

التفسير المحرر 29

Blessed is Allah, in Whose Hands rests the dominion of the entire universe; He alone controls it as He wills with whatever He wills, and Allah alone possesses complete and perfect power to do all things, so nothing can prevent Him or render Him incapable.

He Who created death and life to test you, O mankind, through commands and prohibitions, desires and afflictions, to see which of you is best and most excellent in deeds—which are those most sincerely devoted to Allah Almighty, and most correct by being performed in accordance with His legislation—then He will recompense you for your deeds. And He is the Dominant Who is never overcome, the Unassailable in Majesty, the Subduer of all creatures, the All-Forgiving of the sins of His servants, concealing them for them, and protecting them from their punishment.

He Who created seven heavens, one above another. You will not see any inconsistency or imperfection in the creation of the heavens, which the Most Compassionate originated. So return your vision to the sky, reflecting upon it: do you see in it any rifts or flaws?!

Then repeat looking at the sky time and again; your sight will return to you humbled and humiliated due to its inability to find any rifts in the sky, while your sight has reached the utmost limit of fatigue and is completely exhausted!

We have certainly adorned the sky nearest to the earth with shining stars, and We have stoned with those stars the devils who eavesdrop, and We have prepared for the devils in the Hereafter the punishment of the Fire, and the most intense blaze.

For all those who disbelieved in their Lord is the punishment of Hell in the Hereafter. What a terrible destination and return is Hell!

When the disbelievers are thrown into Hell, they will hear a loud and terrible sound from it, like the most hideous braying of donkeys, while it boils from the intensity of its blazing and burning.

Hell is about to tear apart, and its parts separate from one another due to the intensity of its rage against its inhabitants. Every time a group of disbelievers is thrown into Hell, the angels entrusted with it say to them in rebuke, "Did a messenger not come to you in the world warning you of the punishment of Allah Almighty?"

The disbelievers will say, "Yes, a messenger did come to us, warning us and frightening us of Allah's punishment, but we denied him, and we said to him: 'Allah has not sent down anything of revelation to anyone of the creation!'" And the disbelievers further said, "You, O assembly of messengers, are only far astray from the truth and the right path!"

The disbelievers will say, "If only we had listened or reasoned in the worldly life in a way that would benefit us, we would not be today among the

residents of the Fire, nor among those abiding eternally in its punishment!"

Thus, they will confess their sin that condemned them to abide forever in the blazing Fire! So, away with the residents of the Fire—who are bound to it—from the mercy of Allah Almighty!

Indeed, those who fear Allah without seeing Him in this world, nor seeing His punishment, thus obeying Him and abandoning disobedience to Him even in their privacy, where no one among the people sees them, will have forgiveness from Allah for their sins, and a mighty reward.

: normal; background-color: rgb(249, 250, 251);>Whether you conceal your speech—O people—or reveal it, both are equal before Allah. Nothing is hidden from Him of the words you keep secret or declare openly. Indeed, Allah possesses complete and perfect knowledge of what is in the hearts of His servants—of beliefs, intentions, secrets, and thoughts that have not been spoken.

How could the secrets within the chests that He created be hidden from Him, the Exalted, while He is the Knower of the subtleties of all things, managing and conveying them to His servants gently and by hidden means, from where they do not perceive? For He, the Exalted, is the Knower of what He has instilled in the hearts, and He is the Knower of the innermost matters of things and

their hidden aspects, such that no secret is hidden from Him?!

It is He Who made the earth subservient and smooth for you, such that you are able to benefit from it by treading and walking upon it, and so forth, and He did not make it difficult or inaccessible for those who desire to do so. So travel through its regions and surroundings, and journey wherever you wish throughout its tracts in pursuit of livelihood and earnings, and eat from Allah's lawful provisions that He has deposited therein and enabled you to extract from it. To Allah alone, and to none other, is the return after your death; thus, you will be resurrected from your graves on the Day of Resurrection for the recompense of your deeds.

Do you feel secure—O disbelievers—that Allah, Who is high above, established upon His Throne above His heavens, will not cause the earth to swallow you up as a punishment for your disbelief in Him, and suddenly it would quake violently back and forth with you?!

Or do you feel secure that Allah, Who is high above the heaven, will not send upon you a storm of stones to strike you with?! Then you will know, when the punishment descends, how My warning was, and the consequence of those who denied it!

The disbelievers before the polytheists of Quraysh certainly denied their messengers, like the

people of Noah, 'Ād and Thamūd, the people of Lot, the people of Shu'ayb, the people of Pharaoh, and others among the past nations that Allah destroyed with His punishment in this world. So how was My denunciation of them for their denial when I punished them?!

Have these polytheists who deny the truth not seen the birds flying above them in the open sky, mostly spreading out their wings, and sometimes folding them in when bringing them close to their sides? None holds these birds up from falling from the sky except the Most Compassionate, the Exalted. Indeed, Allah is All-Seeing of everything in His creation, so nothing is hidden from Him, and all are under His control according to what His wisdom dictates.

Or who is he besides the Most Gracious that can be a support and a helper to you, O disbelievers, to protect you from the punishment?! The disbelievers in Allah are in nothing but a great delusion that has encompassed them, from which they have no escape. This is due to their persistence in their disbelief that they imagine to be right, and their delusion that their gods can benefit them.

Or who is it that will bring you provision, O disbelievers, if Allah withholds it from you?! Yet they did not turn back from their denial and disbelief despite the evidence and proofs mentioned; rather, they persisted and went further

in their transgression, stubbornness, and arrogance, and in their aversion to the truth and fleeing from it.

Is the one who walks with his head bowed down, unable to see his way, stumbling and falling on his face, more guided, or the one who walks upright and straight, with his head raised and his face looking forward, safe from stumbling, seeing his way, and walking on a level, clear path with no crookedness?!

Say, O Muhammad, to the denying polytheists, "Allah alone is the One Who brought you into existence from nothing, and He is the One Who gave you hearing so that you may hear the verses of Allah Almighty, and sight so that you may look at the creation of Allah, the Mighty and Majestic, and hearts so that you may reflect and take heed of what you have heard and seen. Yet, little do you thank Allah for these blessings by using them for what they were created for."

Say, O Muhammad, "It is Allah Who dispersed you throughout the regions and corners of the earth, and to Allah you will be gathered after this separation and dispersion, and He will resurrect you from your graves for reckoning and recompense."

The polytheists say, "When will what you promise us of the gathering to Allah come to pass, if you are truthful in this promise of yours?!"

Say, O Muhammad, to these questioners, "The knowledge of the time of the Resurrection's coming is only with Allah alone; no one knows it except Him. And I am only a warner to you of the punishment of Allah if you disbelieve, with a clear warning by which the proof is established against you."

But when those disbelievers see what they were promised very close to them and witness it, it will distress and terrify them and unsettle their hearts, so their faces will change and become ugly, and gloom will cover them. And it will be said to them on the Day of Resurrection as a reprimand and rebuke, "This is the torment that you used to ask for and demand to be hastened, out of denial and deeming its occurrence unlikely."

Say, O Muhammad, to these polytheists who wish for your destruction and the believers with you, "Have you considered, if Allah causes me and the believers with me to die by punishment or otherwise, or has mercy on us, the occurrence of the destruction you wish for us will not benefit you; for whether Allah destroys us or has mercy on us, there is no escape for you from His painful punishment as long as you persist in disbelieving in Him."

Say to them, O Muhammad, "He is our Lord, the Most Compassionate; in Him we believe, and upon Him alone we rely. You will soon know, when the

punishment comes, who is in clear error and manifest deviation from the truth: is it we or you?!"

Say to them, O Muhammad, "Have you considered: if your water were to sink into the earth such that you are unable to reach it or extract it, then who could bring you flowing water, visible on the surface of the earth for the eyes to see?!" No one is capable of that except Allah, the Mighty and Majestic.

This Surah begins with this letter from the disjointed letters with which many Surahs of the Qur'an begin, to demonstrate its miraculous (inimitable) nature, as they show the inability of creation to challenge it with something similar, even though it is composed of these very Arabic letters with which they speak; and I swear by the pen and what they write.

