

Surah 30. Ar-Rum

Asad: And among His wonders is this: He displays before you the lightning, giving rise to [both] fear and hope,¹⁶ and sends down water from the skies, giving life thereby to the earth after it had been lifeless: in this, behold, there are messages indeed for people who use their reason!

Malik: And of His signs is the showing of lightning, in which there is fear as well as hope, and He sends down rainwater from the sky and with it gives life to the earth after its death; surely there are signs in this for those who use their common sense.

Pickthall: And of His signs is this: He showeth you the lightning for a fear and for a hope, and sendeth down water from the sky, and thereby quickeneth the earth after her death. Lo! herein indeed are portents for folk who understand.

Yusuf Ali: And among His Signs He shows you the lightning by way both of fear and of hope and He sends down rain from the sky and with it gives life to the earth after it is dead: verily in that are Signs for those who are wise. ³⁵³⁰

Transliteration: Wamin ayatihi yureekumu albarqa khawfan waṭamaAAan wayunazzilu mina alssama*ī* maan fayuhyee bihi alarda baAAada mawtiha inna fee thalika laayatin liqawmin yaAAqiloonaa

Khatab:

And one of His signs is that He shows you lightning, inspiring you with hope and fear.¹ And He sends down rain from the sky, reviving the earth after its death. Surely in this are signs for people who understand.

Author Comments

16 - I.e., hope of rain - an oft-recurring Qur'anic symbol of faith and spiritual life (cf. [13:12](#)).

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Hope of rain and fear of torment.

3530 - See last note, item (5). Cf. xiii. 12. To cowards lightning and thunder appear as terrible forces of nature: lightning seems to kill and destroy where its irresistible progress is not assisted by proper lightning-conductors. But lightning is also a herald of rain-bearing clouds and showers that bring fertility and prosperity in their train. This double aspect is also symbolical of spiritual fears and hopes, fears lest we may not be found receptive or worthy of the irresistible perspicuous Message of Allah, and hopes that we may receive it in the right spirit and be blessed by its mighty power of transformation to achieve spiritual well-being. Note that the repetition of the phrase "gives life to the earth after it is dead" connects this verse, with verse 19 above; in other words, the Revelation, which we must receive with wisdom and understanding, is a Sign of Allah's own power and mercy, and is vouchsafed in order to safeguard our own final Future.

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