

Surah 9. At-Tauba

Asad: Only they may rightly be reproached who asked thee for exemption even though they were fully able [to go to war].¹²⁶ They were well-pleased to remain with those who were left behind - wherefore God has sealed their hearts, so that they do not know [what they are doing].

Malik: The way (blame) is only against those who begged exemption although they are rich. They preferred to be with those who remained behind. Allah has set a seal upon their hearts; so they do not know what they missed.

Pickthall: The road (of blame) is only against those who ask for leave of thee (to stay at home) when they are rich. They are content to be with the useless. Allah hath sealed their hearts so that they know not.

Yusuf Ali: The ground (of complaint) is against such as claim exemption while they are rich. They prefer to stay with the (women) who remain behind: Allah hath sealed their hearts; so they know not (what they miss).¹³⁴⁵

Transliteration: Innama alssabeelu AAala allatheena yastathinoonaka wahum aghniyao radoo bian yakoonoo maAAa alkhawalifi waṭabaAAa Allahu AAala quloobihim fahum la yaAAalamoona
Khattab:

Blame is only on those who seek exemption from you although they have the means. They preferred to stay behind with the helpless, and Allah has sealed their hearts so they do not realize the consequences?.

Author Comments

126 - Lit., "who ask thee for exemption while they are rich". The term ghani denotes "one who is rich" or "free from want" or "self-sufficient"; in this context it obviously refers to physical competence in addition to financial means: that is, to people who were able-bodied as well as financially in a position to equip themselves (cf. verses {86-87} above).

1345 - Cf. ix. 87, where similar phrases are used for a similar shirking of duty by towns-folk, while here we are considering the desert folk. It is not only a duty, but a precious privilege, to serve a great Cause by personal self-sacrifice. Those who shirk such an opportunity know not what they miss.

[View Page](#)