

﴿And he swore to them both [saying]: I am to you a sincere adviser.﴾
(*al-A'raf* 7: 21)

– and they were deceived by him and they obeyed him. Thus he caused them to be expelled from the state of felicity and abundance in which they had been, and to be sent down to the realm of exhaustion, striving and struggle.

﴿as enemies to each other﴾. What is meant is that Adam and his progeny would be enemies of Iblees and his progeny. It is well known that enemies strive hard to cause harm to one another and to deprive one another of good by all means. This is an implicit warning to the sons of Adam against Shayṭān, as Allah (ﷻ) says:

﴿Verily, the Shayṭān is an enemy to you, so take him as an enemy. He only calls his followers so that they may become inhabitants of the raging fire.﴾ (*Fāṭir* 35: 6)

﴿...Will you then take him and his progeny as allies instead of Me, even though they are enemies to you? What a wretched exchange for the wrongdoers!﴾ (*al-Kahf* 18: 50)

Then Allah speaks of their destination on earth: ﴿On earth you will have an abode﴾ that is, a dwelling place
﴿and your means of livelihood for a while﴾, until the end of your allotted time, then you will move from the earth to the realm for which you were created and which was created for you. This verse tells us that the duration of this life is brief and transient. This world is not our true home; rather it is a place through which we pass and from which we seek provision to help us reach that other realm, and it is not to be regarded as our permanent abode.



﴿فَلَقَىٰ آدَمُ مِنْ رَبِّهِ كَلِمَةً فَتَبَّ عَلَيْهِ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْوَابُ الرَّحِيمُ﴾ (سورة البقرة: ٣٧)