

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْوُلْدِ أَدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيَرْضَى بِأَنْ يُصَلَّى عَلَيْهِ



TAFSIR OF AHLUS SUNNAH

Through the Centuries

Surah Al-Naazi'aat 79 : Verse No. 27-33



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MUSJIDUL HAQ RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

48 Van Der Riet Street | Uitenhage | Port Elizabeth / Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (South Africa)

ءَأَنْتُمْ أَشَدُّ خَلْقًا أَمِ السَّمَاءُ ط بَنِيهَا ٢٢

Whether according to your wisdom, the creation of yours is difficult or the heaven that He has built?

رَفَعَ سَمُكَهَا فَسَوَّيَهَا ٢٨

He has raised high its vault and made it perfect.

وَ أَغْطَشَ لَيْلَهَا وَ أَخْرَجَ ضُحَاهَا ٢٩

And He has made its night dark and its sunshine bright.

وَ الْأَرْضَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ دَحَاهَا ٣٠

And after that he spread out the earth.

أَخْرَجَ مِنْهَا مَاءَهَا وَ مَرْعَاهَا ٣١

He brought forth therefrom its water and its pasture.

وَ الْجِبَالَ أَرْسَاهَا ٣٢

And set firmly the mountains;

مَتَاعًا لَكُمْ وَ لِأَنْعِمِكُمْ ٣٣

For your benefit and for your cattle.

أَعْلَمُ أَنَّهُ تَعَالَى لَنَا خَتَمَ هَذِهِ الْقِصَّةَ رَجَعَ إِلَى مُخَاطَبَةِ مُنْكَرِي الْبُعْثِ
أَنَّهُ اسْتِدْلَالٌ عَلَى مُنْكَرِي الْبُعْثِ فَقَالَ:

أَأَنْتُمْ أَشَدُّ خُلُقًا أَمْ السَّمَاءُ

فَنَبَّهَهُمْ عَلَى أَمْرٍ يُعَلِّمُ بِالشَّاهِدَةِ. وَذَلِكَ لِأَنَّ خَلْقَةَ الْإِنْسَانِ عَلَى صِغَرِهِ وَضَعْفِهِ، إِذَا أُضِيفَ إِلَى خَلْقِ السَّمَاءِ عَلَى عَظَمِهَا وَعِظَمِ أَحْوَالِهَا يَسِيرٌ قَبِيحٌ تَعَالَى أَنْ يَخْلُقَ السَّمَاءَ أَكْبَرَ، وَإِذَا كَانَ كَذَلِكَ فَخَلْقُهُمْ عَلَى وَجْهِ الْإِعَادَةِ أَوْلَى أَنْ يَكُونَ مَقْدُورًا لِلَّهِ تَعَالَى فَكَيْفَ يُنْكِرُونَ ذَلِكَ

وَنَظِيرُهُ قَوْلُهُ:

أَوَلَيْسَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ بِقَادِرٍ عَلَى أَنْ يَخْلُقَ مِثْلَهُمْ [يس: 81] وَقَوْلُهُ:

لَخَلْقُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ أَكْبَرُ مِنْ خَلْقِ النَّاسِ [غافر: 57]

وَالْبَعْنَى أَخْلَقَكُمْ بَعْدَ الْمَوْتِ أَشَدُّ أَمْ خَلَقَ السَّمَاءَ أَمَّا عِنْدَكُمْ

Know, that when Allah Almighty concluded this story, He turned to address the rejectors of the resurrection.

It is indeed a proof against the rejectors of the resurrection, as He stated:

أَأَنْتُمْ أَشَدُّ خُلُقًا أَمْ السَّمَاءُ ط بَنِيهَا ۚ

Whether according to your wisdom, the creation of yours is difficult or the heaven that He has built?
(Al-Nazi'at 79, Verse 27)

He then made them aware of the things that are known by way of seeing and believing, and it is a fact that the creation of mankind is least significant as opposed to the creation of the heavens due to its greatness and significance. The Almighty has described that the creation of the heavens are definitely greater. And when this is the case then to resurrect the creation of mankind is assuredly something very logical for Allah Almighty to achieve. How can they ever deny this!

