

## *Sūrah al-Hijr*<sup>613</sup>

### *Bismillāhir-Raḥmānir-Raḥeem*

1. Alif, Lām, Rā.<sup>614</sup> These are the verses of the Book and a clear Qur'ān [i.e., recitation].
2. Perhaps those who disbelieve will wish<sup>615</sup> that they had been Muslims.
3. Let them eat and enjoy themselves and be diverted by [false] hope, for they are going to know.
4. And We did not destroy any city but that for it was a known decree.
5. No nation will precede its term, nor will they remain thereafter.
6. And they say, "O you upon whom the message has been sent down, indeed you are mad."<sup>616</sup>
7. Why do you not bring us the angels, if you should be among the truthful?"
8. We do not send down the angels except with truth;<sup>617</sup> and they [i.e., the disbelievers] would not then be reprieved.
9. Indeed, it is We who sent down the message [i.e., the Qur'ān], and indeed, We will be its guardian.
10. And We had certainly sent [messengers] before you, [O Muḥammad], among the sects of the former peoples.
11. And no messenger would come to them except that they ridiculed him.
12. Thus do We insert it [i.e., denial] into the hearts of the criminals.

<sup>613</sup> *Al-Hijr*: The Valley of Stone. It was inhabited by the tribe of Thamūd (mentioned in verses 80-84), who carved palaces and dwellings out of the rock.

<sup>614</sup> See footnote to 2:1.

<sup>615</sup> On the Day of Judgement or at the time of death.

<sup>616</sup> Literally, "possessed by *jinn*."

<sup>617</sup> i.e., with a message or, as the conclusion of the verse suggests, to carry out a promised punishment.

13. They will not believe in it, while there has already occurred the precedent of the former peoples.
14. And [even] if We opened to them a gate from the heaven and they continued therein to ascend,
15. They would say, "Our eyes have only been dazzled. Rather, we are a people affected by magic."
16. And We have placed within the heaven great stars and have beautified it for the observers.
17. And We have protected it from every devil expelled [from the mercy of Allāh]
18. Except one who steals a hearing and is pursued by a clear burning flame.
19. And the earth – We have spread it and cast therein firmly set mountains and caused to grow therein [something] of every well-balanced thing.
20. And We have made for you therein means of living and [for] those for whom you are not providers.<sup>618</sup>
21. And there is not a thing but that with Us are its depositories, and We do not send it down except according to a known [i.e., specified] measure.
22. And We have sent the fertilizing winds<sup>619</sup> and sent down water from the sky and given you drink from it. And you are not its retainers.
23. And indeed, it is We who give life and cause death, and We are the Inheritor.<sup>620</sup>
24. And We have already known the preceding [generations] among you, and We have already known the later [ones to come].

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<sup>618</sup> Allāh has put at your service other men and animals for which He provides. An additional meaning is that Allāh provides means for your living and for all other creatures as well.

<sup>619</sup> Causing precipitation in rainclouds or carrying pollen. Another meaning is "pregnant winds," i.e., those carrying rainclouds.

<sup>620</sup> Allāh (*subḥānahu wa ta'ālā*) remains after all creation has passed away.