

فَجَعَلْنَاهَا نَكَالًا لِّمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهَا وَمَا خَلْفَهَا وَمَوْعِظَةً لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ ﴿١٣١﴾

And We made their fate an example to their own times and to future generations. This was a lesson for those who fear God.

Their lives with behaviour as Apes under God's Command must have changed their nature and conduct accordingly. So their existence remained hateful and degrading to others. Therefore, a lesson for those who came across them? However, it is within the Command of God, "Be and it becomes" and the community could have turned into Apes actually, thus despised and rejected by other humans for association.

وَأذِّقْ قَالَ مُوسَىٰ لِقَوْمِهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُكُمْ أَنْ تَذُبُّوا بَقَرَةً ۗ

قَالُوا أَتَتَّخِذُنَا هُزُوًا ۗ قَالَ أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ أَنْ أَكُونَ مِنَ الْجَاهِلِينَ ﴿١٣٢﴾

And remember the event when Moses said to his people, "God Commands that you sacrifice a Heifer." They said, "You only make a laughing stock of us." He said, "God save me from being such an ignorant (fool)."

Bani Israel wanted to stall the orders and stave him off by excuses and asked various details about the Heifer.

قَالُوا ادْعُ لَنَا رَبَّكَ يُبَيِّنْ لَنَا مَا هِيَ ۗ قَالَ إِنَّهُ يَقُولُ إِنَّهَا بَقَرَةٌ ۙ

فَارِضٌ وَلَا يَكْرُهُ ۖ عَوَانٌ بَيْنَ ذَلِكَ ۗ فافْعَلُوا مَا تُؤْمَرُونَ ﴿١٣٣﴾

They said request your Lord on our behalf to make plain to us the details of this Heifer. He said, "He (Lord) says Heifer should be neither too old nor too young but of middle average age now do what you have been commanded.

The details were given to answer their excuses.

قَالُوا ادْعُ لَنَا رَبَّكَ يُبَيِّنْ لَنَا مَا لَوْ نُهَا قَالَ إِنَّهُ يَقُولُ

إِنَّهَا بَقَرَةٌ ۙ صَفْرَاءُ ۙ فَاقْتَرِفُوهَا لَوْ نُهَا ۗ سُرُّ الْبَطْرِيسِ ﴿١٣٤﴾

They said, "Request your Lord on our behalf to make plain to us Her colour." He said, "Lord says it is to be a fawn coloured pure and rich in hue to the admiration of those who see it".

Different details were asked and each was adequately replied, to pin point the type of Heifer to be sacrificed. This was the kind considered sacred and worshipped.

قَالُوا ادْعُ لَنَا رَبَّكَ يُبَيِّنْ لَنَا مَا هِيَ إِنَّ الْبَقَرَ تَشْبَهُ عَلَيْنَا وَإِنَّا إِن شَاءَ اللَّهُ لَهْتَدُونَ ﴿٥٠﴾

They said, "Request your Lord once again from our behalf to explain to us verily to us all Heifers are alike. We truly wish for guidance and if God willed we will find it."

This was still another excuse to avoid cow slaughter. To stall of the issue, the particular cow for slaughter was requested to be more specifically defined and earmarked by still more data.

قَالَ إِنَّهُ يَقُولُ إِنَّهَا بَقَرَةٌ لَا ذَلُولٌ تُثِيرُ الْأَرْضَ وَلَا تَسْقِي الْحَرْثَ مُسَلَّمَةٌ لَا شَائِبَةَ فِيهَا قَالُوا لَنْ جِدُنَا بِالْحَقِّ فذبحوها وما كادوا يفعلون ﴿٥١﴾

Moses said Lord says, "It is to be a Heifer not in work for tilling of the soil or watering the fields, sound and without defect." They said, "Now you have brought us the true guidance. Then they offered her in (sacrifice) but not with good will.

Israelites were contaminated into cow worship by neighbouring nations. They were to be tested against worship other than God. They lied to avoid it by entering into details but the queries narrowed down to the exact type of cow worshipped in those days. They had to reluctantly sacrifice it when driven to a corner but will was wanting to make sacrifice efficacious for purification from sin. Reason for this purification was to prove the guilt of the murderer of the cropper found in the field as we see in next verse. Cow worship was introduced by descendant of king Solomon by name of **Akhiab** through influence on him of his Saibian princess wife Isabel. This was after the golden age of David and Solomon, any way these verses are linked with the next.

