

Explanation of the Qur'aan: Part 6

﴿ فَوَيْلٌ لِلَّذِينَ يَكْتُوبُونَ الْكِتَابَ بِأَيْدِيهِمْ ثُمَّ يَقُولُونَ هَذَا مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ لِيَشْتَرُوا بِهِءً ثَمَنًا قَلِيلًا
فَوَيْلٌ لَهُمْ مِمَّا كَتَبَتْ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَوَيْلٌ لَهُمْ مِمَّا يَكْسِبُونَ ﴾ (79)

“Then woe to those who write the Book with their own hands and then say, "This is from Allaah," to purchase with it a little price! Woe to them for what their hands have written and woe to them for that they earn thereby.” (2:79)

He-the Most High-threatened those who distort the Book; those who say about their distortions and that which they write: "This is from Allaah". And this involves manifesting falsehood and hiding the truth, and they did that with knowledge “to purchase with it a little price!” And the whole world, from its beginning to its end, is a small price. So they make their falsehood a snare to catch that which the people possess. So they oppress them from two angles: from the aspect of their obscuring their religion for them; and from the aspect of their taking their wealth without right, indeed in the most false and futile manner; and this is worse than those who wrongfully seize it, or steal it, or the like. Therefore He threatened them with these two things, saying: “Woe to them for what their hands have written”, meaning: on account of the distortion and falsehood “and woe to them for that they earn thereby.” from wealth; and ‘al-Wayl’ (Woe) means severe torment and regret, and this includes a severe threat.

Shaikhul-Islam said, when he mentioned these Aayahs- from His Saying (Do you hope) to His Saying (for that which they earn) : “So Allaah dispraises those who distort words from their due places , and this includes those who give meanings to the Book and the Sunnah which have as their origin false and futile innovations.

And He dispraised those who know nothing of the Book except false conjecture; and this includes the one who abandons reflecting upon the Qur'aan, and knows nothing except mere recitation of its letters; and it includes one who writes with his hand a book which runs contrary to the Book of Allaah- to attain some worldly gain, and says that it is from Allaah. For example he says; ‘This is the Legislation and the Religion, ‘This is the meaning of the Book and the Sunnah’, ‘This is what is understood from the Salaf and the Imaams’, ‘These are the fundamentals of the Religion which it is obligatory upon each individual and upon the whole community to hold as creed and belief’ ; and it includes the one who conceals that which he possess from the Book and the Sunnah, so that his opponent should not use it to support something true which he says. And these affairs are found, in totality, a great deal amongst the people of the deviated sects, such as the Raafidah [[Shee`ah]]; and specific cases from them occur, for example, amongst many of those who ascribe themselves to the jurists (*fuqahaa*).”¹

¹ Taken from “Tayseerul-Kareemir-Rahmaan fee tafseer Kalaamil-Mannaan” of Shaikh ‘Abdur-Rahmaan ibn Naasir as-Sa’dee. Translated by *Aboo Talhah Daawood ibn Ronald Burbank*.