

78. And when Our messengers came to Lot, he was grieved on account of them and felt helpless on their behalf and said, 'This is a distressful day.'

وَلَمَّا جَاءَتْ رُسُلُنَا لُوطًا سِيَّئًا بِهِمْ  
وَصَاقَ بِهِمْ دَرْعًا وَقَالَ هَذَا يَوْمٌ  
عَصِيبٌ ﴿٨٧﴾

79. And his people came running towards him, trembling *with rage*; and before this *too* they used to do  
\*evil. He said, 'O my people, these are my daughters; they are purer for you. So fear Allāh and disgrace me not in the presence of my guests. Is there not among you any right-minded man?'

وَجَاءَهُ قَوْمُهُ يُهْرَعُونَ إِلَيْهِ ۖ وَمِنْ  
قَبْلُ كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ السَّيِّئَاتِ ۚ قَالَ  
لِقَوْمِهِ هَؤُلَاءِ بَنَاتِي هُنَّ أَطْهَرُ لَكُمْ  
فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَلَا تُخْزُونِ فِي ضَيْفِي ۚ  
أَلَيْسَ مِنْكُمْ رَجُلٌ رَشِيدٌ ﴿٨٨﴾

80. They answered, 'Thou surely knowest that we have no claim on thy daughters, and thou surely knowest what we desire.'

قَالُوا لَقَدْ عَلِمْتَ مَا لَنَا فِي بَنَاتِكَ مِنْ  
حَقٍّ ۖ وَإِنَّكَ لَتَعْلَمُ مَا نُرِيدُ ﴿٨٩﴾

81. He said, 'Would that I had power to deal with you, or I should betake myself to a mighty support for shelter.'

قَالَ لَوْ أَنِّي بِيَدِي قُوَّةٌ أَوْ إِيَّايَ إِلَى  
رُكْنٍ شَدِيدٍ ﴿٩٠﴾

\*82. The messengers said, 'O Lot, we are the messengers of thy Lord. They shall by no means reach thee.'

قَالُوا لِيُوطِ إِنَّا رُسُلُ رَبِّكَ لَن يَصِلُوا  
إِلَيْكَ فَأَسْرِ بِأَهْلِكَ بِقِطْعٍ مِنَ اللَّيْلِ

\*79. He said, 'O my people, these are my daughters. **They are most chaste for you.** So fear Allāh and **do not disgrace me concerning my guests.** Is there not among you any right-minded man?'

**Note:** It was a most apt and disarming retort to a people who were not interested in the charms of the opposite sex. Virtually women were chaste for them. It is to this that the expression 'most chaste' refers. However the wicked gave this reply a perverted twist and posed as if Lot had offered them his own daughters so that the honour of his guests could be protected at the cost, as if he were inviting them to abuse their innocence. Evidently this reply was a reflection of their perverted nature.

\*82. **Note:** This advice of the visiting messengers indicates that the dialogue between Lot and his people took place in camera and that so far they had no direct access to him or to any one else in the house. Having failed in their attempt they might have intended to revisit Lot better prepared for forcing their entry into the house. This was denied them by the advice of the messengers to Lot that he should depart from the house during the latter part of the night with his members of the family except his wife.

So depart with thy family in a part of the night, and let none of you look back, but thy wife. Surely, what is going to befall them shall also befall her. Verily, their appointed time is the morning. Is not the morning nigh?

83. So when Our command came, We turned that *town* upside down and We rained upon it stones of clay, layer upon layer,

84. Marked for them in the decree of thy Lord. And such *punishment* is not far from the wrongdoers of the present age.

R. 8.

85. And to Midian We sent their brother Shu'aib. He said, 'O my people, worship Allāh. You have no God other than Him. And give not short measure and short weight. I see you in a state of prosperity and I fear for you the punishment of a destructive day.

\*86. 'And O my people, give full measure and full weight with equity, and defraud not people of their things and commit not iniquity in the earth, causing disorder.

87. 'That which is left with you by Allāh is better for you, if you are believers. And I am not a keeper over you.'

\*86. 'And O my people, give full measure and full weight with equity, and do not deprive people of things which by right belong to them and commit not iniquity in the earth, causing disorder.

