

SURAH QAAF (50)

The *Surah Qaaf* starts the sixth group of surahs with the theme of the Resurrection and the Judgement predominant though other subjects have, also, been treated along with them.

The Surah quotes the *Quraan* as the witness, with its sublime subjects, to the Resurrection and the Judgement in the very first verse. The second and third verses, then, cite the Makkan polytheists' wonder at the coming of the Messenger as the warner of the Resurrection. The fourth and fifth verses reply to them and then, the Surah proceeds, from the sixth verse to the eleventh verse, to cite a number of natural phenomena, to prove His omnipotence and providence, with the eleventh verse asserting — "We vivify a dead land by it (the rain water); so shall be the rising" (of the dead). Resurrection has, therefore, been shown as natural as vegetation. And it stands to reason. If man has a mind, freedom of action, and the entire universe serviceable to him, he must be held accountable. It would be against justice, if he were not. The Surah, then, cites a number of doomed peoples in the twelfth and thirteenth verses. They had, like the Makkan polytheists, repudiated their messengers, who had warned them of the Resurrection for accountability and hence, perished. The fifteenth verse answers their query reported in the third verse.

Asserting in the sixteenth verse that Allah knows everything, the Surah proceeds to specify, in the seventeenth and eighteenth verses, how the record of everybody's actions and utterances is being kept by two keepers and, after death, on the Day promised for accountability, the entire record kept by them shall be presented before Allah. The Surah portrays vividly all the details, from the twentieth verse to the thirty-fifth verse, of what will happen on that day, how polytheists shall be punished violently and the fearing rewarded abundantly because absolute justice shall be dispensed to all on that day.

The Surah, finally, warns the *Quraysh* in the thirty-sixth verse that they shall not find any refuge, if His punishment visits upon them as it had visited upon the doomed peoples of old. Hence, they must heed and learn their lesson from such a warning, tells them the thirty-seventh verse. In the thirty-eighth verse, the Surah asserts Allah's omnipotence. The next two verses console the Messenger and exhort him to have patience and seek strength in prayer. The Surah, from the forty-first verse to the forty-fourth verse, returns to the theme of the Resurrection asserted in the eleventh verse and pictures it vividly in the forty-fourth verse. The forty-fifth verse, again, exhorts the Messenger to continue warning them of the Day as specified in the *Quraan*. But he cannot force anything on the polytheists.

SURAH QAAF

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

1. *Qaaf*; by the glorious *Quraan*.
2. On the contrary, they wonder that a warner has come to them from themselves and hence, the disbelievers say, "This is something astonishing.
3. When we die and turn into dust," (shall we be raised from the dead)?
— "Such a return is beyond" (our comprehension).
4. We, certainly, know what the earth wastes from them (their bodies) and with Us, there is a register preserving (every record).
5. But they belie and deny the truth (*Quraan*) when it has come to them and hence, they are in a state of confusion.
6. Do they not look at the heaven (space) above them how We have made it and adorned it and it does not show any breaches?
7. And (as for) the Earth, We have spread her and rooted (fixed firmly) mountains into her (surface) and grown, on her (surface), every kind of beautiful (vegetation),
8. (Affording) enlightenment and admonition for every servant (rendering exclusive obedience to Allah), turning to Him repentantly.

سُورَةُ قَافٍ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قَافٌ وَالْقُرْآنِ الْمَجِيدِ ﴿١﴾

