Sura 26 - The Poets

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SURA XXVI (26) - THE POETS (Mecca - 228 Verses) (LVI - 103)

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Ta. Sin Mim. These are the signs of the lucid Book.

Haply thou wearest thyself away with grief because they will not believe.

Were it our will we could send down to them a sign from Heaven, before which they would humbly bow.

But from each fresh warning that cometh to them from the God of Mercy they have only turned aside,

And treated it as a lie: But tidings shall reach them which they shall not laugh to scorn.

Have they not beheld the earth - how we have caused every kind of noble plant to spring up therein?

Verily, in this is a sign: but most of them believe not.

And assuredly, thy Lord! - He is the Mighty, the Merciful.

And remember when thy Lord called to Moses, "Go to the wicked people,

26:10 The people of Pharoah. What! will they not fear me?"

He said, "My Lord, in sooth I fear lest they treat me as a liar:

And my breast is straitened, and I am slow of speech: send therefore to Aaron to be my helpmate.

For they have a charge against me, and I fear lest they put me to death."

He said, "Surely not. Go ye therefore with our signs: we will be with you and will hearken.

And go to Pharaoh and say: 'Verily we are the messengers of the Lord of the words -

Send forth with us the children of Israel.'"

He said, "Did we not rear thee among us when a a child? And hast thou not passed years of thy life among us?

And yet what a deed is that which thou hast done! Thou art one of the ungrateful."

He said, "I did it indeed, and I was one of those who erred:

26:20 And I fled from you because I feared you; but my Lord hath given me wisdom and hath made me one of his Apostles.

And is this the favour thou has conferred on me, that thou hast enslaved the children of Israel?"

Said Pharaoh, "Who then is the Lord of the Worlds?"

He said, "The Lord of the Heavens and of the Earth and of all that is between them, if only ye believe it."

Said Pharaoh to those around him, "Hear ye this?"

"Your Lord," said Moses, "and the Lord of your sires of old."

"In sooth, your Apostle whom He hath sent to you, " said Pharaoh, "is certainly possessed."

He said, "Lord is He of the East and of the West, and of all that is between them, if ye can understand."

He said, "If ye take any God beside me, I will surely put thee in ward."

Said Moses, "What! if I shew thee that which shall be a proof of my mission?"

26:30 He said, "Forth with it then, if thou speakest truth."

Then threw he down his staff, and lo! and undoubted serpent:

And he drew out his hand, and lo! if was white to the beholders,

He said to his nobles around him, "This truly is a right cunning sorcerer:

Fain would he drive you out of your land by his sorcery. But what do ye suggest?"

They said, "Put him and his brother off awhile, and send summoners to all the cities,

Who shall bring to thee every cunning magician."

So the magicians were mustered at a set time, on a solemn day:

And it was said ot the people, "Are ye all assembled?"

- "Yes! and we will follow the magicians if they gain the day."

26:40 And when the magicians were arrived they said to Pharaoh, "Shall we have a reward if we gain the day?"

He said, "Yes. And verily in that case ye shall be of those who are near my person."

Moses said to them, "Throw down what ye have to throw."

So they cast down their ropes and rods, and said, "By Pharaoh's might we

shall surely win."

Then Moses threw down his rod, and lo! it swallowed up their cheating wonders.

Then the magicians threw themselves down in worship:

They said, "We believe on the Lord of the Worlds,

The Lord of Moses and of Aaron."

Said Pharaoh, "Have ye then believe on him ere I gave you leave? He truly is your master who hath taught you magic. But bye and bye ye shall surely know my power.

I will cut off your hands and feet on opposite sides, and I will have you all crucified."

26:50 They said, "It cannot harm us, for to our Lord shall we return:

Assuredly we trust that our Lord will forgive us our sins, since we are of the first who believe."

Then revealed we this order to Moses: "Go forth by night with my servants, for ye will be pursued."

And Pharaoh sent summoners through the cities: -

"These Israelites," said they, "are a scanty band;

Yet are they enraged against us -

But we truly are numerous, wary."

Thus we caused them to quit gardens and fountains,

And treasures and splendid dwellings;

So was it; and we gave them to the children of Israel for an heritage.

26:60 Then at sunrise the Egyptians followed them:

And when the hosts came in view of one another, the comrades of Moses said, "We are surely overtaken."