وَإِذْ قَتَلْتُمْ نَفْسًا فَادَّعَرْتُمْ فِيهَا وَاللَّهُ مُخْرِجٌ مَّا كُنْتُمْ تَكْتُمُونَ ﴿٥٢﴾

Remember you slew a man and then disputed among yourself to crime. But God had decided to bring forth to light what you did hide.

Justice was to take effect and the murderer to be precisely named through Miracle.

فَقُلْنَا اضْرِبُوهَا بِبَعْضِهَا كَذَلِكَ يُحْيِي اللَّهُ الْمَوْتَىٰ وَيُرِيكُمْ آيَاتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ ﴿٤٧﴾

So We ordered to strike the dead body with any part (piece) of it(Heifer). Behold in this way God brings dead to life again and shows you His Signs in the hope that you will perchance understand.

In the Jewish story in which every one tried to clear himself of the guilt and laid the blame on others. So they tried to prevent a Heifer being slain to conceal the guilt but when she was slain God by a Miracle disclosed the real guilty person. In this way God brought to life the Dead to reveal the truth and in the process the Heifer was slain by cow worshiper, bringing to an end the cow worship as well by injuring its sanctity. The piece of Heifer's body was shown subordinated to God's will just as every thing else in the universe. God brings to life the dead and it is as easy for him.

ثُمَّ قَسَتْ قُلُوبُكُمْ مِّنْ بَعْدِ ذَلِكَ فَهِيَ كَالْحِجَارَةِ أَوْ أَشَدُّ قَسْوَةً وَإِنَّ مِنَ الْحِجَارَةِ لَمَا يَتَفَجَّرُ مِنْهُ الْأَنْهَارُ وَإِنَّ مِنْهَا لَمَا يَشَقَّقُ فَيَخْرُجُ مِنْهُ الْمَاءُ وَإِنَّ مِنْهَا لَمَا يَهْبِطُ مِنْ خَشْيَةِ اللَّهِ وَمَا اللَّهُ بِغَافِلٍ عَمَّا تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٤٨﴾

Even after witnessing these Signs (events) your hearts hardened. They became like a rock and even harder for among rocks there are some from which rivers gush out, other split asunder and water comes out and there are still other (rocks) which sink for fear of God And God is not unmindful of your deeds.

Jews referred herein as a body were jealous of Muhammad Mustafa (peace be upon him and Blessing of Allah) and played a double part. When the Muslim community began to grow stronger they pretended to be of them but really tried to keep back any knowledge of their own scripture from them lest they should be beaten by their own argument.

أَفَتَطَّبَعُونَ أَن يُؤْمِنُوا بِالْكُمْ وَقَدْ كَانَ فَرِيقٌ مِّنْهُمْ يَسْمَعُونَ كَلَامَ اللَّهِ ثُمَّ يُحَرِّفُونَهُ مِن بَعْدِ مَا عَقَلُوهُ وَهُمْ يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٤٩﴾

O' Men of faith! Can you still hope that they will believe (In Islam) seeing that a group amongst them heard the word of God understood it then knowingly perverted it.

This is addressed to those who believed in the Message of Islam. These converts had in the past in fact been introduced with the Books of God and Prophets through Jews. Now with the new Message of Islam which was according to the prophecy in Jew scripture they enthusiastically approached their Jew friends and neighbours to embrace it. But Jew's scholars who had changed their scripture distorted and perverted its text and meanings had negative reaction..

وَإِذْ الْقَوَّالِينَ آمَنُوا قَالُوا آمَنَّا وَإِذَا خَلَا بِبَعْضِهِمْ إِلَى بَعْضٍ قَالُوا آمَنَّا
ثَوْنَهُمْ بِهَا فَتَمَّ اللَّهُ عَلَيْكُمْ لِيَجْزِيَكُمْ بِهِ عِنْدَ رَبِّكُمْ أَفَلَا تَعْقِلُونَ ﴿٥٠﴾

Behold! When they meet the men of faith they pretend and say, "They believe." but when they meet each other in private they say, "How can they (Jews) tell believers what God has revealed to them, if we do they shall engage in argument about it before God." Don't you understand (their aim)."

