

Surah Al-Ma'arij | The Ascending Stairways

Verses: 44

Revelation: makkah

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سَأَلُ سَآمِلُ بِعَذَابٍ وَّاقِعٍ نَ

Asked. a questioner. about a punishment. bound to happen. (1).

1. A supplicant asked for a punishment bound to happen ¹

Footnote 1: - In the Hereafter. Disbelievers had challenged the Prophet (by invoking Allāh to bring on His punishment. See 8:32.

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لِّلُكْفِرِيْنَ لَيْسَ لَهُ دَافِعٌ ﴿

To the disbelievers. not. of it. any preventer. (2).

2. To the disbelievers; of it there is no preventer.

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مِّنَ اللهِ ذِي الْمَعَارِجِ صُ

From. Allah. Owner. (of) the ways of ascent. (3).

3. [It is] from Allāh, owner of the ways of ascent.

4 تَعْرُجُ الْمَلْبِكَةُ وَالرُّوْحُ النَّهِ فِي يَوْمِ كَانَ وَعُرْجُ الْمَلْبِكَةُ وَالرُّوْحُ النَّهِ فِي يَوْمِ كَانَ مِقْدَارُهُ خَمْسِيْنَ الْفَ سَنَةٍ قَ

Ascend. the Angels. and the Spirit. to Him. in. a Day. [is]. its measure. (is) fifty. thousand. year(s). (4).

4. The angels and the Spirit [i.e., Gabriel] will ascend to Him during a Day the extent of which is fifty thousand years.

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فَأَصْبِرُ صَبُرًا جَمِيلًا ٥

So be patient. a patience. good. (5).

5. So be patient with gracious patience.

6

اِنَّهُمْ يَرَوْنَهُ بَعِيْلًا نَ

Indeed, they. see it. (as) far off. (6).

6. Indeed, they see it [as] distant,

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وَّنَرْبُهُ قَرِيْبًا فَ

But We see it. near. (7).

7. But We see it [as] near.

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يَوْمَ تَكُونَ السَّمَآءُ كَالْمُهُلِ ﴿

(The) Day . will be. the sky. like molten copper. (8).

8. On the Day the sky will be like murky oil, ¹

Footnote 1: - Or "molten metal."

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وَتَكُونُ الْجِبَالُ كَالْعِهْنِ نَ

And will be. the mountains. like wool. (9).

9. And the mountains will be like wool, ¹

8

Q

Footnote 1: - i.e., in the process of disintegration.

And not. will ask. a friend. (about) a friend. (10).

10. And no friend will ask [anything of] a friend,

They will be made to see each other. Would wish. the criminal. if. he (could be) ransomed. from. (the) punishment. (of) that Day. by his children. (11).

11. They will be shown each other. The criminal will wish that he could be ransomed from the punishment of that Day by his children

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وصاحِبَتِه وَأَخِيْهِ سَ

And his spouse. and his brother. (12).

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وَفَصِيْلَتِهِ الَّذِي تُعُوِيْهِ سَ

And his nearest kindred. who. sheltered him. (13).

13. And his nearest kindred who shelter him

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And whoever. (is) on. the earth. all. then. it (could) save him. (14).

14. And whoever is on earth entirely [so] then it could save him.

Pg.569 15 كُلُّ النَّهَا لَظَى شَ

By no means. Indeed, it (is). surely a Flame of Hell. (15).

15. No! Indeed, it is the Flame [of Hell],

Footnote 1: - An emphatic refusal meaning "It is not to be."

16

نَزَّاعَةً لِّلشَّوٰى اللهُ

A remover. of the skin of the head. (16).

16. A remover of exteriors.¹

Footnote 1: - This refers to the skin of the head or of the body or to the body extremities - which will be burned away.

Inviting. (him) who. turned his back. and went away. (17).

17. It invites he who turned his back [on truth] and went away [from obedience]

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18

رُجُنَعُ فَأَوْعَى شَ

And collected. and hoarded. (18).

18. And collected [wealth] and hoarded.

اِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ خُلِقَ هَلُوْعًا قَ اِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ خُلِقَ هَلُوْعًا قَ Indeed. the man. was created. anxious . (19).

19. Indeed, mankind was created anxious:

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When. touches him. the evil. distressed. (20).

20. When evil touches him, impatient,

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وَّإِذَا مَسَّهُ الْخَيْرُ مَنْوُعًا شَ

And when touches him the good withholding (21).

21. And when good touches him, withholding [of it],

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إلَّا الْمُصَلِّينَ شَ

Except. those who pray . (22).

22. Except the observers of prayer -

23

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Those who. [they]. at. their prayer. (are) constant. (23).

23. Those who are constant in their prayer

24 وَالَّذِينَ فِيُ اَمُوالِهِمْ حَقَّ مَعُلُوْمٌ شَّ مُعُلُومٌ شَّ وَالْهِمْ حَقَّ مَعُلُومٌ شَ

And those who. in. their wealth. (is) a right. known. (24).

24. And those within whose wealth is a known right¹

Footnote 1: - i.e., a specified share, meaning the obligatory zakāh.

Pg.569 كل كل كالسكايل والمكروم الله كالسكايل والمكروم الله كالسكايل والمكروم الله كالسكايل والمكروم الله كالمكروم الكروم الكروم

For the one who asks. and the deprived. (25).

25. For the petitioner and the deprived -

26 26 وَالَّانِيْنَ يُصَرِّقُونَ بِيَوْمِ الرِّيْنِ شَ

And those who. accept (the) truth. (of the) Day. (of) the Judgment. (26). 26. And those who believe in the Day of Recompense

رِينَ هُمُ مِّنَ عَنَابِ رَبِّهِمُ مُّ

And those who. [they]. of. (the) punishment. (of) their Lord. (are) fearful. (27).

