

knowing about your faith. You [believers] are of one another. So marry them with the permission of their people and give them their due compensation [i.e., mahr] according to what is acceptable. [They should be] chaste, neither [of] those who commit unlawful intercourse randomly nor those who take [secret] lovers. But once they are sheltered in marriage, if they should commit adultery, then for them is half the punishment for free [unmarried] women. This [allowance] is for him among you who fears affliction [i.e., sin], but to be patient is better for you. And Allāh is Forgiving and Merciful.

26. Allāh wants to make clear to you [the lawful from the unlawful] and guide you to the [good] practices of those before you and to accept your repentance. And Allāh is Knowing and Wise.
27. Allāh wants to accept your repentance, but those who follow [their] passions want you to digress [into] a great deviation.
28. And Allāh wants to lighten for you [your difficulties]; and mankind was created weak.
29. O you who have believed, do not consume one another's wealth unjustly<sup>155</sup> but only [in lawful] business by mutual consent. And do not kill yourselves [or one another]. Indeed, Allāh is to you ever Merciful.
30. And whoever does that in aggression and injustice – then We will drive him into a Fire. And that, for Allāh, is [always] easy.
31. If you avoid the major sins which you are forbidden, We will remove from you your lesser sins and admit you to a noble entrance [into Paradise].
32. And do not wish for that by which Allāh has made some of you exceed others. For men is a share of what they have earned, and for women is a share of<sup>156</sup> what they have earned. And ask Allāh of His bounty. Indeed Allāh is ever, of all things, Knowing.

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<sup>155</sup>i.e., unlawfully or under false pretense.

<sup>156</sup>This may refer to shares of inheritance, wages and reward in the Hereafter.

33. And for all, We have made heirs to what is left by parents and relatives. And to those whom your oaths have bound [to you] – give them their share.<sup>157</sup> Indeed Allāh is ever, over all things, a Witness.
34. Men are in charge of women<sup>158</sup> by [right of] what Allāh has given one over the other and what they spend [for maintenance] from their wealth. So righteous women are devoutly obedient, guarding in [the husband's] absence what Allāh would have them guard.<sup>159</sup> But those [wives] from whom you fear arrogance – [first] advise them; [then if they persist], forsake them in bed; and [finally], strike them.<sup>160</sup> But if they obey you [once more], seek no means against them. Indeed, Allāh is ever Exalted and Grand.
35. And if you fear dissension between the two, send an arbitrator from his people and an arbitrator from her people. If they both desire reconciliation, Allāh will cause it between them. Indeed, Allāh is ever Knowing and Acquainted [with all things].
36. Worship Allāh and associate nothing with Him, and to parents do good, and to relatives, orphans, the needy, the near neighbor, the neighbor farther away, the companion at your side,<sup>161</sup> the traveler, and those whom your right hands possess. Indeed, Allāh does not like those who are self-deluding and boastful,
37. Who are stingy and enjoin upon [other] people stinginess and conceal what Allāh has given them of His bounty – and We have prepared for the disbelievers a humiliating punishment –
38. And [also] those who spend of their wealth to be seen by the people and believe not in Allāh nor in the Last Day. And he to whom Satan is a companion – then evil is he as a companion.

<sup>157</sup>By bequest, as only those relatives mentioned in verses 11 and 12 inherit fixed shares.

<sup>158</sup>This applies primarily to the husband-wife relationship.

<sup>159</sup>i.e., their husbands' property and their own chastity.

<sup>160</sup>As a last resort. It is unlawful to strike the face or to cause bodily injury.

<sup>161</sup>i.e., those whose acquaintance you have made. Also interpreted as the wife.