

58. 'And, by Allāh, I will certainly plan against your idols after you have gone away *and* turned your backs.'

59. So he broke them to pieces, *all* except the chief of them, that they might return to it *for enquiry*.

60. They said, 'Who has done this to our gods? Surely, he must be a wrongdoer.'

61. They said, 'We heard a young man speak *ill* of them; he is called Abraham.'

62. They said, 'Then bring him before the eyes of the people, that they may bear witness.'

63. *Then* they said to Abraham, 'Is it thou who hast done this to our gods, O Abraham?'

\*64. He replied, 'Aye, somebody has surely done this. Here is their chief. But ask them if they can speak.'

وَاللّٰهُ لَا كَيْدَ لَنَا اَصْنَاكُمْ بَعْدَ اَنْ  
تَوَلَّوْا مُدْبِرِيْنَ ۝۵۸

فَجَعَلَهُمْ جُذَاذًا اِلَّا كَبِيْرًا لَّهُمْ لَعَلَّهُمْ  
اِلَيْهِ يَرْجِعُوْنَ ۝۵۹

قَالُوْا مَنْ فَعَلَ هٰذَا بِالِهَيْتِنَا اِنَّهٗ لَمِنَ  
الظّٰلِمِيْنَ ۝۶۰

قَالُوْا سَمِعْنَا فَتًى يَذْكُرُهُمْ يُقَالُ لَهٗ  
اِبْرٰهِيْمُ ۝۶۱

قَالُوْا فَاْتَوْا بِهٖ عَلٰى اَعْيُنِ النَّاسِ  
لَعَلَّهُمْ يَشْهَدُوْنَ ۝۶۲

قَالُوْا اَنْتَ فَعَلْتَ هٰذَا بِالِهَيْتِنَا  
يٰۤاِبْرٰهِيْمُ ۝۶۳

قَالَ بَلْ فَعَلَهُ كَبِيْرُهُمْ هٰذَا  
فَسْئَلُوْهُمْ اِنْ كَانُوْا يَنْطِقُوْنَ ۝۶۴

\*64. He replied, 'Aye, somebody has surely done this. Here is the chief *suspect*. Ask them if they are **capable of speaking**.'

**Note:** Some translators avoid literal translation of this verse fearing that this would present Abraham as a liar. Obviously it was not the big idols who had smashed the smaller ones but it was Abraham himself who had done it. Therefore attributing the statement to Abraham that 'here is their chief,' would be tantamount to attributing an obvious lie to Abraham. It should be noted, however, that it was not a misstatement but a powerful style of argument. Sometimes a thing is too obvious for anybody to believe and a statement to that effect is never understood as a wilful attempt to mislead others but considered an exposition of the inherent absurdity of a situation. We believe that Abraham did make that statement without the slightest intention of misleading them but only by way of a powerful argument against the falsity of their belief. This is exactly how they took it. Having heard Abraham, none of them retorted by calling him a liar. But according to the Holy Qur'ān they were introspectively forced to realise the folly of their belief. This is made clear in the following verses (see verses 65 to 68). Again, it should be remembered that before this incident Abraham himself had mentioned in public his resolve to smash their idols (see verse 58).

65. Then they turned towards one another and said, 'You yourselves are surely in the wrong.'

فَرَجَعُوا إِلَى أَنْفُسِهِمْ فَقَالُوا إِنَّكُمْ أَنْتُمُ الظَّالِمُونَ ﴿١٥﴾

66. And their heads were made to hang low *for shame and they said*, 'Certainly thou knowest well that these do not speak.'

ثُمَّ نُكِسُوا عَلَى رُءُوسِهِمْ ۖ لَقَدْ عَلِمْتَ مَا هَؤُلَاءِ يَنْطِقُونَ ﴿١٦﴾

67. He said, 'Do you then worship instead of Allāh that which cannot profit you at all, nor harm you?

قَالَ أَفَتَعْبُدُونَ مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ مَا لَا يَنْفَعُكُمْ شَيْئًا وَلَا يَضُرُّكُمْ ﴿١٧﴾

68. 'Fie on you and on that which you worship instead of Allāh! Will you not then understand?'

أَفِ لَكُمْ وَ لِمَا تَعْبُدُونَ مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ أَفَلَا تَعْقِلُونَ ﴿١٨﴾

69. They said, 'Burn him and help your gods, if *at all* you *mean* to do *anything*.'

قَالُوا حَرِّقُوهُ وَانصُرُوا إِلِهَتَكُمْ إِن كُنْتُمْ فاعِلِينَ ﴿١٩﴾

\*70. We said, 'O fire, be thou cold and a *means of* safety for Abraham!'

