



سُورَةُ الْعَنْكَبُوتِ
Surat al-'Ankabūt (29)

The Spider

COMMENTARY OF THE QUR'AN

RAMADAN 2020

Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Review for Today



Review for Today

Āyāt 14 & 15



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: Introduction



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Introduction

- Prophet Nuh ﷺ
- Prophet Ibrahim ﷺ
- Prophet Lut ﷺ
- Prophet Shuayb ﷺ
- Prophet Hud ﷺ
- Prophet Salih ﷺ
- Prophet Musa ﷺ



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Introduction

First Example: Verses 14 & 15

Destiny of the
community of Prophet
Nuh عليه السلام



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 14 & 15

Prophet Nūḥ and his Nation

- **Region:** Iraq - however as he was an *Ulu al-‘Azm* Prophet, his message was universal for all on earth at that time;
- **Meaning:** Tears, grief, sorrow – his original name is reported to be Abd al-Ghaffār, Abd al-Malik or Abd al-A‘lā;
- **Quranic Usage:** Mentioned 43 times;
- **Sins:** Disbelief and mocking of God and the Prophet;
- **Outcome:** Drowned to death.



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 14 & 15

وَلَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا نُوحًا إِلَىٰ قَوْمِهِ فَلَبِثَ فِيهِمْ أَلْفَ سَنَةٍ إِلَّا خَمْسِينَ عَامًا
فَأَخَذَهُمُ الطُّوفَانُ وَهُمْ ظَالِمُونَ ﴿١٤﴾

And We, God, indeed sent Nuh to his people and he stayed among them for a thousand years short of fifty years, *meaning 950 years, however his actual life was much longer* while his people were steeped in wrongdoings, *and thus*, they were caught in the major flood. (14)



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 14 & 15

فَأَنْجَيْنَاهُ وَأَصْحَابَ السَّفِينَةِ وَجَعَلْنَاهَا آيَةً
لِّلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿١٥﴾

However, We gave him salvation and *along with him all* of those who were in the ark and We made this *event* a sign for the peoples of *all times*. (15)



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 14 & 15

Facts about Prophet Nuh ﷺ

- Third prophet after Adam ﷺ;
- First of the Ulu al-Azm Prophets – given a book and a *shari’ah*;
- Also known as *Shaykh al-Anbiya’* (The Elder of the Prophets) due to his long life;
- Reports state that he lived 2,500 years – the 950 years mentioned in the Quran [and the Bible – Book of Genesis 9:29] seem to be only BEFORE the flood as we have to account for his life BEFORE open appointment to prophethood and life AFTER the flood;
- In the end, he ended up attracting only a hand-full of followers to his faith.



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 14 & 15

Prophet Nuh عليه السلام and his lifelong efforts

What benefit was there in Allah عز وجل telling the Prophet and the Muslims the time spent by Prophet Nuh عليه السلام and his efforts?



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 14 & 15

Why all of the math?

- WHY did Allah ﷻ not just say that Prophet Nuh ﷺ lived 950 years rather than saying 1,000 minus 50?
 - By using an “exception”, this implies fulfillment of something;
 - IF Allah ﷻ has said he lived 950 years, it COULD have been construed that Prophet Nuh ﷺ lived “around” that many years – give or take a bit.



Sūrat Al-‘Ankabūt: Verses 14 & 15

Points for Reflection

1. We must educate others about Islam, however we must realize that if they are not spiritually ready to accept the faith, even if we lived 1,000 years, it would make no difference – our job is to convey!
2. When it comes to both nurturing and educating others, especially the next generation, we must have patience and fortitude.
3. There are some events in history which are so powerful and moving that they stand the test of time and become lessons for eternity.

