

15. They said, "You are not but human beings like us, and the Most Merciful has not revealed a thing. You are only telling lies."
16. They said, "Our Lord knows that we are messengers to you,
17. And we are not responsible except for clear notification."
18. They said, "Indeed, we consider you a bad omen. If you do not desist, we will surely stone you, and there will surely touch you, from us, a painful punishment."
19. They said, "Your omen [i.e., fate] is with yourselves. Is it¹¹⁷⁹ because you were reminded? Rather, you are a transgressing people."
20. And there came from the farthest end of the city a man, running. He said, "O my people, follow the messengers.
21. Follow those who do not ask of you [any] payment, and they are [rightly] guided.
22. And why should I not worship He who created me and to whom you will be returned?
23. Should I take other than Him [false] deities [while], if the Most Merciful intends for me some adversity, their intercession will not avail me at all, nor can they save me?
24. Indeed, I would then be in manifest error.
25. Indeed, I have believed in your Lord, so listen to me."
26. It was said, "Enter Paradise."¹¹⁸⁰ He said, "I wish my people could know
27. Of how my Lord has forgiven me and placed me among the honored."
28. And We did not send down upon his people after him any soldiers from the heaven, nor would We have done so.

¹¹⁷⁹Your threat against us.

¹¹⁸⁰An abrupt transfer to the Hereafter conveys the meaning that the man met a violent death at the hands of the disbelievers and so was martyred for the cause of Allāh.

29. It was not but one shout,¹¹⁸¹ and immediately they were extinguished.
30. How regretful for the servants. There did not come to them any messenger except that they used to ridicule him.
31. Have they not considered how many generations We destroyed before them – that they to them¹¹⁸² will not return?
32. And indeed, all of them will yet be brought present before Us.
33. And a sign for them is the dead earth. We have brought it to life and brought forth from it grain, and from it they eat.
34. And We placed therein gardens of palm trees and grapevines and caused to burst forth therefrom some springs –
35. That they may eat of His fruit.¹¹⁸³ And their hands have not produced it,¹¹⁸⁴ so will they not be grateful?
36. Exalted is He who created all pairs¹¹⁸⁵ – from what the earth grows and from themselves and from that which they do not know.
37. And a sign for them is the night. We remove¹¹⁸⁶ from it the [light of] day, so they are [left] in darkness.
38. And the sun runs [on course] toward its stopping point. That is the determination of the Exalted in Might, the Knowing.
39. And the moon – We have determined for it phases, until it returns [appearing] like the old date stalk.
40. It is not allowable [i.e., possible] for the sun to reach the moon, nor does the night overtake the day, but each, in an orbit, is swimming.

¹¹⁸¹From Gabriel or a blast from the sky.

¹¹⁸²i.e., to those living presently in the world.

¹¹⁸³i.e., that which Allāh has produced for them.

¹¹⁸⁴An alternative meaning is "And [eat from] what their hands have produced [i.e., planted and harvested]." Both are grammatically correct.

¹¹⁸⁵Or "all species."

¹¹⁸⁶Literally, "strip" or "peel." Sunlight projected onto the earth is removed from it as the earth turns and night approaches.