not raise my hand against you to kill you. Indeed, I fear Allāh, Lord of the worlds.

- 29. Indeed, I want you to obtain [thereby] my sin and your sin so you will be among the companions of the Fire. And that is the recompense of wrongdoers."
- 30. And his soul permitted to him<sup>226</sup> the murder of his brother, so he killed him and became among the losers.
- 31. Then Allāh sent a crow searching [i.e., scratching] in the ground to show him how to hide the disgrace<sup>227</sup> of his brother. He said, "O woe to me! Have I failed to be like this crow and hide the disgrace [i.e., body] of my brother?" And he became of the regretful.
- 32. Because of that, We decreed upon the Children of Israel that whoever kills a soul unless for a soul<sup>228</sup> or for corruption [done] in the land<sup>229</sup> it is as if he had slain mankind entirely. And whoever saves one<sup>230</sup> it is as if he had saved mankind entirely. And Our messengers had certainly come to them with clear proofs. Then indeed many of them, [even] after that, throughout the land, were transgressors.<sup>231</sup>
- 33. Indeed, the penalty<sup>232</sup> for those who wage war<sup>233</sup> against Allāh and His Messenger and strive upon earth [to cause] corruption is none but that they be killed or crucified or that their hands and feet be cut off from opposite sides or that they be exiled from the land. That is for them a disgrace in this world; and for them in the Hereafter is a great punishment,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>226</sup>i.e., the killer allowed himself.

<sup>227</sup> Referring to the dead body, evidence of his shameful deed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>228</sup>i.e., in legal retribution for murder.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>229</sup><sub>220</sub>i.e., that requiring the death penalty.

<sup>230</sup> Or refrains from killing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>231</sup>Heedless of Allāh's limits, negligent of their responsibilities.

<sup>232</sup> Legal retribution.

<sup>233</sup> i.e., commit acts of violence and terrorism against individuals or treason and aggression against the Islāmic state.

- 34. Except for those who return [repenting] before you overcome [i.e., apprehend] them. And know that Allāh is Forgiving and Merciful.
- 35. O you who have believed, fear Allāh and seek the means [of nearness] to Him and strive in His cause that you may succeed.
- 36. Indeed, those who disbelieve if they should have all that is in the earth and the like of it with it by which to ransom themselves from the punishment of the Day of Resurrection, it will not be accepted from them, and for them is a painful punishment.
- 37. They will wish to get out of the Fire, but never are they to emerge therefrom, and for them is an enduring punishment.
- 38. [As for] the thief, the male and the female, amputate their hands in recompense for what they earned [i.e., committed] as a deterrent [punishment] from Allāh. And Allāh is Exalted in Might and Wise.
- But whoever repents after his wrongdoing and reforms, indeed, Allāh will turn to him in forgiveness. Indeed, Allāh is Forgiving and Merciful.
- 40. Do you not know that to Allāh belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth? He punishes whom He wills and forgives whom He wills, and Allāh is over all things competent.
- 41. O Messenger, let them not grieve you who hasten into disbelief of those who say, "We believe" with their mouths, but their hearts believe not, and from among the Jews. [They are] avid listeners to falsehood, listening to another people who have not come to you.<sup>234</sup> They distort words beyond their [proper] places [i.e., usages], saying, "If you are given this,<sup>235</sup> take it; but if you are not given it, then beware." But he for whom Allāh intends fitnah<sup>236</sup> – never will you possess [power to do]

 $<sup>^{234}</sup>_{225}$  They had not attended the Prophet's gatherings or heard his words.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>235</sup>The legal ruling desired by them.

<sup>236</sup> The meaning here is misbelief, misconception, or self-delusion as a result of one's own refusal of truth.