

Surah Layl

Introduction:

When a surah like this was revealed about slaves- what kind of emotions would the Arabs be feeling? What about somebody who owned slaves? What would a slave feel?

This surah would be like Allah telling the slaves that he hadn't forgotten their plight.

Main theme of the surah: The different paths that everyone takes and the reality of it.

Ayah (1):

Allah takes a qasm - swears by the night which intensifies its meaning. Whenever there is a qasm there has to be a reply to it. Either the reply will be in the surah or it will be left out so we have to contemplate on it.

Allah can testify by any of his creations. This shows the awesome power of Allah. So its easy to ask someone claiming to be God to control the sun.

Ayah (2):

Opposite to the first ayah. Night in ayah 1 and Day in ayah 2

Ayah (3):

Opposites are mentioned here.

Ayah (4):

This is the reply to the qasm that we are all different - each with their own aims/purpose. Humans are from the same source but are different so you are either Mu'min or Fasiq. Allah is describing the path he wants us to take.

Allah swears that in the dunya there will be Mu'mins/Fasiq

Ayah (5):

What does a mu'min do? 1st / 2nd Characteristics: Gives his wealth in Allahs sake + Fears Allah.

Ayah (6):

The shadda = for intensity. He encourages good and likes it.

Ayah (7):

He was guided because of their goodness so Allah made their path easier for them. Guidance was for them because they put their hands forward and so it shows that we have to make the first move and Allah will make the path easy for you.

Giving an M&S voucher to a WH Smith cashier - like on the day of Judgement when we will take our deeds to Allah but we have taken them with the wrong intentions or vouchers.

Ayah (8):

"bukhl" : stinginess

The person who thinks they don't need Allah

Ayah (9):

Shadda shows that they disbelieve repeatedly.

Ayah (10):

"Usr": Hardship- Allah will make the path of evil easy for them.

Ayah (11):

Again the theme of wealth comes here. Some people think that their wealth will save them from the Hellfire. But Allah didn't just leave us to be destroyed.

Ayah (13):

Allah is reminding us here that both worlds belong to him so there is no escape - so if you don't see the punishment/reward today you will definitely see it tomorrow.

Ayah (14):

"Inzar": warning - Allah isn't a passive God - he's warning us/

Ayah (15):

"ashqa": wretched - Here Allah tells us who will enter Jahanam.

Ayah (16):

"kazzaba": They lied about about the truth - this is what made them most wretched.

Ayah (17):

Here Allah talks about the one who will be removed from the Hellfire: The muttaqi - somebody we think has a beard/ miswak but we learn the characteristics of a muttaqi in the following ayahs.

Ayah (18):

A muttaqi spend his wealth to purify it + self-purification. Rememberence of the poor/ stops him from feeling arrogant.

Ayah (19):

The person doesn't do good deeds just to be seen or so that if you do something good you may get something out of it.