

Level 3

ISLAMIC FAITH
**BELIEVING IN THE
HEREAFTER**

(MINOR AND MAJOR SIGNS OF THE HOUR)

Latifa Nasser Al Saeed

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**The Islamic Faith – Level 3
Believing in Angels, Books and Prophets**

**Believing in in the Hereafter
Major and Minor of the Hour**

Latifa Al-Saeed

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Introduction

Praise be to Allah the Highest and peace be upon His Prophet Mohammad to whom He gave the message to mankind.

This book, *Believing in the Hereafter*, is the third level in the *Aqeedah (Faith) Series* of books which aims to explain the pillars of faith in a simple and clear manner. The Islamic creed forms the foundation of a Muslim's belief and guides one's understanding of Allah, His creation, and His divine guidance. This book covers the minor and major signs of the Hour, explains the terrors and stages of the Day of Resurrection, and concludes with a description of Paradise and Hellfire.

Studying *Aqeedah* strengthens one's relationship with Allah, nurtures sound understanding, and brings peace to the heart. It helps the learner recognize the truth, avoid misconceptions, and live with purpose and confidence based on authentic Islamic teachings. This book presents these great principles in a clear, accessible manner suitable for learners at all levels, encouraging reflection, faith, and practical application in daily life.

The writer



Death (The minor Resurrection)

Death is called the minor resurrection. Every person who dies experiences this 'resurrection,' because after death, one has entered the Hereafter. Death is certain for all living beings. Every soul has a fixed time of death that cannot be delayed or advanced. No one knows when death will come, as this knowledge belongs only to Allah and is part of the unseen. Allah ﷻ says:

Indeed, Allah alone has knowledge of the Hour, sends down the rain, and knows what is in the wombs. No soul knows what it will earn tomorrow, nor in which land it will die. Surely, Allah is All-Knowing and All-Aware. [31:34]

Al-Barzakh (The Interval)

It is the time between death and the Day of Resurrection. Allah ﷻ says

...and behind them is Barzakh (a barrier) until the Day when they will be resurrected. [23:100]

The moment of death (The dying process)

When a person's life nears its end, Allah ﷻ sends the angels of death to take the soul that controls the body. The angels of death come to the believer in a beautiful form, bringing glad tidings of forgiveness from Allah. He feels peace and happiness. But they come to the disbeliever or hypocrite in a frightening form, bringing news of Allah's anger and punishment. He feels fear and deep sorrow.

According to the hadith of Al-Baraa' ibn 'Aazib, the Messenger ﷺ said: 'When the believing servant is about to leave this world and move to the Hereafter, angels descend from the heavens with faces bright like the sun. They bring with them a shroud and perfume from Paradise and sit around him as far as the eye can see.

Then the Angel of Death **الملائكة** comes and sits at his head and says, “O good and peaceful soul, come out to forgiveness and pleasure from Allah.” Then it comes out as smoothly as a drop of water flowing from a jug. But when the disbelieving or immoral servant is about to depart this world, harsh angels with dark faces descend, bringing sackcloth from Hell. They sit around him as far as the eye can see. Then the Angel of Death **الملائكة** says, “O evil soul, come out to the anger and wrath of Allah.” The soul hides within his body and is dragged out like a multi-hooked iron skewer pulled through wet wool.’ Authenticated by Shaykh Al-Albani

The agonies of death

Allah **ﷻ** says:

And the intoxication of death will bring the truth; that is what you were trying to avoid. [50:19]

The agonies of death are the pains, suffering, and distress that a person experiences as the soul departs. The body’s organs die gradually one after another. Even the Messenger of Allah **ﷺ** endured the agonies of death. He suffered greatly from the pain and said:

‘There is no God but Allah, indeed death has its agony.’ Al-Bukhari

At the time of death, every person regrets his wrong deeds and wishes to return to this world, so that if he were a disbeliever, he could become a believer, or if he were sinful, he could repent. Allah **ﷻ** says:

“Until, when death comes to one of them, he says, ‘My Lord, send me back, that I might do righteousness in that which I left behind.’ No! It is only a word he is saying, and behind them is a barrier until the Day they are resurrected. “[23:99–100]

Faith and repentance will not be accepted once death arrives and the soul reaches the throat. The Messenger of Allah **ﷺ** said:

‘Allah accepts the servant’s repentance as long as the soul has not reached the throat.’ Tirmidhi

Causes of a bad end

1. Corruption in one’s belief (Aqeedah)

If a person’s belief is not according to the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Messenger ﷺ, then his false belief may become apparent at the time of death.

2. Persisting in Sins

Whoever continues to commit sins becomes used to them. Whatever a person becomes used to in life will return to him at the time of death.

If he was devoted to acts of worship, those acts will come to his mind during his final moments. But if he was attached to sin, that is what will occupy his thoughts at the time of death.

3. Weakness of Faith

Weak faith weakens a person’s love for Allah. Then love for the worldly life (Dunya) takes over his heart until there is no space left for the love of Allah.

This prevents the soul from resisting sins.

The person follows his desires, commits wrong actions, and the darkness of those sins keeps piling up in his heart until it covers the small light of faith that remains. When death approaches, his love for Allah becomes even weaker, because he sees himself leaving the world he loved so much.

His attachment to this world makes it hard for him to let go, and the thought of leaving it causes him pain.

The soul's departure and journey to Heaven

Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“When the angels attend a dying person, if he was righteous, they say: ‘Come forth, O good soul that was in a good body. Come forth praiseworthy, and receive the glad tidings of rest, provision, and a Lord Who is not angry.’

They keep repeating this until the soul comes out. Then they take it up to Heaven, and the gates are opened for it. It is asked, ‘Who is this?’ They say, ‘So and so,’ and it is said: ‘Welcome, O good soul that was in a good body. Enter praiseworthy and receive the glad tidings of rest, provision, and a Lord Who is not angry.’

But if the person was evil, the angels say:

‘Come forth, O evil soul that was in an evil body. Come forth blameworthy and receive the tidings of boiling fluid, foul discharges, and other torments of similar kind.’

They keep saying this until the soul departs. When they take it up to Heaven, they ask for the gates to be opened, and they ask, “Who is this?”

They say, ‘So and so.’ It is said, ‘There is no welcome for this evil soul,’ so the gates are not opened for it, and it is sent back down to the grave.”

Ibn Majah



The Grave

The terrors of the grave

'Uthman ibn 'Affan, one of the noble companions of the Prophet ﷺ and the third Caliph of Islam, narrated that the Prophet ﷺ said:

“The grave is the first stage of the Hereafter. Whoever passes through it safely, whatever follows will be easier for him; and whoever fails to pass through it safely, whatever comes after will be harder for him. Tirmidhi

When a person is laid in his grave, the grave closes in on him in such a way that no one, whether great or small, righteous or sinful, can escape from its pressure.

The trial (fitnah) of the grave

When the deceased is placed in his grave, two angels come to him in a terrifying form. Al-Baraa' ibn 'Aazib رضي الله عنه narrated that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“Two severe angels come to him, make him sit up roughly, and ask him: ‘Who is your Lord? What is your religion? Who is your Prophet?’ This is the final trial a believer faces.”

Allah ﷻ mentions this in the verse:

Allah keeps those who believe, with the firm word, in this worldly life and in the Hereafter. [14:27]

The believer will reply: “My Lord is Allah, my religion is Islam, and my Prophet is Muhammad.” Then a voice will call out from the heavens: “My servant has spoken the truth.”

As for the disbeliever or the evildoer, the Prophet ﷺ said:

“Two harsh angels...come to him, they say to him “Who is your Lord?” He says, “Oh, oh, I don’t know.” They say to him “What is your religion?” He says, “Oh, oh, I don’t know.” They say, “What do you say about this man who was sent among you?” He cannot remember his name, so they tell him, “Mohammad.” He says, “Oh, oh, I don’t know.” (I heard people saying such and such). “They say to him, “May you never know and may never say what the people said!”. Then a voice calls out, “My slave is lying.” Sahih Hadeeth compiled by Al Albani”

The torment and blessings of the grave

There are several verses in the Qur’an that indicate the existence of torment in the grave. Allah ﷻ says:

“We will punish them twice [in this world]; then they will be returned to a great punishment.” [9:101]

Also, Allah ﷻ says:

“...and the people of Pharaoh were enveloped by the worst of punishment, the Fire; they are exposed to it morning and evening. And on the Day when the Hour will be established, it will be said, ‘Make the people of Pharaoh enter the severest punishment.’ [40:45–46]

The first verse refers to two types of punishment that will afflict the munafiqeen (hypocrites) before the final torment of the Day of Resurrection, the first being the punishment that Allah ﷻ inflicts upon them in this world, and the second being the torment of the grave. The second verse explicitly states that the people of Pharaoh are presented before the Fire every morning and evening, which occurs before the Day of Resurrection, Top of Form Bottom of Form The majority of scholars believe that this exposure to the Fire takes place during *Al-Barzakh* (the interval between death and the Resurrection).

'Aishah May Allah be pleased with her narrated that a Jewish woman came to her and mentioned the torment of the grave, saying, **"May Allah protect you from the torment of the grave."** 'Aishah, then asked the Messenger ﷺ about it, and he replied, **"Yes, there is the torment of the grave."** After that, 'Aishah said, **"I never saw the Messenger of Allah pray without seeking Allah's protection from the torment of the grave."** Bukhari

The torment of the grave is part of the torment of *Al-Barzakh*. Every person who dies and deserves punishment will receive his share of it, whether he is buried or not, eaten by wild animals, burned to ashes and scattered by the wind, crucified, or drowned in the sea. His soul and body will experience the same torment as those buried in graves. Many authentic Hadiths (Prophetic narrations) describe that every deceased person will be shown his final home while in the grave and will continue to see it as long as he remains there. This was clearly stated by the Messenger ﷺ.

'Abdullah ibn 'Umar رضي الله عنه reported that the Prophet ﷺ said:

"When any one of you dies, he is shown his abode morning and evening. If he is among the people of Paradise, he will see his place in Paradise; and if he is among the people of Hell, he will see his place in Hell. Then it will be said to him, 'This is your place until Allah resurrects you on the Day of Resurrection.'" Bukhari

Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger ﷺ said:

"When the two angels question the believing servant, and he answers correctly, they say, 'We knew that you would say this.' Then his grave is expanded for him, seventy cubits by seventy, and filled with light. He is then told, 'Sleep.' He says, 'Let me return to my family and tell them.' They reply, 'Sleep like a bridegroom who will be awakened only by the dearest of his family, until Allah resurrects you from your place of rest.

