

سُورَةُ الْعَنْكَبُوتِ
Surat al-‘Ankabūt (29)

The Spider

COMMENTARY OF THE QUR’AN

RAMADAN 2020

Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Introduction

God's precedence in testing humans' faith

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

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

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

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

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



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Introduction

First Group: Verses 10-11

Hypocrites and not
enduring hardships in the
way of God



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 10-11

وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَنْ يَقُولُ آمَنَّا بِاللَّهِ فَإِذَا أُوذِيَ فِي اللَّهِ جَعَلَ فِتْنَةَ النَّاسِ كَعَذَابِ
اللَّهِ وَلَئِنْ جَاءَ نَصْرٌ مِنْ رَبِّكَ لَيَقُولُنَّ إِنَّا كُنَّا مَعَكُمْ أَوْلَىٰ ۗ أَلَيْسَ اللَّهُ بِأَعْلَمَ بِمَا
فِي صُدُورِ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿١٠﴾

Among the people are those who say, "We believe in God," but when *such a person* is subjected to persecution *for his confession of faith* in God, he construes persecution at the hands of people as God's punishment *and rejects his faith*; but if a victory comes from your Lord *to the believers*, *such people* will most certainly say, "Surely we have always been with you." Or *do they think that* God is not fully aware of what is in the *spiritual* chests of all creatures *that He created?* (10)



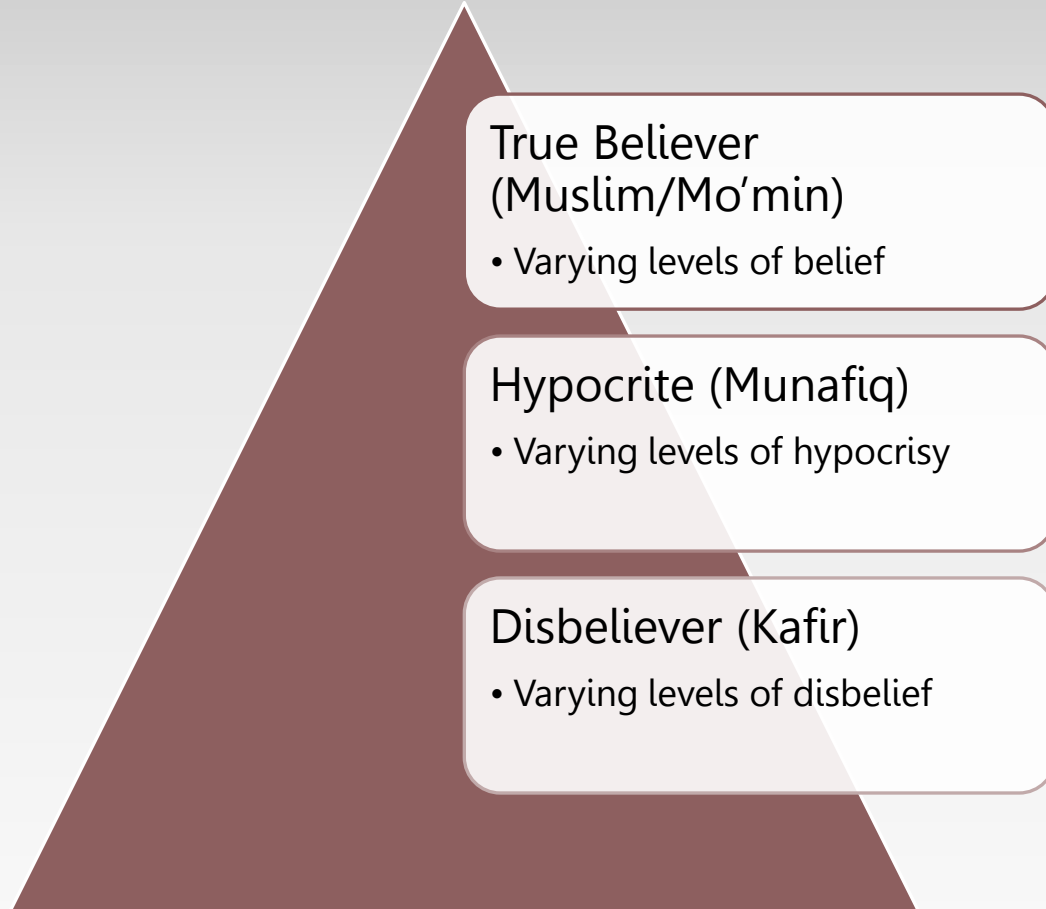
Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 10-11

وَلْيَعْلَمَنَّ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَلْيَعْلَمَنَّ الْمُنَافِقِينَ ﴿١١﴾

Indeed, Allah will bring to light those who believe, and He will also reveal the hypocrites. (11)



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 10-11



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 10-11

WHO or WHAT is a hypocrite?

1. Comes from the root word نَفَقَ which has multiple meanings, including: **a tunnel, underground passageway;**
2. Thus, a *munafiq* is called such as he enters [Islam] from one door but exists from another area, stealthily.
3. **ISLAMIC** definition: A person who openly pretends to have faith in Islam however in their heart, their true state is that of a disbeliever:

يَقُولُونَ بِأَفْوَاهِهِمْ مَا لَيْسَ فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ

“...they say with their mouths what is not in their hearts...” (3:167)



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 10-11

STATUS of a hypocrite

They are “worse” than the disbelievers (kuffar) at many levels and Allah confirms their outcome.



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 10-11

إِنَّ اللَّهَ جَامِعُ الْمُنَافِقِينَ وَالْكَافِرِينَ فِي جَهَنَّمَ جَمِيعًا

“Assuredly, God will gather the hypocrites and the unbelievers all together in hell.” (4:140)

إِنَّ الْمُنَافِقِينَ فِي الدَّرَكِ الْأَسْفَلِ مِنَ النَّارِ وَلَنْ تَجِدَ لَهُمْ نَصِيرًا

“Assuredly, the hypocrites will be in the lowest depth of the fire; and you will never find for them any helper *against the fire*.” (4:145)



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 10-11

QUALITIES of a hypocrite

1. They have no faith (2:8);
2. They will pray, fast, etc. but they do so with no enthusiasm or vigour – they do so only to be seen by the people as being “religious” and “pious” (4:142).
3. They try and push the Muslims towards sin and prevent people from doing good in society and are miserly (9:67);



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 10-11

Points for Reflection

1. **True faith** becomes clear at the time of challenges and tests in life:

قال عليّ عليه السلام : في تَقَلُّبِ الْأَحْوَالِ عِلْمٌ جَوَاهِرِ الرِّجَالِ

Imam ‘Alī, peace be upon him, said: “Through change of circumstances, the mettle [ability to cope well with difficulties] of people is known.” *Nahj al-Balagha, Saying 217*

2. **Hypocrites** are opportunists. When things are going smooth and in the favour of Islam, they are believers and are proud to show their faith; but when things get difficult, that is when their true colours show through.

