
Sūrah 99: az-Zalzalah**Period of Revelation**

Whether or not it was revealed at Makkah or Madina, is disputed. Ibn Masud, Ata, Jabir, and Mujahid say that it is a Makki Sūrah and a statement of Ibn Abbas also supports this view. On the contrary, Qatadah and Muqatil say that it is Madini and another statement of Ibn Abbas also has been cited in support of this view.

Theme and Subject Matter

Its theme is the second life after death and presentation in it before man of the full record of the deeds done by him in the world. In the first three sentences it has been told briefly how the second life after death will take place and how confounding it will be for man. In the next two sentences it has been said that this very earth on which man has lived and performed all kinds of deeds thoughtlessly, and about which he never could fancy that this lifeless thing would at some time in the future bear witness to his deeds, will speak out on that Day by God's command and will state in respect of each individual person what act he had committed at a particular time and place. Then, it has been said that men on that Day, rising from their graves, will come out in their varied groups from all corners of the earth, to be shown their deeds and works, and their presentation of the deeds will be so complete and detailed that not an atom's weight of any good or evil act will be left unnoticed or hidden from his eyes.

Sūrah 99: az-Zalzalah¹⁸³⁰

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

1. When the earth is shaken with its [final] earthquake
2. And the earth discharges its burdens¹⁸³¹
3. And man says,¹⁸³² “What is [wrong] with it?” -
4. That Day, it will report its news
5. Because your Lord has inspired [i.e., commanded] it.
6. That Day, the people will depart¹⁸³³ separated [into categories] to be shown [the result of] their deeds.
7. So whoever does an atom’s weight¹⁸³⁴ of good will see it,
8. And whoever does an atom’s weight of evil will see it.

¹⁸³⁰ *Az-Zalzalah*: The Earthquake.

¹⁸³¹ See verse 84:4.

¹⁸³² In terror and amazement.

¹⁸³³ From the place of Judgement to their final abode. Another interpretation is “emerge separately” (from the graves).

¹⁸³⁴ Or “the weight of a small ant.”