

the divine will is there, all measures aimed at achieving the opposite will be diminished. Hence Allah says: ﴿but Allah does whatever He wills﴾. Thus His will always prevails and comes to pass. This and similar verses indicate that Allah (ﷻ) always does what is dictated by His will and wisdom; among the things He does are those that He has told us of Himself, or that His Messenger (ﷺ) has told us of, such as rising above, descending, speaking and other actions that He may or may not do.

Note: Just as the believer is required to know about his Lord, he is also required to know about His Messengers, their essential characteristics, and what is and is not appropriate for them. All of these qualities may be understood from the description that Allah has given of them in numerous verses. For example, they are men, not women, and they are townspeople, not desert dwellers; they are chosen and selected; Allah has instilled in them all praiseworthy characteristics because of which they are qualified to be chosen and selected; they are free of any faults that could undermine their mission as Messengers, such as lying, treachery, concealing knowledge and other faults that would undermine their position; any errors they may make with regard to the message are not condoned (rather they are corrected); and Allah has chosen them to receive His revelation. Hence we must believe in them and obey them; anyone who does not believe in them is a disbeliever, and anyone who criticises or reviles any one of them becomes a disbeliever who has gone beyond the pale of Islam and may be subject to capital punishment. There is a great deal of evidence for what has been mentioned above; whoever ponders the Qur'an, the truth will become clear to him.



﴿يَتَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَنفِقُوا مِمَّا رَزَقْتَكُمْ مِّن قَبْلِ أَن يَأْتِيَ يَوْمٌ لَا بَيْعٌ فِيهِ وَلَا خُلَّةٌ وَلَا شَفِيعَةٌ ۚ وَالْكَافِرُونَ هُمُ الظَّالِمُونَ﴾ (سورة البقرة: ٢٥٤)