

SURAH AS A STORY



Surah Al-Haqqah

The Inevitable Reality

The complete journey — the Reality that always arrives —
told the way a loving elder shares it with a child



Surah No. 69 • 52 Ayahs • Meccan

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The Surah at a Glance

*Al-haaaqqah. Mal-haaaqqah. Wa maaa adraaka
mal-haaaqqah*

1-3. The Inevitable Reality! What is the Inevitable Reality? And what will make you know what the Inevitable Reality is?

Wa hamalnaaka fil-jaariyah

11. ...We carried you in the sailing ship.

*Fa-ammaa man ootiya kitaabahoo bi-yameenihee
fa-yaqoolu haaa'umuq-ra'oo kitaabiyah*

19. As for he who is given his record in his right hand, he will say: come, read my record!

Innee zanantu annee mulaaqin hisaabiyah

20. Indeed, I was certain that I would meet my account.

*Innahoo kaana laa yu'minu billaahil-'Azeem; wa
laa yahuddu 'alaa ta'aamil-miskeen*

33-34. Indeed, he did not believe in Allah, the Most Great, nor did he encourage the feeding of the poor.

*Wa lawa taqawwala 'alaynaa ba'dal-aqaaweel...
lataqa'naa minhul-wateen*



44-46. And if he had invented sayings about Us... We would have cut his life-artery.

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A Name That Is Itself a Sermon

Beta, this surah's name is its whole message.

AL-HAQQA — from haqq, truth — means 'that which is realised, that which inevitably comes true, the Reality that settles every argument.'

And look at how it opens — with three short, hammering lines: 'AL-HAQQA. MAL-HAQQA. WA MA ADRAKA MAL-HAQQA?' — The Reality! What is the Reality? And what will make you know what the Reality is?

Beta, in Arabic this is the style of overwhelming importance. It is like someone bursting into a room and saying: 'The flood! What is the flood? And do you even know what the flood is?' The repetition is not for information; it is to make the heart lean forward. And



'ma adraka' — what will make you KNOW — is the Quran's way of saying: this thing is beyond your imagination's reach; let Me describe it to you.

And then, before describing the Day itself, the surah calls witnesses from history — nations who also assumed 'later' would never arrive.

Nations That Thought They Were Permanent

'THAMUD and 'AAD denied the Striking Calamity.' Two mighty civilisations, beta, and each was ended by a different weapon of Allah — because He is never short of means.

'As for Thamud, they were destroyed by the OVERWHELMING BLAST' — a sound. One sound, and a people who carved their homes into mountains were finished.

'And as for 'Aad, they were destroyed by a SCREAMING, VIOLENT WIND, which Allah imposed upon them for



SEVEN NIGHTS AND EIGHT DAYS IN SUCCESSION.'

Beta, notice the detail: Allah counts the nights and days for us. Not a sudden strike — a relentless, continuous week of wind, so that the strongest people of their age had time to feel their helplessness fully.

'So you would see the people therein FALLEN AS IF THEY WERE HOLLOW TRUNKS OF PALM TREES.' What a picture: 'Aad were famous for their enormous physical strength — the Quran elsewhere records their boast, 'who is greater than us in strength?' And here they lie like palm trunks that look massive but are HOLLOW inside. Beta, that is the epitaph of every strength built without iman: impressive on the outside, empty within, and flat on the ground when the real wind comes.

Then: 'FA-HAL TARA LAHUM MIN BAQIYAH — do you see any REMNANT of them?' Go and look. Where are they now? And Firaun, and those before him, and the overturned cities came with sin — 'and they disobeyed the messenger of their Lord, so He seized them with a seizure exceeding in severity.'



And then, beta, comes an ayah that ties YOU personally into this ancient history: 'INNA LAMMA TAGHAL-MA'U HAMALNAKUM FIL-JARIYAH — indeed, when the water OVERFLOWED, WE CARRIED YOU in the sailing SHIP — LI-NAJ'ALAH LAKUM TAZKIRATAN WA TA'IYAH UZUNUN WA'IYAH — that We might make it for you a REMINDER, and that a RETAINING EAR might retain it.'

'We carried YOU', beta — you, reading this today. Because every human being alive descends from those who were saved with Nuh (alaihis salam) in that ark. Your very existence is a certificate of a rescue that happened before history began. We are, all of us, children of the survivors. That is a debt of gratitude older than every other debt you owe.

