

This is their description in the Taurât (Torah). But their description in the Injeel (Gospel) is like a (sown) seed which sends forth its shoot, then makes it strong, and becomes thick and it stands straight on its stem, delighting the sowers, that He may enrage the disbelievers with them. Allâh has promised those among them who believe (i.e. all those who follow Islâmic Monotheism, the religion of Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم till the Day of Resurrection) and do righteous good deeds, forgiveness and a mighty reward (i.e. Paradise).

Sûrat Al-Hujurât (The Dwellings) XLIX

*In the Name of Allâh,
the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.*

1. O you who believe! Make not (a decision) in advance^[1] before Allâh and His Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم), and fear Allâh. Verily, Allâh is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.

2. O you who believe! Raise not your voices above the voice of the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم), nor speak aloud to him in talk as you speak aloud to one another, lest your deeds should be rendered fruitless while you perceive not.

3. Verily, those who lower their voices in the presence of Allâh's Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم), they are the ones whose hearts Allâh has tested for piety. For them is forgiveness and a great reward.

4. Verily, those who call you from behind the dwellings, most of them have no sense.

5. And if they had had patience till you could come out to them, it would have been better for them. And Allâh is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

6. O you who believe! If a *Fâsiq* (liar — evil person) comes to you with any news, verify it, lest you should harm people in ignorance, and afterwards you become regretful for what you have done.

7. And know that among you there is the Messenger of Allâh (صلى الله عليه وسلم). If he were to obey you (i.e. follow your

^[1] (V.49:1) i.e. hasten not to decide in matters of war or religion before Allah and His Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم, that you may decide the contrary to what Allah and His Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم may decide.

opinions and desires) in much of the matter, you would surely be in trouble. But Allâh has endeared the Faith to you and has beautified it in your hearts, and has made disbelief, wickedness and disobedience (to Allâh and His Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم) hateful to you. Such are they who are the rightly guided.

8. (This is) a Grace from Allâh and His Favour. And Allâh is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

9. And if two parties or groups among the believers fall to fighting, then make peace between them both. But if one of them outrages against the other, then fight you (all) against the one which outrages till it complies with the Command of Allâh. Then if it complies, then make reconciliation between them justly, and be equitable. Verily, Allâh loves those who are the equitable.

10. The believers are nothing else than brothers (in Islâmic religion). So make reconciliation between your brothers, and fear Allâh, that you may receive mercy.

11. O you who believe! Let not a group scoff at another group, it may be that the latter are better than the former. Nor let (some) women scoff at other women, it may be that the latter are better than the former. Nor defame one another, nor insult one another by nicknames. How bad is it to insult one's brother after having Faith [i.e. to call your Muslim brother (a faithful believer) as: "O sinner", or "O wicked"]. And whosoever does not repent, then such are indeed *Zâlimûn* (wrong-doers, etc.).

12. O you who believe! Avoid much suspicion; indeed some suspicions are sins. And spy not, neither backbite one another. Would one of you like to eat the flesh of his dead brother? You would hate it (so hate backbiting)^[1]. And fear Allâh. Verily, Allâh

^[1] (V.49:12). a) Narrated Abû Hurairah رضى الله عنه: Allah's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, "Beware of suspicion, for suspicion is the worst of false tales; and do not look for other's faults, and do not do spying on one another, and do not practise *Najash** and do not be jealous of one another and do not hate one another, and do not desert (stop talking to) one another. And O Allah's worshippers! Be brothers!" (*Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, Vol. 8, *Hadîth* No.92).

b) Narrated Hudhaifah رضى الله عنه: I heard the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم saying, "A *Qattât*** will not enter Paradise." (*Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, Vol.8, *Hadîth* No.82).

c) Backbiting and the Statement of Allah عز و جل: "And spy not, neither backbite one another."

Narrated Ibn 'Abbâs رضى الله عنهما: Allah's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم passed by two graves and said, "Both of them (persons in the grave) are being tortured, and they are

is the One Who forgives and accepts repentance, Most Merciful.

13. O mankind! We have created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know one another. Verily, the most honourable of you with Allâh is that (believer) who has *At-Taqwâ* [i.e. he is one of the *Al-Muttaqûn* (the pious. See V.2:2)]. Verily, Allâh is All-Knowing, Well-Acquainted (with all things).

14. The bedouins say: "We believe." Say: "You believe not but you only say, 'We have surrendered (in Islâm),' for Faith has not yet entered your hearts. But if you obey Allâh and His Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم), He will not decrease anything in reward for your deeds. Verily, Allâh is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."

15. Only those are the believers who have believed in Allâh and His Messenger, and afterward doubt not but strive with their wealth and their lives for the Cause of Allâh. Those! They are the truthful.

16. Say: "Will you inform Allâh of your religion while Allâh knows all that is in the heavens and all that is in the earth, and Allâh is All-Knowing of everything.

17. They regard as favour to you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) that they have embraced Islâm. Say: "Count not your Islâm as a favour to me. Nay, but Allâh has conferred a favour upon you that He has guided you to the Faith if you indeed are true.

18. Verily, Allâh knows the Unseen of the heavens and the earth. And Allâh is All-Seer of what you do.

not being tortured for a major sin. This one used not to save himself from being soiled with his urine, and the other used to go about with calumnies (among the people to rouse hostilities, e.g., one goes to a person and tells him that so-and-so says about him such and such evil things)." The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم then asked for a green branch of a date-palm tree, split it into two pieces and planted one on each grave and said, "It is hoped that their punishment may be abated till those two pieces of the branch get dried."*** (*Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, Vol.8, *Hadîth* No.78).

* *Najash* means to offer a high price for something in order to allure another customer who is interested in the thing.

**A *Qattât* is a person who conveys disagreeable, false information from one person to another with the intention of causing harm and enmity between them.

***This action was a kind of invocation on the part of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم for the deceased persons. [*Fath Al-Barî*, Vol. I, Page 332].