

62. So they disputed over their affair among themselves and concealed their private conversation.
63. They said, "Indeed, these are two magicians who want to drive you out of your land with their magic and do away with your most exemplary way [i.e., religion or tradition]."
64. So resolve upon your plan and then come [forward] in line. And he has succeeded today who overcomes."
65. They said, "O Moses, either you throw or we will be the first to throw."
66. He said, "Rather, you throw." And suddenly their ropes and staffs seemed to him from their magic that they were moving [like snakes].
67. And he sensed within himself apprehension, did Moses.
68. We [i.e., Allāh] said, "Fear not. Indeed, it is you who are superior.
69. And throw what is in your right hand; it will swallow up what they have crafted. What they have crafted is but the trick of a magician, and the magician will not succeed wherever he is."
70. So the magicians fell down in prostration.⁷⁸² They said, "We have believed in the Lord of Aaron and Moses."
71. [Pharaoh] said, "You believed him [i.e., Moses] before I gave you permission. Indeed, he is your leader who has taught you magic. So I will surely cut off your hands and your feet on opposite sides, and I will crucify you on the trunks of palm trees, and you will surely know which of us is more severe in [giving] punishment and more enduring."
72. They said, "Never will we prefer you over what has come to us of clear proofs and [over] He who created us."⁷⁸³ So decree whatever you are to decree. You can only decree for this worldly life.

⁷⁸²After they had seen the miracles which Allāh had given Moses and that they were realities and not merely impressions of magic.

⁷⁸³This phrase has also been interpreted as an oath, i.e., "...by Him who created us."

73. Indeed, we have believed in our Lord that He may forgive us our sins and what you compelled us [to do] of magic. And Allāh is better and more enduring.⁷⁸⁴
74. Indeed, whoever comes to his Lord as a criminal – indeed, for him is Hell; he will neither die therein nor live.
75. But whoever comes to Him as a believer having done righteous deeds – for those will be the highest degrees [in position]:
76. Gardens of perpetual residence beneath which rivers flow, wherein they abide eternally. And that is the reward of one who purifies himself.⁷⁸⁵
77. And We had inspired to Moses, "Travel by night with My servants and strike for them a dry path through the sea; you will not fear being overtaken [by Pharaoh] nor be afraid [of drowning]."
78. So Pharaoh pursued them with his soldiers, and there covered them from the sea that which covered them,⁷⁸⁶
79. And Pharaoh led his people astray and did not guide [them].
80. O Children of Israel, We delivered you from your enemy, and We made an appointment with you⁷⁸⁷ at the right side of the mount, and We sent down to you manna and quails,
81. [Saying], "Eat from the good things with which We have provided you and do not transgress [or oppress others] therein, lest My anger should descend upon you. And he upon whom My anger descends has certainly fallen [i.e., perished]."
82. But indeed, I am the Perpetual Forgiver of whoever repents and believes and does righteousness and then continues in guidance.
83. [Allāh said], "And what made you hasten from your people, O Moses?"

⁷⁸⁴In reward and in punishment.

⁷⁸⁵From all uncleanness, the greatest of which is worship and obedience to other than Allāh.

⁷⁸⁶i.e., not only the water but that which only Allāh knows – terror, pain, regret, etc.

⁷⁸⁷i.e., with your prophet, to receive the scripture for you.