

Suratul Fajr

Introduction:

This surah talks about the 3 main issues:

1. Stories of transgressive nations
2. Sunnah of Allah to test the people
3. The hereafter and its horrors

Whenever Allah testifies to something, we need to pay attention to the issue. It raises its status/nobility. What is Allah testifying to? The reply isn't here in the surah. Makes you want to know what you are being testifying to. When you don't tell something it makes you want to know it even more.

Ayah (1):

Surah begins with Qasm - dawn. Next time you look at it remember that it has noble status because Allah testifies to it.

Ayah (2):

Why are these 10 nights very special? Because of Hajj. 8th Hajj starts, 9th Arafah, 10th Eid.

Ayah (3):

Even - everything of Allah's creation has a pair- similar thing. If there is one ant there will always be another ant. The only unique thing is Allah.

Ayah (4):

"yusr" departs- moves

Ayah (5):

"Hijr" - Intelligence. The word actually means boycott. Allah uses the same word for someone with intelligence, because he boycotts doing incorrect things.

Ayah (6):

"alam tar kaif" - questions - Allah wants us to interact with these verses. This ayah teaches us that tyrants will be punished - the people who bully other people. A non-Muslim may ask whether Allah was capable of destroying everybody? Allah is telling us here that he has already punished these people.

Ayah (7):

Characteristics of these people - they used to create landmarks.

Ayah (8):

They had no need to build these houses but still made them to show-off.

Ayah (10):

"awtada": pyramids

Ayah (12):

"faktharu" and they increased - If you fall into doing evil then Allah will let you slide. Doing evil is like sitting on a waterslide where if you let go you will fall and end up at the bottom. Doing good deeds is like climbing a mountain - it's difficult but when you reach the top you feel great.

They would say who is stronger than us - because they built such grand houses - so here Allah is answering to them saying: Allah is the most strongest.

Ayah (13):

"fassaba": to pour/to dump. They died because Allah sent down many types of punishment using his creations.

Ayah (14):

"mirsada": Allah is watching over them even though they live their lives with their eyes closed and these torments take them by surprise.

Ayah (15): Next theme of wealth

"Ibtillah": tests

"My Lord has honoured me" = statement of arrogance - honoured through wealth

We need to realize that both statements are a test. Both good/bad times are a test from Allah. Ayah 15 + 16 are both talking about wealth

Ayah (16):

Allah is condemning both statements because they are out of arrogance. When people wake up during the times of hardship you realize that they had been sleeping during the times of ease - they weren't patient or thankful.

Ayah 15/16: Focus is on dunya - there honour comes from the amount of wealth they have. What they need to realise is that honour comes from how much Taqwa you have - obedience to Allah.

This ayah shows us the Sunnah of Allah- he will test us to see what are actions are during good/bad times. Muslims aren't born promised Paradise.

Ayah (17):

Orphans - mostly girls whose wealth was taken away by male relatives.

Ayah (18):

"urge": not even encourage each other because they are so stingy.

Ayah (20):

"jamma" : so much that you would do it even though it's haram.

Ayah 21:

"If" needs a reply - as if the ayah is asking us where all this wealth will go.

"dakka": pounding after pounding of the earth.

Ayah (22):

Shadda - one after another - rows of angels will come. Allah will be the judge and the angels will be lined up in rows - picture that scene- This judge who is able to destroy the people of Aad but at the same time be Ar-Rahman. Only Allah will be the judge as there will be no intermediaries.

Ayah (23):

What will man remember? - His mistakes. On the day of Judgement, Jannah/Jahanam will be brought forward. Jannah will come running for the believers whereas Jahanam will be pulled by 70 000 strings each with 70 000 Angels. Allah reminds us that this is the day that we will remember our past.

Ayah (24):

Allah tells us the exact words of the people on the day of judgement - what do they sound like? - regretful. Parents will prepare their children for this life but when they come to that Day they will realise this is what they should have been preparing their children for. But its too late. This should have been their entire focus.

Ayah (25):

Everybody can think of punishments but Allah's punishments are different.

Ayah (26):

The people of the hellfire will be chained and not running around. No one has ever been chained the way Allah will chain. You might imagine the people of Hell running around but they won't even be given that comfort.

Ayah (27):

This ayah is like a breather for the reciter.

"Mutma'inah": Does good deeds even though there are bad deeds happening around them. (going against peer pressure). This is our chance right now to become that kind of soul.

This will be the call to these people. The scholars say that this ayah was revealed when the body of Hamza was mutilated.

Ayah (28):

"Radiatam mardiyah": 2 way process: they are pleased with Allah and Allah is pleased with them. That kind of nafs (soul) is happy to meet its Lord.

These ayahs aren't there just to terrify us but that not that we have recited these ayahs we need to dwell on the fact that do they want to choose the path of righteousness or not? Do they want the pleasure of Allah or not?