity regardless of the

method.

Practical Implications:
Perform acts of worship sincerely, whether openly or privately.
Seek Allah’s forgiveness and mercy.

Lessons Learnt:
Allah’s forgiveness is comprehensive.
Sincerity in worship is crucial.

Conclusion:
Strive to worship Allah sincerely, trusting in His mercy.

Verse 150

Innal lazeena yakkfuroona billaahi wa Rusulihi wa yureedoona ai yuffariqoo baina Allahi wa Rusulihi wa yaqooloona nu'minu biba'dinw wa nakfuru biba'dinw wa yureedoona ai yattakhizoo baina zaalika sabeela

Indeed, those who disbelieve in Allah and His Messengers and wish to create division between Allah and His Messengers, and say, 'We believe in some and disbelieve in others,' and seek to find a way between that (faith and disbelief).

Note: The verse condemns those who knowingly choose to disbelieve, cause division, and deviate from the truth through hypocrisy and inconsistency in faith.

Context of Revelation:

This verse was revealed in a context where some groups or individuals were showing hypocrisy—claiming to believe in certain prophets and disregarding others, or creating confusion about the ranks of the prophets and their message. They aimed to weaken faith and sow discord within the Muslim community and between Allah and His messengers. The verse warns against such attitudes, emphasizing the severity of rejecting or dividing the message of Allah intentionally.

Tafseer

1. Refusal of belief in Allah and His Messengers:

The verse points out those who deny Allah and His messengers, which is a grave act of disbelief (kufr). Belief in all of the prophets and the divine message is fundamental in Islam.

2. Creating division:

The verse criticizes those who seek to cause discord by separating or distinguishing between Allah and His messengers—for example, denying some and accepting others, or elevating certain prophets over others.

3. Hypocrisy and selective belief:

Saying "we believe in some and disbelieve in others" reflects hypocrisy or superficial faith. It shows inconsistency and a lack of true conviction.

4. Seeking a "middle way" (sabeela):

The phrase "yattakhizoo baina zaalika sabeela" refers to those who try to find a "middle way"—a route that combines disbelief and belief, or attempts to justify hypocrisy. The verse condemns this as a misguided path.

Practical Implications and Lessons:

1. Unity of faith:

Muslims must believe in all the messengers and uphold the unity of the message of Islam. Disbelieving in some prophets while accepting others causes division, which is unacceptable in Islam.

2. Avoid hypocrisy:

Genuine faith requires consistency. Claiming belief in some aspects of Islam while rejecting others, especially core principles, is dangerous and harmful.

3. Beware of division and discord:

Causing disunity within the community or between divine revelations is a major sin. Muslims should promote harmony and unity in faith.

4. The danger of seeking "sabeela":

Those who try to find shortcuts, middle grounds, or justifications for disbelief or hypocrisy are warned in this verse.

5. Respect for all prophets:

Reverence for all prophets and their unified message is critical for maintaining faith integrity.

Lessons Learnt:

Complete belief: It is essential for Muslims to believe in all prophets and the message they brought.
Integrity in faith: True faith involves consistency and avoiding hypocritical attitudes.
Unity and avoiding division: The community must work towards unity rather than creating division based on partial or selective beliefs.
Standing against deviation: Muslims should be vigilant against doctrines or attitudes that aim to weaken or divide the faith.

Conclusion:

This verse serves as a stern warning against disbelief, hypocrisy, and divisiveness among Muslims and within their faith. It emphasizes that belief in all prophets and the message of Allah is nonnegotiable for true faith. Creating discord, denying or accepting only parts of the message, or seeking to compromise the unity of faith are serious sins. The verse instructs believers to uphold complete submission and respect for all messengers, fostering unity and fidelity to divine guidance.

Verse 151

Ulaaa'ika humul kaafiroona haqqan; wa a'tadnaa lilkaafireena 'azaaban muheenan

These are indeed the disbelievers in truth; and We have prepared for the disbelievers a humiliating punishment.

Note: The verse categorizes certain individuals as genuinely unfaithful and emphasizes the severity of their disbelief, along with the punishment prepared for them.

Context of Revelation:

This verse was revealed to describe the characteristics and true nature of those who reject faith and oppose the divine message. It highlights the reality of their disbelief and the consequences that await them in the Hereafter, serving as a warning to all.

Tafseer

1. "Ulaaa'ika humul kaafiroona haqqan":

The phrase states that these individuals are *truly* (haqqan) among the disbelievers. It underscores the certainty of their disbelief, not just a superficial or temporary opposition. Their rejection of faith is genuine and deep rooted.

2. "Wa a'tadnaa lilkaafireena 'azaaban muheenan":

Allah has prepared for the disbelievers a humiliating punishment. This emphasizes both the severity and disgrace associated with their fate in the afterlife.
The word *muheen* (humiliating) indicates an insult and degradation, reflecting how their disbelief and rejection of divine guidance warrant such punishment.

3. Implication of the term "Azaab" (punishment):

The punishment is described as *muhin* (humiliating), serving as a warning about the divine justice and the consequences of persistent disbelief.

Practical Implications and Lessons:

1. Certainty of disbelief:

The verse makes it clear that disbelief, when it is sincere and deep, warrants severe consequences from Allah, reminding believers to remain firm and sincere in their faith.

2. Warning and accountability:

Muslims are reminded of the gravity of disbelief and the importance of steadfastness in faith to avoid such humiliation in the Hereafter.

3. Divine justice:

Allah's punishment is not arbitrary but is a just recompense for disbelief and rejecting His signs.

4. Encouragement for righteousness:

Believers should strive to maintain faith and avoid actions or beliefs that lead to such a punishment.

Lessons Learnt:

The reality of disbelief: Disbelief, when truly held, is a serious matter with consequences meant to serve as a warning.
The gravity of divine punishment: Allah’s punishments are just and designed to humiliate those who reject Him, reinforcing the importance of belief.
The importance of sincerity in faith: Believers should aim for sincere and firm faith to achieve divine pleasure and avoid humiliation.

Conclusion:

This verse categorically states that those who are truly disbelievers are deserving of divine punishment. Their disbelief is processed and confirmed by Allah's knowledge ('haqqan'), and the punishment prepared for them is humiliating, serving as both a warning and a reminder of divine justice. It underscores the importance of sincere faith and warns against skepticism or rejection of divine guidance, emphasizing that disbelief has grave consequences both in this world and the Hereafter.

Verse 152

Wallazeena aamanoo billaahi wa Rusulihi wa lam yufarriqoo baina ahadim minhum ulaaa'ika sawfa yu'teihim ujoorahum; wa kaanal laahu Ghafoorar Raheema

And those who believe in Allah and His messengers and do not make distinctions between any of them—those, Allah will give them their rewards. And Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.

Note: The verse highlights the virtue of believing in all the prophets without discrimination or favouritism and assures divine reward for such believers.

Context of Revelation:

This verse was revealed to commend those believers who accept and believe in all of the prophets and messages sent by Allah, without showing favouritism or making distinctions among them. It emphasizes the importance of unconditional acceptance of the entire prophetic message, which is central to Islamic faith.

Tafseer

1. "Wallazeena aamanoo billaahi wa Rusulihi":

Those who truly believe in Allah and His messengers. Faith in Allah and His prophets is the foundation of Islam.