وَلَا يَلْتَفِتْ مِنْكُمْ أَحَدٌ إِلَّا أَمْرَ أَتَكَ  
إِنَّهُ مُصِيبُهُمْ مَا أَصَابَهُمْ ۖ إِنَّ مَوْعِدَهُمُ  
الصُّبْحُ ۖ أَلَيْسَ الصُّبْحُ بِقَرِيبٍ ﴿٨٣﴾

فَلَمَّا جَاءَ أَمْرُنَا جَعَلْنَا عَالِيَهَا  
سَافِلَهَا وَأَمْطَرْنَا عَلَيْهَا حِجَابًا مِّنْ  
سُجُجٍ ۖ مَّنْضُودٍ ﴿٨٤﴾

مُسَوَّمَةٌ عِنْدَ رَبِّكَ ۖ وَمَا هِيَ مِنَ  
الظَّالِمِينَ بِبَعِيدٍ ﴿٨٥﴾

وَالِى مَدْيَنَ أَخَاهُمْ شُعَيْبًا ۖ قَالَ يَبْنَؤُمْ  
اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مَا لَكُمْ مِّنْ إِلَهِ غَيْرُهُ  
وَلَا تَنقُصُوا الْمِكْيَالَ وَالْمِيزَانَ إِنِّي  
أَرَاكُمْ بِخَيْرٍ وَإِنِّي أَخَافُ عَلَيْكُمْ  
عَذَابَ يَوْمٍ مُّحِيطٍ ﴿٨٦﴾

وَلِيقُومُوا أَوْفُوا الْمِكْيَالَ وَالْمِيزَانَ  
بِالْقِسْطِ ۖ وَلَا تَبْخَسُوا النَّاسَ  
أَشْيَاءَهُمْ وَلَا تَعْتُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ  
مُفْسِدِينَ ﴿٨٧﴾

بَقِيَّتُ اللَّهِ خَيْرٌ لَّكُمْ إِن كُنْتُمْ  
مُؤْمِنِينَ ۚ وَمَا أَنَا عَلَيْكُمْ بِحَفِيظٍ ﴿٨٨﴾

88. They replied, 'O Shu'aib, does thy Prayer bid thee that we should leave what our fathers worshipped, or that we cease to do with our property what we please? Thou art *indeed* very intelligent and right-minded.'

89. He said, 'O my people, tell me: if I stand on a clear evidence from my Lord, and He has provided me from Himself with a handsome provision, *what answer will you give to Him?* And I do not desire to do against you the *very* thing which I ask you not to do. I only desire reform as far as I can. There is no power in me save through Allāh. In Him do I trust and to Him do I return.

90. 'And O my people, let not *your* hostility towards me lead you *to this* that there should befall you the like of that which befell the people of Noah or the people of Hūd or the people of Ṣāliḥ; and the people of Lot are not far from you.

91. 'And seek forgiveness of your Lord; then turn to Him *wholeheartedly*. Verily, my Lord is Merciful, Most Loving.'

92. They replied, 'O Shu'aib, we do not understand much of that which thou sayest, and surely, we see that thou art weak among us. And were it not for thy tribe, we would surely \*stone thee. And thou holdest no strong position among us.'

قَالُوا يَشْعِيبُ أَصْلُوكَ تَأْمُرُكَ أَنْ  
تُتْرِكَ مَا يَعْبُدُ آبَاؤُنَا أَوْ أَنْ نَفْعَلَ  
فِي أَمْوَالِنَا مَا نَشَاءُ ۚ إِنَّكَ لَأَنْتَ  
الْحَلِيمُ الرَّشِيدُ ۝۸۸

قَالَ يَقُومُ أَرَأَيْتُمْ إِنْ كُنْتُ عَلَىٰ بَيِّنَةٍ  
مِّن رَّبِّي وَرَزَقْنِي مِنْهُ رِزْقًا حَسَنًا  
وَمَا أُرِيدُ أَنْ أُخَالِفَكُمْ إِلَىٰ مَا  
أَنْهَكُمْ عَنْهُ ۚ إِنْ أُرِيدُ إِلَّا الْإِصْلَاحَ  
مَا اسْتَطَعْتُ ۚ وَمَا تَوْفِيقِي إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ  
عَلَيْهِ تَوَكَّلْتُ وَإِلَيْهِ أُنِيبُ ۝۸۹

وَيَقُومُ لَا يَجْرِمَنَّكُمْ شِقَاقِي ۚ أَنْ  
يُصِيبَكُمْ مِّثْلُ مَا أَصَابَ قَوْمَ نُوحٍ  
أَوْ قَوْمَ هُودٍ أَوْ قَوْمَ صَالِحٍ ۚ وَمَا قَوْمُ  
لُوطٍ مِنْكُمْ بِبَعِيدٍ ۝۹۰  
وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا رَبَّكُمْ ثُمَّ تُوبُوا إِلَيْهِ  
إِنَّ رَبِّي رَحِيمٌ وَدُودٌ ۝۹۱

قَالُوا يَشْعِيبُ مَا نَفَقَهُ كَثِيرًا مِّمَّا  
تَقُولُ وَ إِنَّا لَنَرَاكَ فِينَا ضَعِيفًا  
وَلَوْ لَا رَهْطُكَ لَرَجَمْنَاكَ ۚ وَمَا  
أَنْتَ عَلَيْنَا بِعَزِيزٍ ۝۹۲

\*92. As for you, you hold no power over us.'