

⁶ but my pleas have only increased their aversion. ⁷ Every time I have called to them, so that You might forgive them, they have only thrust their fingers into their ears, covered themselves up with their garments, grown obstinate, and given themselves up to arrogance. ⁸ Then I called them openly, ⁹ and spoke to them in public and in private.’ ¹⁰ Then I said, ‘Ask forgiveness of your Lord. Surely He is the most forgiving. ¹¹ He will send down abundant rain from the sky for you, ¹² increase your wealth and sons; and grant you gardens and waterways. ¹³ What is the matter with you that you deny the greatness of God, ¹⁴ when He has created you through different stages of existence? ¹⁵ Do you not see how God has created the seven heavens one above another, ¹⁶ and made the moon therein a light, and made the sun a lamp, ¹⁷ how God has produced you from the earth and caused you to grow, ¹⁸ how He will then return you to it and bring you forth

again, ¹⁹ how God has spread the earth out for you ²⁰ so that you may walk along its spacious paths?’

²¹ Noah supplicated, ‘Lord, they have disobeyed me, and followed those whose wealth and children have only added to their ruin; ²² and they have hatched a mighty plot, ²³ and they said [to their followers], “Do not ever abandon your deities: abandon neither Wadd, nor Suwa’, and neither Yaghuth, nor Yauq nor Nasr!” ²⁴ They have led many astray; so lead the wrongdoers to further error.’ ²⁵ They were drowned and sent to Hell for their misdeeds; they found no one to help them against God.

²⁶ Noah prayed, ‘O my Lord! Do not leave on earth a single one of those who deny the truth— ²⁷ if You leave any, they will misguide Your servants, and they will beget none but sinners and deniers of truth— ²⁸ Lord! Forgive me and my parents and every true believer who enters my house, forgive all the

believing men and believing upon the wrongdoers except in women; and bestow no increase ruin?

72. THE JINN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Say, ‘It has been revealed to me that a band of the jinn listened [to the Quran] and they said, “We have heard a really wonderful recital,² which guides to the right path; so we have believed in it and we will not associate anyone with our Lord—³ and exalted is the majesty of our Lord—He has taken neither a wife nor a son.⁴ And [now we know] that the foolish among us have been saying outrageous things about God.⁵ We had supposed that men and jinn would never utter a lie against God.⁶ Some men used to seek refuge with the jinn in the past, but that only increased their insolence.⁷ They thought, as you did, that God would never raise up anyone from the dead.⁸ We sought to reach heaven, but found it filled with strong guards

and flames—⁹ we used to take up a position to listen, but whoever listens now finds a flaming fire lying in wait for him—¹⁰ we cannot tell if this bodes evil to those who dwell on earth or whether their Lord intends to guide them.¹¹ Some of us are righteous, while others are not; we follow divergent paths.¹² We have realized that we could never thwart God on earth and that we would never be able to thwart Him by flight.¹³ When we heard the call to guidance, we believed in it. He who believes in his Lord has no fear of loss or of injustice.¹⁴ Some of us are obedient while others are wrongdoers; it is the obedient who have found the right path,¹⁵ but those who are wrongdoers will become the fuel of Hell.” ’

¹⁶ If they had followed the right path, We would have provided them with abundant rain—¹⁷ so that We may test them by it—whoever turns away from the remembrance of his Lord shall be sternly punished. ¹⁸ The mosques are for God's worship—so do not invoke anyone else along with God—¹⁹ when God's servant stood up to pray to Him, they pressed close to him in great numbers, almost stifling him. ²⁰ Say, 'I call only upon my Lord and do not associate anyone else with Him.' ²¹ Say, 'It is not in my power to cause you either harm or good?' ²² Say, 'Surely no one can protect me against God, nor can I find besides Him any place of refuge. ²³ My duty is only to convey that which I receive from Him and His

messages.' For those who disobey God and His Messenger there is the fire of hell, wherein they will abide forever.

²⁴ When they are confronted by what they have been promised, they will realize who is weaker in helpers and fewer in numbers. ²⁵ Say, 'I do not know whether what you are promised is imminent, or whether my Lord has set for it a far-off day. ²⁶ He alone has knowledge of what is hidden. He reveals this to none, ²⁷ except the messenger whom He has chosen. He sends down guardians who walk before them and behind them, ²⁸ so that He may know that the messengers have delivered the messages of their Lord. He encompasses all that is with them and He keeps count of all things.

73. THE WRAPPED ONE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ O you who are wrapped up in your mantle, ² stand up to pray for much of the night. ³ It may be

half the night or a little less than that ⁴ or a little more, but recite the Quran slowly and distinctly.

⁵ For We are about to send down to you a message of considerable gravity.

