

CHAPTER 3

Āl ‘Imrān: The Family of Amran

(REVEALED AT MADĪNAH: 20 sections; 200 verses)

SECTION 1:

Rule of Interpretation

In the name of Allāh, the Beneficent, the Merciful.

1 I, Allāh, am the best Knower,

2 Allāh, (there is) no god but He, the Ever-living, the Self-subsisting, by Whom all subsist.

3 He has revealed to thee the Book with truth, verifying that which is before it, and He revealed the Torah and the Gospel

4 Aforetime, a guidance for the people, and He sent the Discrimination. Those who disbelieve in the messages of Allāh — for them is a severe chastisement. And Allāh is Mighty, the Lord of retribution.

5 Surely nothing in the earth or in the heaven is hidden from Allāh.

6 He it is Who shapes you

in the wombs as He pleases. There is no god but He, the Mighty, the Wise.

7 He it is Who has revealed the Book to thee; some of its verses are decisive — they are the basis of the Book — and others are allegorical. Then those in whose hearts is perversity follow the part of it which is allegorical, seeking to mislead, and seeking to give it (their own) interpretation. And none knows its interpretation save Allāh, and those firmly rooted in knowledge. They say: We believe in it, it is all from our Lord. And none mind except men of understanding.

8 Our Lord, make not our hearts to deviate after Thou hast guided us and grant us mercy from Thee; surely Thou art the most liberal Giver.

9 Our Lord, surely Thou

art the Gatherer of men on a day about which there is no doubt. Surely Allāh will not fail in (His) promise.

SECTION 2:

Unity the Basis of all Religions

10 Those who disbelieve, neither their wealth nor their children will avail them aught against Allāh. And they will be fuel for fire —

11 As was the case of the people of Pharaoh, and those before them! They rejected Our messages, so Allāh destroyed them on account of their sins. And Allāh is Severe in requiting (evil).

12 Say to those who disbelieve: You shall be vanquished, and driven together to hell; and evil is the resting-place.

13 Indeed there was a sign for you in the two hosts (which) met together in encounter — one party fighting in the way of Allāh and the other disbelieving, whom they saw twice as many as themselves with the sight of the eye. And Allāh strengthens with His

aid whom He pleases. There is a lesson in this for those who have eyes.

14 Fair-seeming to men is made the love of desires, of women and sons and hoarded treasures of gold and silver and well-bred horses and cattle and tilth. This is the provision of the life of this world. And Allāh — with Him is the good goal (of life).

15 Say: Shall I tell you of what is better than these? For those who guard against evil are Gardens with their Lord, in which rivers flow, to abide in them, and pure companions and Allāh's goodly pleasure. And Allāh is Seer of the servants.

16 Those who say: Our Lord, we believe, so forgive our sins and save us from the chastisement of the fire.

17 The patient and the truthful, and the obedient, and those who spend and those who ask Divine protection in the morning times.

18 Allāh bears witness that there is no god but He, and (so do) the angels and

those possessed of knowledge, maintaining justice. There is no god but He, the Mighty, the Wise.

19 Surely the (true) religion with Allāh is Islām. And those who were given the Book differed only after knowledge had come to them, out of envy among themselves. And whoever disbelieves in the messages of Allāh — Allāh indeed is Quick at reckoning.

20 But if they dispute with thee say: I submit myself entirely to Allāh and (so does) he who follows me. And say to those who have been given the Book and the Unlearned (people): Do you submit yourselves? If they submit, then indeed they follow the right way; and if they turn back, thy duty is only to deliver the message. And Allāh is Seer of the servants.

SECTION 3:

The Kingdom is Granted to Another People

21 Those who disbelieve in the messages of Allāh and would slay the prophets unjustly and slay those

among men who enjoin justice, announce to them a painful chastisement.

22 Those are they whose works will be of no avail in this world and the Hereafter, and they will have no helpers.

23 Hast thou not seen those who are given a portion of the Book? They are invited to the Book of Allāh that it may decide between them, then a party of them turn back and they withdraw.

24 This is because they say: The Fire shall not touch us but for a few days; and that which they forge deceives them regarding their religion.

25 Then how will it be when We gather them together on a day about which there is no doubt. And every soul shall be fully paid what it has earned, and they shall not be wronged?

26 Say: O Allāh, Owner of the Kingdom, Thou givest the kingdom to whom Thou pleasest, and takest away the kingdom from whom Thou pleasest,

and Thou exaltest whom Thou pleasest and abasest whom Thou pleasest. In Thine hand is the good. Surely, Thou art Possessor of power over all things.

27 Thou makest the night to pass into the day and Thou makest the day to pass into the night; and Thou bringest forth the living from the dead and Thou bringest forth the dead from the living; and Thou givest sustenance to whom Thou pleasest without measure.

28 Let not the believers take the disbelievers for friends rather than believers. And whoever does this has no connection with Allāh — except that you guard yourselves against them, guarding carefully. And Allāh cautions you against His retribution. And to Allāh is the eventual coming.

29 Say: Whether you hide what is in your hearts or manifest it, Allāh knows it. And He knows whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth. And Allāh is Possessor of power over all things.

30 On the day when every

soul will find present that which it has done of good; and that which it has done of evil — it will wish that between it and that (evil) there were a long distance. And Allāh cautions you against His retribution. And Allāh is Compassionate to the servants.

SECTION 4: Last Members of a Chosen Race

31 Say: If you love Allāh, follow me: Allāh will love you, and grant you protection from your sins. And Allāh is Forgiving, Merciful.

32 Say: Obey Allāh and the Messenger; but if they turn back, Allāh surely loves not the disbelievers.

33 Truly Allāh chose Adam and Noah and the descendants of Abraham and the descendants of Amran above the nations,

34 Offspring, one of the other. And Allāh is Hearing, Knowing.

35 When a woman of Amran said: My Lord, I vow to Thee what is in my womb, to be devoted (to Thy service), so accept (it)