

222. They descend on every lying, sinful person.

223. Who gives ear (to the devils and they pour what they may have heard of the Unseen from the angels), and most of them are liars.

224. As for the poets, the erring ones follow them,

225. See you not that they speak about every subject (praising people — right or wrong) in their poetry?

226. And that they say what they do not do.

227. Except those who believe (in the Oneness of Allâh — Islâmîc Monotheism) and do righteous deeds, and remember Allâh much, and vindicate themselves after they have been wronged [by replying back in poetry to the unjust poetry (which the pagan poets utter against the Muslims)]. And those who do wrong will come to know by what overturning they will be overturned.

Sûrat An-Naml (The Ants) XXVII

*In the Name of Allâh,
the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.*

1. *Tâ-Sîn.*

[These letters are one of the miracles of the Qur'ân, and none but Allâh (Alone) knows their meanings]. These are the Verses of the Qur'ân, and (it is) a Book (that makes things) clear:

2. A guide (to the Right Path) and glad tidings for the believers [who believe in the Oneness of Allâh (i.e. Islâmîc Monotheism)].

3. Those who perform *As-Salât (Iqâmat- as-Salât)* and give *Zakât* and they believe with certainty in the Hereafter (resurrection, recompense of their good and bad deeds, Paradise and Hell).

4. Verily, those who believe not in the Hereafter, We have made their deeds fair-seeming to them, so that they wander about blindly.

5. They are those for whom there will be an evil torment (in this world). And in the Hereafter they will be the greatest losers.

6. And verily, you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) are being taught the Qur'ân from One, All-Wise, All-Knowing.

7. (Remember) when Mûsâ (Moses) said to his household: "Verily, I have seen a fire; I will bring you from there some information, or I will bring you a burning brand, that you may warm yourselves."

8. But when he came to it, he was called: "Blessed is Whosoever is in the fire, and whosoever is round about it! And glorified is Allâh, the Lord of the 'Âlamîn (mankind, jinn and all that exists).

9. "O Mûsâ (Moses)! Verily, it is I, Allâh, the All-Mighty, the All-Wise.

10. "And throw down your stick!" But when he saw it moving as if it were a snake, he turned in flight, and did not look back. (It was said:) "O Mûsâ (Moses)! Fear not: verily, the Messengers fear not in front of Me.

11. "Except him who has done wrong and afterwards has changed evil for good; then surely, I am Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

12. "And put your hand into your bosom, it will come forth white without hurt. (These are) among the nine signs (you will take) to Fir'aun (Pharaoh) and his people. Verily, they are a people who are *Fâsiqûn* (rebellious, disobedient to Allâh).

13. But when Our *Ayât* (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) came to them, clear to see, they said: "This is a manifest magic."

14. And they denied them (those *Ayât*) wrongfully and arrogantly, though their own selves were convinced thereof [i.e. those (*Ayât*) are from Allâh, and Mûsâ (Moses) is the Messenger of Allâh in truth, but they disliked to obey Mûsâ (Moses), and hated to believe in his Message of Monotheism]. So see what was the end of the *Mufsidûn* (disbelievers, disobedient to Allâh, evil-doers and liars.).

15. And indeed We gave knowledge to Dâwûd (David) and Sulaimân (Solomon), and they both said: "All praise and thanks are Allâh's, Who has preferred us to many of His believing slaves!"

16. And Sulaimân (Solomon) inherited (the knowledge of) Dâwûd (David). He said: "O mankind! We have been taught

the language of birds, and on us have been bestowed all things. This, verily, is an evident grace (from Allâh).”

17. And there were gathered before Sulaimân (Solomon) his hosts of jinn and men, and birds, and they all were set in battle order (marching forward).

18. Till, when they came to the valley of the ants, one of the ants said: “O ants! Enter your dwellings, lest Sulaimân (Solomon) and his hosts should crush you, while they perceive not.”

19. So he [Sulaimân (Solomon)] smiled, amused at her speech^[1] and said: “My Lord! Grant me the power and ability that I may be grateful for Your Favours which You have bestowed on me and on my parents, and that I may do righteous good deeds that will please You, and admit me by Your Mercy among Your righteous slaves.”

20. He inspected the birds, and said: “What is the matter that I see not the hoopoe? Or is he among the absentees?”

21. “I will surely punish him with a severe torment, or slaughter him, unless he brings me a clear reason.”

22. But the hoopoe stayed not long: he (came up and) said: “I have grasped (the knowledge of a thing) which you have not grasped and I have come to you from Saba’ (Sheba) with true news.

23. “I found a woman ruling over them: she has been given all things that could be possessed by any ruler of the earth, and she has a great throne.

