

It is well known that the one who wishes for something will try his hardest to attain his goal, and this group is indeed striving and putting effort into leading the believers astray and making them doubt their faith by all possible means. But by His grace and kindness, the plotting of evil only rebounds on those who make the plot. Allah says: ﴿but they only lead themselves astray﴾. Their efforts to lead the believers astray only make them go further astray and will result in more severe punishment for them. Allah says:

﴿For those who disbelieve and bar others from the path of Allah, We will add punishment to their punishment because they used to spread mischief.﴾ (an-Nahl 16: 88)

﴿although they do not realise it﴾ that is, they do not realise that they are in fact striving to harm themselves, and that they will not harm you at all.

﴿O People of the Book, why do you reject the revelations of Allah, while you [yourselves] bear witness [to their truth]?﴾ That is, what makes you disbelieve in the revelations of Allah despite your knowing that what you follow is false, and that what Muhammad (ﷺ) has brought is the truth about which you have no doubt; rather you bear witness to it and sometimes whisper this testimony to one another? This is instructing them to give up their misguidance, then Allah rebukes them for misleading the people, as He says:

﴿O People of the Book, why do you confuse truth with falsehood and knowingly conceal the truth?﴾. Here Allah rebukes them for confusing truth with falsehood and for concealing the truth, because by doing these two things they misled their own people. If the scholars confuse truth with falsehood and do not distinguish between them, and instead leave matters vague and conceal the truth which they are enjoined to make manifest, that results in concealment of the truth and the prevalence of falsehood, and hence the common folk who are seeking the truth and want to know it so that they can follow it will not be guided. What is required from the people of knowledge