

– and seek to adopt a way in between, it is they who are indeed disbelievers...» (*an-Nisā' 4: 150-151*)

Hence Allah (ﷻ) rebuked them emphatically here, with such a strong argument that they could not evade it. He responded to their disbelief in the Qur'an in two ways: He said «even though it is truth» – so if it is truth in all that it contains of stories, commands and prohibitions, and it is from their Lord, then disbelieving in it after that is disbelief in Allah and rejection of the truth that He sent down.

Then He said «confirming that which is with them» that is, in accordance with it in everything that is true and correct, and with final authority over them (previous scriptures). So why do you believe in that which was revealed to you, but you reject that which is equal to it? Can this be anything other than bias and following whims and desires instead of guidance? Moreover, if the Qur'an confirms that which is with them, this is proof for what they have of Books, and they have no way of proving (that their books were originally revealed from Allah) except through the Qur'an. So if they disbelieve in it and reject it, they become like one who made a claim on the basis of proof, and had no other basis for it; his claim cannot be accepted unless his proof is sound, then he examines his proof and argument, and finds them flawed so he rejects them. Is this not foolishness and insanity? Therefore their rejection of the Qur'an is akin to rejection of what they have in their own hands, and undermines it.

Then Allah demonstrated that the claim to believe in what was revealed to them was baseless, as He said:

«Say» to them «Why then did you kill the Prophets of Allah in the past, if you were indeed believers? Moosā came to you with clear signs» that is, he brought clear evidence that pointed to the truth. «yet in his absence» that is, after he had left, «you took the calf [for worship] and thus became transgressors», and you had no excuse for doing that.