8.9. GLAD TIDINGS TO THOSE ENGAGED IN SERVING THE FAITH

335. ‘Mu'aviyah reports that he heard the Prophet saying, "A group shall always exist in my ummah that will protect the Faith of Allah. Those who do not stand by that group or those opposing it, shall not be able to totally eliminate it, until the Decision of Allah comes to pass (the world comes to an end). And this group of the defenders of faith shall remain in fact (unharmed and undeviated from the Right Path)“. - Bukhari, Muslim

336. The Prophet said, "Some of the men of my ummah, loving me most. Will come in late times. Every one of them will be longing if he had seen me with his household and his property". -Muslim, Abu Hurairah

337. The Apostle of Allah said, "The Islamic faith was alien to people in the beginning and before the long time it will once again become alien as before. So glad tidings for the strangers. And those strangers will be the people who will rise to revive my sayings (Sunnah) which others have corrupted". - Mishkat, Amro bin Auf

Exposition: Islam has been the true faith revealed by Allah in every age from Adam to Muhammad (Sallahu Alaihi Wasal'lam) in when it was most perfect and final form (edition) to last to the end of days. But before that it had been corrupted after the passing away of the Prophets. This corruption was worse confounded before the final most authentic edition of Islam and the abiding Book of Allah the Quran was revealed through the last Prophet, Muhammad Sallallahu Alaihi Wasal'lam inspite of the following of two earlier revealed editions of Islam (with later corrupted misnomers Judaism and Christianity) it was the darkest period of known history and Islam was the most alien faith. Then through the unifications of the efforts of the Prophet and his staunch followers for nearly three years it got introduced to the then known world and was soon dominant with authority and rule. Men in large numbers entered its fold and it was no more alien to mankind. But with the passage of time due to the deteriorating condition of its followers it began to lose its pristine purity. Innovations were introduced, slight differences of opinion and practice gave rise in due course to opposing sects, each one jubilant over its own edition of the faith. And it has once again become alien to a vast majority of so called believers and unbelievers alike. And those lucky few who rise to revive it in its original purity and brilliance, themselves become strangers to the generatrum of humanity. Such strangers have the glad tidings from the Prophet.