But they say to the hypocrite, "we knew that you would say this" then it is said to the earth, squeeze him." So, it squeezes him until his ribs interlock, and he will be tormented until Allah resurrects him from his grave" Tirmithi

Reasons for the punishment of the grave

The causes of punishment in the grave are divided into two types: general and specific. In the *general* category, people may be punished for their ignorance of Allah, for disobeying His commands, and for committing sins.

In the *specific* category, the main reasons for the punishment of the grave include:

1. Not purifying oneself properly from the traces of urine.
2. **Nameemah**: Spreading gossip and slander to create discord among people.
3. **Ghalool**: Stealing from the war booty before its lawful distribution.
4. Lying, abandoning the Qur'an (by neglecting its recitation, disregarding its commands, or failing to act according to it), adultery, and *riba* (usury, giving or taking a loan on the condition that more than the original amount is repaid).
5. Being indebted, as the debtor is detained in his grave because of his debt.

Things that save one from the trial and torment of the grave

What protects a person from the torment of the grave is being ready and prepared for death, so that even if death comes suddenly, there will be no regret. Among the means of preparation are hastening to repent, fulfilling one's duties, avoiding major sins, and performing abundant righteous deeds. Acts such as faith, prayer, fasting, zakat, hajj, jihad, honoring parents, maintaining family ties, and remembering Allah (*dhikr*) all serve as protection for the believer. Through these righteous deeds, Allah grants relief and deliverance from hardship.

Because the trial and torment of the grave are among the greatest terrors and hardships, the Messenger ﷺ used to seek refuge with Allah from them in his prayers and at other times, and he would advise his companions to do the same.

Those who are protected from the trial and torment of the grave

Some believers who did great deeds or went through severe hardships will be protected from the trial and torment of the grave. Among them are:

- The martyr (shaheed)
- The one who guards the Muslim frontiers for the sake of Allah (muraabit)
- The one who dies on a Friday
- The one who dies of a stomach illness

Review Questions - Chapter 1

Fill in the blanks:

1. _____ in one's belief is the main cause of a bad ending of a person.
2. At the time of death, a _____ wishes to go back to this world so that he might become a Muslim.
3. The soul of a _____ person is welcomed on its journey to the heavens.
4. _____ is the period from death until the Resurrection.
5. Everyone who dies is considered to have passed into the _____.

True or False:

1. The repentance is accepted even after death rattle sounds in the throat. _____
2. When a person is placed in his grave, he is asked about his Lord, his Prophet, and his religion. _____
3. The shaheed (martyr) will be protected from the torment of the grave. _____
4. Death is not a matter of the unseen because some people know the time of their death. _____
5. The grave of the believing slave is expanded and illuminated for him. _____

Multiple choice:

1. **The angel who takes away the souls of the creatures is:**
 - a. The Angel of Death
 - b. Israfeel

c. Jibreel

2. The first stage of the Hereafter is:

a. The grave

b. The blowing of the trumpet

c. The serious illness

3. Reasons for punishment of the grave:

a. Not keeping clean from the remains of urine

b. Spreading gossip, lying, abandoning Quran, adultery and riba

c. All of the above

4. Things which save a person from the punishment of the grave are:

a. Strong faith, repentance and seeking Allah's refuge from the punishment of the grave

b. Fulfilling one's obligations towards Allah and righteous deeds.

c. All of the above.

5. At the time of death, angels come to the believer:

a. In a frightening form, telling him the anger and wrath of Allah.

b. In a beautiful form giving him glad tidings of forgiveness of Allah.

c. To wash, enshroud and bury him



Chapter two

The Hour and Its Signs

The Significance of the Hour

Belief in the Day of Judgment is one of the essential principles of Islamic faith. Without this belief, a person's faith cannot be complete.

The Qur'an repeatedly warns humanity about the coming of the Hour and commands preparation for it. Yet, people often neglect this matter, even though its occurrence is near and its reality is inevitable. The Hour is a definite and unavoidable event; there is no doubt about its coming, and indeed, it is near.

Allah ﷻ says:

Indeed, the Hour is coming. [20:15]

The time of the Hour has not been revealed to any of Allah's creation, not even to His prophets or the angels. Allah ﷻ says:

People ask you concerning the Hour. Say, "Knowledge of it is only with Allah. And what may make you perceive? Perhaps the Hour is near." [33:63]

The signs of the Hour

1. **Minor Signs**
2. **Major Signs**

Differences Between Minor and Major Signs

Minor signs

- They occur long before the Hour.
- They are ordinary events that increase in frequency and severity.
- They happen over long periods and not necessarily in order.
- Some have already appeared in the past.
- Many are taking place today.
- Some may reappear in the future.
- The door of repentance remains open while they occur.
- They will end with the appearance of the Major Signs.

Major signs

- They are extraordinary and miraculous events.
- They happen very near to the establishment of the Hour.
- They occur in sequence; once the first appears, the rest follow quickly.
- Each major sign will happen only once and never repeat.
- After some of them, the door of repentance will be closed.
- They will end with the first blowing of the trumpet, marking the beginning of the Last Day.

The Minor signs of the Hour

Most of the minor signs are related to the moral decline of people, widespread corruption, trials, and the distortion of human nature (*fitrah*).

Minor Signs that appeared in the past and ceased

1. The Mission and Death of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

The Prophet ﷺ said:

“My mission and the Hour are like these,” and he held out his middle and index fingers. Bukhari and Muslim

This shows that the Hour is very near and that the time remaining for this world is short.

2. The Splitting of the Moon

This miracle took place during the time of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, as recorded in authentic narrations.

3. The Fire of Al-Hijaz

Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported that the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: **“The Hour will not come until fire comes out of the land of Hijaz (Saudi Arabia now) and will illuminate the necks of the camels in Busra.”** Bukhari

This sign occurred in the year **654 after Hijrah**, near **Al-Madinah**. A loud noise was heard, followed by a violent earthquake that shook the houses of Madinah. Then a massive fire erupted in **Al-Harrah**, east of Madinah. The people of **Busra**, a city in southern Syria, reported that they could see the necks of their camels at night because of the light of this fire. The burned stones from that event still remain visible today.

4. The end of Jizyah and Kharaj collection

Jizyah refers to the tax paid by Jews and Christians living under Islamic rule.

Kharaj refers to the tax taken from those who made use of lands conquered by the Muslim state.

Both were important sources of income for **Bayt al-Maal** (the Muslim treasury). The Prophet ﷺ foretold that Muslims would lose these sources of income when their lands were taken over by the Romans and Persians and when the **Khilafah (Caliphate)** would be abolished.

Abu Hurairah reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“Iraq will withhold its dirhams and qafeez, Syria will withhold its madd and dinars, and Egypt will withhold its irdab and dinars. You will return to where you started, you will return to where you started.” Muslim

Dirhams and dinars are types of currency, while qafeez, madd, and irdab are measures used for weighing food.

Minor signs that have appeared and continue

1. Conquests and wars

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ informed his companions about the future conquests and victories that would occur during their time and after them. All of these came true. The followers of Islam marched east and west, conquering lands and spreading the message of Islam. They defeated the Persians and Romans, entered India, and fought the Turks. These struggles continued throughout the ages and will persist until the last group of this **Ummah (nation)** fights against the **Dajjal (Antichrist)**.

2. The emergence of false claimants to prophethood

The Prophet ﷺ said that nearly **thirty imposters** (Dajjals) would appear among this nation, each claiming to be a prophet.

Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“The Hour will not come until nearly thirty liars appear, each claiming to be a messenger of Allah.” Bukhari and Muslim

Indeed, many such imposters have appeared throughout history.

3. Increase in trials and tribulations (Fitan)

Allah ﷻ informed His Messenger ﷺ that the Muslim nation would face severe trials in the future some light and some intense.

Anas ibn Malik رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“Just before the Hour there will be tribulations like patches of dark night, where a man will be a believer in the morning and a disbeliever by evening, or a believer in the evening and a disbeliever by morning. Some people will sell their religion for a small worldly gain.” Tirmidhi

These tribulations are caused by **love of the worldly life, lack of knowledge, widespread ignorance, abandoning Islam, sins, disobedience**, and the spread of **adultery (zinā)** and **wine drinking**.

4. Increase in wars and internal conflicts among Muslims

Another sign of the Hour is the increasing turmoil within the Muslim Ummah. Muslims will fight one another, and killing (haraj) will spread widely.

Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported that the Prophet ﷺ said:

“By the One in Whose hand is my soul, a time will come when the killer will not know why he killed, and the one killed will not know why he was killed.” Muslim

An example of this was the **assassination of the Caliph Uthman ibn Affan** رضي الله عنه and the great battles between **Ali** رضي الله عنه and **Mu’awiyah** رضي الله عنه.

Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه also reported that the Prophet ﷺ said:

“The Hour will not be established until two large groups of Muslims fight each other, and there will be many casualties, though both claim to follow the same religion.” Bukhari

5. The appearance of women who are clothed yet naked, and corrupt enforcers

Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“There are two types of the people of Hell whom I have not seen: people who have whips like the tails of oxen with which they strike people, and women who are clothed yet naked, deviating from the right path and causing others to deviate. Their heads are like the humps of camels tilted to one side. They will not enter Paradise, nor smell its fragrance, though its fragrance can be perceived from a great distance.” Muslim

Today we witness women wearing tight, transparent, and short clothing, walking in seductive ways. Likewise, there are men entrusted with enforcing order who instead use their power to oppress and harm people, a condition widespread across many Muslim societies today.

6. Children dominating parents and the rise of the Bedouins

Ibn Abbas رضي الله عنه reported that Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“When you see the slave woman giving birth to her master, and you see the barefoot, naked shepherds competing in building tall buildings, and the hungry becoming leaders, then this is one of the signs of the Hour.” Ahmad

When the Prophet ﷺ was asked who these shepherds were, he replied that they were the **Arab Bedouins**. Scholars explained that this means authority will be given to those who are unqualified to handle it.

