

Surah 24. An-Nur

Asad: [But,] verily, those who [falsely, and without repentance,²⁸] accuse chaste women who may have been unthinkingly careless but have remained true to their faith,²⁹ shall be rejected [from God's grace] in this world as well as in the life to come: and awesome suffering awaits them

Malik: Those who accuse chaste but careless believing women are cursed in this life, and in the Hereafter they shall have a grievous punishment.

Pickthall: Lo! as for those who traduce virtuous, believing women (who are) careless, cursed are they in the world and the Hereafter. Theirs will be an awful doom.

Yusuf Ali: Those who slander chaste women indiscreet but believing are cursed in this life and in the Hereafter: for them is a grievous Penalty²⁹⁷⁵

Transliteration: Inna allatheena yarmoona almuhsanati alghafilati almuminati luAAinoo fee alddunya waalakhirati walahum AAathabun AAatheemun

Khatab:

Surely those who accuse chaste, unsuspecting,¹ believing women are cursed in this life and the Hereafter. And they will suffer a tremendous punishment

Author Comments

28 - According to Razi, the absence of repentance is incontrovertibly implied in the condemnation expressed in the sequence, since the Qur'an makes it clear in many places that God always accepts a sinner's sincere repentance.

29 - Lit., "chaste, unmindful [or "careless"] believing women", i.e., virtuous women who thoughtlessly expose themselves to situations on which a slanderous construction may be put.

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Immoral thoughts never cross the minds of these chaste women and, therefore, they never expect slander.

2975 - Good women are sometimes indiscreet because they think of no evil. But even such innocent indiscretion lands them, and those who hold them dear, in difficulties. Such was the case with Hadhrat 'Aisha, who was in extreme pain and anguish for a whole month because of the slanders spread about her. Her husband and her father were also placed in a most awkward predicament, considering their position and the great work in which they were engaged. But unprincipled people, who start false slanders, and their unthinking tools who help in spreading such slanders, are guilty of the gravest spiritual offence, and their worst punishment is the deprivation of Allah's grace, which is the meaning of a state of Curse.

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