

free of menses, postpartum bleeding, vaginal discharges, urine, stools, mucus, sputum and bad smells. They will also be physically pure in the sense that they will possess perfect beauty, with no physical defect or hint of ugliness; rather they will be good and beautiful (*cf.* 55: 70). They will be pure in speech and chaste in their gaze, gazing only at their husbands and refraining from all foul speech.

This verse speaks of the giver of glad tidings, the recipients thereof, the things promised in those tidings and the means of attaining what is promised. The giver of glad tidings is the Messenger (ﷺ) or those among his Ummah who convey his message. The recipients of the glad tidings are the believers who do righteous deeds. The things promised in these glad tidings are the gardens described in this manner (that is, the gardens of paradise). The means of attaining what is promised is faith and righteous deeds. There is no other way of attaining it. This is the greatest of glad tidings, conveyed by the best of Allah's creation, highlighting the best means.

It also shows us that it is encouraged to give glad tidings to the believers and to motivate them to do good deeds by referring to the reward and fruits of those deeds. Thus doing such deeds will become light and easy. The greatest good sign (of glad tidings) is when an individual is guided and enabled to believe and do righteous deeds. That is the first sign of glad tidings, and the foundation thereof. The second such sign is when the angels give him glad tidings at the time of death. The final good sign is when he reaches those eternal blessings (in paradise). We ask Allah to make us among those who are given these glad tidings.



﴿إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَسْتَحْيِي أَنْ يَضْرِبَ مَثَلًا مَّا بَعُوضَةً فَمَا فَوْقَهَا فَأَمَّا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا فَيَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّهُ الْحَقُّ مِنْ رَبِّهِمْ ؕ وَأَمَّا الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا فَيَقُولُونَ مَاذَا