

33. Indeed, he did not used to believe in Allāh, the Most Great,
34. Nor did he encourage the feeding of the poor.
35. So there is not for him here this Day any devoted friend
36. Nor any food except from the discharge of wounds;
37. None will eat it except the sinners.
38. So I swear by what you see
39. And what you do not see
40. [That] indeed, it [i.e., the Qur'ān] is the word of a noble Messenger.
41. And it is not the word of a poet; little do you believe.
42. Nor the word of a soothsayer; little do you remember.
43. [It is] a revelation from the Lord of the worlds.
44. And if he [i.e., Muḥammad] had made up about Us some [false] sayings,
45. We would have seized him by the right hand;¹⁶¹⁸
46. Then We would have cut from him the aorta.¹⁶¹⁹
47. And there is no one of you who could prevent [Us] from him.
48. And indeed, it [i.e., the Qur'ān] is a reminder for the righteous.
49. And indeed, We know that among you are deniers.
50. And indeed, it will be [a cause of] regret upon the disbelievers.
51. And indeed, it is the truth of certainty.
52. So exalt the name of your Lord, the Most Great.

¹⁶¹⁸ Another interpretation is "by [Our] right hand," i.e., Allāh would have exacted revenge with might and power.

¹⁶¹⁹ Causing immediate death.

*Sūrah al-Ma‘ārij*¹⁶²⁰*Bismillāhir-Raḥmānir-Raḥeem*

1. A supplicant asked for a punishment bound to happen¹⁶²¹
2. To the disbelievers; of it there is no preventer.
3. [It is] from Allāh, owner of the ways of ascent.
4. The angels and the Spirit [i.e., Gabriel] will ascend to Him during a Day the extent of which is fifty thousand years.
5. So be patient with gracious patience.
6. Indeed, they see it [as] distant,
7. But We see it [as] near.
8. On the Day the sky will be like murky oil,¹⁶²²
9. And the mountains will be like wool,¹⁶²³
10. And no friend will ask [anything of] a friend,
11. They will be shown each other. The criminal will wish that he could be ransomed from the punishment of that Day by his children
12. And his wife and his brother
13. And his nearest kindred who shelter him
14. And whoever is on earth entirely [so] then it could save him.
15. No!¹⁶²⁴ Indeed, it is the Flame [of Hell],
16. A remover of exteriors.¹⁶²⁵

¹⁶²⁰ *Al-Ma‘ārij*: Ways of Ascent, i.e., those of the angels into the heavens.

¹⁶²¹ In the Hereafter. Disbelievers had challenged the Prophet (ﷺ) by invoking Allāh to bring on His punishment. See 8:32.

¹⁶²² Or "molten metal."

¹⁶²³ i.e., in the process of disintegration.

¹⁶²⁴ An emphatic refusal meaning "It is not to be."

¹⁶²⁵ This refers to the skin of the head or of the body or to the body extremities – which will be burned away.