

Lesson 6 - Surat al Muzzammil (The Wrapped Up)

SURAT AL MUZZAMMIL – VERSES 17-19

(17) فَكَيْفَ تَتَّقُونَ إِنْ كَفَرْتُمْ يَوْمًا يَجْعَلُ الْوِلْدَانَ شِيبًا

So if you disbelieve, how will you avoid the day which will make children white – headed

(18) السَّمَاءُ مُنْفَطِرٌ بِهِ ۚ كَانَ وَعْدُهُ مَفْعُولًا

And wherein the sky will be rent apart?

(19) إِنَّ هَذِهِ تَذْكِرَةٌ ۖ فَمَنْ شَاءَ اتَّخَذْ إِلَىٰ رَبِّهِ سَبِيلًا

This is indeed a reminder. So let anyone who wishes take the way toward his Lord.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES



To reflect on

1. Can we even comprehend what the Day of Judgement will be like?
2. Why are the signs of the Day of Judgement mentioned in the Qur'an?
3. Why do we get reminders?

TAFSIR

Verse 17

This verse talks about the torments which shall be inflicted upon the sinners on the day of judgement. The day shall be so severe, harsh, and horrible that "they shall make the children grow old." The Arabic plural word الْوِلْدَانَ is applied to newly born infants and the Arabic plural word شِيبًا denotes the grey headed and the old. We can understand two meanings for this verse;

1. The severity of the Day of Resurrection shall be such that the newly born infants grow old.
2. That Day shall be so long that the children grow old.

Who is this verse referring to? It is addressed to the disbelievers, warning them that if they disbelieve, how will they be untouched by the Divine torments that even make the children grow old?

It is also reported that some of the horrible afflictions in this world may instantly make people grey-headed. What will you do with the torments which shall be inflicted upon the disobedient on the Day of Resurrection?

Verse 18

There are many verses of the Qur'an that state the different incidents that will happen on the last day in this world and the Hereafter, for example, horrible explosions and severe earthquakes. This verse is one of them that explain one of the signs. The verse briefly states that the heaven and the celestial bodies with their enormous greatness shall not stand the colossal incidents to occur on that day. How will the weak and vulnerable man be able to obstruct such incidents?

Verse 19

This verse warns or reminds the arrogant who are intoxicated by wealth and bounties against four excruciating torments; Shackles and fetters, burning fire, rough, choking and deadly food, different kinds of torments contrasted with bounties in this world, for example – comfortable life, palatable food, and comfort in different forms. Because they made themselves available of all these bounties at the price of wrong doing, arrogance, neglect and disobedience to Allah (swt) – they will have a terrible fate on the Day of Resurrection.

RELEVANT VERSES

Surat Maryam – Verse 39 – *“Warn them of the Day of Regret’ when the matter will be decided, while they are [yet] heedless and do not have faith”*. In this verse the day of Judgement is also known as the ‘Day of Regret’ because the disbelievers will regret on the day of Judgement!

Surat al Talaq – Verse 10 - 11 – *“So it tasted the evil consequence of its conduct, and the outcome of its conduct was ruin. Allah has prepared for them a severe punishment. So be wary of Allah, O you who possess intellect and have faith! Allah has already sent down to you a reminder, an apostle reciting to you the manifest signs of Allah that He may bring out those who have faith and do*

righteous deeds from darkness into light. And whoever has faith in Allah and does righteous deeds, He shall admit them into the gardens with streams running in them, to remain in the forever. Allah has certainly granted him an excellent provision". This verse talks about the reminder! This reminder is the apostle of Allah – The Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). Allah (swt) in this verse states that whoever has faith in Allah (swt) and does righteous deeds, Allah (swt) will grant him an excellent provision.

RELEVANT AHADITH

Imam Ali (as) said, *"He who builds the home of his lasting residence is sensible"*

Ghurar al Hikam, no.8298

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said, *"Work for your life as though you will live forever, and work for the Hereafter as though you will die tomorrow"*

Tanbih al Khawatir, v. 2, page 234

IMPORTANT LESSONS

1. The day of Resurrection is one of the fundamental beliefs in Islam. Each and every single person will be accounted in the day of judgement, so disbelievers especially those who have wronged others will not have a chance to run away!
2. Everything in this world will perish also including human beings – so why have so much arrogance?
3. We have been sent reminders by the merciful Lord to guide us to the straight path.
4. God is Merciful, it is as though he has given us an open book exam. He has stated what will happen to the believers and the disbelievers. He has sent down help for us to guide us and remind us.

ACTIVITY

This can be done ashomework or with the assistance of the respected teacher of the class.

We often recite the Munajat of Imam Ali (as) on the eve of 19th of the Holy Month of Ramadhan (laylatulQadr).

Look at the translation of this Munajaat.

How does Imam Ali (as) describe the Day of Resurrection?

