

72. THE JINN (*AL-JINN*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Say, ‘It has been revealed to me that a band of the jinn listened [to the Quran] and they said, “We have heard a really wonderful recital, ² which guides to the right path; so we have believed in it and we will not associate anyone with our Lord—³ and exalted is the majesty of our Lord—He has taken neither a wife nor a son. ⁴ And [now we know] that the foolish among us have been saying outrageous things about God. ⁵ We had supposed that men and jinn would never utter a lie against God. ⁶ Some men used to seek refuge with the jinn in the past, but that only increased their insolence. ⁷ They thought, as you did, that God would never raise up anyone from the dead. ⁸ We sought to reach heaven, but found it filled with strong guards and flames—⁹ we used to take up a position to listen, but whoever listens now finds a flaming fire lying in wait for him—¹⁰ we cannot tell if this bodes evil to those who dwell on earth or whether their Lord intends to guide them. ¹¹ Some of us are righteous, while others are not; we follow divergent paths. ¹² We have realized that we could never thwart God on earth and that we would never be able to thwart Him by flight. ¹³ When we heard the call to guidance, we believed in it. He

who believes in his Lord has no fear of loss or of injustice. ¹⁴ Some of us are obedient while others are wrongdoers; it is the obedient who have found the right path, ¹⁵ but those who are wrongdoers will become the fuel of Hell.” ’

¹⁶ If they had followed the right path, We would have provided them with abundant rain—¹⁷ so that We may test them by it—whoever turns away from the remembrance of his Lord shall be sternly punished. ¹⁸ The mosques are for God’s worship—so do not invoke anyone else along with God—¹⁹ when God’s servant stood up to pray to Him, they pressed close to him in great numbers, almost stifling him. ²⁰ Say, ‘I call only upon my Lord and do not associate anyone else with Him.’ ²¹ Say, ‘It is not in my power to cause you either harm or good?’ ²² Say, ‘Surely no one can protect me against God, nor can I find besides Him any place of refuge. ²³ My duty is only to convey that which I receive from Him and His messages.’ For those who disobey God and His Messenger there is the fire of hell, wherein they will abide forever.

²⁴ When they are confronted by what they have been promised, they will realize who is weaker in helpers and fewer in numbers. ²⁵ Say, ‘I do not know whether what you are promised is imminent, or whether my Lord has set for it a far-off day.’ ²⁶ He alone has knowledge of what is hidden. He reveals this to none, ²⁷ except the messenger whom He has chosen. He

sends down guardians who walk before them and behind them, ²⁸so that He may know that the messengers have delivered the messages of their Lord. He encompasses all that is with them and He keeps count of all things.

73. THE WRAPPED ONE (*AL-MUZZAMMIL*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ O you who are wrapped up in your mantle, ² stand up to pray for much of the night. ³ It may be half the night or a little less than that ⁴ or a little more, but recite the Quran slowly and distinctly. ⁵ For We are about to send down to you a message of considerable gravity.

⁶ Surely, getting up at night [for worship] is the most potent means of subduing the self and most suitable for the word [of prayer]. ⁷ You have by day prolonged occupations [with Dawah work]. ⁸ Remember the name of your Lord, and devote yourself to Him wholeheartedly. ⁹ He is the Lord of the east and the west, there is no deity but Him, so take Him as your Guardian. ¹⁰ Bear patiently with what they say, and ignore them politely. ¹¹ Leave it to Me to deal with the deniers, who live a life of comfort, and bear with them a little longer. ¹² We have in store for

them heavy fetters and a blazing Fire, ¹³ food that chokes and painful punishment ¹⁴ on the Day the earth and mountains shall shake and the mountains crumble into shifting sand dunes.

¹⁵ We have sent a messenger who is a witness over you, just as We sent a messenger to Pharoah before you. ¹⁶ But Pharoah rebelled against the messenger, so We seized him with a strong, crushing grip. ¹⁷ If you persist in denying the truth how will you escape the Day that will turn the children's hair grey. ¹⁸ The Day when the heavens will be rent asunder and God's promise shall be fulfilled. ¹⁹ This, surely, is an admonition. So let him who will, take the right path to his Lord.

²⁰ Your Lord knows that you stand up praying for nearly two-thirds of the night, or one-half of it and sometimes one third of it, as do others among your followers. God determines the measure of night and day. He knows that you will not be able to do it, so He has turned to you in mercy. Recite, then, as much of the Quran as is easy for you. He knows that there will be some among you who may be sick and others who will be travelling throughout the land seeking God's bounty, and yet others who may be fighting for the cause of God. So, recite, then as much of it as you are able, and be constant in prayer, and spend in charity, and give to God a goodly loan. For whatever good deed you send on before you for your souls, you will

find it with God. It will be improved and richly rewarded by Him. Seek God's forgiveness, He is most forgiving, most merciful.

74. WRAPPED IN HIS CLOAK (*AL-MUDDATHHIR*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹O, you, wrapped in your cloak, ²arise and give warning! ³Proclaim the glory of your Lord; ⁴purify your garments; ⁵shun uncleanness; ⁶do not bestow a favour in the expectation of receiving more in return; ⁷and for the sake of your Lord, be patient.

⁸When the Trumpet is sounded, ⁹that Day will be a hard and distressing Day. ¹⁰It will not be easy for those who deny the truth. ¹¹Leave Me alone [to deal] with him whom I have created alone, ¹²and to whom I have granted resources in abundance, ¹³and sons to be by his side, ¹⁴and whom I have provided with every resource, ¹⁵and yet, he greedily desires that I give him even more! ¹⁶By no means! He has been stubbornly hostile to Our revelation: ¹⁷I shall force him to endure a painful uphill climb!

¹⁸For he thought and he plotted—¹⁹and woe to him; how he plotted! ²⁰Let him be destroyed. How he calculated! ²¹Then he looked round; ²²then he frowned and scowled, ²³and he turned his back and behaved

arrogantly ²⁴ and said, ‘This is nothing but sorcery from the ancients. ²⁵ This is nothing but the word of a mortal!’