⁶ Surely, getting up at night [for worship] is the most potent means of subduing the self and most suitable for the word [of prayer]. ⁷ You have by day prolonged occupations [with Dawah work]. ⁸ Remember the name of your Lord, and devote yourself to Him wholeheartedly.

⁹ He is the Lord of the east and the west, there is no deity but Him, so take Him as your Guardian. ¹⁰ Bear patiently with what they say, and ignore them politely. ¹¹ Leave it to Me to deal with the deniers, who live a life of comfort, and bear with them a little longer. ¹² We have in store for them heavy fetters and a blazing Fire, ¹³ food that chokes and painful punishment ¹⁴ on the Day the earth and mountains shall shake and the mountains crumble into shifting sand dunes.

¹⁵ We have sent a messenger who is a witness over you, just as We sent a messenger to Pharoah before you. ¹⁶ But Pharoah

rebelled against the messenger, so We seized him with a strong, crushing grip. ¹⁷ If you persist in denying the truth how will you escape the Day that will turn the children's hair grey. ¹⁸ The Day when the heavens will be rent asunder and God's promise shall be fulfilled. ¹⁹ This, surely, is an admonition. So let him who will, take the right path to his Lord.

²⁰ Your Lord knows that you stand up praying for nearly two-thirds of the night, or one-half of it and sometimes one third of it, as do others among your followers. God determines the measure of night and day. He knows that you will not be able to do it, so He has turned to you in mercy. Recite, then, as much of the Quran as is easy for you. He knows that there will be some among you who may be sick and others who will be travelling throughout the land seeking God's bounty, and yet others who may be fighting for the cause of God. So, recite, then as much of it as you are able, and be constant in prayer, and spend

in charity, and give to God a goodly loan. For whatever good deed you send on before you for your souls, you will find it with

God. It will be improved and richly rewarded by Him. Seek God's forgiveness, He is most forgiving, most merciful.

74. WRAPPED IN HIS CLOAK

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ You, wrapped in your cloak,
² arise and give warning!
³ Proclaim the glory of your Lord;
⁴ purify your garments; ⁵ shun uncleanness; ⁶ do not bestow a favour in the expectation of receiving more in return; ⁷ and for the sake of your Lord, be patient.

⁸ When the Trumpet is sounded, ⁹ that Day will be a hard and distressing Day. ¹⁰ It will not be easy for those who deny the truth. ¹¹ Leave Me alone [to deal] with him whom I have created alone, ¹² and to whom I have granted resources in abundance, ¹³ and sons to be by his side, ¹⁴ and whom I have provided with every resource, ¹⁵ and yet, he greedily desires that I give him even more! ¹⁶ By

no means! He has been stubbornly hostile to Our revelation: ¹⁷ I shall force him to endure a painful uphill climb!

¹⁸ For he thought and he plotted—¹⁹ and woe to him; how he plotted! ²⁰ Let him be destroyed. How he calculated!

²¹ Then he looked round; ²² then he frowned and scowled, ²³ and he turned his back and behaved arrogantly ²⁴ and said, 'This is nothing but sorcery from the ancients. ²⁵ This is nothing but the word of a mortal!'

²⁶ Soon I will cast him into hell. ²⁷ What could make you conceive what hell-fire is? ²⁸ It does not allow anyone to live, and neither does it leave anyone to die; ²⁹ it scorches the skin;

³⁰ there are nineteen [angels] in charge of it—³¹ We have appointed only angels to be wardens of the Fire. We have specified their number only as a trial for those who are bent on denying the truth, so that those who were given the Book might gain in certainty, and those who believe might increase in faith—and so that neither those who have been given the Scripture nor the believers might have any doubts, and that those sick at heart and those who deny the truth might ask, ‘What does God mean by this parable?’ In this way, God lets go astray whom He wills, and guides whom He wills. And none knows the forces of your Lord but He. This is but a Reminder for man.

³² No, by the moon! ³³ By the night when it departs. ³⁴ By the dawn when it lightens! ³⁵ Surely, ³⁶ it is one of the gravest things, ³⁶ it is a warning to man, ³⁷ alike to every one of you, who want to go forward or hang back. ³⁸ Every

soul is held in pledge against its own deeds, ³⁹ except those of the right hand ⁴⁰ who in their gardens will be enquiring ⁴¹ about the sinners. ⁴² ‘What has brought you into the Fire of Hell?’ ⁴³ and they shall reply, ‘We were not among those who prayed; ⁴⁴ and we did not feed the poor; ⁴⁵ we indulged in vain arguments along with those who indulged in them; ⁴⁶ and we denied the Day of Judgement ⁴⁷ until the Inevitable End [death] overtook us.’ ⁴⁸ So no intercession will avail them.