7. Loss of trust and honesty

A Bedouin once asked the Prophet ﷺ about the time of the Hour. The Prophet ﷺ replied: **“When honesty is lost, then await the Hour.”** The man asked, **“How will it be lost?”** He said, **“When unqualified people are appointed to authority, then await the Hour.”**

Jāmi’ al-Usool

Abu Hurairah also reported that the Prophet said:

“There will come to people years of treachery, when the liar will be believed and the truthful will be disbelieved, the treacherous will be trusted and the trustworthy will be regarded as treacherous, and the Ruwaybidhah will speak.” They asked, **“Who is the Ruwaybidhah?”** He said, **“The insignificant man who will speak on public matters.”**

Silsilat al-Ahadeeth as-Saheehah

Today, we see this prophecy fulfilled. The disbelievers who control the media are believed, while the truthful are denied. The Muslim Ummah entrusts its wealth to non-Muslims while Muslims themselves are branded as untrustworthy. Insignificant people with no knowledge or wisdom speak about global affairs, leading humanity toward corruption and destruction.

8. Selective greetings, widespread trade, and cutting family ties

Abdullah ibn Mas‘ood reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“Just before the Hour, there will be exclusive greetings, widespread trade to the extent that a woman will help her husband in his business, severing of family ties, false testimony, concealment of truthful testimony, and the spread of the pen.”

Silsilat al-Ahadeeth as-Saheehah

This hadith accurately describes our time, where greetings are limited to certain people, trade and business dominate lives, women increasingly share business roles, family ties are neglected, false testimony is common, truth is hidden, and writing and publications have spread throughout the world.

9. The corruption of the Muslims and the unity of nations against them

Among the signs of the Hour is the uniting of the disbelieving nations against the Muslim Ummah. This has occurred repeatedly throughout history, when the crusaders, Jews, and atheists allied to destroy the Islamic Caliphate. They divided the Muslim lands among themselves, giving Palestine to the Jews. All of this happened because of the corruption of the Muslims and their leaders who neglected the *Amanah* (trust), the faith and the duties which Allah ﷻ has ordained.

10. The increase of earthquakes and the shortening of time

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“The Hour will not come until knowledge disappears, earthquakes increase, time passes quickly, trials (fitan) multiply, and people compete in constructing tall buildings.” Al-Bukhari

In another narration, the Prophet ﷺ said:

“Before the Hour comes, time will pass quickly, a year will feel like a month, a month like a week, a week like a day, and a day like the time it takes to burn a palm leaf.”
At-Tirmidhi

11. Muslims imitating non-Muslims

Abu Sa’eed al-Khudri رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“You will surely follow the ways of those who came before you, span by span and cubit by cubit, even if they entered a lizard’s hole, you would follow them.”

We asked, “O Messenger of Allah do you mean the Jews and the Christians?”
He said, **“Who else?”** Muslim

Note: A **mastigure** is a type of lizard that lives in the Arabian desert.

Minor signs that have not yet happened

1. The defeat of the Jews

Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه said, the Prophet ﷺ said “The Hour will not come until you fight with the Jews, and the stone behind which a Jew will be hiding will say “O Muslim! There is a Jew hiding behind me, so, kill him.” Al-Shaikhan

2. Enlargement of the new moon

Anas رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, **“Among the signs that the Hour is approaching is that the new moon will appear larger, and people will say that it looks two nights old. Mosques will be treated as pathways, and sudden death will become common.”** *Saheeh Al-Jaami*

3. The Arabian Peninsula becoming gardens and rivers again

Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“The Hour will not come until wealth becomes abundant and widespread, to the point that a man will offer his zakat but find no one to accept it, and until the land of the Arabs once again becomes gardens and rivers.” *Muslim*

This transformation will occur either because people will dig wells and canals, or due to a natural change in the region’s climate. The Prophet ﷺ said:

“Among the signs that the Hour is approaching will be that the new moon will appear larger, and it will be said that it is two nights old. people will take the mosques as thoroughfares, and there will be sudden death.” *Saheeh Al-Jaami*

4. The River Euphrates and the hidden treasure

Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“Soon the Euphrates will uncover a treasure of gold. Whoever is present at that time should not take anything from it.” Al-Bukhari and Muslim

5. The speech of animals and inanimate objects to humans

Abu Sa’eed Al-Khudri رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“By the One in Whose Hand is my soul, the Hour will not come until wild animals speak to people, and the end of a man’s whip and his shoelace speak to him, and a man’s thigh tells him what his family did after he left.” Reported by Ibn Hibban and Al-Hakim

6. The Final of the Minor Signs: The Emergence of Al-Mahdi, the great battle between Muslims and the Romans, and the peaceful conquest of Constantinople

Authentic narrations indicate that near the end of time, Allah ﷻ will send a righteous and just ruler from the family of the Prophet ﷺ known as **Al-Mahdi**. He will be a descendant of Fatimah (the Prophet’s daughter). His name will be the same as that of the Prophet ﷺ and his father’s name will match the name of the Prophet’s father. The hadith describes him as a man with a broad forehead and a prominent, slightly curved nose. Allah ﷻ will send him to revive Islam and fill the earth with justice and fairness after it has been filled with oppression and injustice.

The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“Even if only one day were left for this world, Allah would prolong that day until He sends a man from me or from my family, whose name will be like my name and whose father’s name will be like my father’s name. He will fill the earth with justice as it was filled with oppression and tyranny.” Abu Dawood

Abu Sa'eed Al-Khudri رضي الله عنه also reported that the Prophet ﷺ said:

“Al-Mahdi is from me. He will have a broad forehead and a hooked nose. He will fill the earth with justice and fairness as it was filled with injustice and oppression, and he will rule for seven years.” Abu Dawood

Al-Mahdi will flee from Madinah to Makkah, and an army will be sent from Ash-Sham (Syria) to attack him. But Allah ﷻ will cause that army to be swallowed by the earth in a plain between Makkah and Madinah. At that time, the people will follow him and pledge allegiance to him as the Caliph (ruler) in the Sacred Mosque, between the Maqam of Ibraheem and the Black Stone.

Umm Salama (may Allah be pleased with her) narrated that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“A man will seek refuge in the Sacred House, and an army will be sent against him. When they reach a plain ground, they will all be swallowed by the earth.” Muslim

During Al-Mahdi's rule, Islam will become strong and firmly established across the earth. The Muslims will triumph in a great battle, Al-Malhamah, against the Romans (Christians), after which they will conquer **Constantinople** peacefully.

After this great victory, the **Dajjal (Antichrist)** will appear.



The Major Signs of the Hour

There are great events that will clearly signal that the Hour is nearby. Once they appear, the Hour will swiftly follow.

Hudhayfah ibn Usayd al-Ghifari رضي الله عنه reported that the Prophet ﷺ came upon his Companions while they were discussing something. He asked, “What are you talking about?” They said, “We are talking about the Hour.” The Prophet ﷺ replied, “It will not come until you see ten signs before it.” He then mentioned: the smoke, the Dajjaal (Antichrist), the Beast, the rising of the sun from the west, the descent of ‘Eesa (Jesus) ibn Maryam, Ya’jooj and Ma’jooj (Gog and Magog), and three major landslides, one in the east, one in the west, and one in the Arabian Peninsula, and finally, a fire that will emerge from Yemen and drive people to their place of gathering. *Reported by Muslim*

These major signs will appear in rapid succession. Their emergence will be like beads falling one after another when a necklace is broken.

The Ten Major Signs:

1. The Dajjaal (Antichrist)

The appearance of the Dajjaal will be the greatest trial ever faced by humankind. Every prophet warned his people about this severe tribulation. Anas رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet ﷺ said: **“Every Prophet warned his nation about the one-eyed liar. Indeed, he is one-eyed, but your Lord is not one-eyed. Written between his eyes is the word ‘Kaafir’ (disbeliever).”** *Bukhari and Muslim*

The Dajjaal (Antichrist) is called *Al-Maseeh* because one of his eyes is deformed (*mamsooh*), meaning it is wiped out or disfigured, without a pupil or eyebrow. He is the *false messiah*, the great liar who conceals truth with falsehood.

The State of the Muslims at His Emergence

Before the Dajjaal appears, the Muslims will be strong and victorious in great battles. They will have overcome the mightiest force of their time, the Romans, during the massive confrontation known as *Al-Malhama* (the Great War). It is after these victories that the Dajjaal will emerge, seeking to destroy the power and unity of the Muslims.

His Attributes and Deception

When the Dajjaal appears, he will spread corruption and chaos throughout the earth. He will claim divinity and perform astonishing acts that will deceive many people. Some will believe his miracles to be proof of truth, though they are only illusions designed to mislead.

The Prophet ﷺ warned:

“Whoever hears of the Dajjaal should keep far away from him, for by Allah, a man may go to him thinking himself a firm believer, yet he will follow him because of the doubts he stirs up.” *Abu Dawood*

The falsehood of his claim to lordship

If we examine the attributes of the Dajjaal with its shortcomings, then we will know the falsehood of his claim and that this weak creature cannot be a Lord. He will claim that he is the Lord of mankind, but the Lord of mankind will not be seen in this world. The Prophet ﷺ said, “Know that no one among you will see his Lord until he dies”. Muslim

The Dajjaal will emerge in the east, from the land of the Persians called Khurasan, but he will come apparent to the Muslims when he reaches a place between Iraq and Syria.

The Sahabah (Companions of the Prophet) asked the Prophet ﷺ how long the Dajjaal would remain on earth. He said, “Forty days, one day like a year, one day like a month,

one day like a week and the rest of his days like your days.” We asked, “O Messenger of Allah, on that day which will be alike a year, will the prayers of one day be sufficient?” He said “No, work it out.” Muslim

The Dajjaal is the King whom the Jews is waiting his emergence to rule the whole world in his reign. Prophet Mohammad ﷺ said: “Most of the followers of the Dajjaal will be the Jews and women.” Ahmed

The Dajjaal will claim to be a divine, and he will be given the ability to perform the extraordinary acts which will be a great trial (fitnah) for people such as:

1. He will travel rapidly throughout the earth, and he will not leave any city without entering it except Makkah and Al Madinah because they are guarded by angels. The Dajjaal will appear with what seems to be a river of cool water and another that looks like a river of fire. However, things will be the opposite of how they appear: what people think is fire will actually be cool water, and what they think is cool water will be fire.
2. He will seek assistance from the devils (shayateen).
3. Inanimate objects and animals will obey his commands. He will order the sky to send rain, and it will rain. He will command the earth to produce vegetation, and it will respond. He will even tell ruins to bring forth their buried treasures, and they will do so.
4. He will kill a young believer and then bring him back to life.

