

SURAH NOOH (71)

The entire Surah *Nooh* is, thematically, of a piece with the preceding surahs. The whole story has been narrated to warn the *Quraysh* and persuade them to turn to Allah repentantly, give up their arrogance, and submit themselves to the discipline of the *Quraan* — the Last Message revealed to the Last Messenger. If they do not, as a result of their repudiation, they shall, like Noah's people, be punished in this world as well as the world to come. The Surah, in its first two verses, assigns the role of a warner to Noah who warns them of the impending doom. Hence, they must fear Allah and follow him, says the third verse in a nutshell. Such has been the message of every prophet and messenger. Such was the message delivered to the Makkan polytheists by the Last Messenger in the initial stage of his call to humankind to turn to Allah. But Noah's people were arrogant and their leaders, like the leaders of the Makkan polytheists, feared that they would lose leadership and hence, their system based on exploitation of man by man would give way and their people would be emancipated from ignorance, inequality, and exploitation. Hence, they stood up for the status quo and opposed Noah tooth and nail for nine hundred and fifty years as the fourteenth verse of the *Suratul'ankaboot* records. Hence, Noah was constrained to pray to Allah complaining of their arrogance and repudiation of the message from the fifth verse to the fourteenth verse and then, from the twenty-first verse to the twenty-fourth verse and, finally, from the twenty-sixth verse to the twenty-eighth verse. From the fifteenth verse to the twentieth verse and the twenty-fifth verse of the Surah are Allah's utterance. Noah's prayer was heard and his people, except the believers with him in the ark, were, not only, drowned in the Flood, but also, sent to the Hell as reported by the twenty-fifth verse. The Makkan polytheists along with their arrogant leaders were, by implication, threatened to be punished similarly.

SURAH NOOH

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

1. We sent Noah to his people (and commanded him), "Warn your people (of their defiance) before a grievous punishment visits upon them."
2. He said (to them), "O My people! I am a warner to you, expounding (the guidance).
3. Serve (render exclusive obedience to) Allah and fear Him and obey me.
4. He will forgive some of your sins (preceding sins) and grant you a respite till an appointed term; indeed, Allah's (decreed) time (of the end of a community), when it comes, cannot be delayed, if only you knew" (it)!
5. He said, "O my *Rabb!* I called upon my people (to cease defiance) night and day.
6. But my call did not but add to (increase__ intensify) them into fleeing (from the guidance).
7. And whenever I called upon them so that You (Allah) should forgive them, they put their fingers into their ears and covered themselves with their clothes and persisted (in their disobedience) and displayed arrogance, displaying it (inordinately).
8. Then, I called upon them publicly.

سُورَةُ نُوحٍ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَا نُوحًا إِلَىٰ قَوْمِهِ أَنْ أَنْذِرْ قَوْمَكَ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يَأْتِيَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ ﴿١﴾

قَالَ يَنْقُورِي لَكُمْ نَذِيرٌ مُبِينٌ ﴿٢﴾

أَنِ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَاتَّقُوهُ وَأَطِيعُوا أَمْرِي ﴿٣﴾

يَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ مِنْ ذُنُوبِكُمْ وَيُؤَخِّرْكُمْ إِلَىٰ أَجَلٍ مُّسَمًّى إِنَّ أَجَلَ اللَّهِ إِذَا جَاءَ لَا يُؤَخَّرُ لَوْ كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٤﴾

قَالَ رَبِّ إِنِّي دَعَوْتُ قَوْمِي لَيْلًا وَنَهَارًا ﴿٥﴾

فَلَمْ يَزِدْهُمْ دُعَايَ إِلَّا فِرَارًا ﴿٦﴾

وَإِنِّي كُلَّمَا دَعَوْتُهُمْ لِتَغْفِرَ لَهُمْ جَعَلُوا أَصْبَعَهُمْ فِي مَآذِنِهِمْ وَاسْتَغْشَوْنَ بَآبَهُمْ وَأَصْرُوا وَاسْتَكْبَرُوا اسْتِكْبَارًا ﴿٧﴾

ثُمَّ إِنِّي دَعَوْتُهُمْ جِهَارًا ﴿٨﴾

9. Then, I addressed them openly and spoke to them secretly.
10. Then, I said to them, 'Ask forgiveness of your *Rabb*, He is, indeed, very forgiving.
11. He shall send clouds raining copiously on you,
12. And support you with possessions and sons (manpower) and grow gardens for you and cause rivers to flow for you.
13. What is the matter with you that you do not fear Allah's forbearance and supremacy,
14. Though He has created you variously, (in different moulds, shapes and states)?"
15. Do you not see how Allah has created the seven heavens layer upon layer.
16. And made the Moon a light among them and lighted the Sun as a lamp?
17. And Allah has grown you from the earth (into a wonderful) growth.
18. Then, He shall take you back into it and, (at the Resurrection), take you out (of the earth) raising (you from the dead).
19. And Allah has spread the Earth as an expanse for you
20. So that you may travel through her (the Earth) along paths through passes,