بَلْ يَجْعَلُونَ أَن جَاءَهُمْ مُنْذِرٌ مِّنْهُمْ

فَقَالَ الْكَافِرُونَ هَذَا شَيْءٌ عَجِيبٌ ﴿٢﴾

أَيَّ دَامِنًا وَكُنَّا بِأَيِّ ذَلِكَ رَاجِعٌ بِعِيدٍ ﴿٣﴾

قَدْ عَلِمْنَا مَا تَنْقُصُ الْأَرْضُ مِنْهُمْ وَعِندَنَا كِتَابٌ

حَفِيفٌ ﴿٤﴾

بَلْ كَذَّبُوا بِالْحَقِّ لَمَّا جَاءَهُمْ فَهُمْ فِي أَمْرٍ مَّرِيجٍ ﴿٥﴾

أَفَلَمْ يَنْظُرُوا إِلَى السَّمَاءِ فَوْقَهُمْ كَيْفَ بَنَيْنَاهَا

وَرَزَقْنَاهَا وَمَا لَهَا مِنْ فُرُوجٍ ﴿٦﴾

وَالْأَرْضَ مَدَدْنَاهَا وَأَلْقَيْنَا فِيهَا رَواسِيَ

وَأَنْبَتْنَا فِيهَا مِنْ كُلِّ زَوْجٍ بَهِيجٍ ﴿٧﴾

بَبَصَرَةٍ وَاذْكُرْ لِلْكَافِرِ عَبْدٍ مُنِيبٍ ﴿٨﴾

9. And We send blessed water from the clouds gradually and then, by it, We grow gardens and crops of cereals,
10. And towering date palms which have compact spathes one upon the other,
11. (Affording) sustenance for human beings and We vivify a dead land by it (the rain water); so shall be the rising (of the dead).
12. Before them (the *Quraysh*), Noah's people and the inhabitants of *Rass* and the *Thamood* had belied and denied (their messengers).
13. And the *'Aad* and Pharaoh and Lot's brethren,
14. And the people of *Ayka* (the area around *Tabook*) and the people of *Tubba'* __ all of them had belied and denied the messengers and hence, My threat had turned out to be true (against them).
15. Have We, then, wearied of the first creation? On the contrary, they are in doubt about any new creation (the afterworld).

SECTION 2

16. And We have created man and We know what his psyche (soul or mind) prompts him to and We are closer to him than (his) jugular vein.
17. At the same time, two observers (angels) sitting on the right and on the left join each other (in keeping a record of his actions and utterances).

وَنَزَّلْنَا مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً مُبَارَكًا فَأَنْبَتْنَا بِهِ جَنَّاتٍ
وَحَبَّ الْحَصِيدِ ﴿٩﴾

وَالنَّخْلَ بَاسِقَاتٍ لِّمِاطِعٍ نَّضِيدٌ ﴿١٠﴾

رِزْقًا لِلْعِبَادِ وَأَحْيَيْنَا بِهِ بَلْدَةً مَيِّتًا كَذَلِكَ
الْخُرُوجُ ﴿١١﴾

كَذَّبَ قَبْلَهُمْ قَوْمُ نُوحٍ وَأَصْحَابُ الرَّيْسِ وَشُعُوبٌ
كَثِيرٌ ﴿١٢﴾

وَعَادٌ وَفِرْعَوْنُ وَإِخْوَانُ لُوطٍ ﴿١٣﴾

وَأَصْحَابُ الْأَيْكَةِ وَقَوْمُ تُبَّاعٍ كُلٌّ كَذَّبَ الرُّسُلَ
فَهِىَ وَبَعِيدٌ ﴿١٤﴾

أَفَعِيبَانَا بِالْخَلْقِ الْأَوَّلِ بَلْ هُمْ فِي لَبْسٍ
مِّنْ خَلْقٍ جَدِيدٍ ﴿١٥﴾

وَلَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنسَانَ وَنَعْلَمُ مَا تُوَسْوِسُ بِهِ نَفْسُهُ
وَنَحْنُ أَقْرَبُ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ حَبْلِ الْوَرِيدِ ﴿١٦﴾

