

Sūrah al-Ma‘ārij¹⁷⁴⁸**Bismillāhir-Raḥmānir-Raḥeem****سُورَةُ الْمَعَارِجِ**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

1. A supplicant asked for a punishment bound to happen¹⁷⁴⁹ سَأَلَ سَائِلٌ بِعَذَابٍ وَاقِعٍ ﴿١﴾
2. To the disbelievers; of it there is no preventer. لِّلْكَافِرِينَ لَيْسَ لَهُ دَافِعٌ ﴿٢﴾
3. [It is] from Allāh, owner of the ways of ascent. مِنَ اللَّهِ ذِي الْمَعَارِجِ ﴿٣﴾
4. The angels and the Spirit [i.e., Gabriel] will ascend to Him during a Day the extent of which is fifty thousand years. تَعْرُجُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَالرُّوحُ إِلَيْهِ فِي يَوْمٍ
كَانَ مِقْدَارُهُ خَمْسِينَ أَلْفَ سَنَةٍ ﴿٤﴾
5. So be patient with gracious patience. فَاصْبِرْ صَبْرًا جَمِيلًا ﴿٥﴾
6. Indeed, they see it [as] distant, إِنَّهُمْ يَرَوْنَهُ بَعِيدًا ﴿٦﴾
7. But We see it [as] near. وَنَرَاهُ قَرِيبًا ﴿٧﴾
8. On the Day the sky will be like murky oil,¹⁷⁵⁰ يَوْمَ تَكُونُ السَّمَاءُ كَالْهَيْلِ ﴿٨﴾
9. And the mountains will be like wool,¹⁷⁵¹ وَتَكُونُ الْجِبَالُ كَالْعِهْنِ ﴿٩﴾
10. And no friend will ask [anything of] a friend, وَلَا يَسْأَلُ حَمِيمٌ حَمِيمًا ﴿١٠﴾
11. They will be shown each other. The criminal will wish that he could be ransomed from the punishment of that Day by his children يُبْصِرُكُمْ يُبْصِرُ الْمُجْرِمُ لَوْ يَفْتَدِي مِنْ
عَذَابِ يَوْمِهِذِهِ بِبَنِيهِ ﴿١١﴾

¹⁷⁴⁸Al-Ma‘ārij: Ways of Ascent, i.e., those of the angels into the heavens.¹⁷⁴⁹In the Hereafter. Disbelievers had challenged the Prophet (ﷺ) by invoking Allāh to bring on His punishment. See 8:32.¹⁷⁵⁰Or "molten metal."¹⁷⁵¹i.e., in the process of disintegration.

12. And his wife and his brother ﴿وَصَنَجَبَتِهِ وَأَخِيهِ﴾
13. And his nearest kindred who shelter him ﴿وَفَصِيلَتِهِ الَّتِي تُتَوَكَّلُ عَلَيْهَا﴾
14. And whoever is on earth entirely [so] then it could save him. ﴿وَمَنْ فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا ثُمَّ يُنَجِّهِ﴾
15. No!¹⁷⁵² Indeed, it is the Flame [of Hell], ﴿كَلَّا إِنَّهَا لَأَطْفَاءُ﴾
16. A remover of exteriors.¹⁷⁵³ ﴿نَزَّاعَةً لِّلشَّوْءِ﴾
17. It invites he who turned his back [on truth] and went away [from obedience] ﴿تَدْعُوا مِّنْ أَدْبَرَ وَتَوَلَّىٰ﴾
18. And collected [wealth] and hoarded. ﴿وَجَمَعَ فَأَوْعَىٰ﴾
19. Indeed, mankind was created anxious: ﴿إِنَّ الْإِنسَانَ خُلِقَ هَلُوعًا﴾
20. When evil touches him, impatient, ﴿إِذَا مَسَّهُ الشَّرُّ جَزُوعًا﴾
21. And when good touches him, withholding [of it], ﴿وَإِذَا مَسَّهُ الْخَيْرُ مَنُوعًا﴾
22. Except the observers of prayer – ﴿إِلَّا الْمُصَلِّينَ﴾
23. Those who are constant in their prayer ﴿الَّذِينَ هُمْ عَلَىٰ صَلَاتِهِمْ دَائِمُونَ﴾
24. And those within whose wealth is a known right¹⁷⁵⁴ ﴿وَالَّذِينَ فِي أَمْوَالِهِمْ حَقٌّ مَّعْلُومٌ﴾
25. For the petitioner and the deprived – ﴿لِّلسَّائِلِ وَالْمَحْرُومِ﴾
26. And those who believe in the Day of Recompense ﴿وَالَّذِينَ يُصَدِّقُونَ بِيَوْمِ الدِّينِ﴾

¹⁷⁵²An emphatic refusal meaning "It is not to be."

