The Tafsīr of Sūrat Al-'Ādiyāt (Chapter - 100)

Which was revealed in Makkah



نسم أة ألكن التحسة

In the Name of Allāh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

﴿ وَالْمُنْدِنَتِ ضَمْحًا اللَّهُ فَٱلْمُورِنَتِ فَدْحَالَ فَٱلْمُعِيرَتِ صُبْحًا اللهِ فَأَثَرُنَ بدٍ. نَقْعَالَ فَوَسَطْنَ بدٍ. جَمَعًا اللهِ ٱلْحَبِّرُ لَشَدِيدُ اللَّهِ الْعَلَا بَعْلَمُ إِذَا بُعْيْرَ مَا فِي ٱلْقُبُورِ فِي وَحُصْلَ مَا فِي ٱلصُّدُودِ ﴿ إِنَّا رَبُّهُم بِهِمْ بَوْمَهِنْرِ لَخَبِيرُ ١٩٠٠)

- €1. By the 'Ādiyāt (steeds), snorting.
- fire.
- 43. And scouring to the raid at dawn.
- 44. And raise the dust in clouds the while.
- 45. And penetrating forthwith as one into the midst.
- **♦6.** Verily, man is ungrateful to his Lord.**♦**
- 47. And to that He bears witness.
- 48. And verily, he is violent in the love of wealth.

- 49. Knows he not that when the contents of the graves are poured forth?
- 410. And that which is in the breasts shall be made known?
- €11. Verily, that Day their Lord will be Well-Acquainted with them.

Swearing by the Horses of War about the Ungratefulness of Man and His Zeal for Wealth

Allāh swears by the horses when they are made to gallop into battle in His path (i.e., Jihād),^[1] and thus they run and pant, which is the sound that is heard from the horse when it runs.

♦Striking sparks of fire. → meaning, the striking of their hooves on the rocks, which causes sparks of fire to fly from them.

⟨And scouring to the raid at dawn.⟩ meaning, the raid that is carried out in the early morning time. This is just as the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ used to perform raids in the early morning. He would wait to see if he heard the Adhān (call to prayer) from the people. If he heard it he would leave them alone, and if he didn't hear it he would attack. Then Allāh says,

And raise the dust in clouds the while. meaning, dust at the place of the battle with the horses.

And penetrating forthwith as one into the midst.
 means, then are all in the middle of that spot, together.
 Allāh's saying;

(And scouring to the raid at dawn.)

Ibn 'Abbās, Mujāhid and Qatādah, all said, "This means the

^[1] Aţ-Ţabari 24:562.

invasion of the horses in the morning in the way of Alläh."[1] And His statement,

(And raise the dust in clouds the while.)

This is the place in which the attack takes place. The dust is stirred up by it.

And His statement,

(And penetrating forthwith as one into the midst.)

Al-'Awfi narrated from Ibn 'Abbās, 'Aṭā, 'Ikrimah, Qatādah and Aḍ-Ḍaḥḥāk that they all said, "This means into the midst of the disbelieving enemy." Concerning Allāh's statement,

♦ Verily, man is ungrateful (Kanūd) to his Lord. ▶

This is the subject what is being sworn about, and it means that he (man) is ungrateful for the favors of His Lord and he rejects them.

Ibn 'Abbās, Mujāhid, Ibrāhīm An-Nakha'i, Abu Al-Jawzâ', Abu Al-'Āliyah, Abu Aḍ-Ḍuḥa, Sa'īd bin Jubayr, Muḥammad bin Qays, Aḍ-Ḍaḥḥāk, Al-Ḥasan, Qatādah, Ar-Rabī' bin Anas and Ibn Zayd all said, "Al-Kanūd means ungrateful." Al-Ḥasan said, "Al-Kanūd is the one who counts the calamities (that befall him) and he forgets Allāh's favors."

Concerning Allāh's statement,

And to that He bears witness. Qatādah and Sufyān Ath-Thawri both said, "And indeed Allāh is a witness to that." It is also possible that the pronoun (He) could be referring to man. This was said by Muḥammad bin Kab Al-Qurazi. Thus, its meaning

^[1] At-Tabari 24:562.

^[2] Aţ-Ṭabari 24:564, 565.

^[3] Aṭ-Ṭabari 24:566.

^[4] At-Tabari 24:566.

^[5] At-Tabari 24:576.

would be that man is a witness himself to the fact that he is ungrateful. This is obvious in his condition, meaning this is apparent from his statements and deeds. This is as Allāh says,

⟨It is not for the idolators, to maintain the Masājid of Allāh, while they witness disbelief against themselves.⟩ (9:17)
Allāh said:

♠And verily, he is violent in the love of wealth. meaning, and indeed in his love of the good, which is wealth, he is severe. There are two opinions concerning this. One of them is that it means that he is severe in his love of wealth. The other view is that it means he is covetous and stingy due to the love of wealth. However, both views are correct.

The Threat about the Hereafter

Then Alläh encourages abstinence from worldly things and striving for the Hereafter, and He informs of what the situation will be after this present condition, and what man will face of horrors. He says,

⟨Knows he not that when the contents of the graves are poured forth?⟩

meaning, the dead that are in it will be brought out.

♦ And that which is in the breasts shall be made known? ▶

Ibn 'Abbās and others have said, "This means what was in their souls would be exposed and made apparent." 11

♦ Verily, that Day their Lord will be Well-Acquainted with them. ▶

meaning, He knows all of that they used to do, and He will

^[1] Aţ-Ţabari 24:569.

compensate them for it with the most deserving reward. He does not do even the slightest amount of injustice.

This is the end of the Tafsīr of Sūrat Al-'Ādiyāt, and all praise and thanks are due to Allāh.