

(*Note*: Wherever the word “you” or “your” is singular and refers to one human being, it is printed with an italic y, as in: you. Wherever such a word refers to God, the y is printed in capital, as in: You.)

For Fast 24

Chapter 41

- 30 Those who say, Our Lord is Allah, then continue in the right way, the angels descend upon them saying: Do not fear, nor grieve, and receive good news of the Garden which you were promised.
- 31 We are your friends in this world’s life and in the Hereafter, and in there you have what your souls desire and in there you have what you ask for.

Note: It is in this life that the angels descend upon the faithful, giving them the joyful news that they should not have any fear. In fact, it is here, when the faithful are persecuted and oppressed, and when the powers of evil seem to have the upper hand, that such assurances are most needed, and it is here that the angels give them comfort and strength to bear hardships, and thus they ultimately overcome the forces of evil.

- 32 A welcome gift from the Forgiving, the Merciful.
- 33 And who is better in speech than one who calls to Allah and does good, and says: I am surely one of those who submit?
- 34 And not alike are the good and the evil. Repel (evil) with what is best, when lo! he between whom and you is enmity would be as if he were a warm friend.
- 35 And none is granted it but those who are patient, and none is granted it but the owner of a mighty good fortune.

Note: The way to preach Islam described in verses 33–35 is as follows: (1) By means of *speech*, not force; (2) By setting an example yourself of *doing good* deeds, rather than merely preaching about it; (3) Returning the evil done to you by your opponents *with good*. Then will the heart of your opponent turn, and your enemy will become your warm friend. (4) By exercising *patience*, which is the only way to achieve success through the above means.

- 36 And if a false imputation from the devil afflict you, seek refuge in Allah. Surely He is the Hearing, the Knowing.

Note: The previous verse teaches the repelling of evil with good. This verse suggests another remedy for evil. The Prophet is here told that, if his work is interfered with by evildoers or if false imputations are made against him, he should seek refuge in Allah, and Divine help, which always comes to the righteous, will make truth triumphant.