



## أولوا الألباب

### The People of Understanding

وَلَكُمْ فِي الْفَسَادِ حَيَاةٌ يَا أُولَئِكَ الْأَلْبَابُ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقَوْنَ  
And there is for you in legal retribution [saving of] life,  
O you [people] of understanding, that you may  
become righteous  
سورة البقرة  
2:179

Allah addresses the people of understanding specifically. They are the ones who will take all the admonitions as if they are alive, and all the legislations as reality.

هُوَ الَّذِي أَنْزَلَ عَلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ مِنْهُ آيَاتٌ مُّحْكَمَاتٌ هُنَّ أُمُّ الْكِتَابِ  
وَآخَرُ مُتَشَابِهَاتٍ فَمَنَا الَّذِينَ فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ زَيْغٌ فَيَتَّبِعُونَ مَا  
تَشَاءُ مِنْهُ ابْتِغَاءَ الْفَتْنَةِ وَابْتِغَاءَ تَأْوِيلِهِ وَمَا يَعْلَمُ تَأْوِيلُهُ إِلَّا  
اللَّهُ وَالرَّاسِخُونَ فِي الْعِلْمِ يَقُولُونَ آمَنَّا بِهِ كُلُّ مِنْ عِنْدِ رَبِّنَا  
وَمَا يَذَكِّرُ إِلَّا أُولَئِكَ الْأَلْبَابُ

It is He who has sent down to you, [O Muhammad], the Book; in it are verses [that are] precise - they are the foundation of the Book - and others unspecific. As for those in whose hearts is deviation [from truth], they will follow that of it which is unspecific, seeking discord and seeking an interpretation [suitable to them]. And no one knows its [true] interpretation except Allah . But those firm in knowledge say, "We believe in it. All [of it] is from our Lord." And no one will be reminded except those of understanding

سورة آل عمران  
3:7

There are signs in the creation of the universe, which can only be detected by the people of understanding. When you observe everything around you, this will make you slow down, and be more productive. Life is so serene and beautiful, you must appreciate it. You can achieve this by having a firm base of knowledge.

يُؤْتَيِ الْحِكْمَةَ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَمَنْ  
يُؤْتَ الْحِكْمَةَ فَقَدْ أُوتِيَ خَيْرًا  
كَثِيرًا وَمَا يَذَكِّرُ إِلَّا أُولَئِ  
كَالْأَلْبَابِ

He gives wisdom to whom He wills, and whoever has been given wisdom has certainly been given much good. And none will remember except those of understanding  
2:269

The people of understanding take lessons from life. The penalties for sins benefit everyone. But the people of understanding reflect upon them so that they become alive for them. For others they are just penalties, but with their understanding, they find a role for everything. The benefit they attain is taqwa.

الْحَجُّ أَشْهُرُ مَعْلُومَاتٍ فَمَنْ فَرَضَ فِيهِنَّ الْحَجَّ فَلَا رَقَبَ وَلَا فُسُوقٌ وَلَا جَدَالٌ فِي الْحَجَّ وَمَا تَفْعَلُوا مِنْ خَيْرٍ يَعْلَمُهُ  
اللَّهُ وَتَرَوُدُوا فَلَنِ خَيْرُ الزَّادِ التَّقْوَى وَاتَّقُونَ يَا أُولَئِكَ الْأَلْبَابِ  
Hajj is [during] well-known months, so whoever has made Hajj obligatory upon himself therein [by entering the state of ihram], there is [to be for him] no sexual relations and no disobedience and no disputing during Hajj. And whatever good you do - Allah knows it. And take provisions, but indeed, the best provision is fear of Allah . And fear Me, O you of understanding

سورة البقرة  
2:197

People have different levels of understanding, measured by their IQ, the intelligence quotient, and EQ, the emotional quotient. Both are needed to communicate with people. This is the wisdom of the people of understanding. They use all parts of their brain. The brain is like a muscle, you have to train it, otherwise it is disabled. Routine kills brains cells. We are human beings, Allah gave us a brain, and we must use it.

