Wisdom: The Qur'an on second chances and Sir Sultan Mahomed Shah, Aga Khan III, on reincarnation

"Ah, what will convey unto thee what the Day of Judgment is!
"Again, what will convey unto thee what the Day of Judgment is!
"A day on which no soul hath power at all for any (other) soul.
"The (absolute) command on that day is Allah's."

Qur'an 82:17-19
Pickthall

"On that day man will cry: Whither to flee! Alas! No refuge!
"Unto thy Lord is the recourse that day.
"On that day man is told the tale of that which he hath sent before and left behind.
"Oh, but man is a telling witness against himself, Although he tender his excuses."

Qur'an 75:10-15
Pickthall

"Or (lest any soul) should say, when it seeth the doom:
"Oh, that I had but a second chance that I might be among the righteous!
"(But now the answer will be): Nay, for My revelations came unto thee, but thou didst deny them
"and wast scornful
"and wast among the disbelievers."

Qur'an 39:58-59
Pickthall
"If thou couldst see when they are set before the Fire and say: Oh, would that we might return!
"Then would we not deny the revelations of our Lord but we would be of the believers!
"Nay, but that hath become clear unto them which before they used to hide.
"And if they were sent back they would return unto that which they are forbidden.
"Lo! they are liars.
"And they say: There is naught save our life of the world, and we shall not be raised (again)."

Qur’an 6:27-29
Pickthall

"Couldst thou but see when the guilty hang their heads before their Lord, (and say):
"Our Lord! We have now seen and heard, so send us back; we will do right, now we are sure.
"And if We had so willed, We could have given every soul its guidance, but the word from Me concerning evildoers took effect:
"that I will fill hell with the jinn and mankind together.
"So taste (the evil of your deeds).
"Forasmuch as ye forgot the meeting of this your day, lo! We forget you.
"Taste the doom of immortality because of what ye used to do."

Qur’an 32:12-14
Pickthall

"Await they aught save the fulfilment thereof?
"On the day when the fulfilment thereof cometh, those who were before forgetful thereof will say:
"The messengers of our Lord did bring the Truth!
"Have we any intercessors, that they may intercede for us?
"Or can we be returned (to life on earth), that we may act otherwise than we used to act?
"They have lost their souls, and that which they devised hath failed them."
"And they cry for help there, (saying):
"Our Lord! Release us; we will do right, not (the wrong) that we used to do.
"Did not We grant you a life long enough for him who reflected to reflect therein?
"And the warner came unto you.
"Now taste (the flavour of your deeds), for evil-doers have no helper."

Qur'an 35:37
Pickthall

"And spend of that wherewith We have provided you before death cometh unto one of you and he saith:
"My Lord! If only thou wouldst reprieve me for a little while, then I would give alms and be among the righteous.
"But Allah reprieveth no soul when its term cometh, and Allah is Informed of what ye do."

Qur'an 63:10-11
Pickthall

"There shall be no sin (imputed) unto those who believe and do good works for what they may have eaten (in the past).
"So be mindful of your duty (to Allah),
"and believe, and do good works;
"and again: be mindful of your duty, and believe;
"and once again: be mindful of your duty, and do right.
"Allah loveth the good."

Qur'an 5:93
Pickthall

"The Buddhists and Brahmans certainly believe in some kind of survival, but that is very often allied to the idea of if transmigration
of souls from animals to men and angels or still higher beings in the
spiritual world of those faiths....

"The Hindu and Buddhistic explanations of life after death, with
always the influence of the soul taking forms either much lower,
such as the lowest animals, or much higher, like some of the so
called Gods of both Brahmanism and Buddhism, seem to many
brought up outside their immemorial tradition as more a hope and
pious wish than anything founded on fact....

"The last words of the Prophet were 'Companionship on High'. This
is a third way of looking at survival after death (apart from the
Biblical raising of the body, and from the indefinite and varied
doctrines of the several Hindu schools of thought and the two great
Buddhist Northern and Southern sects). It is the hope of all true
Muslims, like their Prophet, namely, 'Companionship on High.'"

Sir Sultan Mahomed Shah, Aga Khan III's undated article 'Reincarnation or
Companionship On High?'
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/1520/

Click here for this post in PDF format.