27. And those who are fearful of the punishment of their Lord -

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Indeed. (the) punishment. (of) your Lord. (is) not. to be felt secure (of). (28).

28. Indeed, the punishment of their Lord is not that from which one is safe -

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And those who. [they]. their modesty. (are) guardians. (29).

29. And those who guard their private parts

الله على أزواجِهِمْ أوْ مَا مَلَكُتْ أَيْمَانُهُمْ فَا اللهُ عَلَى اللهُ اللهُولِي اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ اللهُ

Except. from. their spouses. or. what. they possess. rightfully. then indeed, they. (are) not. blameworthy. (30).

30. Except from their wives or those their right hands possess, 1 for indeed, they are not to be blamed -

Footnote 1: - i.e., female slaves.

31 فَكُنِ ابْتَغَى وَرَآءَ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَٰبِكَ هُمُ الْحُلُهُ فَى ابْتَغَى وَرَآءَ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَٰبِكَ هُمُ الْحُلُهُ فَى الْحُلُهُ فَى الْحَلُهُ فَى اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ فَى اللَّهُ الل

But whoever. seeks. beyond. that. then those. [they]. (are) the transgressors . (31).

31. But whoever seeks beyond that, then they are the transgressors -

And those who. [they]. of their trusts. and their promise. (are) observers. (32).

32. And those who are to their trusts and promises attentive

33 وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ بِشَهْلَ تِهِمْ قَاعِبُونَ شَ

And those who. [they]. in their testimonies. stand firm. (33).

33. And those who are in their testimonies upright

على صَلَاتِهِمْ يُحَافِظُونَ شَّ عَلَى صَلَاتِهِمْ يُحَافِظُونَ شَّ وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَلَى صَلَاتِهِمْ يُحَافِظُونَ شَ

And those who. [they]. on. their prayer. keep a guard . (34).

34. And those who [carefully] maintain their prayer:

اولنيك في جنت مكرمون هي عند الموات عند الموات المو

Those. (will be) in. Gardens. honored. (35).

35. They will be in gardens, honored.

Footnote 1: - In Paradise.

36 فَمَالِ الَّذِيْنَ كَفَرُوْا قِبَلَكَ مُهْطِعِيْنَ شَ

So what is with those who disbelieve before you. (they) hasten. (36). 36. So what is [the matter] with those who disbelieve, hastening [from] before you, [O Muḥammad],

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عَنِ الْيَمِينِ وَعَنِ الشِّمَالِ عِزِيْنَ ﴿

On. the right. and on. the left. (in) separate groups. (37).

37. [To sit] on [your] right and [your] left in separate groups?¹

Footnote 1: - They sat at a distance in order to oppose and mock the Prophet (), claiming that they would enter Paradise before the believers.

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3

أَيُظْمَعُ كُلَّ امْرِيٍّ مِنْهُمُ أَنْ يُنْخُلَ جَنَّةً نَعِيْمٍ ﴿

Does long. every. person. among them. that. he enters. a Garden. (of) Delight. (38).

38. Does every person among them aspire to enter a garden of pleasure?

By no means. Indeed, We. [We] have created them. from what. they know. (39).

39. No! Indeed, We have created them from that which they know.¹

Footnote 1: - i.e., a liquid disdained. So how can they expect to enter Paradise except by the will of their Creator?

But nay. I swear. by (the) Lord. (of) the risings. and the settings. that We. (are) surely Able. (40).

40. So I swear by the Lord of [all] risings and settings¹ that indeed We are able

Footnote 1: - i.e., Allāh (subḥānahu wa taʿālā), who determines the point at which the sun, moon and stars rise and set according to season and every position of observation.

41 عَلَى أَنْ نَّبَرِّلَ خَيْرًا مِّنْهُمْ ' وَمَا نَحْنُ بِمَسْبُوْقِيْنَ ﴿

[On]. to. [We] replace. (with) better. than them. and not. We. (are) to be outrun. (41).

41. To replace them with better than them; and We are not to be outdone.

42 فَنَرُهُمْ يَخُوْضُوا وَيَلْعَبُوا حَتَّى يُلْقُوا يَوْمَهُمُ الَّانِيُ يُوْعَلُونَ شَ

So leave them. (to) converse vainly. and amuse themselves. until. they meet. their Day. which. they are promised. (42).

42. So leave them to converse vainly and amuse themselves until they meet their Day which they are promised -

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يُؤمَّر يَخُرُجُونَ مِنَ الْأَجْدَاثِ سِرَاعًا كَانَّهُمُ إِلَى نُصُبِ يُوفِضُونَ ﴿

(The) Day. they will come out. from. the graves. rapidly. as if they (were). to. a goal. hastening. (43).

43. The Day they will emerge from the graves rapidly as if they were, toward an erected idol, hastening.¹

Footnote 1: - i.e., just as they used to race, whenever an idol was newly appointed, to be the first of its worshippers.

44 خَاشِعَةً اَبْصَارُهُمْ تَرْهَقُهُمْ ذِلَّةٌ ذَٰلِكَ خَاشِعَةً اَبْصَارُهُمْ تَرْهَقُهُمْ ذِلَّةٌ ذَٰلِكَ الْيَوْمُ الَّذِي كَانُوا يُوْعَدُونَ ﴿

Humbled. their eyesights. will cover them. humiliation. That. (is) the Day. which. they were. promised. (44).

44. Their eyes humbled, humiliation will cover them. That is the Day which they had been promised.