

of what they did. Allāh had enumerated it, while they forgot it; and Allāh is, over all things, Witness.

7. Have you not considered that Allāh knows what is in the heavens and what is on the earth? There is in no private conversation three but that He is the fourth of them,<sup>1530</sup> nor are there five but that He is the sixth of them – and no less than that and no more except that He is with them [in knowledge] wherever they are. Then He will inform them of what they did, on the Day of Resurrection. Indeed Allāh is, of all things, Knowing.
8. Have you not considered those who were forbidden from private conversation [i.e., ridicule and conspiracy] and then return to that which they were forbidden and converse among themselves about sin and aggression and disobedience to the Messenger? And when they come to you, they greet you with that [word] by which Allāh does not greet you<sup>1531</sup> and say among themselves, "Why does Allāh not punish us for what we say?" Sufficient for them is Hell, which they will [enter to] burn, and wretched is the destination.
9. O you who have believed, when you converse privately, do not converse about sin and aggression and disobedience to the Messenger but converse about righteousness and piety. And fear Allāh, to whom you will be gathered.
10. Private conversation is only from Satan that he may grieve those who have believed,<sup>1532</sup> but he will not harm them at all except by permission of Allāh. And upon Allāh let the believers rely.

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<sup>1530</sup>Through His knowledge of them and their secrets.

<sup>1531</sup>This is in reference to the Jews who would greet the Muslims with the words "Death be upon you," rather than "Peace."

<sup>1532</sup>The reference may be to the sinful type of conversation, as mentioned in the previous verses, or to the practice of two persons speaking in confidence in the presence of a third, which might lead him to assume that he is the subject of their conversation. Such behavior was prohibited by the Prophet (ﷺ) in narrations of al-Bukhārī and Muslim.

11. O you who have believed, when you are told, "Space yourselves" in assemblies, then make space; Allāh will make space for you.<sup>1533</sup> And when you are told, "Arise,"<sup>1534</sup> then arise; Allāh will raise those who have believed among you and those who were given knowledge, by degrees. And Allāh is Acquainted with what you do.
12. O you who have believed, when you [wish to] privately consult the Messenger, present before your consultation a charity. That is better for you and purer. But if you find not [the means] – then indeed, Allāh is Forgiving and Merciful.
13. Have you feared to present before your consultation charities? Then when you do not and Allāh has forgiven you, then [at least] establish prayer and give zakāh and obey Allāh and His Messenger. And Allāh is Acquainted with what you do.
14. Have you not considered those who make allies of a people with whom Allāh has become angry? They are neither of you nor of them, and they swear to untruth while they know [they are lying].
15. Allāh has prepared for them a severe punishment. Indeed, it was evil that they were doing.
16. They took their [false] oaths as a cover, so they averted [people] from the way of Allāh, and for them is a humiliating punishment.
17. Never will their wealth or their children avail them against Allāh at all. Those are the companions of the Fire; they will abide therein eternally
18. On the Day Allāh will resurrect them all, and they will swear to Him as they swear to you and think that they are [standing] on something.<sup>1535</sup> Unquestionably, it is they who are the liars.
19. Satan has overcome them and made them forget the remembrance

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<sup>1533</sup>In His mercy, in Paradise, or in everything good.

<sup>1534</sup>To prayer, to battle, or to good deeds.

<sup>1535</sup>They assume that their lies will be believed and that they will escape detection as they did in worldly life.