

Surat Yaasin verse 48-50

Learning Objectives

To reflect on verse 48-50 of Surat Yaasin and understand:

- the challenge of the disbelievers in asking for the coming of Hereafter
- the single cry/blast – the blowing of the First Trumpet
- The quick and sudden end of the world on the command of Allah (swt) – a simple thing for Him!

The First Trumpet!

وَيَقُولُونَ مَتَى هَذَا الْوَعْدُ إِن كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ^{48}

“And they say: When will this threat come to pass, if you are truthful?”

مَا يَنْظُرُونَ إِلَّا صَيْحَةً وَاحِدَةً تَأْخُذُهُمْ وَهُمْ يَخِصِّمُونَ^{49}

“They wait not for aught but a single cry which will overtake them while they yet contend with one another (while they are disputing among themselves)”

فَلَا يَسْتَطِيعُونَ تَوْصِيَةً وَلَا إِلَىٰ أَهْلِهِمْ يَرْجِعُونَ^{50}

“So they shall not be able to make a bequest, nor shall they return to their families”

Continuing from previous verses where Allah (swt) indicates His message signs/bounties and the response and mockery of the disbelievers the same, we now enter the phase of the sura that is discussing the Hereafter.

Disbelievers not only reject the Hereafter but also by way of taunting question as to when the day of judgement would come. The answer to them is that it will come, but never at theirs or anybody else's fancy but only when Allah (swt) wills it.

The disbelievers in Mecca did not have not any proof for the denial of the Hereafter, and only by asking this question that ‘When will be Hereafter’ they not only mock it but also challenge it by saying if you are true then bring it upon us. Ridiculing Islam was a normal habit of theirs.

In answer to this question, which is accompanied with mockery, the Holy Qur’an firmly and earnestly implies that the establishment of the Hereafter and the end of this world is not a complicated matter for Allah and it is not a difficult thing for Him – after all Allah (swt) is the All-Powerful.

This very single great heavenly Cry (Blast) – also referred as the “First Trumpet” is enough to take the soul of every one of them immediately in any place and any state they are, and to change their material exiting lives, which contain disputations and constant quarrels, into a silent world, vacant from any sound and noise – i.e. the End of the World. That’s how simple it is for Allah (swt)!

In Islamic narrations, it has been narrated from the Prophet of Islam (S) that this heavenly Cry/Blast occurs so suddenly that before that the two people who are bargaining and have spread a cloth can role it, the world will end, and there will be some people that, at that moment, have taken some food from the plate, but before it reaches their mouth the heavenly Cry/Blast comes and the world finishes.

It will be so fast that that people will not get a chance to even return home or to their families or to make a last will.

Example of another chapter and verse talking about the blowing of the Trumpet is Surah Az-Zumar verse 68:

وَنُفِخَ فِي الصُّورِ فَصَعِقَ مَنْ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَنْ فِي الْأَرْضِ إِلَّا مَنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ ثُمَّ نُفِخَ فِيهِ أُخْرَىٰ فَإِذَا هُمْ قِيَامٌ يَنْظُرُونَ

“And the trumpet shall be blown, so all those that are in the heavens and all those that are in the earth shall swoon, except such as Allah please; then it shall be blown again, then lo! they shall stand up awaiting.”

Sa-iqa implies "a swoon", loss of all consciousness of being, and cessation of the normal functioning of the powers of feeling. With the first trumpet the living on the earth will die, and the souls of the dead will become unconscious. There will be a new heaven and a new earth. With the second trumpet they will stand in the new world before Allah, then the judgement will begin.

Important Lessons:

- The Hereafter will only occur at the command of Allah (swt) and only He knows the timing
- It will be a sudden single cry (or blast) and that is enough to end all life – this is the First Trumpet
- This is all very easy for the Almighty Allah (swt) as He is the All-Powerful – its just a matter of “Be and It is!
- It will be so quick and sudden that people will not be able even to make a bequest (e.g. will), or return to their houses or to their families.

Discussion/Reflection points:

- “A single Cry” is referred to as the First Trumpet – what could it mean to you?
- “Be and it is” – discuss what this could mean in the context of Allah (swt). Does He need to plan and execute? Does He consider options? Does He need test runs?

Activity ideas:

- Create a chart with ‘Believer’ on one side and ‘Disbeliever’ on the other side. At the time the trumpet is blown, how do you think the disbeliever will feel having come to the sudden realization of what was true? How will a believer feel at this time after being challenged by the disbelievers?

Reference:

<https://www.al-islam.org/enlightening-commentary-light-holy-quran-vol-15/section-3-allahs-bounties-signs-guidance-mankind>

<https://www.al-islam.org/the-heart-of-the-quran-commentary-of-sura-yasin-ayatullah-dastaghaib>

<http://hadith.academyofislam.org>

Maulana Sayyid Muhammad Rizvi - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZweOG2qX50U&t=189s>