

Surah 2. Al-Baqara

Asad: Their parable is that of people who kindle a fire: but as soon as it has illumined all around them, God takes away their light and leaves them in utter darkness, wherein they cannot see:

Malik: Their example is that of a man who kindled a fire; when it illuminated all around him Allah took away the light (their eyesight) and left them in utter darkness: they could see nothing.

Mustafa Khattab:

Their example is that of someone who kindles a fire, but when it lights up all around them, Allah takes away their light, leaving them in complete darkness—unable to see.

Pickthall: Their likeness is as the likeness of one who kindleth fire, and when it sheddeth its light around him Allah taketh away their light and leaveth them in darkness, where they cannot see,

Yusuf Ali: Their similitude is that of a man who kindled a fire; when it lighted all around him Allah took away their light and left them in utter darkness so they could not see. ³⁸

Transliteration: MATHALUHUM KAMATHALI ALLATH_{EE} ISTAWQADA NARAN FALAMMA ADAAT MA HAWLAHU THAHABA ALLAHU BINOORIHIM WATARAKAHUM FEE THULUMATIN LA YUBSIROONA

Author Comments

38 - The man wanted light; he only kindled a fire. It produced a blaze, and won the applause of all around. But it did not last long. When the flame went out as was inevitable, the darkness was worse than before. And they all lost their way. So hypocrisy, deception, arrogant compromise with evil, cynicism, or duplicity may win temporary applause. But the true light of faith and sincerity is wanting, and therefore it must mislead and ruin all concerned. In the consternation they cannot speak or hear each other, and of course they cannot see; so they end like the deliberate rejecters of Faith (ii. 7), wildly groping about, dumb, deaf and blind.

[View Page](#)

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