24. “I found her and her people worshipping the sun instead of Allâh, and *Shaitân* (Satan) has made their deeds fair-seeming to them, and has barred them from (Allâh’s) Way: so they have no guidance.”

25. [As *Shaitân* (Satan) has barred them from Allâh’s Way] so they do not worship (prostrate themselves before) Allâh, Who brings to light what is hidden in the heavens and the earth, and knows what you conceal and what you reveal. [Tafsîr At-Tabarî]

26. Allâh, *Lâ ilâha illa Huwa* (none has the right to be worshipped but He), the Lord of the Supreme Throne!

^[1] (V.27:19) See the footnote of (V.6:143).

27. [Sulaimân (Solomon)] said: "We shall see whether you speak the truth or you are (one) of the liars.

28. "Go you with this letter of mine, and deliver it to them, then draw back from them, and see what (answer) they return."

29. She said: "O chiefs! Verily, here is delivered to me a noble letter,

30. "Verily, it is from Sulaimân (Solomon), and verily, it (reads): In the Name of Allâh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful:

31. "Be you not exalted against me, but come to me as Muslims (true believers who submit to Allâh with full submission).'" "

32. She said: "O chiefs! Advise me in (this) case of mine. I decide no case till you are present with me (and give me your opinions)."

33. They said: "We have great strength, and great ability for war, but it is for you to command: so think over what you will command."

34. She said: "Verily kings, when they enter a town (country), they despoil it and make the most honourable amongst its people the lowest. And thus they do.

35. "But verily, I am going to send him a present, and see with what (answer) the messengers return."

36. So when (the messengers with the present) came to Sulaimân (Solomon), he said: "Will you help me in wealth? What Allâh has given me is better than that which He has given you! Nay, you rejoice in your gift!"

37. [Then Sulaimân (Solomon) said to the chief of her messengers who brought the present]: "Go back to them. We verily shall come to them with hosts that they cannot resist, and we shall drive them out from there in disgrace, and they will be abased."

38. He said: "O chiefs! Which of you can bring me her throne before they come to me surrendering themselves in obedience?"

39. A *'Ifrît* (strong one) from the jinn said: "I will bring it to you before you rise from your place (council). And verily, I am indeed strong, and trustworthy for such work."

40. One with whom was knowledge of the Scripture said: "I will bring it to you within the twinkling of an eye!" Then when he [Sulaimân (Solomon)] saw it placed before him, he said:

“This is by the Grace of my Lord — to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! And whoever is grateful, truly, his gratitude is for (the good of) his ownself; and whoever is ungrateful, (he is ungrateful only for the loss of his ownself). Certainly, my Lord is Rich (Free of all needs), Bountiful.”

41. He said: “Disguise her throne for her that we may see whether she will be guided (to recognise her throne), or she will be one of those not guided.”

42. So when she came, it was said (to her): “Is your throne like this?” She said: “(It is) as though it were the very same.” And [Sulaimân (Solomon) said]: “Knowledge was bestowed on us before her, and we were submitted to Allâh (in Islâm as Muslims before her).”

43. And that which she used to worship besides Allâh has prevented her (from Islâm), for she was of a disbelieving people.

44. It was said to her: “Enter *As-Sarh*” (a glass surface with water underneath it or a palace): but when she saw it, she thought it was a pool, and she (tucked up her clothes) uncovering her legs. (Sulaimân (Solomon)) said: “Verily, it is a *Sarh* (a glass surface with water underneath it or a palace).” She said: “My Lord! Verily, I have wronged myself, and I submit in Islâm, together with Sulaimân (Solomon) to Allâh, the Lord of the *‘Âlamîn* (mankind, jinn and all that exists).”

45. And indeed We sent to Thamûd their brother Sâlih, saying: “Worship Allâh (Alone and none else). Then look! They became two parties (believers and disbelievers) quarreling with each other.”

46. He said: “O my people! Why do you seek to hasten the evil (torment) before the good (Allâh’s Mercy)? Why seek you not the Forgiveness of Allâh, that you may receive mercy?”

47. They said: “We augur ill omen from you and those with you.” He said: “Your ill omen is with Allâh; nay, but you are a people that are being tested.”

48. And there were in the city nine men (from the sons of their chiefs), who made mischief in the land, and would not reform.

49. They said: “Swear one to another by Allâh that we shall make a secret night attack on him and his household, and thereafter we will surely say to his near relatives: ‘We witnessed not the destruction of his household, and verily, we

are telling the truth.”

50. So they plotted a plot, and We plotted a plot, while they perceived not.

51. Then see how was the end of their plot! Verily, We destroyed them and their nation, all together.

52. These are their houses in utter ruin, for they did wrong. Verily, in this is indeed an *Ayâh* (a lesson or a sign) for people who know.

