

Surah 104. Al-Humaza

104.1 Woe unto every slanderer, fault-finder!¹

104.2 [Woe unto him²] who amasses wealth and counts it a safeguard,

104.3 thinking that his wealth will make him live forever!³

104.4 Nay, but [in the life to come such as] he shall indeed be abandoned to crushing torment!⁴

104.5 And what could make thee conceive what that crushing torment will be?

104.6 A fire kindled by God,

104.7 which will rise over the [guilty] hearts:⁵

104.8 verily, it will close in upon them

104.9 in endless columns!⁶

Author Comments

1 - Not available.

2 - This repetitive interpolation is necessary because the blameworthy attitude spoken of in verses {2-3} obviously belongs to a category entirely different from the two mentioned in verse {1}.

3 - This is a metonym for the tendency to attribute an almost "religious" value to the acquisition and possession of material goods and facilities - a tendency which precludes man from giving any real importance to spiritual considerations (cf. note [1] on [102:1](#)). My rendering of 'addadahu in the preceding verse as "[he] counts it a safeguard" is based on Jawhari's explanation of this term.

4 - Al-hutamah - one of several metaphors for the otherworldly suffering comprised within the concept of "hell" (see note [33] on {15:43-44}).

5 - I.e., originating in their hearts - thus clearly alluding to the spiritual nature of the "fire" in the sinners' belated realization of their guilt.

6 - Lit., "in extended columns", i.e., overwhelming with despair.

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Source : *Alim.org-Asad Translation-Surah 104*