ثُمَّ إِنِّي أَعْلَنْتُ لَهُمْ وَأَسْرَرْتُ لَهُمْ إِسْرَارًا ﴿٩﴾

فَقُلْتُ اسْتَغْفِرُوا رَبَّكُمْ إِنَّهُ كَانَ غَفَّارًا ﴿١٠﴾

يُرْسِلِ السَّمَاءَ عَلَيْكُمْ مِدْرَارًا ﴿١١﴾

وَيُمَدِّدْكُمْ بِأَمْوَالٍ وَبَنِينَ وَيَجْعَلْ لَكُمْ جَنَّاتٍ وَيَجْعَلْ لَكُمْ أَنْهَارًا ﴿١٢﴾

مَا لَكُمْ لَا تَرْجُونَ لِلَّهِ وَقَارًا ﴿١٣﴾

وَقَدْ خَلَقَكُمْ أَطْوَارًا ﴿١٤﴾

أَلَمْ تَرَوْا كَيْفَ خَلَقَ اللَّهُ سَبْعَ سَمَوَاتٍ طِبَاقًا ﴿١٥﴾

وَجَعَلَ الْقَمَرَ فِيهِنَّ نُورًا وَجَعَلَ الشَّمْسُ سِرَاجًا ﴿١٦﴾

وَاللَّهُ أَنْبَتَكُمْ مِنَ الْأَرْضِ نَبَاتًا ﴿١٧﴾

ثُمَّ يُعِيدُكُمْ فِيهَا وَيُخْرِجُكُمْ إِخْرَاجًا ﴿١٨﴾

وَاللَّهُ جَعَلَ لَكُمُ الْأَرْضَ بِسَاطًا ﴿١٩﴾

لِتَسْلُكُوا مِنْهَا سُبُلًا فِجَاجًا ﴿٢٠﴾

SECTION 2

21. Noah said (to Allah), "O my *Rabb*, they have disobeyed me and followed (those materialists) whose wealth and sons (manpower) have not added to them but their loss (moral, mental, and social ruin).
22. And they have conspired (against me and your guidance), conspiring in a big way.
23. And they say (to their people), 'You must neither give up your gods nor give up (worshipping) *Wadd* nor *Suwa'* nor *Yaghooth* nor *Ya'ooq* nor *Nasr*.'
24. And they have, (already), misguided (led astray the people) in large numbers and (O Allah)! Do not add to these wrongdoers but misguidance."
25. On account of their sins, they were drowned (in the Flood waters) and hence, made to enter the fire (of the Hell) and then, they did not find any helpers for themselves against Allah.
26. And Noah said, "O my *Rabb*! Do not leave any of the disbelievers as an inhabitant on the Earth.
27. If You spare them, they will, (only), misguide Your Own created human beings and beget none but evildoers, thankless persons.
28. O my *Rabb*! Forgive me and my parents and whoever enters my house as a believer and believing men and believing women and do not add to the wrongdoers but ruin."

قَالَ نُوحٌ رَبِّ إِنَّهُمْ عَصَوْنِي وَأَتَّبَعُوا مَن لَّمْ يَزِدَّهُمْ
مَالَهُمْ ۖ وَوَلَدَهُمْ ۖ إِلَّا خُسَارًا ﴿٢١﴾

وَمَكْرُومًا كَبَّارًا ﴿٢٢﴾

وَقَالُوا لَا تَنْدَرُءَ ۚ إِلَٰهَتُكُمْ وَلَا تَنْدَرُءَ وَدَا ۚ وَلَا سُوَاعًا
وَلَا يَغُوثَ وَيَعُوقَ وَنَسْرًا ﴿٢٣﴾

وَقَدْ أَضَلُّوا كَثِيرًا ۖ وَلَا تَزِدِ الظَّالِمِينَ إِلَّا ضَلَالًا ﴿٢٤﴾

مِمَّا خَطَبْتَنِيهِمْ ۖ أُغْرِقُوا فَأَدْحَلُوا نَارًا فَلَمْ يَجِدُوا لَهُمْ
مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ أَنْصَارًا ﴿٢٥﴾

وَقَالَ نُوحٌ رَبِّ لَا تَذَرْنِي عَلَى الْأَرْضِ مِنَ الْكَافِرِينَ
دَيَّارًا ﴿٢٦﴾

إِنَّكَ إِن تَذَرَهُمْ يَضِلُّوا عِبَادَكَ وَلَا يَلِدُوا إِلَّا أَفَاجِرًا
كَفَّارًا ﴿٢٧﴾

رَبِّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِوَالِدَيَّ وَلِمَن دَخَلَ بَيْتِيَ
مُؤْمِنًا وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ ۖ وَلَا تَزِدِ الظَّالِمِينَ
إِلَّا نَبَارًا ﴿٢٨﴾