⁴⁹ Then what is wrong with them that they turn away from admonition, ⁵⁰ like frightened donkeys ⁵¹ fleeing from a lion? ⁵² Indeed, everyone of them desires to have sheets of revelations unfolded before them—⁵³ No! They do not fear the Hereafter—⁵⁴ but this is truly a reminder. ⁵⁵ Let him who will take heed: ⁵⁶ they will only take heed if God so wills: He is the Lord who is worthy to be feared: the Lord of forgiveness.

75. THE DAY OF RESURRECTION

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the Day of Resurrection, ² and by the self-reproaching soul! ³ Does man think that We cannot [resurrect him and] bring his bones together again? ⁴ Indeed, We have the power to restore his very finger tips! ⁵ Yet man wants to deny what is ahead of him: ⁶ he asks, ‘When is this Day of Resurrection to be?’ ⁷ But [on that Day], when mortal sight is confounded, ⁸ and the moon is eclipsed, ⁹ when the sun and the moon are brought together, ¹⁰ on that Day man will ask, ‘Where can I escape?’ ¹¹ But there is nowhere to take refuge: ¹² on that Day, to your Lord alone is the recourse. ¹³ On that Day, man will be told of all that he has sent before and what he has left behind. ¹⁴ Indeed, man shall be a witness against himself, ¹⁵ in spite of all the excuses he may offer.

¹⁶ [Prophet], do not move your tongue too fast in your attempt

to learn this revelation: ¹⁷ We Ourselves shall see to its collection and recital. ¹⁸ When We have recited it, follow its words attentively; ¹⁹ and then, it will be for Us to make its meaning clear.

²⁰ Truly, you love immediate gain ²¹ and neglect the Hereafter. ²² Some faces will be radiant on that Day, ²³ looking towards their Lord; ²⁴ and some faces will on that Day be gloomy, ²⁵ dreading some great affliction. ²⁶ But when [man’s soul] reaches the throat, ²⁷ and when it is asked: ‘Could any magician save him now?’; ²⁸ and he knows that it is the time of parting; ²⁹ when his legs are brought together [when affliction is combined with affliction]; ³⁰ on that Day he will be driven towards your Lord!

³¹ He neither believed nor prayed, ³² but rejected the Truth and turned away! ³³ Then he went off to his people, swaggering. ³⁴ Woe to you, [O man!], yes,

woe to you. ³⁵ Again, woe to you, [O man!], yes, woe to you! ³⁶ Does man, then, think that he is to be left to himself, to go about at will? ³⁷ Was he not once a drop of ejaculated semen, ³⁸ which then became a

leech-like clot; then God shaped and fashioned him in due proportion, ³⁹ fashioning out of him the two sexes, the male and the female? ⁴⁰ Then is He not able to bring the dead back to life?

76. MAN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Was there not a period of time when man was nothing worth mentioning? ² We created man from a drop of mingled fluid so that We might try him; We gave him hearing and sight; ³ We showed him the way, whether he be grateful or ungrateful.

⁴ [Now,] behold, for those who deny the truth, We have prepared chains, iron collars and a blazing fire, but ⁵ the righteous shall drink from a cup mixed with the coolness of *kafur*;^a ⁶ a spring from which God's servants will drink, making it gush forth in branches. ⁷ They keep their vows and fear a day the woe of which

will spread far and wide; ⁸ they give food, despite their love for it, to the poor and orphans and captives, ⁹ saying, 'We feed you for the sake of God alone, we seek neither recompense nor thanks from you. ¹⁰ Truly, we fear from our Lord a woefully grim Day.' ¹¹ Therefore, God will ward off from them the woes of that Day, and make them find brightness and joy, ¹² and their reward for being patient will be a Garden and silk [clothing]. ¹³ Reclining upon couches, they will find therein neither the heat

^a Camphor—a sweet smelling herb.

of the sun nor bitter, biting cold, ¹⁴the shading branches of trees will come down low over them, and their clusters of fruit, will hang down where they are the easiest to reach. ¹⁵Vessels of silver and goblets of pure crystal will be passed round among them ¹⁶and gleaming silver goblets which have been filled to the exact measure, ¹⁷and they will be given a cup to drink flavoured with ginger, ¹⁸from a flowing spring called Salsabil. ¹⁹They will be attended by youths who will not age—when you see them you will think them to be like sprinkled pearls—²⁰wherever you look, you will see bliss and a great kingdom: ²¹they will wear green garments of fine silk and rich brocade. They will be adorned with silver bracelets. And their Lord will give them a pure drink. ²²This is your reward. Your endeavour is fully acknowledged.

