

Introduction:

After talking about the first man who was given guidance, Allah talks in detail about Bani Israel who were the believing nation before us. These verses were revealed in Madinah and the city had several Jewish tribes. Allah invites them to accept the Prophethood of Mohammed ﷺ whose arrival was predicted in their book. More importantly, these verses show us in detail how a community loses its moral and spiritual connection when it goes away from the truth. This way, we can recognize the reasons for problem in today's Muslim society.

Even more important are the guidelines given here to correct a corrupt society, which believes in Allah and His messengers, just as we do today.

We can work on these guidelines to improve our condition today.

وَأَوْفُوا	الَّتِي أَنْعَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ	اذْكُرُوا نِعْمَتِي	يَبْنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ
and fulfill	which I have bestowed upon you	Remember My favor	O Children of Israel!
وَامِنُوا بِمَا	وَإِيَّائِي فَارْهَبُونِ 40	أَوْفِ بِعَهْدِكُمْ	بِعَهْدِي
And believe in what	and fear Me alone.	(so that) I will fulfill your covenant,	My covenant
وَلَا تَشْتَرُوا	أَوَّلَ كَافِرٍ بِهِ	وَلَا تَكُونُوا	لِمَا مَعَكُمْ
And do not exchange	the first to disbelieve in it.	and do not be	that which is with you,
			confirming
			I have sent down
وَلَا تَلْبِسُوا الْحَقَّ بِالْبَاطِلِ	وَإِيَّائِي فَاتَّقُونِ 41	ثَمَنًا قَلِيلًا	بِآيَاتِي
And do not mix the truth with falsehood	and fear Me alone.	for a small price,	My verses
	وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ 42	وَتَكْتُمُوا الْحَقَّ	
	while you know [it].	or conceal the truth	

Brief Explanation

➤ ...: This verse talks about 3 Do's:

1. Remember the favors of Allah so that you are motivated to obey him. Remember the blessings of Prophets and books that were given to your generations and now Prophet Muhammad ﷺ has come with the truth.

Hadith

Ibn Mas'ud narrated that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: "The feet of the son of Adam shall not move from before his Rabb on the Day of Judgment, until he is asked about five things: about his life and what he did with it, about his youth and what he wore it out in, about his wealth and how he earned it and spent it upon, and what he did with what he knew." (Tirmidhi: 2416)

2. Fulfill the covenant, and
3. Fear Allah alone

وَأْمِنُوا بِمَا أَنْزَلْتُ: Four orders are given in this verse.

1. Believe in the Qur'an
2. Don't be the first to reject it. You know the prediction about Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in the Tawrah so you should be the first to believe in what is revealed to him.
3. Don't compromise for the sake of worldly benefits.
4. Fear Allah alone.

وَلَا تَلْبِسُوا الْحَقَّ بِالْبَاطِلِ: This verse talks about 2 Don'ts:

- The scholars of Bani Israel had adopted two strategies to keep people away from accepting Islam.
- If someone knew a little about Tawrah and saw some signs Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, they will confuse him by mixing truth with falsehood.
- If someone did not know Tawrah at all, they will hide the predictions of Torah from him completely.

Lessons, Du'aas, and Plans

Many lessons, Du'aas, and plans can be derived from these ayaat. Below are some examples.

Even though these verses are addressed to Bani Israel, they have very important messages for us too:

- Remember the uncountable favors of Allah upon us, starting with Al-Qur'an and Prophet ﷺ.
- Fulfill Allah's 'Ahd, i.e., worship Him alone, obey Him, believe and support His messengers, etc.
- Fear Allah alone and not society, culture, people, etc.
- Believe in the Qur'an and fulfill its rights.
- Don't compromise when it comes to Allah's commands.
- Always be God-conscious.
- Don't mix the truth with falsehood and don't conceal it.

Du'a: أَللَّهُمَّ أَعِني عَلَى ذِكْرِكَ وَشُكْرِكَ وَحُسْنِ عِبَادَتِكَ

Plan: I will watch a small clip or read an article on the topic of Dawah so that I can present the true picture of Islam to others.

Nouns and Verbs

For ease in practice, search only 3-letter sound verbs in the verses and practice their 6 keys. Again, from the start, search for the 3-letter weak verbs and practice their 6 keys.

