



﴿لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ ۚ قَدْ بَيَّنَّ الرُّشْدَ مِنَ الْغَيِّ ۚ فَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِالطَّاغُوتِ وَيُؤْمِنْ
بِاللهِ فَقَدْ اسْتَمْسَكَ بِالْعُرْوَةِ الْوُثْقَىٰ لَا انْفِصَامَ لَهَا ۗ وَاللهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٢٥٦﴾ اللَّهُ وَلِيُّ
الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا يُخْرِجُهُم مِّنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ ۚ وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا أُولَئِكَ هُم
الطَّاغُوتُ يُخْرِجُونَهُم مِّنَ النُّورِ إِلَى الظُّلُمَاتِ ۗ أُولَئِكَ أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ هُمْ فِيهَا
خَالِدُونَ ﴿٢٥٧﴾﴾ (سورة البقرة: ٢٥٦-٢٥٧)

- 2:256. Let there be no compulsion in religion; truth stands out clear from error. Whoever rejects *tāghoot*¹⁹ and believes in Allah has grasped the most trustworthy hand-hold that never breaks. And Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.
- 2:257. Allah is the Protector of those who believe; from the depths of darkness He will lead them forth into light. As for those who disbelieve, their protectors are *tāghoot*; from light they will lead them forth into the depths of darkness. They will be inhabitants of the fire, to abide therein forever.

Here Allah (ﷻ) tells us that there should be no compulsion in religion because there is no need to compel anyone to believe in it. Compulsion can only be in matters that are ambiguous and unclear, for which there is no proof or evidence, or for matters to which people have a natural aversion. As for this true religion and straight path, it is very clear to those who are possessed of reason and is based on clear evidence. Truth stands out clear from error, so if one who is fortunate looks at it briefly, he will choose it, whereas the one who has ulterior motives, bad intentions and evil inclinations will see the truth yet will prefer falsehood to it; he will see what is beautiful but will choose that which is ugly. Allah has no need to compel such a person to follow

¹⁹ *Tāghoot*: false gods, devils, soothsayers, leaders of misguidance – anyone and anything that diverts people from worship of Allah.