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info@acquiringknowledge.co.uk

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يَنَأَيُّهَا ٱلنَّاسُ قَدْ جَآءَكُم بُرْهَانٌٍ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ

O people, a proof has come to you from your Lord [4:174]



ANSWER:

Burhān / Clear Proof



COMMENTARY

After a refutation of beliefs held by Christians, specially those which ascribe Godhood to Jesus, alongwith the promise of reward for those who acknowledge the truth and punishment for those who insist on denying, the text turns to a universal address praising the blessed status and mission of His Messenger who taught what was the truth revealed to him, who conveyed the truth of the Qur'ān admirably, and also those who believed in and testified to the truth of the Book and the Messenger.

What is Burhan?

The word, Burhān, appearing in verse 174: (a proof has come to you from your Lord) lexically means 'proof'. It refers to the Holy Prophet . (Rūh al-Ma'ānī)

Sayyidnā Ibn 'Abbas *radī'allāhu 'anhu* says that the Holy Prophet was referred to as 'Burhān' in consideration of his blessed person, his noble morals, his miracles and his being the very recipient of the revelation of the Book of Allah. All these are open proofs of his prophethood beyond which there remains no need for any other proof. Thus, in summation, his person is, in itself, proof personified.

And Allāh Ta'ālā knows best.