You, O Muhammad, because of what Allah has bestowed upon you of guidance, revelation, and prophethood, are not insane, as the polytheists claim.

And indeed, for you—O Muhammad—will be a great, never-ending and undiminished reward.

And indeed, you, O Muhammad, are of a noble nature and a great moral character through this upright religion and the Noble Qur'an.

So you will see and come to know, O Muhammad, and the disbelievers of the Quraysh will see and come to know with certainty.

Who among you is afflicted with madness and straying from the truth?!

Indeed, your Lord, O Muhammad, knows best who has gone astray from the path of truth, so he did not follow the religion of Allah Almighty, and He knows best those who are rightly guided, so they acknowledged the truth and followed it.

So just as We have bestowed favor upon you, O Muhammad, with the upright religion and the great character, do not obey the deniers of the truth, for they are not worthy of being obeyed.

The polytheists of the Quraysh loved and wished, O Muhammad, that you would compromise with them in religion, agree with them, and accommodate their falsehood—such as abandoning the prohibition of polytheism or keeping silent about the faults of their gods—so that they too would compromise with you and accommodate the truth you call them to, such as refraining from attacking it, agreeing with it, and complying with some of it.

And do not obey, O Muhammad, every frequent swearer, weak and despicable, of mean soul, and lacking resolve.

A frequent fault-finder of people, defaming them in their absence and spreading bad talk from some to others with the intention of causing dissension among them.

A stern withholder of all good, miserly with wealth and withholding it from being spent in its required ways, a transgressor of limits, and full of sins and misdeeds.

Harsh and coarse in his appearance and character, fiercely quarrelsome, extremely harsh, and—on top of all that we have described him with—an illegitimate child, attached to a people to whom he does not belong.

Because he possesses much wealth and children, he draws strength from them, acts tyrannically, and becomes arrogant!

When the verses of the Qur'an are recited to this disbeliever, he says in denial, "These are the lies and fables of the former peoples, which they wrote down in their books."

We will soon make a mark on his snout by which he will be known among people.

We have tested the people of Makkah just as We tested the owners of the garden, when they swore among themselves to harvest the fruits of their garden early in the morning before the poor came to it, so that they would not know about them, thus keeping all its fruits entirely for themselves and not giving anything from it in charity.

And the owners of the garden did not make an exception in their oath, so they did not say: Inshā' Allah (If Allah wills).

So a punishment from your Lord fell upon their garden by night, O Muhammad, and it destroyed, annihilated, and completely ruined it, while its owners were sleeping and unaware of what had befallen it.

So that garden was reduced to ashes, black like a pitch dark night.

Then the owners of the garden called out to one another early in the morning to go harvest their fruit.

They said, "Go out early to your garden if you are determined today to harvest its fruit before the poor come to it."

So the owners of the garden departed to their garden, whispering to one another so that no one could hear their conversation.

They said to one another secretly, "Do not let any poor person enter your garden today."

And they went out early in the morning, intending with firm resolve, anger, and severity to prevent the poor from their fruits, and capable of what they had resolved: to harvest the fruits and prevent the poor.

But when the owners of the garden saw their garden, they did not recognize it! They said to one another, "Indeed, we have lost our way and taken the wrong path to our garden."

They said: No, we did not lose the way to it, but the truth of the matter is that we have been

deprived of benefiting from the garden, so we have no share in any of its fruits.

The most just, wisest, and best of them said, "Did I not sincerely urge you to exalt Allah above imperfection by saying: Glory be to Allah?!"

They said, admitting their mistake, "We exalt our Lord above being unjust in what He did to our garden, but rather it is we who fell into wrongdoing and brought harm upon ourselves."

Then they approached one another, blaming themselves for the wrongdoing they had committed.

They cried, "Alas for us, and woe to us! Indeed, we have transgressed, rebelled, and exceeded the limits of Allah Almighty until there befell us what has befallen us!"

We hope from our Lord, after we have repented to Him, that He will compensate us with better than our garden, which was destroyed. Indeed, to our Lord alone we turn in hope and desire; therefore, we aspire that He will give us in exchange better than our garden.

Like this worldly punishment that befell the owners of the garden, Allah Almighty also punishes everyone who disobeys His command, is stingy with what He has bestowed upon them, denies the needy, exchanges the blessing of Allah with ingratitude, transgresses, oppresses, and prefers the worldly life, for Allah Almighty strips them of

His blessing and removes it from them. And indeed, the punishment of Allah in the Hereafter for those who deserve it is greater than the punishment of this world. If the disbelievers knew that, they would have repented and refrained from every cause that necessitates their punishment, but they do not know.

Indeed, those who fear Allah Almighty by obeying His commands and by avoiding His prohibitions will have in the Hereafter with their Lord the gardens of everlasting bliss, free from everything that spoils or mars it.

Shall We treat equally the Muslims who have submitted to Allah Almighty, complied with His commands, avoided His prohibitions, and humbled themselves in obedience and servitude to Him alone, and the wicked who have committed sins and violated Allah's commands and prohibitions?! Never! For Allah rewards the Muslims and punishes the wicked, as dictated by His wisdom, glory be to Him.

What is the matter with you with such flawed thinking and corrupt reasoning? How do you make this unjust judgment, as if the matter of recompense in the Hereafter is delegated to you, judging in it as you wish?!

Do you have a book revealed from Allah in which you read what you say?

Do you have in this book whatever rulings you choose and desire?!

Or do you, O polytheists, have confirmed covenants and pledges that We have sworn to, which are eternal and continuous until the Day of Resurrection, that you shall have whatever judgment you choose?!

Say—O Muhammad—to these polytheists among your people, "Who is the guarantor, the surety, and the one committed to claiming the validity of that?!"

Or do the disbelievers have partners with Allah in deserving worship?! Then let them bring them forward to make them equal to the Muslims in the Hereafter, if their claim that they are associate-gods with Allah is true, the Exalted.

The Day when the Lord, the Exalted, will reveal His noble Shin, and that is the Day of Resurrection, and they shall be called to prostrate themselves to Allah Almighty on that Day, but they shall not be able to do so.

Their eyes on the Day of Resurrection will be humbled and still, overwhelmed by severe humiliation, and they were commanded in the world to prostrate to Allah while they were healthy and sound, with nothing preventing them.

So leave Me Alone—O Muhammad—to deal with those who deny the Qur'an. Leave them to Me and entrust their affair to Me, for I will suffice for you

against them. So do not be in haste for their destruction, and let not your heart be preoccupied with them. We will gradually bring these deniers of the Qur'an closer to their punishment, step by step, from directions and causes they do not perceive that lead them to destruction.

I only delay their end for a while—without hastening their punishment. This is from My planning against them, and My planning is strong and severe.

Or do you ask, O Muhammad, your people for a payment for conveying the truth to them, which overburdens them and becomes a hardship for them, so they refrain from accepting your advice and responding to you?!

Or do those polytheists have knowledge of what is hidden from creation, so they write it down?!

So be patient, O Muhammad, with what Allah has decreed in both legislation and destiny: by conveying His message, fully submitting to His command, and enduring the harm of the disbelievers and polytheists in that path without discontent or despair over their respite. And do not be, in annoyance, anger, haste, and lack of patience with your people, like Yunus (Jonah), who was confined because of that in the belly of the whale when he called out to his Lord, saying, "There is no deity except You; exalted are You. Indeed, I have

been one of the wrongdoers," while his chest was filled with anger, distress, and sorrow.

Had not a great mercy from his Lord reached Jonah, he would have been cast onto the empty land, devoid of people, trees, and buildings, while being blamed and reproached for the sin.

So Allah chose Jonah and made him one of His obedient servants whom He favored—among those whose deeds, words, intentions, and conditions were righteous.

Those who disbelieve almost make you slip and strike you down, O Muhammad, with their malicious gazes at you, a gaze of enmity, rage, and envy towards you, when they hear the words of Allah being recited to them, and they say, "Indeed, Muhammad is a madman, and this which he has brought to us is raving that he utters in his madness.

But this Qur'an is nothing other than a reminder and an admonition from Allah to all mankind and jinn.