Jews of Madinah tell each other to conceal all the Signs and prophecies revealed in their Books about the coming of Muhammad Mustafa (peace be upon him and Blessing of Allah) else these will be used as argument against them later in the presence of God. So God warns them that he is not unmindful of their acts. A more general interpretation holds good for all ages faith and un-faith are pitted against each other. Un-faith comes insincerely and claims fellowship. For faith to keep its upper hand it will have to equip itself with the armoury of knowledge including science and technology which Islam ordains for them.

أَوَلَا يَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَعْلَمُ مَا يُسْرُونَ وَمَا يُعْلِنُونَ ﴿٥١﴾

Don't they know that God knows all what they conceal and what reveal?

How ill conceived is their view when they think that they will not be called upon to explain all what they concealed from coming to light during their lives on earth. Certainly God knows all what they reveal or they conceal.

وَمِنْهُمْ أُمِّيُونَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ الْكِتَابَ إِلَّا أَمَانِيًّا وَإِنْ هُمْ إِلَّا يَظُنُّونَ ﴿٢٥﴾

There is among them another group of illiterate people who are devoid of knowledge of the Book. But see only to their own vain desires and do nothing but only wishful questing and conjectures.

Jews wanted to keep back knowledge but many of them were either illiterates or no better than illiterates for they knew not their own scriptures and rather read and interpreted them as they wanted. They only went by their own conjectures and wishful desires or concealed out of their own the Message of God for miserable profit in return for loss of their souls.

فَوَيْلٌ لِلَّذِينَ يَكْتُبُونَ الْكِتَابَ بِأَيْدِيهِمْ ثُمَّ يَقُولُونَ هَذَا مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ لِيَشْتَرُوا بِهِ ثَمَنًا قَلِيلًا فَوَيْلٌ لَهُمْ مِمَّا كَتَبَتْ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَوَيْلٌ لَهُمْ مِمَّا يَكْسِبُونَ ﴿٢٦﴾

There is nothing except woe and ruination for those who write the Book with their own hands and then say, "This is from God." They do so only for meagre return, Woe to them. for what they do, write with their hands what they gain out of it.

Reference is towards such religions leaders who introduced into Bible their own interpretations based on their own wishful philosophy and history for petty gains and presented the same claiming it to be the word of God.

وَقَالُوا لَنْ نَمَسَّنَا النَّارُ إِلَّا أَيَّامًا مَعْدُودَةً قُلْ أَتَّخَذُ ثُمَّ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ عَهْدًا ۖ فَلَنْ يَخْلِفَ اللَّهُ عَهْدَهُ ۖ أَمْ تَقُولُونَ عَلَى اللَّهِ مَا لَا تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٢٧﴾

And they say that fire shall not touch them but for a few numbered days. You(O' Prophet) ask them, "Have they taken a promise from God. For He never breaks his promise or you say of God what you do not know?"

Jews including their priests had the erroneous belief out of sheer arrogance that terror of hell is only for others and they being children's of Abraham will be forgiven and after short punishment will be restored to the **Bosom of Abraham**. This myth is pricked bare here. Abu Hurrariah according to *Imam Bokhari, Imam Ahmad, Darmi and Nasai* stated that Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (peace be upon him and Blessing of Allah) asked as to who among those living in Khaibar will have their abode in hell to which Jews replied that they will be in hell for a few numbered days and then our place will be taken by you at which Holy Prophet (peace be upon him and Blessing of Allah) said, "Woe on you by God we won't be there in your stead."

بَلَىٰ مَنْ كَسَبَ سَيِّئَةً وَأَحَاطَتْ بِهِ خَيْبَتُهُ فَأُولَٰئِكَ أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ ۖ هُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ ﴿٥١﴾

Those who knowingly seek gain In evil and get entangled in network of their sins, they are companions of fire and there shall they live for ever.

Going out to earn evil is perverse attitude where grace of God is voluntarily surrendered and evil erects its own fortress round him so that access to God's Grace becomes more and more difficult.

وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ أُولَٰئِكَ أَصْحَابُ الْجَنَّةِ هُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ ﴿٥٢﴾

But those who have faith and do righteous deeds are companions of garden and there they shall live for ever.

Holy Qur'an invariably brackets good deeds with belief in Islamic faith so the later forms an essential accompaniment of the former for success.

