

concerning their wives and those their right hands possess, [but this is for you] in order that there will be upon you no discomfort [i.e., difficulty]. And ever is Allāh Forgiving and Merciful.

51. You, [O Muḥammad], may put aside whom you will of them<sup>1128</sup> or take to yourself whom you will. And any that you desire of those [wives] from whom you had [temporarily] separated – there is no blame upon you [in returning her]. That is more suitable that they should be content and not grieve and that they should be satisfied with what you have given them – all of them. And Allāh knows what is in your hearts. And ever is Allāh Knowing and Forbearing.
52. Not lawful to you, [O Muḥammad], are [any additional] women after [this], nor [is it] for you to exchange them for [other] wives, even if their beauty were to please you, except what your right hand possesses. And ever is Allāh, over all things, an Observer.
53. O you who have believed, do not enter the houses of the Prophet except when you are permitted for a meal, without awaiting its readiness. But when you are invited, then enter; and when you have eaten, disperse without seeking to remain for conversation. Indeed, that [behavior] was troubling the Prophet, and he is shy of [dismissing] you. But Allāh is not shy of the truth. And when you ask [his wives] for something, ask them from behind a partition. That is purer for your hearts and their hearts. And it is not [conceivable or lawful] for you to harm the Messenger of Allāh or to marry his wives after him, ever. Indeed, that would be in the sight of Allāh an enormity.
54. Whether you reveal a thing or conceal it, indeed Allāh is ever, of all things, Knowing.
55. There is no blame upon them [i.e., women] concerning their fathers or their sons or their brothers or their brothers' sons or

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<sup>1128</sup>Those mentioned in the previous verse as being lawful to the Prophet (ﷺ) or his wives to which he was married.

their sisters' sons or their women or those their right hands possess [i.e., slaves].<sup>1129</sup> And fear Allāh. Indeed Allāh is ever, over all things, Witness.

56. Indeed, Allāh confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allāh to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allāh to grant him] peace.
57. Indeed, those who abuse Allāh and His Messenger – Allāh has cursed them in this world and the Hereafter and prepared for them a humiliating punishment.
58. And those who harm believing men and believing women for [something] other than what they have earned [i.e., deserved] have certainly born upon themselves a slander and manifest sin.
59. O Prophet, tell your wives and your daughters and the women of the believers to bring down over themselves [part] of their outer garments.<sup>1130</sup> That is more suitable that they will be known<sup>1131</sup> and not be abused. And ever is Allāh Forgiving and Merciful.<sup>1132</sup>
60. If the hypocrites and those in whose hearts is disease<sup>1133</sup> and those who spread rumors in al-Madīnah do not cease, We will surely incite you against them; then they will not remain your neighbors therein except for a little,
61. Accursed wherever they are found, [being] seized and massacred completely.
62. [This is] the established way of Allāh with those who passed on before; and you will not find in the way of Allāh any change.

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<sup>1129</sup> It is permissible for a woman to appear before these people without complete covering and to be alone with them. The brothers of both parents (uncles) are included as "fathers" or "parents," according to *ḥadīth*.

<sup>1130</sup> The *jilbāb*, which is defined as a cloak covering the head and reaching to the ground, thereby covering the woman's entire body.

<sup>1131</sup> As chaste believing women.

<sup>1132</sup> Or "and Allāh was Forgiving and Merciful" of what occurred before this injunction or before knowledge of it.

<sup>1133</sup> Referring here to those who commit adultery or fornication.