

- 2:94. Say: If the final abode with Allah is yours alone, to the exclusion of all others, then wish for death, if you are sincere.
- 2:95. But they will never wish for death, because of what their own hands have sent on before them, and Allah is fully aware of the transgressors.
- 2:96. You will surely find them, of all people, most greedy for life, even more than the polytheists. Each one of them wishes that he could be granted a life of a thousand years, but his being granted such a long life will not save him from punishment. For Allah sees well all that they do.

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«Say» that is, tell them, by way of correcting their false claims «If the final abode with Allah» namely paradise «is yours alone, to the exclusion of all others», as you claim that no one will enter paradise except those who are Jews or Christians, and that the fire of hell will only touch them for a few days (2: 80), so if you are telling the truth, «then wish for death». This is a kind of challenge between them and the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ).

After having been cornered and pressured in response to their stubbornness, they are left with only one of two choices: either to believe in Allah and His Messenger (ﷺ), or to accept the challenge, which is to wish for death which will bring them to that abode that is exclusively theirs (according to their claim). But they refused to do that.

Thus it is established that they are in a state of extreme stubbornness and opposition to Allah and His Messenger (ﷺ), despite the fact that they are aware of what they are doing. Hence Allah (ﷻ) said: «But they will never wish for death, because of what their own hands have sent on before them» of disbelief and sin; they are well aware that this is a path that will lead them to the requital for their evil deeds. Hence death was the most hateful of things to them and they were