²³Truly, it is We who have

revealed to you the Quran, a gradual revelation. ²⁴So wait patiently for the command of your Lord, and do not yield to anyone among them who is sinful or ungrateful; ²⁵and glorify your Lord morning and evening; ²⁶and during the night prostrate yourself before Him, and extol His glory for a long part of the night. ²⁷Those people [who are unmindful of God] aspire for immediate gains, and put behind them a Heavy Day. ²⁸It was We who created them and made their constitution strong, but if We wish we can replace them with others like them. ²⁹This is a reminder. Let whoever wishes, take the right path to his Lord. ³⁰But you cannot will it unless God wills [to show you that way]—God is indeed all-knowing and wise—³¹He admits whoever He will into His grace and has prepared a painful punishment for the evil doers.

77. THOSE THAT ARE SENT FORTH

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the winds sent forth in swift succession, ² and then storming on with a tempest's force, ³ and the rain-spreading winds, ⁴ separating one from another, ⁵ by those who bring down the reminder, ⁶ to excuse some and warn others: ⁷ that which you have been promised shall be fulfilled.

⁸ When the stars lose their light, ⁹ and when the sky is rent asunder, ¹⁰ and when the mountains crumble into dust ¹¹ and when the messengers are brought together at the appointed time—¹² for what Day has this been appointed? ¹³ For the Day of Decision. ¹⁴ What will explain to you what the Day of Judgement is? ¹⁵ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth. ¹⁶ Did We not destroy the earlier peoples? ¹⁷ We will now cause the later ones to follow them: ¹⁸ thus do We deal with the culprits. ¹⁹ Woe

on that Day to those who reject the truth!

²⁰ Did We not create you from a humble fluid, ²¹ then placed it in a secure repository [the womb], ²² for an appointed term? ²³ Thus We have determined the stages of development and Our power to determine is excellent indeed. ²⁴ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth! ²⁵ Have We not made the earth a receptacle, ²⁶ for the living and the dead? ²⁷ Have We not placed high mountains upon it and given you fresh water to drink? ²⁸ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth!

²⁹ Proceed to that which you denied. ³⁰ Proceed to a shadow rising in three columns: ³¹ affording neither shade, nor protection from the flames, ³² and throwing up sparks as huge as towers ³³ and as bright as a herd of yellow camels. ³⁴ Woe on that

Day to those who reject the truth!³⁵ On that Day they will be speechless,³⁶ nor shall they be permitted to offer excuses.³⁷ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth!³⁸ This is the Day of Judgement. We have assembled you all together with past generations.³⁹ If now you have any strategy, use it against Me.⁴⁰ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth!

⁴¹ The righteous shall dwell amidst cool shades and fountains,⁴² and shall have fruits such as they desire;⁴³ [They will be told],

‘Eat and drink with relish in return for what you did [in life]:⁴⁴ this is how We reward those who do good.’⁴⁵ [But] woe on that Day to those who reject the truth!⁴⁶ Eat [your fill] and enjoy your life for a little while, O you who are lost in sin.⁴⁷ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth!⁴⁸ When they are bidden to bow down, they do not bow down.⁴⁹ Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth!⁵⁰ In which word then, after this, will they believe?

78. THE TIDINGS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ What are they asking each other about? ² About the awesome tidings [of resurrection] ³ concerning which they are in disagreement! ⁴ But they will soon come to know. ⁵ Surely, they will soon find out the truth! ⁶ Have We not spread the earth like a bed, ⁷ and raised the

mountains like supporting poles? ⁸ We created you in pairs, ⁹ and gave you repose in sleep, ¹⁰ and the night as a cover, ¹¹ and made the day for earning a livelihood. ¹² We have built above you seven mighty heavens, ¹³ and We have set therein a glowing lamp. ¹⁴ From the rain clouds We send

waters pouring down in abundance,¹⁵ so that We may bring forth thereby grain and a variety of plants,¹⁶ and gardens dense with foliage.¹⁷ Surely, the Day of Judgement has an appointed time.

¹⁸ On that Day when the trumpet shall be sounded, you shall come in droves,¹⁹ and the heaven shall be opened, and become gates,²⁰ and the mountains shall be made to vanish, as if they had been a mirage.²¹ Surely, Hell lies in wait,²² a home for the transgressors,²³ where they shall remain for ages,²⁴ and where they will taste neither coolness nor any drink²⁵ save boiling water and a stinking fluid—²⁶ a fitting requital,²⁷ for they never expected to be called to account,²⁸ and they rejected outright Our signs;²⁹ but We have recorded everything in a Book.³⁰ [So We shall say], ‘Taste, then, [the fruit of your evil doings,] for now We shall bestow on you nothing but more and more suffering!’

