

SURATULHADEED (57)

The *Suratulhadeed* carries on the theme of reward and punishment on the Judgement Day with respect to spending money, time, and energy for the sake of Allah. Spending for Him is the criterion to judge any person by, especially when the Islamic Community is threatened to be overcome by its enemies.

From the first verse to the sixth verse, the Surah stresses Allah's sovereignty over the entire cosmos, His might, wisdom, knowledge, and finality in all the matters by virtue of His creativity. When the Surah was revealed, the Islamic State of Medina was surrounded by hostile forces antagonistic to Islam. Hence, it called for vigilance and preparedness. Spending and struggling for Allah were, therefore, of prime importance. As for the sincere believers, they did their best. But such believers as had weakness or various shades of hypocrisy, shirked both of them. From the seventh verse to the eleventh verse, the Surah addresses such believers and exhorts them not to sit on the fence but spend as much as they can and participate in fighting against the enemy. The Surah reminds them of their pledge in the eighth verse and urges them to shed their lethargy. They shall have a supreme reward. The Surah, then, from the twelfth verse to the fifteenth verse, proceeds to portray the reward of the sincere believers and the plight of all the hypocritical persons along with the disbelievers in the afterworld. The Surah, then, from the sixteenth verse to the twenty-fourth verse, exhorts them to yield to Allah's Word and not conduct themselves like the Jews, callous and transgressing. The seventeenth verse equates revealed knowledge with rain vivifying a dead land and the eighteenth verse restates what has, already, been stated in the eleventh verse just to rouse them to action. The Surah mentions sincere believers and their reward in the nineteenth verse along with the punishment of disbelievers. The twentieth verse gives an image of worldly possessions being transitory while the afterworld has both — punishment and forgiveness.

Hence, the twenty-first verse exhorts them to strive for forgiveness in this very world. They must trust in Allah and be neither indifferent to the Messenger's call nor niggardly. If they are so, they will come to grief and lose His bounty as all the misfortunes afflict human beings with His knowledge.

The Surah, finally, proceeds, from the twenty-fifth verse to the twenty-ninth verse, to argue for spending, struggling, and fighting for Allah on the part of the believers and for this purpose, iron has been created. What the Last Messenger is doing is nothing but following in the footprints of his illustrious predecessors, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Jesus, all of whom had been honoured with the books of guidance, now, culminating in the *Quraan*. Islam means submission to Allah's will and seeking His pleasure. It does not promote monasticism in any way because it gives the message of action and struggling for His cause. The last two verses exhort the people, who have come to believe, to fear Allah and believe in the Messenger in the true sense. He shall

grant them two portions of His mercy in this world and the afterworld and forgive them. If they continue spending and struggling for Him, He shall grant them His bounty because all the bounty is in His control irrespective of what the people of the Book claim.

SURATULHADEED

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

1. What is throughout the heavens and the Earth declares Allah free from imperfections and He is the Almighty, the Sole Source of wisdom.
2. To Him belongs the sovereignty of the heavens and the Earth: He gives life and causes death and He has absolute power and authority over everything.
3. He is the First and the Last and the Exterior and the Interior and He has the knowledge of everything.
4. It is He Who created the heavens and the Earth in six days (phases) and then, acceded to the throne (started exercising sovereignty over the entire cosmos); He knows what goes into the Earth and what comes out of her and what descends from the heaven and what ascends into it and He is with you wherever you are and Allah watches what you do.
5. To Him belongs the sovereignty of the heavens and the Earth; and to Allah are returned all the matters.
6. He merges night in day and merges day in night; and He knows the thoughts hidden in (human) breasts.
7. (Hence), you must believe in Allah and His Messenger and spend (the possessions) of which He has

سُورَةُ الْحَدِيدِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

سَبَّحَ لِلَّهِ مَا فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ
وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ ﴿١﴾

لَهُ مُلْكُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ
وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿٢﴾

هُوَ الْأَوَّلُ وَالْآخِرُ وَالظَّاهِرُ وَالْبَاطِنُ
وَهُوَ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٣﴾

هُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ فِي سِتَّةِ أَيَّامٍ
ثُمَّ اسْتَوَى عَلَى الْعَرْشِ يَعْلَمُ مَا يَلِجُ فِي الْأَرْضِ
وَمَا يَخْرُجُ مِنْهَا وَمَا يَنْزِلُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ وَمَا يَعْرُجُ فِيهَا
وَهُوَ مَعَكُمْ أَيْنَ مَا كُنْتُمْ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ بَصِيرٌ ﴿٤﴾

لَهُ مُلْكُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَإِلَى اللَّهِ
تَرْجَعُ الْأُمُورُ ﴿٥﴾

يُولِجُ اللَّيْلَ فِي النَّهَارِ وَيُؤَلِّجُ النَّهَارَ فِي اللَّيْلِ
وَهُوَ عَلِيمٌ بِذَاتِ الصُّدُورِ ﴿٦﴾

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِنَّا جَعَلْنَاكُمْ
مُسْلِمِينَ فِيهِ مَا لَدَيْنَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَنْفُسُكُمْ

appointed you (His) trustees to exercise (His) powers in and hence, (those people) who, among you, believe (in Allah) and spend (what they earn to seek His pleasure) shall have a handsome reward.

لَهُمْ أَجْرٌ كَبِيرٌ ﴿٧﴾

8. And what is the matter with you that you do not believe in Allah while the Messenger is calling upon you to believe in your *Rabb* and He has, (already), imposed an obligation on you, if you are, (really), believers?

وَمَا لَكُمْ لَا تُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَالرَّسُولِ يَدْعُوكُمْ لِلتَّوْمِنِ

بِرَبِّكُمْ وَقَدْ أَخَذَ مِيثَاقَكُمْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ مُؤْمِنِينَ ﴿٨﴾

9. It is He Who has been revealing verses, expounding (the guidance), to His servant (the Messenger), portion by portion, so that he should bring you out of darkness upon darkness (and lead you) to the light (of the guidance); and Allah is, certainly, very compassionate, merciful with you.

هُوَ الَّذِي يُزِيلُ عَلَى عَبْدِهِ ءَايَاتٍ يَبَيِّنَاتٍ لِّيُخْرِجَكُمْ
مِنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ وَإِنَّ اللَّهَ بِكُمْ
لَرَءُوفٌ رَحِيمٌ ﴿٩﴾

10. And what is the matter with you that you do not spend (your possessions) in Allah's cause while to Allah belongs the heritage of the heavens and the Earth? Those among you (who will spend their possessions after the Conquest of Makka) cannot equal (those believers) who will spend (their possessions) before the Conquest and fight (against the enemy); such (believers) shall have higher (more exalted) position than (those believers) who will spend (their possessions) and fight (against the enemy) after (the Conquest); and Allah promises the best outcome to everyone (of you) and Allah is cognizant (aware) of what you do.

وَمَا لَكُمْ أَلَّا تُنْفِقُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَلِلَّهِ مِيرَاثُ السَّمَاوَاتِ
وَالْأَرْضِ لَا يَسْتَوِي مِنْكُمْ مَنْ أَنْفَقَ مِنْ قَبْلِ الْفَتْحِ
وَقَتْلَ أَوْلِيَّكَ أَكْثَرُ دَرَجَةً مِنَ الَّذِينَ أَنْفَقُوا
مِنْ بَعْدُ وَقَتَلُوا وَلَا وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الْخُسْفَىٰ
وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ ﴿١٠﴾

SECTION 2

11. Who is he that will lend Allah a handsome loan so that He should multiply it manifold for him and he shall have a generous reward?
12. (Imagine) the Day when you see believing men and believing women, their light moving in front of them and on their right, (they will be told), "There is good news for you, today, (of) gardens under which rivers will be flowing, (you will) abide among them eternally." Such (a reward) is the supreme success.
13. On that Day, hypocritical men and hypocritical women will say to (those people) who believe, "Await us! Let us have some of your light." (But) they will be told, "Go back to your rear and then, look for (your) light" (elsewhere) and then, between them shall be built a wall that will have a door: inside it, there will be mercy and towards the outside of it, there will be punishment.
14. (The hypocrites) will call on them, "Were we not with you" (in the world)? (The believers) will say, "Yes, but you used to subject yourselves to trials and await (our ruin) and keep doubting and wishes had deluded you (into denying Allah's guidance) till Allah's judgement came and (till the last, the charms of) the world had deluded you away from Allah.
15. Hence, today, neither any ransom will be taken from you nor from (those people) who had disbelieved;

مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يُقْرِضُ اللَّهَ قَرْضًا حَسَنًا فَيُضَاعِفَهُ لَهُ،
وَلَهُ أَجْرٌ كَرِيمٌ ﴿١١﴾

يَوْمَ تَرَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ يَسْعَى نُورُهُمْ بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ
وَبِأَمْنٍ مِنْ بَشَرِهِمْ يَوْمَ ذَلِكَ هُوَ الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيمُ ﴿١٢﴾

يَوْمَ يَقُولُ الْمُنَافِقُونَ وَالْمُنَافِقَاتُ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا
انظُرُوا نَافِقِينَ مِنْ نُورِكُمْ قِيلَ ارْجِعُوا وَرَاءَكُمْ
فَالْيَسَاءُ أَنْتُمْ فَضْرِبَ بَيْنَهُمْ بِسُورٍ لَهُ بَابٌ بَاطِنُهُ فِيهِ
الرَّحْمَةُ وَظَاهِرُهُ مِنْ قِبَلِهِ الْعَذَابُ ﴿١٣﴾

يُنَادُونَهُمْ أَلَمْ نَكُنْ مَعَكُمْ قَالُوا بَلَى وَلَكِنْ كُنْتُمْ فَنَنْتُمْ
أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَتَرَبَّصْتُمْ وَارْتَبْتُمْ وَغَرَّتْكُمْ الْأَمَانِيُّ
حَتَّى جَاءَ أَمْرُ اللَّهِ وَغَرََّتْكُمْ بِاللَّهِ الْعُرُورُ ﴿١٤﴾

فَالْيَوْمَ لَا يُؤْخَذُ مِنْكُمْ فِدْيَةٌ وَلَا مِنَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا

your abode (home) is the fire (of the Hell): it is your patron and what an evil place of return it is!"

16. Has not the time come for (those people) who believe that their hearts should yield to Allah's admonition and what has been revealed (to the Messenger) as the (sole) truth (*Quraan*) and they must not be (conduct themselves) like (those people) who had been given the Book (Torah) earlier? A long time has elapsed over them and hence, their hearts have hardened and most of them are transgressors.

17. You must know that Allah, (alone), vivifies the earth after its death; We have made Our arguments clear for you so that you should exercise your reason.

18. Indeed, alms giving men and alms giving women and those who lend Allah a handsome loan (must rest in Allah for) it shall be multiplied manifold for them and they shall have a generous reward (in the afterworld).

19. And (those people) who believe in Allah and His messengers are such (people) as are the utmost in truthfulness and the witnesses in your *Rabb's* view: they shall have their reward and their light and (those people) who disbelieve and belie and deny Our verses are such (people as) shall be the inhabitants of the blazing fire (of the Hell).

مَا وَتَّكُمُ النَّارُ هِيَ مَوْلَاكُمْ وَنِيسَ الْمَصِيرُ ﴿١٥﴾

أَلَمْ يَأْنِ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْ تَخْشَعَ قُلُوبُهُمْ لِذِكْرِ
اللَّهِ وَمَا نَزَلَ مِنَ الْحَقِّ وَلَا يَكُونُوا كَالَّذِينَ أُوتُوا
الْكِتَابَ مِنْ قَبْلُ فَطَالَ عَلَيْهِمُ الْأَمَدُ فَقَسَتْ
قُلُوبُهُمْ وَكَثِيرٌ مِنْهُمْ فَعَسَىٰ

﴿١٦﴾

أَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَحْيِي الْأَرْضَ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا قَدْ بَيَّنَّا
لَكُمْ الْآيَاتِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ ﴿١٧﴾