2. "Wa lam yufarriqoo baina ahadim minhum":

The phrase stresses not to make distinctions or favouritism among the prophets or messengers. Believers should accept all prophets equally and without bias, recognizing the unity and sincerity of the divine message they brought.

3. "Ulaaa'ika sawfa yu'teihim ujoorahum":

The promise that Allah will grant them their rewards is a reassurance. Those who adhere to the principles of faith without discrimination will be rewarded fully in the Hereafter.

4. "Wa kaanal laahu Ghafoorar Raheema":

Allah is characterized as Forgiving and Merciful, emphasizing His readiness to forgive those who sincerely believe and strive in His cause.

Practical Implications and Lessons:

1. Unity of belief:

Believers should accept all prophets and messages sent by Allah, fostering unity and rejecting sectarianism or favouritism.

2. Equality among prophets:

Recognize the respect and reverence owed to all messengers, understanding that they are all sent with the same divine mission.

3. Reward for sincere faith:

Allah's promise assures believers that sincere, unwavering belief will be rewarded abundantly.

4. Divine mercy:

Emphasizes Allah’s mercy and forgiveness for those who sincerely believe in Him and His messengers, regardless of past shortcomings.

Lessons Learnt:

The importance of comprehensive faith: Belief in all prophets and their messages is essential; making distinctions undermines the core unity of Islamic faith.
Acceptance of divine messages: A sincere believer accepts all prophets without discrimination, demonstrating humility and acknowledgment of divine unity.
Divine reward and mercy: Allah’s mercy encompasses all believers who uphold the principles of faith sincerely.

Conclusion:

This verse emphasizes the importance of unconditional belief in all of Allah’s

prophets and messages. Those who avoid making distinctions among them and maintain sincerity in their faith will be rewarded by Allah, who is both Forgiving and Merciful. It reinforces the value of unity in faith and the necessity of accepting the entire message of Islam as revealed through all the prophets. Believers are encouraged to uphold these principles to attain Allah’s pleasure and reward.

Verse

Yas'alu Ahlul Kitaabi an tunazzila 'alaihim Kitaabam minas samaa'i faqad sa'alu Moosaa akbara min zaalika faqaaloo arinal laaha jahratan fa akhazat humus saa'iqatu bizulmihim; summat takhazul 'ijla mim ba'di maa jaaat humul baiyinaatu faa'funaa 'an zaalika; wa aatainaa Moosaa sultaanam mubeenaa

The People of the Book ask you (Prophet Muhammad) to send down to them a Book from the sky. But they asked for more than that of Moses when they said, 'Show us Allah outright.' So, the lightning took them as a punishment for their wrongdoing. Then, after that, they took the calf for worship even after clear signs came to them. We forgave them for that, and gave Moses clear authority.

Context of Revelation:

This verse refers to the behaviour of the Jews during the time of Prophet Musa (Moses, peace be upon him). They demanded miraculous signs from Allah, including asking Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) for divine revelation from the sky, similar to what was granted to Moses. Their persistent questioning and denial of God's signs, combined with their previous acts of disbelief, led to divine punishment. The verse also mentions their idolatry—worshiping the calf after clear signs had been shown to them—and Allah’s mercy in forgiving them despite their transgressions.

Tafseer

1. "Yas'alu Ahlul Kitaabi an tunazzila 'alaihim Kitaabam minas samaa'i":

The People of the Book (Jews and Christians) asked the Prophet to send down a book from the sky — a plea reflecting their desire for miraculous signs to confirm faith or prove the divine origin of his message.

2. "Faqad sa'alu Moosaa akbara min zaalika":

The demand was greater than what they asked of Prophet Moses—namely, asking for divine signs and miracles. Their disbelief and persistent requests highlight their stubbornness and ungratefulness despite clear signs and revelations.

3. "Faqaaloo arinal laaha jahratan":

They directly demanded to see Allah openly, which is a grave mistake because the sight of Allah is beyond human capability in this world. Their demand was a severe form of disbelief and arrogance.

4. "Fa akhazat humus saa'iqatu bizulmihim":

Divine punishment came suddenly—the lightning or thunderbolt struck them as a consequence of their wrongdoing, signifying divine anger and punishment for their arrogance and disbelief.

5. "Summat takhazul 'ijla mim ba'di maa jaaat humul baiyinaatu":

Despite witnessing clear signs and miracles, they still worshipped the calf, showing ingratitude and deviation from the truth.

6. "Faa'funaa 'an zaalika; wa aatainaa Moosaa sultaanam mubeenaa":

Allah forgave them for their sins, including their idolatry, and granted Musa (Moses) clear authority and knowledge. This indicates Allah's mercy despite their repeated transgressions.

Practical Implications and Lessons:

1. Avoid demanding miraculous signs out of arrogance:
The people's demand to see Allah directly was a sign of disbelief and arrogance. Muslims are encouraged to believe in the unseen and trust in divine signs without demanding extraordinary proofs.

2. Recognition of divine signs:

Throughout history, Allah sent many signs and miracles which should inspire faith, but stubbornness and arrogance may lead to punishment.

3. Repentance and forgiveness:

Despite serious transgressions such as idol worship, Allah's mercy can forgive sincere repentance, emphasizing the importance of turning back to Him.

4. The danger of ingratitude:

Rejecting and turning away from clear signs leads to divine punishment, but Allah's mercy is vast for those who seek forgiveness.

Lessons Learnt:

The importance of faith in divine signs and the prophetic message without demanding extraordinary miracles.
The danger of arrogance and stubbornness in rejecting divine guidance.
Allah's mercy can outweigh His punishment if sincere repentance occurs.
Recognizing that divine signs are present in creation and history, encouraging trust and belief.

Conclusion:

This verse serves as a reminder of the consequences of arrogance, disbelief, and ingratitude. The demands of the People of the Book for divine miracles reflect their stubbornness and lack of humility, which led to divine punishment.

Despite their transgressions, Allah's mercy remains vast, as He forgave them and granted Musa (Moses) clear authority. Muslims are advised to believe sincerely, trust in divine signs, and avoid arrogance in faith, acknowledging Allah’s power and mercy.

Verse 154

Wa rafaa'naa fawqahumul Toora bimeesaaqihim wa qulnal lahum udkhulul baaba sujjaadan wa qulnal lahum laa ta'doo fisSabt wa akhaznaa minhum meesaaqan ghaleezan

And We raised the mountain above them for their covenant, and We said to them, 'Enter the gate in humility,' and We told them, 'Do not breach the Sabbath.' And We took from them a solemn covenant.

Context of Revelation:

This verse refers to the covenant or promise made by the Children of Israel with Allah. It highlights two significant events:

1. The elevation of Mount Sinai (or the mountain) above them as a sign of divine authority and a reminder of their covenant.
2. The command to enter the city (or “gate”) humbly, signifying obedience to Allah’s instructions.

It also references their violation of the Sabbath (a sacred day of rest), which led to divine punishment, along with the solemn pledge (meesaaq) they made with Allah — a serious covenant to follow His commandments.

Tafseer

1. "Wa rafaa'naa fawqahumul Toora bimeesaaqihim":
Allah elevated the mountain over the Children of Israel because they made a solemn covenant (meesaaq) with Him, symbolizing their serious commitment. The mountain’s elevation serves as a reminder of the gravity of their covenant

and divine authority.

2. "Wa qulnal lahum udkhulul baaba sujjaadan":
Allah commanded them to enter through the gate humbly and obediently, signifying submission and humility before divine commands. This emphasizes obedience and humility are essential components of faith.