²⁶ Soon I will cast him into hell. ²⁷ What could make you conceive what hell-fire is? ²⁸ It does not allow anyone to live, and neither does it leave anyone to die; ²⁹ it scorches the skin; ³⁰ there are nineteen [angels] in charge of it—³¹ We have appointed only angels to be wardens of the Fire. We have specified their number only as a trial for those who are bent on denying the truth, so that those who were given the Book might gain in certainty, and those who believe might increase in faith—and so that neither those who have been given the Scripture nor the believers might have any doubts, and that those sick at heart and those who deny the truth might ask, ‘What does God mean by this parable?’ In this way, God lets go astray whom He wills, and guides whom He wills. And none knows the forces of your Lord but He. This is but a Reminder for man.

³² No, by the moon! ³³ By the night when it departs. ³⁴ By the dawn when it lightens! ³⁵ Surely, it is one of the gravest things, ³⁶ it is a warning to man, ³⁷ alike to every one of you, who want to go forward or hang back. ³⁸ Every soul is held in pledge against its own deeds, ³⁹ except those of the right hand ⁴⁰ who in their gardens will be enquiring ⁴¹ about the sinners. ⁴² ‘What has brought you into the Fire of Hell?’ ⁴³ and they

shall reply, ‘We were not among those who prayed; ⁴⁴ and we did not feed the poor; ⁴⁵ we indulged in vain arguments along with those who indulged in them; ⁴⁶ and we denied the Day of Judgement ⁴⁷ until the Inevitable End [death] overtook us.’ ⁴⁸ So no intercession will avail them.

⁴⁹ Then what is wrong with them that they turn away from admonition, ⁵⁰ like frightened donkeys ⁵¹ fleeing from a lion? ⁵² Indeed, everyone of them desires to have sheets of revelations unfolded before them—⁵³ No! They do not fear the Hereafter—⁵⁴ but this is truly a reminder. ⁵⁵ Let him who will take heed: ⁵⁶ they will only take heed if God so wills: He is the Lord who is worthy to be feared: the Lord of forgiveness.

75. THE DAY OF RESURRECTION (*AL-QIYAMAH*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the Day of Resurrection, ² and by the self-reproaching soul! ³ Does man think that We cannot [resurrect him and] bring his bones together again? ⁴ Indeed, We have the power to restore his very finger tips! ⁵ Yet man wants to deny what is ahead of him: ⁶ he asks, ‘When is this Day of Resurrection to be?’

⁷ But [on that Day], when mortal sight is confounded, ⁸ and the moon is eclipsed, ⁹ when the sun and the moon are brought together, ¹⁰ on that Day man will ask, ‘Where can I escape?’ ¹¹ But there is nowhere to take refuge: ¹² on that Day, to your Lord alone is the recourse. ¹³ On that Day, man will be told of all that he has sent before and what he has left behind. ¹⁴ Indeed, man shall be a witness against himself, ¹⁵ in spite of all the excuses he may offer.

¹⁶ [Prophet], do not move your tongue too fast in your attempt to learn this revelation: ¹⁷ We Ourselves shall see to its collection and recital. ¹⁸ When We have recited it, follow its words attentively; ¹⁹ and then, it will be for Us to make its meaning clear.

²⁰ Truly, you love immediate gain ²¹ and neglect the Hereafter. ²² Some faces will be radiant on that Day, ²³ looking towards their Lord; ²⁴ and some faces will on that Day be gloomy, ²⁵ dreading some great affliction. ²⁶ But when [man’s soul] reaches the throat, ²⁷ and when it is asked: ‘Could any magician save him now?’; ²⁸ and he knows that it is the time of parting; ²⁹ when his legs are brought together [when affliction is combined with affliction]; ³⁰ on that Day he will be driven towards your Lord!

³¹ He neither believed nor prayed, ³² but rejected the Truth and turned away! ³³ Then he went off to his people, swaggering. ³⁴ Woe to you, [O man!], yes, woe to you. ³⁵ Again, woe to you, [O man!], yes, woe to

you! ³⁶ Does man, then, think that he is to be left to himself, to go about at will? ³⁷ Was he not once a drop of ejaculated semen, ³⁸ which then became a leech-like clot; then God shaped and fashioned him in due proportion, ³⁹ fashioning out of him the two sexes, the male and the female? ⁴⁰ Then is He not able to bring the dead back to life?

76. MAN (AL-INSAN)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Was there not a period of time when man was nothing worth mentioning? ² We created man from a drop of mingled fluid so that We might try him; We gave him hearing and sight; ³ We showed him the way, whether he be grateful or ungrateful.

⁴ [Now,] behold, for those who deny the truth, We have prepared chains, iron collars and a blazing fire, but ⁵ the righteous shall drink from a cup mixed with the coolness of *kafur*;^a ⁶ a spring from which God's servants will drink, making it gush forth in branches. ⁷ They keep their vows and fear a day the woe of which will spread far and wide; ⁸ they give food, despite their love for it, to the poor and orphans and captives, ⁹ saying, 'We feed you for the sake of God alone, we

^a Camphor—a sweet smelling herb.

seek neither recompense nor thanks from you.¹⁰ Truly, we fear from our Lord a woefully grim Day.⁷
¹¹ Therefore, God will ward off from them the woes of that Day, and make them find brightness and joy,
¹² and their reward for being patient will be a Garden and silk [clothing].¹³ Reclining upon couches, they will find therein neither the heat of the sun nor bitter, biting cold,¹⁴ the shading branches of trees will come down low over them, and their clusters of fruit, will hang down where they are the easiest to reach.
¹⁵ Vessels of silver and goblets of pure crystal will be passed round among them¹⁶ and gleaming silver goblets which have been filled to the exact measure,
¹⁷ and they will be given a cup to drink flavoured with ginger,¹⁸ from a flowing spring called Salsabil.¹⁹ They will be attended by youths who will not age—when you see them you will think them to be like sprinkled pearls—²⁰ wherever you look, you will see bliss and a great kingdom:²¹ they will wear green garments of fine silk and rich brocade. They will be adorned with silver bracelets. And their Lord will give them a pure drink.²² This is your reward. Your endeavour is fully acknowledged.

