

## Surah 40. Al-Mu'min

Asad: Hence, warn them of that Day which draws ever nearer, when the hearts will chokingly come up to the throats: no loving friend will the evildoers have, nor any intercessor who would be heeded.<sup>13</sup>

Malik: O Prophet, warn them of the Day that is drawing near, when the hearts will leap up to the throats with grief; when the wrongdoers will have neither friend nor intercessor who could be given heed to.

Mustafa Khattab:

Warn them ?O Prophet? of the approaching Day when the hearts will jump into the throats, spanpressing distress. The wrongdoers will have neither a close friend nor intercessor to be heard.

Pickthall: Warn them (O Muhammad) of the Day of the approaching (doom), when the hearts will be choking the throats, (when) there will be no friend for the wrong-doers, nor any intercessor who will be heard.

Yusuf Ali: Warn them of the Day that is (ever) drawing near when the Hearts will (come) right up to the Throats to choke (them); no intimate friend nor intercessor will the wrongdoers have who could be listened to. <sup>4381 4382</sup>

### Author Comments

13 - Regarding the problem of "intercession" (shafaah) and its meaning in the Qur an, see note [7] on [10:3](#).

4381 - Hearts will come right up to the Throats to choke them: an idiom implying that the whole of their life-functions will be choked up with terror. But a more subtle meaning emerges from further analysis. The heart (or the breast) is the seat of affection, emotion, and every kind of feeling, such as terror, pain, despair, etc. These things will as it were overflow right up to the throat and choke it. The throat is the vehicle for the voice; their voice will be choked, and they will be able to say nothing. The throat is the channel for food, which goes to the stomach and maintains a healthy functioning of life; the choking means that the healthy functioning will stop, and there will be nothing but woe.

4382 - In that enforcement of personal responsibility, what sympathy or intercession can the wrong-doers get?

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