3. "Wa qulnal lahum laa ta'doo fisSabt":
The prohibition against breach of the Sabbath. The Jews were commanded to refrain from working on the Sabbath and uphold its sanctity. Their violation of this command is a critical incident indicating disobedience.

4. "Wa akhaznaa minhum meesaaqan ghaleezan":
The covenant (meesaaq) they entered into was *galeez* (heavy and serious), emphasizing the significance of their commitment to follow Allah's laws and commandments genuinely.

Practical Implications and Lessons:

1. The seriousness of covenants:
The solemn covenant (meesaaq) signifies Allah's strict and binding promises. Muslims are reminded to honour their covenants and commitments sincerely.

2. Obedience and humility:
Entering humbly and obeying divine commandments are fundamental to faith. The example teaches believers to approach Allah's commands with humility and compliance.

3. Consequences of disobedience:
The violation of the Sabbath and breaking the covenant brought divine punishment on the Children of Israel. This underscores the importance of adhering to Allah's laws and respecting divine limits.

4. The significance of sacred days and rituals:
Respecting and observing sacred laws, such as the Sabbath, is a crucial aspect of faith, and breach can lead to divine displeasure.

Lessons Learnt:

Maintaining sincerity and integrity in fulfilling one's promises to Allah is essential.
Humility and obedience are foundational in practicing faith.
Disobedience to divine commandments results in divine chastisement but also offers an opportunity to seek forgiveness.
Respect for sacred times and laws is vital in demonstrating true faith.

Conclusion:

This verse underscores the gravity of the covenants made between Allah and His followers, exemplified by the Children of Israel's covenant with Allah. The elevation of the mountain signifies divine authority over their commitments, and their obedience in entering humbly and observing the Sabbath highlights the importance of humility, obedience, and respect for divine commandments. Their violations serve as lessons to all believers about the consequences of disobedience. It also reminds Muslims of the importance of fulfilling promises to Allah and adhering to His commands.

Additional Information About the Elevation of the Mountain over the Bani Israel.

The Bani Israel (Children of Israel) were given divine commandments by Allah through the Prophet Musa (Moses), peace be upon him. These commandments served as guidance for leading a righteous life and maintaining their covenant with Allah. However, despite Allah's many blessings and clear instructions, some of them disobeyed His commands. They broke the divine laws by indulging in sinful acts and turning away from the teachings of Allah.

As a consequence of their disobedience, Allah sent a stern warning to remind them of their duties. One significant event mentioned in the Quran is that Allah caused a mountain to be elevated over them as a sign of His power and to serve as a warning. Allah says in the Quran:
"And remember when We took your covenant and raised the mountain above you" (Surah An-Nisa, 4:154).
This event symbolized the seriousness of their breach of trust and the

importance of obeying Allah’s commandments.

The elevated mountain was a reminder that Allah’s commands are not to be taken lightly. It was a divine punishment meant to instill fear and encourage repentance and obedience. Despite this, many of the Bani Israel continued to ignore Allah's guidance, which led to further consequences. Their story emphasizes the importance of adhering to Allah’s commandments, as detailed in the Quran, and highlights Allah’s mercy towards those who sincerely repent and turn back to Him.

This narrative teaches us that obedience to Allah is essential, and neglecting His commands can have serious repercussions. It also reminds us of Allah’s omnipotence and His willingness to punish those who defy His will, but He is also forgiving to those who sincerely seek His forgiveness and strive to do good.

Additional information about when the Bani Irael Broke the rules concerning the Sabbath Day

The story of the Sabbath-breakers among the Bani Israel is a significant narrative in the Quran, illustrating the consequences of attempting to deceive the Divine. This community, residing in a seaside town (often identified as Eilat), was commanded to devote the Sabbath—Saturday—entirely to worship and rest, abstaining from all work including fishing. To test their faith and obedience, Allah caused the fish to appear in great abundance, visible on the water's surface only on the Sabbath, while they vanished on other days of the week. This trial is detailed in
Surah Al-A'raf which states, "And ask them about the town that was by the sea... when their fish came to them openly on the Sabbath day, and did not come to them on the day they had no Sabbath" (**7:163**).
Driven by greed and a desire to circumvent the law, a group within the community devised a deceitful trick: they would set their nets or dig canals on Friday, allow the fish to be trapped on Saturday, and then collect them on Sunday. They justified this by arguing they were not technically "fishing" on the Sabbath itself. This act of transgression split the village into three groups: the active wrongdoers, a group of righteous individuals who warned them of Allah's punishment, and a third group that remained silent and questioned why the preachers bothered to advise the defiant. The preachers replied that they did so to be free of blame before their Lord, as described in **Surah Al-A'raf (7:164)**

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The ultimate consequence of this persistent rebellion was a unique and severe divine punishment. When the transgressors ignored all warnings, Allah transformed them into "despised apes".
Surah Baqarah recalls this event as a lesson for all: "And indeed you knew those amongst you who transgressed in the matter of the Sabbath... We said to them: 'Be you monkeys, despised and rejected'" (**2:65-66**). The Quran further emphasizes the gravity of this breach in **Surah Nisa**, warning other people of the Book to believe "before We... curse them as We cursed the Sabbath-breakers" (**4:47**) and reminding them of the solemn pledge they broke when commanded, "Do not break the Sabbath law" (**4:154**). This story remains a stark warning against legalistic trickery and the abandonment of the spirit of divine commands.

Verse 155

Faalān khalafnā fareeqa minhum bilghuroori faāfā'nā quloobahum faānā alḥāfilī wakāthirin minhumu māsinoon.

But then, We turned away from them because of their rebellion, and caused their hearts to become hardened; they believe very little. And among them are some who believe in what you have revealed, but many of them are transgressors.

Context of Revelation:

This verse was revealed in the context of the Children of Israel. It refers to their breach of covenants and their persistent disobedience despite being guided by prophets and receiving divine revelations. The verse highlights Allah's response to their defiance—turning away from them and causing their hearts to become hardened, which led to a decline in their faith and obedience.

Tafseer:

"We turned away from them because of their rebellion":
This indicates that due to their continuous disobedience and rejection of divine

commands, Allah withdrew His guidance and blessings from them as a punishment. Their persistent rebellion made them unworthy of divine guidance, which is a recurring theme in the Quran.

"Caused their hearts to become hardened":

Their rebellious attitude and rejection of truth resulted in their hearts becoming hardened. A hardened heart means they became insensitive to spiritual and moral truths, making them less receptive to guidance and repentance.

"They believe very little":

Despite some of them claiming to believe, their belief was superficial, insincere, or weak. Their actions and disobedience showed that their faith was not rooted in sincerity.

"Among them are some who believe in what you have revealed":

There are always individuals among the People of the Book who acknowledge the truth and believe in divine revelations.

"But many of them are transgressors":

Despite some believers, a large portion of them continued to transgress divine boundaries through disobedience, corruption, and deviation from righteousness.

Lessons Learned:

1. Rebellion Leads to Divine Withholding:
Continuous disobedience and rejection of divine guidance can result in losing divine support and guidance, leading to spiritual blindness.

2. Hearts Can Harden Due to Sin:
Persistent sins and rejection of truth harden hearts, making spiritual revival difficult unless sincere repentance occurs.

3. Superficial Faith Is Insufficient:
Merely claiming to believe is not enough; true faith requires sincerity, obedience, and consistent practice.

