O Mankind! Worship your Lord (Allah)

By Imam
Abu Muhammad al-Hussain bin Mas‘ood
al-Baghawi -Rahimullah-
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Abu Muhammad al-Hussain bin Mas‘ood al-Baghawi¹

-Rahimullaah-

Translated By Abbas Abu Yahya

¹ Abu Muhammad al-Hussain bin Mas‘ood al-Baghawi (d.516 A.H.) is regarded as Hafidh, someone who strove to serve the Book of Allaah and the Sunnah of the Prophet -SallAllaahu alayhi wa Salam. He was an Imam in Tafseer and Hadeeth, he had many large collections of Hadeeth.
Abu Muhammad al-Hussain bin Mas’ood al- Baghawi (d.516 A.H.) said regarding Allaah’s saying:

َأَيـﱡﻬَﺎ اﻟﻨﱠﺎسُ اﻋْﺒُﺪُوا رَﺑﱠﻜُﻢُ اﻟﱠﺬِﻳﻦَ ﻣِﻦْ ﻗـَﺒْﻠِﻜُﻢْ ﻟَﻌَﻠﱠﻜُﻢْ ﺗـَﺘـﱠﻘُﻮنَ

« O mankind! Worship your Lord (Allaah), Who created you and those who were before you so that you may become Al-Muttaqûn (the pious) »

[Baqarah: 21]

Regarding Allaah Ta’ala saying:

َأَيـﱡﻬَﺎ اﻟﻨﱠﺎسُ << O mankind!>>

Ibn Abbas -Radhi Allaahu anhu- said: ‘O mankind is an address to the people of Makkah, and O you who believe is an address to the people of Madinah, and here in this Ayaah it is general except that where youngsters and the insane are not included in it.’

• اﻋْﺒُﺪُوا رَﺑﱠﻜُﻢُ << Worship your Lord (Allaah)>>

single Him out for worship.

Ibn Abbas -Radhi Allaahu anhu- said: ‘everywhere in the Qur’aan where it mentions worship then the meaning is Tawheed.’

• رَﺑﱠﻜُﻢُ اﻟﱠﺬِﻳﻦَ ﻣِﻦْ ﻗـَﺒْﻠِﻜُﻢْ << your Lord (Allaah), Who created you >>

created: to make something which has no previous similitude.

• ﻣِﻦْ ﻗـَﺒْﻠِﻜُﻢْ ﻟَﻌَﻠﱠﻜُﻢْ ﺗـَﺘـﱠﻘُﻮنَ << so that you may become Al-Muttaqûn (the pious)>>

so that you can escape from the punishment, and it has been said: it means have hope in Taqwa that you result in being covered and protected from the punishment of Allaah.’

[‘Mu’alim at-Tanzeel fee Tafseer al-Qur’aan’ 1/93]