إِذْ يُلَاقَى الْمُتَلَقِّيَانِ عَنِ الْيَمِينِ وَعَنِ الشِّمَالِ قَعِيدٌ ﴿١٧﴾

18. He does not utter a single word but has a watcher / keeper (on watch) ready (to record it).
19. And the throes / violence and coma of death shall, certainly, come: that is what you cannot turn aside from.
20. And the trumpet shall be sounded; that will be the Day, threatened (with dire punishment).
21. And everybody shall come, with him a herder and a witness. (The same angels as mentioned in the seventeenth verse.)
22. (Then, he will be told), "You have been unmindful of it. We have, therefore, taken off you your lid (the veil of sensuality), and hence, your eyesight is, today, very sharp."
23. And his companion (one of the angels accompanying him through his worldly life) will say, "Here it is what has been with me (his entire record) ready (for his punishment).
24. (Both the angels will be ordered), Both of you, into the Hell, throw every ungrateful person, one deliberately hostile to the truth.
25. Hindering good deeds, exceeding the proper bounds, doubting,
26. (One) who used to attribute another deity to Allah and hence, both of you, throw him into the (most) violent punishment."

مَا يَلْفِظُ مِنْ قَوْلٍ إِلَّا لَدَيْهِ رَقِيبٌ عَتِيدٌ ﴿١٨﴾

وَجَاءَتِ سَكْرَةُ الْمَوْتِ بِالْحَقِّ ذَلِكَ
مَا كُنْتُمْ مِنْهُ تَحِيدُونَ ﴿١٩﴾

وَنُفِخَ فِي الصُّورِ ذَلِكَ يَوْمُ الْوَعِيدِ ﴿٢٠﴾

وَجَاءَتْ كُلُّ نَفْسٍ مَعَها سَائِقٌ وَشَهِيدٌ ﴿٢١﴾

لَقَدْ كُنْتَ فِي غَفْلَةٍ مِنْ هَذَا فَكَشَفْنَا عَنْكَ غِطَاءَكَ
فَبَصَرُكَ الْيَوْمَ حَدِيدٌ ﴿٢٢﴾

وَقَالَ قَرِينُهُ هَذَا مَا لَدَى عَتِيدٍ ﴿٢٣﴾

الَّذِينَ فِي جَهَنَّمَ كُلٌّ كَفَّارٌ عِنْدِ ﴿٢٤﴾

مَنَاعٍ لِلْخَيْرِ مُعْتَدٍ مُرِيبٍ ﴿٢٥﴾

الَّذِي جَعَلَ مَعَ اللَّهِ إِلَهًا آخَرَ فَأَلْقِيَاهُ
فِي الْعَذَابِ الشَّدِيدِ ﴿٢٦﴾

27. (Thereupon), his companion (the devil accompanying him through his worldly life) will say, "O our *Rabb*! I had not prompted him to exceed the proper bounds in doing wrong and committing sins: but he himself had strayed deep into error" (misguidance).

قَالَ قَرِينُهُ رَبَّنَا مَا أَطْغَيْتُهُ

وَلَكِنْ كَانَ فِي ضَلَالٍ بَعِيدٍ ﴿٧﴾

28. (Allah) will, then, say, "Do not quarrel together in My presence and I had, already, sent, in advance, My threats (of punishment, through My messengers), towards you.

قَالَ لَا تَخْتَصِمُوا لَدَيَّ وَقَدْ قَدَّمْتُ إِلَيْكُم بِالْوَعِيدِ ﴿٨﴾

29. With Me, a sentence, (once pronounced), is not changed and I am not, at all, an oppressor of My Own created human beings."

مَا يَبْدُلُ الْقَوْلُ لَدَيَّ وَمَا أَنَا بِظَالِمٍ لِّلْعَبِيدِ ﴿٩﴾

SECTION 3

30. The Day when We say to the Hell, "Have you been filled?" And it will say, "Are there any more?"

يَوْمَ نَقُولُ لِّلْجَهَنَّمَ هَلِ امْتَلَأْتَ وَتَقُولُ هَلْ مِنْ مَّزِيدٍ ﴿١٠﴾

31. And the Paradise shall be brought near for the fearing without being distant. (They will be told),

وَأُزِلَّتِ الْجَنَّةُ لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ غَيْرَ بَعِيدٍ ﴿١١﴾

32. "This is what had been promised to every repentant, turning (to Him) frequently (and) observing (the guidance),

هَذَا مَا تُوْعَدُونَ لِكُلِّ أَوَّابٍ حَفِيظٍ ﴿١٢﴾

33. Who used to fear (Allah), the Most Gracious, without seeing and comes (to the afterworld) with a heart repentant,

مَنْ خَشِيَ الرَّحْمَنَ الْغَيْبَ وَجَاءَ بِقَلْبٍ مُّنِيبٍ ﴿١٣﴾

34. (Shall be told), 'Enter it (the Paradise), with peace: such a day is eternal."