4. Divine Mercy Includes Some Believers Among Wrongdoers:
People of other faiths may hold some truth, and some individuals from them may believe genuinely, demonstrating that guidance can reach many.

5. The Importance of Sincerity and Obedience:
Belief must be coupled with actions; insincerity and transgression hinder spiritual progress.

Conclusions:

This verse reminds Muslims of the importance of maintaining sincerity in faith and obedience to divine commands.
It illustrates the consequences of rebellion and sin—spiritual hardness and divine withdrawal.
The verse emphasizes that divine guidance is conditional on faith, sincerity, and obedience.
It also encourages believers to remain steadfast, repent for sins, and seek genuine faith to avoid the spiritual consequences discussed.

Verse 156

Wa bikufrihim wa qawlihim 'ala Maryama buh taanan 'azeema

And because of their disbelief and their uttering against Maryam a terrible calumny.

Context of Revelation:

This verse addresses the accusations and slander made by the Jews against Maryam (Mary), the mother of Prophet Isa (Jesus). They accused her of un-chastity and spread false allegations, which was a grave injustice rooted in

disbelief and prejudice. The verse also references the broader disbelief of the Children of Israel that led to their rejection of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and the denial of divine messages.

Tafseer:

"Wa bikufrihim":

This part indicates that their disbelief is a major reason for their disgrace. Their rejection of Allah and His messengers is a fundamental cause of their sins and misguidance.

"Wa qawlihim 'ala Maryama buh taanan 'azeema":
They accused Maryam of serious slander — claiming she committed an act of fornication or un-chastity, which was a severe lie and a terrible slander ("buh taanan 'azeema" meaning "a terrible calumny"). This was an injustice not only to Maryam but also a reflection of their disbelief and ignorance.

Historical context:
The Jews of that time falsely accused Maryam of un-chastity, which was a major cause of Allah's condemnation of their actions.

Broader implications:
The verse highlights the severity of false accusations and disbelief, emphasizing that they lead to significant sins and divine displeasure.

Lessons Learned:

1. The gravity of disbelief and false accusations: Disbelieving in Allah, His prophets, or spreading falsehoods carries severe consequences.
2. The respect and honour of Prophet Maryam: She is one of the most honoured women in Islam, and slandering her is a grave sin.
3. The importance of truth and justice: Upholding truth and avoiding unjust accusations are vital moral principles.

Practical Implications:

Avoid spreading or believing false accusations: Always verify information before accepting and sharing it.
Respect the dignity of individuals: Do not slander or tarnish the reputation of others unjustly.
Strengthen faith and disbelief antidote: Recognize the dangers of disbelief and combat it through knowledge and righteous actions.
Promote truth and justice in society: Be vigilant against injustice and falsehoods, especially those that harm others.

Conclusions:

This verse serves as a stern reminder of the destructive nature of disbelief and slander. It emphasizes the importance of faith, truthfulness, and respect for others' honour. Cultivating these virtues leads to divine favour and a harmonious society.

Verse 157

"Wa qawlihim inna qatalnalmasīḥa ʻīsā ibna maryama rasūla allāh, wa mā qatalūhu wa mā ṣalabūhu wa lakin shubbihā lahum, wa innalladhīna ikhtalafū fīhī fī shakkin min mā lhum bihi min ʻilmin, illa ittibāʻa alẓanni, wa mā qatalūhu yaqīnan."

And because of their saying, 'We killed the Messiah 'Īsā, son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah,' but they did not kill him nor crucify him, but it appeared so to them. And indeed, those who differ over it are in doubt about it. They have no knowledge of it except the pursuit of conjecture. Certainly, they did not kill him.

Context of Revelation:

This verse was revealed in response to the Jewish accusations that they had killed or crucified Jesus (peace be upon him). The Qur'an clarifies that they did not succeed in killing him, and that the apparent death they witnessed was an illusion or a matter of confusion. The verse emphasizes that the true knowledge of Jesus' crucifixion is with Allah alone, and that the details are uncertain among people, leading to doubt and conjecture.

Tafseer:

"And because of their saying, 'We killed the Messiah'":
The Jews claimed to have killed Jesus, considering it a victory over him and a fulfillment of their rejection of him as prophet. This verse points out their false claim.

"But they did not kill him nor crucify him":
The Qur'an explicitly denies their claim, asserting that they neither killed nor crucified Jesus. This is a fundamental point of Islamic belief, emphasizing Jesus' survival and ascension.

"But it appeared so to them":
The events were made to seem so by divine intervention or confusion among the enemies. Different interpretations exist about how this appearance came about, some scholars suggest an illusion or that someone else was substituted for Jesus.

"And indeed, those who differ over it are in doubt about it":
There is disagreement and doubt among people regarding the exact circumstances of Jesus' death, indicating that this knowledge is beyond human grasp and is known only to Allah.

"They have no knowledge of it except the pursuit of conjecture":
The people rely on assumptions, guesses, or hearsay, not certain knowledge. Their claims are based on speculation rather than facts.

"Certainly, they did not kill him":
Reaffirmation that Jesus was not killed nor crucified, emphasizing the Islamic belief in his ascension and survival.

Lessons Learned:

1. Avoid Blindly Accepting Claims:
It teaches Muslims to be cautious about accepting claims without certainties, especially regarding divine matters.

2. The Infallibility and Ascension of Jesus:
Belief in Jesus' survival and ascent to Allah is a fundamental part of Islamic faith, countering misconceptions.

3. Divine Knowledge Is Exclusive to Allah:
Many issues about the unseen or divine events are known only to Allah, and humans should accept their limited knowledge.

4. Doubt and Conjecture Are Insufficient:
Relying on speculation instead of clear knowledge leads to misunderstanding and misguidance.

5. Truth Will Prevail:
The Divine will establish the truth of events, and false claims will be proven false eventually.

Conclusions:

This verse reinforces the Islamic belief in Jesus' ascension and his immunity from crucifixion, countering Christian claims of his death on the cross.
It highlights the importance of relying on divine knowledge rather than conjecture or hearsay.
The verse calls for humility and recognition that some aspects of divine events are beyond human comprehension, emphasizing trust in Allah's knowledge.
It encourages believers to stay firm in their faith and avoid disputes based on assumptions about divine matters

Verse 158

"Bal rafāʕahu allāhu ilayhi wa kāna allāhu ʕazīzan ḥakīman."

But Allah raised him up to Himself; and Allah is AllMighty, AllWise."

Context of Revelation:

This verse was revealed in the context of the crucifixion of Jesus (peace be upon him). The Jews claimed to have killed him, but the Qur'an clarifies that he was not killed but was instead raised by Allah unto Himself. This event is a pivotal point in Islamic belief, emphasizing Jesus' ascent to Allah and that he was neither crucified nor killed.

Tafseer:

"But Allah raised him up to Himself":
Allah elevated Jesus' status by raising him to the heavens before any harm could come to him. This act signifies his rising in a miraculous manner, which is a sign of his special status among prophets and righteous beings.

"And Allah is AllMighty":
The phrase highlights Allah's power to carry out such miraculous events. Allah's strength is beyond human capacity, enabling His divine will to be fulfilled in extraordinary ways.

"And All Wise":
His actions are guided by perfect wisdom, meaning that raising Jesus was part of divine wisdom, serving higher purposes known to Allah alone.

