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O people of imaan! Fear Allah Ta'ala as He should be feared, and do not die except as Muslims.

In this verse, Allah Ta'ala commands us to adopt true taqwa by fearing Him 'as he ought to be feared'. The following are some statements in regard to true taqwa:

1. Sayyiduna 'Abdullah bin Mas'ood (radhiyallahu 'anhu) has mentioned that true taqwa is for one to obey Allah Ta'ala completely and not disobey Him in the least, to remember Allah Ta'ala and not be unmindful of Him, and to show gratitude to Him (for his innumerable favours), not ingratitude. (Majma'uz Zawaaid #10938)

2. Sayyiduna 'Abdullah bin 'Abbaas (radhiyallahu 'anhuma) has mentioned that true taqwa is for one to always remain just and uphold the commands of Allah Ta'ala, and not to allow the criticism and comments of people to deter one from fulfilling the commands of Allah Ta'ala. (Tafseer Qurtubi vol. 5, pg. 238)

3. Sayyiduna Anas bin Maalik (radhiyallahu 'anhu) has mentioned that in order for a person to acquire true taqwa, he will have to gain control over his tongue (all avenues of communication). (Shu'abul Imaan #4650)

Allah Ta'ala then instructs us to ensure that we die as Muslims. This means that we should adopt the highest levels of taqwa and then maintain this taqwa throughout our lives, by living

lives of complete purity and piety, so that when it is time for us to leave this world, we will insha-Allah depart with imaan.