²³ Truly, it is We who have revealed to you the Quran, a gradual revelation.²⁴ So wait patiently for the command of your Lord, and do not yield to anyone among them who is sinful or ungrateful;²⁵ and glorify your Lord morning and evening;²⁶ and during the

night prostrate yourself before Him, and extol His glory for a long part of the night.²⁷ Those people [who are unmindful of God] aspire for immediate gains, and put behind them a Heavy Day.²⁸ It was We who created them and made their constitution strong, but if We wish we can replace them with others like them.²⁹ This is a reminder. Let whoever wishes, take the right path to his Lord.³⁰ But you cannot will it unless God wills [to show you that way]—God is indeed all-knowing and wise—³¹ He admits whoever He will into His grace and has prepared a painful punishment for the evil doers.

77. THOSE THAT ARE SENT FORTH (*AL-MURSALAT*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the winds sent forth in swift succession, ² and then storming on with a tempest's force, ³ and the rain-spreading winds, ⁴ separating one from another, ⁵ by those who bring down the reminder, ⁶ to excuse some and warn others: ⁷ that which you have been promised shall be fulfilled.

⁸ When the stars lose their light, ⁹ and when the sky is rent asunder, ¹⁰ and when the mountains crumble

into dust ¹¹ and when the messengers are brought together at the appointed time—¹² for what Day has this been appointed? ¹³ For the Day of Decision. ¹⁴ What will explain to you what the Day of Judgement is? ¹⁵ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth. ¹⁶ Did We not destroy the earlier peoples? ¹⁷ We will now cause the later ones to follow them: ¹⁸ thus do We deal with the culprits. ¹⁹ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth!

²⁰ Did We not create you from a humble fluid, ²¹ then placed it in a secure repository [the womb], ²² for an appointed term? ²³ Thus We have determined the stages of development and Our power to determine is excellent indeed. ²⁴ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth! ²⁵ Have We not made the earth a receptacle, ²⁶ for the living and the dead? ²⁷ Have We not placed high mountains upon it and given you fresh water to drink? ²⁸ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth!

²⁹ Proceed to that which you denied. ³⁰ Proceed to a shadow rising in three columns: ³¹ affording neither shade, nor protection from the flames, ³² and throwing up sparks as huge as towers ³³ and as bright as a herd of yellow camels. ³⁴ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth! ³⁵ On that Day they will be speechless, ³⁶ nor shall they be permitted to offer excuses. ³⁷ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth! ³⁸ This is the Day of Judgement. We have assembled you all together

with past generations. ³⁹ If now you have any strategy, use it against Me. ⁴⁰ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth!

⁴¹ The righteous shall dwell amidst cool shades and fountains, ⁴² and shall have fruits such as they desire; ⁴³ [They will be told], ‘Eat and drink with relish in return for what you did [in life]: ⁴⁴ this is how We reward those who do good.’ ⁴⁵ [But] woe on that Day to those who reject the truth! ⁴⁶ Eat [your fill] and enjoy your life for a little while, O you who are lost in sin. ⁴⁷ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth! ⁴⁸ When they are bidden to bow down, they do not bow down. ⁴⁹ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth! ⁵⁰ In which word then, after this, will they believe?

78. THE TIDINGS (*AL-NABA* ’)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ What are they asking each other about? ² About the awesome tidings [of resurrection] ³ concerning which they are in disagreement! ⁴ But they will soon come to know. ⁵ Surely, they will soon find out the truth! ⁶ Have We not spread the earth like a bed, ⁷ and raised the mountains like supporting poles? ⁸ We created you in pairs, ⁹ and gave you repose in sleep, ¹⁰ and the night

as a cover, ¹¹ and made the day for earning a livelihood. ¹² We have built above you seven mighty heavens, ¹³ and We have set therein a glowing lamp. ¹⁴ From the rain clouds We send waters pouring down in abundance, ¹⁵ so that We may bring forth thereby grain and a variety of plants, ¹⁶ and gardens dense with foliage. ¹⁷ Surely, the Day of Judgement has an appointed time.

¹⁸ On that Day when the trumpet shall be sounded, you shall come in droves, ¹⁹ and the heaven shall be opened, and become gates, ²⁰ and the mountains shall be made to vanish, as if they had been a mirage. ²¹ Surely, Hell lies in wait, ²² a home for the transgressors, ²³ where they shall remain for ages, ²⁴ and where they will taste neither coolness nor any drink ²⁵ save boiling water and a stinking fluid—²⁶ a fitting requital, ²⁷ for they never expected to be called to account, ²⁸ and they rejected outright Our signs; ²⁹ but We have recorded everything in a Book. ³⁰ [So We shall say], ‘Taste, then, [the fruit of your evil doings,] for now We shall bestow on you nothing but more and more suffering!’

³¹ As for those who are mindful of God, they shall surely triumph: ³² theirs shall be gardens and vineyards, ³³ and young maidens of equal age, ³⁴ and overflowing cups. ³⁵ There they shall not hear any idle talk, or any untruth: ³⁶ all this will be a recompense, a gift, that will suffice them, from your Lord, ³⁷ the Sustainer of the heavens and the earth and all that lies between

them, the most Gracious [and] none shall have it in their power to raise their voices to Him. ³⁸ On the Day when the Spirit and the angels stand in ranks, no one will speak, except for those to whom the Lord of Mercy gives permission, and who will say only what is right. ³⁹ That Day is sure to come, so whoever wishes to, let him take the path that leads towards his Lord. ⁴⁰ We have warned you of a chastisement which is near at hand, on the Day when man shall [clearly] see what his hands have sent ahead, and when he who has denied the truth shall say, 'Oh, would that I were dust!'

79. THE PLUCKERS (*AL-NAZI'AT*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By [the winds] that pluck out vehemently ² and those that blow gently, ³ and by [the clouds] that swim serenely and ⁴ by those that outstrip them suddenly, ⁵ and by those who regulate events. ⁶ On the Day when a violent convulsion will convulse [the world], ⁷ to be followed by further [convulsions], ⁸ hearts will be throbbing, ⁹ while eyes will be downcast. ¹⁰ They say, 'What? shall we be brought back to life, ¹¹ even after we have turned into decayed bones?' ¹² and they say, 'That indeed would be a losing return.' ¹³ But all it will

take is a single blast,¹⁴ and behold! They will all come out in the open.