Its example can be found in the following statement of the Almighty:

أَوْ لَيْسَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمُوتِ وَالْأَرْضَ بِقَدِيرٍ عَلَى أَنْ
يَخْلُقَ مِثْلَهُمْ ۚ بَلَىٰ ۚ وَهُوَ الْخَلَّاقُ الْعَلِيمُ ﴿٨١﴾

And what! He who created the heavens and the earth cannot make the like of them. Why not, and He is the Great Creator, all Knowing.
(Yaseen 36, Verse 81)

And

لَخَلْقُ السَّمُوتِ وَالْأَرْضِ أَكْبَرُ مِنْ خَلْقِ النَّاسِ وَلَكِنَّ
أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٥٧﴾

Ofcourse, the creation of the heavens and the earth is greater than the creation of mankind, but most of the people know not.
(Al-Mu'min 40, Verse 57)

The meaning of this is: So according to you, is your re-creation after death greater or the creation of the heavens?

وَالْأَرْضُ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ دَحَاهَا --

رَوَى عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ عُمَرَ «خَلَقَ اللَّهُ الْبَيْتَ قَبْلَ الْأَرْضِ بِأَلْفِ سَنَةٍ، وَمِنْهُ دُحِيتِ
الْأَرْضُ»

And after that he spread out the earth...
Sayyiduna 'Abdullah ibn 'Umar – may Allah be pleased with them – is reported to have said:
Allah Almighty created the Holy Ka'bah one thousand years prior to the expansion of the earth, and then from it the earth was laid out.

ثُمَّ إِنَّهُ تَعَالَى لَهَا بَيِّنَ كَيْفِيَّةَ خَلْقِهِ الْأَرْضَ وَكَيْفِيَّةَ مَنَافِعِهَا قَالَ: مَتَاعًا لَكُمْ وَلِأَنْعَامِكُمْ
وَالْبَعْنَى أَنَّا إِنَّمَا خَلَقْنَا هَذِهِ الْأَشْيَاءَ مُتَعَةً وَمَنْفَعَةً لَكُمْ وَلِأَنْعَامِكُمْ، أَنَّ أَفْعَالَ اللَّهِ
وَأَحْكَامَهُ مُعَلَّلَةٌ بِالْأَعْرَاضِ وَالْبَصَالِحِ
وَأَعْلَمُ أَنَّا بَيَّنَّا أَنَّهُ تَعَالَى إِنَّمَا ذَكَرَ كَيْفِيَّةَ خَلْقِهِ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضَ لِيُسْتَدَلَّ بِهَا عَلَى كَوْنِهِ
قَادِرًا عَلَى الْحَشْرِ وَالنَّشْرِ

When Allah Almighty concluded the description of the nature of the earth's creation and its benefits, He stated:

مَتَاعًا لَكُمْ وَلِأَنْعَامِكُمْ

For your benefit and for your cattle.
(Al-Nazi'aat 79, Verse 33)

i.e. We have created these things for the sake of your benefit and for the benefit of your cattle. Indeed, the actions of Allah Almighty are His commandments are purposeful and beneficial.

Know, that Allah Almighty described the creation of the heavens and the earth to prove through it His power to resurrect and judge (on the Day of Judgment).

Tafsir al-Kabeer (Mafateeh al-Ghaib) of Imam Fakhruddin Muhammad ibn Umar al-Raazi al-Shafe'i رحمه الله D. 606 A.H.

Tafsir al-Qurtubi

تفسير القرطبي

وَالْأَرْضَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ دَحَاهَا --

وَعَنِ ابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ: خَلَقَ اللَّهُ الْكُعْبَةَ وَوَضَعَهَا عَلَى الْبَاءِ عَلَى أَرْبَعَةِ أَرْكَانٍ، قَبْلَ أَنْ يَخْلُقَ
الدُّنْيَا بِأَلْفِ عَامٍ، ثُمَّ دَحَيْتِ الْأَرْضَ مِنْ تَحْتِ الْبَيْتِ.

And after that he spread out the earth...

Sayyiduna Ibn 'Abbas – may Allah be pleased with them – is reported to have said:

Allah Almighty created the Holy Ka'bah and He built it on water on four corners one thousand years prior to the creation of the world, then the earth was laid out from beneath the Holy Ka'bah.

Tafsir Qurtubi (Al-Jame' Li Ahkaam al-Quran) Imam Shamsuddin Muhammad ibn Ahmad al-Qurtubi ر.ه. د. 671 A.H.