

The Quran's Text & Yusuf Ali's Translation:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ...^{١٠٢}

3: 102. O ye who believe!

fear God as He should be feared,

[Ali's comments: 427. Fear is of many kinds:

1. the abject fear of the coward;
2. the fear of a child or an inexperienced person in the face of an unknown danger;
3. the fear of a reasonable man who wishes to avoid harm to himself or to people whom he wishes to protect;
4. the reverence which is akin to love, for it fears to do anything which is not pleasing to the object of love.

The first is unworthy of man; the second is necessary for one immature; the third is a manly precaution against evil as long as it is unconquered; and the fourth is the seed-bed of righteousness.

Those mature in faith cultivate the fourth: at earlier stages, the third or the second may be necessary; they are fear, but not the fear of God. The first is a feeling of which anyone should be ashamed.]

...وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ ﴿١٠٢﴾

and die not except in a state of Islam.

Transliteration *Ya_ ayyuhal lazina a_manuttaqulla_ha haqqa tuqa_tihi wa la_ tamu_tunna illa_ wa antum muslimu_n(a).*

[428. Our whole being should be permeated with Islam: it is not a mere veneer or outward show.]

وَاعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا... ^{up}

3: 103. And hold fast, all together, **by the rope which God** (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves;

[429. The simile is that of people struggling in deep water, to whom a benevolent Providence stretches out a strong and unbreakable rope of rescue. If all hold fast to it together, their mutual support adds to the chance of their safety.]

...وَاذْكُرُوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ إِذْ كُنْتُمْ أَعْدَاءً...

and remember with gratitude God's favor on you;

...فَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِكُمْ فَأَصْبَحْتُمْ بِنِعْمَتِهِ إِخْوَانًا...

for ye were enemies and He joined your hearts in love, so that by His grace, ye became brethren;

[430. Yathrib was torn with civil and tribal feuds and dissensions before the Messenger of God set his feet on its soil. After that, it became the City of the Prophet, Madinah, and unmatched Brotherhood, and the pivot of Islam. This poor quarrelsome world

is a larger Yathrib: can we establish the sacred feet on its soil, and make it a new and larger Madinah?]

...وَكُنْتُمْ عَلَىٰ شَفَا حُفْرَةٍ مِّنَ النَّارِ فَأَنْقَذَكُم مِّنْهَا...

and ye were on the brink of the pit of fire, and He saved you from it.

...كَذَٰلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ آيَاتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ ﴿١٠٣﴾

Thus doth God make his signs clear to you: that ye may be guided.

Transliteration *Wa'tasimu_ bi hablilla_hi jami'aw wa la_ tafarraqu_, wazkuru_ ni'matalla_hi'alaikum iz kuntum a'da_'an fa allafabaina qulu_bikum fa asbahtum bi ni'matihi ikhwa_na_(n), wa kuntum 'ala_ syafa_ hufratim minan na_ri fa anqazakum minha_, kaza_lika yubayyinulla_hu lakum a_ya_tihi la'allakum tahtadu_n(a).*

Other Translations:

Muhammad Asad

3: 102

O you who have attained to faith! Be conscious of God with all the consciousness that is due to Him, and do not allow death to overtake you ere you have surrendered yourselves unto Him.

3: 103

And hold fast, all together, unto the bond with God, and do not draw apart from one another. And remember the blessings which God has bestowed upon you: how, when you were

enemies, He brought your hearts together, so that through His blessing you became brethren; and [how, when] you were on the brink of a fiery abyss. 79 He saved you from it. In this way God makes clear His messages unto you, so that you might find guidance,

[Asad's comment 79 Lit., "a pit of fire" - a metaphor of the sufferings which are the inescapable consequence of spiritual ignorance. The reminder of their one-time mutual enmity is an allusion to man's lot on earth (cf. 2:36 and 7:24), from which only God's guidance can save him (see 2:37-38).]

Muhammad Pickthall

3: 102

O ye who believe! Observe your duty to Allah with right observance, and die not save as those who have surrendered (unto Him);

3:103

And hold fast, all of you together, to the cable of Allah, and do not separate. And remember Allah's favor unto

you: how ye were enemies and He made friendship between your hearts so that ye became as brothers by His grace; and (how) ye were upon the brink of an abyss of fire, and He did save you from it. Thus Allah maketh clear His revelations unto you, that haply ye may be guided;