Abu Sa'eed رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet ﷺ said:

“The Dajjaal will come, and he will be forbidden from entering the gates of Madinah. He will camp in one of the barren areas near the city. At that time, a man, the best or one of the best among people, will go out to face him and declare, ‘I bear witness that you are the Dajjaal about whom the Messenger of Allah informed us.’ The Dajjaal will say, ‘Do you think that if I kill this man and then bring him back to

life, you will have any doubts about my claim?’ They will say, ‘No.’ So he will kill him and then bring him back to life. The man will then say, ‘By Allah, I have never been more certain about you than I am today.’ The Dajjaal will try to kill him again, but he will not be able to.” (Bukhari)

How a Muslim can protect himself from the Dajjaal

1. A Muslim must stay away from the Dajjaal, even if he feels confident in his faith, because the Dajjaal will use deceptive arguments that can confuse and weaken belief.
2. Those unable to resist his influence should flee from him, as many people will do at that time.
3. One should recite and memorize the first or last ten verses of Surah Al-Kahf, as this will serve as protection against his trials.
4. Seeking Allah’s Protection from the Trial of Ad-Dajjaal

The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ used to seek refuge in Allah from the tribulation of the Dajjaal after reciting the Tashahhud in prayer. He would say:

“O Allah, we seek refuge in You from the torment of Hell, from the torment of the grave, from the trials of life and death, and from the evil of the tribulation of the False Messiah (Ad-Dajjaal).” *Al-Bukhari*

The end of the Dajjaal will come at the hands of "Eesa ibn Maryam (Jesus, son of Mary) ﷺ

Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“While the Muslims are preparing for battle and arranging their ranks, the call to prayer will be made. Then ‘Eesa ibn Maryam will descend and lead them against the Anti-Christ. When the enemy of Allah (the Dajjaal) sees him, he will begin to dis-

solve like salt in water. If ‘Eesa were to leave him alone, he would completely melt away, but Allah will cause him to be killed by ‘Eesa’s hand, and he will show the people the Dajjaal’s blood on his spear.” Muslim

After his death, Allah ﷻ will grant victory to the Muslims, and the Jews who supported the Dajjaal will be destroyed. Nothing that a Jew hides behind will remain silent, no stone and no tree, except the **Gharqad tree** (a thorny tree belonging to them). Everything else will say: **“O Muslim, servant of Allah, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him.”**

The Descent of ‘Eesa ibn Maryam (Jesus, Son of Mary) ﷺ

Allah ﷻ has made it clear that the Jews neither killed nor crucified "Eesa ibn Maryam; rather, it only appeared so to them. Instead, Allah ﷻ raised him up to Himself.

“And [for] their saying, ‘Indeed, we have killed the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, the messenger of Allah.’ Yet they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him; it only appeared so to them. Those who differ concerning it are in doubt about it. They have no knowledge of it except following assumption. Certainly, they did not kill him. Rather, Allah raised him up to Himself, and Allah is Almighty, All-Wise.” [4:157–158]

Allah ﷻ indicates in the Quran that ‘Eesa ﷺ will descend at the end of the time, and his descend will be a sign that the Hour is close at hand. Allah ﷻ says:

And indeed, Jesus will be [a sign for] knowledge of the Hour [43:61]

Allah ﷻ told us that at that time the People of the Book will believe in him:

And there is none from the People of the Scripture but that he will surely believe in Jesus before his death. And on the Day of Resurrection, he will be against them as witness. [4:159]

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ told us that when the fitnah of Dajjaal becomes too intense and the believers are under pressure at that time; Allah ﷻ will send down His slave and Messenger 'Eesa. He will come down at the white minaret in east of Damascus.

Aws ibn Aws رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: **“Eesa ibn Maryam will descend at the white minaret in the east of Damascus.”** Saheeh Al-Jaami As-Sagheer

Abu Hurayra رضي الله عنه narrated that Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: “There is no prophet between me and 'Eesa. He will descend. When you see him, you will know him. He will be a man of average build,

with a reddish, whitish complexion. He will come down wearing two garments dyed with saffron, with his head looking as if it is wet although it will be not...” Saheeh Al-Jaami As-Sagheer

Prophet 'Eesa عليه السلام will descend at a time when the Muslim fighters will have formed rows to pray Fajr, and their Imam will have stepped forwards to lead the prayers. That Imam will step back so that 'Eesa may come forward and lead them, but he will refuse. Prophet 'Eesa will put his hand between the Imam's shoulder saying to him “Go forward and lead the prayer, for the iqamah was said to you.” So, their Imam will lead them in prayer.

When Prophet 'Eesa عليه السلام come, he will judge according to the Quran and not the Injeel (Gospel) because the law of Quran abrogates all laws that come before it.

'Eesa عليه السلام will kill the Dajjaal

The first thing that 'Eesa عليه السلام will do is confront the Dajjaal. After 'Eesa comes down he will go for Bayt al Maqdis (Jerusalem) where the Dajjaal will be besieging a group of Muslim. 'Eesa will command them to open the gate.

Abu Umamah رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet ﷺ said: “When he completes (the prayer), 'Eesa will say, “Open the gate”. They will open it, and behind it will be the Dajjaal,

accompanied by seventy thousand Jews, each of whom will be carrying an adorned sword. When the Dajjaal sees him, he will start to melt like salt in water and will run away. He will catch up with him at the eastern gate of Ludd (in Palestine) and will kill him. Then Allah will defeat the Jews...” Saheeh Al-Jaami As-Sagheer

Peace and security during the time of ‘Eesa ﷺ

During the rule of ‘Eesa ﷺ, peace and security will prevail throughout the earth. People will enjoy a life full of blessings, free from hatred, envy, or spite. Humanity will unite upon the word of Allah ﷻ. ‘Eesa ﷺ will then abolish all other religions, and none will be accepted except Islam. For this reason, he will break the cross, the symbol of the misguided Christians, and kill the pig, which is forbidden in Islam. He will also abolish the *jizyah* (tax from non-Muslims), as Prophet Muhammad ﷺ stated that *jizyah* would be accepted only until the descent of ‘Eesa; after that, it will no longer be accepted. ‘Eesa ﷺ will remain on earth for forty years. Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه reported that Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: **“He will stay on earth for forty years, then he will die, and the Muslims will offer the funeral prayer for him.”**

3.The Emergence of Ya’jooj and Ma’jooj

Ya’jooj and Ma’jooj are two nations descended from Adam ﷺ. They will appear during the time of ‘Eesa ﷺ and spread immense corruption and mischief across the earth. ‘Eesa ﷺ will supplicate his Lord, to destroy them. Allah ﷻ will answer their prayer by sending worms that will kill them instantly. Then, Allah ﷻ will send birds to carry their corpses away and dispose of them wherever He wills, followed by rain that will wash the entire earth clean.

4.The Smoke

Allah ﷻ said: **“Then watch for the Day when the sky will bring forth visible smoke, enveloping the people; this will be a painful torment.”** [44:10–11]

5.The rising of the sun from the west

Another unmistakable major sign of the Hour will be the rising of the sun from the west. Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه reported that the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“The Hour will not come until the sun rises from the west. When it rises and people see it, they will all believe, but that will be the time when faith will not benefit anyone who did not believe before, nor anyone who did not earn good through their faith.” Bukhari

6.The emergence of the Beast

When corruption spreads and mankind plunges deeper into sin, a great Beast will emerge, the *Dabbah* mentioned by Allah ﷻ:

“And when the decree becomes due upon them, We will bring forth for them a creature from the earth speaking to them, declaring that the people were not certain in Our signs.” [27:82]

This Beast will differ from all other creatures; it will speak to people.

Abu Umamah رضي الله عنه reported that the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“The Beast will emerge and mark the people on their noses. Those who are marked will live among you until a man buys a camel and is asked, ‘Who sold it to you?’ He will reply, ‘One of the marked people.” Silsilat al-Ahadeeth as-Saheehah

7.The end of Islam, the removal of the Qur’an, and the death of the righteous

After Islam spreads across the world, it will gradually weaken. Corruption will dominate, knowledge will vanish, and the Qur’an will be removed from the earth. Allah ﷻ will take the souls of all who have even the smallest trace of faith, leaving behind only the evilest people upon whom the Hour will occur. Hudhayfah ibn al-Yaman رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“Islam will wear out like the embroidery of a garment wears out, until no one knows what fasting, prayer, sacrifice, or charity are. The Book of Allah will be taken away in one night, leaving not a single verse on earth. Only old men and women will remain, saying, ‘We heard our forefathers say *La ilaha illa Allah*, so we repeat it.’” Muslim

8.Mankind’s return to ignorance and Idol-Worship

Once Islam disappears and the Qur’an is removed, humanity will revert to ignorance, following the shaytan and worshipping idols once again. Among the idols revived will be *Dhul-Khalasah* the false goddess of the tribe of Daws in Yemen as well as *Al-Lat* and *Al-‘Uzza*. Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“The Hour will not come until the women of Daws shake their hips while circumambulating *Dhul-Khalasah*, the idol they used to worship during the pre Islamic period.” Bukhari

9.The destruction of the Ka’bah by Dhul-Suwayqatayn

Abdullah ibn ‘Umar رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: **“The Ka’bah will be destroyed by Dhul-Suwayqatayn from Abyssinia. He will rob it of its adornments and remove its covering. It is as if I can see him now, bald, with deformed wrists and ankles, striking it with his shovel and pickaxe.” Silsilat al-Ahadeeth**

10.The fire that will gather the people

The final sign before the Hour will be a great fire emerging from the region of Aden (in Yemen). It will drive people toward their place of assembly in the land of *Ash-Shaam* (present-day Syria). Then Allah ﷻ will command the blowing of the Horn, and the Hour will begin.

Review Questions – Chapter 2

Fill in the blanks:

1. The Signs of the Hour are divided into two types: _____ signs and _____ signs.
2. The fire of Al-Hijaz occurred in the year _____ after Hijrah near Al-Madinah.
3. One of the main causes of tribulation (*fitan*) is the love of _____.
4. Prophet _____ ﷺ will abolish all other religions, and no religion will be accepted except Islam.
5. The Dajjaal will claim to be the _____ of mankind.
6. The first minor sign is the mission of Prophet _____ and his death.