And note the beautiful phrase: 'UZUNUN WA'IYAH' — a retaining ear, an ear that HOLDS what it hears rather than letting it pass through. Beta, make dua for that ear. Many people hear the Quran; few retain it.



One Blast, and Everything Ends

Then the surah moves to the Day itself, and the description is majestic: 'FA-IZA NUFIKHA FIS-SOORI NAFKHATUN WAHIDAH — then when the Horn is blown with ONE blast.' One, beta. Not an army, not a war — one breath into a horn, and the entire order of creation dissolves.

'And the earth and the mountains are LIFTED and levelled with a single blow. FA-YAWMA'IZIN WAQA'ATIL-WAQI'AH — then on that Day, the Event will occur. WANSHAQQATIS-SAMA'U FA-HIYA YAWMA'IZIN WAHIYAH — and the sky will SPLIT, for that Day it is FRAIL.' The sky, beta — that ceiling this very Quran told us has no crack in it — described as 'wahiyah', flimsy as worn cloth, on that Day.

'And the angels are at its edges. WA YAHMILU 'ARSHA RABBIKA FAWQAHUM YAWMA'IZIN THAMANIYAH — and there will bear the THRONE of your Lord above them, that Day, EIGHT.' Eight of the mightiest angels,



beta, whose description in the hadith is beyond the mind's grasp.

'YAWMA'IZIN TU'RADOON, LA TAKHFA MINKUM KHAFIYAH — that Day you will be EXHIBITED for judgement; NOT A SECRET OF YOURS WILL REMAIN HIDDEN.' Everything, beta — the private message, the hidden intention, the thing nobody knew — displayed. Live now in a way that can survive that display.

Come — Read My Record!

And now, beta, the scene this entire surah has been building toward — memorise it, because it is the single best motivation the Quran gives for a disciplined life.

'FA-AMMA MAN OOTIYA KITABAHU BI-YAMEENIHI — as for the one who is given his record in his RIGHT HAND — FA-YAQOOLU HA'UMU-QRA'OO KITABIYAH — he will say: HERE! COME AND READ MY RECORD!'

Beta, picture it. A man receives the complete file of his life — every word, every glance, every private hour —



and his reaction is not to hide it. He runs through the gathering of all mankind, holding it up, calling out to everyone: read it! Look at it! The relief and joy are so overwhelming that he WANTS the world to see.

What was his secret? He tells us himself, in the very next line: 'INNI ZANANTU ANNI MULAQIN HISABIYAH — indeed, I was CERTAIN that I would MEET my account.' That is all, beta. He lived his whole life knowing this file would one day be opened — so he wrote it carefully. He lived AUDITED, and so he arrived audited.

And his reward: 'FA-HUWA FEE 'EESHATIN RADIYAH — so he is in a pleasing life — FEE JANNATIN 'ALIYAH — in a LOFTY garden — QUTOOFUHA DANIYAH — its fruit-clusters HANGING NEAR', bending toward him, no reaching or straining. And then the sweetest invitation in the Quran: 'KULOO WASHRABOO HANEE'AN BIMA ASLAFTUM FIL-AYYAMIL-KHALIYAH — EAT and DRINK in satisfaction for what you SENT AHEAD in the days PAST.' Beta — 'the days past' are these days. Right now, you are living the days that will be referred to on



that Day.

And then the other man: 'But as for he who is given his record in his LEFT hand, he will say: YA LAYTANI LAM OOTA KITABIYAH — oh, I wish I had NOT been given my record — WA LAM ADRI MA HISABIYAH — and had not known what my account was! YA LAYTAHA KANATIL-QADIYAH — oh, I wish it had been the ENDING (that death had been the end)! MA AGHNA 'ANNI MALIYAH — my WEALTH has not availed me — HALAKA 'ANNI SULTANIYAH — my AUTHORITY has gone from me.'

Beta, both men are quoted with their own words — one shouting with joy, one wishing for non-existence. Same Day, same file system; two lifetimes of choices.

Two Crimes, Always Together

And then the command: 'Seize him and shackle him, then into the Blaze drive him, then into a chain whose length is seventy cubits insert him.'



And Allah names his crimes — only TWO, beta, and notice which two: 'INNAHU KANA LA YU'MINU BILLAHIL-'AZEEM — indeed, he did NOT BELIEVE in Allah, the Most Great — WA LA YAHUDDU 'ALA TA'AMIL-MISKEEN — AND HE DID NOT ENCOURAGE THE FEEDING OF THE POOR.'

