

Fast 3

Prophet brings people from darkness into light:

“A Book which We have revealed to you (O Prophet) that you may bring forth people, by their Lord’s permission, **from darkness into light**, to the way of the Mighty, the Praised One, of Allah, Whose is whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth.” — 14:1–2

“He it is Who sends down clear messages to His servant, **that he may bring you forth from darkness into light**. And surely Allah is Kind, Merciful to you.” — 57:9

“...a Messenger who recites to you the clear messages of Allah, so that he may bring forth those who believe and do good deeds **from darkness into light**.” — 65:11

Notes: Light enables people to see things, to see the right path to follow, in contrast to the wrong path to avoid. The Holy Prophet brought people into that light so that they could see for themselves what was right and what was wrong. Bringing people into light is, therefore, quite different from giving them a set of rules and regulations which they follow *blindly*, *without light*, in the hope that this will lead to their salvation.

The word for “darkness” in all the above verses is the plural *zulumat*. The Holy Prophet’s countrymen were enveloped in many types of darkness: idol-worship, ignorance, cruel customs, superstition, blind following of tradition, blind following of religious leaders, injustice, oppression of the helpless, etc., etc. The “clear messages of Allah”, delivered to them by the Holy Prophet, brought them into light so that they could see the darkness they had been living in.

“Is he who was dead, then We raised him to life and **made for him a light** by which he walks among the people, like him whose likeness is that of one in darkness from which he cannot come forth?” — 6:122

Notes: This verse is not speaking about a particular person or about someone who was dead in body. It is about morally and spiritually dead persons being raised to life by the Holy Prophet and being given guidance to lead their lives. The words “by which he walks among the people” mean that such a person then guides other people too, who can follow his light.

“O Prophet, surely We have sent you as a witness, and a bearer of good news and a warner, and as an inviter to Allah by His permission, **and as a light-giving sun**.” — 33:45–46

Notes: The “light-giving sun” illuminates the whole world. When the sun is out, lesser lights (or previous prophets) are no longer necessary.
