



إِنَّا كُلَّ شَيْءٍ خَلَقْنَاهُ بِقَدَرٍ



Verify, all things have We created in proportion and measure.

Quran English Translation & Commentary

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القَمَرُ

Introduction and Summary

This is an early Makkan Surah, the fifth in the series dealing with Judgement, and the truth of Revelation, as explained in the Introduction to Surah 50.

The theme of the Surah is explained by the refrain: "Is there any that will receive admonition?" which occurs six times, at the end of each reference to a past story of sin and rejection of warnings and in the appeal to the simplicity of Quran (verses 15, 17, 22, 32, 40, and 51). There is an invitation to listen to the Message and turn to Truth and Righteousness.

Summary- The Hour of Judgement is nigh, but men forget or reject the Message, and did the people of Noah, of 'Ad, of Thamud, of Lut, and Pharaoh. Is there any that will receive admonition? (54:1-55, and C.231).

C.231 (The running Commentary, in Rhythmic Prose)

*With every breath of our life, comes nearer
And nearer the Hour of Judgement: the proud
Will be brought low: the lovers of ease
Will find themselves in hardship. Come!
Is there any that will truly receive admonishment?
So said Noah, but his people rejected
The warning and perished. We have made
Our Revelation easy to understand and follow.
Is there any that will truly receive admonition?
So said the prophets of 'Ad and Thamud;
So said the prophets deputed to People
Of Lut and Pharaoh: but the wicked continued
In sin and defiance and perished. Will the present
Generation learn wisdom by warning? Alas!
Is there any that will truly receive admonition?
The Righteous will dwell in their Gardens of Bliss---
In joyful Assembly of realized Truth,
In the Presence of their Sovereign Most High!*

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

اَقْتَرَبَتِ السَّاعَةُ ...

1. The hour (of Judgment) is nigh,

C5127. See [Para 2](#) of the Introduction to Surah 53.

The idea of the Judgment being nigh at the beginning of this Sura connects it with the same idea at the end of the last Surah (verse 57), though the actual words used in the two cases are different.

... وَأَنْشَقَّ الْقَمَرُ (١)

and the moon is cleft asunder.

C5128. Three explanations are given in the **Mufradat**, and perhaps all three apply here:

- that the moon once appeared cleft asunder in the valley of Makkah within sight of the Prophet, his Companions, and some Unbelievers;
- that the prophetic past tense indicates the future, the cleaving asunder of the moon being a Sign of the Judgment approaching; and,
- that the phrase is metaphorical, meaning that the matter has become clear as the moon.

That the first was noticed by contemporaries, including Unbelievers, is clear from verse 2. The second is an incident of the disruption of the solar system at the New Creation: Cf. 75:8-9.

And the third might well be implied as in eastern allegory, based on the other two.

وَإِنْ يَرَوْا آيَةً يُعْرِضُوا وَيَقُولُوا سِحْرٌ مُّسْتَمِرٌّ (٢)

2. But if they see a Sign, they turn away, and say,

"This is (but) transient magic."

C5129. Mustamirr: continuous, or powerful; either meaning will apply.

The Unbelievers acknowledge the unusual appearance, but call it magic. They do not therefore profit by the spiritual lesson.

وَكَذَّبُوا وَاتَّبَعُوا أَهْوَاءَهُمْ وَكُلُّ أُمَّرٍ مُّسْتَقَرٌّ (٣)

3. They reject (the warning) and follow their (own) lusts but every matter has its appointed time.

C5130. The prevalence of sin and the persecution of truth may have its day, but it must end at last.

وَلَقَدْ جَاءَهُمْ مِنَ الْأَنْبَاءِ مَا فِيهِ مُزْدَجَرٌ (٤)

4. There have already come to them Recitals wherein there is (enough) to check (them),

C5131. The stories of the sins of past generations having been visited with exemplary punishments were already in their possession, and should, if they had been wise, have opened their eyes and checked them in their mad career of sin. Five of these stories are again referred to later in this Sura by way of illustration.

حِكْمَةٌ بِالْعَمَىٰ فَمَا تُعْنِ النَّذْرُ (٥)

5. Mature wisdom -- but (the preaching of) Warners profits them not.

فَقَوْلًا عَنْهُمْ ...

6. Therefore, (O Prophet,) turn away from them.

C5132. For a time godlessness seems to triumph, but the triumph is short-lived, And in any case there is the great Reckoning of the Day of Judgment.