¹⁵ Have you heard the story of Moses? ¹⁶ His Lord called out to him by the sacred valley of Tuwa: ¹⁷ [saying], ‘Go to Pharaoh, he has exceeded all bounds,¹⁸ and say, “Will you reform yourself? ¹⁹ Do you want me to guide you to your Lord, so that you should fear Him?”’ ²⁰ Moses showed him the great sign,²¹ but he denied it and refused [the faith]. ²² Then he quickly turned his back. ²³ And he summoned all his people,²⁴ and proclaimed, ‘I am your supreme Lord,’²⁵ but God seized him and meted out to him the chastisement of both the next world and the present: ²⁶ surely there is in this a lesson for the God-fearing.

²⁷ [O Men!] Are you more difficult to create than the heaven which He has built,²⁸ by raising its vault high and fashioning it flawlessly,²⁹ and making its night dark and bringing forth its morning light,³⁰ and the earth which He spread out,³¹ after that bringing forth from it its water and its pasture land,³² and making the mountains firm: ³³ [all this] as a means of sustenance for you and your animals?

³⁴ When the great over-whelming event arrives,³⁵ on the Day that man remembers what he strove for ³⁶ and Hell is there for all to see,³⁷ anyone who has acted arrogantly³⁸ and prefers the life of this world,³⁹ will find himself in Hell; ⁴⁰ but one who fears to stand before his Lord and restrained himself from base

desires, ⁴¹ shall dwell in Paradise. ⁴² They will ask you [Prophet] about the Hour, saying, ‘When it will come to pass?’, ⁴³ what have you to do with the mentioning of it? ⁴⁴ Your Lord alone knows when it will come; ⁴⁵ you are but a warner for those who fear it. ⁴⁶ On the Day when they see it, they will feel as if they had tarried in this world for only one evening or one morning.

80. HE FROWNED (‘*ABASA*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ He frowned and turned away ² when the blind man approached him, ³ for how can you know that he might seek to purify himself, ⁴ or take heed and derive benefit from [Our] warning? ⁵ As for him who was indifferent, ⁶ you eagerly attended to him—⁷ though you are not to be blamed if he would not purify himself—⁸ but as for one who comes to you, eagerly ⁹ and in awe of God ¹⁰ you pay him no heed. ¹¹ Indeed, this [Quran] is an admonition. ¹² Let him who will, pay heed to it. ¹³ It is set down on honoured pages, ¹⁴ exalted and purified, ¹⁵ by the hands of ¹⁶ scribes, exalted and purified. ¹⁷ Woe to man! How ungrateful he is! ¹⁸ Of what [stuff] has He created him? ¹⁹ Out of a drop of sperm! He creates and proportions him, ²⁰ He

makes his path easy for him. ²¹ Then He causes him to die and be buried. ²² Then when He pleases, He will bring him back to life. ²³ Yet man declines to do His bidding. ²⁴ Let man reflect on the food he eats. ²⁵ We let the rain pour down in torrents ²⁶ and then We cleaved the earth asunder. ²⁷ We make the grain grow out of it, ²⁸ and grape vines and vegetables, ²⁹ and olive trees and date palms ³⁰ and burgeoning enclosed gardens ³¹ and fruits and fodder ³² as provision for you and for your cattle to enjoy.

³³ But when the deafening blast is sounded, ³⁴ on that Day a man shall flee from his own brother, ³⁵ his mother, his father, ³⁶ his wife and his sons: ³⁷ on that Day every man among them will have enough concern of his own— ³⁸ on that Day some faces will be beaming, ³⁹ laughing, and rejoicing, ⁴⁰ but some faces will be covered with dust ⁴¹ and overcast with gloom: ⁴² those will be ones who denied the truth and were immersed in iniquity.

81. FOLDING UP (*AL-TAKWIR*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ When the sun is folded up, ² and when the stars lose their light, ³ and when the mountains are moved, ⁴ when ten-month pregnant camels are left untended,

⁵ and when all beasts are gathered together, ⁶ and when the seas are set on fire, ⁷ when the souls are divided into different classes, ⁸ and when the female infant buried alive is asked ⁹ for what sin she was killed, ¹⁰ when the records of men's deeds are laid open, ¹¹ when the sky is unveiled, ¹² and when Hell is set ablaze, ¹³ when Paradise is brought close: ¹⁴ [then] each soul shall know what it has put forward.^a

¹⁵ I swear by the receding stars, ¹⁶ the planets that run their course and set, ¹⁷ and the night that falls, ¹⁸ and the first breath of morning. ¹⁹ Truly, this is the word brought by a noble messenger, ²⁰ endowed with power and held in honour by the Lord of the Throne—²¹ who is obeyed there and is worthy of trust. ²² Your companion is not one possessed: ²³ he truly beheld him [the angel] on the clear horizon. ²⁴ He is not avid of the Unseen. ²⁵ Nor is this the word of an outcast devil. ²⁶ So where are you going? ²⁷ This is merely a reminder to all mankind; ²⁸ to every one of you who wishes to tread the straight path. ²⁹ But you cannot will it unless God, the Lord of the Universe, so wills it [to show you that way].

^a The scenes of Doomsday, or the Day of Judgement, have been described at various points in the Quran. When Doomsday arrives, the present balance of the world will break down, and man will feel himself helpless. On that Day, all things except good deeds will lose their value. Then the oppressed person will have the right to take his revenge upon his oppressor in whatever manner he likes.

82. THE CLEAVING ASUNDER (*AL-INFITAR*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ When the sky is cleft asunder; ² and when the stars are scattered; ³ when the seas overflow; ⁴ and when the graves are laid open: ⁵ then everyone will know what he has sent ahead, and what he has left behind. ⁶ O man! What is it that lures you away from your bountiful Sustainer, ⁷ who created you, fashioned you and proportioned you, ⁸ in whatever form He pleased? ⁹ Yet you deny the Last Judgement. ¹⁰ Surely, there are guardians watching over you, ¹¹ noble recorders, ¹² who know all that you do:^a ¹³ the virtuous will dwell in bliss, ¹⁴ whereas the wicked will be in Hell; ¹⁵ which they shall enter on the Day of Judgement, ¹⁶ and from which they will find no escape. ¹⁷ What will make you realize what the Day of Judgement will be? ¹⁸ Again: what will make you realize what the Day of Judgement will be? ¹⁹ It will be a Day when no human being shall be of the least avail to any other human being, God [alone] will hold command on that Day.

