

90. Surah Ul-Balad (The City)

In the name of **ALLAH**, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful!

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

لَا أَقْسِمُ بِهَذَا الْبَلَدِ ﴿١﴾ وَأَنْتَ حِلٌّ بِهَذَا الْبَلَدِ ﴿٢﴾ وَالدُّيُومَاءُ لَدْ ﴿٣﴾ لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِي كَبَدٍ ﴿٤﴾ أَيْحَسِبُ أَنْ لَنْ يُفْعَلَ عَلَيْهِ أَحَدٌ ﴿٥﴾ يَقُولُ أَهْلَكْتُ مَالًا لُبَدًا ﴿٦﴾ أَيْحَسِبُ أَنْ لَمْ يَرَهُ أَحَدٌ ﴿٧﴾ أَلَمْ نَجْعَلْ لَهُ عَيْنَيْنِ ﴿٨﴾ وَلِسَانًا وَشَفَتَيْنِ ﴿٩﴾ وَهَدَيْنَاهُ النَّجْدَيْنِ ﴿١٠﴾ فَلَا اقْتَحَمَ الْعَقَبَةَ ﴿١١﴾ وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا الْعَقَبَةُ ﴿١٢﴾ فَكُّ رَقَبَةٍ ﴿١٣﴾ أَوْ إِطْعَامٌ فِي يَوْمٍ ذِي مَسْغَبَةٍ ﴿١٤﴾ بَتِّيْمًا ذَا مَقْرَبَةٍ ﴿١٥﴾ أَوْ مَسْكِينًا ذَا مَتْرَبَةٍ ﴿١٦﴾ ثُمَّ كَانَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالصَّبْرِ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالْمَرْحَمَةِ ﴿١٧﴾ أُولَئِكَ أَصْحَابُ الْمُئِمَّنَةِ ﴿١٨﴾ وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا بِآيَاتِنَا هُمْ أَصْحَابُ الْمَشْأَمَةِ ﴿١٩﴾ عَلَيْهِمْ نَارٌ مُؤَصَّدَةٌ ﴿٢٠﴾

The inhabitants of Makkah know the significance of the city of Makkah - Prophet Ibrahim AH brought and left his wife and their very young baby in this barren land in a valley and built a house of Almighty God here and asked for worship and performance of Hajj and Umra at a time when there were no one to listen to him and how this city then became a center of worship not only for Arabian peninsula but also for the Muslims all over the world

وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا بِآيَاتِنَا هُمْ أَصْحَابُ الْمَشْأَمَةِ ﴿١٩﴾
عَلَيْهِمْ نَارٌ مُؤَصَّدَةٌ ﴿٢٠﴾

19 and 20: As for those who refuse to believe in our revelations (and commandments), they are the people of the left hand (Devious path) they shall have a fire engulfing them

أُولَئِكَ أَصْحَابُ الْمُئِمَّنَةِ ﴿١٨﴾

18: These are the people of the right hand (righteous path)

ثُمَّ كَانَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَتَوَاصَوْا
بِالصَّبْرِ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالْمَرْحَمَةِ ﴿١٧﴾

17: And then (beside) one should be among those who have believed and advised strongly, encourage one another to patience and compassion (for the creatures of Almighty God)

فَكَرَّ رَقَبَةٍ ﴿١٣﴾
أَوْ إِطْعَامٌ فِي يَوْمٍ ذِي مَسْغَبَةٍ ﴿١٤﴾
بَتِّيْمًا ذَا مَقْرَبَةٍ ﴿١٥﴾ أَوْ مَسْكِينًا ذَا مَتْرَبَةٍ ﴿١٦﴾

Freeing a person from any hardship, Feeding the hungry is not only a temporary relief but also aiming towards putting an end to (eradicating) hunger and poverty by making people self sufficient and supporting orphans (by all means) that are known to you

13 to 16: It is the freeing of a burdened neck from bounding, freeing a slave, feeding on a day of severe hunger, an orphan, near relation or a needy person in misery

فَلَا اقْتَحَمَ الْعَقَبَةَ ﴿١١﴾
وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا الْعَقَبَةُ ﴿١٢﴾

11 and 12: Yet mankind has not broken through the difficult pass, and what does mankind know what is the difficult pass?

لَا أَقْسِمُ بِهَذَا الْبَلَدِ ﴿١﴾ وَأَنْتَ حِلٌّ بِهَذَا الْبَلَدِ ﴿٢﴾
وَالدُّيُومَاءُ لَدْ ﴿٣﴾

1 to 3: No, I swear by this city, while you (O' Prophet PBUH) have been made lawful in this and I swear by the father and the children he begot

لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِي كَبَدٍ ﴿٤﴾

4: That WE have indeed created man to toil (To Struggle, work hard and face hardship)

أَيْحَسِبُ أَنْ لَنْ يُفْعَلَ عَلَيْهِ أَحَدٌ ﴿٥﴾

5: Does he (mankind) thinks that no one will have power over him?

يَقُولُ أَهْلَكْتُ مَالًا لُبَدًا ﴿٦﴾
أَيْحَسِبُ أَنْ لَمْ يَرَهُ أَحَدٌ ﴿٧﴾

6 and 7: He says, I have squandered (misspent) wealth in abundance. Does he think that no one has seen him?

أَلَمْ نَجْعَلْ لَهُ عَيْنَيْنِ ﴿٨﴾ وَلِسَانًا وَشَفَتَيْنِ ﴿٩﴾
وَهَدَيْنَاهُ النَّجْدَيْنِ ﴿١٠﴾

8 to 10: Have WE not given him two eyes, and one tongue and two lips and shown him both the ways (of Good and Evil)?

Starting a sentence with NO and then swearing means that: Whatever will be explained later it is with full conviction. What the people are saying and what you are understanding is in correct.

Next Ayah will explain what is this denial is referring to

The misbelievers used to say that we are living a good life and that there is no need to worry about The Hereafter and they used to deny The Prophet's PBUH message of worrying about the accountability after this life

It is an honor for this city (Makkah) that You (The Prophet PBUH) live here, and also because this city was inhabited and populate by Prophet Ibrahim and his off-springs

Although this city (Makkah) is supposed to be a city of peace and the inhabitants of this city (Arabs) consider even cutting trees or killing wild animals Haram (prohibited), now the situation is so bad that people of this city are planning to harm You (The Prophet PUBH)

Man has not been created to only enjoy himself and live a life of ease and comfort but also the world for him is a place of enduring and undergoing struggle and hardship

Mankind lives in this delusion that he can do what he likes and there is no superior power to control him whereas he (mankind) experiences that his destiny and every moment is being ruled by some other supernatural power (almighty God) but he does not pay any attention

Mankind take pride in their wealth and belonging and proudly say that they are very rich and glorify themselves

Mankind spends carelessly on comfort, fame and worldly affairs instead of thanking Almighty God and spending the wealth on genuine good causes

Mankind thinks that no one is watching. However, they should know that Almighty God is noticing and recording every act

Almighty God has given Mankind the conscience which distinguishes between good and bad; Almighty God has also provided guidance through Messengers AS and HIS books for Mankind to follow the right path.