He said, "By no means: - for my Lord is with me - He will guide me."

And we revealed this order to Moses, "Strike the sea with thy rod." And it clave asunder, and each part became like a huge mountain.

Then made we the others to draw on;

And we saved Moses, and those who were with him, all;

But we drowned the others.

Truly in this was a sign; but most of them did not believe.

But verily thy Lord, - He is the Mighty, the Merciful!

And recite to them the story of Abraham

26:70 When he said to his Father and to his people, "What worship ye?"

They said, "We worship idols, and constant is our devotion to them."

He said, "Can they hear you when ye cry to them?

Or help you or do you harm?"

They said, "But we found our Fathers do the like."

He said, "How think ye? Them whom ye worship,

Ye and your fathers of early days,

Are my foes: not not so the Lord of the Worlds,

Who hath created me, and guideth me,

Who giveth me food and drink;

26:80 And when I am sick, he healeth me,

And who will cause me to die and again quicken me,

And who, I hope, will forgive me my sins in the day of reckoning.

My Lord! bestow on me wisdom and join me to the just,

And give me a good name among posterity,

And make we one of the heirs of the garden of delight,

And forgive my father, for he was one of the erring,

And put me not to shame on the day when mankind shall be raised up,

The day when neither wealth nor children shall avail,

Save to him who shall come to God with a sound heart:

26:90 When Paradise shall be brought near the pious,

And Hell shall lay open for those who have gone astray.

And it shall be said to them, 'Where are they whom ye worshipped

Beside God? Can they harm you or help themselves?'

And they shall be cast into it - the seducers and the seduced,

And all the host of Eblis.

They shall say, as they wrangle therein together,

'By God, we were in a plain error,

When we equalled you with the Lord of the Words:

And none misled us by the wicked,

26:100 And we have none to plead for us,

Nor friend who careth for us.

Could we but return, we would be of the believers"'

Verily, in this was a sign: but most of them believed not.

And truly thy Lord! - He is the Mighty, the Merciful!

The people of Noah gainsaid the Apostles,

When their brother Noah said to hem, "Will ye not fear God?

Of a truth am I your faithful Apostle;

Fear God then and obey me.

I ask of you no reward for this, for my reward is of the Lord of the Worlds alone:

26:110 Fear God then and obey me."

They said, "Shall we believe on thee when the meanest only are thy followers?"

He said, "But I have no knowledge of that they did:P

To my Lord only must their account be given: would that ye understood this!

And I will not thrust away those who believe,

For I am only one charged with plain warnings."

They said, "Now unless thou desist, O Noah, one of the stoned shalt thou surely be."

He said, "Lord! my people treat me as a liar:

Decide thou therefore a decision between me and them, and rescue me and the faithful who are with me."

So we saved him and those who were with him in the fully-laden ark,

26:120 And afterwards we drowned the rest.

Herein truly was a sign, but most of them believed not.

But thy Lord! - He is the Mighty, the Merciful.

The Adites treated their Apostles as liars,

When their brother Houd said to them, "Will ye not fear God?

I am your Apostle, worthy of all credit;

Fear God then and obey me:

I ask for no reward for this; for my reward is of the Lord of the World

alone.

What! built ye landmarks on all heights in mere pastime?

And raise ye structures to be your lasting abodes?

26:130 And when ye put forth your power do ye put it forth with harshness?

Fear ye God then and obey me;

And fear ye Him who hath plenteously bestowed on you ye well know what:

Plenteously bestowed on you flocks and children,

And gardens and fountains;

Indeed I fear for you the punishment of a tremendous day."

They said, "It is the same to us whether thou warn or warn us not.

This is but a tale of the ancients,

And we are not they who shall be punished."

And they charged him with imposture; and we destroyed them. In this was a sign: but most of them believed not.

26:140 But thy Lord! - He is the Mighty, the Merciful!

The Themoudites also treated their Apostles as liars,

When their brother Saleh said to them, "Will ye not fear God?

I am your Apostle worthy of all credit:

Fear God, then, and obey me.

I ask of you no reward for this: my reward is of the Lord of the Worlds alone.

She ye be left secure amid these things here?

