After Amīr al-mu’mīnīn had sent Jarīr ibn ‘Abdillāh al-Bajalī to Mu’āwiyah (for securing his allegiance) some of his companions suggested preparation to fight with him then he said:

إن استعداي لحرب أهل الشام وجرير عندهم إغلاق الشام، وصرف لأهله عن خير إن أرا دومه، ولكن قد وقته لجرير وقتا لا يقيم بعده إلا مخدوعا أو عاصيا، والرأي مع الاثنين، فأرودوا، ولا أكره لكم الاعداد.

My preparation for war with the people of Syria (ash-Sham) while Jarīr ibn ‘Abdillāh al-Bajalī is still there would be closing the door for Syria and prevention of its people from good action (i.e. allegiance) if they intend doing it. However, I have fixed a time limit for Jarīr after which he would not stay without either deception or in disobedience. My opinion is in favour of patience, so wait a while. (In the meantime) I do not dislike your getting ready.

ولقد ضربت أفن هذا الأمر وعينه، وقذرت ظهوره وطنه، فلم أرني إلا الشتال أو الكفر بما جاء محمد صلى الله عليه. إذن قد كان على الأمة والحدث أحداثا. وأوضح الناس مقالا. فقالوا، ثم تلموا فغتروا.

I have observed this matter thoroughly from all sides but I do find any way except war or heresy. Certainly, there was over the people a ruler (before me) who brought about new (unIslamic) things and compelled the people to speak out. So they did speak, then rose up and thereafter changed the whole system.