³¹ As for those who are mindful

of God, they shall surely triumph:³² theirs shall be gardens and vineyards,³³ and young maidens of equal age,³⁴ and overflowing cups.³⁵ There they shall not hear any idle talk, or any untruth:³⁶ all this will be a recompense, a gift, that will suffice them, from your Lord,³⁷ the Sustainer of the heavens and the earth and all that lies between them, the most Gracious [and] none shall have it in their power to raise their voices to Him.³⁸ On the Day when the Spirit and the angels stand in ranks, no one will speak, except for those to whom the Lord of Mercy gives permission, and who will say only what is right.³⁹ That Day is sure to come, so whoever wishes to, let him take the path that leads towards his Lord.⁴⁰ We have warned you of a chastisement which is near at hand, on the Day when man shall [clearly] see what his hands have sent ahead, and when he who has denied the truth shall say, ‘Oh, would that I were dust!’

79. THE PLUCKERS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By [the winds] that pluck out vehemently ² and those that blow gently, ³ and by [the clouds] that swim serenely and ⁴ by those that outstrip them suddenly, ⁵ and by those who regulate events. ⁶ On the Day when a violent convulsion will convulse [the world], ⁷ to be followed by further [convulsions], ⁸ hearts will be throbbing, ⁹ while eyes will be downcast. ¹⁰ They say, ‘What? shall we be brought back to life, ¹¹ even after we have turned into decayed bones?’ ¹² and they say, ‘That indeed would be a losing return.’ ¹³ But all it will take is a single blast, ¹⁴ and behold! They will all come out in the open.

¹⁵ Have you heard the story of Moses? ¹⁶ His Lord called out to him by the sacred valley of Tuwa: ¹⁷ [saying], ‘Go to Pharaoh, he has exceeded all bounds, ¹⁸ and say, “Will you reform yourself? ¹⁹ Do you want me to guide you

to your Lord, so that you should fear Him?’” ²⁰ Moses showed him the great sign, ²¹ but he denied it and refused [the faith]. ²² Then he quickly turned his back. ²³ And he summoned all his people, ²⁴ and proclaimed, ‘I am your supreme Lord,’ ²⁵ but God seized him and meted out to him the chastisement of both the next world and the present: ²⁶ surely there is in this a lesson for the God-fearing.

²⁷ [O Men!] Are you more difficult to create than the heaven which He has built, ²⁸ by raising its vault high and fashioning it flawlessly, ²⁹ and making its night dark and bringing forth its morning light, ³⁰ and the earth which He spread out, ³¹ after that bringing forth from it its water and its pasture land, ³² and making the mountains firm: ³³ [all this] as a means of sustenance for you and your animals?

³⁴ When the great overwhelming event arrives, ³⁵ on the Day that man remembers what he strove for ³⁶ and Hell is there for all to see, ³⁷ anyone who has acted arrogantly ³⁸ and prefers the life of this world, ³⁹ will find himself in Hell; ⁴⁰ but one who fears to stand before his Lord and restrained himself from base desires, ⁴¹ shall dwell in

Paradise. ⁴² They will ask you [Prophet] about the Hour, saying, ‘When it will come to pass?’, ⁴³ what have you to do with the mentioning of it? ⁴⁴ Your Lord alone knows when it will come; ⁴⁵ you are but a warner for those who fear it. ⁴⁶ On the Day when they see it, they will feel as if they had tarried in this world for only one evening or one morning.

80. HE FROWNED

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ He frowned and turned away ² when the blind man approached him, ³ for how can you know that he might seek to purify himself, ⁴ or take heed and derive benefit from [Our] warning? ⁵ As for him who was indifferent, ⁶ you eagerly attended to him— ⁷ though you are not to be blamed if he would not purify himself— ⁸ but as for one who comes to you, eagerly ⁹ and in awe of God ¹⁰ you pay him no heed. ¹¹ Indeed, this [Quran] is an admonition.

¹² Let him who will, pay heed to it. ¹³ It is set down on honoured pages, ¹⁴ exalted and purified, ¹⁵ by the hands of ¹⁶ noble and virtuous scribes. ¹⁷ Woe to man! How ungrateful he is! ¹⁸ Of what [stuff] has He created him? ¹⁹ Out of a drop of sperm! He creates and proportions him, ²⁰ He makes his path easy for him. ²¹ Then He causes him to die and be buried. ²² Then when He pleases, He will bring him back to life. ²³ Yet man declines to do His bidding.

²⁴ Let man reflect on the food he eats. ²⁵ We let the rain pour down in torrents ²⁶ and then We cleaved the earth asunder. ²⁷ We make the grain grow out of it, ²⁸ and grape vines and vegetables, ²⁹ and olive trees and date palms ³⁰ and burgeoning enclosed gardens ³¹ and fruits and fodder ³² as provision for you and for your cattle to enjoy.

