

believers, as allies, helping one another to establish the religion of Allah and fighting in jihad against His enemies. Allah (ﷻ) says:

﴿The believers, men and women, are allies of one another...﴾  
(at-Tawbah 9: 71)

So whoever takes the disbelievers as allies instead of the believers, aligning himself with those who want to extinguish the light of Allah and persecute His close friends, has left the party of the believers and joined the party of the disbelievers. Allah (ﷻ) says:

﴿...Whoever among you takes them as allies is indeed one of them...﴾  
(al-Mâ'idah 5: 51)

This verse indicates that we should keep our distance from the disbelievers, not mix with them, befriend them, incline towards them or trust them; the disbeliever should not be appointed to a position of authority over the Muslims and his help should not be sought in matters pertaining to the public interests of the Muslims.

﴿except when you need to protect yourselves from them﴾ that is, when you fear for your lives, then it is permissible to do that which will protect you by saying or making a show of that which will bring about protection.

﴿Allah admonishes you to fear Him﴾ that is, do not expose yourselves to His wrath by committing sins for which He will punish you.

﴿for to Allah is the return [of all]﴾ that is, all people will return to Him on the Day of Resurrection, when He will examine their deeds, bring them to account for them, and requite them accordingly. So beware of doing abhorrent deeds that will incur punishment; rather do that which will bring reward. Then Allah tells us of the vastness of His knowledge, which encompasses what is in their hearts in particular, and what is in heaven and on earth in general; and of the perfect nature of His power, which indicates that people should strive to purify their hearts and bear in mind the knowledge of Allah at all times, so that