True or False:

1. The Prophets and the angels know the exact time of the Hour. _____
2. Among the people the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ described are women who are clothed yet appear naked. _____
3. Denying the Day of Judgment indicates weak or false faith. _____
4. The splitting of the moon is one of the major signs. _____
5. Al-Mahdi will first appear in Al-Madinah, then flee to Makkah. _____
6. Prophet 'Eesa ﷺ will kill the Dajjaal. _____

List five of the major signs of the Hour:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Indicate whether each of the following characteristics belongs to a minor or a major sign:

1. It occurs a long time before the Hour. _____
2. Once a sign appears, it will not happen again. _____
3. It takes place very close to the establishment of the Hour. _____
4. It consists of ordinary and natural events. _____
5. Appears in succession, one after another. _____
6. The door of repentance remains open while they occur. _____.

Multiple Choice

1. Minor Signs

- a. Happen one after another.
- b. Are connected to people's moral corruption, pollution, and distortion.

c. Take place close to the establishment of the Hour.

2. Major Signs

- a. The door of repentance will be closed after some of them appear.
- b. Some of them have already occurred in the past.
- c. They are separated by long intervals.

3. The last major sign is:

- a. The rising of the sun from the west.
- b. The emergence of the Beast.
- c. The fire will drive people to their final gathering place.

4. How can a Muslim safeguard himself from the Dajjaal?

- a. By keeping away from him and fleeing from his presence.
- b. By reciting the first or last ten verses of Surah Al-Kahf and seeking Allah's protection from his trial
- c. All of the above.

5. Ya'jooj and Ma'jooj will be destroyed by:

- a. Worms sent by Allah ﷻ
- b. Prophet 'Eesa عليه السلام
- c. The Dajjaal



Chapter Three

The Day of Resurrection

1. The Blowing of the Trumpet (An-Nafkh fi As-Soor)
2. The Resurrection (Al-Ba'th wan-Nushoor)
3. The Day of Assembly (Al-Hashr)
4. Intercession (Ash-Shafa'ah)
5. The Accounting (Al-Hisab)
6. The Scales of Justice (Al-Mizan)
7. The Prophet's Pond (Al-Hawd)
8. The Final Gathering — to Paradise or to Hell
9. The Bridge (As-Sirat)

Day of Resurrection is the day when Allah ﷻ will bring an end to all life. Every living being will perish, and after a period of time, Allah ﷻ will bring all His servants back to life. He will make them stand before Him for judgment and hold them accountable for their deeds. By the end of that Day, people will be led to their final abode, either Paradise or Hell. Allah ﷻ has given this Day many names: *Yawm al-Qiyāmah* (The Day of Resurrection), *Al-Yawm al-Ākhir* (The Last Day), *Yawm al-Ba'th* (The Day of Rising), *Yawm al-Hisāb* (The Day of Reckoning), *Yawm al-Hasrah* (The Day of Regret), *Yawm ad-Dīn* (The Day of Recompense), *Yawm al-Fasl* (The Day of Judgment), *At-Tammāt al-Kubrā* (The Great Calamity), *As-Sā'ah* (The Hour), *As-Sākhkhah* (The Deafening Blast), *Al-Ghāshiyah* (The Overwhelming Event), and *Al-Qāri'ah* (The Striking Hour), among others.

This Day is of immense significance and filled with unimaginable horrors. No one will be spared from its dread except those who prepared for it through sincere faith and righteous actions.

The Blast of the trumpet (An-Nafkh fi As-Soor)

When the appointed Day arrives, which will occur on Friday. Allah ﷻ will command the angel Israfeel عليه السلام to blow the Trumpet. All who are in the heavens and on the earth will instantly die. This first blowing is the death blow, a mighty and destructive blast. Upon hearing it, a person will not have time to make a will or return to his family and friends. Then the Trumpet will be blown a second time, and the bodies will be restored to life once again. Allah ﷻ says:

“And the Horn will be blown, and whoever is in the heavens and whoever is on the earth will fall dead except whom Allah wills. Then it will be blown again, and at once they will be standing, looking on.” [39:68]

The Terrors of the Day of Resurrection

The Day of Resurrection will be a day of tremendous magnitude and terrifying horror, nothing like it has ever been witnessed by mankind. Allah ﷻ has described that Day as **great, weighty, and severe**. The fear and shock that will seize all creatures on that Day, will be so overwhelming that the nursing mother, who would normally sacrifice herself for her child, will become heedless of him, and every pregnant woman will miscarry. Humanity will appear as if drunk or insane from fear. On that Day, all kinship ties will be suspended.

“Then, when the Trumpet is blown, there will be no kinship among them that Day, nor will they ask of one another.” [23:101]

Some of the Features of the Horrors of the Resurrection

- The Day of Resurrection will be marked by overwhelming cosmic events.
- The entire earth will be seized, and the heavens will be folded away.
- Mountains will be crushed into dust, and the seas will overflow and burn.
- The sky will shake violently, split apart, and change into frightening colors.
- The sun will lose its light, the moon will darken, and stars will fall from their places.



The Resurrection (Al-Ba'th wan-Nushoor)

The term *Al-Ba'th wan-Nushoor* refers to the restoration of the body and its return to life on the Day of Resurrection. By His Will, Allah ﷻ will bring all His servants back to life. He will command the angel Israfeel to blow the Trumpet, after which the souls will return to their bodies, and all people will rise to stand before the Lord of the Worlds. Allah ﷻ describes this extraordinary event in the Qur'an:

“And the Horn will be blown; and at once from the graves to their Lord they will hasten. They will say, ‘O woe to us! Who has raised us up from our sleeping place?’ [It will be said], This is what the Most Merciful had promised, and the messengers told the truth.’ It will not be but one blast, and at once they are all brought present before Us.” [36:51–53]

On that Day, Allah ﷻ will restore the souls of His servants, but they will be recreated in a new and different form from their worldly existence. One characteristic of this new creation is that death will no longer touch them, regardless of the trials they face. Their perception will also be transformed, they will see what was once hidden from them, such as the angels and the jinn. The first person for whom the earth will be opened is our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

The State of the People on the Day of Resurrection

1. The state of the disbelievers (Al-Kuffar)

The disbelievers will emerge from their graves humiliated, terrified, and in utter despair. Their eyes will be fixed in horror, and their hearts will be filled with fear. The deeds of the disbelievers are either evil, sinful, or seemingly good acts they believe will earn them reward from Allah ﷻ, such as giving charity, maintaining family ties, or spending for good causes. Yet Allah ﷻ likens such deeds in the Qur'an to a mirage, or to a cold destructive wind that destroys crops, or to ashes scattered by a storm.

2. The state of sinful believers

Some believers who committed sins will face severe trials and hardships on that Day.

Among them are:

- Those who did not pay zakah
- The arrogant
- Those who conceal what Allah ﷻ has revealed of the Scripture, such as scholars, monks, or rabbis who hide the truth to please rulers or serve their interests.
- Those who swear false oaths for trivial worldly gains.
- Those who are disobedient to their parents.
- Women who imitate men.
- The old man who commits adultery.
- The Betrayers, Oppressors, and False Beggars

The state of the pious

On the Day of Resurrection, while most people will be overcome with terror, the pious will remain calm and secure. Allah ﷻ will grant them safety because their hearts were filled with fear of Him in this world, and they had prepared themselves for that Day.

Among them

- Those who are used to ease the hardships of others and assist people in need.
- Those who were just and fair in their judgments in all matters entrusted to them.
- The martyrs (shuhadaa') and those who guarded the frontiers of the Muslim lands. A crown of honor will be placed upon their heads, and each will be married to seventy-two of the *Hoor al-Iyn* (maidens of Paradise).
- Those who controlled their anger.
- Those who performed *wudoo* (ablution), Allah ﷻ will call them forth with their faces and limbs shining with light.



The Day of Gathering (Al-Hashr)

The Day of Al-Hashr is the day when Allah ﷻ will gather all created beings together in one vast place, those of earlier generations and those who came later, whether they perished in the open, deep within the earth or the sea, or were consumed by wild beasts.

Allah ﷻ says:

Wherever you may be, Allah will bring you forth [for judgment] all together. Indeed, Allah is competent over all things. [2:148]

On that Day, Allah ﷻ will gather His servants barefoot, naked, and uncircumcised. When 'Aishah may Allah be pleased with her heard the Prophet ﷺ saying, **“Mankind will be gathered on the Day of Resurrection barefoot, naked, and uncircumcised,”** she asked, **“O Messenger of Allah, men and women together, looking at one another?”** He replied, **“O 'Aishah, the situation will be far too distressing for them to be looking at one another.”** Bukhari and Muslim

Each person will be resurrected in the state in which he died, with **iman** (faith) or **kufr** (disbelief), with certainty or with doubt.

Whoever dies in the state of **ihram** will be raised on the Day of Resurrection reciting the *Talbiyah*, the supplication of the pilgrims.

The **shaheed** (martyr) will be raised with his wounds bleeding, the color of blood but with the fragrance of musk. Hence, it is recommended to encourage the dying person to say *“Laa ilaaha illa Allah”* (There is no god except Allah), so that he may be resurrected uttering these blessed words. After resurrection, Allah ﷻ will clothe His servants. The righteous will be dressed in noble garments, while the evildoers will be clothed in tar trousers, shields of scabs, and other dreadful attire. The first among

Allah's servants to be clothed will be the Prophet of Allah, Ibraheem عليه السلام. The land upon which mankind will be gathered on the Day of Resurrection will be different from this earth.

The Nearness of the Sun

During this time, the **sun will draw close** to the heads of people, and they will sweat profusely according to their deeds.

Al-Miqdad رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

“On the Day of Resurrection, the sun will come so close to people that only a distance of one ‘meel’ will remain.”

Sulaim bin ‘Amir رضي الله عنه said: **“By Allah, I do not know whether he meant by ‘meel’ the mile of distance or the stick used for applying kohl to the eyes.”**

The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم continued: **“The people will then be submerged in sweat according to their deeds, some up to their ankles, some up to their knees, some up to their waists, and some up to their mouths,”** and as he said this, the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم pointed to his mouth with his hand. Muslim

Those Under Allah's Shade

As the people stand awaiting Allah's judgment beneath the blazing sun, a select group of the most righteous will rest **in the shade of the Throne of the Most Merciful**. Among them are:

- The **just ruler**
- The **young person** who grew up worshipping Allah
- Those whose **hearts are attached to the mosques**

- Those who **love one another for the sake of Allah**
- The **man who resisted the temptation of a woman** out of fear of Allah
- The **one who gave charity so secretly** that his left hand did not know what his right hand had given
- And the **one who remembered Allah in solitude**, and whose eyes overflowed with tears out of fear of Him.



