

- 2:155. We will certainly test you with something of fear and hunger, and loss of property, lives and crops, but give glad tidings to those who patiently persevere,
- 2:156. Who say, when afflicted with calamity: To Allah we belong, and to Him is our return.
- 2:157. They are the ones on whom blessings and mercy from their Lord are [bestowed], and they are the ones who are guided.

Here Allah (ﷻ) tells us that He will inevitably test His slaves with all sorts of trials and tribulations, in order to distinguish the sincere from the liars, and the impatient from the patient. This is His way with His slaves, because if times of ease were to persist for people of faith, without any trials, it would not be clear who is who, and that would lead to mischief. The wisdom of Allah dictates that good people should be distinguished from bad people. The purpose of tests is not to cause the believers to lose their faith or turn away from the religion, for Allah will not let the faith of the believers go to waste. But in this verse He tells us that He will test His slaves ﴿with something of fear﴾ of their enemies ﴿and hunger﴾. That is, He will test them with a little of these things, because if He tested them with extensive fear or hunger, they would be destroyed, but the purpose of tests is to purify, not to destroy.

﴿and loss of property﴾ – this includes everything that may befall wealth and property, such as vermin, drowning and other types of loss, or the seizing of wealth by evildoers, such as unjust rulers, bandits and the like.

﴿lives﴾ that is, loss of loved ones such as children, relatives and friends. It also includes various kinds of diseases that may affect the individual or one of his loved ones.

﴿and crops﴾ that is, grains and the fruits of palm trees and other kinds of trees and plants, because of intense cold, hail, burning, plagues of locusts and so on.