

mischief greater than this? But they do not know anything that will benefit them, even though the knowledge that they have is sufficient to establish proof against them. Committing sin is only regarded as mischief because it results in damage to whatever is on the face of the earth of grains, fruits, trees and plants, as a result of the blights that befall them because of sin, and because putting things right on earth is achieved when people obey Allah and believe in Him. It is for this purpose that Allah created humanity and caused them to dwell on earth, and He bestowed provisions upon them to help them to obey and worship Him. If they do the opposite of that on earth, then they are spreading corruption which causes ruin by using what is on earth in a way other than that for which it was created.



﴿وَإِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ ءَامِنُوا كَمَا ءَامَنَ النَّاسُ قَالُوا أَنُؤْمِنُ كَمَا ءَامَنَ السُّفَهَاءُ أَلَا إِنَّهُمْ هُمُ السُّفَهَاءُ وَلَكِن لَّا يَعْلَمُونَ﴾ (سورة البقرة: ١٣)

- 2:13. When it is said to them: Believe as the people believe, they say: Shall we believe as the fools believe? Indeed it is they who are the fools, but they do not know.

That is, when it is said to the hypocrites: Believe as the people believe; this refers to the Companions (*radiya Allāhu 'anhum* – may Allah be pleased with all of them), whose faith was affirmed in their hearts and on their lips. But the hypocrites said, on the basis of their false accusation: Shall we believe as the fools believe? They were referring to the Companions (ﷺ), thinking that it was their alleged foolishness that had led them to believe and to leave their homelands and oppose the disbelievers. In their (the hypocrites') view, wisdom dictated the opposite of that. So they described them