^a The Quran informs us that the Day of Judgement will finally come: all of humanity will be assembled on that Day and will be rewarded or punished according to their deeds. These tidings are absolutely consistent with the present condition of the world. Indeed, the meaningful creation of the human being has its justification in this announcement.

83. THOSE WHO GIVE SHORT MEASURE (*AL-MUTAFFIFIN*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Woe to those who give short measure, ² who demand of other people full measure for themselves, ³ but when they give by measurement or weight to others, they give them less. ⁴ Do such people not realize that they will be raised up, ⁵ on a fateful Day. ⁶ The Day when mankind will stand before the Lord of the Universe? ⁷ Indeed! The record of the wicked is in the Sijjin— ⁸ and what could make you understand what the Sijjin is?—⁹ it is a written record. ¹⁰ Woe, on that Day, to those who reject, ¹¹ those who deny the Day of Judgement. ¹² No one denies it except for the evil aggressor. ¹³ When Our revelations are conveyed to him, he says, ‘Fables of the ancients!’ ¹⁴ No! Their own deeds have cast a veil over their hearts. ¹⁵ Indeed! On that Day a barrier will be set between them and their Lord, ¹⁶ then they shall enter the Fire of Hell, ¹⁷ and they will be told, ‘This is what you were wont to belie.’

¹⁸ But, the record of the righteous is [preserved] in the ‘Illiyin—¹⁹ and what will make you understand what the ‘Illiyin is?—²⁰ a written record, ²¹ which those angels closest to God will bear witness to. ²² The

virtuous will surely be in bliss,²³ seated on couches and gazing around in wonder.²⁴ You will find in their faces the brightness of bliss.²⁵ They will be given a drink of pure wine, sealed,²⁶ its seal will be of musk—for this let the aspirants aspire—²⁷ a wine tempered with the waters of Tasnim,²⁸ a spring at which those drawn close to God will drink.²⁹ The wicked used to laugh at the believers—³⁰ when they passed by them, they would wink at one another; ³¹ and when they returned to their own people, they would speak of them jestingly; ³² and when they saw them, they said [scornfully], ‘These men have surely gone astray,’³³ though they were not sent to be their keepers—³⁴ so today those who believe shall [be able to] laugh at those who denied the truth³⁵ as they sit on couches, gazing around.³⁶ Have those who deny the truth [not] been paid back for their deeds?

84. THE BURSTING OPEN (*AL-INSHIQAQ*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ When the sky bursts open, ² and obeys its Lord as it must, ³ when the earth flattens out, ⁴ and casts out all that is within it and becomes empty; ⁵ and obeys its Lord as it must, ⁶ O man, having striven hard towards your Lord, you shall meet Him: ⁷ he who is given his

record in his right hand ⁸ shall have an easy reckoning ⁹ and he shall return to his people, joyfully, ¹⁰ but as for him whose record shall be given to him from behind his back, ¹¹ he will pray for utter destruction ¹² and he will enter the blazing flame. ¹³ He used to be happy with his own people; ¹⁴ for he never thought that he would have to return [to God]. ¹⁵ But he will indeed! His Lord was ever watching him. ¹⁶ I swear by the glow of sunset, ¹⁷ by the night and what it covers, ¹⁸ and the moon when it grows full, ¹⁹ you will progress from stage to stage. ²⁰ What is wrong with them that they do not believe? ²¹ When the Quran is read to them, why do they not fall to their knees? ²² Indeed, those who are bent on denying the truth reject it— ²³ God is quite aware of what they are storing in their hearts. ²⁴ Therefore, give them the news of a painful punishment. ²⁵ But for those who believe and do good works; for them there shall be a never-ending reward.

85. THE CONSTELLATIONS (*AL-BURUJ*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹By the sky with its constellations, ²and by the promised Day, ³by the Witness and the witnessed, ⁴destroyed were the people of the trench, ⁵the makers

of the fuel-stoked fire! ⁶ They sat by it ⁷ to watch what they were doing to the believers, ⁸ whom they hated for no other reason than that they believed in God, the Almighty, the Praiseworthy, ⁹ to whom belongs the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. God is witness over all things. ¹⁰ Those who persecute the believing men and believing women, and then do not repent, will surely suffer the punishment of Hell, and the torment of burning. ¹¹ But those who believe and do good deeds shall be rewarded with gardens watered by flowing rivers. That is the supreme triumph. ¹² The grip of your Lord is indeed severe—¹³ it is He who begins and repeats [His creation]—¹⁴ and He is the Forgiving and Loving One. ¹⁵ The Lord of the Glorious Throne, ¹⁶ Executor of His own will. ¹⁷ Have you not heard the story of the hosts ¹⁸ of Pharaoh and Thamud? ¹⁹ Yet those who deny the truth persist in denial. ²⁰ God encompasses them from all sides. ²¹ It is indeed a glorious Quran, ²² written on a preserved Tablet.

86. THAT WHICH COMES IN THE NIGHT (*AL-TARIQ*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the heavens and that which comes in the night—
² and what could make you know what it is that comes

in the night? ³ It is the shining star—⁴ [for] no human being has been left unguarded. ⁵ Let man reflect on what he was created from. ⁶ He was created from spurting fluid, ⁷ issuing from between the backbone and the breastbone: ⁸ He certainly has the power to bring him back to life. ⁹ On the Day when secrets are disclosed, ¹⁰ [man] will have no power, and no helper. ¹¹ By the heavens, ever-revolving, ¹² by the earth cracking open with new growth. ¹³ It is surely a decisive utterance; ¹⁴ and is not to be taken lightly. ¹⁵ They are planning a scheme, ¹⁶ and so am I: ¹⁷ so bear with those who deny the truth, and let them be for a little while.

