

Sūrat al-Mu'min
Verses 44-45

فَسَتَذْكُرُونَ مَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ ۚ وَأَفْوِضُ أَمْرِي إِلَى اللَّهِ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ بَصِيرٌ بِالْعِبَادِ

Q40:44 - Soon you will remember what I tell you, and I entrust my affair to Allah. Indeed, Allah watches His servants.

فَوَقَاهُ اللَّهُ سَيِّئَاتِ مَا مَكَرُوا ۗ وَحَاقَ بِآلِ فِرْعَوْنَ سُوءُ الْعَذَابِ

Q40:45 - So Allah protected him from the evil consequences of what they planned, and a terrible punishment overtook Fir'awn's people

Questions for Reflection

- 1) Why does Hizqīl say they will remember his words?
- 2) Where have you come across these verses before? (in the du'a after Subh prayers)

Commentary

Hizqīl concludes his speech by telling them they will remember what he spoke to them about. When they face the anger of Allah, in this world and the Hereafter, they will think about how he tried to guide them and they will wish they had listened to him. Unfortunately, it would be too late. In the world, once the punishment of Allah comes it is not possible to repent. When Fir'awn saw the waters of the sea closing around him and knew that he was going to die he repented and proclaimed his faith in One God. But it was not accepted at that time. Quran says about it, *When overtaken by drowning, he called out, 'I believe that there is no god except Him in whom the Children of Israel believe, and I am one of those who submit! [He was told,] 'What! Now? When you have been disobedient heretofore and were among the agents of corruption?! (10:90-91).* The people will also remember the words of Hizqīl when they die and witness the realities of the Hereafter. But again at that time there will be no chance left for repenting or doing good.

Then Hizqīl announces that he entrusts all his affairs to Allah. He is not afraid of their threats, not worried about being alone while facing so many, not taken in by their pomp and glory. This inner strength comes from believing and trusting in a Being that has power over all things. The weak human being becomes a strong force when aligned with a force that is the strongest. This type of faith has always inspired small groups of people to face larger and stronger groups than themselves.

The word *Tafwid* is a higher stage of *Tawakkul*. In *Tawakkul* the person has a role in the affair. He does his part and then trusts Allah to make it good. But in *Tafwid* he trusts the affair entirely

to Allah, as he himself cannot do anything about it. He has tried (not that he has done nothing about it) but is unable to make a difference. Hizqīl uses the word *Tafwid* rather than *Tawakkul* because he has been unable to convince the people.

The second part of verse 44 is not only addressing the people but is also a du'a to Allah. It is a plea for protection and assistance. Allah listens to his prayer and protects him from their evil schemes. The words 'evil consequences of what they planned' in verse 45 means that the people plotted many things against him. They may have plotted to imprison him, to torture him and even kill him. But Allah saved him from all that. Hizqīl was able to escape from them. Some historians believe he hid himself in the mountains and later joined Prophet Musa (a). He was with the Banu Israil when they crossed the sea. Another plot they had was to make him recant his faith and join them in idol worshipping. But Allah helped him preserve his faith and remain steadfast on it. None of the plots of the people had any effect on him. In fact, it was the people themselves who suffered the punishment of Allah. (details of that punishment are given in the next verses, not part of this course).

Connecting verses

- 1) Trust in Allah. 3:160, 5:11, 9:129
- 2) Smaller group vs larger group – 8:65, 8:66

Connecting topic

- 1) Trust in Allah – various stages
<https://www.al-islam.org/articles/merits-soul-trust-god-tawakkul>
<http://en.wikishia.net/view/Tawakkul>