

## Surah 9. At-Tauba

Asad: the building which they have built will never cease to be a source of deep disquiet in their hearts until their hearts crumble to pieces.<sup>146</sup> And God is all-knowing, wise.

Malik: The foundation of those who so build is never free from suspicion and shakiness in their hearts until their hearts are cut to pieces. Allah is Knowledgeable, Wise.

Pickthall: The building which they built will never cease to be a misgiving in their hearts unless their hearts be torn to pieces. Allah is Knower, Wise.

Yusuf Ali: The foundation of those who so build is never free from suspicion and shakiness in their hearts until their hearts are cut to pieces. And Allah is All-Knowing Wise.<sup>1360</sup>

Transliteration: La yazalu bunyanuhumu allathee banaw reebatan fee quloobihim illa an taqattaAAa  
quloobuhum waAllahu AAaleemun hakeemun

Khatab:

The building which they erected will never cease to fuel hypocrisy in their hearts until their hearts are torn apart. And Allah is All-Knowing, All-Wise.

### Author Comments

146 - Lit., "unless their hearts are cut into many pieces" - i.e., until they die. In verses {109-110}, the reference to "the building which they have built" is, obviously, widened beyond the preceding allusion to houses of worship, and allegorically circumscribes here all the "works" and the behaviour of men.

1360 - "Their hearts cut to pieces" i.e., they meet their death. The parable is continued further. The heart of man is the seat of his hopes and fears, the foundation of his moral and spiritual life. If that foundation is on an undermined sand-cliff already crumbling to pieces, what security or stability can he have? He is being shaken by alarms and suspicions and superstitions, until like the edge of a sand-cliff they are cut clean away and fall into a heap of ruin and his spiritual life and all its land-marks are destroyed.

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Source : *Alim.org-Compare Translation-Surah 9-Ayah 110*