

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Surah Aal-e-'Imran

مِنْ قَبْلُ هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَأَنْزَلَ الْفُرْقَانَ ۗ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا بِآيَاتِ اللَّهِ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ شَدِيدٌ ۗ وَاللَّهُ عَزِيزٌ ذُو انْتِقَامٍ ﴿٤﴾

4. Then those who reject Faith in the Signs of Allah will suffer the severest penalty, and Allah is Exalted in Might, Lord of Retribution.

...before revealing it [the Qur'ān], as guidance...to people, to those who followed these two [Books] (He uses the word أَنْزَلَ for the revelation of these two, and nazzala for that of the Qur'ān, for the latter entails repetition, whereas the two Books were revealed in one instance); and He revealed the Criterion (الْفُرْقَانَ), meaning the Scriptures that discriminate between truth and falsehood. He mentions this [Criterion] after He has mentioned the three Scriptures so that it encompasses all [revealed Scriptures] besides these. As for those who disbelieve in God's signs, the Qur'ān or any other [revelation], for them awaits a terrible chastisement...

Tafsir Jalalayn

It is to be borne in mind that the Gospel frequently mentioned in the Qur'an is not identical with what is known today as the Four Gospels, but refers to an original, since lost, revelation bestowed upon Jesus and known to his contemporaries under its Greek name of Evangelion ("Good Tiding"), on which the Arabicized form Injil is based. It was probably the source from which the Synoptic Gospels derived much of their material and some of the teachings attributed to Jesus. The fact of its having been lost and forgotten is alluded to in the Qur'an in 5:14...

Muhammad Asad, The Message of the Quran

'Previously' means before the Qur'an. Ibn Fūrak says that 'guidance for mankind' implies god-fearing people as indicated by 'guidance for the god-fearing' (2:3). So the general term is, in fact, specific. 'Furqān' here is the Qur'an...

Tafsir Qurtubi

