

Ibn Jarir recorded that Abu Hurayrah said that the Prophet said,

إِنَّ فِي الْجَنَّةِ لَشَجْرَةً يَسِيرُ الرَّكَّابُ فِي ظِلِّهَا مِائَةَ عَامٍ لَا
يَقْطَعُهَا: شَجْرَةَ الْخُلْدِ

There is a tree in Paradise, that if a rider travels under its shade for a hundred years, he will not cross it. It is the Tree of Everlasting Life.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُكُمْ أَنْ تُؤَدُّوا الْأَمَانَاتِ إِلَىٰ أَهْلِهَا وَإِذَا
حَكَمْتُمْ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ أَنْ تَحْكُمُوا بِالْعَدْلِ

4:58 Verily, Allah commands that you should render back the trusts to those, to whom they are due; and that when you judge between men, you judge with justice.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ نِعِمَّا يَعِظُكُمْ بِهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ سَمِيعًا بَصِيرًا

Verily, how excellent is the teaching which He (Allah) gives you! Truly, Allah is Ever All-Hearer, All-Seer.

The Command to Return the Trusts to Whomever They Are Due

Allah says;

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُكُمْ أَنْ تُؤَدُّوا الْأَمَانَاتِ إِلَىٰ أَهْلِهَا ...

Verily, Allah commands that you should render back the trusts to those, to whom they are due;

Allah commands that the trusts be returned to their rightful owners.

Al-Hasan narrated that Samurah said that the Messenger of Allah said,

أَدِّ الْأَمَانَةَ إِلَى مَنْ ائْتَمَّكَ، وَلَا تُخْنُ مَنْ خَانَكَ

Return the trust to those who entrusted you, and do not betray those who betrayed you.

Imam Ahmad and the collectors of **Sunan** recorded this **Hadith**.

This command refers to all things that one is expected to look after, such as Allah's rights on His servants:

- praying,
- **Zakah**,
- fasting,
- penalties for sins,
- vows and so forth.

The command also includes

- the rights of the servants on each other, such as what they entrust each other with, including the cases that are not recorded or documented.

Allah commands that all types of trusts be fulfilled. Those who do not implement this command in this life, it will be extracted from them on the Day of Resurrection.

It is recorded in the **Sahih** that the Messenger of Allah said,

لنُؤَدِّنَ الْحُقُوقَ إِلَى أَهْلِهَا حَتَّى يُفْتَصَّ لِلشَّاةِ الْجَمَاءِ مِنَ الْقِرْنَاءِ

The rights will be rendered back to those to whom they are due, and even the sheep that does not have horns will take revenge from the horned sheep.

Ibn Jarir recorded that Ibn Jurayj said about this **Ayah**,

"It was revealed concerning Uthman bin Talhah from whom the Messenger of Allah took the key of the **Ka`bah** and entered it on the Day of the victory of Makkah. When the Prophet went out, he was reciting this **Ayah**, **إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُكُمْ أَنْ تُؤَدُّوا**

الأمانات إلى أهلها (Verily, Allah commands that you should render back the trusts to those, to whom they are due).

He then called Uthman and gave the key back to him."

Ibn Jarir also narrated that Umar bin Al-Khattab said,

"When the Messenger of Allah went out of the **Ka`bah**, he was reciting this **Ayah**, **إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُكُمْ أَنْ تُؤَدُّوا الْأَمَانَاتِ إِلَىٰ أَهْلِهَا** (Verily, Allah commands that you should render back the trusts to those, to whom they are due).

May I sacrifice my father and mother for him, I never heard him recite this **Ayah** before that."

It is popular that this is the reason behind revealing the **Ayah** (4:58). Yet, the application of the **Ayah** is general, and this is why Ibn Abbas and Muhammad bin Al-Hanafiyyah said,

"This **Ayah** is for the righteous and wicked,"

meaning it is a command that encompasses everyone.

The Order to Be Just

Allah said,

... وَإِذَا حَكَمْتُمْ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ أَنْ تَحْكُمُوا بِالْعَدْلِ ...

and that when you judge between men, you judge with justice.

commanding justice when judging between people.

Muhammad bin Ka`b, Zayd bin Aslam and Shahr bin Hawshab said;

"This **Ayah** was revealed about those in authority",

meaning those who judge between people.

A **Hadith** states,

إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الْحَاكِمِ مَا لَمْ يَجْرُ، فَإِذَا جَارَ وَكَلَهُ اللَّهُ إِلَى نَفْسِهِ

Allah is with the judge as long as he does not commit injustice, for when he does, Allah will make him reliant on himself.

A statement goes,

"One day of justice equals forty years of worship."

Allah said,

... إِنَّ اللَّهَ نِعْمًا يَعْظُمُ بِهِ ...

Verily, how excellent is the teaching which He (Allah) gives you!

meaning, His commands to return the trusts to their owners, to judge between people with justice, and all of His complete, perfect and great commandments and laws.

Allah's statement,

... إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ سَمِيعًا بَصِيرًا (٥٨)

Truly, Allah is Ever All-Hearer, All-Seer.

means, He hears your statements and knows your actions.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ
وَأُولَى الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ

4:59 O you who believe! Obey Allah and obey the Messenger, and those of you who are in authority.