... يَوْمَ يَدْعُ الدَّاعِ إِلَىٰ شَيْءٍ نُّكْرٍ (٦)

The day that the Caller will call (them) to a terrible affair.

C5133. The angel whose voice will call at the Resurrection and direct all souls.

Cf. 20:108-111.

حُشْبَةً أَبْصَارُهُمْ يَخْرُجُونَ مِنَ الْأَجْدَاثِ كَأَنَّهُمْ جَرَادٌ مُنْتَشِرٌ (٧)

7. They will come forth -- their eyes humbled -- from (their) graves, (torpid) like locusts scattered abroad,

C5134. At one stage in the invasion of locust swarms, the locusts are torpid and are scattered abroad all over the ground. I have seen them on railway tracks in 'Iraq, crushed to death in hundreds by passing trains.

The simile is apt for the stunned beings who will rise up in swarms from their graves and say, "Ah! woe unto us! who has raised us up?" (36:52).

مُهْطِعِينَ إِلَى الدَّاعِ يَقُولُ الْكَافِرُونَ هَذَا يَوْمٌ عَسِيرٌ (٨)

8. Hastening, with eyes transfixed, towards the Caller!

"Hard is this Day!" the Unbelievers will say.

كَذَّبَتْ قَبْلَهُمْ قَوْمُ نُوحٍ فَكَذَّبُوا عَبْدَنَا ...

9. Before them the People of Noah rejected (their messenger):

they rejected Our servant,

C5135. The story of Noah and the Flood is frequently referred to in the Quran.

The passage which best illustrates this passage will be found in 9:25-48.

Note in that passage how they first insult and abuse him arrogantly; how he humbly argues with them; how they laugh him to scorn, as much as to say that he was a madman possessed of some evil spirit; and how the Flood comes and he is saved in the Ark, and the wicked are doomed to destruction.

... وَقَالُوا مَجْنُونٌ وَازْدُجِرَ (٩)

and said, "Here is one possessed!"

and he was driven out.

فَدَعَا رَبَّهُ أَنِّي مَغْلُوبٌ فَانْتَصِرْ (١٠)

10. Then he called on his Lord:

"I am one overcome: do thou then help (me)!"

C5136. He did not call down punishment. He merely asked for help in his mission, as he felt himself overpowered by brute force and cast out, which prevented the fulfilment of his mission. But the wicked generation were past all repentance, and they were wiped out.

فَفَتَحْنَا أَبْوَابَ السَّمَاءِ بِمَاءٍ مُنْهَمِرٍ (١١)

11. So We opened the gates of heaven, with water pouring forth.

وَفَجَّرْنَا الْأَرْضَ عُيُونًا فَالْتَقَى الْمَاءُ عَلَى أَمْرٍ قَدْ فُتِرَ (١٢)

12. And We caused the earth to gush forth with springs, **so the waters met (and rose) to the extent decreed.**

C5137. The torrents of rain from above combined with the gush of waters from underground springs, and caused a huge Flood which inundated the country.

وَحَمَلْنَاهُ عَلَى ذَاتِ أَلْوَاحٍ وَدُسُرٍ (١٣)

13. But We bore him on an (Ark) made of broad planks and **caulked with palm-fibre:**

C5138. Dusur, plural of **disar**, which means the palm-fibre with which boats are caulked:

from **dasara**, to ram in, to spear.

A derived meaning is "nails", (which are driven into planks): this latter meaning also applies, and is preferred by translators not familiar with the construction of simple boats.

تَجْرِي بِأَعْيُنِنَا جَزَاءَ لِمَنْ كَانَ كُفِرَ (١٤)

14. She floats under Our eyes (and care): **a recompense to one who had been rejected (with scorn)!**

C5139. As usual, Allah's Mercy in saving His faithful servants takes precedence of His Wrath and Penalty. And He helps and rewards those whom the world rejects and despises!

وَلَقَدْ تَرَكْنَاهَا آيَةً ...

15. And We have left this as a **Sign** (for all time):

C5140. Cf. 29:15, where the Ark (with the salvation it brought to the righteous) is mentioned as a Sign for all Peoples.

So also in 25:37 and 26:121, it is a Sign for men.

Similarly the saving of Lut, with the destruction of the wicked Cities of the Plain, is mentioned as a Sign left for those who would understand: 29:35, and 51:37.

... فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَّكِرٍ (١٥)

then is there any that will receive admonition?

C5141. A refrain that occurs six times in this Surah:

see [Introduction](#).

فَكَيْفَ كَانَ عَذَابِي وَنُذْرٍ (١٦)

16. But how (terrible) was My Penalty and My Warning?

C5142. While the Mercy of Allah is always prominently mentioned, we must not forget or minimize the existence of Evil, and the terrible Penalty it incurs if the Grace of Allah and His Warning are deliberately rejected.

وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ ...

17. And We have indeed made the Qur'an easy to understand and remember:

C5143. While the Quran sums up the highest philosophy of the inner life, its simple directions for conduct are plain and easy to understand and act upon.

Is this not in itself a part of the Grace of Allah?

And what excuse is there for any one to fail in receiving admonition?

... فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَّكِرٍ (١٧)

then is there any that will receive admonition?

كَذَّبَتْ عَادٌ فَكَيْفَ كَانَ عَذَابِي وَنُذْرٍ (١٨)

18. The 'Ad (people) (too) rejected (Truth):

then how terrible was my Penalty and my Warning!

إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ رِيحًا صَرْصَرًا فِي يَوْمِ نَحْسٍ مُّسْتَمِرٍّ (١٩)

19. For We sent against **them** a furious wind, on a **Day** of violent Disaster,

C5144. Cf. 41:16.

How graphic is the description of the tornado that uprooted them! It must indeed be a dreadful tornado that plucks up the palm-trees by their deep tap- roots.

The "**Day**" is an indefinite period of time.

The wind that destroyed the 'Ad people lasted seven nights and eight days: 69:7.

تَنْزِعُ النَّاسَ كَأَنَّهُمْ أُعْجَازُ نَخْلٍ مُّنْفَعِرٍ (٢٠)

20. Plucking out men as if they were roots of palm-trees torn up (from the ground).

فَكَيْفَ كَانَ عَذَابِي وَنُذْرٍ (٢١)

21. Yea, how (terrible) was my Penalty and my Warning!

C5145. Repeated from verse 18 to heighten the description of the sin, the penalty, and the criminal negligence of the sinners in refusing the warnings on account of their self-complacent confidence in their own strength and stability! It is repeated again as a secondary refrain in [54:30](#) and (with slight modification) in [54:32](#) and [39](#).

وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِنْ مُّذَكِّرٍ (٢٢)

22. But We have indeed made the Qur'án easy to understand and remember:

then is there any that will receive admonition?

Section 2

كَذَّبَتْ ثَمُودُ بِالنُّذُرِ (٢٣)

23. The Thamud (also) rejected (their) Warners.

فَقَالُوا أَبَشْرًا ...

24. For they said: "what! a man!

C5146. The psychology of the Thamud is more searchingly analyzed here than in 41:17, to show up the contrast between shallow men's ideas about Revelation, and the real sanity, humanism, social value, and truth of Revelation. To them the Revelation was brought by Salih.

... مِّنَّا وَاحِدًا نَّتَّبِعُهُ ...

a solitary one from among ourselves! shall we follow such a one?

C5147. Because the Prophet is one among so many, and different from them, although brought up among themselves, it is made a cause of reproach against him, when it should have been an index leading to a searching of their hearts and an examination of their ways.

... إِنَّا إِذَا لَفِيَ ضَلَالٍ وَسُعْرٍ (٢٤)

Truly should we then be straying in mind, and mad!

أَوْ لَقِيَ الذِّكْرُ عَلَيْهِ مِن بَيْنِنَا بَلْ هُوَ كَذَّابٌ أَشِرٌّ (٢٥)

25. "Is It that the Message is sent to him, of all people amongst us?

Nay, he is a liar an insolent one!"

C5148. Pure abuse, as a contrast to Salih's expostulation!

See 26:141-158, and notes.

سَيَعْلَمُونَ غَدًا مِّنَ الكَذَّابِ الأَشِرِّ (٢٦)

26. Ah! they will know on the morrow, which is the liar, the insolent one!

إِنَّا مُرْسِلُو النَّاقَةِ فِتْنَةً لَهُمْ ...

27. For We will send the she camel by way of trial for them.

C5149. See n. 1044 to 7:73, for the she-camel as a trial or test case among selfish people who tried to monopolise water and pasture as against the poor.

