215. Do you think that you will enter Heaven while there has not come over you the condition of those who passed away before you? Poverty and afflictions befell them, and they were violently shaken until the Messenger and those who believed along with him said: 'When will come the help of Allāh?' Yea, surely the help of Allāh is nigh.

216. They ask thee what they shall spend. Say: 'Whatever of good and abundant wealth you spend should be for parents and near relatives and orphans and the needy and the wayfarer. And whatever good you do, surely Allāh knows it well.'

217. Fighting is ordained for you, though it is repugnant to you; but it may be that you dislike a thing while it is good for you, and it may be that you like a thing while it is bad for you. Allāh knows *all things*, and you know not.

R. 27.

218. They ask thee about fighting in the Sacred Month. Say: 'Fighting therein is a great transgression, but to hinder men from the way of Allāh, and to be ungrateful to Him and to hinder men from the Sacred Mosque, and to turn out its people therefrom, is a greater sin with

يَسْعُلُوْنَكَ مَاذَا يُنْفِقُوْنَ لَا قُلْ مَا الْفَقْتُمْ مِّنْ خَيْرٍ فَلِلْوَالِدَيْنِ وَالْمَسْكِيْنِ وَالْاَقْرَبِيْنَ وَالْمَسْكِيْنِ وَمَا تَفْعَلُوْا مِنْ فَعَلُوْا مِنْ خَيْرِ فَانَّ اللهِ بِعَلِيْمٌ ﴿

كُتِب عَلَيْكُمُ الْقِتَالُ وَهُوَكُرْةً لَّكُمْ وَ وَعَسَى آنْ تَكْرَهُوا شَيْئًا وَّهُو خَيْرٌ لَّكُمْ وَعَسَى آنْ تُحِبُّوا شَيْئًا وَّ هُو شَرُّ لَّكُمْ وَ الله يَعْلَمُ وَآثَتُمْ لا تَعْلَمُونَ شَ

يَسْكُوْنَكَ عَنِ الشَّهْرِ الْحَرَامِ قِتَالِ فِيْهِ وَقُلْ قِتَالُ فِيْهِ كَبِيْرٌ وَصَدَّ عَنْ سَبِيْلِ اللهِ وَكُفْرٌ بِهِ وَالْمَشْجِرِ الْحَرَامِ وَ وَ إِخْرَاجُ آهْلِهِ مِنْهُ آكُبُرُ عِنْدَاللهِ وَالْفِتْنَةُ آكُبُرُ مِنَ الْقَتْلِ وَ Allāh; and persecution is worse than killing.' And they will not cease fighting you until they turn you back from your faith, if they can. And whoso from among you turns back from his faith and dies while he is a disbeliever, it is they whose works shall be vain in this world and the next. These are the inmates of the Fire and therein shall they abide.

219. Those who believe and those who emigrate and strive hard in the cause of Allāh, it is these who hope for Allāh's mercy; and Allāh is Most Forgiving, Merciful.

220. They ask thee concerning wine and the game of hazard. Say: 'In both there is great sin and also *some* advantages for men; but their sin is greater than their advantage.' And they ask thee what they should spend. Say: 'What you can spare.' Thus does Allāh make His commandments clear to you that you may reflect

221. Upon this world and the next. And they ask thee concerning the orphans. Say: 'Promotion of their welfare is *an act of* great goodness. And if you intermix with them, they are your brethren. And Allāh knows the mischief-maker from the

وَلَا يَزَالُوْنَ يُقَاتِلُوْنَكُمْ حَتَّى يُرُدُّوْكُمْ عَنْ دِيْنِكُمْ إِنِ اسْتَطَاعُوْا ﴿ وَ مَنْ تَرْتَدِهُ مِنْكُمْ عَنْ دِيْنِهٖ فَيُمُثُ وَهُوَ كَافِرٌ فَأُولَٰئِكَ حَبِطَتُ اَعْمَالُهُمْ فِى الدُّنْيَا وَالْأَخِرَةِ ۚ وَاُولَٰئِكَ اَصْحٰبُ النَّارِ ۚ هُمْ فِيْهَا خٰلِدُوْنَ ۚ

اِتَّ الَّذِيْنَ أَمَنُوا وَالَّذِيْنَ هَاجَرُوَا وَجَارُوَا وَجَامُوا وَالَّذِيْنَ هَاجَرُوَا وَجَامُوا اللهِ الوَلِيِّكَ يَوْمُونَ رَحْمَتُ اللهِ ﴿ وَاللهُ غَفُورٌ رَحْمَتُ اللهِ ﴿ وَاللهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيْمُ ﴿

فِ الدُّنْ يَا وَالْإَخِرَةِ ، وَ يَسْعُلُوْنَكَ عَنِ الدُّنْ يَا وَ الْإَخِرَةِ ، وَ يَسْعُلُوْنَكَ عَنِ الْيَتْلُمُ ، وَلُلْ الْمُلْ حُلَّمُ مَا لَكُمُ مَا لِللَّهُ لَا لَا لَهُ اللَّهُ لَا لَهُ فُلِحَ ، وَلَوْ يَعْمَدُ الْمُصْلِحِ ، وَلَوْ

reformer. And if Allāh had so willed, He would have put you to hardship. Surely, Allāh is Mighty, Wise.'

222. And marry not idolatrous women until they believe; even a believing bond-woman is better than an idolatress, although she may highly please you. And give not believing women in marriage to idolaters until they believe; even a believing slave is better than an idolater, although he may highly please you. These call to the Fire, but Allāh calls to Heaven and to forgiveness by His command. And He makes His Signs clear to the people that they may remember.

R. 28.

*223. And they ask thee concerning menstruation. Say: 'It is a harmful thing, so keep away from women during menstruation, and go not in unto them until they are clean. But when they have cleansed themselves, go in unto them as Allāh has commanded you. Allāh loves those who turn to Him and loves those who keep themselves clean.'

224. Your wives are a tilth for you; so approach your tilth when and how you like and send ahead *some good*

شَآءَ اللهُ كَأَعْنَتَكُمْ ﴿ اِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيْزُ حَكِيْمٌ ۞

وع ٢٧ ا فَاعْتَزلُوا النِّسَاءَ الْمَحِيْضِ ﴿ وَلَا تَقْرَبُهُ هُ كُمُ اللهُ ﴿ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ لُهُ اللَّهُ لُهُ ئُتُم دَ وَقَدِّمُوا لاَ نُفُسكُمُ مِ

^{*223.} And they ask thee concerning menstruation. Say: 'It is indisposition, so keep away from women during menstruation,...

Note: The word harmful does not seem to do justice to the Arabic word $adh\bar{a}$ (65) in this context. The word $adh\bar{a}$ should be understood in the sense of indisposition and temporary discomfort. Otherwise it would reflect on God to have created something which is harmful for women, which is not correct.

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