The Resurrection, whose coming is inevitable and its occurrence is certain, in which realities become apparent, and the promise and threat of Allah Almighty are fulfilled.

What is that Inevitable Hour of great magnitude? And what is its condition and description?

What makes you know what the Inevitable Hour is, its description, its condition, and its horrors?!

The tribe of Thamūd, the people of Sālih, and the tribe of ‘Ād, the people of Hūd, denied the Resurrection, which strikes the hearts with its horrors.

As for Thamūd, they were destroyed by the overpowering, terrible blast whose sound exceeded the measure of every loud sound, so the earth and hearts trembled from it, and they died from its intensity.

And as for ‘Ād, they were destroyed by a great, cold, and fiercely roaring wind, whose intensity surpassed every other storm, utterly destroying them.

Allah unleashed that violent wind upon ‘Ād and sent it against them for seven nights and eight complete days, disastrous, continuing upon them until they perished. So you would see the people of ‘Ād during those nights and days lying dead on the ground, their corpses after their destruction becoming like fallen, hollow palm trunks.

Then do you see any remnants of the disbelievers of ‘Ād after Allah Almighty annihilated them?

Also, Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, and those before him among the disbelievers, and the people of Lot—the inhabitants of the overturned cities, which were turned upside down upon them—all of these committed the sin of disbelief, polytheism,

denial, and wrongdoing, as well as the various types of immoralities and transgressions joined to that.

So Pharaoh, those before him, and the people of Lot each disobeyed the messenger of their Lord whom He sent to them. Thus, We destroyed each of those nations with a severe and mighty destruction that exceeded all bounds, due to the excessive evil and wickedness of their deeds.

Indeed, when the water increased and rose until it overflowed its known limits to drown the people of Noah, We carried your ancestors in Noah's Ark, floating upon the water.

That We might make it a reminder and an admonition for you, O believers, so that you may remember that Allah destroyed the disbelievers and saved the believers, and that you may take it as evidence of the perfection of Allah's power and wisdom, His subjugation of His enemies, and His mercy upon His allies, and that it may be retained by a conscious ear whose nature is to preserve and comprehend from Allah what it hears, benefit from it, and not waste it by neglecting to act upon it.

Then when the angel blows the Trumpet entrusted to him with a single blast, requiring no repetition to achieve its intended purpose, for the command of Allah can neither be opposed nor resisted.

And when the earth and the mountains are lifted and removed from their places, then crushed with

a single severe blow until they are shattered and broken.

So on the Day the Trumpet will be blown, and the earth and the mountains will be crushed, the Hour will come to pass, and the Day of Resurrection will take place thereupon.

And the sky will crack and split apart, so on the Day of Resurrection it will be cracked, weak, and frail, unable to hold itself together.

And the angels will be on the sides and edges of heaven when it splits, submitting to Allah and humbling themselves before His greatness, and eight of the angels will, on the Day of Resurrection, bear the Throne of your Lord above their heads.

On the Day of Resurrection, when all those events take place, you will be presented, O mankind, before Allah Almighty to be held accountable, with nothing of you being hidden from Him.

As for the one who is given his record in his right hand—which is a sign of his salvation—he will say happily and rejoicing, "Here, everyone! Read my record, and look at the good deeds in it."

Indeed, I knew and was certain in the worldly life that I would be resurrected and face my reckoning on the Day of Resurrection, so I strove to do righteous deeds in preparation for that Day.

So he is in a pleasant life, deeply satisfied with it, having found in it a great reward, and safety and security from punishment.

In an elevated garden, with lofty buildings, palaces, and trees.

The fruits of the trees of that garden are close at hand, easy to reach for whoever wishes to pick them, so there is no trouble or hardship for them in taking them.

It will be said to the people of Paradise: Eat from the food of Paradise and drink from its drink, enjoying your eating and drinking of the good and delicious things that are not accompanied by any harm, distress, or disturbance, and this is the reward presented to you because of the righteous deeds you put forth in the past days of the world.

And as for the one who is given his record of deeds in his left hand, he will say regretfully and sorrowfully, "Oh, I wish I had not been given my record of bad deeds.

And I did not know what my account was

Oh, I wish my death in the world were the end of my life, and I were not resurrected for the reckoning and recompense.

My wealth that I amassed in the world did not avert from me anything of the punishment of the Hereafter.

My power and prestige have gone from me, and my argument has vanished."

Allah says to His angels, "Seize this disbeliever and place the shackle around his neck.

Then plunge him and submerge him in the Fire.

Then tie him up with a chain seventy cubits long, so he is tormented by it.

This disbeliever deserved that severe punishment because in this world he did not believe in Allah, the Possessor of complete and perfect greatness.

And because he did not urge others to feed the needy.

So this Day in the Hereafter, this disbeliever will have no close friend to benefit him and avert the torment of Allah from him.

And this disbeliever has no food except from the pus of the people of the Fire.

None will eat this food except those who deliberately commit sins, from among the disbelievers in Allah Almighty and those who associate partners with Him.

I do swear by all that you see—O mankind—of all things, great and small.

And all that you cannot see and what is hidden from you

Indeed, this Qur'an is the word of a noble Messenger, and he is Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), who recites it to the servants of Allah and conveys it to them.

And this Qur'an is not the word of a poet as the disbelievers of the Quraysh claim; little is your belief in what you are obligated to believe, O polytheists!

Nor is this Qur'an the word of a lying soothsayer who claims knowledge of the unseen, as the disbelievers claim; little do you remember, so that you may reflect and take heed, O polytheists!

This Qur'an is a revelation from Allah, the Lord of all worlds, to His servant and Messenger Muhammad, so it is truly the Word of Allah.

Had Muhammad made some false claims about Allah Almighty, attributing to Him something He did not say

We would have surely hastened his punishment and taken vengeance on him with Our power and might.

Then We would have surely severed Muhammad's aorta, and caused him to die.

So no one among you—O people—can prevent Allah Almighty from punishing Muhammad if he lies about his Lord.

Indeed, the Qur'an is a reminder for the righteous who obey the commands of Allah Almighty and avoid His prohibitions, so they take lessons from it and take heed.

And We certainly know that among you are deniers of this Qur'an despite the clarity of the truth in it, and We will recompense them for their denial.

And indeed, the Qur'an will be a source of regret for the disbelievers, as they will regret abandoning belief in it.

And indeed, the Qur'an is the established and confirmed truth in which there is no doubt, nor in its revelation from Allah Almighty.

So exalt your Lord, Who possesses perfect greatness, O Muhammad, above every deficiency and flaw, saying: Glory be to my Lord, the Magnificent.

A challenger from the disbelievers has demanded Allah's punishment, wishing to hasten it, while it is inevitably bound to come upon the disbelievers.

The punishment falling upon the disbelievers has no preventer to avert it from them.

This punishment is bound to come from Allah, the Possessor of highness, ranks, bounties, and blessings, so no one can avert it.

The angels and Gabriel (peace be upon them) ascend to Him, the Exalted and Most High, in a single day, the measure of which is fifty thousand years.

So be patient—O Muhammad—over the polytheists' denial of you and their harm to you, with beautiful patience in which there is no panic or complaint, nor lack of contentment or haste. So do not hasten their punishment and the victory over

them, and endure the hardships of calling them to Allah without annoyance or weariness.

Indeed, the disbelievers see the punishment of the Hereafter as something that will not occur due to their lack of belief in the resurrection after death.

We see the punishment befalling them as imminent because whatever Allah has foretold will happen is inevitably coming, and everything that is coming is near.

On the Day when the sky will be like molten metal at the utmost limit of intense heat.

And the mountains on the Day of Resurrection will be like dyed wool.

And on the Day of Resurrection, no close relative or friend of utmost closeness and friendship will ask another close relative about his condition and affairs because every person will be preoccupied with himself rather than others, due to the severity of the horror and panic that overcomes him.

Every close friend will be shown his close friend until he recognizes him, and he will see the distress and hardship he is in. Yet, he will not ask about his condition or affairs due to his intense preoccupation with himself. On that Day, the disbeliever will desire and wish that his offering of his children be accepted from him to save himself from punishment, so that they would be punished instead of him, and he would be saved.