وَأِذْ أَخَذْنَا مِيثَاقَ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ لَا تَعْبُدُونَ إِلَّا اللَّهَ ۖ تَعْبُدُونَ
وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا وَذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسْكِينِ
وَقُولُوا لِلنَّاسِ حُسْنًا ۚ وَأَقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتُوا الزَّكَاةَ ۗ
ثُمَّ تَوَلَّيْتُمْ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا مِّنْكُمْ وَأَنتُمْ مُّعْرِضُونَ ﴿٥٣﴾

And remember We took solemn promise from the children of Israel. Worship none but God, to treat with kindness, your parents and those related and orphans and those in need, speak well to the people. Be steadfast in prayers and practice prescribed Zakat (regular charity). But except few all of you went back on your covenant and you back slide even now.

Speak fair to the people does not finish with courtesy alone but means protection of people from being exploited, deceived or defrauded and this constitute part of universal moral law which is referred to in this verse Jews by their covenant with God remain bound to duties to their fellow beings **humanity** as listed out in this verse.

وَإِذْ أَخَذْنَا مِيثَاقَكُمْ لَآتُسِفِكُونَ دِمَاءَكُمْ وَلَا تُخْرِجُونَ أَنْفُسَكُمْ مِنْ دِيَارِكُمْ
ثُمَّ أَقْرَرْتُمْ وَأَنْتُمْ تَشْهَدُونَ ﴿٣٦﴾

And remember We took your solemn promise not to shed blood amongst you nor, turn out your own people from homes, and to this you solemnly assented and to this you are a witness yourself.

Israelites had orders not to initiate war but help prevent it for others. They instead would act otherwise as in the matter of warring factions around Madinah, they would extract compensation in connection with prisoners of war both by taking sides and as negotiators as it suited them according to the occasion.

ثُمَّ أَنْتُمْ هَؤُلَاءِ تَقْتُلُونَ أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَتُخْرِجُونَ فَرِيقًا مِنْكُمْ مِنْ دِيَارِهِمْ تَظَاهَرُونَ عَلَيْهِمْ بِالْإِثْمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ وَإِنْ يَأْتُوكُمْ أُسْرَى تَفْدُوهُمْ وَهُمْ مُحَرَّمٌ عَلَيْكُمْ إِخْرَاجُهُمْ أَفَلَا تُؤْمِنُونَ بِبَعْضِ الْكُتُبِ وَتَكْفُرُونَ بِبَعْضِ فَمَا جَزَاءُ مَنْ يَفْعَلُ ذَلِكَ مِنْكُمْ إِلَّا خِزْيٌ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَيَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ يُرَدُّونَ إِلَىٰ أَشَدِّ الْعَذَابِ ۗ

After this you the same people who slay among yourselves and banish a party of your own people from their homes, assist their enemies against

وَمَا لِلَّهِ بِغَافِلٍ عَمَّا تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٨٥﴾

them in guilt or ill will. And if they come to you as captive you give ransom for them though it was not lawful for you to banish them. Then it is only a part of the Book that you believe in and you do reject the \other parts. But what is the reward for those among you who behave like this except for disgrace in this life and on the day of judgement shall be handed over for most grievous penalty. For God is not unmindful of what they do.

Torah forbade strictly mutual war among the Jews. But Jews around Madinah disobeyed it as they would take sides with warring neighbouring Arab tribes and in the process would kill and extern Jews of opposite camp from their homes. However, after the war each opposing tribe of Jews would get their prisoners released. Release of prisoners is allowed in Torah. So Jews disregarded one order of Torah that is not to fight and turn out people from their homes and acted on the other part of the same order to obtain the benefit of release of prisoners ordered in the same Book. So for such who disregard their own Book there is penalty in this world as well as in the hereafter.

أُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ اشْتَرُوا الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا بِالْآخِرَةِ فَلَا يَخَفُ عَنْهُمْ الْعَذَابُ وَلَا هُمْ يُنصَرُونَ ﴿٨٦﴾

These are the people who purchase the life of this world at the price of the hereafter, their penalty shall not be lessened nor shall they be helped.

Before Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (peace be upon him and Blessing of Allah) Jewish tribes around Madinah had friendly relations with their Arab neighbours of Aus and Khazraj tribes. During conflict Jews would side their allies against their Arab and Jew enemy tribes. They will thus infringe upon the order of their Book by indulging in killing loot and banishment of the foe including the Jews. And the vanquished tribe would pay ransom for the release of their captives and claim acting on Torah. They are told that by acting on some orders of Torah as release by ransom of their captives and by rejecting other parts of the same Book which prohibit killing, loot and banishment of people **Jews and other** from their homes they have condemned themselves to most grievous penalty in the hereafter.