

سَأَلَ سَائِلٌ بِعَذَابٍ وَاقِعٍ لِلْكَافِرِينَ لَيْسَ لَهُ دَافِعٌ

A questioner asked concerning a torment about to befall Upon the disbelievers,
which none can avert,

Al Ma'arij

(The Ways of Ascent)

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

سَأَلَ سَائِلٌ بِعَذَابٍ وَاقِعٍ (١)

1. A questioner asked concerning a torment about to befall

لِلْكَافِرِينَ لَيْسَ لَهُ دَافِعٌ (٢)

2. Upon the disbelievers, which none can avert,

مِّنَ اللَّهِ ذِي الْمَعَارِجِ (٣)

3. From Allâh, the Lord of the ways of ascent.

تَعْرُجُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَالرُّوحُ إِلَيْهِ فِي يَوْمٍ كَانَ مِقْدَارُهُ خَمْسِينَ أَلْفَ سَنَةٍ (٤)

4. The angels and the **Rûh** [Jibrael (Gabriel)] ascend to Him in a Day the measure whereof is fifty thousand years,

فَاصْبِرْ صَبْرًا جَمِيلًا (٥)

5. So be patient (O Muhammad SAW), with a good patience.

إِنَّهُمْ يَرَوْنَهُ بَعِيدًا (٦)

6. Verily! They see it (the torment) afar off,

وَنَرَاهُ قَرِيبًا (٧)

7. But We see it (quite) near.

يَوْمَ تَكُونُ السَّمَاءُ كَالْمُهْلِ (٨)

8. The Day that the sky will be like the boiling filth of oil, (or molten copper or silver or lead, etc.).

وَتَكُونُ الْجِبَالُ كَالْعِهْنِ (٩)

9. And the mountains will be like flakes of wool,

وَلَا يَسْأَلُ حَمِيمٌ حَمِيمًا (١٠)

10. And no friend will ask of a friend,

يُبَصَّرُونَهُمْ

11. Though they shall be made to see one another -

[(i.e. on the Day of Resurrection), there will be none but see his father, children and relatives, but he will neither speak to them nor will ask them for any help],

يَوَدُّ الْمُجْرِمُ لَوْ يَفْتَدِي مِنْ عَذَابِ يَوْمِئِذٍ بِبَنِيهِ (١١)

the **Mujrim**, (criminal, sinner, disbeliever, etc.) would desire to ransom himself from the punishment of that Day by his children.

وَصَاحِبَتِهِ وَأَخِيهِ (١٢)

12. And his wife and his brother,

وَفَصِيلَتِهِ الَّتِي تُؤْوِيهِ (١٣)

13. And his kindred who sheltered him,

وَمَنْ فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا ثُمَّ يُنْجِيهِ (١٤)

14. And all that are in the earth, so that it might save him .

كَلَّا إِنَّهَا لَأُظَى (١٥)

15. By no means! Verily, it will be the Fire of Hell!

نَزَّاعَةً لِّلشَّوَى (١٦)

16. Taking away (burning completely) the head skin!

تَدْعُو مَنْ أَدْبَرَ وَتَوَلَّى (١٧)

17. Calling:

"[O **Kafir** (O disbeliever in Allâh, His angels, His Book, His Messengers, Day of Resurrection and in **Al-Qadar** (Divine Preordainments), O **Mushrik** (O polytheist, disbeliever in the Oneness of Allâh)]

(all) such as turn their backs and turn away their faces (from Faith)

[picking and swallowing them up from that great gathering of mankind (on the Day of Resurrection) just as a bird picks up a food-grain from the earth with its beak and swallows it up]

[Tafsir Al-Qurtubî]

وَجَمَعَ فَأَوْعَى (١٨)

18. And collect (wealth) and hide it (from spending it in the Cause of Allâh).

إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ خُلِقَ هَلُوعًا (١٩)

19. Verily, man (disbeliever) was created very impatient;

إِذَا مَسَّهُ الشَّرُّ جَزُوعًا (٢٠)

20. Irritable (discontented) when evil touches him;

وَإِذَا مَسَّهُ الْخَيْرُ مَنُوعًا (٢١)

21. And niggardly when good touches him;-

إِلَّا الْمُصَلِّينَ (٢٢)

22. Except those devoted to **Salât** (prayers)

الَّذِينَ هُمْ عَلَى صَلَاتِهِمْ دَائِمُونَ (٢٣)