إِنَّ الْمَصْدَقِينَ وَالْمُصَدِّقَاتِ وَأَقْرَضُوا اللَّهَ قَرْضًا
حَسَنًا يُضَاعَفُ لَهُمْ وَلَهُمْ أَجْرٌ كَرِيمٌ ﴿١٨﴾

وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرُسُلِهِ أُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الصَّادِقُونَ
وَالشَّاهِدَةُ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ لَهُمْ أَجْرُهُمْ وَنُورُهُمْ
وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَكَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِنَا أُولَٰئِكَ
أَصْحَابُ الْجَحِيمِ ﴿١٩﴾

SECTION 3

20. You must know that the life of the world is sport and amusement and adornment and vying (striving for superiority) for glorying among yourselves and vying for the excess of properties (money power) and children (manpower among yourselves), like an abundant rain the plant life (vegetation born of which) excites the wonder of the farmers and then, it withers and hence, you see it turn yellow and then, it turns into chaff and, in the afterworld, there is, (both), violent punishment and Allah's forgiveness and pleasure; and the life of the world is no more than deluding enjoyment (of fleeting goods).

أَعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا الْحَيَوةُ الدُّنْيَا لَعِبٌ وَلَهُمْ زِينَةٌ
وَتَفَاخُرٌ بَيْنَكُمْ وَتَكَاثُرٌ فِي الْأَمْوَالِ وَالْأَوْلَادِ
كَمَثَلٍ غَيْثٍ أَعْجَبَ الْكُفَّارَ نَبَأُهُ ثُمَّ يَسِيحُ فُتْرَتُهُ
مُضْفَرًا ثُمَّ يَكُونُ حُطَمًا وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ عَذَابٌ شَدِيدٌ
وَمَغْفِرَةٌ مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَرِضْوَانٌ وَمَا الْحَيَوةُ الدُّنْيَا
إِلَّا مَتَاعُ الْفُرُورِ ﴿٢٠﴾

21. You must race (have a race with other believers) towards your *Rabb's* forgiveness and the Paradise the width (the largeness of extent) of which is like the width of the heaven and the Earth, having been prepared for (those people) who believe in Allah and His messengers; such is Allah's bounty which He grants whom He wills; and Allah is possessed of supreme bounty.

سَابِقُوا إِلَىٰ مَغْفِرَةٍ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَجَنَّةٍ عَرْضُهَا
كَعَرْضِ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ أُعِدَّتْ لِلَّذِينَ
ءَامَنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرُسُلِهِ ذَٰلِكَ فَضْلُ اللَّهِ يُؤْتِيهِ
مَن يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ ذُو الْفَضْلِ الْعَظِيمِ ﴿٢١﴾

22. Neither any adversity afflicts (human beings anywhere) throughout the Earth nor in your persons but it has, already, been recorded in a register before We bring them into being; such (a record) is very easy for Allah (to keep).

مَا أَصَابَ مِنْ مُّصِيبَةٍ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَلَا فِي أَنْفُسِكُمْ
إِلَّا فِي كِتَابٍ مِّن قَبْلِ أَن نَّبْرَأَهَا
إِنَّ ذَٰلِكَ عَلَى اللَّهِ يَسِيرٌ ﴿٢٢﴾

23. (He has explained it to you) so that you must neither grieve at what you lose nor rejoice in what He gives

لِكَيْلَا تَأْسَوْا عَلَىٰ مَا فَاتَكُمْ وَلَا تَفْرَحُوا بِمَا
ءَاتَاكُمْ وَاللَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ

you and Allah does not like all conceited, boastful persons

24. Who are themselves miserly and teach (other) human beings to be miserly (by their examples) and whoever turns away (rejects the guidance, shall not harm Him for) Allah is, certainly, the Most Self-sufficient, the Most Praiseworthy.
25. We had, certainly, sent Our messengers with clear evidences and revealed the Book and balance (equity) with them in order that human beings must establish equity (justice according to natural law or right) and We have created iron in which there is formidable power and (other) advantages for human beings and (He has created iron) in order that Allah should know who helps Him and His messengers without seeing (Him); Allah is, indeed, strong, mighty.

