

an ambiguous verse, they know for certain that it is to be referred to the definitive verses, even if they do not know how to go about doing that. As Allah encourages people to submit to Him and believe in His rulings, and He has warned against following that which is ambiguous, He says:

﴿None will pay heed﴾ that is, no one will understand the admonition of Allah and accept His advice and teachings except ﴿people of understanding﴾ that is, people of sound reasoning, who are the best of people and the elite among the sons of Adam. The admonition reaches their minds, so they pay attention to what will benefit them and they do it, and they take note of what will harm them and they avoid it. But in the case of others, they are like dross in which there is no benefit and which produces nothing. No rebuke or reminder will benefit them because they are devoid of reason.

Then Allah (ﷻ) tells us about those who are firmly grounded in knowledge: they call upon Him and say: ﴿Our Lord, do not let our hearts deviate now after You have guided us﴾ that is, do not cause our hearts to incline away from the truth out of ignorance or stubbornness on our part; rather cause us to follow the straight path, to be guided and to guide others; make us steadfast in adhering to Your guidance and keep us safe from that which those who deviate suffer ﴿and bestow upon us mercy from Yourself﴾ that is, grant mercy by means of which You guide us to that which will help us to do good and will protect us from evil ﴿for You are the Bestower﴾ that is, You give in abundance and are very kind; Your generosity reaches all created beings.

﴿Our Lord, You will gather all people on the day of which there is no doubt; for Allah does not break His promise﴾. He will requite them for their deeds, both good and bad. Allah (ﷻ) praises those who are firmly grounded in knowledge for having seven attributes, which are the key to happiness. They are: