

Fast 17

“And this Quran is not such as could be forged by those besides Allah, but it is a verification of what is before it and **a clear explanation of the Book**, there is no doubt in it, from the Lord of the worlds.” — Ch. 10, v. 37

Notes: The Quran verifies the revelation which came before it, and is a clear explanation “of the Book”, i.e. clear explanation of all those concepts and doctrines which had been mentioned in previous revelation and also in the Quran. It explains in clear words the important principles of religion which in previous scriptures are dealt with only vaguely. For example, the Bible does not give any details of what is life after death, but the Quran sheds full light on the nature of that life. The attributes of God are not explained clearly in the Bible, a deficiency which led to the wrong belief in the Divinity of Jesus. The Quran explained them fully so as to leave no doubt about them. Moreover, the Quran’s explanation includes the arguments and evidence it puts forward to support its doctrines.

“Shall I then seek a judge other than Allah, when He it is Who has sent down to you **the Book fully explained**. And those whom We have given the Book know that it is revealed by your Lord with truth, so do not be one of the disputers.” — Ch. 6, v. 114.

Notes: Many wrong interpretations of Islam, which bring Islam into ridicule and do harm to Muslims themselves, arise due to ignoring the Quran, which is “the Book fully explained”, and taking other sources as judges and final authorities instead of Allah. Here the Holy Prophet himself says that he takes none other than Allah as judge, through His Book.

In the second sentence, “those whom We have given the Book” mean Muslims who have knowledge of the Quran. They “know”, i.e. they know through knowledge, that it is a revelation from God containing the truth and that it should be the judge. Those who are ignorant are the disputers.

“In their histories there is certainly a lesson for those who have understanding. It is not a narrative which could be forged, but a verification of what is before it, **and a distinct explanation of all things**, and a guide and a mercy to a people who believe.” — Ch. 12, v. 111.

Notes: By “their histories” are meant the histories of the previous prophets which teach the lesson that though, for long, they faced the most difficult, hopeless circumstances against their opponents, so much so that they despaired of success, but in the end God’s help came to them and they were triumphant while the guilty opponents perished (this is stated in the verse before this, v. 110 in Ch. 12).

“And We have revealed the Book to you (O Prophet) **explaining all things**, and a guidance and mercy and good news for those who submit.” — Ch. 16, v. 89.

Notes: In the last two verses quoted above, the Quran is described as explaining “all things”. By “all things” are meant all the basic principles necessary for the physical, moral, and spiritual development of human beings.

Regarding Moses and the Torah, it is stated in the Quran: “And We ordained for him in the tablets admonition of every kind and clear explanation of all things” (7:145), and “Again, We gave the Book to Moses to complete (Our blessings) on him who would do good, and making plain all things and a guidance and a mercy” (6:154). By “all things” here are meant all things necessary for the guidance of the Israelites since Moses’ message was only for his people: “And certainly We sent Moses with Our messages, saying: Bring forth *your people* from darkness into light” (14:5).

Inspiring sayings

Maulana Muhammad Ali said in a Friday *khutba*:

“Remember that no one can find enjoyment in prayer without getting up during the night. There should be such restlessness in your hearts that it wakes you up during the night: ‘They forsake their beds, calling upon their Lord in fear and in hope, and spend out of what We have given them’ [Holy Quran, 32:16]. Your warm and soft beds should not lull you to such sleep that you cannot wake. If at this time when the religion of Islam is crying for help, your heart is not so moved that you are restless to get up and cry before God, then you have achieved nothing. This is the only way you can make it victorious.” — *A Mighty Striving*, page 285.