53. And We saved those who believed, and used to fear Allâh, and keep their duty to Him.

54. And (remember) Lût (Lot)! When he said to his people:^[1] “Do you commit *Al-Fâhishah* (evil, great sin, every kind of unlawful sexual intercourse, sodomy) while you see (one another doing evil without any screen)?”

55. “Do you practise your lusts on men instead of women? Nay, but you are a people who behave senselessly.”

* 56. There was no other answer given by his people except that they said: “Drive out the family of Lût (Lot) from your city. Verily, these are men who want to be clean and pure!”

57. So We saved him and his family, except his wife. We destined her to be of those who remained behind.

58. And We rained down on them a rain (of stones). So evil was the rain of those who were warned.

59. Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم): “All Praise and thanks are Allâh’s, and peace be on His slaves whom He has chosen (for His Message)! Is Allâh better, or (all) that they ascribe as partners (to Him)?” (Of course, Allâh is Better).^[2]

^[1] (V.27:54) i.e. the town of Sodom in Palestine - the place where the Dead Sea is now. (See The Stories of the Prophets by *Ibn Kathîr*).

^[2] (V. 27:59) A) Narrated Anas رضى الله عنه: The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “Whoever possesses the following three (qualities) will have the sweetness (delight) of faith:

1) The one to whom Allâh عز وجل and His Messenger (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) become dearer than anything else.

2) Who loves a person and he loves him only for Allâh’s sake.

3) Who hates to revert to *kufir* (disbelief) as he hates to be thrown into the fire.”

(*Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, Vol. 1, *Hadîth* No. 15)

B) Narrated Abû Hurairah رضى الله عنه: Allâh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم was asked,

60. Is not He (better than your gods) Who created the heavens and the earth, and sends down for you water (rain) from the sky, whereby We cause to grow wonderful gardens full of beauty and delight? It is not in your ability to cause the growth of their trees. Is there any *ilâh* (god) with Allâh? Nay, but they are a people who ascribe equals (to Him)!

61. Is not He (better than your gods) Who has made the earth as a fixed abode, and has placed rivers in its midst, and has placed firm mountains therein, and has set a barrier between the two seas (of salt and sweet water)? Is there any *ilâh* (god) with Allâh? Nay, but most of them know not!

62. Is not He (better than your gods) Who responds to the distressed one, when he calls on Him, and Who removes the evil, and makes you inheritors of the earth, generations after generations? Is there any *ilâh* (god) with Allâh? Little is that you remember!

63. Is not He (better than your gods) Who guides you in the darkness of the land and the sea, and Who sends the winds as heralds of glad tidings, going before His Mercy (rain)? Is there any *ilâh* (god) with Allâh? High Exalted is Allâh above all that they associate as partners (to Him)!

64. Is not He (better than your so-called gods) Who originates creation, and shall thereafter repeat it, and Who provides for you from heaven and earth? Is there any *ilâh* (god) with Allâh? Say: "Bring forth your proofs, if you are truthful."

"What is the best deed?" He replied, "To believe in Allâh عز و جل and His Messenger Muhammad." The questioner then asked, "What is the next (in goodness)?" He replied, "To participate in *Jihâd* (holy fighting) in Allâh's Cause." The questioner again asked, "What is the next (in goodness)?" He replied, "To perform *Hajj* (pilgrimage to Makkah) *Mabrûr* (which is accepted by Allâh and is performed with the intention of seeking Allâh's Pleasures only and not to show-off and without committing any sin, and in accordance with the legal ways of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم)." (*Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, Vol. 1, *Hadîth* No. 25)

C) Narrated 'Abdullâh رضى الله عنه : When the following Verse was revealed: "It is those who believe (in the Oneness of Allâh and worship none but Him Alone) and confuse not their belief with *Zulm* (wrong i.e., by worshipping others besides Allâh.)..." (V.6:82), the Companions of Allâh's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, "Who is amongst us who had not done *Zulm* (wrong)?" Then Allâh تعالى revealed: "Verily, joining others in worship with Allâh is a great *Zulm* (wrong) indeed." (V.31:13) (*Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, Vol. 1, *Hadîth* No. 31)

65. Say: "None in the heavens and the earth knows the *Ghaib* (Unseen) except Allâh, nor can they perceive when they shall be resurrected."

66. Nay, they have no knowledge of the Hereafter. Nay, they are in doubt about it. Nay, they are in complete blindness about it.

67. And those who disbelieve say: "When we have become dust — we and our fathers — shall we really be brought forth (again)?"

68. "Indeed we were promised this — we and our forefathers before (us), verily, these are nothing but tales of the ancients."

69. Say to them (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) "Travel in the land and see how has been the end of the *Mujrimûn* (criminals, those who denied Allâh's Messengers and disobeyed Allâh)."

