for giving evidence; if you doubt, they shall both swear by Allāh, saying, 'We take not in exchange for this any price, even though he be a near relation, and we conceal not the testimony enjoined by Allāh; surely, in that case, we should be among the sinners.'

- * 108. But if it be discovered that the two witnesses are guilty of sin, then two others shall take their place from among those against whom the former two witnesses—who were in a better position to give true evidence—sinfully deposed, and the two latter witnesses shall swear by Allāh, saying, 'Surely, our testimony is truer than the testimony of the former two, and we have not been unfair in any way; for then, indeed, we should be of the unjust.'
- *109. Thus it is more likely that they will give evidence according to facts or that they will fear that other oaths will be taken after their oaths. And fear Allāh and hearken. And Allāh guides not the disobedient people.

تَحْبِسُوْنَهُ مَا مِنْ بَعْدِ الصَّلُوةِ فَيُقْسِمْنِ بِاللَّهِ إِنِ ارْتَبْتُمْ لَا نَشْتَرِيْ بِهِ ثَمَنًا وَ لَوْ كَانَ ذَا قُرْبِي اوَ لَا نَكْتُمُ شَهَا كَةَ اللَّهِ إِنَّ إِذًا لَّمِنَ الْأَثِمِيْنَ

فَإِنْ عُثِرَ عَلَى اَنَّهُمَا اسْتَحَقَّا اِثْمًا اشْتَحَقَّا اِثْمًا افْتَحَقَّا اِثْمًا افْتَحَقَّا الْمُثَا فَأَخَرْنِ يَقُوْلُمِنِ مَقَامَهُمَا مِنَ الَّذِيْنَ اسْتَحَقَّ عَلَيْهِمُ الْأَوْلَيْنِ فَيُقْسِلْنِ بِاللهِ لَشَهَادَتُنَا آحَقُّ مِنْ شَهَادَتِهِمَا وَمَااعْتَدَيْنَا آراتُا وَالْمَنَالظَّلِمِيْنَ ﴿

ذُلِكَ آدْنَى آنْ تَاتُوْا بِالشَّهَادَةِ عَلَى وَجُهِهَا آوْ يَخَافُوْا آنْ تُرَدَّ آيمَاتُ بَعْدَآيَمَاتُ بَعْدَآيَمَانِهُمْ وَاتَّقُوا الله وَاسْمَعُوا مَا للهُ لَا يَهْدِى الْقُوْمَ الْفُسِقِيْنَ أَنَ

Note: This verse portrays the scenario of all the witnesses being present and the preference of bearing testimony is given to the first two more closely related. This is apparent from the preceding verse 107.

^{*108.} But if it becomes evident that they have committed the sin of perjury then the other two from among those against whose interest they had witnessed should stand in their place. Then having taken oath in the name of Allāh give testimony against the former two affirming, 'Our testimony is truer than the testimony of the former two and we have not transgressed. In ease we are false we should be counted amongst the transgressors in the sight of Allāh.'

^{*109.} Thus it is more likely that pressure will be put upon them so that they will remain factual in their testimony fearing that other testimonies could also be entertained after their testimony.

R. 15.

110. Think of the day when Allāh will assemble the Messengers and say, 'What reply was made to you?' They will say, 'We have no *knowledge, it is only Thou Who art the Knower of hidden things.'

111. When Allāh will say, "O Jesus, son of Mary, remember My favour upon thee and upon thy mother; when I strengthened thee with the Spirit of holiness so that thou didst * speak to the people in the cradle and in middle age: and when I taught thee the Book and Wisdom and the Torah and the Gospel: and when thou didst fashion a creation out of clay, in the likeness of a bird, by My command: then thou didst breathe into it a new spirit and it became a soaring being by My command; and thou didst heal the night-blind and the leprous by My command; and when thou didst raise the dead by My command: and when I restrained the children of Israel from putting thee to death when thou didst come to them with clear Signs; and those who disbelieved from among them said, 'This is nothing but clear deception."

يَوْمَ يَجْمَعُ اللهُ الرُّسُلَ فَيَقُوْلُ مَاذَآ أُجِبْتُمْ قَالُوْالَا عِلْمَ لَنَا وَلِّلَكَ آنْتَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوْبِ ﴿

This verse is a metaphorical expression of the spiritual revolution brought about by the Prophets of God. This is a special tribute to the qualities of Jesus who out of all the Prophets of God was chosen as a model for bringing about such miraculous transformations.

