

سُورَةُ التَّغَابُنِ

Sūrah at-Taghābun

(THE MUTUAL DECEIT)

Revealed at Madinah, it has two Sections and eighteen Āyāt.

Section 1

In the Name of Allah

The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful.

1. Hallows Allah whatsoever is in the heavens and whatsoever is on the earth. His is the kingdom, His is the Praise, and He is Potent over everything.
2. He it is Who has created you, so of you some are infidels and some are believers, and Allah is Beholder of what you do.
3. He has created the heavens and the earth with truth, and has fashioned you, and has fashioned you in a comely shape, and to Him is the return.
4. He Knows whatsoever is in the heavens and the earth; and He Knows whatsoever you conceal and whatsoever you disclose; and Allah is the Knower of whatsoever is in the breasts.
5. Has not the news reached you of those who disbelieved aforetime, and so tasted of the ill

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

يُسَبِّحُ لِلَّهِ مَا فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ لَهُ الْمُلْكُ
وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿١﴾

هُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ فَمِنْكُمْ كَافِرٌ وَمِنْكُمْ مُؤْمِنٌ
وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ بَصِيرٌ ﴿٢﴾

خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ بِالْحَقِّ وَصَوَّرَكُمْ فَأَحْسَنَ
صُورَكُمْ وَإِلَيْهِ الْمَصِيرُ ﴿٣﴾

يَعْلَمُ مَا فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَيَعْلَمُ مَا تُسْرُونَ
وَمَا تُعْلِنُونَ وَاللَّهُ عَلِيمٌ بِذَاتِ الصُّدُورِ ﴿٤﴾

أَلَمْ يَأْتِكُمْ نَبُوءُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ قَبْلُ

consequence of their affair, and theirs will be an afflictive torment.

6. That was because their Messengers came to them with evidences but they said: Will there guide us a mere human being? So they disbelieved and turned away. And Allah did not need them. Allah is Self-sufficient, Praise-worthy.

7. Those who disbelieved asserted that they would not be raised. Say you: By my Rabb, you shall surely be raised, and to you shall be declared what you worked. And that is easy for Allah.

8. So believe in Allah and His Messenger and the light which We have sent down. And Allah is Aware of what you work.

9. Remember the Day when He will assemble you, the Day of Assembly; that will be the Day of Mutual Loss and Gain. Then whosoever believes in Allah and acts righteously He will expiate from him his misdeeds and will make him enter the Gardens whereunder rivers flow, as abiders therein. That is a great achievement.

10. And they who disbelieve and belie Our Signs! Those will be the fellows of the Fire as abider therein – a hapless destination!

فَذَاقُوا وَبَالَ أَمْرِهِمْ وَلَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ ﴿٦﴾

ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّهُ كَانَتْ تَأْتِيهِمْ رُسُلُهُم بِالْبَيِّنَاتِ فَقَالُوا أَبَشَرٌ يَهْدُونَنَا فَكَفَرُوا وَتَوَلَّوْا وَاسْتَغْنَى
اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ غَنِيٌّ حَمِيدٌ ﴿٦﴾

زَعَمَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا أَنْ لَنْ يُعْزَوْا قُلْ بَلَىٰ وَرَبِّي لَتُعْزِنَهُنَّ لِمَ لَتُنْبِتْنَ بِمَا عَمِلْتُمْ وَذَلِكَ عَلَى اللَّهِ يَسِيرٌ ﴿٧﴾

فَقَامُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَالنُّورِ الَّذِي أَنْزَلْنَا
وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ ﴿٨﴾

يَوْمَ يَجْمَعُكُمْ لِيَوْمِ الْجَمْعِ ذَلِكَ يَوْمُ التَّنَائِفِ وَمَنْ يُؤْمِنْ
بِاللَّهِ وَيَعْمَلْ صَالِحًا يُكَفِّرْ عَنْهُ سَيِّئَاتِهِ وَيُدْخِلْهُ
جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ
فِيهَا أَبَدًا ذَلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيمُ ﴿٩﴾

وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَكَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِنَا أُولَٰئِكَ
أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا وَبِئْسَ
الْمَصِيرُ ﴿١٠﴾

Secrets of Revelation

All earthly and celestial creations express Allah's Glory by their very state and by words commensurate to their understanding that Allah is Real Ruler, Owner of all Virtue and all-Prevailing. He is the Supreme Being Who created man; some embraced Islam at their own choice while others disbelieved.