And he will wish that offering his wife and his siblings be accepted from him, so that they may be punished instead of him.

And he would wish that offering his relatives, who sheltered, supported, and aided him in worldly life, be accepted from him so that they would be punished instead of him.

And he would wish to offer everyone on earth, his friends and others, so that they would be punished instead of him, and he would thereby be saved from the punishment of Allah.

The wicked will not have what he wished for to ransom himself from the punishment of Allah, for nothing will save him from the Fire; indeed, it is a blazing, burning, intensely hot fire.

That Fire will tear off the extremities of the wickeds' bodies—such as the hands and the feet—and the skin of their heads.

That Hellfire will call to itself all those who turned their backs on the truth in the world, and turned away from it toward falsehood.

And he gathered wealth and hoarded it, and withheld the right of Allah in it, so he did not spend from it in what He commanded him.

Indeed, people are by nature disposed to intense covetousness, which results in impatience and withholding; they neither thank Allah for His blessings nor are they patient during adversity.

When an affliction befalls a person—such as poverty, illness, or the loss of a loved one—he becomes intensely distressed and lacks patience.

But when good fortune and blessing come his way, and he becomes rich with abundant wealth, he becomes exceedingly stingy with his wealth; he does not spend it in obedience to Allah, nor does he give from it to the needy among the servants of Allah.

Except those who pray, who are characterized by the following qualities, for they are not like that; they are patient in adversity and grateful in prosperity.

Those who are constant in performing their obligatory prayers properly, neither missing them nor abandoning them.

And those in whose wealth there is a known share for those in need.

In their wealth, there is a known right for the beggar who asks people for charity, and the poor who does not ask people despite his need and severe poverty.

And those who believe in the coming of the Day of Resurrection, in which the reckoning and recompense take place.

And those who are fearful and cautious of the punishment of their Lord.

Indeed, no one is secure from Allah's punishment; therefore, one must fear and be

heedful of it by avoiding the violation of Allah's commands and prohibitions.

And those who guard their private parts from all that Allah Almighty has forbidden them.

They guard their private parts except from their wives or from their female slaves whom they possess, for there is no blame on them for having intercourse with them and lawfully enjoying them, and they are not to be blamed for that.

But whoever seeks enjoyment with anyone other than his wife and his female slave, then they are the transgressors, exceeding what Allah Almighty has made lawful into what He has forbidden.

And those who are observant and steadfast in preserving what Allah and the people have entrusted them with, and their covenants with Allah and His servants. They do not betray trusts, nor do they break covenants.

And those who are upright in delivering the testimony legally required of them, even if against their relatives, so they bear it, attend to it, and preserve it until they deliver it most completely, without addition or omission, and without alteration or concealment.

And those who maintain the performance of their prayers, establishing them in the correct manner required of them by Islamic law.

Those who are characterized by these attributes will be in gardens, wherein Allah Almighty will honor them with various kinds of honors and types of delights.

So what is the matter with the disbelievers of the Quraysh, O Muhammad, hastening towards you and approaching you, with their eyes staring at you?!

On your right and on your left, O Muhammad, scattered.

Does every one of those polytheists hope that Allah will admit him into a Garden of Bliss on the Day of Resurrection?!

The matter is not as they hope, for they shall not enter Paradise with their disbelief in Allah and their associating partners with Him. Indeed, We created them from a sperm-drop, as they know.

I swear by the Creator and Controller of the easts and the wests that We are indeed Capable.

We are indeed Capable of destroying the polytheists and bringing forth a people better than them who obey their Lord and fear Him, and none of them can escape Us or frustrate Us by fleeing, for Allah Almighty is Capable of bringing forth those who are better than them, as nothing is impossible for Him, the Exalted.

So leave the polytheists—O Muhammad—to indulge in their falsehood and amuse themselves in their world with their desires, until they face the Day of Resurrection in which lies their punishment!

The Day when the polytheists will come forth from their graves swiftly towards the Place of Reckoning, as if racing hastily to their idols, which they had set up for worship, competing to see which of them will touch them first.

On the Day of Resurrection, their eyes will be humbled and still, and humiliation will overwhelm them. That Day, described by those hardships, is the Day of Resurrection that the disbelievers were promised in worldly life through the tongues of the messengers (peace be upon them) and which they used to deny!

Indeed, We sent Noah to his people who associated others with Allah, saying, "Warn your people against persisting in their polytheism before there comes to them an extremely painful punishment."

Noah said, in obedience to what Allah Almighty commanded him, "O my people, indeed I am a clear warner to you, warning you of Allah's punishment if you worship other than Him, and clarifying to you what Allah has sent me with."

Noah said to his people, "I command you to worship Allah alone, and do not associate anything with Him, and I command you to place a barrier between yourselves and Allah's wrath and punishment to protect you from it, by complying with what He has commanded and avoiding what He has forbidden, and I command you to obey me."

For if you worship Allah alone, fear Him, and obey me, He will forgive your sins and not hold you accountable for them, and Allah Almighty will not hasten upon you the punishment of annihilation that you deserve because of your polytheism. Rather, He will grant you respite until your predestined appointed times, if you believe and obey. Indeed, the appointed time that Allah has decreed for the death of every one of His creation cannot be delayed from its time. If you only knew this, you would have repented to Allah, the Exalted, from the polytheism you are engaged in.

Noah complained to his Lord, saying, "My Lord! I have surely called my people night and day to Your Oneness, and warned them against associating partners with You and disobeying You."

But my calling them to the truth so that they may follow it only increased them in fleeing and turning away from it.

And indeed, every time I invited them to the means of forgiveness—which is belief in You, worshipping You alone, and obedience to You—that You might erase their sins thereby and overlook punishing them for them, they thrust their fingers into their ears, blocking them so as not to hear my words, and covered themselves up with their garments so as not to see me, going to extremes in turning away from me. And they persisted in their polytheism and did not repent,

and magnified themselves in pride and grew extremely arrogant, refusing to accept the truth and follow it.

Then I certainly called my people to the truth aloud, preaching openly.

Then I proclaimed my invitation to them publicly, spreading it among them, and I invited them secretly in private.

I said to them: Ask your Lord to forgive your sins, so that He may erase them from you and overlook holding you accountable for them. Indeed, Allah is eternally and forever characterized by perfect forgiveness for the sins of His servants.

For if you ask your Lord for forgiveness, He will send upon you continuous, successive rain.

And your Lord will give you wealth and children, and increase them for you, and make for you in this world gardens containing various kinds of fruits, and make for you flowing rivers.

What is the matter with you that you do not revere Allah Almighty as He truly deserves, so that you affirm His Oneness and obey Him?!

How can you forsake the magnification and veneration of Allah Almighty when He has placed within your selves a sign that points to His Oneness and leads to His magnification, which is His creation of you stage after stage, for you were a sperm drop, then a clinging clot, then a lump of flesh, until the completion of your creation?!

Do you not see how Allah created seven heavens, one above another, so you may take this as evidence of the perfection of Allah's power, and that He alone is worthy of worship to the exclusion of all else?!

And Allah made the moon a light in the seven heavens, and Allah made the sun a shining lamp.

And Allah began the creation of your father Adam from the dust of the earth, so the origin of your creation is from it.

Then Allah will return you into the earth after your death, where you will be buried and become dust as you were before your creation; and Allah will bring you forth from the earth on the Day of Resurrection for reckoning and recompense, and you will come out from your graves alive.

And Allah has made the earth spread out and leveled for you like a bed.

So that you may take from it spacious, easy, and accessible paths to travel along.

Noah said, "My Lord, indeed my people have disobeyed what I commanded them and rejected what I called them to. They did not follow me upon the truth and followed the people of this world upon falsehood, whose abundance of wealth and children only increased them in ruin, distance from Allah, and deviation from the truth."

They plotted a very great plot against Noah and those who believed with him.

They said to one another, "Never leave your idols, which Noah forbids you from worshipping, and never leave the worship of the pious men: Wadd, Suwā', Yaghūth, Ya'ūq, and Nasr!"

And indeed they have led many people astray from the path of truth. And, O Lord, do not increase those wrongdoers—due to their polytheism, disbelief, and denial—except in error, straying farther away from the truth, until they die upon their misguidance and increase in sin and punishment for their falsehood.

