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48. "Then pour over his head the torment of boiling water,

49. "Taste you (this)! Verily, you were (pretending to be) the mighty, the generous!

50. "Verily! This is that whereof you used to doubt!"

The angels in Hell shall be ordered to seize the unbelievers and drag them in the midst of the blazing fire. After this, the angels shall be further instructed to pour boiling water on their heads. In this way, they (the unbelievers) will suffer different forms of punishment for their evil/bad actions which they did in the world. While being punished they will be told, 'Taste (this punishment), you were (pretending to be) the mighty, the generous. Verily, this is that whereof you used to doubt'.

According to the great commentator Qatada (A.R), these verses were revealed about Abu Jahl who said to the Prophet (ﷺ), 'There is no one in Makkah more mighty and more honoured than me'. It is for this reason, Allah revealed, 'Taste the punishment, for you were pretending to be honoured and mighty'.

Ikrimah (A.R) narrated that the Prophet ([#]) once met Abu Jahl and said, 'Allah has ordered me to tell you, 'Woe to you and then woe to you'. Upon this, Abu Jahl said, 'What are you threatening me with. By Allah! You and your Lord do not have the power/right to threaten me with anything. For certainly, I am the mightiest of all those who live in this valley (that is, Makkah) and I am the most honoured of the people'. Allah then destroyed him in the battle of Badr and revealed this verse about him in which the angel in Hell shall say to him, 'Taste (the punishment)! Verily you were (pretending to be) the mighty, the honoured'.

The angels will further say to the unbelievers in Hell, (while punishing them), 'Verily! This is that whereof you used to doubt'. It means that they will be told, and reminded that what they are witnessing in Hell are from among those things which they had doubts about in the worldly life. Now that they have completed the worldly life and have entered the phase of the life hereafter, they will see the truth of what they were warned about and will be severely chastised for their denial. (Tafseer Al Qurtubi vol.16 pg. 131 Maktaba Rasheediya Queta).

Surah Ad Dukhan continues in verses 51 - 53 and state:

51. Verily! The righteous will be in place of Security (Paradise).

52. Among Gardens and Springs;

53. Dressed in fine silk and (also) in thick silk, facing each other,

Having highlighted the state of the unbelievers in the previous verses, Surah Ad Dukhan goes further (from verse 51) to highlight the state of the believers and their great rewards in the hereafter.

In verse 51, Allah states, 'Verily, the Muttaqoon (righteous) will be in a place of peace (and safety)'. It means that those who feared Allah in this world by fulfilling His orders and refraining from His prohibitions, on the Day of Judgement they will be in such a place where they will be protected from every type of harm, distress and fear. They will be in peace, safety and security, which will be Paradise. Here, Paradise (Jannah) is referred to as a place of safety/security, because it is a place where one will be fully secured and protected from every type of grief, worry, distress, difficulty, fatigue, hunger and thirst. One will also be fully protected from Satan and his plots, and every type of affliction and calamity. (Tafseer Ibn Katheer vol.5 pg. 496 Dar Al Kitab Al Arabi, Beirut 2013).

Verse 52 speaks about their residence and states, **'In gardens and springs'**. It means that the righteous believers will be in Paradise, living in beautiful gardens and surrounded by springs of all types. This will be the place of peace, safety and security for the righteous believers.

Verse 53 speaks about the beautiful garments the people in Paradise will be given to wear and states, **'Dressed in fine silk and (also) in thick silk, facing each other'**. This verse explains that the people in Paradise will be given such clothing to wear which will be made of fine silk and thick silk. While explaining this, Hafiz Ibn Katheer says, 'They will be dressed with the finest of silk, such as shirts and the like. They will also be dressed with silk which is woven with shiny threads, like a splendid garment which is worn over regular clothes'. **'They will be facing each other'** in the verse means that they will

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be sitting on thrones where none of them will sit with his back to anyone else'. (Tafseer Ibn Katheer vol.5 pg. 496 Dar Al Kitab Al Arabi, Beirut 2013)

While explaining the above verse (53) which states '(they will be) facing each other', the exegetes of the Holy Quran have explained that in Paradise, the believers will be seated in a manner where they will face each other. No one will face his back to another, and no one will see the nape of another. They will face each other whenever they are seated, so that an atmosphere of friendliness and cordialness will be created, where they will be sociable to each other, and be inclined to enjoy the company of one another. (Safwah At Tafaseer vol.15 pg. 67 Dar Al Quran Al Kareem Beirut 1981; Tafseer Mazhari vol. 10 pg. 273 Darul Ishaat Karachi)

Surah Ad Dukhan goes further in verses 54 and 55 to mention more of the rewards which Allah has placed in Paradise for the believers. The verses state:

54. So (it will be), and We shall marry them to *Houris* (female fair ones) with wide, lovely eyes.

55. They will call therein for every kind of fruit in peace and security;

Verse 54 explains that in this manner, Allah will honour the people of Paradise with different rewards and blessings. From among these is that He will join them in union with special females of Paradise whom He has specially created and are not from the offspring of Adam (A.S). These females have been created only to be given to the righteous believing men as a reward from Allah.

Verse 55 further states, **'They will call therein for every kind of fruit in peace and security'.** The people in Paradise will be in bliss and delight and will be given permission to ask for whatever their hearts desire. And so, they will call for all the different types of fruits in Paradise, and these shall be brought to them by the attendants/servants in Paradise.

They will ask for every type of fruit they desire, since they will feel safe against all possible harms and sicknesses on account of eating different types of fruits. They will also feel happy to request whatever they want from the fruits of Paradise, since they will be fully assured that they will not be refused, and the fruits and delights of Paradise will never come to an end. (Safwah At Tafaseer vol.15 pg. 67 Dar Al Quran Al Kareem Beirut 1981; Tafseer Ibn Katheer vol.5 pg. 496 Dar Al Kitab Al Arabi, Beirut 2013; Tafseer Al Qurtubi vol.16 pg. 134 Maktaba Rasheediya Queta Pakistan).

Sura Ad Dukhan further states in verse 56:

56. They will never taste death therein except the first death (of this world), and He will save them from the torment of the blazing Fire,

The verse explains that in Paradise, the believers will not taste any death again besides the first death which occurred in the worldly life. They will remain eternally in the gardens of Paradise, where life and enjoyment will not come to an end. While speaking about this, the Prophet (ﷺ) is reported to have said, 'Death will be brought forth in the image of a fine ram. It will be made to stand between Paradise and Hell, then it will be slaughtered. It will be said, 'O people of Paradise, it is now eternity and no more death, and O people of Hell, it is now eternity and no more death'.

It is also narrated that Abu Saeed (R.A) and Abu Hurairah (R.A) narrated that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said, 'It will be said to the people of Paradise, 'It is granted to you that you will be healthy and will never fall ill, you will live and never die, you will enjoy a life of luxury and will never be in misery, you will be youthful and will never grow old'. (Muslim)

In another Hadith, Abu Hurairah (R.A) narrated that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said, 'Whoever fears Allah, he will enter Paradise and enjoy a life of comfort and luxury and will never be in difficulties. He will live therein and will not die. His clothes will never wear out, and his youth will never fade'. (Tafseer Ibn Katheer vol.5 pg. 496 Dar Al Kitab Al Arabi, Beirut 2013)

Besides this, Allah will protect the righteous believers permanently from all the punishments of Hell. The verse states, 'And He will save them from the torment of the blazing fire'. It means that along with the great and eternal blessing of Paradise, Allah will also protect the believers from the agonizing