

is before them and what is behind them; and they encompass nothing of His knowledge except what He *pleases. His knowledge extends over the heavens and the earth; and the care of them burdens Him not; and He is the High, the Great.

257. There should be no compulsion in religion. Surely, right has become distinct from wrong; so whosoever refuses to be led by those who transgress, and believes in Allāh, has surely grasped a strong handle which knows no breaking. And Allāh is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.

258. Allāh is the friend of those who believe: He brings them out of every *kind of* darkness into light. And those who disbelieve, their friends are the transgressors who bring them out of light into every *kind of* darkness. These are the inmates of the Fire; therein shall they abide.

R. 35.

259. Hast thou not heard of him who disputed with Abraham about his Lord, because Allāh had given him kingdom? When Abraham said, 'My Lord is He Who gives life and causes death,' he said, 'I also give life and cause death.' Abraham said, 'Well, Allāh brings

وَلَا يُحِيطُونَ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنْ عِلْمِهِ إِلَّا بِمَا شَاءَ ۚ وَسِعَ كُرْسِيُّهُ السَّمُوتِ وَالْأَرْضَ ۖ وَلَا يَئُودُهُ حِفْظُهُمَا ۚ وَهُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ ﴿٢٥٧﴾

لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ ۚ قَدْ تَبَيَّنَ الرُّشْدُ مِنَ الْغَيِّ ۚ فَمَن يَكْفُرْ بِالطَّاغُوتِ وَيُؤْمِنْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدِ اسْتَمْسَكَ بِالْعُرْوَةِ الْوُثْقَىٰ ۚ لَا انْفِصَامَ لَهَا ۗ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٢٥٨﴾

اللَّهُ وَلِيُّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا ۖ يُخْرِجُهُم مِّنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ ۚ وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا أَوْلِيَاهُمُ الطَّاغُوتُ ۖ يُخْرِجُونَهُم مِّنَ النُّورِ إِلَى الظُّلُمَاتِ ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ ۖ هُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ ﴿٢٥٩﴾

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أَلَمْ تَرَ إِلَى الَّذِي حَاجَّ إِبْرَاهِيمَ فِي رَبِّهِ أَنْ آتَاهُ اللَّهُ الْمُلْكَ ۖ إِذْ قَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ رَبِّيَ الَّذِي يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ ۖ قَالَ أَنَا أُحْيِي وَأُمِيتُ ۗ قَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْتِي بِالسَّمَسِ

*256. His **Throne** extends over the heavens and the earth...

Note: The word *kursī* (كُرْسِيّ) primarily means seat of power or throne. This meaning of the word has wider application and covers not only knowledge but also other requisites of government.

ا i u | th | h | kh | dh | ذ | ص | ض | ط | ظ | ع | gh | q | ق | ع

the sun from the East; bring it thou from the West.' Thereupon the infidel was dumbfounded. And Allāh guides not the unjust people.

260. Or like him who passed by a town which had fallen down upon its roofs, *and* exclaimed, 'When will Allāh restore it to life after its destruction?' Then Allāh caused him to die for a hundred years; then He raised him, and said: 'How long hast thou remained *in this state*?' He answered, 'I have remained a day or part of a day.' He said: 'Nay, thou hast remained *in this state* for a hundred years. Now look at thy food and thy drink; they have not rotted. And look at thy ass. And *We have done this* that We may make thee a Sign unto men. And look at the bones, how We set them and then clothe them with flesh.' And when this became clear to him, he said, 'I know that Allāh has the power to do all that He wills.'

261. And *remember* when Abraham said, 'My Lord, show me how Thou givest life to the dead.' He said, 'Hast thou not believed?' He said, 'Yes, but *I ask this* that my heart may be at rest.' He answered, 'Take four birds and make them attached to thyself. Then put each of them on a hill; then call them; they will come to

مِنَ الْمَشْرِقِ فَأْتِ بِهَا مِنَ الْمَغْرِبِ
فَبُهِتَ الَّذِي كَفَرَ ۗ وَاللَّهُ لَا يَهْدِي
الْقَوْمَ الظَّالِمِينَ ﴿٢٥٩﴾