Because of their sins, Allah drowned them, and they were made to enter a Fire to be punished therein. So the people of Noah, when they were drowned and made to enter the Fire, did not find any helpers or saviors to support them and protect them from the punishment of Allah.

Noah said, "My Lord, do not leave a single disbeliever alive on earth."

Indeed, if You leave them alive, they will mislead Your believing servants, turning them away from the truth and making falsehood appealing to them, and give birth only to those who will be wicked, highly corrupt, and staunch disbelievers in their Lord.

Noah said, "My Lord, erase the sins from me and my parents, conceal them for us, and do not hold us accountable for them, and forgive whoever enters my house from among the believers, and forgive the

sins of all the believing men and women. And do not increase those who wrong themselves with their disbelief except in destruction."

Say, O Muhammad, "Allah has revealed to me that a group of jinn listened to the Qur'an, and that group of jinn said: 'Indeed, we have heard a wondrous recitation, marvelous and extraordinary, and there is no speech like it.'"

And this Qur'an leads to the truth, goodness, the right way, and guidance, so we have believed in it, and we will never associate anyone of the creation with Allah Almighty, for He is unique in His Lordship.

And that exalted is the greatness and majesty of our Lord; Allah Almighty has not taken a wife, nor has He taken a child.

And that the ignorant among us—the one persisting in recklessness and deviation—used to speak lies and outrageous falsehoods against Allah, far from justice and truth, and among that is claiming a partner, a wife, and a child for Allah, the Exalted and Most High.

And that before hearing the Qur'an and believing in Allah, we thought that humans and jinn were truthful in their claims, and that they would not dare to lie about Allah Almighty by falsely and deceitfully claiming a partner, a consort, and a child for Him.

And that there were men from mankind who, when they halted at a place, would seek refuge and protection with the chief and master of that place from among the jinn, seeking safety and security from what they feared and dreaded; so mankind increased the jinn in transgression and arrogance when they saw mankind seeking refuge in them.

And that the disbelievers among the jinn thought—just as the disbelievers among mankind thought—that Allah would never resurrect anyone on the Day of Resurrection for reckoning and recompense.

And we approached the heaven to listen to some of the news of the unseen as was our custom, but we found it filled with strong guards of angels protecting it from the devils, and filled with flaming meteors that strike and burn them if they attempt to eavesdrop.

We used to sit in the past in positions in heaven in order to listen to some of what the angels converse about regarding what is to happen. So whoever among the devils wishes to listen now to the news of heaven is struck by a flaming meteor lying in wait for him, to prevent him from listening or to burn him.

We do not know the purpose behind the guarding of heaven with the angels and flaming meteors: whether it is to send down punishment

upon those on earth, or whether their Lord intends for them guidance, goodness, and righteousness.

Among us are those who are obedient to Allah, and among us are those who are less so; we are of various factions, divided opinions, and different inclinations.

We have become certain that we are completely under Allah's control, so we can never escape Him on earth and be saved from evil and punishment if He intends it for us. If we flee from Him, we will not escape, nor will we ever frustrate Him if He seeks us.

When we heard the Qur'an, which guides to the truth, we believed in it without hesitation. So whoever believes in his Lord does not fear that Allah will decrease anything from his good deeds, nor that He will add anything to his bad deeds.

Among us are Muslims who are obedient to Allah, following His straight path, and among us are the deviant who have turned away from the upright path of truth. So whoever submits to Allah Almighty through monotheism and yields to Him in obedience, then it is they who have sought out the truth and the right course, and have followed His path leading to Paradise.

But those who deviate from Islam, who equate others with Allah Almighty, shall be fuel for Hell, which will be kindled with them, as a recompense for their deeds.

If the wrongdoers had turned to the right path and remained steadfast on the way of truth, We would have given them to drink plentiful, abundant rain (water) of great benefit, with which We increase provision, adorn the earth, and make life prosperous.

As a test for them through the abundant provision We have bestowed upon them, so that the grateful may be distinguished from the ungrateful, and it becomes evident who among them persists in guidance and who reverts to misguidance! Whoever turns away from the Qur'an—neither following it nor acting upon it—Allah will subject him to a severe, arduous punishment that he cannot bear.

And all mosques, which are houses for the worship of Allah Almighty, belong to Him alone; so do not associate anyone of His creation with Allah therein, and single Him out alone in supplication and worship.

Yet when Muhammad stood up supplicating to Allah, the jinn almost crowded around him in groups, piling on top of one another.

Say, O Muhammad, "I only invoke my Lord alone, and I do not associate with Him anyone of His creation."

Say, O Muhammad, "I do not possess the power to cause you harm or bring you benefit, nor to lead you astray or guide you to the right path, for the

ultimate authority in all of that belongs to Allah, the Mighty and Majestic, and I am but a servant who has no control over the matter."

Say, O Muhammad, "Indeed, no one will save me from Allah if He intends to afflict me with harm, and I will never find any refuge besides Allah to turn to.

I will never find any refuge other than Allah, except by conveying from Him what I have been sent with, for indeed, in it are safety and salvation.

Until when the disbelievers see the punishment that Allah has promised them, witnessing it with their own eyes and being certain of its occurrence, then they will know who is weaker in helpers and protectors against the punishment, and less in number: they or the believers who affirm the oneness of Allah Almighty?

Say—O Muhammad—to the polytheists, "I do not know if the time in which Allah has promised you the punishment will befall is near, or if my Lord will set it after a long period. For that is the unseen that Allah Almighty knows, and I do not know it."

He alone is the Knower of what is hidden from His creation, and He does not disclose the knowledge of the unseen—which He has reserved for Himself—to anyone of His creation.

Allah does not disclose the unseen to anyone except those whom He has approved as His messengers. For Allah sends angel-guards before and behind the messenger to whom He discloses

some of the unseen, to protect him from the devils, so they cannot tamper with the revelation sent to him or steal anything from it.

Allah protected His messengers with His angels so that He may know—a knowledge of existence and manifestation—that the messengers have succeeded in conveying His messages exactly as they are, without being mixed with anything that would obscure or alter them. Allah Almighty's knowledge encompasses all that is with the messengers, and Allah, the Exalted, knows the exact number of everything in His creation, so nothing of that is hidden from Him.

O you who wraps himself in garments and draws them around himself, meaning: the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Stand up—O Muhammad—the whole night for prayer, except for a little of it, and make it for rest and sleep.

Stand up in prayer half the night, or a little less than half, so you pray about a third of the night.

Or increase your prayer beyond half the night, so that you pray two-thirds of it; there is no blame on you in standing for prayer for half the night, or a little less than half, or more than half. And recite the Qur'an slowly, deliberately, and articulating its letters clearly without haste, so that this may help

in reflecting upon it and understanding its meanings.

Indeed, We will send down to you—O Muhammad—a weighty Qur'an because of what it contains of arduous obligations, and the gravity of its words, for they are replete with meanings along with their majesty, and its great status. It is heavy in the scales, and the disbeliever cannot refute it or impugn it in any way.

Indeed, worship in the night after waking up from sleep is heavier upon the praying person and more difficult than daytime prayers—because the night is a time for sleep, rest, and tranquility—yet it is more suitable for recitation and more correct in speech, due to the calmness of people and the stillness of voices.

Indeed, you—O Muhammad—have ample time and long leisure during the day, in which you move about going and coming to fulfill your needs and for sleep. So devote yourself during the night to its prayer.

And remember—O Muhammad—the Name of your Lord at all times, and devote yourself to Him wholeheartedly, turning away from everything that distracts you from obeying Him, by worshipping Him alone and seeking your needs from Him, not from anyone else.

He is the Creator, the Master, and the Disposer of the affairs of the East and the West; there is no deity

worthy of worship except Allah, the Exalted alone. So take Him as the Trustee of your affairs, entrust them to Him, and rely upon Him alone, to the exclusion of all others.

And be patient—O Muhammad—with what the polytheists of your people say, such as denying or mocking you. And avoid your polytheist people for the sake of Allah with gracious avoidance, without reproach or harm. And turn away from seeking revenge against them, so do not respond to them with the like of what they say and do.

