

Surat Yaasin verse 51-53

Learning Objectives

To reflect on verse 51-53 of Surat Yaasin and understand:

- The second Trumpet indicating the beginning of the Day of Judgement
- The confusion of the disbelievers on who brought them back to life again
- The process of First and Second Trumpet, the bring back to life – how easy it is for Allah (swt)!

The Second Trumpet!

{51} وَنُفِخَ فِي الصُّورِ فَإِذَا هُمْ مِنَ الْأَجْدَاثِ إِلَىٰ رَبِّهِمْ يَنْسِلُونَ

“And the trumpet shall be blown, when lo! from their graves they shall hasten on to their Lord”

{52} قَالُوا يَا وَيْلَنَا مَنْ بَعَثَنَا مِنْ مَرْقَدِنَا^{سِقَط} هَذَا مَا وَعَدَ الرَّحْمَنُ وَصَدَقَ الْمُرْسَلُونَ

“They shall say: O woe to us! who has raised us up from our sleeping-place? This is what the Beneficent Allah promised and the messengers told the truth”

{53} إِنْ كَانَتْ إِلَّا صَيْحَةً وَاحِدَةً فَإِذَا هُمْ جَمِيعٌ لَدَيْنَا مُحْضَرُونَ

“There would be naught but a single cry, when lo ! they shall all be brought before Us”

In previous lesson where in verse 49 we had the indication of the First Trumpet which will lead to the end of the world and all living creation will die we come to verse 51-53 describing the blowing Second Trumpet and the coming to live of all Creation to gather for the Day of Judgement.

In verse 51, the Qur’an points to the stage of life after death. By the command of Allah (swt), the dust and the rotten bones will have life again and come out from their graves and attend that wonderful court for trial and reckoning. They will have life again and will be quickened by a single Blast, in the same manner that all of them died with a single Blast (blown in the Trumpet). Neither their death nor their being quickened is difficult for Allah (swt).

Just like the trumpet which is blown for the soldiers of the army to gather and be ready, and then, in a short time, they all get up and come out from their tents and attend in the row, the act of raising the dead is, like that, quick for Allah, too. Resurrection, besides having the spiritual aspect, has the bodily aspect, too, and the man’s new body will be made from the same former materials.

In verse 52, the Qur’an indicates the astonishment of the disbelievers (some commentators say it could be the angels and believers) when they will say: *“They shall say: ‘Oh! woe to us! who has raised us up from our sleeping-place? This is what the Beneficent (Allah) promised; and the apostles told the truth.’”*

That which the disbelievers denied in the world, they will confess it on That Day. When the name of Rahman was mentioned in the world they used to ridicule and say: “What is Rahman?”, but on that Day they will say: “This is what the Beneficent (Allah) promised” and they will not have any way except confessing the facts explicitly.

It likens the graves to sleeping-places, and the Resurrection to getting up from sleep. This has also been mentioned in a famous tradition which says:

"You will pass away like that you sleep, and you will be raised as you get up from sleep." ¹

But soon they will realise and remember that the true prophets in the world have given them promise of this Day from the side of Allah. They do indeed confess themselves that it is what the Merciful had promised but they used to mock the Prophets who had come with the true message.

In verse 53, Allah (swt) once again emphasises on how easy this process is for Him and the how quickly it will all happen. There will not need a long time for the dead to be quickened and that they rise from their graves and attend in the just court of Allah, in the same manner that there needs not a long time for the death of individuals. The first Blast is a cry for death and the second Blast is a cry for life and attending in the court of Allah, the Just.

In hadith we have:

The Holy Prophet has said: "The people are asleep, when they die, they will awake."

Important Lessons:

- The First Trumpet is the point where all living creation will die and the Second Trumpet will be the beginning of the Day of Judgement
- All people will be quickly brought from their graves to the gathering place (mahshar) for the judgement in the court of Allah (swt)
- The reaction of the unbelievers when raised will be that of bewilderment/confusion. They had thought there was no life after death but will soon realise the truth
- All of this is very easy for Allah (swt)! He created the first creation from nothing and the bringing back the dead to live for Hereafter is as easy

Discussion/Reflection points:

- How do we perceive sleep in this world and how can we relate that to "waking up" on the Day of Judgement?
- How do you envisage the gathering place (Mahshar) for the Judgement? Similitudes in this world? (Hajj, Arafah)

Activity ideas:

- In pairs, present a two minute conversation between a believer and a disbeliever at the gathering place of the Mashar. What will a disbeliever be experiencing and how will a believer respond to them? Imagine that the disbeliever and believer are walking two parallel paths. They cannot physically cross over to the opposite path but they can converse.

Reference:

1. Tafsir-us-Safi, (old edition), P. 352; and 'Athar-us-Sadiqin, Vol. 21, P. 381

<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>

The two Trumpet blowing— see Surah Az-Zumar, No. 39, verse 68.