³³ But when the deafening blast is sounded, ³⁴ on that Day a man

shall flee from his own brother, ³⁵ his mother, his father, ³⁶ his wife and his sons: ³⁷ on that Day every man among them will have enough concern of his own— ³⁸ on that Day some faces will be beaming, ³⁹ laughing, and rejoicing, ⁴⁰ but some faces will be covered with dust ⁴¹ and overcast with gloom: ⁴² those will be ones who denied the truth and were immersed in iniquity.

81. FOLDING UP

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ When the sun is folded up, ² and when the stars lose their light, ³ and when the mountains are moved, ⁴ when ten-month pregnant camels are left untended, ⁵ and when all beasts are gathered together, ⁶ and when the seas are set on fire, ⁷ when the souls are divided into different classes, ⁸ and when the female infant buried alive is asked ⁹ for what sin she was

killed, ¹⁰ when the records of men's deeds are laid open, ¹¹ when the sky is unveiled, ¹² and when Hell is set ablaze, ¹³ when Paradise is brought close: ¹⁴ [then] each soul shall know what it has put forward.

¹⁵ I swear by the receding stars, ¹⁶ the planets that run their course and set, ¹⁷ and the night that falls, ¹⁸ and the first breath of morning. ¹⁹ Truly, this is the word

brought by a noble messenger,
²⁰ endowed with power and held
 in honour by the Lord of the
 Throne—²¹ who is obeyed there
 and is worthy of trust. ²² Your
 companion is not one possessed:
²³ he truly beheld him [the angel]
 on the clear horizon. ²⁴ He is not
 averse of the Unseen. ²⁵ Nor is this

the word of an outcast devil.
²⁶ So where are you going?
²⁷ This is merely a reminder to
 all mankind; ²⁸ to every one of
 you who wishes to tread the
 straight path. ²⁹ But you cannot
 will it unless God, the Lord of
 the Universe, so wills it [to show
 you that way].

82. THE CLEAVING ASUNDER

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ When the sky is cleft asunder;
² and when the stars are scattered;
³ when the seas overflow; ⁴ and
 when the graves are laid open:
⁵ then everyone will know what
 he has sent ahead, and what he
 has left behind. ⁶ O man! What is
 it that lures you away from your
 bountiful Sustainer, ⁷ who
 created you, fashioned you and
 proportioned you, ⁸ in whatever
 form He pleased? ⁹ Yet you deny
 the Last Judgement. ¹⁰ Surely,
 there are guardians watching
 over you, ¹¹ noble recorders,
¹² who know all that you do:^a

¹³ the virtuous will dwell in bliss,
¹⁴ whereas the wicked will be in
 Hell; ¹⁵ which they shall enter on
 the Day of Judgement, ¹⁶ and
 from which they will find no
 escape. ¹⁷ What will make you

^a The Quran informs us that the Day of Judgement will finally come: all of humanity will be assembled on that Day and will be rewarded or punished according to their deeds. These tidings are absolutely consistent with the present condition of the world. Indeed, the meaningful creation of the human being has its justification in this announcement.

realize what the Day of Judgement will be? ¹⁸ Again: what will make you realize what the Day of Judgement will be? ¹⁹ It will be a Day when no human being shall be of the least avail to any other human being, God [alone] will hold command on that Day.

83. THOSE WHO GIVE SHORT MEASURE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Woe to those who give short measure, ² who demand of other people full measure for themselves, ³ but when they give by measurement or weight to others, they give them less. ⁴ Do such people not realize that they will be raised up, ⁵ on a fateful Day. ⁶ The Day when mankind will stand before the Lord of the Universe? ⁷ Indeed! The record of the wicked is in the Sijjin—⁸ and what could make you understand what the Sijjin is?—⁹ it is a written record. ¹⁰ Woe, on that Day, to those who reject, ¹¹ those who deny the Day of Judgement. ¹² No one denies it except for the evil aggressor. ¹³ When Our revelations are conveyed to him, he says, ‘Fables of the ancients!’ ¹⁴ No! Their own deeds have cast a veil over their hearts. ¹⁵ Indeed! On that Day a barrier will be set between them and their Lord, ¹⁶ then they shall enter the Fire of Hell, ¹⁷ and they will be told, ‘This is what you were wont to belie.’ ¹⁸ But, the record of the righteous is [preserved] in the ‘Illiyin—¹⁹ and what will make you understand what the ‘Illiyin is?—²⁰ a written record, ²¹ which those angels closest to God will bear witness to. ²² The virtuous will surely be in bliss, ²³ seated on couches and gazing around in