Intercession (Ash-Shafa'ah)

Definition

Intercession refers to asking Allah ﷻ to bestow goodness upon others in the Hereafter. It is a manifestation of Allah's mercy towards His creation and an indication of the honor granted to those who are allowed to intercede.

The Great Intercession

On the Day of Resurrection, when people suffer unbearable anguish, they will seek someone to intercede so that judgment may begin. They will go to Adam, Nuh, Ibrahim, and Musa, but each will excuse himself. Finally, they will turn to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, whom Allah has forgiven completely. He will be granted permission to intercede, and his plea will be accepted, this is the Maqam Mahmud, the honoured Station of Praise given to him on that Day.

Conditions for Intercession

- **By Allah's permission only.**
- **For those whom Allah is pleased with**

The right of intercession on the Day of Judgment will be granted to:

- The Prophets
- The Angels
- The Righteous
- The Martyrs

Types of Intercession

- Some sinners who deserve Hell will be saved and admitted to Paradise without punishment.
- Others who entered Hell will be taken out through intercession and then admitted to Paradise.
- Martyrs will be granted the ability to intercede for seventy members of their families.
- Good deeds, such as fasting and Qur'an recitation, will intercede for their doers on the Day of Judgment.
- No intercession will benefit the disbelievers; their intercession is not accepted.

The Reckoning (AL Hisab)

Reckoning refers to the gathering of all humanity before Allah on the Day of Resurrection, when He will make them aware of the deeds they performed in this world, the belief or disbelief they followed, whether they adhered to the Straight Path or strayed from it, Each person will then be shown what they deserve of reward or punishment. On that Day, the righteous will receive their records in their right hands, while the wrongdoers will receive theirs in their left hands.

Allah ﷻ describes this moment, saying:

“And the earth will shine with the light of its Lord, the Record will be placed open, the Prophets and the witnesses will be brought forward, and judgment will be passed between them in truth, and they will not be wronged.” [39:69]

Knowing that the One who judges on that Day is the Most Wise and Most Just is enough to show the greatness, majesty, and sheer awe of that scene.

The Messengers will also be brought forth and questioned about the mission entrusted to them, delivering Allah’s revelation, and they will testify against their peoples according to what they witnessed from them.

All people will be brought forth for the Reckoning. They will stand in rows before the Lord of all creation. As for the sinners who denied the Messengers and defied their Lord, they will be brought in shackles, clothed in garments made of pitch.

Principles on which Judgment and Reckoning are based

- Perfect Justice
- No one bears the sin of another

- Every deed will be presented
- Rewards multiplied; sins not multiplied

At the conclusion of the Reckoning, every individual will receive a book that contains a complete record of everything they did in their lifetime. The believer will be handed his book in his right hand, from the front, and his account will be easy. He will then return to his family in Paradise with joy.

Allah ﷻ says:

“As for the one who is given his Record in his right hand, he will receive an easy reckoning.” [84:7–8]

But the disbeliever, the hypocrite, and those who strayed will receive their books in their left hands, from behind their backs. At that moment, the disbeliever will cry out in despair, calling destruction upon himself.

Allah ﷻ says:

“But the one who is given his Record behind his back will cry out for destruction, and he will enter a blazing Fire to taste its burning.” [84:10–12]



The Scale (Al-Mizaan)

After the Reckoning is completed, the Scale will be set up to weigh a person's deeds. This weighing serves as the final measure for reward and punishment, while the Reckoning evaluates and reveals those deeds. Islamic texts confirm that the Scale is a precise and accurate instrument that does not overlook even the smallest deed.

Allah ﷻ says:

“And We shall set up the scales of justice on the Day of Resurrection, so no soul will be wronged in the least. Even if it is the weight of a mustard seed, We will bring it forth. And sufficient are We as Reckoners.” [21:47]

What weighs heaviest on the Scale is a person's good character and manners. Praising and glorifying Allah ﷻ such as Subhan Allah wa biḥamdih, Subḥan Allah al-‘Adheem carry great weight.

The Pond (Al-Ḥawḍ)

Allah ﷻ will honor His Messenger Muhammad ﷺ on the Day of the great gathering by granting him a vast and magnificent Pond. Its water is whiter than milk, sweeter than honey, and more fragrant than musk. The cups for drinking will shine like the stars in the sky. Its water flows from the river of Al-Kawthar, which Allah has given the Prophet ﷺ in Paradise. The Muslim ummah will come to drink from it, and whoever drinks from it will never experience thirst again.

‘Abdullah ibn‘Amr رضي الله عنه narrated that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“My Pond is the size of a month's journey; its length and width are equal. Its water is whiter than milk, its fragrance is finer than musk, and its drinking vessels are like the stars in the sky. Whoever drinks from it will never feel thirsty again.” (Bukhari and Muslim)

However, some people will be driven away and prevented from drinking. These are those who left Islam, introduced innovations that Allah did not permit, opposed the Muslim community, or committed severe injustice and followed their own desires.



The Final Gathering to Paradise or Hell

At the end of the Day of Judgment, humanity will be gathered to their final destination, either Paradise or Hell. These are the ultimate homes to which all people will be led.

The Gathering of the Disbelievers to Hell

The disbelievers will be driven toward Hell in humiliation and disgrace, herded in groups like cattle. They will be shouted at from every direction and treated with harshness.

The Prophet ﷺ informed us that, at the end of that Day, every nation will be told to follow whatever they used to worship. Those who worshiped the sun will follow the sun, those who worshiped the moon will follow the moon, and those who worshiped idols will follow their false gods. Their idols will appear before them and lead them, until these false gods fall into the Fire, and their followers fall in after them. Those who worshiped Pharaoh will follow him as well. After this, no one will remain except the believers and a small number from the People of the Book.

The Siraat (the bridge)

After the Reckoning, the Siraat (the bridge) will be placed. The Siraat, is a bridge stretched over Hell leading to their final destination. Angels will stand on both sides praying for the believers' safety.

The Prophet ﷺ described the Siraat as thinner than a hair and sharper than a sword, with hooks and spikes that seize those whom Allah wills. Allah ﷻ says that every person will pass over it, but He will save the righteous and leave the wrongdoers to fall into Hell. Crossing the Siraat is one of the most terrifying moments on the Last Day. People will cross according to their faith and deeds. Believers will be given light according to their

good actions: some will cross as swiftly as a blink, lightning, wind, or fast horses; others will run, walk, or struggle depending on their level of righteousness. Some will walk across the bridge; others will crawl. Believers will be guided by their light, and they will pray for Allah ﷻ to perfect it until they pass safely. Hypocrites will first receive light, but it will be taken from them as they attempt to cross, causing them to fall into the Fire. Disbelievers will not cross the bridge at all and will be taken directly to the Fire.

Review Questions - Chapter 3

Fill in the blanks:

1. On the second blowing of the trumpet, bodies will be restored to _____.
2. On the Day of Hashr, the martyr will be raised from his grave with his wounds bleeding red and with the scent of _____.
3. No intercession is excepted but by Allah's _____.
4. Whoever drinks of the pond of the Prophet ﷺ on the Day of Judgment will never feel _____ again.
5. The Serat (Bridge) is laid over the _____.
6. The intercession for the martyr will be accepted for _____ members of his family.

True or False

1. The trumpet will be blown on Friday.
2. The first person for whom the earth will split open will be Prophet Ibrahim ؑ.
3. The righteous will receive their records in their right hands.
4. Allah ﷻ will gather mankind barefoot, naked, and uncircumcised.
5. Prophet Muhammad ﷺ will intercede for humanity so that the reckoning may begin.
6. All people will drink from the bond of the Prophet Mohammad ﷺ.

List four types of people who will be under the shade of Allah's Throne on the Day of Gathering:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Multiple Choice:

1. Among the people who will not be terrified on the Day of Resurrection are:
 - a. The martyrs and those who do ablution
 - b. Those who control their anger and judge with fairness
 - c. All of the above

2. The term Al-Ba'th wan-Nushoor refers to:
 - a. The restoration of the body and its return to life
 - b. When each person will be shown what he deserves of reward or punishment
 - c. When humanity will be gathered to their final destination.

On the Day of Reckoning, the disbelievers will receive their records:

 - a. In their right hands
 - b. In their left hands

- c. From their back
3. The first deed a person will be held accountable for is:
- a. His obligatory prayer
 - b. His Zakat
 - c. His fasting



Paradise

Paradise is the magnificent reward that Allah ﷻ has prepared for His righteous servants, those who obey Him and remain steadfast. It is a place of complete happiness and pure delight, free from every kind of deficiency or disturbance. What Allah ﷻ and His Messenger have informed us about Paradise, is so extraordinary that the human mind cannot truly grasp it.

In a Qudsi Hadith, Allah ﷻ says:

“I have prepared for My righteous servants what no eye has ever seen, no ear has ever heard, and what has never crossed the mind of any human being.”

The Prophet ﷺ then said, “If you wish, recite: ‘No soul knows what joy is kept hidden for them as a reward for what they used to do.’” Al-Bukhari

Entry to Paradise

-The first human to enter Paradise will be Prophet Muhammad ﷺ . His ummah will be the first nation to be granted entry, and the first person from his ummah to enter will be Abu Bakr as-Siddiq رضي الله عنه.

-Those who enter Paradise without any reckoning are the foremost in faith and piety; they will enter together, their faces shining like the full moon. The poor believers will precede the wealthy.

-As for the sinful believers, they will eventually enter Paradise through intercession. Multiple authentic narrations state that Allah ﷻ will remove from the Fire anyone who has even an atom’s weight of faith in their heart, and anyone who sincerely proclaimed **La ilaha illa Allah**. He will then admit them into Paradise.

Description of Paradise

The gates of Paradise

Paradise has eight gates. When the believers arrive at them, the gates will open, and the angels will greet them with words of peace. One of these gates is called *Ar-Rayyan*, and only those who fast will enter through it. Other gates are designated for those who excel in prayer, those who give abundant charity, and those who strive in jihad. All the gates of Paradise are opened during the month of Ramadan.

