

Al-A'raf (The Heights) [7:201]

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ اتَّقَوْا إِذَا مَسَّهُمْ طَائِفٌ مِّنَ الشَّيْطَانِ تَذَكَّرُوا فَإِذَا

هُم مُّبْصِرُونَ ﴿٢٠١﴾

Those who fear Allah, when a thought of evil from Satan assaults them, bring Allah to remembrance, when lo! they see (aright)!

MUHAMMAD HUSAIN TABA TABAI (AR)

Verily those who are pious, when an evil thought comes to them from Satan, they remember (Allah) and (indeed) then they see (aright).

In the previous verse, we had discussed the cause of action and order and the word, ‘thought comes to them from Satan’ is the whisperings that remain close to the heart. These offer temptations or the temptation that encircles the heart to overcome the heart. The word ‘Tazakkir’ means the deliberations that a person does to obtain a result from that which is manifest.

This verse reverts to the previous verse as a proof and will mean,

- When a thought comes from the Satan then we should seek shelter with God and this is the method of those who are pious.
- When they are tempted they remember that god is their Lord, their Master, who teaches them and their deeds all revert to Him and they revert to Him for this is sufficient for them.
- This repels the temptations of the Satan, removes ignorance from them and they are granted hindsight; for the screens of disillusionment are removed from their eyes.

As you are aware, this verse is like the verse 99 of Surah Nahl that says, *Verily he has no power over those who believe and put their trust only in their Lord (Allah).*

It is now clear that seeking help from God is a type of remembrance and is based on the realization that God is their Lord. He is the only helper who is all powerful and repels the temptations of Satan. In the same ‘Ista’aza’ is a form of reliance and realization as we have already discussed.

MIR AHMED ALI (AR)

(no commentary available for this verse)

AYATULLAH KAMAL FAQIH IMANI AND SEVERAL SCHOLARS

Verses 201-202

Predominance upon the temptations of Satan is stated in this verse. It implies that when the satanic temptations surround the pious ones, they remember Allah, the All-Mighty and the Glorious, and His endless bounties, and that committing sin brings forth some inauspicious results for them with the painful retributions of Allah. At this time, the dark clouds of evil temptations will get apart from their hearts (minds) and they clearly see the path of truth, and then they choose it. The verse says:

" Verily, those who keep from evil, when a visitation from Satan afflicts them they become mindful. Then behold, they see (aright) ."

As the above verse points out, the pious ones can relieve themselves from the grasps of the temptations of Satan under the light of the remembrance of Allah. But, those who are stained with sin, and are counted as brethren of Satan, are captured in his net. In this regard, the second verse mentioned in the above, implies that the brethren of Satans ceaselessly draw the immoral persons forward into abberation and they not only do not stop doing that, but also constantly continue their creul attacks. The verse says:

" And their brethren draw them into perverseness, and they do not stop short."

Yes, Satans follow the track of the believing persons and the pious ones. They do not stop turning round them in order to delude them. The satanic temptations and mental suggestions go everywhere, and like microbes, which seek for the weak bodies; they also seek for those whose faiths are weak to influence in them.

" ... when a visitation from Satan afflicts them ..."

The temptations of Satans sometimes act from a distance. Sura Tāhā, No. 20, verse 120 says: " But Satan whispered unto him ...". It is sometimes done through penetrating into men's soul and spirit. Sura An-Nās, No. 114, verse 5 says: " Who whispers into the breasts (hearts) of the people." It sometimes works by means of companionship. Sura Az-Zukhruf, No. 43, verse 36 says: "... and he shall be his close companion." And, sometimes it is by means of turning round and affliction. This case is referred to in the current verse where it says: "... when a visitation from Satan afflicts them ...".

It may happens that sometimes the religious scholars, trainees, and those who try to make peace might be suspiciously visited with the purpose that a particular line of thought be inspired upon them. Therefore, they must be careful not to incline toward the desires of the enemy, and they should refuge Allah.

The remembrance of Allah gives insight to man and keeps him safe from evil temptations. The verse says:

"... They become mindful. ..."

Correct belief is very important. If a society becomes pure and pious from the point of morals, politics, economy, and army, the communications and hauntings of satanic persons can not affect them. Allah takes the pious ones and the good doers under His guardianship, but the impious persons will be encompassed with the satanic brotherhood.

"And their brethren ..."

The final word of the verse is that there is no finite or limitation for the way of perversion, and Satan has no pity in casting aberration upon the believers. The verse says:

"And their brethren draw them into perverseness, and they do not stop short."