سورة التكوير
Surah At-Takwir

The Overthrowing · Arabic with English translation

SURAH 81 · 29 AYAHS · MAKKI

بِسْمِ ٱللَّهِ ٱلرَّحْمَـٰنِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ

إِذَا ٱلشَّمْسُ كُوِّرَتْ ﴿١﴾

81:1 When the sun is wrapped up [in darkness]

وَإِذَا ٱلنُّجُومُ ٱنكَدَرَتْ ﴿٢﴾

81:2 And when the stars fall, dispersing,

وَإِذَا ٱلْجِبَالُ سُيِّرَتْ ﴿٣﴾

81:3 And when the mountains are removed

وَإِذَا ٱلْعِشَارُ عُطِّلَتْ ﴿٤﴾

81:4 And when full-term she-camels[1865] are neglected

[1865] Those ten months pregnant and nearing delivery. This verse alludes to distraction from the most valued of possessions.

وَإِذَا ٱلْوُحُوشُ حُشِرَتْ ﴿٥﴾

81:5 And when the wild beasts are gathered

وَإِذَا ٱلْبِحَارُ سُجِّرَتْ ﴿٦﴾

81:6 And when the seas are filled with flame[1866]

[1866] Or "when the seas have overflowed [into each other]."

وَإِذَا ٱلنُّفُوسُ زُوِّجَتْ ﴿٧﴾

81:7 And when the souls are paired[1867]

[1867] With another like soul. It can also mean "joined" (with their groups or sects) .

وَإِذَا ٱلْمَوْءُۥدَةُ سُئِلَتْ ﴿٨﴾

81:8 And when the girl [who was] buried alive is asked

بِأَىِّ ذَنۢبٍ قُتِلَتْ ﴿٩﴾

81:9 For what sin she was killed

وَإِذَا ٱلصُّحُفُ نُشِرَتْ ﴿١٠﴾

81:10 And when the pages[1868] are spread [i.e., made public]

[1868] On which are recorded the deeds of all people.

وَإِذَا ٱلسَّمَآءُ كُشِطَتْ ﴿١١﴾

81:11 And when the sky is stripped away

وَإِذَا ٱلْجَحِيمُ سُعِّرَتْ ﴿١٢﴾

81:12 And when Hellfire is set ablaze

وَإِذَا ٱلْجَنَّةُ أُزْلِفَتْ ﴿١٣﴾

81:13 And when Paradise is brought near,

عَلِمَتْ نَفْسٌ مَّآ أَحْضَرَتْ ﴿١٤﴾

81:14 A soul will [then] know what it has brought [with it].[1869]

[1869] i.e., all of one's deeds from worldly life, which have accompanied the soul to the Hereafter.

فَلَآ أُقْسِمُ بِٱلْخُنَّسِ ﴿١٥﴾

81:15 So I swear by the retreating stars -

ٱلْجَوَارِ ٱلْكُنَّسِ ﴿١٦﴾

81:16 Those that run [their courses] and disappear [i.e., set]

وَٱلَّيْلِ إِذَا عَسْعَسَ ﴿١٧﴾

81:17 And by the night as it closes in[1870]

[1870] An alternative meaning is "as it departs."

وَٱلصُّبْحِ إِذَا تَنَفَّسَ ﴿١٨﴾

81:18 And by the dawn when it breathes [i.e., stirs]

إِنَّهُۥ لَقَوْلُ رَسُولٍ كَرِيمٍ ﴿١٩﴾

81:19 [That] indeed, it [i.e., the Qur'ān] is a word [conveyed by] a noble messenger [i.e., Gabriel]

ذِى قُوَّةٍ عِندَ ذِى ٱلْعَرْشِ مَكِينٍ ﴿٢٠﴾

81:20 [Who is] possessed of power and with the Owner of the Throne, secure [in position],

مُّطَاعٍ ثَمَّ أَمِينٍ ﴿٢١﴾

81:21 Obeyed there [in the heavens] and trustworthy.

وَمَا صَاحِبُكُم بِمَجْنُونٍ ﴿٢٢﴾

81:22 And your companion [i.e., Prophet Muḥammad (ﷺ)] is not [at all] mad.[1871]

[1871] Literally, "possessed by jinn."

وَلَقَدْ رَءَاهُ بِٱلْأُفُقِ ٱلْمُبِينِ ﴿٢٣﴾

81:23 And he has already seen him [i.e., Gabriel] in the clear horizon.[1872]

[1872] i.e., the eastern horizon, where the sun rises. See footnote to 53:6.

وَمَا هُوَ عَلَى ٱلْغَيْبِ بِضَنِينٍ ﴿٢٤﴾

81:24 And he [i.e., Muḥammad (ﷺ)] is not a withholder of [knowledge of] the unseen.[1873]

[1873] Prophet Muḥammad (ﷺ) did not withhold that knowledge of the unseen which Allāh had revealed to him in the Qur'ān.

وَمَا هُوَ بِقَوْلِ شَيْطَٰنٍ رَّجِيمٍ ﴿٢٥﴾

81:25 And it [i.e., the Qur'ān] is not the word of a devil, expelled [from the heavens].

فَأَيْنَ تَذْهَبُونَ ﴿٢٦﴾

81:26 So where are you going?[1874]

[1874] In your denial of the Qur'ān and in your accusations against the Prophet (ﷺ) . The meaning is essentially "Surely, you have strayed far from Allāh's path."

إِنْ هُوَ إِلَّا ذِكْرٌ لِّلْعَٰلَمِينَ ﴿٢٧﴾

81:27 It is not except a reminder to the worlds

لِمَن شَآءَ مِنكُمْ أَن يَسْتَقِيمَ ﴿٢٨﴾

81:28 For whoever wills among you to take a right course.

وَمَا تَشَآءُونَ إِلَّآ أَن يَشَآءَ ٱللَّهُ رَبُّ ٱلْعَٰلَمِينَ ﴿٢٩﴾

81:29 And you do not will except that Allāh wills - Lord of the worlds.

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