87. THE MOST HIGH (*AL-A'LA*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Glorify the name of your Lord, the Most High, ² who created all things and gave them due proportions, ³ who determines the nature [of all that exists], and guided it accordingly; ⁴ who brings forth green pasture, ⁵ then turns it into black stubble. ⁶ [O Prophet!] We shall make you recite the Quran so that you will not forget any of it—⁷ except whatever God wills; He knows both what is manifest and what is hidden—

⁸ We shall facilitate for you the Easy Way. ⁹ Remind, if the reminder can be of benefit. ¹⁰ He who fears [God] will heed the reminder, ¹¹ but it will be ignored by the most unfortunate, ¹² who will enter the Great Fire, ¹³ where he will neither die nor live. ¹⁴ He who purifies himself, ¹⁵ who remembers the name of his Lord and prays, shall indeed be successful. ¹⁶ But you prefer the life of this world, ¹⁷ although the Hereafter is better and more lasting. ¹⁸ This indeed is what is taught in the former scriptures—¹⁹ the scriptures of Abraham and Moses.

88. THE OVERWHELMING EVENT (*AL-GHASHIYAH*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Have you heard about the Overwhelming Event? ² On that Day, there shall be downcast faces, ³ labouring, weary, ⁴ they shall enter a burning Fire ⁵ and will be made to drink from a boiling spring, ⁶ they shall have no food but thorns, ⁷ which will neither nourish nor satisfy hunger. ⁸ Some faces on that Day will be radiant, ⁹ well pleased with the result of their striving, ¹⁰ in a sublime garden, ¹¹ where they will hear no idle talk, ¹² with a flowing spring, ¹³ raised couches, ¹⁴ and goblets set at

hand,¹⁵ cushions ranged,¹⁶ and carpets spread out.¹⁷ Do they never reflect on the camels and how they were created,^a ¹⁸ and on the sky, how it is raised aloft,¹⁹ and on the mountains, how they are firmly set up,²⁰ and on the earth, how it is spread out?²¹ So, [O Prophet] exhort them: your task is only to exhort,²² you are not their keeper.²³ But whoever turns back and denies the truth,²⁴ will be punished by God with the greatest punishment.²⁵ Certainly, it is to Us that they will return.²⁶ Then, surely, it is for Us to call them to account.

89. THE DAWN (*AL-FAJR*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the Dawn, ² by the Ten Nights, ³ by the even and the odd, ⁴ and by the passing night, ⁵ is there not in this strong evidence for a man of sense? ⁶ Have you not heard of how your Lord dealt with the tribe of

^a Man observes that a serviceable animal like the camel is obedient to him. The sky in all its majesty is well disposed towards him. The earth, without any effort on our part, is subservient to our interests. All these phenomena remind a thoughtful man of God and the Hereafter. Those who derive the nourishment of remembrance from these arrangements of the world have established their entitlement to God's eternal bounties.

‘Ad, ⁷ the people of Iram, the city of many pillars, ⁸ the like of which has never been created in the land, ⁹ and with the Thamud, who cut out [huge] rocks in the valley, ¹⁰ and with Pharaoh of the stakes? ¹¹ All of them committed excesses in their lands, ¹² and caused much corruption in them: ¹³ so your Lord unleashed on them the scourge of punishment: ¹⁴ for, indeed, your Sustainer is ever on the watch! ¹⁵ As for man, when his Lord tests him, through honour and blessings, he says, ‘My Lord has honoured me,’ ¹⁶ but when He tests him by straitening his means of livelihood, he says, ‘My Lord has disgraced me.’ ¹⁷ No indeed, but you show no kindness to the orphan, ¹⁸ nor do you urge one another to feed the poor, ¹⁹ and you greedily devour the inheritance of the weak, ²⁰ and you have a love of wealth which can never be satisfied. ²¹ No indeed! When the earth is crushed and ground to dust, ²² when your Lord comes down with the angels, rank upon rank, ²³ and Hell is made to appear on that Day, then man will be mindful, but what will being mindful then avail him? ²⁴ He will say, ‘Oh, would that I had provided beforehand for my life!’ ²⁵ On that Day no one will punish as He punishes, ²⁶ and none can bind with bonds like His! ²⁷ [But to the righteous, God will say], ‘O soul at peace, ²⁸ return to your Lord, well-pleased, well-pleasing. ²⁹ Join My servants. ³⁰ Enter My Paradise.’

90. THE CITY (*AL-BALAD*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ I swear by this city—² and you are dwelling in this city—³ and by parent and offspring, ⁴ that We have created man into a life of toil and trial. ⁵ Does he think then that no one has power over him? ⁶ He says, ‘I have spent enormous wealth.’ ⁷ Does he then think that no one sees him? ⁸ Have We not given him two eyes, ⁹ and a tongue, and a pair of lips, ¹⁰ and shown him the two paths?^a ¹¹ But he has not attempted the ascent. ¹² What will explain to you what the ascent is? ¹³ It is the freeing of a slave; ¹⁴ or the feeding in times of famine ¹⁵ of an orphaned relative ¹⁶ or some needy person in distress, ¹⁷ and to be one of those who believe and urge one another to steadfastness and compassion. ¹⁸ Those who do so are the people of the right hand, ¹⁹ and [as for] those who are bent on denying the truth of Our revelations, they are the people of the left hand, ²⁰ and the Fire will close in on them.

^a God has commanded man to scale two heights—one is to treat others with justice, and help them in their hour of need. The other is to have firm faith in God. When such belief enters the inner depths of a human being, it does not remain confined to his own thinking but rather makes him become communicative. He then attempts to lead others along the path of Truth which he himself has adopted.

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91. THE SUN (*AL-SHAMS*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the sun and its rising brightness ² and by the moon as it follows it, ³ and by the day as it reveals its glory ⁴ and by the night when it draws a veil over it, ⁵ by the sky and how He built it ⁶ and by the earth and how He spread it, ⁷ by the soul and how He formed it, ⁸ then inspired it to understand what was right and wrong for it. ⁹ He who purifies it will indeed be successful, ¹⁰ and he who corrupts it is sure to fail. ¹¹ The Thamud tribe rejected the truth because of their arrogance, ¹² when the most wicked man among them rose up. ¹³ Then the messenger of God said to them, ‘This is God’s she-camel. Let her drink.’ ¹⁴ But they gave him the lie, and hamstrung the she-camel. So their Lord destroyed them for their crime and razed their city to the ground. ¹⁵ He did not fear the consequences.

