

Surah 42, Ash-Shura (Consultation), Mecca 53

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

ذَلِكَ الَّذِي يُبَشِّرُ اللَّهَ عِبَادَهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ... ^{up}

42:23. That is (the Bounty) **whereof** God gives Glad Tidings to His Servants who believe and do righteous deeds.

...قُلْ لَا أَسْأَلُكُمْ عَلَيْهِ أَجْرًا إِلَّا الْمَوَدَّةَ فِي الْقُرْبَى...

Say:

"No reward do I ask of you for this except the love of those near of kin."

وَمَنْ يَقْتَرِفْ حَسَنَةً نَّزِدْ لَهُ فِيهَا حُسْنًا...

And if anyone earns any good, We shall give Him an increase of good in respect thereof:

...إِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ شَكُورٌ ﴿٢٣﴾

for God is Oft-Forgiving, Most Ready to appreciate (service).

Transliteration:

*Thalika allathee yubashshiru Allahu AAibadahu
allatheena amanoo waAAamiloo alssalihati qul la
as-alukum AAalayhi ajran illa **almawaddata fee
alqurba** waman yaqtarif hasanatan nazid lahu
feeha husnan inna Allaha ghafoorun shakoorun*

[Ali's comments:

4560. The love of kindred may be extended to mean the love of our common humanity, for all mankind are brothers descended from Adam. Everyone can understand the ordinary love of kindred. (R).

4561. Cf. 35:29-30, and notes 3915 (for increase) and 3917 (for Allah's appreciation of service)]

Other Translations:

Muhammad Asad:

(42:23) that [bounty] whereof God gives the glad tiding to such of His servants as attain to faith and do righteous deeds. Say [O Prophet]: **"No reward do I ask of you for this [message] other than [that you should) love your fellow -men."** 29

[Asad's comments:

29 Lit., "love for those who are near (al-qurba)". Some commentators take this to mean "those who are near to me", i.e., Muhammad's kinsfolk: but quite apart from the objection that such a "personal" demand would conflict with the preceding assurance, "No reward do I ask of you", the deliberate omission of any possessive pronoun in respect of the term **al-qurba indicates that it is not limited to any personal relationship but, rather, alludes to a relationship common to all human beings: namely, the fellowship of man** - a concept which implies the fundamental ethical postulate to

care for one another's material and spiritual welfare.]

Muhammad Pickthall

This it is which Allah announceth unto His bondmen who believe and do good works. Say (O Muhammad, unto mankind): I ask of you no fee therefor, **save lovingkindness among kinsfolk**. And whoso scoreth a good deed We add unto its good for him. Lo! Allah is Forgiving, Responsive.

Shabbir Ahmed

This is the good news from Allah to His servants who believe and lead a righteous life. Say, "No reward do I ask you for this other than that **you show loving kindness to the ones near (in the human bond**, and thus seek the Way to your Lord (25:57))." For, anyone who benefits people, We shall grant him additional good. And, verily, Allah is ever Absolver of imperfections, Responsive to gratitude.

