unseen and the witnessed.¹⁵⁴⁵ He is the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful.

- 23. He is Allāh, other than whom there is no deity, the Sovereign, the Pure, the Perfection,¹⁵⁴⁶ the Bestower of Faith,¹⁵⁴⁷ the Overseer, the Exalted in Might, the Compeller, the Superior. Exalted is Allāh above whatever they associate with Him.
- 24. He is Allāh, the Creator, the Inventor, the Fashioner; to Him belong the best names.¹⁵⁴⁸ Whatever is in the heavens and earth is exalting Him. And He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise.

¹⁵⁴⁵ See footnotes to 6:73.

¹⁵⁴⁶ Literally, "Free" from any imperfection or "the Security."

¹⁵⁴⁷ Or "of Safety."

¹⁵⁴⁸ Refer to the final paragraphs of the "Introduction" for a brief discussion of these attributes.

Sūrah al-Mumtahinah¹⁵⁴⁹

Bismillāhir-Rahmānir-Raheem

- 1. O you who have believed, do not take My enemies and your enemies as allies,¹⁵⁵⁰ extending to them affection while they have disbelieved in what came to you of the truth, having driven out the Prophet and vourselves [only] because you believe in Allāh, your Lord. If you have come out for jihād [i.e., fighting or striving] in My cause and seeking means to My approval, [take them not as friends]. You confide to them affection [i.e., instruction], but I am most knowing of what you have concealed and what you have declared. And whoever does it among you has certainly strayed from the soundness of the way.
- 2. If they gain dominance over you, they would be [i.e., behave] to vou as enemies and extend against vou their hands and their tongues with evil, and they wish you would disbelieve.
- 3. Never will your relatives or your children benefit you; the Day of Resurrection He will judge between you. And Allah, of what you do, is Seeing.
- 4. There has already been for you an excellent pattern¹⁵⁵¹ in Abraham and those with him, when they said to their people, "Indeed, we are disassociated from you and from whatever you worship other than Allāh. We have denied you, and there has appeared between us and you animosity and hatred forever until vou believe in Allāh alone" – except for the saving of Abraham to his father, "I will surely ask forgiveness for you, but I have not [power to do] for you anything against Allah. Our Lord, upon You we have relied, and to You we have returned, and to You is the destination.

¹⁵⁴⁹ Al-Muntahinah: That (Sūrah) Which Examines. Also called "al-Muntahanah," meaning "The Woman Examined." 1550i.e., close associates and friends.

¹⁵⁵¹ An example to be followed.