

- short of the greater punishment that perhaps they will return [i.e., repent].
22. And who is more unjust than one who is reminded of the verses of his Lord; then he turns away from them? Indeed We, from the criminals, will take retribution.
 23. And We certainly gave Moses the Scripture, so do not be in doubt over his meeting.¹¹⁰⁰ And We made it [i.e., the Torah] guidance for the Children of Israel.
 24. And We made from among them leaders guiding by Our command when they were patient and [when] they were certain of Our signs.
 25. Indeed, your Lord will judge between them on the Day of Resurrection concerning that over which they used to differ.
 26. Has it not become clear to them how many generations We destroyed before them, [as] they walk among their dwellings? Indeed in that are signs; then do they not hear?
 27. Have they not seen that We drive water [in clouds] to barren land and bring forth thereby crops from which their livestock eat and [they] themselves? Then do they not see?
 28. And they say, "When will be this conquest,¹¹⁰¹ if you should be truthful?"
 29. Say, [O Muḥammad], "On the Day of Conquest the belief of those who had disbelieved will not benefit them, nor will they be reprieved."
 30. So turn away from them and wait. Indeed, they are waiting.

¹¹⁰⁰i.e., Muḥammad's meeting Moses on the night of *al-Mi'rāj* (ascent).

¹¹⁰¹Or "decision," i.e., judgement.

Sūrah al-Aḥzāb¹¹⁰²

Bismillāhir-Raḥmānir-Raḥeem

1. O Prophet, fear Allāh and do not obey the disbelievers and the hypocrites. Indeed, Allāh is ever Knowing and Wise.
2. And follow that which is revealed to you from your Lord. Indeed Allāh is ever, with what you do, Acquainted.
3. And rely upon Allāh; and sufficient is Allāh as Disposer of affairs.
4. Allāh has not made for a man two hearts in his interior. And He has not made your wives whom you declare unlawful¹¹⁰³ your mothers. And He has not made your claimed [i.e., adopted] sons your [true] sons. That is [merely] your saying by your mouths, but Allāh says the truth, and He guides to the [right] way.
5. Call them¹¹⁰⁴ by [the names of] their fathers; it is more just in the sight of Allāh. But if you do not know their fathers – then they are [still] your brothers in religion and those entrusted to you. And there is no blame upon you for that in which you have erred but [only for] what your hearts intended. And ever is Allāh Forgiving and Merciful.
6. The Prophet is more worthy of the believers than themselves,¹¹⁰⁵ and his wives are [in the position of] their mothers. And those of [blood] relationship are more entitled [to inheritance] in the decree of Allāh than the [other] believers and the emigrants, except that you may do to your close associates a kindness [through bequest]. That was in the Book¹¹⁰⁶ inscribed.

¹¹⁰² *Al-Aḥzāb*: The Companies or The Combined Forces, referring to the alliance of disbelieving Arab tribes against the Muslims in Madīnah for the battle called "al-Aḥzāb" or "al-Khandaq" (the Trench).

¹¹⁰³ By the expression "You are to me like the back of my mother." Such an oath taken against approaching one's wife was a pre-Islāmic practice declared by Allāh (*subḥānahu wa ta'ālā*) to be a sin requiring expiation as described in 58:3-4.

¹¹⁰⁴ Those children under your care.

¹¹⁰⁵ He (ﷺ) is more worthy of their obedience and loyalty and is more concerned for them than they are for one another.

¹¹⁰⁶ The Preserved Slate (*al-Lawḥ al-Mahfūth*).