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While explaining the above verse, the great scholar, Muhammad bin Ka'b (A.R) states, 'The people of Paradise would recognize their homes/palaces when they enter Jannah just as they recognize their homes (in the world) when they return from Jum'ah Salaah'. Muqatil bin Hayyan (died 150 AH), the great Hadith master, said, 'The narrations have reached us that the Angel who is entrusted to secure the good deeds of a person done in the worldly life, will walk in front of him in Jannah and the person will follow him until he reaches the farthest house/palace in Jannah which belongs to him. The angel will then inform him (make known to him) every favour which Allah has granted him in Jannah. When he reaches to his farthest house in Jannah, he would enter his house with his wife and the Angel will leave at that time'.(Tafseer Ibn Katheer vol.5 pg. 535 Dar Al Kitab Al Arabi, Beirut 2013)

It is narrated by Abu Saeed Al Khudri (R.A) that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said, 'After the believers securely pass the fire of Hell (on the Day of Judgement), they will be held back upon a bridge between Paradise and Hell. There, they will have any acts of injustice that they committed against one another in the life of this world rectified. After they are completely purified and cleansed (from injustice), they will be admitted into Paradise. By the One in whose hand is my soul, each one of them will find his way to his dwelling in Paradise better than he found his way to his dwelling in the worldly life'. (Sahih Al Bukhari - Tafseer Al Qurtubi vol.16 pg. 197 Maktaba Rasheediya Queta; Tafseer At Tabari vol.26 pg. 53 Dar Ihya At Turath Al Arabi Beirut 2001)

Surah Muhammad states in verse 7:

## 7. O you who believe! If you help Allah, He will help you, and make your foothold firm.

Here, the believers are addressed and are told that if they help Allah, by helping His religion (Islam), and by helping His Messenger Muhammad (<sup>28</sup>) against his enemies (the unbelievers), then He (Allah) will help them and grant them success and victory over the unbelievers. He will also make their foothold firm. It means that He will help them and make their feet firm and steadfast. He will strengthen them, and make them courageous so that they will not turn away from fighting the unbelievers even though they may be in large numbers. (Tafseer At Tabari vol.26 pg. 54 Dar Ihya At Turath Al Arabi Beirut 2001).

Scholars of the Holy Quran have further said that the statement 'and He will make your foothold firm' as mentioned in the verse also refers to:

- 'making a person steadfast and firm in Islam'.
- 'making a person firm upon the bridge on the Day of Judgement'.
- 'making the heart firm with peace and security'.

It therefore means that when a believer helps Allah, by helping His religion and His Prophet, then Allah in return, will help him in every manner, even in battles which are fought for Islam. He will also make him steadfast, courageous and strong. The believer will then be firm in Islam and his heart will be filled with peace and security, all of which are from Allah's help to him at times of holy wars.(Tafseer Al Qurtubi vol.16 pg. 197Maktaba Rasheediya Queta)

Surah Muhammad states in verse 8:

### 8. But those who disbelieve (in the Oneness of Allah), for them is destruction, and (Allah) will make their deeds vain.

Here, Allah mentions the plight of those who disbelieve and fight against His religion and His Prophet. He states that destruction shall come upon them and all their (good) deeds shall be lost. He will nullify them and make them fruitless. They will suffer defeat and humiliation at the hands of the believers, and will also suffer in the hereafter because all their deeds shall be destroyed by Allah since these were done without true faith and obedience to Allah.

While commenting on the above verse, the exegetes of the Holy Quran have stated that in the verse, an invocation is made against the disbelievers, stating that grief and misery shall befall them; suffering

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and destruction shall come to them; humiliation and disgrace shall cover them, and the curse of Allah and evil shall touch them.(Tafseer Al Qurtubi vol.16 pg. 198 Maktaba Rasheediya Queta).

Verse 9 of Surah Muhammad mentions the reason for the miserable state of the unbelievers (mentioned in verse 8) and states:

## 9. That is because they hate that which Allah has sent down so He has made their deeds fruitless.

The verse mentions that the disbelievers hated and detested what Allah had sent down from His sacred revelation and His commands/injunctions. Due to their hatred, they denied the Book of Allah and rejected His Prophet, and as a result of this, Allah will cause their deeds to be wasted and will not compensate them for their good.

While explaining this verse, which states that Allah will make their deeds fruitless, some commentators have explained that it refers to actions of goodness which they did to others like entertaining the guests, feeding the poor or assistance given to build a place of worship for Allah etc. For these actions which were done by disbelievers, they will receive no reward or goodness from Allah since these were done while they were in the state of kufr (disbelief). (Tafseer Al Qurtubi vol.16 pg. 199 Maktaba Rasheediya Queta)

Some scholars have stated that the 'deeds' mentioned in this verse, refers to their worship which they did to their so-called gods and idols. Allah will not grant them any benefit for this in the worldly life or the hereafter. Instead, He will punish them and send them to the fire of Hell. (Tafseer At Tabari vol.26 pg. 55 Dar Ihya At Turath Al Arabi Beirut 2001)

Surah Muhammad states in verse 10:

# 10. Have they not travelled through the earth, and seen what was the end of those before them? Allah destroyed them completely and a similar (fate awaits) the disbelievers.

The verse is meant to send a warning to the unbelievers who continued to reject the message of 'Tauheed'. Allah questions them and asks if they have not travelled in the close-by areas and witnessed what was the end of those who disbelieved in Allah. This is a rebuke for them because they all travelled to Syria for trade purposes and saw the punishment of Allah which came to the transgressing nations like the people of Aad, Thamud, Lut and others who disbelieved in Allah. They saw the ruins of these cities and heard of the punishments which were sent to these nations. Witnessing these disasters on their journeys was sufficient for them to take heed and mend their actions, but yet, they remained firm on disbelief.

Reminding them of what happened to the people of the past who lived close to them, the verse states, 'Allah destroyed them completely'. It means that these nations who disobeyed their prophets and rejected Allah before them, were completely wiped out and destroyed by Allah. He demolished their palaces and lofty castles, and wrecked their cities. Their wealth, properties, families and tribes were all destroyed by Allah on account of their disbelief in Allah. They should therefore take a lesson from this and fear Allah's punishment before it falls upon them.

Allah Himself warns them and says, 'and a similar (fate awaits) the disbelievers'. It means that if they (the disbelievers of Makkah) do not believe in Allah, then they shall suffer the same consequences of those in the past.