The levels of Paradise

Paradise consists of many levels, greatly varied in rank. Allah's righteous servants will be placed in these levels according to their faith and piety. Abu Sa'eed رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet ﷺ said: **"The people in the higher levels will be visible to those below them just as a bright star is seen on the horizon. Abu Bakr and 'Umar will be among them, what excellent men they are!"** (Sahih al-Jami')

The highest rank in Paradise is called *Al-Waseelah*; it will be granted to the Prophet ﷺ. Among those who will reside in the highest levels are the martyrs, those who support widows and the poor, and the one who cares for an orphan. Allah ﷻ will also elevate the rank of parents through the blessings of their children's supplications.

The buildings of Paradise and its rivers

Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported: **"I asked, 'O Messenger of Allah, from what are people created?' He replied, 'From water.' We then asked, 'From what is Paradise constructed?' He said, 'With bricks of gold and silver, and mortar made of fragrant musk. Its pebbles are pearls and rubies, and its soil is saffron. Whoever enters it will enjoy everlasting happiness, will never experience misery, will live eternally without death, his garments will never wear out, and his youth will never fade.'" Ahmad and Tirmidhi**

Allah ﷻ has informed us that rivers flow beneath the Gardens of Paradise, among these rivers is *Al-Kawthar*, a special gift Allah ﷻ granted to His Messenger. The rivers of Paradise are not limited to water; they include rivers of milk, wine, and pure honey. Paradise also contains numerous springs, each providing drinks of different and unique flavors. These springs are reserved for the *muqarraboon*, those nearest to Allah, and for the *Abrar*, the righteous. The first is the spring of **Kafoor**, as Allah ﷻ says:

“Indeed, the righteous will drink from a cup mixed with Kafoor, a spring from which the servants of Allah will drink, causing it to gush forth abundantly.” [76:5–6]

The second is the spring of **Tasneem**, as Allah ﷻ states:

“They will be given pure, sealed wine to drink, its seal will be musk. So let those who strive, strive for this. And it will be mixed with Tasneem, a spring from which those closest to Allah drink. [83:25–28]

The palaces and tents of Paradise

Allah ﷻ has informed us that His righteous servants will be granted elevated dwellings in Paradise, lofty, beautifully built palaces beneath which rivers flow. He ﷻ says:

“But those who fear their Lord will have lofty chambers, built one above another, beneath which rivers flow. This is the promise of Allah, and Allah does not fail in His promise.” [39:20]

Allah also described the tents of Paradise, magnificent pavilions crafted from single, hollowed pearls. Abdullah ibn Qays رضي الله عنه reported that the Prophet ﷺ said: **“In Paradise, the believer will have a tent made from a single hollowed pearl, thirty miles high. Inside it, he will have wives whom he will visit in turn, and none of them will see the others.”** Muslim

The trees and fruits of Paradise

The trees of Paradise are plentiful, pure, and varied. Allah ﷻ has informed us that Paradise contains grapevines, date palms, pomegranate trees, as well as lotus and acacia trees. Even the trunks of its trees are made of gold. Unlike the trees of this world, which bear fruit only in specific seasons, the trees of Paradise produce fruit continuously. Their branches hang low, making the fruits easily accessible to the people of Paradise.

How can a believer increase his share of trees in Paradise?

Ibn Mas'ood رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“I met Ibrahim on the night of the Night Journey, and he said: ‘O Muhammad, tell your ummah that Paradise has fertile soil and sweet water. It is an open plain, and its plants are: Subhan Allah, Alhamdulillah, La ilaha illa Allah, and Allahu Akbar.’” Tirmidhi

The people of Paradise

The people of Paradise are believers and monotheists who do righteous deeds. The Quran states the deeds for which people will deserve to enter Paradise.

- Their worship of Allah ﷻ
- Their sincerity and their devotion to Allah ﷻ
- Being patient for the sake of Allah and their reliance on Him ﷻ.
- Their belief that what was revealed to the Prophet ﷺ is the truth.
- Keeping their promises and not breaking their oaths.
- Upholding the ties of kinship as Allah ﷻ commands.
- Fearing Allah ﷻ as well as fearing the Day of Judgment
- Establishing prayer and paying Zakat

- Spending money secretly and openly for Allah's sake.
- Repelling evil with good.

Allah ﷻ says:

Shall he then who knows that what has been revealed unto you (O Muhammad) from your Lord is the truth be like him who is blind? But it is only the men of understanding that pay heed. Those who fulfill the Covenant of Allah and break not the Mithaq (bond, treaty), maintain the ties Allah commanded to be maintained, fear their Lord, and dread a severe reckoning. Those who are patient, seeking their Lord's approval; who establish prayer; who spend from what We have provided them secretly and openly; and who repel evil with good, these will have the best end. The Gardens of 'Adn, which they will enter, along with the righteous among their fathers, their wives, and their offspring. And the angels will enter upon them from every gate, saying: 'Peace be upon you for your patience!' What an excellent final home!'" [13:19–24]

Paradise is elevated in rank and precious in degree. The road leading to it is lined with challenges and hardships that go against human desires. Reaching it requires determination, strength of will, and patient endurance.

Many of those who enter Paradise will be the poor, the humble, and those overlooked by society, people whom others may deem insignificant. Yet in Allah's sight, they are honored because of their deep faith, sincerity, and humble worship.

The Women of Paradise

When a believing man enters Paradise, his righteous wife will join him there as his companion. Allah ﷻ says:

"Gardens of Eternity which they will enter, along with the righteous among their fathers, their spouses, and their offspring." [13:23]

A righteous woman in Paradise will be with her final husband from this world. For this reason, Allah ﷻ forbade the wives of the Prophet ﷺ from remarrying after his death, as they will remain his wives in the Hereafter. Believing men in Paradise will also be married to beautiful spouses who were not their wives in this world.

Allah ﷻ says:

“So it will be, and We will marry them to Hoor ‘leen” [44:54]

The word **Hoor** is the plural of *hawraa'*, a woman whose eyes have striking contrast, pure white and deep black, with large, radiant eyes. The Qur'an compares the Hoor al- 'leen to perfectly preserved pearls, as well as to rubies and coral. The women of Paradise are unlike the women of this world. They are completely pure, free from menstruation, postnatal bleeding, saliva, mucus, urine, and stools.

The Prophet ﷺ said:

“If one of the women of Paradise were to look upon the people of this world, she would illuminate everything between them and fill it with her fragrance. The veil on her head is better than this world and everything in it. (Bukhari)

The women of Paradise are of varying ranks, and the highest among them are **Khadijah, Faṭimah, Maryam, and Asiyah**, the wife of Pharaoh.

As for the children of the believers who die before reaching puberty, they will be in Paradise by the grace and mercy of Allah ﷻ.

The Qualities and Delights of the People of Paradise

The people of Paradise will enter it in the most perfect and beautiful form, resembling their father, Adam. ﷺ Their hearts will be pure, their souls cleansed of all flaws, and their appearance will be radiant. They will have no body hair, their eyes will appear naturally lined with kohl, and each one will be thirty-three years old, the prime age of strength, vitality, and youth.

Their food and drink

The dwellers of Paradise will enjoy every type of food and drink they desire. Allah ﷻ says: **“Therein is whatever souls desire and eyes find delight in.”** [43:71]

“And fruits of their choosing, and the meat of birds they desire.” [56:20–21]

Among their drinks will be wine, pure, delightful, and free from all the harm and impurity associated with the wine of this world. Their meals and drinks will be served in vessels made of gold and silver, and they will drink from cups, jugs, and goblets crafted in exquisite beauty.

Allah ﷻ tells us that the people of Paradise will be served by ever-youthful attendants carrying cups, jugs, and glasses filled with a pure drink. Allah ﷻ says: **“They will be served by immortal youths carrying cups, pitchers, and a vessel filled with a flowing drink.”** [56:17–18]

Clothing and jewellery in Paradise

The people of Paradise will wear the finest clothes, made of green silk and brocade, and they will be adorned with bracelets of gold, silver, and pearls. Allah ﷻ says:

“Their clothing will be fine green silk and rich brocade, and they will be adorned with silver bracelets.” [76:21]

Palaces and furnishings of Paradise

The homes of Paradise will be surrounded by beautiful gardens and furnished with elevated couches, cups ready at hand, neatly arranged cushions, and rich carpets spread out in every direction. Allah ﷻ says:

“Therein are raised couches, cups placed ready, cushions arranged in rows, and rich carpets spread out.” [88:13–16]

The Qur’an repeatedly contrasts the temporary pleasures of this world with the far greater joys of Paradise, making it clear that the blessings of the Hereafter surpass anything found in worldly life. It consistently downplays the value of this world while highlighting the superiority of the next, urging people to strive for success in the life to come.

Why are the delights of Paradise superior to worldly pleasures?

1. Worldly pleasures are brief and limited, whereas the joys of Paradise are everlasting and immeasurably greater. Allah ﷻ says:

“Short is the enjoyment of this world, while the Hereafter is far better for those who are mindful of Allah.” [4:77]

2. The quality of everything in Paradise is incomparable.

The garments, food, drink, jewelry, and homes of its inhabitants will exceed anything available in this world, in beauty, purity, and perfection.

3. Paradise is free from every impurity, flaw, and disappointment found in earthly life.

In this world, eating and drinking lead to discomfort and the need for excretion; wine clouds the mind; and human nature is affected by illness and impurities. In Paradise, none of these exist. Its people will not urinate, defecate, spit, or suffer unpleasant Oduors. The women of Paradise are pure and free from menstrua-

tion. Their hearts will be clean, their speech sincere and pleasant, and their actions righteous. No hurtful or offensive words will ever be heard there.

4. The joys of Paradise are everlasting, while the pleasures of this world are temporary

The greatest blessing granted to the people of Paradise

Abu Sa'eed al-Khudri رضي الله عنه narrated that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“Allah ﷻ will call out to the people of Paradise: “O people of Paradise!” They will reply, “At Your service, our Lord. All goodness is in Your Hand.”

He will ask them, “Are you pleased?”

They will say, “How could we not be pleased, O Lord, when You have granted us what You have never granted anyone else from Your creation?”

Allah ﷻ will then say, “Shall I not give you something even better?”

They will ask, “O Lord, what could be better than this?”

He will respond, “I bestow upon you My everlasting pleasure, and I will never be displeased with you again.” Bukhari and Muslim

The greatest delight in Paradise will be seeing the Face of Allah ﷻ in the gardens of everlasting bliss. Allah ﷻ affirms that His servants will behold their Lord:

“Some faces on that Day will be radiant, looking toward their Lord.” [75:22–23]

Striving for the Blessing of Paradise

Paradise is a place of the highest rank, and reaching such an elevated destination requires real effort. The path that leads to it is lined with matters that challenge human desires and comfort. It demands strong resolve, steady patience in worship, control

over anger, forgiveness, generosity, kindness toward those who treat you poorly, resistance to physical temptations, and a heart free of envy and resentment, filled instead with love, peace, and contentment.