Faith and Disbelief form the basis of Two Nations Theory

That the nations are categorized only by faith and disbelief has been discussed earlier. Families and tribes are only for identification. Basically all human beings are born with similar natural qualities. Nobody is a born non believer but voluntarily adopts disbelief on maturity and is counted in another nation. The world was divided into a variety of nations and all were at logger heads with each other. Once the Holy Prophet^{SAW} was raised, he declared all believers as brothers. Race, colour, language and lineage ceased to be the identifying features of nations. He also pronounced all non believers as one nation. In other words, only two nations inhabit the globe, the believers, and the non believers. It is deplorable that because of their drifting away from Islam, Muslims have again split into different racial, lingual and sectarian groups. Deprived of the concept of Islamic brotherhood, the infidels are setting them against each other through conspiracies. Lineage is not by choice, for no one can change his colour and race but can choose the nation at his own free will, by either embracing or repudiating faith. And Allah is Watchful of everyone's conduct.

He adorned the earth and the heavens flawlessly. Not even the smallest particle is out of place. All this is not without purpose; else everything would not function so perfectly. He shaped human beings exquisitely, with immaculate organs and faculties, so that they can relish life. He also enabled man to distinguish and choose right from wrong, and has gifted him with the requisite intellect and physique to act upon whatever way he adopts. All this is not in vain, for everyone shall return to Him in the end. He Knows all that goes on in the earth and heavens, and all that you conceal or manifest. People are certainly aware of those destroyed before because of their misdeeds. Painful retribution awaits them in Ākhirah, because they had rejected the auspicious guidance sent through Allah's Messengers on the plea that they were only human beings like them and as such had no rights to command them.

Human and Light

The non believers thought that a Prophet should be a creature of light, free of human needs like hunger, thirst and sleep. They could not appreciate that

humanity of a Prophet was far superior to all the creations of light. Possessing human traits, he demonstrates obedience to Allah by self example. The present day Muslims too argue whether the Holy Prophet^{SAW} was a human being or of light. In fact, he is a light superior to all creations of light after Allah, and a human like whom there is none. The non believers refused Islam brought along by him both in belief and in practice.

Belief and Practice

Remember that the Prophets were raised to dispense belief as well as practice. Practice again is divided into worships and code of life. Repudiation of all three is disbelief. Acceptance of beliefs and adherence to worships, but defiance of the code of life is hypocrisy. Accepting all the three is Islam. Anyone averse to the Holy Prophet's^{SAW} path, which was for his good, does not bother Allah Who is Carefree and has no need of anyone's worship and obedience.

The non believers presume that death would put an end to everything and they would not be resurrected. O' Prophet^{SAW}! Tell them: "I swear upon His Providence that He created man and gave him intellect, wisdom and the right to choose, having made clear what was good or bad, so there ought to be an end result. Therefore, all of you will definitely be quickened and informed on what you had done in this world. It is the least difficult for Him. Don't you see a variety of creation coming into existence everyday out of the blue". The Day of Gathering would be of great woe for the non believers. They would be unworthy of any mercy because they had no faith. On the other hand, the believers, who live up to the code given by the Holy Prophet^{SAW}, would be forgiven notwithstanding the human error. He shall admit them in the exquisite Gardens with gushing streams and everlasting bloom, to abide therein, indeed the greatest success. And those who disbelieved and refuted Allah's Signs would be condemned to Hell, the worst of all places, to suffer perpetually.

Section 2

11. No calamity befalls man save by Allah's leave and whoso believes in Allah He guides his heart. And Allah is the Knower of everything.