And leave Me, O Muhammad, with the deniers of the truth who possess wealth and riches, and the people of luxury and affluence in this world. So leave the matter of their punishment to Me, do not worry about their denial, and do not busy yourself with taking revenge on them. And wait, O Muhammad, for a little while, so that the time of their punishment may come, and We will grant you victory over them; so do not hasten their punishment.

Indeed, We have in the Hereafter for those who deny Our signs heavy chains and shackles, and an intensely blazing Fire.

And We have for them food that is hard to swallow, which gets stuck in the throat of its eater, neither going down nor coming out, and We have for them a painful, agonizing, and severe punishment.

That will befall them on the Day the earth and the mountains quake and tremble, and the mountains become a heap of loose, pouring, and scattered sand.

Indeed, We have sent to you Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) as a witness over the faith of those among you who respond to him and follow him, and the disbelief of those who oppose him and disobey him, just as We sent to Pharaoh a messenger calling him to the truth, who was Moses (peace and blessings be upon him).

But Pharaoh disobeyed Moses (peace be upon him) and did not believe in him or in what he brought, so We destroyed Pharaoh and his soldiers with severe and heavy destruction by drowning them all. Therefore, beware of disobeying your Messenger Muhammad, lest Allah destroy you just as He destroyed Pharaoh and his people when they disobeyed their Messenger.

Then how will you attain protection and salvation from the afflictions of the Day of Judgment, which will turn children's hair grey from its terror and the severity of its horrors, if you persist in disbelief and do not believe and do righteous deeds?!

The sky will split asunder on the Day of Judgment by the severity and magnitude of its terrors! And what Allah has promised His creation regarding the coming of the Resurrection must

inevitably be fulfilled, for Allah Almighty does not break His promise.

Indeed, this is a reminder by which the righteous take heed, an admonition, and a lesson. So whoever wills among the people may take a path to his Lord through faith in Him and obedience to Him in order to attain His pleasure and His mercy.

Indeed, your Lord, O Muhammad, knows that you pray during the night, sometimes less than two-thirds of it, sometimes you pray half of it, and at other times you pray a third of it, and a group of your believing Companions also pray that amount. Allah alone is the One Who determines the hours of the night and the day and their times, and He knows their measures. Allah Almighty knew—O believers—that you would not be able to endure calculating what was asked of you in knowledge and action without addition or subtraction, for that requires extra attention and hardship. Therefore, He has turned to you in forgiveness due to your inability and weakness, and He has lightened your burden by granting a concession to leave the specific night prayer mandated at the beginning of the Surah. He has removed the liability from you in that regard, and commanded you to do what is easy for you of it, whether it exceeds the estimated time or falls short. So pray—O believers—whatever is easy for you at night without restriction. Allah knew that there would be among you sick people

who are too weak to pray at night, and Allah knew that there would be others among you traveling through the land seeking provision, thus becoming too weak for the night prayer, and others fighting the disbelievers in support of the religion of Allah Almighty and to make His Word supreme, as the night prayer becomes difficult for them. So pray—after Allah has lightened the burden of the night prayer for you—whatever is easy for you of the night prayer, and maintain the establishment of the obligatory prayers with their pillars, conditions, and obligations; and give the obligatory Zakah on your wealth to its deserving recipients; and give in charity from your good wealth with sincerity to Allah Almighty, without boasting or causing harm. Whatever you do in this world of any kind of good to benefit yourselves in the Hereafter, you will find it on the Day of Resurrection preserved for you with Allah, better than what you put forth and greater in reward than what you did. And ask Allah to erase your sins for you, their essence and their traces, so He may overlook them and conceal them. Indeed, Allah is Great in forgiveness for the sins of His servants and Profound in mercy towards them.

O you who covers himself with garments out of fear and panic—referring to the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Arise and warn the polytheists, and caution them against the punishment of Allah if they do not affirm the oneness of Allah.

And proclaim the greatness of your Lord by words—which includes the statement, "Allāhu Akbar" (Allah is the Greatest)—and by belief. This includes: worshipping Him alone, declaring Him free from imperfections, describing Him with attributes of perfection, and calling people to His Oneness and His magnification.

And purify your garments from impurities, and purify your soul from the defilement of sins, and purify your deeds from polytheism and disobedience.

And shun idol worshiping.

Do not give anything hoping to receive more in return.

And be patient for the sake of your Lord alone over the harm and hardship you encounter in the path of calling creation to Allah Almighty and conveying His message, and be patient over other painful decrees of Allah, as well as in obeying Allah and refraining from disobeying Him.

So when the Trumpet is blown on the Day of Resurrection to resurrect the people alive from their graves for the reckoning and recompense.

That is a severely difficult day, of extreme hardship and great horrors.

It will be a difficult Day for those who disbelieved in Allah and His messengers, neither easy nor light for them.

Leave Me, O Muhammad, with this disbeliever whom I created alone without wealth or children, and entrust his affair to Me.

And I granted him extensive, abundant wealth that increases and grows, so its benefit never ceases for him.

And I granted him sons always by his side, who are never absent from him nor do they part from him, so he finds comfort and pride in them, and seeks their help in fulfilling his needs.

And I provided for him an abundant livelihood, so he resided in his town in comfort and luxury, holding leadership, prominence, and extensive prestige.

Then he hopes, out of his intense greed and covetousness, that I should give him more wealth and children, despite his ingratitude for the blessings and his associating partners with Allah Almighty!

I will never grant this disbeliever more, as he hopes; so he shall not have the increase in blessings he covets, because he was exceedingly obstinate in opposing the verses of Allah Almighty—Who bestowed upon him what He bestowed. Therefore, he does not submit to the truth, nor does he follow

it; rather, he seeks to invalidate it despite his knowledge of it.

I will subject this disbeliever in Hell to a severe torment from which he will have no rest.

Indeed, this disbeliever contemplated the matter of the Qur'an, determined within himself false descriptions with which to attack the Qur'an, and prepared his speech.

May this disbeliever perish and be cursed! How astonishing of him; how did he form this determination within himself to ascribe false descriptions to the Qur'an?!

Then may he be destroyed and cursed once again! And how astonishing of him a second time; how he plotted that within himself?!

Then this disbeliever contemplated the matter of the Qur'an, searching for a false description with which to discredit it, in order to turn people away from it.

Then he frowned, knitted his brows, and his color changed when he found no valid description to discredit the Qur'an therewith.

Then he turned his back and acted arrogantly, refusing to accept the truth, despite recognizing the perfection of the Qur'an in its wording and meanings, and its freedom from any falsehood.

And he said, "This Qur'an is nothing but magic transmitted by Muhammad from other magicians!"

He said, "This Qur'an is nothing but human speech, and it is not the speech of Allah Almighty, so no one should be deceived by it or rely upon it!"

Allah Almighty says, "Soon I will cast him into Hellfire and immerse him in it, so it will surround him from all sides, where he will suffer from its severity and heat."

And what will make you realize, O Muhammad, what Hell is?!

It does not let anyone who enters it live or die so that he may rest from its punishment. Rather, the bodies of its people will be replaced whenever they are burned, so its punishment continues!

That Fire will burn the skin of its inhabitants, turning their skin black.

Over that Fire are nineteen angels in charge of its affairs.

We have not made the nineteen keepers of the Fire except angels, and We have made the mention of their number only as a trial for the disbelievers and a test for them. And We mentioned this number so that those who were given the Torah and the Gospel will be certain that the Qur'an is the truth and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah, due to the agreement of their scriptures with the Qur'an that their number is nineteen; and so that the people of the Torah and the Gospel and the believers in Allah and His Messenger Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) will not

doubt what Allah has informed regarding the number of the keepers of the Fire. And so those in whose hearts is a disease of doubt and hypocrisy, and the disbelievers in Allah and His Messenger, will say, "What is the wisdom behind this number?!" Just as Allah Almighty leads the disbelievers astray by this number and guides the believers to accept it, He also leads astray whom He wills by what He reveals of the Qur'an, thereby forsaking them from following the truth, and guides whom He wills, thereby granting them success in following the truth. And to Allah belongs the perfect wisdom. And none knows the number of the soldiers of your Lord and their multitude, whether angels or others, except Allah alone. It is but a great reminder to humanity, so that they may take heed from it and be deterred from opposing the truth.