... فَأَرْتَبْتَهُمْ وَأَصْطَبِرُ (٢٧)

So watch them, (o Salih), and possess thyself in patience!

وَنَبِّهَهُمْ أَنَّ الْمَاءَ قِسْمَةٌ بَيْنَهُمْ ...

28. And tell them that the water is to be divided between them:

C5150. See 26:155-156.

All were to have water in due turn. It was to be no one's monopoly. And certainly the gates were not to be shut against the poor or their cattle.

... كُلُّ شَرِبٍ مُحْتَضَرٌ (٢٨)

each one's right to drink being brought forward (by suitable turns).

فَنَادُوا صَاحِبَهُمْ فَتَعَاطَى فَعَقَرَ (٢٩)

29. But they called to their companion, and he took a sword in hand, and hamstringed (her).

فَكَيْفَ كَانَ عَذَابِي وَنُذْرٍ (٣٠)

30. Ah!

how (terrible) was My Penalty and My Warning!

إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ صَيْحَةً وَاحِدَةً ...

31. For We sent against them a single Mighty Blast,

C5151. See n. 1047 to 7:78, and Cf. the same phrase "single Blast" used for the signal for the Resurrection in 36:53.

In the case of the Thamud, the destruction seems to have been by a severe earthquake accompanied with a terrible rumbling noise.

... فَكَانُوا كَهَشِيمِ الْمُحْتَظِرِ (٣١)

and they became like the dry stubble used by one who pens cattle.

C5152. They became like dry sticks such as are used by herdsmen in making pens or enclosures for their cattle.

وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَكِّرٍ (٣٢)

32. And We have indeed made the Qur'an easy to understand and remember:

then is there any that will receive admonition?

كَذَّبَتْ قَوْمُ لُوطٍ بِالَّذُرِّ (٣٣)

33. The People of Lut rejected (his) Warning.

C5153. The story of Lot (Lut) and the Cities of the Plain has been frequently referred to.

See 11:74-83.

إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ حَاصِبًا ...

34. We sent against them a violent tornado with showers of **stones**,

C5154. Hasib: a violent tornado bringing a shower of stones. The word occurs here;

in 17:68 (without reference to any particular place);

in 29:40 (where it seems to refer to Lut's Cities, see n. 3462);

and in 67:17 (where again there is no reference to a particular place).

In Lut's Cities the shower was of brimstone: see 11:82.

...إِنَّا آلَ لُوطٍ نَجَّيْنَاهُمْ بِسَحَرٍ (٣٤)

(which destroyed them), except Lut's household: them We delivered by early Dawn --

نِعْمَةٌ مِّنْ عِنْدِنَا ...

35. As a Grace from Us:

...كَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي مَنْ شَكَرَ (٣٥)

Thus do We reward those who give thanks.

C5155. "Giving thanks" to Allah in Quranic phrase is to obey Allah's Law, to do His Will, to practice righteousness, to use all gifts in His service.

وَلَقَدْ أَنْذَرَهُمْ بَطْشَتَنَا ...

36. And (Lut) did warn them of Our Punishment,

C5156. Cf. 11:78-79.

... فَتَمَارَوْا بِالنُّذُرِ (٣٦)

but they disputed about the Warning.

وَلَقَدْ رَاوَدُوهُ عَن ضَيْفِيهِ فَطَمَسْنَا أَعْيُنَهُمْ ...

37. And they even sought to snatch away his guests from him, but We blinded their eyes.

C5157. Lut had been preaching to them some time against their iniquities. The crisis of their fate came when the two angels came to Lut in the guise of handsome young men.

The men of the whole City came in an uproar, assaulted his house, and tried to snatch away the two handsome men. Lut tried to prevent them, but was powerless.

Darkness fell on their eyes, as the first stage in their punishment, and before next morning the wicked cities were buried under a shower of brimstone. Lot and his believing household were saved.

... فَذُوقُوا عَذَابِي وَنُذُرِ (٣٧)

(They heard:) "Now taste ye My Wrath and My Warning."

وَلَقَدْ صَبَّحَهُم بُكْرَةً عَذَابٌ مُّسْتَقَرٌّ (٣٨)

39. "So taste ye My Wrath and My Warning."

فَذُوقُوا عَذَابِي وَنُذُرِ (٣٩)

38. Early on the morrow an abiding Punishment seized them:

39. "So taste ye My Wrath and My Warning."

وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَكِّرٍ (٤٠)

40. And We have indeed made the Qur'an easy to understand and remember:

then is there any that will receive admonition?

Section 3

وَلَقَدْ جَاءَ آلَ فِرْعَوْنَ النُّذُرُ (٤١)

41. To the **people of Pharaoh**, too, aforetime, came Warners (from Allah).

C5158. The Egyptian people of old are the last people mentioned in this Surah as an example of iniquity meeting with punishment. And the moral is driven home to the Pagan Quraish, to warn them of their fate if they persisted in their evil lives.

The Egyptians had many Signs given them. They were a gifted people and had made much progress in the sciences and the arts. They could have learnt from history that when the highest virtues disappear, the nation must fall. Moses was brought up among them and commissioned to give Allah's Message to them. But they were arrogant; they were unjust to Allah's creatures; they followed debasing forms of worship; they mocked at Truth; and were at last punished with destruction in the Red Sea for their arrogant leaders and army.

See 10:75-90 for a narrative.

كَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِنَا كُلِّهَا فَأَخَذْنَاهُمْ أُخْدَ عَزِيزٍ مُقْتَدِرٍ (٤٢)

42. The (people) rejected all Our Signs;

but We seized them with such Penalty (as comes) from One Exalted in Power, able to carry out His Will.

أَكْفَارُكُمْ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَوْلِيكُمْ ...

43. Are your Unbelievers, (O Quraish), better than they?

C5159. If the Egyptians with all their power and science were unable to resist the punishment of their sins, the Pagan Quraish are asked: how will you fare when you come to a trial of strength against Allah's Truth?

You are not specially favoured so as to be immune from Allah's Law. And if you rely on your numbers, they will be a broken reed when the trial comes, as indeed happened at the Battle of Badr.

...أَمْ لَكُمْ بَرَاءَةٌ فِي الزُّبُرِ (٤٣)

or have ye an immunity in the Sacred Books?

أَمْ يَقُولُونَ نَحْنُ جَمِيعٌ مُنْتَصِرُونَ (٤٤)

44. Or do they say:

"We acting together can defend ourselves"?

سَيُهْزَمُ الْجَمْعُ وَيُوَلُّونَ الدُّبُرَ (٤٥)

45. Soon will their multitude be put to flight, and they will show their backs.

بَلِ السَّاعَةِ مَوْعِدُهُمْ ...

46. Nay, the Hour (of Judgment) is the time promised them (for their full recompense):

C5160. The calculations of unjust men-on their science, their resources, their numbers, etc.-will in many cases be falsified even in this world, as stated in the last two verses, but their real Punishment will come with Judgment, i.e., when they find their real place in the next world at the restoration of true values. It will then be a most grievous and bitter experience for them, throwing into the shade any calamities they may suffer in this life.

... وَالسَّاعَةِ أَذْهَى وَأَمْرٌ (٤٦)

And that Hour will be Most grievous and most bitter.

إِنَّ الْمُجْرِمِينَ فِي ضَلَالٍ وَسُعُرٍ (٤٧)

47. Truly those in sin are the ones straying in mind, and mad.

C5161. Cf. 54:24 above.

Note how the tables are turned in the argument by the repetition.

The unjust think that the godly are wandering in mind and mad. They will find that it is really they who were wandering in mind, and mad, even when they were in the plenitude of their power and in the enjoyment of all the good things of this life. These minor echoes heighten the effect of the major refrain mentioned in the Introduction.

يَوْمَ يُسْحَبُونَ فِي النَّارِ عَلَى وُجُوهِهِمْ ...

48. The day they will be dragged through the Fire on their faces,

C5162. "On their faces": the Face is the symbol of Personality. Their whole Personality will be subverted and degraded-in the midst of the Fire of Suffering.

... ذُوقُوا مَسَّ سَقَرَ (٤٨)

(they will hear:) "Tastes ye the touch of Hell!"

إِنَّا كُلَّ شَيْءٍ خَلَقْنَاهُ بِقَدَرٍ (٤٩)

49. Verily, all things have We created in proportion and measure.

C5163. Allah's Creation is not haphazard.

- Everything goes by law, proportion, and measure.
- Everything has its appointed time, place, and occasion, as also its definite limitation.
- Nothing happens but according to His Plan, and every deed, word, and thought of man has its fullest consequences, except in so far as the Grace or Mercy of Allah intervenes, and that is according to law and plan.

