

Fast 18

“**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,” — Ch. 14, v. 1.

“Allah has indeed sent down to you a Reminder — (it is) 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**.” Ch. 65, v. 10–11.

“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.” — Ch. 57, v. 9.

“On that day you will see the believers, men and women, **their light gleaming before them and on their right hand**. Good news for you this day! — Gardens in which rivers flow, to abide in them! That is the mighty achievement.” — Ch. 57, v. 12.

Notes: Christian evangelists proclaim that, according to the Gospels, Jesus claimed to be the “light of this world” and said that he who follows him shall have the light of life (John, 8:12), and that Jesus also called his disciples as “the light of this world” (Matthew 5:14). In the first three verses quoted above, the Quran claims that the Prophet Muhammad would bring people from darkness into light by means of the Quran. The claim of the Quran was proved true at that very time when those who followed it were brought into the light of knowledge and learning, and the bright world of good morals and justice, from the dark lives of ignorance, superstition, injustice and evil deeds in which they were completely enveloped. They then proceeded to spread the light of civilization to the world outside.

The fourth verse quoted above (57:12) occurs shortly after the third one (57:9). It shows that the light into which the believers, men and women, are brought in this world through the Quran, the light which was granted to their souls and inner selves in this life, that same light will be seen to be illuminating them in the life after death.

“Those who follow the Messenger-Prophet, the *Ummī*, whom they find mentioned in the Torah and the Gospel. He enjoins them good and forbids them evil, and makes lawful to them the good things and prohibits for them impure things, and removes from them their burden and the shackles which were on them. So those

who believe in him and honour him and help him, and follow **the light which has been sent down with him** — these are the successful.” — Ch. 7, v. 157.

Notes: Not only did the Quran come to bring people out of darkness into light, but in the verse above, and the two verses quoted below, the Quran itself is called **the light** which has been sent down.

The verse above also mentions what that light leads to. It leads to knowing what is *good* and what is *evil*, and what is *beneficial* and what is *harmful*, and enables one to stick to the former and avoid the latter. Seeing that light also frees people from the *burden of sins* under which they laboured and the *chains of wrong practices and customs* with which they were tied down.

“So believe in Allah and His Messenger and **the light which We have revealed**. And Allah is Aware of what you do.” — Ch. 64, v. 8.

“And thus did We reveal to you (O Prophet) an inspired Book by Our command. You did not know what the Book was, nor (what) Faith (was), but We made it a **light**, guiding with it whom We please of Our servants. And surely you guide to the right path.” — Ch. 42, v. 52.

Inspiring sayings

Maulana Muhammad Ali said in a Friday *khutba*:

“The propagation of the Quran is such a magnificent work that it cannot be done by any community except those people who have the most strongly-felt faith in Allah in their hearts. ... Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad sahib had tremendous love for the Quran ... but when we people read his writings we pay little attention to the need for creating the same passion within us as that which ruled over his heart.” — *A Mighty Striving*, page 302.