Some believers mistakenly assume that the rewards of the Hereafter can only be earned by abandoning all worldly pleasures. Thus, they burden themselves with excessive fasting and long nightly prayers, or deprive themselves of good food, drink, clothing, work, and even marriage. This is a misconception. Allah ﷻ created the wholesome blessings of this world for the believers, and He reproaches those who forbid the beautiful things He has allowed.

Allah ﷻ says: **“Say (O Muhammad): “Who has forbidden the adoration with clothes given by Allah, which He has produced for his slaves, and At-Taiyibat [all kinds of Halal (lawful) things] of food?” Say: “They are, in the life of this world, for those who believe, (and) exclusively for them (believers) on the Day of Resurrection (the disbelievers will not share them).” [7:32]**

This worldly life is only blameworthy when it distracts a person from the Hereafter. But if it is used as a means to succeed in the next life, then its lawful pleasures do not need to be abandoned, contrary to what some may assume.



The Hell

Description of Hell

Hell is the dwelling place Allah ﷻ has prepared for those who reject faith, oppose His commands, and deny His Messengers. It is the ultimate punishment for His enemies and a prison for those who persist in wrongdoing. Hell is vast, enormous, and unimaginably deep. Countless beings will enter it. Its immense depth is illustrated by the report that if a stone were thrown from its highest point, it would fall for a long time before reaching the bottom.

The keepers of Hell

Nineteen powerful and fearsome angels are appointed as the guardians of Hell. They never disobey Allah ﷻ and carry out every command He gives them with absolute obedience.

Allah ﷻ says:

“O you who believe! Protect yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is people and stones, over which are appointed stern and mighty angels who do not disobey Allah in what He commands them, and they do what they are ordered.” [66:6]

Levels and gates of Hell

Hell is not a single level; its punishment varies in severity, and its heat increases from one level to the next. Each level corresponds to the sins and disbelief of its inhabitants.

Allah ﷻ mentions the lowest level when He says:

“Indeed, the hypocrites will be in the lowest depths of the Fire.” [4:145]

Allah ﷻ informs us that Hell has seven gates, each assigned to a specific group of sinners.

“And surely, Hell is the promised place for them all. It has seven gates; for every gate is a designated portion of them.” [15:43–44]

When the disbelievers are brought to Hell, its gates will open, and they will enter to remain there forever. Once they are inside, the gates will be closed upon them, leaving no hope of escape. Allah ﷻ says:

“But those who disbelieved in Our signs, they are the people of the Left. The Fire will be closed in on them.” [90:19–20]

The fuel of Hell and the intensity of its heat

The fuel of Hell consists of people, stones, and the rebellious disbelievers.

Allah ﷻ says:

“So fear the Fire whose fuel is people and stones, prepared for the disbelievers.” [2:24]

Even the false gods that were worshipped instead of Allah ﷻ will be thrown into the Fire and serve as fuel.

The atmosphere of Hell

The atmosphere of Hell is filled with:

- **As-Sumoom:** a scorching, poisonous wind
- **Al-Hameem:** boiling water
- **Al-Yahmoom:** a dense, black smoke that gives no shade or comfort

Allah ﷻ describes this condition:

“And those on the Left, what of those on the Left? In scorching wind and boiling water, and in the shadow of black smoke, neither cool nor pleasant.” [56:41–44]

Those who will remain in Hell forever

The ones who will abide eternally in Hell are the disbelievers and polytheists. They will neither die nor ever be released; Hell will be their permanent home.

Their major wrongdoings

- **Kufr and shirk**, rejecting Allah ﷻ and associating partners
- **Abandoning obligatory duties** and denying the Day of Judgment
- **Following misguided leaders**, adopting their corrupt beliefs, and allowing themselves to be led away from the religion of Allah ﷻ
- **Hypocrisy**
- **Arrogance and pride**

Those who will not stay in Hell forever

These are believers who worshipped Allah ﷻ alone and did not commit shirk, but whose sins were great and numerous. They will be punished according to their deeds, but they will eventually be removed from Hell and admitted into Paradise by Allah’s mercy.

Serious sins for which Allah ﷻ has warned of hellfire

- **Innovating sects or groups** that deviate from the Sunnah
- **Ruling or judging unjustly**, despite the obligation Allah ﷻ has placed on leaders and judges to be fair

- **Falsely attributing statements** to the Messenger of Allah ﷺ
- **Unlawfully killing a person** without a legitimate cause
- **Consuming riba (usury)**
- **Taking people's wealth or property unjustly**
- **Creating images of living beings**
- **Women who are clothed yet appear naked, and those who lash others without right**
- **Those who abuse or torture animals**
- **Those who take their own lives**

The food and drink of the people of Hell

The inhabitants of Hell will be fed **Ad-Daree**, a thorny desert plant, and **Az-Zaqqoom**, a horrific tree that grows within Hell. Their drink will be **Al-Hameem** (boiling water) and **Al-Ghasleen** (the filth and discharge from wounds).

Allah ﷻ says:

“No food will there be for them except a poisonous, thorny plant, which neither nourishes nor satisfies hunger.” [88:6–7]

In desperation, they will rush to drink, gulping down boiling liquids like diseased camels whose thirst is never quenched. This scalding drink will rip through their insides.

Allah ﷻ says:

“They will be given boiling water to drink, which will tear apart their bowels.” [47:15]

The punishment of the people of Hell

Hell is a place of severe and relentless punishment. Its torment is so overwhelming that its inhabitants would willingly give away their most precious possessions to escape but nothing will save them.

Allah ﷻ says:

“Indeed, those who disbelieved and died as disbelievers, never would the whole earth full of gold be accepted from any of them, even if they offered it as ransom. For them is a painful punishment, and they will have no helpers.” [3:91]

Different levels of punishment

The people of Hell will face multiple forms of punishment, each more degrading than the last. Their skin will burn repeatedly, their insides will melt from scalding water, and their faces will be scorched without relief. They will be dragged in chains, have their faces darkened, and be beaten with iron hammers. These punishments vary in severity according to their crimes and disbelief.

How to save oneself from the Fire

Since disbelief in Allah ﷻ leads a person to eternal punishment, the path to safety from Hell is through sincere **faith, righteous deeds, and love for Allah ﷻ**.

Anas ibn Malik رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“By Allah, Allah will never cast into the Fire the one who loves Him and whom He loves.” Saheeh Al-Jaami

Acts such as **fasting, striving in Allah’s cause, and fearing Him sincerely** are powerful means of protection from the Fire. A believer can also safeguard himself by regularly **seeking refuge with Allah ﷻ** from Hellfire.

May Allah, the Most Merciful, protect all of us from the torment of Hell.

Review Questions – Chapter 4

Fill in the Blanks

1. The faces of the first group to enter Paradise will shine like _____
2. Among the _____ of Paradise that provide drinks for the righteous are *Kafoor* and *Tasneem*.
3. Entering Paradise requires strong determination, willpower, and enduring the hardships of _____.
4. The greatest blessing the people of Paradise will receive is seeing the _____ of Allah ﷻ.
5. The keepers of Hell number _____ angels.
6. Among the fuel of Hellfire are stones and _____.

True or False

1. The joy and pleasure of Paradise are so great that no one can fully imagine them. _____
2. The first nation to enter Paradise will be the ummah of Prophet Musa ﷺ. _____
3. Allah ﷻ will remove from Hell anyone who has an atom's weight of faith in his heart. _____
4. The delights of Paradise far surpass the pleasures of this world. _____
5. Hell has eight gates. _____
6. The faces of the people of Hell will be blackened because they rejected faith. _____

List four sins of those who will not remain in Hell forever

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Key to Review Questions

Chapter 1

Fill in the blanks

corruption- disbeliever- righteous- Barzakh- Hereafter

True or false

F-T-T-F-T

Multiple choice

a- a-c-c- b

Chapter 2

Fill in the blanks

minor-major-654-dunya- Eesa-Lord-Mohammad

True or false

F-T-T-F-T-T

List five of the major signs of the Hour

The Dajjal-The Beast-The rising of the sun from the west-The descent of 'Eesa ﷺ

Minor *or a* major sign

Minor-major-major-minor-major- minor

Multiple choice

b-a-c-c-a

Chapter 3

Fill in the blanks

Life-musk-permission-thirsty-Hell

True or false

T-F-T-T-T-F

List four people who will be in the shade of the Throne of Allah ﷻ on the Day of Hashr

The just ruler-Those who love one another for the sake of Allah- A person who weeps secretly

A person who hides his charity even from himself.

Complete the following paragraph about some horrors and terrors of the Day of Resurrection

grasped- rolled up -fire -heedless - miscarry – drunken- kinship

Multiple choice

c-a-b-a

Fill in the blanks

Chapter 4

Moon-springs-dunya-face- nineteen-disbelievers

True or false

T- F-T-T-F-T

List four of the sins of people who will not remain in Hell forever

Groups that go against the Sunnah- Lying about the Messenger of Allah ﷻ - Killing a person for no legitimate reason- Consuming Ribaa (usury)

References

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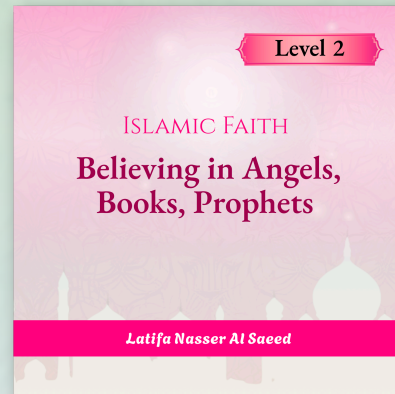
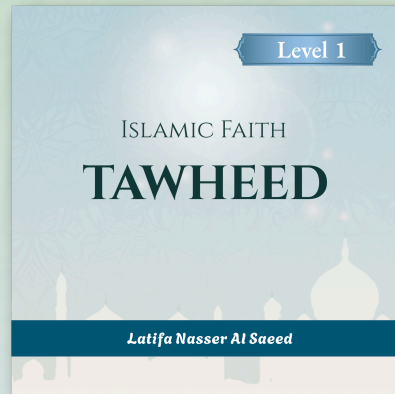
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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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