¹⁷⁵³This refers to the skin of the head or of the body or to the body extremities – which will be burned away.

¹⁷⁵⁴i.e., a specified share, meaning the obligatory *zakāh*.

27. And those who are fearful of the punishment of their Lord – وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ مِّنْ عَذَابِ رَبِّهِمْ مُشْفِقُونَ ﴿٧٧﴾
28. Indeed, the punishment of their Lord is not that from which one is safe – إِنَّ عَذَابَ رَبِّهِمْ غَيْرُ مَأْمُونٍ ﴿٧٨﴾
29. And those who guard their private parts وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ لِأَفْوَاجِهِمْ حَافِظُونَ ﴿٧٩﴾
30. Except from their wives or those their right hands possess,¹⁷⁵⁵ for indeed, they are not to be blamed – إِلَّا عَلَىٰ أَزْوَاجِهِمْ أَوْ مَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُهُمْ فَإِنَّهُمْ غَيْرُ مَلُومِينَ ﴿٨٠﴾
31. But whoever seeks beyond that, then they are the transgressors – فَمَنْ أَتَعْنَىٰ وَرَاءَ ذَٰلِكَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْعَادُونَ ﴿٨١﴾
32. And those who are to their trusts and promises attentive وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ لِأَمْتِنَتِهِمْ وَعَهْدِهِمْ رَاعُونَ ﴿٨٢﴾
33. And those who are in their testimonies upright وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ بِشَهَادَاتِهِمْ قَائِمُونَ ﴿٨٣﴾
34. And those who [carefully] maintain their prayer: وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَلَىٰ صَلَاتِهِمْ يُحَافِظُونَ ﴿٨٤﴾
35. They will be in gardens,¹⁷⁵⁶ honored. أُولَٰئِكَ فِي جَنَّاتٍ مُّكْرَمُونَ ﴿٨٥﴾
36. So what is [the matter] with those who disbelieve, hastening [from] before you, [O Muḥammad], فَمَالِ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا قِبَلِكَ مُهْطِعِينَ ﴿٨٦﴾
37. [To sit] on [your] right and [your] left in separate groups?¹⁷⁵⁷ عَنِ الْيَمِينِ وَعَنِ الشِّمَالِ عِزِينَ ﴿٨٧﴾
38. Does every person among them aspire to enter a garden of pleasure? أَيْطَمُعُ كُلُّ امْرَأَةٍ مِّنْهُمْ أَنْ يُدْخَلَ جَنَّةَ نَعِيمٍ ﴿٨٨﴾
39. No! Indeed, We have created كَلَّا إِنَّآ خَلَقْنَاهُمْ مِّمَّا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٨٩﴾

1755. i.e., female slaves.

1756. In Paradise.

1757. They sat at a distance in order to oppose and mock the Prophet (ﷺ), claiming that they would enter Paradise before the believers.

them from that which they know.¹⁷⁵⁸

40. So I swear by the Lord of [all] risings and settings¹⁷⁵⁹ that indeed We are able
لَقَدِيرُونَ ﴿٤٠﴾
فَلَا أَقْسِمُ بِرَبِّ الْمَشْرِقِ وَالْمَغْرِبِ إِنَّا
41. To replace them with better than them; and We are not to be outdone.
بِمَسْبُوقِينَ ﴿٤١﴾
عَلَىٰ أَنْ نُبَدِّلَ خَيْرًا مِنْهُمْ وَمَا نَحْنُ
42. So leave them to converse vainly and amuse themselves until they meet their Day which they are promised –
يَوْمَهُمُ الَّذِي يُوعَدُونَ ﴿٤٢﴾
فَدَرَهُمْ خَوْضًا وَيَلْعَبُونَ حَتَّىٰ يُلَاقُوا
43. The Day they will emerge from the graves rapidly as if they were, toward an erected idol, hastening.¹⁷⁶⁰
إِلَىٰ نُصْبٍ يُوفُضُونَ ﴿٤٣﴾
يَوْمَ نَخْرُجُونَ مِنَ الْأَجْدَاثِ سِرَاعًا كَأَنَّهُمْ
44. Their eyes humbled, humiliation will cover them. That is the Day which they had been promised.
حَشِيعَةً أَبْصَرُهُمْ تَرَهِقُهُمْ ذِلَّةٌ ﴿٤٤﴾ ذَلِكَ
الْيَوْمِ الَّذِي كَانُوا يُوعَدُونَ ﴿٤٤﴾

1758: i.e., a liquid disdained. So how can they expect to enter Paradise except by the will of their Creator?

1759: i.e., Allāh (*subḥānahu wa ta‘ālā*), who determines the point at which the sun, moon and stars rise and set according to season and every position of observation.

1760: i.e., just as they used to race, whenever an idol was newly appointed, to be the first of its worshippers.