23. Those who remain constant in their **Salât** (prayers);

وَالَّذِينَ فِي أَمْوَالِهِمْ حَقٌّ مَّعْلُومٌ (٢٤)

24. And those in whose wealth there is a known right,

لِّلسَّائِلِ وَالْمَحْرُومِ (٢٥)

25. For the beggar who asks, and for the unlucky who has lost his property and wealth, (and his means of living has been straitened);

وَالَّذِينَ يُصَدِّقُونَ بِيَوْمِ الدِّينِ (٢٦)

26. And those who believe in the Day of Recompense,

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ مِّنْ عَذَابِ رَبِّهِمْ مُّشْفِقُونَ (٢٧)

27. And those who fear the torment of their Lord,

إِنَّ عَذَابَ رَبِّهِمْ غَيْرُ مَأْمُونٍ (٢٨)

28. Verily! The torment of their Lord is that before which none can feel secure,

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ لِفُرُوجِهِمْ حَافِظُونَ (٢٩)

29. And those who guard their chastity (i.e. private parts from illegal sexual acts) .

إِلَّا عَلَىٰ أَزْوَاجِهِمْ أَوْ مَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُهُمْ فَإِنَّهُمْ غَيْرُ مَلُومِينَ (٣٠)

30. Except with their wives and the (women slaves and captives) whom their right hands possess, for (then) they are not to be blamed,

فَمَن ابْتَغَىٰ وَرَاءَ ذَلِكَ فَوُِّلْكَ هُمُ الْعَادُونَ (٣١)

31. But whosoever seeks beyond that, then it is those who are trespassers.

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ لِأَمَانَاتِهِمْ وَعَهْدِهِمْ رَاعُونَ (٣٢)

32. And those who keep their trusts and covenants;

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ بِشَهَادَاتِهِمْ قَائِمُونَ (٣٣)

33. And those who stand firm in their testimonies;

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَلَىٰ صَلَاتِهِمْ يُحَافِظُونَ (٣٤)

34. And those who guard their **Salât** (prayers) well ,

أُولَٰئِكَ فِي جَنَّاتٍ مُّكْرَمُونَ (٣٥)

35. Such shall dwell in the Gardens (i.e. Paradise) honoured.

فَمَالِ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا قِبَلَكَ مُهْطِعِينَ (٣٦)

36. So what is the matter with those who disbelieve that they hasten to listen from you (O Muhammad SAW), in order to belie you and to mock at you, and at Allâh's Book (this Qur'ân).

عَنِ الْيَمِينِ وَعَنِ الشِّمَالِ عِزِينَ (٣٧)

37. (Sitting) in groups on the right and on the left (of you, O Muhammad SAW)?

أَيُّطْمَعُ كُلُّ امْرِئٍ مِنْهُمْ أَنْ يُدْخَلَ جَنَّةَ نَعِيمٍ (٣٨)

38. Does every man of them hope to enter the Paradise of delight?

كَلَّا إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاهُمْ مِمَّا يَعْلَمُونَ (٣٩)

39. No, that is not like that!

Verily, We have created them out of that which they know!

فَلَا أَقْسِمُ بِرَبِّ الْمَشَارِقِ وَالْمَغَارِبِ إِنَّا لَقَادِرُونَ (٤٠)

40. So I swear by the Lord of all [the three hundred and sixty (360)] points of sunrise and sunset in the east and the west that surely We are Able

عَلَى أَنْ تُبَدَّلَ خَيْرًا مِنْهُمْ

41. To replace them by (others) better than them;

وَمَا نَحْنُ بِمَسْبُوقِينَ (٤١)

and We are not to be outrun.

فَذَرُهُمْ يَخْوْضُوا وَيَلْعَبُوا حَتَّى يُلَاقُوا يَوْمَهُمُ الَّذِي يُوعَدُونَ (٤٢)

42. So leave them to plunge in vain talk and play about, until they meet their Day which they are promised.

يَوْمَ يَخْرُجُونَ مِنَ الْأَجْدَاثِ سِرَآءًا كَانَتْهُمْ إِلَى نُصْبٍ يُوفِضُونَ (٤٣)

43. The Day when they will come out of the graves quickly as racing to a goal,

خَاشِعَةً أَبْصَارُهُمْ تَرْهُفُهُمْ ذِلَّةً

44. With their eyes lowered in fear and humility, ignominy covering them (all over)!

ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمُ الَّذِي كَانُوا يُوعَدُونَ (٤٤)

That is the Day which they were promised!

