

مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يُقْرِضُ اللَّهَ قَرْضًا حَسَنًا فَيُضَاعِفَهُ لَهُ أَضْعَافًا كَثِيرَةً وَاللَّهُ يَقْبِضُ وَيَبْصُطُ وَإِلَيْهِ تُرْجَعُونَ ﴿٢٤٥﴾ (سورة البقرة: ٢٤٣-٢٤٥)

- 2:243. Have you not seen those who fled their homes in their thousands for fear of death? Then Allah said to them: Die, then He brought them back to life. For Allah is most gracious to humankind, but most of them do not give thanks.
- 2:244. Fight in the cause of Allah, and know that Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.
- 2:245. Who is he that will lend to Allah a goodly loan, so He will multiply it for him manifold? It is Allah Who withholds and Allah Who gives abundantly, and to Him you will all return.

Here Allah tells us the story of those who left their homes, despite their large numbers and the fact that they all had one motive; what brought them out of their homes was fear of death from an epidemic or some other cause. By leaving, they wanted to save themselves from death, but no precaution could ward off the divine decree.

﴿Then Allah said to them: Die﴾ and they died.

﴿then He brought them back to life﴾, either in response to the prayer of a Prophet or something other than that, out of mercy, kindness and forbearance towards them, and so as to make manifest His signs to His creation by bringing the dead back to life. Hence He says: ﴿For Allah is most gracious to humankind, but most of them do not give thanks﴾, so the blessings do not make them more grateful; rather they use the blessings of Allah to commit sin, and very few of them are grateful and acknowledge the blessings and use them in obedience to the Giver.

Then Allah (ﷻ) enjoins fighting for His sake, which is fighting the disbelieving enemies so that the word of Allah may be supreme and His religion may prevail.