

## The Tafsīr of Sūrat Al-Humazah (Chapter - 104)

**Which was revealed in Makkah**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

﴿رَبِّلْ يَكْفُلِي هَمْزًا لَمْ يَنْفُذْ﴾ ١ الَّذِي جَمَعَ مَالًا وَعَدَّدَهُ ٢ يَحْسَبُ أَنَّ مَالَهُ أَخْلَدَهُ ٣ كَلَّا ٤  
لَيُيْتَذَّنُ فِي الْحُطَمَةِ ٥ وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا الْحُطَمَةُ ٦ نَارُ اللَّهِ الَّتِي تَلْجَأُ الْفُلُوكُ ٧ إِلَيْهَا عَلَىٰ  
الْأَعْقَدِ ٨ إِنَّمَا عَلَيْهِمْ مُّؤَصَّدَةٌ ٩ فِي عَمَرٍ مُّتَدَدٍ ١٠﴾

- ﴿1. Woe to every Humazah Lumazah.﴾
- ﴿2. Who has gathered wealth and counted it.﴾
- ﴿3. He thinks that his wealth will make him last forever!﴾
- ﴿4. But no! Verily, he will be thrown into Al-Huṭamah.﴾
- ﴿5. And what will make you know what Al-Huṭamah is?﴾
- ﴿6. The fire of Allāh, Al-Muqadah.﴾
- ﴿7. Which leaps up over the hearts.﴾
- ﴿8. Verily, it shall Mu'ṣadah upon them.﴾
- ﴿9. In pillars stretched forth.﴾

*Al-Hammāz* refers to (slander) by speech, and *Al-Lammāz* refers to (slander) by action. This means that the person finds fault with people and belittles them. An explanation of this has already preceded in the discussion of Allāh's statement,

﴿هَٰذَا نَقْلًا بِسِيمٍ﴾

﴿*Hammāz, going about with slander*﴾ (68:11)

Ibn 'Abbās said, "*Humazah Lumazah* means one who reviles and disgraces (others)."<sup>[1]</sup> Mujāhid said, "*Al-Humazah* is with the hand and the eye, and *Al-Lumazah* is with the tongue."

<sup>[1]</sup> Aṭ-Ṭabari 24 :596.

Then Allāh says,

﴿الَّذِي جَمَعَ مَالًا وَعَدَّدَهُ﴾

﴿Who has gathered wealth and counted it.﴾

meaning, he gathers it piling some of it on top of the rest and he counts it up. This is similar to Allāh's saying,

﴿وَجَمَعَ نَازِعَةً﴾

﴿And collect (wealth) and hide it.﴾ (70:18) This was said by As-Suddi and Ibn Jarīr.<sup>[1]</sup> Muḥammad bin Ka'b said concerning Allāh's statement,

﴿جَمَعَ مَالًا وَعَدَّدَهُ﴾

﴿gathered wealth and counted it.﴾ "His wealth occupies his time in the day, going from this to that. Then when the night comes he sleeps like a rotting corpse."

Then Allāh says,

﴿يَحْسَبُ أَنَّ مَالَهُ أَخْلَدَهُ﴾

﴿He thinks that his wealth will make him last forever!﴾

meaning, he thinks that gathering wealth will make him last forever in this abode (the worldly life).

﴿لَا﴾

﴿But no!﴾ meaning, the matter is not as he claims, nor as he reckons. Then Allāh says,

﴿يَلْقَىٰ فِي الْخُطَمِ﴾

﴿Verily, he will be thrown into Al-Ḥuṭamah.﴾ meaning, the person who gathered wealth and counted it, will be thrown into Al-Ḥuṭamah, which is one of the descriptive names of the Hellfire. This is because it crushes whoever is in it. Thus, Allāh says,

﴿وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا الْخُطَمُ ۚ نَارُ اللَّهِ الْمُقَدَّةُ ۚ الَّتِي تَطَّلِعُ عَلَى الْأَفْئِدَةِ﴾

﴿And what will make you know what Al-Ḥuṭamah is? The fire of Allāh, Al-Muqadah, which leaps up over the hearts.﴾

Thābit Al-Bunāni said, "It will burn them all the way to their

[1] Aṭ-Ṭabari 24:598, and Al-Qurṭubī 20:138.

hearts while they are still alive." Then he said, "Indeed the torment will reach them." Then he cried. Muḥammad bin Ka'b said, "It (the Fire) will devour every part of his body until it reaches his heart and comes to the level of his throat, then it will return to his body."<sup>[1]</sup>

Concerning Allāh's statement,

﴿إِنَّا عَلَيْهِم مُّؤَصَّدَةٌ﴾

﴿Verily, it shall Mu'ṣadah upon them.﴾ meaning, covering, just as was mentioned in the *Tafsīr* of Sūrat Al-Balad (see 90:20). Then Allāh says,

﴿فِي عَمَدٍ مُّمدَّدَةٍ﴾

﴿In pillars stretched forth.﴾

“Āṭiyah Al-‘Awfi said, “Pillars of Iron.” As-Suddi said, “Made of fire.” Al-‘Awfi reported from Ibn ‘Abbās, “He will make them enter pillars stretched forth, meaning there will be columns over them, and they will have chains on their necks, and the gates (of Hell) will be shut upon them.”<sup>[2]</sup>

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

[1] Al-Qurṭubī 20:185.

[2] Aṭ-Ṭabari 24:600.