

*Sūrah Saba'*¹¹³⁸

Bismillāhir-Raḥmānir-Raḥeem

1. [All] praise is [due] to Allāh, to whom belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth, and to Him belongs [all] praise in the Hereafter. And He is the Wise, the Acquainted.
2. He knows what penetrates into the earth and what emerges from it and what descends from the heaven and what ascends therein. And He is the Merciful, the Forgiving.
3. But those who disbelieve say, "The Hour will not come to us." Say, "Yes, by my Lord, it will surely come to you. [Allāh is] the Knower of the unseen." Not absent from Him is an atom's weight¹¹³⁹ within the heavens or within the earth or [what is] smaller than that or greater, except that it is in a clear register –
4. That He may reward those who believe and do righteous deeds. Those will have forgiveness and noble provision.
5. But those who strive against Our verses [seeking] to cause failure¹¹⁴⁰ – for them will be a painful punishment of foul nature.
6. And those who have been given knowledge see that what is revealed to you from your Lord is the truth, and it guides to the path of the Exalted in Might, the Praiseworthy.
7. But those who disbelieve say, "Shall we direct you to a man who will inform you [that] when you have disintegrated in complete disintegration, you will [then] be [recreated] in a new creation?"
8. Has he invented about Allāh a lie or is there in him madness?" Rather, they who do not believe in the Hereafter will be in the punishment and [are in] extreme error.

¹¹³⁸*Saba'*: (The People of) Saba' or Sabeans.

¹¹³⁹Or "the weight of a small ant."

¹¹⁴⁰i.e., to undermine their credibility in order to defeat the Prophet (ﷺ).

9. Then, do they not look at what is before them and what is behind them of the heaven and earth? If We should will, We could cause the earth to swallow them or [could] let fall upon them fragments from the sky. Indeed in that is a sign for every servant turning back [to Allāh].
10. And We certainly gave David from Us bounty. [We said], "O mountains, repeat [Our] praises with him, and the birds [as well]." And We made pliable for him iron,
11. [Commanding him], "Make full coats of mail and calculate [precisely] the links, and work [all of you] righteousness. Indeed I, of what you do, am Seeing."
12. And to Solomon [We subjected] the wind – its morning [journey was that of] a month – and its afternoon [journey was that of] a month, and We made flow for him a spring of [liquid] copper. And among the jinn were those who worked for him by the permission of his Lord. And whoever deviated among them from Our command – We will make him taste of the punishment of the Blaze.
13. They made for him what he willed of elevated chambers,¹¹⁴¹ statues,¹¹⁴² bowls like reservoirs, and stationary kettles. [We said], "Work, O family of David, in gratitude." And few of My servants are grateful.
14. And when We decreed for him [i.e., Solomon] death, nothing indicated to them [i.e., the jinn] his death except a creature of the earth eating his staff.¹¹⁴³ But when he fell, it became clear to the jinn that if they had known the unseen, they would not have remained in humiliating punishment.¹¹⁴⁴
15. There was for [the tribe of] Saba' in their dwelling place a sign:

¹¹⁴¹ Described by commentators as palaces, dwellings, or places of prayer.

¹¹⁴² Which were not prohibited until the time of Prophet Muḥammad (ﷺ).

¹¹⁴³ Upon which he was leaning at the time of his death. A termite continued to gnaw into the stick until it collapsed under his weight.

¹¹⁴⁴ i.e., hard labor. This verse is evidence that the *jinn* do not possess knowledge of the unseen, which belongs exclusively to Allāh (*subḥānahu wa ta'ālā*).