DARUL ULOOM TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO A CONCISE COMMENTARY COURSE OF THE HOLY OURAAN (2001-2020)

26. Say (to them): "Allah gives you life, then causes you to die, then He will assemble you on the Day of Resurrection about which there is no doubt. But most of mankind know not."

Here, the Prophet (*) was instructed to inform the polytheists/unbelievers that indeed Allah is the One who gives life and takes life and there is no doubt about this. As such, He gave them life in the very beginning when they were in the wombs of their mothers, and would cause them to die when their time on earth comes to an end. Then, after death, He will resurrect them for Reckoning and Requital, for certainly, He who has granted life in the beginning, has the ability to grant life again. So, life, death and Judgement are all fixed in accordance to the plan and decree of Allah, and it is not for Him to accede to the absurd requests made by the polytheists to bring their fathers alive to prove the truth of life after death.

The verse concludes with the statement in which Allah states, 'But most of mankind know not'. It means that Allah will certainly resurrect people for the Day of Judgement but many of them do not know this. It is for this reason, they deny the resurrection and consider it impossible for bodies to return to life after death.

The statement also means that Allah has given sufficient signs, proofs and evidences about everything which one is required to believe in. However, many people, due to ignorance and lack of reasoning and contemplation, fail to recognize the power and ability of Allah and thus, deny the Resurrection and Reckoning in the life hereafter.

Surah Al Jathiyah states in verse 27:

27. And to Allah belongs the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. And on the Day that the Hour will be established, on that Day the followers of falsehood (polytheists, disbelievers, worshippers of false deities, etc.) shall lose (everything).

The verse makes it clear that the dominion of the heavens and the earth and all that exist in these belong solely to Allah. He is the King and the Owner of everything in the heavens and the earth. As for the hereafter, He is also the King and the Owner of the Hereafter. He is the Ruler and the Judge of all affairs of the Hereafter. In order to indicate to this, Allah states, 'And on the Day that the Hour will be established – on that Day, the people of falsehood will be at a loss'. It means that those who followed falsehood like the unbelievers and polytheists, who rejected what Allah revealed to His prophets and also denied the evidences of Allah, they will be in a state of loss on the Day of Judgement. The reason for being in a state of loss and deprivation on that Day is that they were deceived in their worldly life, thinking that worshipping idols and associating partners with Allah would make them successful in the hereafter and cause them to enter paradise. However, when the Day of Judgement will be established, they will not get what they expected. Instead of paradise, they will be thrown in the fire of Hell and be punished severely for what they did. As such, they will be at a total loss and would not achieve what they hoped for. (Tafseer At Tabari vol.25 pg. 180 Dar Ihya At Turath Al Arabi Beirut 2001)

Surah Al Jathiyah continues in verse 28 and states:

28. And you will see each nation humbled to their knees (kneeling), each nation will be called to its Record (of deeds). This Day you shall be recompensed for what you used to do.

Here, Allah informs the Prophet (**) and says that on the Day of Judgement, you will see every nation (every person) kneeling on the ground out of the horrors and fear for the Resurrection. Every person will be struck with terror and fear and will go on their knees before Allah. Some scholars have stated that 'every nation' mentioned in the verse, refers to the unbelievers of every nation. However, many scholars have stated that everyone including the believers and unbelievers will be kneeling down before Allah on the Day of Judgement while awaiting the Reckoning'.(Tafseer Al Qurtubi vol.16 pg. 151 Maktaba Rasheediya Queta).

DARUL ULOOM TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO A CONCISE COMMENTARY COURSE OF THE HOLY OURAAN (2001-2020)

While explaining the above verse, Hafiz Ibn Katheer writes, 'And you will see each nation humbled to their knees' kneeling, fearful of the tremendous calamity and events. It was said that this will occur when Hellfire will be brought forth, for it will exhale once and everyone will fall to their knees, including Ibraheem (A.S), Al Khaleel (the friend of Allah). He will proclaim, 'Myself, myself! Today I will not ask you (O Allah) but about myself'. And even Isa (A.S) will proclaim, 'Today I will not ask you about anyone except myself. I will not ask you about Maryam, who gave birth to me'. (Tafseer Ibn Katheer vol.5 pg. 503 Dar Al Kitab Al Arabi, Beirut 2013)

The verse further states, 'each nation shall be called to its Record (of deeds)'. It means that every person shall be called to receive/view the book of their deeds in which good and bad (deeds) were written. After receiving their book of deeds, it shall be said to them, 'This Day you shall be recompensed for what you used to do'. It means that each person shall be requited/repaid for whatever good or bad he did in the world.

Verse 29 of Surah Al Jathiyah continues to speak about the book of deeds and states:

29. This Our Record speaks against you with truth. Verily, We were recording what you used to do.

Allah will say to people after giving them their book of deeds, 'This is the book of your deeds which shall testify and bear witness against you in truth, without any increase or decrease'. (Tafseer Al Qurtubi; Tafseer Ibn Katheer; Tafseer Al Bahrul Muheet)

The verse further states, 'We were recording what you used to do'. It means that Allah will say to them, 'We had ordered the writing of what you used to do'. While explaining this verse, Hafiz Ibn Katheer writes, 'Verily, We were recording what you used to do' means, 'We ordered Our Scribe angels to record your deeds'. Ibn Abbas (RA) and others commented, 'The angels record the deeds of the servants and then ascend to the heaven with them. There, they meet the angels entrusted with the Record of deeds sent down from Al Lawhul Mahfooz (the Sacred Tablets) on each night of Al Qadr, containing what Allah has written will occur from the servants, long before He created them. They will compare their records and find out that not a single letter was added or deleted'. He then recited this verse'. (Tafseer Ibn Katheer vol.5 pg. 504 Dar Al Kitab Al Arabi, Beirut 2013; Tafseer Al Qurtubi vol.16 pg. 152 Maktaba Rasheediya Queta; Safwah At Tafaseer vol.3 pg. 175 Maktaba Tawfiqiyah Dar As Sabooni 2009)

Surah Al Jathiyah states in verse 30:

30. Then, as for those who believed (in the Oneness of Allah) and did righteous good deeds, their Lord will admit them to His Mercy. That will be the evident success.

In this verse, Allah speaks about His Judgement to people on the Day of Judgement and states that those who believed in Him and did righteous deeds in the worldly life, He will enter them into His Mercy which is Paradise (Jannah). And this will be the greatest success for them'. In the verse, the word 'Mercy' refers to Jannah (Paradise), and Paradise (Jannah) is referred to as Allah's Mercy in the verse (and in other verses of the Quran) because it is the abode which is filled with Allah's Mercy. It is also evident in an authentic tradition that Allah addressed Jannah and said, 'You are My Mercy with which I show Mercy to those of My servants whom I will'. (Bukhari)

Surah Al Jathiyah states in verse 31:

31. But as for those who disbelieved (it will be said to them): "Were not Our Verses recited to you? But you were proud, and you were a people who were Mujrimûn (disbelievers, sinners, criminals)."

Here, Allah mentions His Judgement and treatment of those who disbelieved in Him and did evil actions. On the Day of Judgement, they will be chastised severely for their disbelief and shirk, and will plead to Allah for a reprieve, but Allah will say to them, 'Were not My verses recited to you? But you were proud and arrogant and became a sinful people'. At that time, they would be reminded of