Beta, look at this pairing, because the Quran repeats it again and again: a broken relationship with Allah, and a closed hand toward His creation. And look how precisely it is worded: it does not even say 'he did not feed the poor' — it says he did not ENCOURAGE the feeding of the poor. Not even a word of encouragement! Not even 'brother, help that man'. A man can be poor himself and still be innocent of this crime, simply by urging others toward good.

So ask yourself, beta: in my family, my office, my group of friends — am I one of those who ENCOURAGES the feeding of the hungry? Do I speak up for the weak when the conversation turns cold? That single habit sits on the opposite side of one of the two crimes named here.



The Proof of a Trustworthy Messenger

As the surah closes, it defends its own source with a solemn oath: 'FA-LA UQSIMU BIMA TUBSIROON WA MA LA TUBSIROON — I swear by what you SEE and what you DO NOT see' — the visible world and the unseen world, both witnesses — 'INNAHU LA-QAWLU RASOOLIN KAREEM — indeed, it is the word of a NOBLE MESSENGER, and it is not the word of a poet — little do you believe — nor the word of a soothsayer — little do you remember. TANZEELUN MIN RABBIL-'ALAMEEN — it is a revelation SENT DOWN from the Lord of the worlds.'

And then, beta, comes one of the most powerful proofs of the Prophet's ﷺ integrity in all of scripture: 'WA LAW TAQAWWALA 'ALAYNA BA'DAL-AQAWHEEL — and if he had INVENTED about Us some sayings — LA-AKHADHNA MINHU BIL-YAMEEN — We would have seized him by the RIGHT HAND — THUMMA LA-QATA'NA MINHUL-WATEEN — then We would have CUT FROM HIM THE LIFE-ARTERY — FAMA



MINKUM MIN AHADIN 'ANHU HAJIZEEN — and none of you could have prevented it.'

Beta, think about what this ayah is announcing publicly, in the middle of a hostile city: if this man adds even a few sayings of his own to the revelation, Allah will end his life instantly, and no one will save him. And then he ☐ lived and preached for more than twenty years, in poverty, persecution, war and finally in complete authority over Arabia — and the Book never bent to his convenience. Remember, beta, this is the same Book that corrected HIM openly — about the blind man in Surah 'Abasa, about the oath in Surah At-Tahrim. A man inventing scripture would never write his own reprimands, nor place a death sentence over his own head.

And the surah's final words: 'WA INNAHU LA-TAZKIRATUN LIL-MUTTAQEEN — and indeed, it is a REMINDER for the God-conscious. And indeed, We know that among you are DENIERS. And indeed, it will be a source of regret for the disbelievers. And indeed, it



is the TRUTH OF CERTAINTY — HAQQUL-YAQEEN.
FA-SABBIH BISMI RABBIKAL-'AZEEM — so glorify the
name of your Lord, the Most Great.'

Beta, notice how it ends: not with a threat, but with
TASBEEH. The surah walked us through destroyed
nations, a splitting sky, a Throne carried by eight, and
two men's files — and then it says: now, having seen all
this, say SubhanAllah. Because the only correct response
to seeing reality clearly is to glorify the One who runs it.

What This Surah Teaches Us

1. Strength without iman is a hollow palm trunk —
build what is inside, not just what impresses.
2. You are a child of the survivors of the Ark — your
existence itself is an old debt of gratitude.
3. Ask Allah for an 'uzunun wa'iyah' — a retaining ear
that holds what it hears instead of letting it pass.
4. Live audited: the secret of the man who shouts 'read
my record!' was simply that he was CERTAIN he would



meet his account.

5. Today is 'the days past' that will be mentioned on that Day — write your file accordingly.

6. Never let the two crimes near you: neglecting Allah, and neglecting the hungry — and remember, even ENCOURAGING others to feed is counted.

7. Trust the Book completely: its Messenger ﷺ carried a death sentence over any invention, and delivered it unchanged for over twenty years.

Ya Allah, place our books in our right hands, make us of those who encourage the feeding of the poor, and let us glorify You as You deserve. Ameen.

— This is a simplified, faithful retelling for understanding, based on the Quran's translation and established tafseer (Ibn Kathir and others). For deeper study, always read with a qualified teacher. —

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