wonder. ²⁴ You will find in their faces the brightness of bliss. ²⁵ They will be given a drink of pure wine, sealed, ²⁶ its seal will be of musk—for this let the aspirants aspire—²⁷ a wine tempered with the waters of Tasnim, ²⁸ a spring at which those drawn close to God will drink. ²⁹ The wicked used to laugh at the believers—³⁰ when they passed by them, they would wink at one another; ³¹ and when they returned to their own people, they would speak of them jestingly; ³² and when they saw them, they said [scornfully], ‘These men have surely gone astray,’ ³³ though they were not sent to be their keepers—³⁴ so today those who believe shall [be able to] laugh at those who denied the truth ³⁵ as they sit on couches, gazing around. ³⁶ Have those who deny the truth [not] been paid back for their deeds?

84. THE BURSTING OPEN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ When the sky bursts open, ² and obeys its Lord as it must, ³ when the earth flattens out, ⁴ and casts out all that is within it and becomes empty; ⁵ and obeys its Lord as it must, ⁶ O man, having striven hard towards your Lord, you shall meet Him: ⁷ he who is given his record in his right hand ⁸ shall have an easy reckoning ⁹ and he shall return to his people, joyfully, ¹⁰ but as for him whose record shall be given to him from behind his back, ¹¹ he will pray for utter destruction ¹² and he will enter the blazing flame. ¹³ He used to be happy with his own people; ¹⁴ for he never thought that he would have to return [to God]. ¹⁵ But he will indeed! His Lord was ever watching him. ¹⁶ I swear by the glow of sunset, ¹⁷ by the night and what it covers, ¹⁸ and the moon when it grows full, ¹⁹ you will progress from stage to stage.

²⁰ What is wrong with them that they do not believe? ²¹ When the Quran is read to them, why do they not fall to their knees? ²² Indeed, those who are bent on denying the truth reject it— ²³ God is quite aware of what they are storing in their hearts. ²⁴ Therefore, give them the news of a painful punishment. ²⁵ But for those who believe and do good works; for them there shall be a never-ending reward.

85. THE CONSTELLATIONS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the sky with its constellations, ² and by the promised Day, ³ by the Witness and the witnessed, ⁴ destroyed were the people of the trench, ⁵ the makers of the fuel-stoked fire! ⁶ They sat by it ⁷ to watch what they were doing to the believers, ⁸ whom they hated for no other reason than that they believed in God, the Almighty, the Praiseworthy, ⁹ to whom belongs the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. God is witness over all things. ¹⁰ Those who persecute the believing men and believing women, and then do not repent, will surely suffer the punishment of Hell, and the torment of burning. ¹¹ But those who believe and do good deeds shall be rewarded with gardens watered by flowing rivers. That is the supreme triumph. ¹² The grip of your Lord is indeed severe—¹³ it is He who begins and repeats [His creation]— ¹⁴ and He is the Forgiving and Loving One. ¹⁵ The Lord of the Glorious Throne, ¹⁶ Executor of His own will. ¹⁷ Have you not heard the story of the hosts ¹⁸ of Pharaoh and Thamud? ¹⁹ Yet those who deny the truth persist in denial. ²⁰ God encompasses them from all sides. ²¹ It is indeed a glorious Quran, ²² written on a preserved Tablet.

86. THAT WHICH COMES IN THE NIGHT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the heavens and that which comes in the night—² and what could make you know what it is that comes in the night? ³ It is the shining star—⁴ [for] no human being has been left unguarded. ⁵ Let man reflect on what he was created from. ⁶ He was created from spurting fluid, ⁷ issuing from between the backbone and the breastbone: ⁸ He certainly has the power to bring him back to life. ⁹ On the Day when secrets are disclosed, ¹⁰ [man] will have no power, and no helper. ¹¹ By the heavens, ever-revolving, ¹² by the earth cracking open with new growth. ¹³ It is surely a decisive utterance; ¹⁴ and is not to be taken lightly. ¹⁵ They are planning a scheme, ¹⁶ and so am I: ¹⁷ so bear with those who deny the truth, and let them be for a little while.

87. THE MOST HIGH

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Glorify the name of your Lord, the Most High, ² who created all things and gave them due proportions, ³ who determines the nature [of all that exists], and guided it accordingly; ⁴ who brings forth green pasture, ⁵ then turns it into black stubble. ⁶ [O Prophet!] We shall make you recite the Quran so that you will not forget any of it—⁷ except whatever God wills; He knows both what is manifest and what is hidden—⁸ We shall facilitate for you the Easy Way. ⁹ Remind, if the reminder can be of benefit.