Verbs (3-letter sound verbs are listed first; then 3-letter weak verbs, and then Mazeed Feeh verbs)								
Meaning	Name of action	اسم مفعول	اسم فاعل	فعل امر	فعل مضارع	فعل ماضٍ	Root & Code	Rep.
to remember	ذَكَرَ	مَذْكُورٌ	ذَاكِرٌ	أَذْكُرْ	يَذْكُرُ	ذَكَرَ	ذ ك ر ز	164
to fear	رَهَبَ	مَرْهُوبٌ	رَاهِبٌ	ارْهَبْ	يَرْهَبُ	رَهَبَ	ر ه ب س	3
to mix	لَبَسَ	مَلْبُوسٌ	لَابِسٌ	الْبَسْ	يَلْبَسُ	لَبَسَ	ل ب س ض	11
to conceal	كَتَمَ	مَكْتُومٌ	كَاتِمٌ	اُكْتُمْ	يَكْتُمُ	كَتَمَ	ك ت م ز	21
to know	عَلِمَ	مَعْلُومٌ	عَالِمٌ	اعْلَمْ	يَعْلَمُ	عَلِمَ	ع ل م س	518
to be	كَانَ	-	كَائِنٌ	كُنْ	يَكُونُ	كَانَ	ك و ن ق ا	1358

Nouns		
Meaning	Plural	Singular
favor	نِعَمٌ	نِعْمَةٌ
small × more	قَلِيلٌ × كَثِيرٌ	

وَأَتُوا الزَّكَاةَ

and give Zakah

وَأَقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ

And establish prayer

وَتَنْسَوْنَ

and forget

أَتَأْمُرُونَ النَّاسَ بِالْبِرِّ

Do you order the people of righteousness

43 وَأَرْكَعُوا مَعَ الرَّاكِعِينَ

and bow down with those who bow down.

بِالصَّبْرِ

through patience

وَأَسْتَعِينُوا

And seek help

44 أَفَلَا تَعْقِلُونَ

Then will you not use reason?

وَأَنْتُمْ تَتْلُونَ الْكِتَابَ

while you recite the Book?

أَنْفُسَكُمْ

yourselves

الَّذِينَ يَظُنُّونَ

Those who believe

45 إِلَّا عَلَى الْخَاشِعِينَ

except on the humble ones

وَأَنَّهَا لَكَبِيرَةٌ

and indeed, it is surely difficult

وَالصَّلَاةَ

and the prayer,

46 إِلَيْهِ رَجُعُونَ

will return to Him.

وَأَنْتُمْ

and that they

أَنْتُمْ مُلْقُوا رَبَّهُمْ

that they will meet their Rabb

Brief Explanation

- Prayer helps us remember Allah, thank Allah, revive and recharge our relationship with Allah, etc.
- Prayer in congregation helps us in many ways such as being punctual, learning from others, meeting like-minded people, getting reminders from others, etc.

Hadith

Allah's Messenger ﷺ said: "Indeed the first deed by which a servant will be called to account on the Day of Resurrection is his Salat. If it is complete, he is successful and saved, but if it is defective, he has failed and lost. So if something is deficient in his obligatory (prayers) then the Rabb, Mighty and Sublime says: 'Look! Are there any voluntary (prayers) for my worshipper?' So with them, what was deficient in his obligatory (prayers) will be completed. Then the rest of his deeds will be treated like that." (Tirmidhi: 413)

- In one another Hadith, the Prophet ﷺ said: Between man and polytheism and unbelief is the abandonment of Salat. (Muslim: 82)
- Zakah removes the love of this world because of which people violate the laws of Allah. Instead of giving Zakah, Bani Israel were taking Riba / interest.
- وَأَرْكَعُوا مَعَ الرَّاكِعِينَ: Pray with others, rich or poor, laborers or officers. This removes arrogance and generates humility.
- بِرٍّ: To do good deeds to please Allah such as to worship Allah, serve parents, have good morals, be just, serve humanity, etc.
- Ordering others to do good deeds is one duty and practicing what we preach is another duty. Both need to be performed.
- Practice what you preach. Simultaneously, don't say: I am not practicing so I will not preach to others.