Lessons Learned:

1. Jesus' Ascension is a Divine Event:
The Prophet Jesus was not killed but was lifted up by Allah, reaffirming the

Islamic belief in his physical ascension and survival.

2. Allah’s Power and Wisdom:
Allah’s ability to raise Jesus demonstrates His omnipotence and wisdom, reminding believers of His control over all affairs.

3. Rejection of the Crucifixion Myth:
The verse directly opposes the Christian narrative of Jesus’ death on the cross, emphasizing that divine intervention protected him.

4. Trust in Divine Wisdom:
Believers are encouraged to accept divine actions even if their full wisdom isn't immediately apparent, trusting that Allah’s plans are perfect.

Conclusions:

This verse confirms that Jesus was not crucified or killed, but rather was raised alive to the heavens by Allah’s will.
It reinforces the concept of divine power and wisdom in executing His plans.
The event of Jesus’ ascension is a sign of Allah’s might and serves as a critique of misconceptions about his death.
It reminds Muslims to have faith in Allah’s wisdom and to accept divine events with trust and humility.

Verse 159

Wa in min ahlilKitābi illā layuʾminanna bihi qabla mawtihī, wa yawm alqiyāmah yakūnu ʕalayhim shahīdan."

And there is not a single People of the Book (Jewish or Christian) who will not believe in Jesus before his death, and on the Day of Resurrection, he will be a witness against them."

Context of Revelation:

This verse addresses the fate of the People of the Book regarding belief in Jesus (peace be upon him). It highlights the inevitability of their eventual belief

in Jesus' true divine status and His role as a witness against them on the Day of Judgment.

This verse is linked to the Islamic belief that all people, including the People of the Book, will come to believe in Jesus as a prophet and a messenger of Allah before their death, due to divine knowledge or revelation, and that on the Day of Resurrection, Jesus will testify against those who falsely claimed his divinity.

Tafseer:

"And there is not a single People of the Book who will not believe in Jesus before his death":
The phrase indicates that, prior to dying, every member of the People of the Book will recognize the truth of Jesus' prophethood. This belief is meant to occur before the end of their worldly life, emphasizing divine justice that all will eventually accept the truth.

"And on the Day of Resurrection, he will be a witness against them":
Jesus, in Islamic belief, will return near the end of times. On the Day of Judgment, he will testify against those among the People of the Book who falsely claimed divinity or distorted his message, confirming their actual belief or disbelieve.

Implication of the verse:
The verse emphasizes that belief in Jesus will be an unavoidable reality for the People of the Book before death.
It also highlights the significance of Jesus' return and his role as a witness in the Hereafter, which underscores his importance and the accuracy of Islamic teachings about his mission.

Lessons Learned:

1. Inevitability of Belief in Jesus:
All People of the Book will come to believe in Jesus' true message before their death, signifying divine justice and reassurance for Muslims.

2. Judgment and Accountability:
Jesus will serve as a witness on the Day of Resurrection, holding people accountable for their beliefs and actions related to him.

3. The Role of Jesus in the End Times:
Recognizing Jesus' return as part of divine plan is essential for understanding the signs of the Last Day and the truth of Islamic eschatology.

4. Unity of Faith in the End:
Despite disagreements in this world, divine knowledge will unify everyone's beliefs at the end, manifesting the victory of truth.

Conclusions:

This verse affirms that belief in Jesus' status as a prophet is inevitable for the People of the Book before their death.
It highlights the importance of correct faith in Jesus, emphasizing that he will testify for or against people based on their true beliefs.
The verse reinforces the concept of divine justice and accountability on the Day of Judgment.
Recognizing Jesus' return and his role as a witness encourages Muslims to uphold the truth and to believe sincerely in his messengership.

Verse 159

Wa in min ahlilKitābi illā layuʾminanna bihi qabla mawtihī, wa yawm alqiyāmah yakūnu ʕalayhim shahīdan.

And there is not a single People of the Book (Jewish or Christian) who will not believe in Jesus before his death, and on the Day of Resurrection, he will be a witness against them.

Context of Revelation:

This verse addresses the inevitable fulfilment of divine justice concerning the People of the Book (Jews and Christians), emphasizing that before they die,

they will come to believe in Jesus' true status as a prophet and messenger of Allah.

It also underscores that on the Day of Judgment, Jesus (peace be upon him) will testify against those who lied about him or deviated from his true message, playing a key role in the judgment process.

Tafseer:

"And there is not a single People of the Book who will not believe in Jesus before his death":
This indicates that divine decree states that, ultimately, all members of the People of the Book will accept the true role of Jesus as a prophet and servant of Allah prior to their death. This belief may be based on divine knowledge, guidance, or realization of the truth at the end of times.

"And on the Day of Resurrection, he will be a witness against them":
Jesus, in Islamic eschatology, will return in the end times and serve as a witness to testify regarding the beliefs and actions of people concerning him. Those who falsely claimed divinity or distorted his message will be judged accordingly.

Implication of the verse:
It highlights the inevitable acknowledgment of Jesus' prophethood.
It emphasizes Jesus' role as a witness during the final judgment, reinforcing his importance and the truth of Islamic teachings about him.

Lessons Learned:

1. Inevitability of belief in Jesus:
Despite differences in this world, divine justice ensures that all People of the Book will acknowledge Jesus' true status before they pass away.

2. Jesus' role in the Hereafter:
Jesus will serve as a witness, which signifies his high status and the importance of adhering to the truth about his mission.

3. Ultimate divine justice:
The verse reassures believers that any falsehood or distortion about Jesus will be rectified before the final judgment.

4. Encouragement for sincere faith:
Believers are encouraged to uphold the correct belief about Jesus and avoid false claims, knowing that divine knowledge encompasses all future events.

Conclusions:

This verse confirms that all People of the Book will believe in Jesus in the end before their death, fulfilling divine justice.
Jesus' role as a witness on the Day of Resurrection signifies his importance and the confirmation of his prophethood.
The verse reassures Muslims about the ultimate triumph of truth and the accountability of every individual.
Believers are reminded of the importance of sincerity in their faith and the significance of Jesus' return in Islam's eschatology.

Verse 160

Fabizulmin minal lazeena haadoo harramnaa 'alaihim taiyibaatin uhillat lahum wa bisadihim 'an sabeelil laahi kaseeraa.*

For their wrongful act, We rendered unlawful for the Jews certain (good and permissible) things which had been made lawful to them, and because of their hindrance from the Path of Allah many (people) were misled.

Context of Revelation:

This verse was revealed in the context of the Jews' behaviour, particularly their false accusations, altering scriptures, and unjust actions that led to changes in divine commandments and misguidance of people. It critiques their injustice (zulm), which hindered others from following Allah's true guidance, resulting in divine restrictions on some permissible things and their own misguidance.

Tafseer

1. Injustice by the People of the Book: The verse points out that due to their injustice and wrongful acts, Allah made some of the good and lawful things forbidden to them. This was a punishment for their misdeeds.

2. Forbidden Items: The "taiyibat" (good things) that were made unlawful refer to specific foods, animals, and other lawful items that they altered or prohibited unjustly, as some narrations indicate. For instance, they forbade certain meats or foods, falsely claiming divine restrictions.

3. Hindrance from Allah's Path: The verse also emphasizes that their actions led to the hindrance of others from the true path of Allah. By spreading falsehoods or causing confusion, they misled many people, diverting them from righteousness.