SECTION 4

26. And We had, certainly, sent Noah and Abraham (as messengers) and preserved prophethood and the Book among the descendants of both of them and hence, some of them had embraced the guidance and most of them had turned transgressors.
27. Then, We had them followed in their footsteps (in their tradition) by Our messengers and We had, (all of them) followed by Jesus, Mary's son, and gave him the *Injeel* and infused (the spirit of) compassion and mercy into the hearts of (those

كُلُّ مُخْتَالٍ فَخُورٍ ﴿٢٣﴾

الَّذِينَ يَبْخُلُونَ وَيَأْمُرُونَ النَّاسَ بِالْبُخْلِ
وَمَنْ يَتَوَلَّ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْغَنِيُّ الْحَمِيدُ ﴿٢٤﴾

لَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا رُسُلَنَا بِالْبَيِّنَاتِ وَأَنْزَلْنَا مَعَهُمُ
الْكِتَابَ وَالْمِيزَانَ لِيَقُومَ النَّاسُ بِالْقِسْطِ
وَأَنْزَلْنَا الْحَدِيدَ فِيهِ بَأْسٌ شَدِيدٌ وَمَنْفَعُ
لِلنَّاسِ وَلِيَعْلَمَ اللَّهُ مَنْ يَبْصُرُهُ وَرُسُلَهُ
بِالْغَيْبِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ قَوِيٌّ عَزِيزٌ ﴿٢٥﴾

وَلَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا نُوحًا وَإِبْرَاهِيمَ وَجَعَلْنَا فِي ذُرِّيَّتِهِمَا
النُّبُوَّةَ وَالْكِتَابَ فَمِنْهُمْ مُهْتَدٍ
وَكَثِيرٌ مِّنْهُمْ فَاسِقُونَ ﴿٢٦﴾

ثُمَّ قَفَّيْنَا عَلَىٰ آثَرِهِم بِرُسُلِنَا وَقَفَّيْنَا
بِعِيسَى ابْنِ مَرْيَمَ وَآتَيْنَاهُ الْإِنْجِيلَ
وَجَعَلْنَا فِي قُلُوبِ الَّذِينَ أَنْبَعُوهُ رَأْفَةً
وَرَحْمَةً وَرَهَابَانِيَّةً ابْتَدَعُوهَا مَا كَتَبْنَاهَا عَلَيْهِمْ

people) who followed him and (as for) monasticism (is concerned), they had invented it __ We had not made it obligatory on them __ only to seek Allah's pleasure, but they could not show it the regard that it deserved and hence, We gave (those people) who believed, among them, their reward and most of them turned transgressors.

إِلَّا ابْتِغَاءَ رِضْوَانِ اللَّهِ فَمَا رَعَوْهَا حَقَّ رِعَايَتِهَا
فَأَتَيْنَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا مِنْهُمْ أَجْرَهُمْ
وَكَثِيرٌ مِنْهُمْ فَاسِقُونَ ﴿٧﴾

28. O the people who believe! You must fear disobeying Allah and believe in His Messenger (truly). He shall give you two portions of His mercy and grant you a light by which you will walk (conduct yourselves in life) and forgive you; and Allah is forgiving, merciful.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَءَامِنُوا بِرَسُولِهِ
يُؤْتِكُمْ كِفْلَيْنِ مِنْ رَحْمَتِهِ وَيَجْعَلْ لَكُمْ نُورًا
تَمْشُونَ بِهِ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ ﴿٨﴾

29. (He will grant you such a reward) so that the people of the Book must know that they have no power, at all, over any part of Allah's bounty and that all the bounty is in Allah's hand (control), He gives whom He wills; and Allah is possessed of supreme bounty.

لِنُتْلِيَ بِأَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ آلَا يُقْدِرُونَ
عَلَى شَيْءٍ مِنْ فَضْلِ اللَّهِ وَأَنَّ الْفَضْلَ بِيَدِ اللَّهِ
يُؤْتِيهِ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ ذُو الْفَضْلِ الْعَظِيمِ ﴿٩﴾