70. And grieve you not over them, nor be straitened (in distress) because of what they plot.

71. And they (the disbelievers in the Oneness of Allâh) say: "When (will) this promise (be fulfilled), if you are truthful?"

72. Say: "Perhaps some of that which you wish to hasten on, may be close behind you.

73. "Verily, your Lord is full of Grace for mankind, yet most of them do not give thanks."

74. And verily, your Lord knows what their breasts conceal and what they reveal.

75. And there is nothing hidden in the heaven and the earth but it is in a Clear Book (i.e. *Al-Lauh Al-Mahfûz*).

76. Verily, this Qur'ân narrates to the Children of Israel most of that in which they differ.

77. And truly, it (this Qur'ân) is a guide and a mercy for the believers.

78. Verily, your Lord will decide between them (various sects) by His Judgement. And He is the All-Mighty, the All-Knowing.

79. So put your trust in Allâh; surely, you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) are on manifest truth.

80. Verily, you cannot make the dead to hear nor can you make the deaf to hear the call (i.e. benefit them and similarly the disbelievers), when they flee, turning their backs.

81. Nor can you lead the blind out of their error. You can only make to hear those who believe in Our *Ayât* (proofs,

evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.), and who have submitted (themselves to Allâh in Islâm as Muslims).

82. And when the Word (of torment) is fulfilled against them, We shall bring out from the earth a beast^{l1} for them, to speak to them because mankind believed not with certainty in Our *Ayât* (Verses of the Qur'ân and Prophet Muhammad صلى عليه وسلم الله).

83. And (remember) the Day when We shall gather out of every nation a troop of those who denied Our *Ayât* (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.), and (then) they (all) shall be driven (to the place of reckoning),

84. Till, when they come (before their Lord at the place of reckoning), He will say: "Did you deny My *Ayât* (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) whereas you comprehended them not by knowledge (of their truth or falsehood), or what (else) was it that you used to do?"

85. And the Word (of torment) will be fulfilled against them, because they have done wrong, and they will be unable to speak (in order to defend themselves).

86. See they not that We have made the night for them to rest therein, and the day sight-giving? Verily, in this are *Ayât* (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) for the people who believe.

87. And (remember) the Day on which the Trumpet will be blown — and all who are in the heavens and all who are on the earth, will be terrified except him whom Allâh will (exempt). And all shall come to Him, humbled.

88. And you will see the mountains and think them solid, but they shall pass away as the passing away of the clouds. The Work of Allâh, Who perfected all things, verily, He is Well-Acquainted with what you do.

89. Whoever brings a good deed (i.e. Belief in the Oneness of Allâh along with every deed of righteousness), will have better than its worth; and they will be safe from the terror on that Day.

90. And whoever brings an evil deed (i.e. *Shirk* — polytheism, disbelief in the Oneness of Allâh and every evil sinful deed), they will be cast down (prone) on their faces in the

^{l1} (V.27:82) See the footnote of (V.6:158).

Fire. (And it will be said to them) “Are you being recompensed anything except what you used to do?”

91. I (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) have been commanded only to worship the Lord of this city (Makkah), Who has sanctified it and to Whom belongs everything. And I am commanded to be from among the Muslims (those who submit to Allâh in Islâm).^[1]

92. And that I should recite the Qur’ân, then whosoever receives guidance, receives it for the good of his ownself; and whosoever goes astray, say (to him): “I am only one of the warners.”

93. And say [(O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) to these polytheists and pagans.]: “All praise and thanks are Allâh’s; He will show you His *Ayât* (signs, in yourselves, and in the universe or punishments), and you shall recognise them. And your Lord is not unaware of what you do.”

Sûrat Al-Qasas (The Narration) XXVIII

*In the Name of Allâh,
the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.*

1. *Tâ-Sîn-Mîm*

[These letters are one of the miracles of the Qur’ân, and none but Allâh (Alone) knows their meanings].

2. These are the Verses of the manifest Book (that makes clear truth from falsehood, good from evil).

3. We recite to you some of the news of Mûsâ (Moses) and Fir’aun (Pharaoh) in truth, for a people who believe (in this Qur’ân, and in the Oneness of Allâh).

4. Verily, Fir’aun (Pharaoh) exalted himself in the land and made its people sects, weakening (oppressing) a group (i.e.

^[1] (V.27:91) :

a) Narrated Ibn ‘Abbâs رضي الله عنهما : On the day of the conquest of Makkah, Allah’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said: “Allah has made this town a sanctuary. Its thorny bushes should not be cut, its game should not be chased, and its fallen things should not be picked up except by one who would announce them publicly.” (*Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, Vol.2, *Hadîth* No.657).

b) See the footnote of (V.2:191).