Practical Implications:

Justice and Fairness: Justice requires us to uphold truth and not unjustly alter or prohibit what Allah has permitted.
Avoiding Misguidance: We should be cautious about spreading false information or causing others to stray from the religion.
Consequences of Injustice: Injustices can lead to divine punishment and misguidance for oneself and others.
Rectifying Misdeeds: It's a reminder to repent and correct any wrong actions, especially when they cause harm or misguidance.

Lessons Learned:

Justice is a fundamental pillar of faith. When people unjustly change or prohibit what Allah has permitted, they face serious consequences.
Misguidance can spread through wrongful acts, impacting many, so believers should strive for integrity in their religious practices and teachings.
Emphasis on following divine guidance as revealed in the Qur'an and Sunnah, avoiding alterations or misconceptions.

Conclusion:

This verse warns against injustice and the misguidance caused by altering divine commandments. It demonstrates that divine punishment can result from wrongful acts like unjust prohibitions, which also lead others away from the right path. Muslims are encouraged

to uphold justice, adhere strictly to Allah’s guidance, and avoid causing confusion or misguidance among people.

Verse 161

Wa akhzihimur ribaa wa qad nuhoo 'anhu wa aklihim amwaalan naasi bilbaatil; wa a'tadnaa lilkaafireena minhum 'azaaban aleema.

And they took usury (riba), although they were commanded not to do so, and they devoured the people's wealth unjustly. And We have prepared for the disbelievers among them a painful punishment.

Tafseer

This verse discusses the grave sin committed by certain people who engaged in usury (riba), despite being explicitly prohibited by Allah’s teachings. The verse condemns those who:

Took riba (usury), which is lending money at interest, an act considered unjust and exploitative.
Were aware of the prohibition ("although they were commanded not to do so"), indicating their awareness and deliberate choice to disobey Allah.
Devoured the wealth of others unjustly, meaning they exploited others financially, enriching themselves at the expense of others' rightful property.

The phrase "wa a'tadnaa lilkaafireena minhum 'azaaban aleema" indicates that Allah has prepared a severe punishment for these wrongdoers—the disbelievers among the people who took riba and exploited others.

Context of Revelation:

This verse was revealed in a period when certain Jews and other communities engaged in usury, which was a significant issue in the Arabian Peninsula and surrounding regions. It criticizes their neglect of divine commandments and their greed, highlighting that Allah's prohibition is clear, and violation leads to severe consequences.

Practical Implications:

Engaging in riba is a major sin in Islam, and believers are urged to avoid it entirely.
Wealth should be acquired through lawful means, and exploiting others financially is condemned.
Justice and fairness in financial dealings are essential in Islamic ethics.
The punishment mentioned serves as a warning for those who indulge in oppressive financial practices.

Lessons Learned:

Obedience to Allah’s commands is crucial; ignorance or deliberate disobedience carries serious consequences.
Justice must be upheld in all financial transactions.
Wealth obtained unjustly will lead to divine punishment.
Refraining from usury promotes social justice and economic fairness.
Recognizing the severity of sin like riba encourages Muslims to seek lawful and ethical means of earning.

Conclusions:

This verse emphasizes the gravity of engaging in usury and unjustly consuming others' wealth. It underscores the importance of adhering to divine commandments regarding economic dealings and highlights that Allah’s punishment for unjust practices is severe. Muslims are thus encouraged to avoid all forms of oppressive financial practices and to uphold justice and fairness in their dealings.

Verse 162

Laakinir raasikhoona fil'ilmi minhum walmu'minoona yu'minoona bimaaa unzila ilaika wa maaa unzila min qablika walmuqeemeenas Salaata walmu'toonaz Zakaata walmu 'minoona billaahi wal yawmil Aakhir; ulaaa'ika sanu'teehim ajran 'azeemaa.

But those who are firmly grounded in knowledge among them, and the believers, believe in what has been revealed to you, and what was revealed before you, and they establish prayer and give zakat and believe in Allah and the Last Day – those We will give a great reward.

Tafseer

This verse emphasizes the qualities that lead to Allah’s reward. It highlights that firm knowledge ('raasikhoon fi'l'ilm)—meaning deep, rooted understanding—along with belief, prayer, and zakat, form a strong foundation for earning Allah’s immense reward.

Key points in tafseer:
"Raasikhoon fi'l'ilm" (those firmly rooted in knowledge): Refers to scholars and people of deep understanding who have solid knowledge of the religion.
"And the believers": The collective faith of the common believers who trust and obey Allah.
"Believe in what has been sent to you and before you": Emphasizes the importance of faith in all revealed scriptures, not just the Quran.
"Establish prayer": The act of maintaining obligatory prayers, which is a central pillar of faith.
"Give zakat": The obligatory charity, purifying one’s wealth and soul.
"Believe in Allah and the Last Day": Core beliefs that bind the faith together.

The verse concludes by promising a great reward ('ajran 'azeema') for those who embody these qualities.

Context of Revelation:

This verse was revealed in a context where the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and Muslims were encouraged to seek firm knowledge and act upon it. It underscores the importance of combining knowledge with faith and righteous actions, especially during challenging times when faith might be tested.

It also serves as reassurance that those who possess deep knowledge and believe wholeheartedly, integrating their belief with actions, will be granted great rewards by Allah.

Practical Implications:

1. Seek deep knowledge: Strive for a profound understanding of Islamic teachings rather than superficial knowledge.
2. Believe wholeheartedly: Faith should be firm and rooted, not superficial.
3. Establish prayer and give zakat: Regular prayer and charity are vital acts of worship that demonstrate faith in practice.
4. Strengthen belief in all divine revelations: Faith should extend beyond the Quran to include previous scriptures, acknowledging their original messages.
5. Keep faith in Allah and the Last Day: These are the foundation of Islamic belief and practice.

Lessons Learned:

True faith combines knowledge, belief, and righteous actions.
Deep understanding of religion brings one closer to Allah and earns His reward.
Consistency in prayer and charity are essential acts that solidify faith.
Belief in all revealed scriptures promotes respect and acknowledgment of previous prophets and scriptures.
Allah’s reward for the righteous is vast and eternal.

Conclusion:

This verse underscores that sincere faith, rooted in knowledge, combined with righteous deeds such as prayer and charity, is the path to Allah’s immense reward. It encourages believers to deepen their understanding of faith and act accordingly, promising that such dedication will result in great recompense from Allah. It highlights the importance of integrating faith with knowledge and action, which is central to the life of a true believer.

Verse 163

Innaaa awhainaa ilayka kamaaa awhainaa ilaa Noohinw wan nabiyyeena mim ba'dih; wa awhainaa ilaaa ibraaheema wa Ismaaa'eela wa Ishaaqa wa Ya'qooba wal Asbaati wa 'Eesaa wa Ayyooba wa Yoonusa wa haaroona wa Sulaimaan; wa aataina

Daawooda Zabooraa.

Indeed, We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], as We revealed to Nuh (Noah) and the prophets after him; and We gave Dawood (David) the Zaboor (Psalms).

Context of Revelation:

This verse is part of a passage emphasizing the continuity of divine revelations sent by Allah to various prophets throughout history. It highlights that Allah revealed scriptures and guidance to figures like Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, Jesus, and others, culminating in the revelation of the Qur'an to Muhammad (peace be upon them all).

