



سُورَةُ الْعَنْكَبُوتِ
Surat al-'Ankabūt (29)

The Spider

COMMENTARY OF THE QUR'AN

RAMADAN 2020

Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Review for Today



Session 23
Review for Today
Āyāt 53-55



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Introduction

God’s precedence in testing humans’ faith

Testing people’s faith at all times. (Verses 1-4)

4 Verses



Different groups going through Divine Trials. (Verses 5-13)

9 Verses



Consequences of disbelieving in Prophets sent by God. (Verses 14-44)

31 Verses



The trials which those who opposed the Prophets went through. (Verses 45-68)

24 Verses

Achievements of those who struggle in the way of God – Divine Mercy and Guidance. (Verse 69)

1 Verse



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

وَيَسْتَعْجِلُونَكَ بِالْعَذَابِ وَلَوْ أَعْجَلُ مُسَمَّىٰ لَجَاءَهُمُ
الْعَذَابُ وَلَيَأْتِيَنَّهُمْ بَغْتَةً وَهُمْ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ ﴿٥٣﴾

They, *the disbelievers*, challenge you, *Muhammad*, to hasten the punishment *which they are threatened with by God in the life of this temporal world*. Had it not been for the term appointed *of their death* by God, the punishment would have come upon them *already*. And it will come upon them all of a sudden, when they are unaware. (53)



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

يَسْتَعْجِلُونَكَ بِالْعَذَابِ وَإِنَّ جَهَنَّمَ لَمُحِيطَةٌ
بِالْكَافِرِينَ ﴿٥٤﴾

They, the disbelievers, challenge you, Muhammad, to hasten the punishment which they are threatened with by God in the world to come – meaning that tell God to send us to Hell so we can see the punishments which He threatens us with. Surely Hell will encompass the unbelievers and is bound to have them in it. (54)



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

يَوْمَ يَغْشَاهُمْ الْعَذَابُ مِنْ فَوْقِهِمْ وَمِنْ تَحْتِ أَرْجُلِهِمْ
وَيَقُولُ ذُوقُوا مَا كُنْتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٥٥﴾

On that Day, the suffering will overwhelm them, *those who will be in the punishments of hell*, from above them and from beneath their feet, and *God* will say to them: “Taste now *the recompense of what you used to do while in the world!*” (55)



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

THE TWO POSSIBILITIES OF “**WHEN** WE WILL DIE”

CONCLUSIVE TIME OF DEATH

OVERHANGING TIME OF DEATH



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

“In the verses of the Quran, the **DATE OF THE END OF LIFE** of an individual is described as being one of two possibilities: **‘The Conclusive Time of Death’** and **‘The Overhanging Time of Death’**.”



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

“Every living being, according to its nature and physical aptitude and what Allah has determined, can **ONLY** live for a **FIXED** period of time, and if **NOTHING** happens to disturb their life, then they will live out the course of their natural life cycle until it is time for them to leave this world – this is the ‘**CONCLUSIVE TIME OF DEATH**’ and this is **UNCHANGABLE.**”



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

“However, the ‘**OVERHANGING TIME OF DEATH**’, is something which **CAN** fluctuate and **CAN** change based on various causes and conditions. As a result of a person’s wrongdoings, they may **FALL FAR SHORTER** of their ‘Conclusive Time of Death’ and die “prematurely,” “early,” or “unexpectedly”.



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

LENGTH OF A
PERSONS'
LIFE

CONCLUSIVE
OR **NATURAL**
DEATH

OVERHANGING
OR **EARLY**
DEATH



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

Some “Best Before” dates can be **disregarded**, however for dairy and other such projects, there is a **greater need** to follow this date.



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

CONCLUSIVE TIME OF DEATH (AJAL MUSAMMA – أَجَل مَسْمَى)

The conclusive death is also referred to as the "**Definite Deadline**," the "**Mandatory Deadline**," the "**Written Deadline**," and the "**Specific Deadline**."



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

OVERHANGING TIME OF DEATH (AJAL MU‘ALLAQ - أجل معلق)

The overhanging death is also referred to as the "**Conditional and Pending Deadline**" and the "**Suspended Deadline.**"



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

Everyone HAS to die

كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَائِقَةُ الْمَوْتِ



Everyone has TWO possible death dates

Fixed Time of Death

NOTHING can change this

Flexible Time of Death

MANY things can change this



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

REALIZATION OF ONE'S ACTIONS (Tajassum al-A'mal)



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

...وَيَقُولُ ذُوقُوا مَا كُنْتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٥٥﴾

...And *God* will say to them: "Taste now *the recompense of what you used to do while in the world!*" (55)



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

“Every action we perform in this world has a meaning in this world, and there is a punishment or reward associated with it in the other world which, in reality, is the realization of our actions and behavior **HERE** which is manifested **THERE** and is the embodiment of our actions.”



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

يَوْمَ يُحْمَىٰ عَلَيْهَا فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ فَتُكْوَىٰ بِهَا جِبَاهُهُمْ وَجُنُوبُهُمْ
وَظُهُورُهُمْ هَذَا مَا كُنْتُمْ لِأَنفُسِكُمْ فَذُوقُوا مَا كُنْتُمْ تَكْنِزُونَ ﴿٣٥﴾

On that day, it *that hoarded wealth* will be heated in the fire of Hell and therewith their foreheads and their sides and their backs will be branded *with their wealth and they will hear*. "This is the treasure which you hoarded up for yourselves; taste now what you were busy hoarding!" (9:35)



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55



...جِبَاهُهُمْ وَجُنُوبُهُمْ وَظُهُورُهُمْ...

...their foreheads and their sides and their backs...

This is **HOW** they reacted to the needy: They would frown at them – thus, the **forehead** will be branded; they walked by them on the street and disregard them – thus, the **sides** will be branded; they turned away and ignored them – thus, the **back** will be branded!



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

“This verse once again emphasizes the fact that the deeds which humans perform do not disappear, they remain, and these actions are same ones which will be embodied in the next world in the presence of the person who performed them – either as a source of joy and happiness or pain and suffering.” – *Tafsir Nemuneh*



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 53 to 55

Points for Reflection

1. The Infinite Wisdom of Allah ﷻ dictates that He does NOT make haste in His actions – everything is done according to His plans.
2. Sometimes, the arrogance of the human being can reach to such levels that they invite or mock Allah ﷻ – in this case, mocking Him to bring about immediate punishment if He exists!
3. The punishments which a person will face in the Next World are a reflection of his actions in this world (tajassum al-a'maal) and as such, we actually forge our own destiny – **WE MAKE** our own paradise and **WE MAKE** our own hell.

