

prisoners from among them, it was an obligation upon them to ransom them. They did the latter, but did not fulfil the first two obligations.

Allah condemned them for that, and said: ﴿Do you believe only in part of the Book﴾ namely the ransom of prisoners ﴿and deny another part of it?﴾ namely (the prohibition on) killing and expelling one another.

This offers the strongest evidence that faith requires acting upon commands and heeding prohibitions, and that the deeds that are enjoined are part of faith. Allah (ﷻ) says: ﴿The punishment for those among you who do this will be nothing but disgrace in this world﴾, which indeed came to pass. Allah requited them and gave His Messenger (ﷺ) power over them; he executed some of them, captured others and expelled some.

﴿and on the Day of Resurrection they will be condemned to the harshest﴾ that is, the most severe ﴿punishment. For Allah is not unaware of what you do﴾.

Then Allah (ﷻ) tells us the reason why they disbelieved in part of the Book and believed in other parts: ﴿These are the people who buy the life of this world at the cost of the hereafter﴾. They thought that if they did not help their allies, that would be a source of shame. So they chose the flames over shame. Hence Allah says: ﴿their penalty will not be reduced﴾ rather it will remain severe and there will be no time of respite; ﴿nor will they be helped﴾ that is, no harm will be ward off from them.



﴿وَلَقَدْ آتَيْنَا مُوسَى الْكِتَابَ وَقَفَّيْنَا مِنْ بَعْدِهِ بِالرُّسُلِ ۖ وَآتَيْنَا عِيسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ الْبَيِّنَاتِ وَأَيْدِنَاهُ الرُّوحَ الْقُدُسَ ۖ أَفَكُلَّمَا جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ بِمَا لَا تَهْوَى أَنْفُسُكُمْ اسْتَكْبَرْتُمْ فَفَرِيقًا كَذَّبْتُمْ وَفَرِيقًا تَقْتُلُونَ﴾ (سورة البقرة: ٨٧)