92. NIGHT (*AL-LAYL*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the night as it veils [the earth] in darkness, ² and by the day as it appears radiantly, ³ and by the creation

of the male and the female. ⁴ O men, you truly strive towards the most diverse ends! ⁵ As for one who gives [to others] and fears [God], ⁶ and believes in the truth of what is right, ⁷ We will pave his way to ease. ⁸ But as for one who is miserly and unheeding, ⁹ and rejects what is right, ¹⁰ We shall pave his way to hardship, ¹¹ nor will his wealth profit him when he falls [into the pit]. ¹² Surely, it is for Us to provide guidance—¹³ and to Us belongs the Hereafter as well as the present world—¹⁴ I have warned you then about a raging Fire: ¹⁵ none shall enter it but the most wicked, ¹⁶ who denied [the truth], and turned away. ¹⁷ One who fears God shall be kept away from it—¹⁸ one who gives his wealth to become purified, ¹⁹ and owes no favour to anyone, which is to be repaid, ²⁰ acting only for the sake of his Lord the Most High—²¹ and before long he will be well satisfied.

93. THE GLORIOUS MORNING LIGHT (*AL-DUHA*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the glorious morning light; ² and by the night when it darkens, ³ your Lord has not forsaken you, nor is He displeased with you, ⁴ and the Hereafter will

indeed be better for you than the present life; ⁵ soon you will be gratified with what your Lord will give you. ⁶ Did He not find you orphaned and shelter you? ⁷ Did He not find you wandering, and give you guidance? ⁸ Did He not find you in want, and make you free from want? ⁹ Therefore do not treat the orphan with harshness, ¹⁰ and do not chide the one who asks for help; ¹¹ but proclaim the blessings of your Lord.

94. COMFORT (*AL-SHARH*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Have We not lifted up your heart, ² and removed your burden ³ that weighed so heavily on your back, and ⁴ have We not given you high renown? ⁵ So, surely with every hardship there is ease; ⁶ surely, with every hardship there is ease.^a ⁷ So, when you are free, strive hard, ⁸ and to your Lord turn [all] your attention.

^a This is God's law in the present world. Hence, a man has to face difficult conditions (*'usr*) in the beginning, but if he perseveres with patience, this *'usr* or hardship becomes a stepping stone to new and easy circumstances (*yusr*). Therefore, a man should always look towards God and continue to struggle according to his capacity.

95. THE FIG (*AL-TIN*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the Fig and the Olive, ² and by Mount Sinai, ³ and by this secure land, ⁴ We have indeed created man in the best of mould, ⁵ then We cast him down as the lowest of the low, ⁶ except for those who believe and do good deeds—theirs shall be an unending reward! ⁷ What then after this, can make you deny the Last Judgement? ⁸ Is not God the greatest of the judges?

96. THE CLOT (*AL-‘ALAQ*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Read! In the name of your Lord, who created: ² created man from a clot [of blood]. ³ Read! Your Lord is the Most Bountiful One ⁴ who taught by the pen, ⁵ taught man what he did not know. ⁶ Yet man behaves arrogantly, ⁷ because he thinks himself self-sufficient: ⁸ truly, all will return to your Lord. ⁹ Have you seen one who prevents ¹⁰ a worshipper from praying? ¹¹ Do you think he is rightly guided, ¹² or enjoins true piety? ¹³ Do you see how he has denied the

truth and turned away from it? ¹⁴ Does he not know that God observes all things? ¹⁵ Let him beware! If he does not desist, We will drag him by the forelock—¹⁶ his lying, sinful forelock. ¹⁷ Then let him call his associates; ¹⁸ We shall summon the guards of Hell. ¹⁹ No indeed! Do not obey him, but prostrate yourself and come closer to God.

97. THE NIGHT OF DESTINY (*AL-QADR*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ We sent it [Quran] down on the Night of Destiny. ² And what will make you comprehend what the Night of Destiny is? ³ The Night of Destiny is better than a thousand months; ⁴ on that night, the angels and the Spirit come down by the permission of their Lord with His decrees for all matters; ⁵ it is all peace till the break of dawn.

98. THE CLEAR EVIDENCE (*AL-BAYYINAH*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ The deniers of truth from among the People of the Book and the polytheists would not desist from

disbelief until they received clear evidence—² a messenger from God, reciting to them pure scriptures, ³ containing upright precepts. ⁴ Those who were given the Book did not become divided except after clear evidence was given to them. ⁵ They were commanded only to worship God, offering Him sincere devotion, to be sincere in their faith, to pray regularly; and to give alms, for that is the right religion. ⁶ Those of the deniers of truth among the People of the Book and the polytheists will dwell forever in Hell-fire. They are the worst of creatures. ⁷ Truly, those who believe and do good works are the best of creatures. ⁸ God has a reward in store for them: Gardens of eternity, through which rivers flow; they will dwell therein forever. God is well pleased with them and they are well pleased with Him. Thus shall the God-fearing be rewarded.

99. THE EARTHQUAKE (*AL-ZALZALAH*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ When the earth is shaken with its violent shaking, ² when the earth shakes off her burdens, ³ when man asks, ‘What is happening to her?’; ⁴ on that Day it will narrate its account, ⁵ for your Lord has so directed it. ⁶ On that Day people will come forward in separate groups to be shown their deeds: ⁷ whoever has done the

smallest particle of good will see it;⁸ while whoever has done the smallest particle of evil will see it.

100. THE SNORTING HORSES (*AL-‘ADIYAT*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹By the snorting, panting horses, ²striking sparks of fire with their hooves, ³as they gallop to make raids at dawn, ⁴and raising clouds of dust, ⁵forcing their way into the midst of the enemy, ⁶surely, man is ungrateful to his Lord. ⁷He himself bears witness to that. ⁸Surely, he is ardent in his love of wealth. ⁹Is he not aware of the time when the contents of the graves will be brought out? ¹⁰And the hearts' contents shall be brought into the open? ¹¹Surely, on that Day, they will know that their Lord had full knowledge of them all.

