
Sūrah 82: al-Infītār

Period of Revelation

This Sūrah and the Sūrah at-Takwīr closely resemble each other in their subject matter. This shows that both were sent down in about the same period.

Theme and Subject Matter

Its theme is the Hereafter. According to a hadith related in Musnad Ahmad, Tirmidhi, Ibn al-Mundhir, Tabarani, Hakim and Ibn Marduyah, on the authority of Abdullah bin Umar, the Messenger said: *“The one who wants that he should see the Resurrection Day as one would see it with one’s eyes, should read Sūrah At-Takwīr, Sūrah Al-Infītār and Sūrah Al-Isbīqaq.”*

In this Sūrah first the Resurrection Day has been described and it is said that when it occurs, every person will see whatever he has done in the world. After this, man has been asked to ponder the question: “O man, what has deluded you into thinking that the God, Who brought you into being and by Whose favor and bounty you possess the finest body, limbs and features among all creatures, is only bountiful and not just? His being bountiful and generous does not mean that you should become fearless of His justice.” Then, man has been warned, so as to say: “Do not remain involved in any misunderstanding. Your complete record is being prepared. There are trustworthy writers who are writing down whatever you do.” In conclusion, it has been forcefully stated that the Day of Resurrection will surely take place when the righteous shall enjoy every kind of bliss in Paradise and the wicked shall be punished in Hell. On that day no one shall avail anyone anything. All powers of judgment shall be with God.

Sūrah 82: al-Infitār¹⁷⁴⁶

In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate,
the Most Merciful

1. When the sky breaks apart
2. And when the stars fall, scattering,
3. And when the seas are erupted
4. And when the [contents of] graves are scattered [i.e., exposed],
5. A soul will [then] know what it has put forth and kept back.
6. O mankind, what has deceived you concerning your Lord, the Generous,
7. Who created you, proportioned you, and balanced you?
8. In whatever form He willed has He assembled you.
9. No! But you deny the Recompense.
10. And indeed, [appointed] over you are keepers,¹⁷⁴⁷
11. Noble and recording;
12. They know whatever you do.
13. Indeed, the righteous will be in pleasure,
14. And indeed, the wicked will be in Hell-fire.
15. They will [enter to] burn therein on the Day of Recompense,
16. And never therefrom will they be absent.
17. And what can make you know what is the Day of Recompense?
18. Then, what can make you know what is the Day of Recompense?
19. It is the Day when a soul will not possess for another soul [power to do] a thing; and the command, that Day, is [entirely] with God.

¹⁷⁴⁶ *Al-Infitār*: The Breaking Apart.

¹⁷⁴⁷ Angels who preserve the deeds of men in records.