أَدْخُلُوهَا سَلَامًا ذَٰلِكَ يَوْمُ الْخُلُودِ ﴿١٤﴾

35. They shall have what they wish in it and We have more (to grant them).

لَهُمْ مَا يَشَاءُونَ فِيهَا وَلَدَيْنَا مَزِيدٌ ﴿٢٥﴾

36. And how many a community We have, before them, wiped out! They were more violent in seizure than they (the *Quraysh* are) and hence, they travelled through lands seeking refuge, (but could they find) any escape (from punishment)?

وَكَمْ أَهْلَكْنَا قَبْلَهُمْ مِنْ قَرْنٍ هُمْ أَشَدُّ مِنْهُمْ بَطْشًا فَنَقَّبُوا فِي الْبِلَادِ هَلْ مِنْ مَخِصٍ ﴿٢٦﴾

37. In such (a warning), there is, certainly, a lesson for whoever has an (appreciative) heart or lends one's ears (to it) and he is heedful to (the guidance).

إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَذِكْرًا لِمَنْ كَانَ لَهُ قَلْبٌ أَوْ أَلْقَى السَّمْعَ وَهُوَ شَهِيدٌ ﴿٢٧﴾

38. And We created the heavens and the Earth and what is in between both during six days (phases of time) and no weariness, whatsoever, afflicted Us.

وَلَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا فِي سِتَّةِ أَيَّامٍ وَمَا مَسَّنَا مِنْ لُغُوبٍ ﴿٢٨﴾

39. Hence, you must be patient with what they say and declare (Him) free from imperfections with glory to your *Rabb* before the sunrise and before the sunset.

فَاصْبِرْ عَلَى مَا يَقُولُونَ وَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ قَبْلَ طُلُوعِ الشَّمْسِ وَقَبْلَ الْغُرُوبِ ﴿٢٩﴾

40. And you must declare Him free from imperfections during night and, also, at the end of the prostration (obligatory prayers).

وَمِنَ اللَّيْلِ فَسَبِّحْهُ وَأَدْبَرَ الشُّجُورِ ﴿٣٠﴾

41. And listen! The Day, when an announcer announces (the coming of the Day) from a place nearby,

وَأَسْمِعْ يَوْمَ يُنَادِ الْمُنَادُ مِنْ مَّكَانٍ قَرِيبٍ ﴿٣١﴾

42. On that Day, they shall hear the (trumpet) blast truly (accurately); that will be the Day of the rising (of the dead).

يَوْمَ يَسْمَعُونَ الصَّيْحَةَ بِالْحَقِّ ذَلِكَ يَوْمُ الْخُرُوجِ ﴿٣٢﴾

43. We give life and We cause death and to Us shall be the return (of all).
44. The Day when the Earth is split off them (the dead), they will be hurrying; such a gathering will be easy for Us.
45. We know best what they are talking (about it) and you are not going to compel them (to accept Islam) forcibly and hence, you must admonish, whoever fears My threat, with the *Quraan*.

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نُحْيِي وَنُمِيتُ وَإِلَيْنَا الْمَصِيرُ ﴿٤٣﴾

يَوْمَ تَشَقَّقُ الْأَرْضُ عَنْهُمْ سِرَاعًا ذَٰلِكَ
حَسْرَةً عَلَيْنَا يَسِيرٌ ﴿٤٤﴾

نَحْنُ أَعْلَمُ بِمَا يَقُولُونَ وَمَا أَنْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ بِجَبَّارٍ
فَذَكِّرْ بِالْقُرْآنِ مَنْ يَخَافُ وَعِيدِ ﴿٤٥﴾