

Surah 39. Az-Zumar

Asad: and [it is up to you, O sinners, to] worship whatever you please instead of Him!" Say: "Behold, the [true] losers will be they who shall have lost their own selves and their kith and kin on Resurrection Day:¹⁸ for is not this, this, the [most] obvious loss?

Malik: As for yourselves, I have conveyed to you the Truth and if you do not believe, then worship what you want besides Him." Say: "The real losers are those who will lose their souls as well their families on the Day of Resurrection. Ah! That will indeed be an open Loss."

Pickthall: Then worship what ye will beside Him. Say: The losers will be those who lose themselves and their housefolk on the Day of Resurrection. Ah, that will be the manifest loss!

Yusuf Ali: "Serve ye what ye will besides Him." Say: "Truly those in loss are those who lose their own souls and their People on the Day of Judgement: Ah! that is indeed the (real and) evident Loss!" ^{4264 4265}

Khatab:

Worship then whatever ?gods? you want instead of Him." Say, "The ?true? losers are those who will lose themselves and their families on Judgment Day. That is indeed the clearest loss."

Author Comments

18 - Implying that on Resurrection Day they will be irretrievably separated from all whom they had loved, and all who had been close to them in this world. The "loss of one's own self" signifies, I think, the destruction of one's true identity and uniqueness as a human being, which is described in the next clause as "the most obvious loss" that man may be made to suffer in the life to come.

4264 - This is not a command or permission but a reproach and warning. The address of the Prophet of Allah may be paraphrased thus: 'Whatever happens I will follow the command of Allah. He has revealed Himself, and I know that He is One, supreme over all creatures. Him alone will I serve. Is there any so ignorant as to seek anyone else? Let him do so and see the result. The loss will be his own. For he falls from Grace into Evil.'

4265 - The cult of Evil results in the destruction of all that is best and most valuable in us, as well as poisons all the affections which link us to our families, friends, and people, in the Final Adjustment, which we call the Day of Judgment.

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