

slackened not for aught that befell them in the way of Allāh, nor did they weaken, nor did they humiliate themselves *before the enemy*. And Allāh loves the steadfast.

148. And they uttered not a word except that they said: ‘Our Lord, forgive us our errors and our excesses in our conduct, and make firm our steps and help us against the disbelieving people.’

149. So Allāh gave them the reward of this world, as also an excellent reward of the next; and Allāh loves those who do good.

R. 16.

150. O ye who believe! if you obey those who have disbelieved, they will cause you to turn back on your heels, and you will become losers.

151. Nay, Allāh is your Protector, and He is the Best of helpers.

152. We shall strike terror into the hearts of those that have disbelieved because they associate partners with Allāh for which He has sent down no authority. Their abode is the Fire; and evil is the habitation of the wrongdoers.

* 153. And Allāh had surely made good to you His promise when you

* 153. And Allāh had surely made good to you His promise when you were slaying and destroying them by His leave until when you *faltered concerning obedience to the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him)*, and started arguing among yourselves regarding the true intent of the order and disobeyed after He had granted you *your heart's desire in the form of victory*, He withdrew His help.

سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَ مَا ضَعُفُوا وَ مَا
اِسْتَكْبَرُوا ۚ وَاللَّهُ يُحِبُّ الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿١٤٨﴾

وَمَا كَانَ قَوْلُهُمْ اِلَّا اَنْ قَالُوا رَبَّنَا
اغْفِرْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا وَ اِصْرَافَنَا فِيْ اَمْرِنَا
وَ ثَبِّتْ اَقْدَامَنَا وَ انصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ
الْكٰفِرِيْنَ ﴿١٤٩﴾

فَاَتَاهُمُ اللّٰهُ ثَوَابَ الدُّنْيَا وَ حَسَنَ ثَوَابِ
الْآخِرَةِ ۚ وَاللَّهُ يُحِبُّ الْمُحْسِنِيْنَ ﴿١٥٠﴾

يٰۤاَيُّهَا الَّذِيْنَ اٰمَنُوْا اِنْ تَطِيْعُوا الَّذِيْنَ
كَفَرُوْا يَرُدُّوْكُمْ عَلٰى اَعْقَابِكُمْ
فَتَكُوْنُوْا خٰسِرِيْنَ ﴿١٥١﴾

بَلِ اللّٰهُ مَوْلٰىكُمْ ۚ وَهُوَ خَيْرُ النَّصِيْرِيْنَ ﴿١٥٢﴾
سَنُلْقِيْكَ فِيْ قُلُوْبِ الَّذِيْنَ كَفَرُوْا
الرُّعْبَ بِمَا اَشْرَكُوْا بِاللّٰهِ مَا لَمْ
يُنْزَلْ بِهٖ سُلْطٰنٌ ۚ وَ مَا لَهُمُ النَّارُ
وَ يَبْسُ مَثْوٰى الظّٰلِمِيْنَ ﴿١٥٣﴾

وَلَقَدْ صَدَقَكُمُ اللّٰهُ وَعْدًا ۚ اِذْ تَحْسُرُوْنَهُمْ

were slaying and destroying them by His leave, until, when you became lax and disagreed among yourselves concerning the order and you disobeyed after He had shown you that which you loved, *He withdrew His help*. Among you were those who desired the present world, and among you were those who desired the next. Then He turned you away from them, that He might try you—and He has surely pardoned you, and Allāh is Gracious to the believers. —

بِأَذْنِهِ ۖ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا فُشِلْتُمْ وَتَنَزَّعْتُمْ
فِي الْأَمْرِ وَعَصَيْتُمْ مِمَّنْ بَعْدَ مَا
أَرْكُم مَّا تَحِبُّونَ ۖ مِنْكُمْ مَنْ يُرِيدُ
الدُّنْيَا وَمِنْكُمْ مَنْ يُرِيدُ الْآخِرَةَ ۖ ثُمَّ
صَرَّفَكُمْ عَنْهُمْ لِيَبْتَلِيَكُمْ ۖ وَلَقَدْ
عَفَا عَنْكُمْ ۗ وَاللَّهُ ذُو فَضْلٍ عَلَى
الْمُؤْمِنِينَ ﴿١٥٤﴾

* 154. When you were running away and looked not back at anyone while the Messenger was calling out to you from your rear, then He gave you a sorrow in recompense for a sorrow, that you might not grieve for what escaped you, nor for what befell you. And Allāh is well aware of what you do.