أَوْ كَالَّذِي مَرَّ عَلَى قَرْيَةٍ وَهِيَ خَاوِيَةٌ
عَلَى عُرُوشِهَا ۚ قَالَ أَنَّى يُحْيِي هَذِهِ
اللَّهُ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا ۚ فَأَمَاتَهُ اللَّهُ مِائَةَ
عَامٍ ثُمَّ بَعَثَهُ ۖ قَالَ كَمْ لَبِثْتَ ۖ قَالَ
لَبِثْتُ يَوْمًا أَوْ بَعْضَ يَوْمٍ ۖ قَالَ بَلْ
لَبِثْتَ مِائَةَ عَامٍ فَانْظُرْ إِلَى طَعَامِكَ
وَشَرَابِكَ لَمْ يَتَسَنَّه ۚ وَانْظُرْ إِلَى
حِمَارِكَ وَلِنَبْعَلَكَ آيَةً لِلنَّاسِ
وَانْظُرْ إِلَى الْعِظَامِ كَيْفَ نُنْشِزُهَا
ثُمَّ نَكْسُوهَا لَحْمًا ۖ فَلَمَّا تَبَيَّنَ لَهُ ۖ
قَالَ أَعْلَمْتُ أَنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ
قَدِيرٌ ﴿٢٦٠﴾

وَإِذْ قَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ رَبِّ ارْنِي كَيْفَ
تُحْيِي الْمَوْتَى ۖ قَالَ أَوْ لَمْ تُؤْمِنْ ۖ
قَالَ بَلَىٰ وَلَكِنْ لِّيَطْمَئِنَّ قُلُوبِي ۖ
قَالَ فَخُذْ أَرْبَعَةً مِنَ الطَّيْرِ فَصُرْهُنَّ
إِلَيْكَ ثُمَّ اجْعَلْ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ جَبَلٍ
مِّنْهُنَّ جُزْءً ثُمَّ ادْعُهُنَّ يَأْتِينَكَ

thee in haste. And know that Allāh is Mighty, Wise.'

R. 36.

262. The similitude of those who spend their wealth for the cause of Allāh is like the similitude of a grain of corn which grows seven ears, in each ear a hundred grains. And Allāh multiplies *it* further for whomsoever He pleases; and Allāh is Bountiful, All-Knowing.

263. They who spend their wealth for the cause of Allāh, then follow not up what they have spent with taunt or injury, for them is their reward with their Lord, and they shall have no fear, nor shall they grieve.

264. A kind word and forgiveness are better than charity followed by injury. And Allāh is Self-Sufficient, Forbearing.

265. O ye who believe! render not vain your alms by taunt and injury, like him who spends his wealth to be seen of men, and he believes not in Allāh and the Last Day. His case is like the case of a smooth rock covered with earth, on which heavy rain falls, leaving it bare, smooth and hard. They shall not secure aught of what they earn. And Allāh guides not the disbelieving

سَعِيًّا ۚ وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيزٌ
حَكِيمٌ ﴿٣٦﴾

مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ
فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ حَبَّةٍ أَنْبَتَتْ
سَبْعَ سَنَابِلٍ فِي كُلِّ سَنَابِلٍ مِائَةٌ
حَبَّةٌ ۚ وَاللَّهُ يُضَعِفُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ ۚ
وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٣٧﴾

الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ
اللَّهِ ثُمَّ لَا يُتَّبِعُونَ مَا أَنْفَقُوا مَنًّا وَلَا
أَذَى ۚ لَهُمْ أَجْرُهُمْ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ ۖ وَلَا
خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ ﴿٣٨﴾
قَوْلٌ مَعْرُوفٌ وَمَغْفِرَةٌ خَيْرٌ مِنْ
صَدَقَةٍ يَتْبَعُهَا أَذَى ۚ وَاللَّهُ غَفِيرٌ
حَلِيمٌ ﴿٣٩﴾

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَبْطُلُوا
صَدَقَتَكُمْ بِالْمَنِّ وَالْأَذَى ۚ كَالَّذِي
يُنْفِقُ مَالَهُ رِئَاءَ النَّاسِ وَلَا
يُؤْمِنُ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ ۚ فَمَثَلُهُ
كَمَثَلِ صَفْوَانٍ عَلَيْهِ تُرَابٌ فَأَصَابَهُ
وَابِلٌ فَتَرَكَهُ صَلْدًا ۚ لَا يَقْدِرُونَ عَلَى
شَيْءٍ مِّمَّا كَسَبُوا ۚ وَاللَّهُ لَا يَهْدِي