The people of understanding take all the universal and the legislative signs. There are obstacle and variables in life. The people of understanding reflect upon the Qura'an to get the correct foundation for reflecting upon the universe. Deviations can come with reflection without knowledge. You need divine guidance. There can be deviations with the legislative signs too, if there are sicknesses in the heart, which can twist the understanding. The people of understanding are firmly rooted in knowledge.

إِنَّ فِي خَلْقِ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَآخْتِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ آيَاتٍ  
أُولَئِكَ الْأَلْبَابُ

Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and the earth and the alternation of the night and the day are signs for those of understanding

سورة آل عمران  
3:190

قُلْ لَا يَسْتَوِي الْخَيْرُ وَالظَّيْنُ وَلَوْ أَعْجَبَكَ كَثْرَةُ الْخَيْرِ فَأَنْتُمْ أَهْلُ يَةٍ  
أُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ تَلَقَّبُمُ تَفْلِحُونَ

Say, "Not equal are the evil and the good, although the abundance of evil might impress you." So fear Allah, O you of understanding, that you may be successful

سورة المائدۃ  
5:100

The people of understanding will distinguish right and wrong, even if the wrong is abundant and common. When someone who does not have the criterion is confronted with wrong being so widespread, he can get influenced by it. The people of understanding, on the other hand, will think and choose the best, and benefit from all the situations.

The people of understanding are devotees, worshipping Allah during a part of the night. They are cautious for the akhirah, not fearful. This is the state of their hearts when they pray in the dark of the night. They hope for the mercy of Allah. So their worship is very detailed, and specific, because of their wisdom and understanding. Their brains and actions are very organized. They divide their busy lives into sections.

الَّذِينَ يَسْتَمِعُونَ الْقَوْلَ فَيَتَبَعُونَ أَحْسَنَهُ أُولَئِكَ  
الَّذِينَ هُدُّا هُمُ أُولَئِكَ هُمُ أُولُو الْأَلْبَابِ

Who listen to speech and follow the best of it. Those are the ones Allah has guided, and those are people of understanding

سورة الزمر  
39:18

أَمْنٌ هُوَ قَاتِنُ أَنَاءَ الْلَّيْلِ سَاجِدًا وَقَائِمًا يَحْدُرُ الْآخِرَةَ وَيَرْجُو رَحْمَةَ رَبِّهِ قُلْ هَلْ  
يَسْتَوِي الَّذِينَ يَعْلَمُونَ وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ إِنَّمَا يَنْذَرُ أُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ

Is one who is devoutly obedient during periods of the night, prostrating and standing [in prayer], fearing the Hereafter and hoping for the mercy of his Lord, [like one who does not]? Say, "Are those who know equal to those who do not know?" Only they will remember [who are] people of understanding

سورة الزمر  
39:9

When it rains, people will generally see the plants, or may not even notice it. The observation of the people of understanding is not general, their explanations are vast and detailed.

The rain comes, penetrates the earth, sinking into the underground reserves, which come out in the form of springs. This water brings forth plants and vegetation, of different hues. The people of understanding also observe the state of the plants, as they become green, and eventually yellow, disintegrating into nothingness.

This is life, the journey of the human being. We are born, and reach the pinnacle of strength and energy, then grow older, until all the strength goes away, and the body disintegrates into dust from whence it came. The people of understanding connect all this with the actions of Allah.

They speak observe and speak with few words, which are to the point, by their wisdom. Their words hit the bullseye. They focus on quality. They attend the university of the universe.

إِنَّمَا تَرَأَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ أَنْزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَسَلَكَهُ  
يَنَابِيعَ فِي الْأَرْضِ ثُمَّ يُخْرُجُ بِهِ زَرْعًا مُخْتَلِفًا  
الْوَانَهُ ثُمَّ يَهْيَئُ فَتَرَاهُ مُصْفَرًا ثُمَّ يَجْعَلُهُ حُطَّامًا  
إِنْ فِي ذَلِكَ لَذِكْرٌ لِأُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ

Do you not see that Allah sends down rain from the sky and makes it flow as springs [and rivers] in the earth; then He produces thereby crops of varying colors; then they dry and you see them turned yellow; then He makes them [scattered] debris. Indeed in that is a reminder for those of understanding

سورة الزمر  
39:20