

18.02: Unerringly straight and upright, to warn of something awesomely powerful, intense and terrible that will come especially from HIM, and to give unto the believers who are righteous in their conduct, the glad tidings that theirs shall be a goodly/excellent reward.



: Basic of all functions of this Quran is that of straightening all things that were made crooked. This book is straight and no matter how much society deviates, it is going to stay straight and it has the power to take that which is bent and straighten it again.

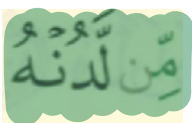
This book is not just there to be perfect. It is perfect so that it can fix and set the world outside of itself straight.

There is crookedness in our society and the only way we will reason properly is if we come back to this book and allow it to fix our own personal thought by seeing through Quranic lens.

Once that process of correction of falsehoods and of restoration of truth has been accomplished with the revelation of the Quran, the stage would be set for severe punishment.



: Something intense, all parties involved in it will be damaged, every side will take damage. Distress, misfortune, calamity, state of poverty, submissiveness, punishment, state of trial and affliction.



: especially from HIM in strong language, much closer to you than others and secure with you, stronger degree of possession.

وَيُبَشِّرُ

: skin, congratulation, glad tidings, anyone listen to this news their skin or face becomes beautiful, good news which lighten up the faces and gives them pleasure.

الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

: whose faith is stable, religion is not just a mindless daily routine but also embedded into the heart with trying to perform every act according to Quran.

يَعْمَلُونَ

: Not permanent, deeds repeated with intentions.

الصَّالِحَاتِ

: It is a lesser plural which means it reduces the quantity and increases the value (quality). When things get better by removing the problem. It comes from the root word "improving yourself (اصلاح)" meaning when you are doing something good, you are repairing/fixing/improving your own selves, making your own self better not someone else.

أَجْرًا

: Wages paid in exchange of any services or labour. It is 'give (services) and take (wages)'.

حَسَنًا

: Beautiful. Excellent. A compensation so amazing that will make you extremely happy.

Stern warning given to whom and why?

There is room for two possible interpretation in the language of this Ayah:

1. Stern warning, especially from ALLAH to the **oppressor** of an intense and terrible war/ calamity where all sides will be severely damage but no message of hope.

2. Also warning to the **oppressed** of an intense and terrible war/calamity. This warning about the future can only come from special vaults of ALLAH with a message of consolation to the believers.

Warning followed by good news given to which group?

Only to the believers not just to the warriors, not to the namesake Muslims. It is such an amazing good news which will give the believers so much pleasure that their faces will be beaming with joy and happiness. But this good news is not for this world but for the next. Bad news in now but good news is judgment day and it is nearer than you think. Time passes by very quickly.

You and I are facing a trail (fitna) almost every day which we have never seen before. We can only recognise corruption (material, social or moral) in the society as a form of trail (fitna), if we are holding on to this book, like nobody else were able to see it (Quranic lens). Only refuge and rescue is this book. This is the ultimate source of protection and comfort. Quran is the cave.

Someone gets compensation when they provide some sort of service. What is the service we are providing to get beautiful and excellent compensation from ALLAH?

ALLAH is promising excellent compensation but we are giving nothing in return. The good deeds we are going is not a service to ALLAH in any shape or form rather it is a means to improve our own self (اصلاح). By doing good deeds even if they are lesser in quantity but trying our best to be very good in quality.

Sometimes the employer promises a bonus. But when it is given, the recipient is not very happy about it. It is not good enough. They felt cheated because they have done all the hard work but the paycheque is not adequate. ALLAH is promising a fair compensation for hard work and also get a bonus package which will give so much pleasure and happiness to the believers.

People expect reward of their deeds here on the world, that is also a form of materialism. Winning the war is not the goal rather earning paradise is. This can be achieved by numerous pathways including by leading a pious life (first staying away from bad deeds and then topping it up with good deeds especially obligatory worship). This is the purpose of life.