Tafseer

1. Divine Revelation to Prophets: The verse underscores that Allah's guidance has been consistent throughout history, revealing scriptures to different prophets to guide their communities.

2. Revelations Mentioned: The prophets mentioned include Noah (Nooh), Abraham (Ibrahim), Ishmael (Isma'il), Isaac (Ishaq), Jacob (Ya'qub), the Children of Israel (referred to as 'Asbaat' or tribes), Jesus ('Eesaa), Job (Ayyoob), Jonah (Yoonus), Aaron (Haaroon), and Solomon (Sulaimaan).

3. The Revelation to Muhammad: The verse confirms that the Qur'an is part of this chain of divine guidance, revealed in accordance with Allah's wisdom.

4. Purpose of Revelation: The divine scriptures serve to remind humanity of tawhid (monotheism), righteousness, and obedience to Allah, guiding them on the straight path.

Practical Implications:

Unity of Prophetic Message: Believers should recognize the consistency and unity of the message brought by all prophets, emphasizing monotheism and righteousness.
Respect for All Prophets and Scriptures: Muslims are encouraged to respect the prophets and the divine revelations given to them.
The Finality of Revelation: The Qur'an completes and confirms previous revelations, serving as a guide for all humankind.
Importance of Revelation: Believers should value and act upon divine guidance, accepting the Qur'an as the ultimate source of divine law and morality.

Lessons Learned:

The chain of divine revelations demonstrates Allah's mercy and care for His creation.
All prophets brought messages that emphasized worship of Allah alone and righteous conduct.
Respect for previous scriptures and prophets is essential, as they all serve the same divine purpose.
The final revelation (the Qur'an) is part of this divine legacy and should be followed faithfully.

Conclusion:

This verse highlights Allah's continuous guidance through revelations to various prophets, culminating in the Qur'an. It teaches us the importance of recognizing the prophetic chain, respecting all divine messages, and adhering to the guidance brought by the last prophet, Muhammad (peace be upon him). It also calls us to reflect on the consistency of Allah's mercy and the universality of His message.

Verse 164

Wa rusulan qad qasasnaa hum 'alaika min qablu wa rusulan lam naqsushum 'alaik; wa kallamallaahu Moosaa takleemaa.

And messengers We have already narrated to you before, and also messengers We have not narrated to you. And Allah spoke directly to Moses.

Context of Revelation:

This verse emphasizes the diversity and universality of divine guidance. It mentions that Allah has sent numerous messengers to guide humanity—some whose stories are shared in the Qur'an, and others whose stories are not. It also highlights the special honour given to Prophet Moses (Musa), as Allah spoke directly to him, a distinction not granted to all prophets.

Tafseer

1. Messengers Recounted & Not Recounted: Allah informs the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) that many messengers have been sent throughout history. Some stories of these prophets have been shared in the Qur'an (like Noah, Moses, Jesus), while others have not been narrated.

2. Divine Knowledge & Omnipresence: Allah’s mention of this serves to reinforce His intimate knowledge of all prophets and nations, and His authority in guiding mankind.

3. Special Honour to Moses: The verse highlights that Allah spoke directly to Moses (Kaleemullah), which is a unique distinction. It underscores the high status of Moses among prophets.

Practical Implications:

Respect for All Prophets: Recognize that Allah sent many prophets, and their stories contain lessons applicable across generations.
Acknowledgement of Divine Wisdom: Allah’s choice of which stories to share and which to leave out signifies divine wisdom; believers should trust in Allah’s knowledge.
Fostering Humility: Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) is reminded that he shares the prophetic mission with many others, some of whose stories are not in the Qur'an.
Recognizing Allah's Special Favour: The direct speech to Moses signifies Allah’s special relationship with some prophets, emphasizing their high status.

Lessons Learned:

The diversity of prophets and messages throughout history demonstrates Allah’s mercy and

guidance.
Believers should seek knowledge from the stories of prophets, both shared and unshared, to strengthen faith and morality.
Respect for all prophets and acknowledgment of their roles is fundamental to Islamic faith.
Trust in Allah's wisdom in revealing only what is necessary and beneficial for guidance.

Conclusion:

This verse reminds us of the vastness of Allah's guidance through countless prophets, some whose stories are detailed in the Qur'an and others not. The special mention of Allah speaking directly to Moses signifies his elevated status and approach to divine communication. Muslims should believe in all prophets, respect their messages, and trust that Allah's choices of revelation are perfect and wise.

Verse 165

Rusulam mubashshireena wa munzireena li'allaa yakoona linnaasi 'alaal laahi hujjatum ba'dan Rusul; wa kaanallaahu 'Azeezan Hakeema.

Messengers as bearers of good news and as warners so that mankind will have no argument against Allah after the messengers. And Allah is All Powerful, All Wise.

Context of Revelation:

This verse emphasizes the purpose of sending prophets: to give glad tidings (bushshara) and to warn (nadhira), so that humanity has no excuse before Allah regarding guidance or misguidance. It highlights the role of prophets as clarifiers of divine guidance, reinforcing Allah's wisdom and power.

Tafseer

1. Role of Messengers: The messengers are sent with a dual responsibility—to bring good news of reward for those who follow Allah's guidance, and to warn of

punishment for those who reject it.

2. Purpose of Prophet hood: The primary purpose is to remove any grounds for argument against Allah. When guidance is clearly conveyed, humans cannot claim ignorance or innocence on the Day of Judgment.

3. Divine Attributes: Allah's attributes of 'Azeez (All Powerful) and Hakeem (All Wise) affirm His ultimate authority and wisdom in sending guidance and in His decisions regarding creation.

Practical Implications:

Necessity of Acceptance: Believers should accept the role of prophets as guides sent by Allah, and heed their messages.
Clear Conveyance of Guidance: Prophets' missions aim to clarify the truth so that no one has an excuse on the Day of Judgment.
Responsibility of Humanity: People are responsible for recognizing and acting upon divine guidance; neglect leads to accountability.
Trust in Allah's Wisdom: Trust that Allah's sending of prophets is based on perfect wisdom and justice.

Lessons Learned:

The prophets serve as witnesses, bringing clarity to human beings about their Creator's message.
The purpose of divine guidance is to establish justice and righteousness, leaving no room for excuses.
Allah's attributes assure believers of His justice, power, and perfect wisdom in all His actions.
Recognizing the role of prophets underscores the importance of adhering to their teachings.

Conclusion:

This verse underscores the vital role of prophets in guiding humanity with clear messages, removing any grounds for argument or ignorance. It also reassures believers of Allah's infinite wisdom and power in the divine plan. Muslims should believe in all prophets and accept their message as part of Allah's perfect wisdom, maintaining their trust in His justice and mercy.

Verse 166

Lākinil laahu yashhadu bimaaa anzala ilaika anzalahu bi'ilmihi wal malaaa'ikatu yashhadoona; waka faa billaahi Shaheeda

But Allah testifies to what He has revealed to you; He has sent it down with His knowledge, and the angels also testify; and sufficient is Allah as a Witness

Context of Revelation:

This verse was revealed in the context of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) being truthfully sent with the message of Islam. It emphasizes that Allah's knowledge encompasses everything, including the revelation sent to the Prophet. The verse confirms that divine knowledge testifies to the authenticity of the revelation, and angels also bear witness to its truth. It underscores the divine authority behind the message and that Allah's witness is sufficient.