101. THE CLATTERER (*AL-QARI‘AH*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹The Clatterer! ²What is the Clatterer? ³Would that you knew what the Clatterer is! ⁴[It is] a Day when mankind shall be like scattered moths ⁵and the

mountains like tufts of carded wool. ⁶ Then, the one whose good deeds weigh heavy on the scales, ⁷ will have a most pleasing life. ⁸ But as for him whose deeds are light on the scales, ⁹ the Abyss shall be his home. ¹⁰ What will convey to you what this is like? ¹¹ It is a blazing fire.

102. GREED FOR MORE AND MORE (*AL-TAKATHUR*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Greed for more and more distracted you [from God] ² till you reached the grave.^a ³ But you will soon come to know. ⁴ But you will soon come to know. ⁵ Indeed, were you to know the truth with certainty, ⁶ you would see the fire of Hell. ⁷ You would see it with the eye of certainty. ⁸ Then on that Day you shall be questioned about your worldly favours.

^a Man wants to earn more and more so that he may accumulate more and more material things. He is totally immersed in that thought till the day he dies. At that time he comes to know that whatever was worth accumulating was one thing while what he was bent on accumulating was something else. Any increase in worldly goods increases a man's accountability. But man, in his foolishness, thinks that he is adding to his success.

103. THE PASSAGE OF TIME (*AL-‘ASR*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ I swear by the passage of time, ² that man is surely in a state of loss, ³ except for those who believe and do good deeds and exhort one another to hold fast to the Truth, and who exhort one another to steadfastness.

104. THE BACKBITER (*AL-HUMAZAH*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Woe to every fault-finding back-biter, ² who amasses wealth, counting it over, ³ thinking that his wealth will make him live forever. ⁴ By no means! He shall surely be cast into the crushing torment. ⁵ Would that you understood what that crushing torment is like. ⁶ It is a Fire kindled by God. ⁷ Reaching right into the hearts of men, ⁸ it closes in on them from every side ⁹ in towering columns.^a

^a If a man has a difference with another, he can settle it by argument. But it is not proper for him to denigrate the other person, defame him and make him the target of allegations. While the first course of action is legitimate, the second is not.

105. THE ELEPHANT (*AL-FIL*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Have you not seen how your Lord dealt with the people of the elephant? ² Did He not foil their strategy ³ and send against them flocks of birds, ⁴ which pelted them with clay stones? ⁵ Thus He made them like stubble cropped by cattle?

106. QURAYSH (*QURAYSH*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ For the security of the Quraysh: ² their security in their winter and summer journeys. ³ So let them worship the Lord of this House, ⁴ who provided them with food lest they go hungry and saved them from fear.^a

^a The Quraysh was a trading community. During the summer their traders' caravans used to go to Syria and Palestine and in winter they would trade with Yemen. Here, in connection with the call for the acceptance of the Truth, the Quraysh have been reminded of this circumstance and called to Islam. They are told that it would be highly ungrateful to enjoy the worldly benefits of the House of God—the Ka'bah, while shirking the religious responsibility incumbent upon them. They are enjoined to worship only God who conferred all material benefits upon them.

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107. SMALL THINGS (*AL-MA 'UN*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Have you seen one who denies the Day of Judgement?
² Who turns away the orphan, ³ and who does not urge
the feeding of the poor? ⁴ So woe to those who pray
⁵ but whose hearts are not in their prayer. ⁶ Those who
do things only to be seen by others. ⁷ Who are
uncharitable even over very small things.^a

108. ABUNDANCE (*AL-KAWTHAR*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ We have given you abundance. ² Pray to your Lord
and sacrifice to Him alone. ³ It is the one who hates
you who has been cut off.

^a Belief in the reckoning of the Hereafter makes a man pious. One who does not believe in this will be devoid of all goodness; he will be neglectful of prayer to God; he will not be ashamed of pushing over a weak person; he will not think it necessary to discharge the dues and rights of the poor; he will not even give to others such things as will cause him no substantial loss—even if it be only matchsticks or his good wishes.

109. THOSE WHO DENY THE
TRUTH
(*AL-KAFIRUN*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Say, ‘You who deny the Truth, ² I do not worship what you worship. ³ You do not worship what I worship. ⁴ I will never worship what you worship. ⁵ You will never worship what I worship. ⁶ You have your religion and I have mine.’^a

110. HELP
(*AL-NASR*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ When God’s help and victory come, ² and you see people entering God’s religion in multitudes, ³ then glorify your Lord with His praise and seek His forgiveness. He is always ready to accept repentance.

^a ‘You have your religion and I have mine’—this is an expression of mutual understanding meaning, ‘follow one and respect all’. You follow your religion and I shall follow mine, but at the same time both of us should respect each other’s faiths.

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111. TWISTED FIBRE (*AL-MASAD*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ May the hands of Abu Lahab perish, may he be ruined. ² Neither his wealth nor his gains will avail him. ³ He shall soon enter a Blazing Fire, ⁴ and also his wife who carries the fuel, ⁵ with a rope of twisted fibre round her neck.

112. ONENESS (*AL-IKHLAS*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Say, 'He is God, the One, ² God, the Self-sufficient One. ³ He does not give birth, nor was He born, ⁴ and there is nothing like Him.' ^a

^a This chapter of the Quran is about the oneness of God. The concept of God has been presented here in its purest form, ridding it of all polluting associations which people of every age have brought to it. There is no plurality of gods. There is only one God. All are dependent upon Him, but He is not dependent on anybody. He Himself has power over everything. He is far above being the progeny of anybody or having any offspring. He is such a unique being that there is nobody like Him or equal to Him in any manner whatsoever.

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113. DAYBREAK (*AL-FALAQ*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Say, ‘I seek refuge in the Lord of the daybreak ² from the evil of what He has created, ³ from the evil of darkness as it descends, ⁴ from the evil of those who blow on knots ⁵ and from the evil of the envier when he envies.’

114. PEOPLE (*AL-NAS*)

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Say, ‘I seek refuge in the Lord of people, ² the King of people, ³ the God of people, ⁴ from the mischief of every sneaking whisperer, ⁵ who whispers into the hearts of people, ⁶ from jinn and men.’ ^a

^a Man is a humble creature. He essentially needs protection. But this cannot be given to him by anybody except the one and only God. It is God who is the Lord and Sustainer of all human beings. It is He who is their King. It is He alone who is worth worshipping. Indeed, who except God can become the support of believers in their trials and tribulations?