إِذْ تَصْعَدُونَ وَلَا تَلُوتُ عَلَىٰ أَحَدٍ
وَالرَّسُولُ يَدْعُوكُمْ فِي أَخْرَجِكُمْ
فَأَثَابَكُمْ غَمًّا بِغَمٍّ لِّكَيْلَا تَحْزَنُوا
عَلَىٰ مَا فَاتَكُمْ وَلَا مَا أَصَابَكُمْ ۗ
وَاللَّهُ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٥٥﴾

155. Then, after the sorrow, He sent down peace on you—a slumber that overcame a party of you—while the other party was anxious concerning their own selves, thinking wrongly of Allāh *like unto* the thought of ignorance. They said, 'Is there for us any part in the government of *affairs*?' Say, 'All government belongs to Allāh.' They hide in their minds what they disclose not to thee.

ثُمَّ أَنْزَلَ عَلَيْكُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ الْغَمِّ أَمْنَةً
نُعَاسًا يَغْشَىٰ طَائِفَةً مِنْكُمْ ۖ وَطَائِفَةٌ
قَدْ أَهَمَّتْهُمْ أَنْفُسُهُمْ يَظُنُّونَ بِاللَّهِ
غَيْرَ الْحَقِّ ظَنِّ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ ۖ يَقُولُونَ
هَذَا لَنَا مِنَ الْأَمْرِ مِنْ شَيْءٍ ۗ قُلْ إِنَّ
الْأَمْرَ كُلَّهُ لِلَّهِ ۗ يُخْفُونَ فِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ
مَا لَا يُبْدُونَ لَكَ ۖ يَقُولُونَ لَوْ كَانَ لَنَا

* 154. **Note:** Sometimes the threat of a bigger loss does away with the pain of comparatively minor losses incurred earlier. A similar situation prevailed during the battle of Uhud when the rumour of the death of the Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him), completely dispelled consideration of all personal sufferings and losses the Muslim combatants had experienced. Then the news of his survival turned the sense of loss into a sense of deep content and thanksgiving.

They say, ‘If we had any part in the government *of affairs*, we should not have been killed here.’ Say, ‘If you had remained in your homes, surely those on whom fighting had been enjoined would have gone forth to their deathbeds,’ *that Allāh might bring about His decree* and that Allāh might test what was in your breasts and that He might purge what was in your hearts. And Allāh knows well what is in the minds;

156. Those of you who turned their backs on the day when the two hosts met,‡ surely it was Satan who sought to make them slip because of certain doings of theirs. But certainly Allāh has already pardoned them. Verily, Allāh is Most Forgiving, Forbearing.

R. 17.

157. O ye who believe! be not like those who have disbelieved, and who say of their brethren when they travel in the land or go forth to war: ‘Had they been with us, they would not have died or been slain.’ *This is so*, that Allāh may make it a cause of regret in their hearts. And Allāh gives life and causes death and Allāh is Mindful of what you do.

158. And if you are slain in the cause of Allāh or you die, surely forgiveness from Allāh and mercy shall be better than what they hoard.

‡ The battle of Uhud.

مِنَ الْأَمْرِ شَيْءٌ مَّا قُتِلْنَا هُنَا ۖ قُلْ
لَوْ كُنْتُمْ فِي بُيُوتِكُمْ لَبَرَزَ الَّذِينَ
كُتِبَ عَلَيْهِمُ الْقَتْلُ إِلَىٰ مَضَاجِعِهِمْ
وَلِيَبْتَلِيَ اللَّهُ مَا فِي صُدُورِكُمْ
وَلِيُمَحِّصَ مَا فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ ۗ وَاللَّهُ
عَلِيمٌ بِذَاتِ الصُّدُورِ ﴿١٥٦﴾

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ تَوَلَّوْا مِنْكُمْ يَوْمَ الْتَقَى
الْجَمْعَيْنِ ۚ إِنَّهُمْ اسْتَنْزَلَهُمُ الشَّيْطَانُ
بِبَعْضِ مَا كَسَبُوا ۖ وَلَقَدْ عَفَا اللَّهُ
عَنْهُمْ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ حَلِيمٌ ﴿١٥٧﴾

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَكُونُوا كَالَّذِينَ
كَفَرُوا وَقَالُوا لِإِخْوَانِهِمْ إِذَا ضَرَبُوا
فِي الْأَرْضِ أَوْ كَانُوا غُرًى لَّوْكَانُوا عِنْدَنَا
مَا مَاتُوا وَمَا قُتِلُوا ۖ لِيَجْعَلَ اللَّهُ
ذَلِكَ حَسْرَةً فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ ۗ وَاللَّهُ يُحْيِي
وَيُمِيتُ ۗ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ بَصِيرٌ ﴿١٥٨﴾
وَلَكِنْ قُتِلْتُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَوْ مِتُّمْ
لَمَغْفِرَةً مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَرَحْمَةً خَيْرٌ مِّمَّا
يَجْمَعُونَ ﴿١٥٩﴾