Tafseer

But Allah testifies to what He has revealed": This indicates that Allah Himself affirms the truth of His revelation, making it a strong and authentic testimony. Allah's knowledge and power validate the divine origin of the Quran.

"He has sent it down with His knowledge": The revelation is rooted in Allah's omniscience; it is not merely a human compilation but a divine message revealed with divine knowledge.

"And the angels also testify": Angels serve as witnesses to the revelation, emphasizing its divine sanctity and authenticity. They are tasked with recording and defending the truth of the message.

"And sufficient is Allah as a Witness": Allah Alone's testimony is enough to establish the truth and authenticity of the revelation. There is no need for any additional witnesses

because Allah's knowledge and witness are perfect and all encompassing.

Practical Implications:

1. Confidence in Revelation: Muslims can trust that the Quran is divine because Allah Himself affirms its authenticity, with angels bearing witness.

2. Reliance on Divine Testimony: Believers should have full confidence in Allah's knowledge and witness, reinforcing faith in divine guidance and justice.

3. Significance of Divine Knowledge: Recognizing that Allah knows everything emphasizes the importance of sincerity and honesty in worship and dealings.

4. Role of Angels: Acknowledging angels' witnessing encourages believers to act righteously, knowing angels are recording their deeds.

Lessons Learned:

The divine origin of the Quran is established through Allah's testimony, which is the ultimate and most credible witness.
Divine knowledge encompasses everything, including the revelation and its dissemination.
The angels' witnessing adds an additional layer of divine oversight, reminding us of the importance of sincerity and righteousness.

Conclusions:

This verse reassures Muslims of the divine authenticity of the Quran, highlighting that Allah Himself, along with angels, bears witness to what has been revealed. His testimony is sufficient, emphasizing the importance of trusting divine knowledge and divine justice. It encourages believers to accept the message wholeheartedly, knowing it is supported by divine witnesses, and to act with sincerity and faith.

Verse 167

Innal lazeena kafaroo wa saddoo 'an sabeelil laahi qad dalloo dalaalam ba'eedaa.

Indeed, those who disbelieve and hinder (people) from the way of Allah have strayed far away (from the correct guidance).

Context of Revelation:

This verse describes the severe consequence of disbelievers who actively oppose and prevent

others from following the way of Allah. It highlights that their actions cause them to stray far from true guidance, emphasizing the gravity of their disbelief and obstruction.

Tafseer

1. Disbelievers and Their Actions: The verse refers to those who reject Allah's message (kafir) and actively obstruct others from following the divine guidance.

2. Straying Far Away: Their opposition leads them astray in a significant and far reaching way—meaning they become very distant from the truth and righteousness.

3. Severity of Their Misguidance: The phrase "dallaalaam ba'eedaa" underscores the extent of their deviation, indicating that their misguidance is profound and will result in severe punishment.

Practical Implications:

Seriousness of Opposing Guidance: Muslims are warned to avoid opposing or hindering others from Allah's path; such acts lead to deep misguidance and punishment.

Importance of Guidance and Da'wah: It emphasizes the importance of inviting others to Islam with wisdom and patience, avoiding hostility or obstruction.

Accountability for Actions: Disbelievers' active resistance against Allah's guidance results in their own distance from the truth.

Seeking Allah's Guidance: Believers should remain steadfast and continue to seek Allah's guidance and facilitate others' path to righteousness.

Lessons Learned:

Opposing or obstructing the way of Allah is a grave sin that leads to profound misguidance.
True success in life is in following Allah's guidance, not in hindering others from it.
Allah's punishment is severe for those who reject faith and actively oppose its propagation.
Followers of Islam should promote understanding and patience rather than obstruction and rejection.

Conclusion:

This verse issues a stern warning to those who disbelieve and actively hinder others from following Allah’s guidance, indicating that such actions lead them far astray from the truth. It also highlights the importance of promoting guidance and righteousness with sincerity and humility, and it reminds believers of the severe consequences awaiting the obstinate disbelievers.

Verse 176

Yastaftoonaka qulillaahu yufteekum filkalaalah; inimaru'in halaka laisa lahu waladunw wa lahu ukhtun falahuu nisfu maa tarak; wa huwa yarithuhaaa in lam yakkul lahaa walad; fa in kaanas nataini falahumasulusuuma mimaa tarak; wa in kaanoo ikhwatara rijaalanw wa nisaaa'an falilzakari mislu haazzil unsaain; yubaiyinullahu lakum annadilla; wallaahu bikulli shai'in 'Aleem.

Allah guides you concerning the legal case of the women who are barren. If a man dies without children and has a sister, then for her is half of what he leaves; but if there are two sisters, they share twothirds of what he leaves; and if there are siblings—brothers and sisters—then for the male is equal to the share of two females. Allah makes clear to you (the law of inheritance) so that you do not deviate. And Allah is Knowing of all things."

Context of Revelation:

This verse addresses issues related to inheritance laws in Islam, especially concerning complex family relationships involving siblings and relatives when the deceased leaves no direct heirs like children or parents. It was revealed to clarify the correct shares of inheritance based on Islamic law, emphasizing fairness and justice in distributing the estate.

Tafseer:

"Yastaftoonaka" (They ask you for a verdict): Refers to people seeking Allah’s rulings on inheritance matters, often due to disputes or uncertainty.
"Qulillahu yufteekum filkalaalah" (Say: Allah guides you concerning the law of inheritance): The Prophet is commanded to inform people that Allah is the ultimate lawgiver concerning these issues.
"Inimaru'un halaka laisa lahu waladun wa lahu ukhtun falahaa nisfu maa tarak" (If a man dies without children and has a sister, then for her is half of what he leaves): The share of the sister in the absence of children.
"Wa huwa yarithuhaaa in lam yakkul lahaa walad" (And he (the deceased) inherits her if she has no children): If the sister has no children, she inherits part of the estate.
"Fa in kaanas nataini falahumas sulusaani mimmmaa tarak" (But if there are two sisters, they share twothirds): The distribution when there are two sisters.
"Wa in kaanoo ikhwatar rijaalanw wa nisaaa'an faliz zakari mislu hazzil unsaain" (And if brothers and sisters are equal, then the male gets the share of two females): The rule that males inherit twice as much as females in certain cases.
"Yubaiyinullahu lakum annadilla" (Allah makes clear to you): Highlighting that Allah explains

these laws so that people do not deviate or err.
"Wallahi bikulli shai'in 'Aleem" (And Allah is Knowing of all things): Emphasizing Allah's perfect knowledge and justice.

This verse aims to establish equitable inheritance laws based on familial relationships, ensuring justice and preventing disputes.

Practical Implications:

It clarifies inheritance shares for various family situations, emphasizing justice.
It encourages Muslims to follow Allah's laws regarding inheritance carefully.
Highlights the importance of knowledge of Islamic law to avoid injustice.
Demonstrates Allah's wisdom in legislating fair distributions based on familial roles.

Lessons Learned:

The importance of understanding and applying Islamic inheritance laws accurately.
Justice in inheritance is guaranteed by divine guidance.
Family relationships significantly influence inheritance shares.
Knowledge of these laws helps prevent disputes and injustice.

Conclusions:

Allah has provided detailed rules for inheritance to ensure fairness among heirs.
These laws address complex family situations involving siblings and relatives.
Following Allah's laws helps uphold justice and prevents wrongful distributions.
The verse underscores Allah's comprehensive knowledge and justice in legislating these matters.