

Surah 55. Ar-Rahman

Asad: O you who live in close communion with [evil] invisible beings and humans!¹⁵ If you [think that you] can pass beyond the regions of the heavens and the earth,¹⁶ pass beyond them! [But] you cannot pass beyond them, save by a sanction [from God]!¹⁷

Malik: You, the assembly of jinns and men! If you have the power to get away from the boundaries of the heavens and the earth (to escape from His punishment), then get away! You cannot get away except with Our authority.

Pickthall: O company of jinn and men, if ye have power to penetrate (all) regions of the heavens and the earth; then penetrate (them)! Ye will never penetrate them save with (Our) sanction.

Yusuf Ali: O ye assembly of Jinns and men! if it be ye can pass beyond the zones of the heavens and the earth pass ye! not without authority shall ye be able to pass!⁵¹⁹⁴

Transliteration: Ya maAAshara aljinni waalinsi ini istataAAatum an tanfuthoo min aqtari alssamawati waalardi faonfuthoo la tanfuthoona illa bisultanin

Khatab:

O assembly of jinn and humans! If you can penetrate beyond the realms of the heavens and the earth, then do so. ?But? you cannot do that without ?Our? authority.

Author Comments

15 - For an explanation of this rendering of ma'shar al-jinn wa-l-ins, see note [112] on the first paragraph of [6:128](#).

16 - I.e., in order to escape God's judgment and chastisement.

17 - I.e., "unless He wills to reprove you": cf. the last paragraph of [6:128](#) and the corresponding note [114].

5194 - Cf. vi. 130, where the Jinns and men are addressed collectively. That whole passage, vi. 130-134, should be read as a commentary on this verse. 'If you think that because you do things in secret, or

because some of your sins do not seem to meet their inevitable punishment or some of your good deeds seem to go unnoticed, do not be deceived. Judgment will soon come. You cannot possibly escape out of the zones in which your lives have been cast, without authority from Allah. Be grateful to Allah for the chances He has given you'. "All that hath been promised unto you will come to pass: nor can ye frustrate it in the least bit" (vi. 134).

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