^{*110.} it is only You Who are the Best Knower of hidden things."

^{*111.} **Note:** This is an expression indicating that Jesus spoke words of wisdom and godliness from his early childhood and continued to do so right up to his advanced years. The word kahlan (44) indicates the time when a person's hair begin to turn grey and from then on to advanced age.

112. And when I inspired the disciples *of Jesus* to believe in Me and in My Messenger, they said, 'We believe and bear Thou witness that we have submitted.'

113. When the disciples said, 'O Jesus, son of Mary, is thy Lord able to send down to us a table spread with food from heaven?' he said, 'Fear Allāh, if you are believers.'

114. They said, 'We desire that we may eat of it, and that our hearts be at rest and that we may know that thou hast spoken truth to us, and that we may be witnesses thereto.'

115. Said Jesus, son of Mary, 'O Allāh, our Lord, send down to us a table from heaven spread with food that it may be to us a festival, to the first of us and to the last of us, and a Sign from Thee; and provide sustenance for us, for Thou art the Best of sustainers.'

116. Allāh said, 'Surely, I will send it down to you, but whosoever of you disbelieves afterwards—I will surely punish them with a punishment wherewith I will not punish any other of the peoples.'

R. 16.

117. And when Allāh will say, "O Jesus, son of Mary, didst thou say to men, 'Take me and my mother for two gods beside Allāh?' ", he will answer, "Holy art Thou. I could

وَ إِذْ اَوْحَيْتُ إِلَى الْحَوَارِيِّنَ اَنْ أَصِنُوْا بِيْ وَ بِرَسُولِيْ ءَ قَالُوْۤا أَمَنَّا وَ اشْهَرْ بِاَ تَّنَامُسْلِمُوْنَ

إِذْ قَالَ الْحَوَارِ يُوْنَ لِعِيْسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ هَلْ يَسْتَطِيْعُ رَبُّكَ اَنْ يُنَزِّلَ عَلَيْنَا مَا ئِرَةً مِّنَ السَّمَاءِ قَالَ اتَّقُوا اللهَ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ مُّؤْمِنيْنَ ﴿

قَالُوْا نُرِيْدُ آنْ نَّاكُلَ مِنْهَا وَ تَطْمَرُّتَ قُلُوْبُنَا وَ نَعْلَمَ آنْ قَدْ صَدَقْتَنَا وَ نَكُوْنَ عَلَيْهَا مِنَ الشَّهِدِيْنَ ﴿

قَالَ عِيْسَى ابْثُ مَرْيَمَ اللَّهُمَّرَ رَبَّنَ الْمُهَّرِ رَبَّنَ الْمُهَّرِ رَبَّنَ الْمُؤْرِدُ وَاللَّهُمَّرَ رَبَّنَ الْمُؤْرِدُ وَالسَّمَاءِ تَكُوْنُ لَنَا عِيْدًا لِلَّا وَلِنَا وَالْحِرِنَا وَالْيَةَ مِنْكَ، وَالْرُوقِيْنَ ﴿ وَالْمُؤْلِقَا وَالْمُؤْرِقِيْنَ ﴿ وَالْمُؤْلِقَا وَالْمُؤْرِقِيْنَ ﴿ وَالْمُؤْلِقَا وَالْمُؤْلِقَالُوا لَمُؤْلِقَالُوا لَهُ اللَّهُ وَقِيْنَ ﴿ وَلَيْنَ اللَّهُ الْمُعِلَّمُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُؤْلِقُلُولُ اللَّهُ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنَالِي اللْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْمُ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُنْ الْمُ

قَالَ اللهُ اِنِّيُ مُنَزِّلُهَا عَلَيْكُمْ ، فَمَنْ يَّكُفُرْ بَعْدُ مِنْكُمْ فَإِنِّيْ اُعَذِّبُهُ عَذَابًا لَّا اُعَذِّبُهَ ٱحَدًّا مِّنَ الْعُلَمِيْنَ شَ

وَ إِذْ قَالَ اللّٰهُ لِعِيْسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَءَ آنْتَ قُلْتَ لِلنَّاسِ اتَّخِذُوْ نِيْ وَ أُمِّيَ الْهَيْنِ مِنْ دُوْنِ اللهِ • قَالَ سُبْحٰنَكَ مَا يَكُوْنُ