

claiming that it is truth. So say to them: «Verily the guidance of Allah» with which I have been sent «is the [only] guidance».

With regard to what they are following, it is whims and desires, based on the fact that Allah then says: «If you were to follow their desires after the knowledge that has come to you, then you would have neither protector nor helper against Allah».

This represents stern instructions not to follow the whims and desires of the Jews and Christians, or to imitate them in that which is exclusive to their religions. Although this is addressed to the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ), his Ummah is also included in that, because what matters is the general application of the verse, regardless of whom it specifically addresses, just as what matters is the general meaning of the text, not the specific reason for which it is given.



﴿الَّذِينَ آتَيْنَاهُمُ الْكِتَابَ يَتْلُونَهُ حَقَّ تِلَاوَتِهِ أُولَٰئِكَ يُؤْمِنُونَ بِهِ ۖ وَمَن يَكْفُرْ بِهِ ۖ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْخَاسِرُونَ ﴿١٢١﴾﴾
 ﴿يَبْنَیْ اِسْرَءِیْلَ اذْكُرُوا نِعْمَتِی الَّتِیْ اَنْعَمْتُ عَلَیْكُمْ وَاَنِّیْ فَضَّلْتُكُمْ عَلَی الْعَالَمِیْنَ ﴿١٢٢﴾﴾
 ﴿وَاتَّقُوا یَوْمًا لَا تَجْزِی نَفْسٌ عَنْ نَفْسٍ شَيْئًا وَلَا یُقْبَلُ مِنْهَا عَدْلٌ وَلَا تَنْفَعُهَا شَفَعَةٌ وَلَا هُمْ یُنصَرُونَ ﴿١٢٣﴾﴾ (سورة البقرة: ١٢١-١٢٣)

- 2:121. Those to whom We have sent the Book read it as it should be read; they are the ones who [truly] believe in it. And those who disbelieve in it, they are the losers.
- 2:122. O Children of Israel, remember the blessing I bestowed upon you, and that I favoured you over all other nations.
- 2:123. Then fear a day when no soul will avail another, no compensation will be accepted from it, no intercession will benefit it nor will they be helped.