

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE WORLD^s THE CHRISTIANS FEAR
but if you do not make it move, then you will show that you are to be thought wicked, R
reprobate, and have no faith at all. I shall make them kill you all as false Christians VB
or if you wish to escape from death you will come back to our good law which Mahomet FB
our prophet gives us and will have faith and be saved by the very act; for he who has Z LT
not faith ought to be killed; for I am determined that there may not be more than one law and V
one faith in my land. And to do this I give you respite from now for ten days.
And if by that time you shall not have done it I shall make you all be put to
death, or you will turn Saracens. And if you shall do this, that is to remove the mountain, FB V
I shall believe in your faith, and likewise all my people. Then the calif speaks no more
and immediately bids farewell to the Christians, that they should go and think upon V FB
what was needful to accomplish this act.

HOW THE CHRISTIANS HAVE GREAT FEAR OF THAT WHICH THE CALIF HAD
 SAID TO THEM. And when the Christians have heard that which the
 calif had said to them, *knowing his cruel nature, that he did this only to spoil* VB
them of their goods, they went away sad, and they have very great anger and great fear of
death and knew not what to do. But none the less they had good hope in their Creator¹ LT
our Lord Master Jesus Christ that he will help them from this great peril. And when VA V
they were departed from the calif they all met together and they were in diligent counsel, Z
all the wise Christians who were the leaders there; for there were [12d] bishops FB
and archbishops and priests enough of holy life come there. And they can take nor see V FB FB
no other way nor counsel but to turn to him from whom all good things come and to pray V FB
to their Lord the most high God that for his pity and mercy he may guide and stretch Z Z
out his hand to them in this action, and that he deliver them from so cruel judgement TA
and death as the calif would have done to them if they should not do that which
he asks of them. What shall I tell you of it? You may know quite truly that the
Christians were prostrate on the earth with very great weeping all day and all night in VB
prayer, and gave attention to nothing else but to pray devoutly the Saviour[God]of the R
heaven² and of the earth that for his pity and mercy, and for the increase of his Faith. LT
that he might be known as the eternal God, he may plan to save them from this so great VB LT
shame and from this so great peril in which they are, and that he would not regard their V
sins. The Christians were in this great supplication and in this prayer with most VB
bitter tears and fasting eight days and eight nights, men and women, small and great.
Now it happened that at the end of the eight days, in that night,³ while they were in FB LT
this supplication that the holy angel of heaven came again in a vision as messenger FB FB V

¹ Z: redemptorem R: Redentore

² sauaoor deo cel probably, as B. suggests, for sauaoor deu dou cel VA: dio chreator del ziolo

³ TA¹: la nona Notte TA²: lottana notte