The matter is not as the polytheists think regarding the number of the keepers of Hellfire. And I swear by the moon.

And I swear by the night at the time of its departure and withdrawal.

And I swear by the morning when its light begins to appear at dawn.

Indeed, Hellfire is one of the greatest matters that has no equal.

A warning to mankind, striking fear in them and warning them with a profound warning.

For whoever wills to accept the warning and be guided to the truth, thereby advancing towards faith and goodness, and for whoever wills to hold back from faith and goodness, not taking heed of its warning.

Every soul, for the evil deeds and sins it committed in this world, will be confined in the Fire.

Except for the believers who are given the records of their deeds in their right hands, for they will not be detained in the Fire for their sins, because Allah forgives them.

Indeed, the people of the right will be in Gardens of Bliss, asking.

They ask about the dwellers of Hellfire, the wicked.

They say to them: What caused you to enter the Hellfire?

The wicked will say to them, "What caused us to enter the Fire is that we were not among those who prayed to Allah alone in the worldly life."

Nor did we use to feed the poor, out of miserliness with what Allah has given us, and withholding what He has made obligatory upon us of Zakah and charity.

And we used to indulge in falsehood in the worldly life with those who engaged in it, associating with them in their falsehood.

And we used to deny the Day of Reckoning and Recompense in worldly life, so we did not believe in the Hereafter, nor in Paradise and Hellfire.

And we persisted in our disbelief and deviance until death came to us.

So the intercession of intercessors from among the angels, the prophets, the martyrs, and the righteous will not benefit the disbelievers when Allah accepts their intercession for the monotheistic sinners.

Now, what is the matter with these polytheists that they are turning away from the Qur'an by which they are reminded, neither believing in it nor following it?!

It is as if the polytheists, in their turning away from the Qur'an and their aversion to the truth, were fleeing wild asses.

It fled most vigorously from those intending to hunt it, whether a lion or archers.

They are not satisfied with that reminder; rather, each one of the polytheists desires that Allah bring down upon him a Book from heaven, spread open, unfolded!

We will never give them what they asked for, and the matter is not as they claimed that they would believe if spread-out scrolls came to them. Rather, they are a people who do not fear the punishment of Allah in the Hereafter because they do not

believe in it, and because of that, they turned away from the Qur'an.

The matter is not as these polytheists claim regarding the Qur'an. Indeed, it is an eloquent reminder from Allah Almighty to His creation, by which He reminds them.

So let whoever wills of the servants be mindful of this Qur'an and be admonished, and act upon its commands and prohibitions.

But they do not take heed of this Qur'an, nor are they admonished by it, nor do they act upon it, unless Allah wills that for them. For Allah alone is worthy to be feared by His servants, and they should beware of His wrath and punishment by fulfilling His commands and avoiding His prohibitions; and He alone is entitled to forgive the sins of His servants.

I swear by the Day of Judgment when people will stand for reckoning and recompense.

And I swear by the soul that blames its owner.

Does man think that We will never assemble his decayed bones, so they return just as they were after they have crumbled and scattered, to give him life and resurrect him from his grave?!

We are Capable of assembling his bones, and We are Capable of what is even greater, which is restoring his fingers, even though their bones are the most scattered of bones and the smallest and most delicate in their parts. Thus, We restore them

and reassemble them just as they were during the life of their owner, after they had dispersed and crumbled in the dust.

Still, man wants to disobey Allah in his future days and throughout his life, without repenting.

This man asks, "When is the Day of Resurrection?"

But when the sight of man is dazzled, staring fixedly, bewildered, and stunned, and does not blink.

And when the moonlight disappears.

And when the sun and the moon are brought together.

When these events occur, man will say, "Where is the escape and deliverance?!"

There will be no refuge for you on that Day.

At that time all will end up before your Lord: either in Paradise or in the Fire.

On that Day, man will be informed of all his deeds, whether good or evil, which he has sent forth or left behind.

Indeed, man will testify against his own soul regarding what he has done, so his deeds for which he deserves punishment are not hidden from him.

Even if he makes excuses or argues falsely to defend his disbelief or sins, he knows that he has no excuse.

Do not move your tongue with the Qur'an, O Muhammad, in haste, trying to memorize and grasp it before Gabriel finishes reciting it to you.

It is certainly upon Us, O Muhammad, to collect this Qur'an in your heart, establish it therein, and give you the ability to recite it thereafter so you do not need to move your lips during its revelation.

So when Gabriel recites the Qur'an to you, O Muhammad, listen to his recitation until he finishes, then recite it just as he recited it to you.

Then it is surely upon Us to make clear to you, O Muhammad, the meanings of the Qur'an.

The matter is not as you claim in denying the Resurrection or other truths; rather, what led you to this is that you love the worldly life and are preoccupied with it.

And you neglect the Hereafter, and turn away from it.

Some faces on the Day of Resurrection will be beautiful, bright, and radiant, and they are the faces of the believers.

Looking at their Lord, the Exalted and Most High.

And other faces, on the Day of Resurrection, will be dark, frowning, gloomy, and distressed; they are the faces of the disbelievers.

The disbelievers are certain that a great calamity and a severe punishment will befall them.

Nay! When the soul reaches the bones of the upper chest, that is at the time of a person's death.

And it will be said, "Is there any healer to cure him, and a doctor to treat him, so that he may be cured of his illness?"

And the dying person realizes that he is departing this world and leaving behind property, children, family, and loved ones.

And hardships followed successively upon the dying person!

To your Lord on that Day is the return.

He neither believed in what he was obligated to believe nor prayed the prayers he was commanded to perform.

But he denied the truth and did not believe in it and turned away from it and did not act upon it.

Then he went to his people, swaggering in pride and admiring himself, heedless of his disbelief and sins.

Allah Almighty said, threatening and warning this disbeliever, "Destruction has approached you, and harm has drawn near to you!"

"Then destruction has approached you, and harm has drawn near to you!"

Does man think that Allah will leave him neglected in this world, neither commanded nor forbidden, and that he will not be resurrected after his death for reward or punishment?!

Was he not at first a little fluid of semen emitted?!

Then, after the drop of fluid, man became a clot of congealed blood, then Allah created him and proportioned him, perfecting and flawlessly fashioning him, so he became perfectly balanced.

And Allah made from it the two kinds: males and females.

Is not the One Who did all of this able to give life to the dead and bring them back as they were?! Glory be to You, O Allah; yes indeed!

A long time passed upon man before he was created, during which he was nothing worth mentioning.

Indeed, We created every human from a small drop of fluid composed of the mixing of the man's fluid with the woman's fluid, in order to test him in this world. So We gave him hearing with which he hears sounds, and sight with which he sees visible things.

Indeed, We showed man the path of truth that leads him to Paradise and guided him to it; so either he follows it, becoming grateful for the blessings of Allah, monotheistic, and obedient, or he abandons it, becoming ungrateful for the blessings of Allah, polytheistic, and disobedient.

Indeed, We have prepared for the disbelievers chains with which they will be led or bound, shackles around their necks, and a blazing fire that burns fiercely and whose flames intensify.

Indeed, the obedient and truthful ones who strive in deeds of righteousness and goodness will drink from a cup whose drink is mixed with camphor.

This camphor is a flowing spring from which the servants of Allah drink, causing it to gush forth and flow wherever they wish.

Those righteous ones fulfill their vows in this world, which they made in obedience to Allah, binding themselves to them, and they fear the Day of Resurrection, whose evil is extremely widespread and far-reaching.

And they give food—despite their love and desire for it—giving preference to the needy, the young child who has lost his father, and the captive.

The righteous say, "We only feed you seeking the pleasure of Allah Almighty and hoping for His reward; we do not seek from you any reward for it, nor do we seek from you gratitude or praise for it."

Indeed, We fear from our Lord the Day of Resurrection, a Day of great terrors, distress, and hardship.

So Allah will protect the righteous from the evil of the Day of Resurrection, and grant them radiance in their faces and joy in their hearts.