¹⁰ He who fears [God] will heed indeed be successful. ¹⁶ But the reminder, ¹¹ but it will be you prefer the life of ignored by the most unfortunate, this world, ¹⁷ although the ¹² who will enter the Great Fire, Hereafter is better and more ¹³ where he will neither die nor lasting. ¹⁸ This indeed is what is live. ¹⁴ He who purifies himself, taught in the former ¹⁵ who remembers the name scriptures—¹⁹ the scriptures of of his Lord and prays, shall Abraham and Moses.

88. THE OVERWHELMING EVENT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ Have you heard about the Overwhelming Event? ² On that Day, there shall be downcast faces, ³ labouring, weary, ⁴ they shall enter a burning Fire ⁵ and will be made to drink from a boiling spring, ⁶ they shall have no food but thorns, ⁷ which will neither nourish nor satisfy hunger. ⁸ Some faces on that Day will be radiant, ⁹ well pleased with the result of their striving, ¹⁰ in a sublime garden, ¹¹ where they will hear no idle talk, ¹² with a flowing spring, ¹³ raised couches, ¹⁴ and goblets set at hand, ¹⁵ cushions ranged, ¹⁶ and carpets spread out. ¹⁷ Do they never reflect on the camels and how they were created, ¹⁸ and on the sky, how it is raised aloft, ¹⁹ and on the mountains, how they are firmly set up, ²⁰ and on the earth, how it is spread out? ²¹ So, [O Prophet] exhort them: your task is only to exhort, ²² you are not their keeper. ²³ But whoever turns back and denies the truth, ²⁴ will be punished by God with the greatest punishment. ²⁵ Certainly, it is to Us that they will return. ²⁶ Then, surely, it is for Us to call them to account.

89. THE DAWN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the Dawn, ² by the Ten Nights, ³ by the even and the odd, ⁴ and by the passing night, ⁵ is there not in this strong evidence for a man of sense? ⁶ Have you not heard of how your Lord dealt with the tribe of 'Ad, ⁷ the people of Iram, the city of many pillars, ⁸ the like of which has never been created in the land, ⁹ and with the Thamud, who cut out [huge] rocks in the valley, ¹⁰ and with Pharaoh of the stakes? ¹¹ All of them committed excesses in their lands, ¹² and caused much corruption in them: ¹³ so your Lord unleashed on them the scourge of punishment: ¹⁴ for, indeed, your Sustainer is ever on the watch! ¹⁵ As for man, when his Lord tests him, through honour and blessings, he says, 'My Lord has honoured me,' ¹⁶ but when He tests him by straitening his means of livelihood, he says, 'My Lord

has disgraced me.' ¹⁷ No indeed, but you show no kindness to the orphan, ¹⁸ nor do you urge one another to feed the poor, ¹⁹ and you greedily devour the inheritance of the weak, ²⁰ and you have a love of wealth which can never be satisfied. ²¹ No indeed! When the earth is crushed and ground to dust, ²² when your Lord comes down with the angels, rank upon rank, ²³ and Hell is made to appear on that Day, then man will be mindful, but what will being mindful then avail him? ²⁴ He will say, 'Oh, would that I had provided beforehand for my life!' ²⁵ On that Day no one will punish as He punishes, ²⁶ and none can bind with bonds like His! ²⁷ [But to the righteous, God will say], 'O soul at peace, ²⁸ return to your Lord, well-pleased, well-pleasing. ²⁹ Join My servants. ³⁰ Enter My Paradise.'

90. THE CITY

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ I swear by this city—² and you are dwelling in this city—³ and by parent and offspring, ⁴ that We have created man into a life of toil and trial. ⁵ Does he think then that no one has power over him? ⁶ He says, ‘I have spent enormous wealth.’ ⁷ Does he then think that no one sees him? ⁸ Have We not given him two eyes, ⁹ and a tongue, and a pair of lips, ¹⁰ and shown him the two paths? ¹¹ But he has not attempted the ascent. ¹² What will explain to you what the ascent is? ¹³ It is the freeing of a slave; ¹⁴ or the feeding in times of famine ¹⁵ of an orphaned relative ¹⁶ or some needy person in distress, ¹⁷ and to be one of those who believe and urge one another to steadfastness and compassion. ¹⁸ Those who do so are the people of the right hand, ¹⁹ and [as for] those who are bent on denying the truth of Our revelations, they are the people of the left hand, ²⁰ and the Fire will close in on them.

91. THE SUN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

¹ By the sun and its rising brightness ² and by the moon as it follows it, ³ and by the day as it reveals its glory ⁴ and by the night when it draws a veil over it, ⁵ by the sky and how He built it ⁶ and by the earth and how He spread it, ⁷ by the soul and how He formed it, ⁸ then inspired it to understand what was right and wrong for it. ⁹ He who purifies it will indeed be successful, ¹⁰ and