

## Surah 31. Luqman

Asad: For [thus it is with most men:] when the waves engulf them like shadows [of death], they call unto God, sincere [at that moment] in their faith in Him alone: but as soon as He has brought them safe ashore, some of them stop half-way [between belief and unbelief].<sup>29</sup> Yet none could knowingly reject Our messages unless he be utterly perfidious, ingrate.

Malik: When any giant wave covers them like a canopy, they pray to Allah with all devotion making their faith pure for Him. But when He delivers them safely to land, some of them falter between belief and unbelief. None reject Our revelations except the treacherous and the ungrateful.

Mustafa Khattab:

And as soon as they are overwhelmed by waves like mountains, they cry out to Allah ?alone? in sincere devotion. But when He delivers them ?safely? to shore, only some become relatively grateful. And none rejects Our signs except whoever is deceitful, ungrateful.

Pickthall: And if a wave enshroudeth them like awnings, they cry unto Allah, making their faith pure for Him only. But when He bringeth them safe to land, some of them compromise. None denieth Our signs save every traitor ingrate.

Yusuf Ali: When a wave covers them like the canopy (of clouds) they call to Allah offering Him sincere devotion. But when He has delivered them safely to land there are among them those that halt between (right and wrong). But none reject Our Signs except only a perfidious ungrateful (wretch)! <sup>3621 3622</sup>

### Author Comments

29 - Cf. [17:67](#), as well as [29:65](#), which says - in a similar context - that "they [begin to] ascribe to imaginary powers a share in His divinity" (yushrikun). The parable of a storm at sea is, of course, a metonym applying to every kind of danger that may beset man in life.

3621 - Cf. vii. 29. Unlike the people mentioned in the last verse, who constantly seek Allah's help and give thanks for His mercies by using them aright and doing their duty, there is a class of men whose worship is merely inspired by terror. When they are in physical danger-the only kind of danger they appreciate,-e.g., in a storm at sea, they genuinely think of Allah. But once the danger is past, they become indifferent or wish to appear good while dallying with evil. See next verse.

3622 - They halt between two opinions. They are not against good, but they will not eschew evil. They are a contrast to those who "constantly persevere and give thanks". But such an attitude amounts really to

"perfidious ingratitude".

[View Page](#)

*Source : Alim.org-Compare Translation-Surah 31-Ayah 32*