And Allah Almighty will reward them for their perseverance with Paradise, which they will enter, and silk they will wear.

Reclining on couches draped with what covers and adorns them, so they are covered by a canopy of luxurious fabrics, the righteous will see in Paradise neither a sun whose scorching heat harms them, nor bitter cold.

And the shade of the trees of the Garden will be right above them, and its fruit will be made easy for them to pick however they wish, whether sitting, standing, or reclining.

And vessels of silver will be circulated among these righteous ones, and great cups without handles or spouts will be passed around them, clear and transparent like glass.

Those cups, which have the clarity and transparency of glass, are made of silver, measured according to their exact need, so they neither exceed nor fall short of that.

And the righteous will be given to drink therein a cup of wine mixed with ginger.

Ginger from a spring called Salsabīl.

Circulating among the righteous in Paradise with drink or other things are young boys of a single age, who neither age nor die. If you saw them, you would think them—due to their beauty, whiteness, clarity of complexion, abundance, and expansion to serve the righteous—to be scattered pearls.

When you look there in that Paradise, you will see bliss, a vast kingdom, and a magnificent

dominion that Allah Almighty has prepared for the righteous.

Upon those righteous ones are garments of fine green silk, and over them are garments of thick silk having brilliance and shine. They will be adorned with bracelets of silver, worn on their hands as adornment, and Allah will give the righteous a drink of utmost purity, with no impurity in it whatsoever, purifying them from every harm or evil.

The righteous will be told, "Indeed, this bliss which you have been given in Paradise is a reward for you for the good you did in the worldly life, and Allah appreciates this work of yours, so He accepts it from you even if it was little, and rewards you for it with a great reward."

Indeed, it is We Who have sent down to you, O Muhammad, the Qur'an in stages, in accordance with wisdom.

So be patient with the preordained decree of your Lord—which includes the delay of your victory and the harm that befalls you—and with His religious decree, by fulfilling what He has obligated you to do in His Book, conveying His message, and enduring the harm you encounter from the polytheists in the path of doing so. And do not obey a sinner who calls you to disobey Allah, or a disbeliever in Allah who denies His blessings and calls you to worship other than Him.

And remember the name of your Lord, O Muhammad, at the beginning of the day and its end.

And prostrate to Allah Almighty in your prayer during the night, and glorify Allah Almighty for a long part of the night.

Indeed, the polytheists of the Quraysh love the worldly life, so they are eager to remain in it and enjoy its pleasures, and they leave behind their backs the heavy Day of Resurrection with its terrors and hardships; thus, they do not work for it, nor do they prepare for it.

It is We Who created those polytheists and perfected their physical form, so We bound the parts of their bodies with bones, tendons, nerves, veins, and the like; thus, the parts of their bodies became perfected, and their build strengthened and bound to one another. And if We will, We can resurrect them on the Day of Resurrection, and restore their bodies anew, just as they were in the worldly life.

Indeed, the verses of this Surah are a reminder for mankind, so that they may take heed and learn from them. So whoever wills may take a path that leads him to Allah Almighty, and to His Paradise and His pleasure, by believing in Him, repenting to Him, and obeying Him.

But you cannot will—O people—to follow the path of truth unless Allah wills that for you. Indeed, Allah Almighty is eternally and forever

characterized by perfect knowledge, and this includes His knowledge of who deserves guidance, so He makes it easy for him, and who deserves misguidance, so He turns him away from guidance. And He is eternally and forever characterized by profound wisdom, so He places everything in its correct and appropriate place, and this includes guidance and misguidance.

Allah admits whom He wills of His servants into His mercy by guiding them to follow His straight path that leads to His Paradise, and Allah Almighty has prepared for the wrongdoers who wrong themselves through polytheism a painful and agonizing punishment.

I swear by the winds that are sent in succession, following one another, and blowing gradually.

And the winds that blow fiercely.

And I swear by the angels who spread what they were directed to spread.

And by the angels who bring that which distinguishes truth from falsehood.

And by the angels who convey to the messengers of Allah His revelation, which reminds His servants of the truth.

That revelation is the establishment of the proof from Allah against His creation, and a warning to them of His punishment.

Indeed, what you are promised regarding the resurrection on the Day of Judgment, the reckoning,

and the recompense will certainly come to pass; there is no doubt about it.

So when the stars lose their light.

And when the sky is opened and split apart.

And when the mountains are blown away, becoming scattered dust.

And when the messengers of Allah are gathered at the time appointed for that.

For what Day were the messengers deferred, and the appointed time set to gather them together?

For a day when Allah Almighty will decide between His servants, judge between them, hold them accountable, and recompense each according to what they deserve.

What will make you realize what the Day of Decision is?

There will be torture, total ruin, and disgrace for the deniers of the truth on the Day of Judgment.

Did We not destroy the deniers of My signs and My messengers from the past nations, such as the people of Noah, 'Ād, Thamūd, and others?

Then We will make the disbelievers of the Quraysh and other disbelievers who deny the truth follow them in punishment and destruction, so We will destroy them all just as We destroyed those before them.

Just as We destroyed those who denied Me and My messengers from the disbelieving nations, We also destroy every disbelieving denier.

Torment, destruction, and disgrace on the Day of Resurrection for those who deny the truth!

Did We not bring you into existence—O mankind—from weak semen?

Then We made the man's sperm settled and protected in the woman's womb.

Until the time of childbirth.

We perfectly ordained the creation of the drop into a human and shaped him. How excellent We are in doing so, for We created him in the best form and stature!

Torment, destruction, and disgrace on the Day of Resurrection for those who deny the truth!

Have We not made the earth a receptacle that contains and gathers all creation?

It gathers and holds the living on its back, and the dead in its belly.

And We have placed upon the earth towering, firm mountains, and have given you fresh, palatable water to drink.

Torment, destruction, and disgrace on the Day of Resurrection for those who deny the truth!

On the Day of Resurrection, the disbelievers will be told, "Proceed into the Fire which you used to deny in the worldly life."

Proceed to a shadow of smoke rising from the fire and ascending until it branches into three great columns.

It does not shade the deniers from its heat, nor does it protect them from its flames.

Indeed, due to the intensity of its blazing and flaming, the fire throws massive sparks flying from it, as if they were towering palaces.

As if the sparks flying from Hell were black camels.

Torment, destruction, and disgrace on the Day of Resurrection for those who deny the truth!

At that time and situation on the Day of Resurrection, the deniers will not speak.

Nor will they be permitted to make excuses for their sins.

Torment, destruction, and disgrace on the Day of Resurrection for those who deny the truth!

This is the Day on which Allah Almighty will judge with justice among His servants. We have gathered you therein—O deniers—along with the disbelievers of the past nations before you.

So if you have a scheme to escape the punishment of the Fire, then do it, for there is no escape for you from My punishment.

Torment, destruction, and disgrace on the Day of Resurrection for those who deny the truth!

Indeed, those who fear Allah's wrath and punishment, by obeying His commands and avoiding His prohibitions, will enjoy bliss amid the shade of Paradise, where neither heat nor cold will

harm them, and they will have therein flowing springs.

And they will have in Paradise fruits of whatever their souls desire.

It will be said to the people of Paradise as an honor for them: Eat from the fruits of Paradise and drink from its springs without any harm or distress in what you eat and drink, and this is a reward for you because of the righteous deeds you used to do in the worldly life.

This is Our reward for everyone who does good in this world.

Torment, destruction, and disgrace on the Day of Resurrection for those who deny the truth!

It will be said to the deniers of the Resurrection, "Eat and enjoy yourselves in this world for a little while until the end of your lives; indeed, you are wicked for your disbelief in Allah and your denial of His messengers. The fate of those pleasures is to end, and your fate is the punishment of Allah."

Torment, destruction, and disgrace on the Day of Resurrection for those who deny the truth!

And when it is said to those wicked in this world, "Pray to Allah Almighty," they do not do so.

Torment, destruction, and disgrace on the Day of Resurrection for those who deny the truth!

So what message after this Qur'an will they believe in if they do not believe in it, despite its perfect truth and the clarity of its proofs?!

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