

## *Sūrah al-Anfāl*<sup>399</sup>

### *Bismillāhir-Raḥmānir-Raḥeem*

1. They ask you, [O Muḥammad], about the bounties [of war]. Say, "The [decision concerning] bounties is for Allāh and the Messenger." So fear Allāh and amend that which is between you and obey Allāh and His Messenger, if you should be believers.
2. The believers are only those who, when Allāh is mentioned, their hearts become fearful, and when His verses are recited to them, it increases them in faith; and upon their Lord they rely –
3. The ones who establish prayer, and from what We have provided them, they spend.
4. Those are the believers, truly. For them are degrees [of high position] with their Lord and forgiveness and noble provision.
5. [It<sup>400</sup> is] just as when your Lord brought you out of your home [for the battle of Badr] in truth, while indeed, a party among the believers were unwilling,
6. Arguing with you concerning the truth after it had become clear, as if they were being driven toward death while they were looking on.
7. [Remember, O believers], when Allāh promised you one of the two groups<sup>401</sup> – that it would be yours – and you wished that the unarmed one would be yours. But Allāh intended to establish the truth by His words and to eliminate the disbelievers
8. That He should establish the truth and abolish falsehood, even if the criminals disliked it.
9. [Remember] when you asked help of your Lord, and He answered you, "Indeed, I will reinforce you with a thousand from the angels, following one another."

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<sup>399</sup> *Al-Anfāl*: The Bounties, meaning those things acquired in addition to victory, i.e., the spoils of war.

<sup>400</sup> Referring to a dispute which occurred among the Muslims over distribution of war booty.

<sup>401</sup> i.e., either the caravan of Quraysh or their army.

10. And Allāh made it not but good tidings and so that your hearts would be assured thereby. And victory is not but from Allāh. Indeed, Allāh is Exalted in Might and Wise.
11. [Remember] when He overwhelmed you with drowsiness [giving] security from Him and sent down upon you from the sky, rain by which to purify you and remove from you the evil [suggestions] of Satan and to make steadfast your hearts and plant firmly thereby your feet.
12. [Remember] when your Lord inspired to the angels, "I am with you, so strengthen those who have believed. I will cast terror into the hearts of those who disbelieved, so strike [them] upon the necks and strike from them every fingertip."<sup>402</sup>
13. That is because they opposed Allāh and His Messenger. And whoever opposes Allāh and His Messenger – indeed, Allāh is severe in penalty.
14. "That [is yours], so taste it." And indeed for the disbelievers is the punishment of the Fire.
15. O you who have believed, when you meet those who disbelieve advancing [in battle], do not turn to them your backs [in flight].
16. And whoever turns his back to them on such a day, unless swerving [as a strategy] for war or joining [another] company, has certainly returned with anger [upon him] from Allāh, and his refuge is Hell – and wretched is the destination.
17. And you did not kill them, but it was Allāh who killed them.<sup>403</sup> And you threw not, [O Muḥammad], when you threw, but it was Allāh who threw<sup>404</sup> that He might test the believers with a good test.<sup>405</sup> Indeed, Allāh is Hearing and Knowing.

<sup>402</sup>By which they grasp and manipulate their weapons. Also interpreted as "all extremities," i.e., their hands and feet.

<sup>403</sup>i.e., Your strength was insufficient to overcome them, but Allāh supported you and gave you victory.

<sup>404</sup>When the Prophet (ﷺ) threw a handful of dust into the faces of the disbelievers, Allāh caused it to fill the eyes and nose of every soldier, preventing their advance.

<sup>405</sup>So that they would appreciate Allāh's favor to them.