مَا أَصَابَ مِنْ مُصِيبَةٍ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِ اللَّهِ وَمَنْ يُؤْمِنْ
بِاللَّهِ يَهْدِ اللَّهُ لِقَابَهُ وَاللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴿١١﴾

12. Obey Allah and obey the Messenger; then if you turn away, on Our Messenger there is only the clear preaching.

وَاطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَاطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ فَإِن تَوَلَّيْتُمْ
فَأِنَّمَا عَلَى رَسُولِنَا الْبَلَّغُ الْمُبِينُ ﴿١٢﴾

13. Allah! There is no god but He! Let in Allah, therefore, the believers put their trust.

اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ وَعَلَى اللَّهِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلِ
الْمُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿١٣﴾

14. O you who believe! Verily you have an enemy among your wives and your children; so beware of them. And if you pardon and pass over and forgive, then surely Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.

يَتَأْتِيهَا اللَّيْتُ مَأْمُونًا أَوْ مِن آزْوَاجِكُمْ
وَأَوْلَادِكُمْ وَعَدُوِّكُمْ فَأَحْذَرُوا هُمُومَهُمْ
وَإِن تَعْفُوا وَتَصْفَحُوا وَتَغْفِرُوا
فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ ﴿١٤﴾

15. Your riches and your children are but a trial, and Allah! With Him is a mighty wage.

إِنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ
وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ ﴿١٥﴾

16. Wherefore fear Allah as far as you are able, and listen and obey and spend, for the benefit of your souls. And whoso is guarded against the avarice of his soul, those! They are blissful.

فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُمْ وَأَسْمِعُوا وَأَطِيعُوا
وَأَنْفِقُوا خَيْرًا لِّأَنْفُسِكُمْ وَمَنْ يُوقِ
شُحَّ نَفْسِهِ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ ﴿١٦﴾

17. If you lend to Allah a goodly loan, He will multiply it to you and will forgive you, and Allah is Appreciative, Forbearing.

إِن تُقْرِضُوا اللَّهَ قَرْضًا حَسَنًا يُّضْعِفْهُ لَكُمْ
وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ شَكُورٌ حَلِيمٌ ﴿١٧﴾

18. Knower of the Unseen and the seen, the Mighty the Wise.

عَلِيمُ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ ﴿١٨﴾

Secrets of Revelation

Qalb is the Cradle of all Comforts

Whatever ill strikes man, it is with Allah's Permission and Command in sequel to His predetermined laws. A believer's heart is guided by Him whereby he leans on

Allah's mercy during hardships, and remains tranquil. All comforts spring from Qalb, and a believer's Qalb is at peace. The infidels and the hypocrites, on the other hand, achieve nothing but restlessness.

Obedience to the Holy Prophet^{SAW}

So obey Allah by obeying His Prophet^{SAW}. As such it is obligatory to follow him in beliefs, worships and the Code of Life. If someone conforms to the beliefs and the worships, but does not follow the Holy Prophet^{SAW} in practical life, his beliefs and worships are stripped of sincerity and reduced to mere rituals. And if someone renounces obedience it does not bother Allah or His Prophet^{SAW} who is only responsible to convey Allah's Message. Remember that nothing deserves to be worshipped save Allah and nothing is worth obeying against Him. Faith demands that a believer must rely solely upon Allah and no fear should thwart His obedience.

Leniency at Home

'O believers! Wives and children sometimes become the cause of disobeying Allah, thereby acting as if they were your enemies. No concern for their well being may cause you to adopt unfair means, or their love hold you back from Jihād. You must strictly guard against such temptations. And in the process do not be hard on them, rather have a forgiving attitude. The scholars suggest that one should be loving and lenient towards his family, for it offers greater chances of reformation as compared to strictness or physical handling. And Allah is also Forgiving and Merciful. It is true that wealth and progeny are critical trials of faith, often leading to neglect of Allah's Commands. If you are careful, He shall compensate obedience with stupendous rewards. So obey Allah according to your capacity and strength. Listen attentively to whatever you are ordered to do, and spend all your energies in carrying it out because it is for your own benefit. And whosoever is blessed with unwavering obedience, unhampered by greed, shall surely win.

If you spend to please Allah; it is a splendid investment and He would reward you beyond all proportions. He shall also overlook your follies by virtue of being human. He recognizes virtue and is extremely Benevolent, Who Knows all things, the veiled as well as the visible.