Amid gardens and fountains,

And corn-fields and palm-trees, with flower-sheating branches?

And, insolent that ye are, will ye hew out your dwellings in the mountains?

26:150 But fear God and obey me,

And obey not the bidding of those who commit excess,

Who act disorderly on the earth and reform it not."

They said, "Certainly thou art a person bewitched;

Thou art only a man like us: produce now a sign if thou art a man of truth."

He said, "This she-camel, then - drink shall there be for her, and drink

shall there be for you, on a several day for each.

But harm her not, lest the punishment of a tremendous day overtake you."

But they ham-strung her, and repented of it on the morrow;

For the punishment overtook them. In this truly was a sign, but most of them believed not.

But thy Lord! - He is the Powerful, the Merciful!

26:160 The people of Lot treated their apostles as lairs,

When their brother Lot said to them, "Will ye not fear God?

I am your Apostle worthy of all credit:

Fear God, then, and obey me.

For this I ask you no reward: my reward is of the Lord of the worlds alone.

What! with men, of all creatures, will ye have commerce?

And leave ye your wives whom your Lord hath created for you? Ah! ye are an erring people!"

They said, "O Lot, if thou desist not, one of the banished shalt thou surely be."

He said, "I utterly abhor your doings:

My Lord! deliver me and my family from what they do."

26:170 So we delivered him and his whole family -

Save an aged one among those who tarried -

Then we destroyed the rest -

And we rained down a rain upon them, and fatal was the rain to those whom we had warned.

In this truly was a sign; but most of them did not believe.

But thy Lord! He is the Powerful, the Merciful!

The dwellers in the forest of Madian treated the Apostles as liars.

When Shoaib their brother said to them, "Will ye not fear God?

I truly ma your trustworthy Apostle.

Fear God, then, and obey me:

26:180 No reward ask I of you for this: my reward is of the Lord of the Worlds alone.

Fill the measure, and be not of those who minish:

Weigh with exact balance:

And defraud not men in their substance, and do no wrong on the earth by deeds of license;

And fear Him who made you and the races of old?

Then said, "Certainly thou art a person bewitched.

Thou art but a man like us, and we deem thee liar -

Make now a part of the heaven to fall down upon us, if thou art a man of truth."

He said, "My Lord best knoweth your doings."

And when they treated him as a liar, the chastisement of the day of cloud overtook them. This truly was the chastisement of a dreadful day!

26:190 In this was a sign, but most of them believed not.

But thy Lord! - He is the Mighty, the Mercilful!

Verily from the Lord of the Worlds hath this Book come down;

The faithful spirit hath come down with it

Upon thy heart, that thou mightest become a warner -

In the clear Arabic tongue:

And truly it is foretold in the Scriptures of them of yore.

Was it not a sign to them that the learned among the children of Israel recognised it?

If we had sent it down unto any foreigner,

And he had recited it to them, they had not believed.

26:200 In such sort have we influenced the heart of the wicked ones,

That they will not believe it till they see the grievous chastisement?

And it shall come upon them on a sudden when they look not for it:

And they will say, "Can we be respited?"

What! will they seek to hasten on our chastisement?

How thinkest thou? If after we have given them their fill for years,

That with which they are menaced come upon them at last,

Of what avail will their enjoyments be to them?

We never destroyed a city which had not first its warners

With admonition; nor did we deal unjustly.

26:210 The Satans were not sent down with this Koran:

It beseemed them not, and they had not the power,

For they are far removed from hearing it.

Call not thou on any other god but God, lest thou be of those consigned to torment:

But warn thy relatives of nearer kind,

And kindly lower thy wing over the faithful who follow thee.

And if they disobey thee, then say: "I will not be answerable for your doings;" -

And put thy trust in Him that is the Mighty, the Merciful,

Who seeth thee when thou standest in prayer,

And thy demeanour amongst those who worship;

26:220 For He heareth, knoweth all.

Shall I tell you on whom Satan descend?

They descend on every lying, wicked person:

They impart what they have heard; - but most of them are liars,

It is the poets whom the erring follow:

See thou not how they rove distraught in every valley?

And that they say that which they do not?

Save those who believe and do good works, and oft remember God;

And who defend themselves when unjustly treated. But they who treat them unjustly shall find out what a lot awaiteth them.

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