قُلْنَا يَا نَارُ كُونِي بَرْدًا وَسَلَامًا عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ ﴿٢٠﴾

71. And they had sought to do evil to him, but We made them the worst losers.

وَ أَرَادُوا بِهِ كَيْدًا فَجَعَلْنَاهُمُ الْأَخْسَرِينَ ﴿٢١﴾

72. And We saved him and Lot *and brought them* to the land which We blessed for the peoples.

وَنَجَّيْنَاهُ وَ لُوطًا إِلَى الْأَرْضِ الَّتِي بَارَكْنَا فِيهَا لِلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٢٢﴾

73. And We bestowed upon him Isaac, and as a grandson, Jacob, and We made all *of them* righteous.

وَوَهَبْنَا لَهُ إِسْحَاقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ نَافِلَةً ۚ وَكُلًّا جَعَلْنَا صَالِحِينَ ﴿٢٣﴾

74. And We made them leaders who guided *people* by Our command, and We sent revelation

وَجَعَلْنَاهُمْ أَيْمَةً يَهْدُونَ ۚ بِأَمْرِنَا ۚ وَأَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْهِمْ فِعْلَ الْخَيْرَاتِ

\*70. We said, 'Turn cold, O Fire, and be a source of peace for Abraham.'

to them *enjoining* the doing of good works, and the observing of Prayer, and the giving of alms. And they were worshippers of *Us alone*.

75. And to Lot We gave wisdom and knowledge. And We saved him from the city which practised abominations. They were indeed a wicked *and* rebellious people.

76. And We admitted him to Our mercy; surely he was *one* of the righteous.

## R. 6.

77. And *remember* Noah when he cried to *Us* aforetime, and We heard his prayer and delivered him and his family from the great distress.

78. And We helped him against the people who rejected Our Signs. They were surely a wicked people; so We drowned them all.

79. And *remember* David and Solomon when they exercised their *respective* judgements concerning the crop when the sheep of *certain* people strayed therein *by night*; and We were witness to their judgment.

80. We gave Solomon the *right* understanding of *the matter* and to each of them gave We wisdom and knowledge. And We subjected the mountains and the birds to celebrate *God's* praises with David. And it is We Who do *all such things*.

وَرِاقَامَ الصَّلٰوةِ وَ اِيتَاءَ الزَّكٰوةِ  
وَ كَانُوا لَنَا عٰبِدِيْنَ ﴿٧٥﴾

وَلُوْطًا اٰتَيْنٰهُ حُكْمًا وَعِلْمًا وَ نَجَّيْنَاهُ مِنَ  
الْقَرْيَةِ الَّتِي كَانَتْ تَعْمَلُ الْخَبِيْثَ  
اِنَّهُمْ كَانُوْا قَوْمًا سَوِيْءًا فَسٰقِيْنَ ﴿٧٦﴾

وَ اَدْخَلْنَاهُ فِيْ رَحْمَتِنَا ۚ اِنَّهٗ مِنْ  
الصَّٰلِحِيْنَ ﴿٧٧﴾

وَنُوْحًا اِذْ نَادٰى مِنْ قَبْلُ فَاسْتَجَبْنَا  
لَهٗ فَدَجَّيْنَاهُ وَ اَهْلَهٗ مِنَ الْكُرْبِ  
الْعَظِيْمِ ﴿٧٨﴾

وَ نَصْرْنَاهُ مِنَ الْقَوْمِ الَّذِيْنَ كَذَّبُوْا  
بِاٰيٰتِنَا ۚ اِنَّهُمْ كَانُوْا قَوْمًا سَوِيْءًا  
فَاَعْرَضْنَا عَنْهُمْ اَجْمَعِيْنَ ﴿٧٩﴾

وَ دَاوُدَ وَ سُلَيْمٰنَ اِذْ يَحْكُمْنَ فِي  
الْحَرْثِ اِذْ نَفَسَتْ فِيْهِ غَنَمُ الْقَوْمِ  
وَ كُنَّا لِحُكْمِهِمْ شٰهِدِيْنَ ﴿٨٠﴾

فَفَهَّمْنَاهَا سُلَيْمٰنَ ۚ وَ كَلَّمَّا اٰتَيْنَا حُكْمًا  
وَ عَلَّمَا ذَٰلَ وَ سَخَّرْنَا مَعَ دَاوُدَ الْجِبَالَ  
يُسَبِّحْنَ وَ الطَّيْرَ وَ كُنَّا فٰعِلِيْنَ ﴿٨١﴾