

when heavy rain falls it leaves it completely bare» that is, with no soil on it. This is the situation of the show-off: his heart is as hard as a rock, and his charity and other deeds are like the soil on the rock. If an ignorant person sees it as it is, he thinks that it is fertile land where plants could grow; then when he shows his true colours, the soil will be gone and his deeds will become like a mirage. His heart is (like a rock) that is not suitable for cultivation; rather his showing off and evil intentions prevent him from benefiting from any of his deeds. Hence «They will gain nothing from their efforts» that is, from the deeds that they did, because their intentions were inappropriate and they did these deeds for people like themselves who do not have the power to cause them any harm or bring them any benefit, and they turned away from worshipping the One of Whom worship could be of benefit. So Allah turned their hearts away from guidance, hence He says: «And Allah does not guide the disbelieving people».



﴿وَمَثَلُ الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ ابْتِغَاءَ مَرْضَاتِ اللَّهِ وَتَثْبِيتًا مِّنْ أَنفُسِهِمْ  
كَمَثَلِ جَنَّتٍ بِرَبْوَةٍ أَصَابَهَا وَابِلٌ فَتَأْتَّى أَكْثَلَها ضِعْفَيْنِ فَإِن لَّمْ يُصِيبْها وَابِلٌ  
فَطَلَّ ۗ وَاللَّهُ يَمَاتَعُمُونَ بَصِيرٌ﴾ (سورة البقرة: ٢٦٥)

- 2:265. And the likeness of those who spend their wealth, seeking Allah's pleasure and out of their own inner certainty, is that of a garden on high ground; if heavy rain falls on it, it makes it yield a double increase of harvest, and if it does not receive heavy rain, then a light drizzle suffices it. Allah sees all that you do.

This is the likeness of those who spend their wealth in such a way that their spending will be rewarded and their charity will be accepted.