وَمَا أَمْرُنَا إِلَّا وَاحِدَةٌ كَلَمْحٍ بِالْبَصَرِ (٥٠)

50. And Our command is but a single (Act), - like the twinkling of an eye.

C5164. While in the life of created things there is "proportion and measure", and a law of time or distance

or circumstance, in Allah's Command, the Design, the Word, the Execution, and the Consequences are but a single Act.

The simile given is that of the twinkling of an eye, which is the shortest time that a simple man can think of: the cause which occasions the twinkling, the movement of the muscles connected with it, the closing of the eyelids, and their reopening, are all almost like a simultaneous act.

By way of contrast take an illustration like that of a man writing a book. He must form the design in his mind; he must prepare himself by research, collection of knowledge, or of personal experience; he must use or acquire the art of writing; he must collect the materials for writing, viz., paper, ink, pen, etc., and this will connect with a chain of manufacturing processes in which he is dependent upon other people's work and experience; then his book may have to be printed or lithographed or bound, and sold, or taken to a library, or presented to a friend, which will bring into play numerous other chains of processes, and dependence upon other people's work or skill; and the lag of Time, Space, and Circumstance will occur at numerous stages.

In Allah's Command, the word **"Be" (kun)** includes everything, without the intervention, of or dependence upon any other being or thing whatever. And this is also another phase of the philosophy of Unity.

وَلَقَدْ أَهْلَكْنَا أَشْيَاعَكُمْ ...

51. And (oft) in the past, have We destroyed gangs like unto you:

C5165. Ashyaakum: 'gangs or parties or collection of men like you.'

addressed to wicked men who arrogantly rely upon their own strength or combination, neither of which can stand for a moment against the Will of Allah.

... فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَكِّرٍ (٥١)

Then is there any that will receive admonition?

C5166. The cases of Pharaoh's men of old and the Pagan Quraish are considered as parallel, and an appeal is addressed to the latter from the experience of the former: 'will ye not learn and repent?'

وَكُلُّ شَيْءٍ فَعَلُوهُ فِي الزُّبُرِ (٥٢)

52. All that they do is noted in (their) Books (of Deeds):

C5167. The point is that nothing which men do is lost-good or evil. Everything gives rise to an inevitable chain of consequences, from which a release is only obtained by the intervention of Allah's Grace acting on an act, a striving of the human will to repent and turn to Allah. (R).

وَكُلُّ صَغِيرٍ وَكَبِيرٍ مُسْتَنْطَرٌ (٥٣)

53. Every matter, small and great, is on record.

إِنَّ الْمُتَّقِينَ فِي جَنَّاتٍ وَنَهَرٍ (٥٤)

54. As to the Righteous, they will be in the midst of Gardens and Rivers.

C5168. The record, in the case of those who dishonoured and violated Truth, will lead to their undoing; but in the case of those who honoured the Truth and adopted it so as to shine in their righteous lives, the result is expressed by four metaphors, in an ascending degree of sublimity:

- they will be in the midst of Gardens where rivers flow;
- they will be in sure abode;
- with Allah;
- Whose sovereignty is omnipotent.

"Gardens" with Rivers (flowing beneath): this has been explained more than once already:

Cf. n. 4668 to 43:70.

The Garden suggests all the Bliss we can imagine through our senses. (R).

فِي مَقْعَدِ صِدْقٍ ...

55. In an Assembly of Truth,

C5169. While we possess our bodily senses, the best conceptions we can form are through our sense-perceptions, and the Garden is a good symbol from that point of view.

The next higher understanding of spiritual truth is through our intellect and social satisfaction. This is best symbolized by the Assembly of Truth - the gathering in which we sit with our fellows and enjoy the realisation of Truth and the dissipation of falsehood and half-truths.

... عِنْدَ مَلِكٍ ...

in the Presence

C5170. But there is a higher conception still, something that it can only be expressed by reference to the Presence of Allah, (R).

... مُقْتَدِرٍ (٥٥)

.. of a Sovereign Omnipotent.

C5171. Muqtadir, which is translated Omnipotent, implies something more: the eighth- declension form denotes not only complete mastery, but the further idea that the mastery arises from Allah's own nature, and depends on nothing else whatever. (R).



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