



# A Clarification of the Reasons for Earthquakes and a Refutation of the Astray Atheists

By Shaykh Muqbil ibn Haadi al-Waadi'ee (*rahimahullaah*)<sup>1</sup>

Translated by Umm Sulaym

## INTRODUCTION

All praise is for Allaah, the Honourer (*al Mu'izz*) to His allies, and the One who takes Retribution for His enemies. And peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad and his family and his companions. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allaah alone without partner and that Muhammad is His servant and His Messenger, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*.<sup>2</sup>

As for what follows:

Allaah's way, (*sunnah*) comes to pass in His creation that He made some of His creation a trial, (*fitnah*) for others. So from the creation He made the believer and the disbeliever, the rich person and the poor person, the intelligent person and the ignorant person, and this was from the greatest reasons for their differing. As our Lord, Mighty and Majestic, said in His Noble Book:

**{.....But they will not cease to disagree except him on whom your Lord has bestowed His mercy.....}**<sup>3</sup>

And they differed in understanding and knowledge, and from what the people of knowledge and those of ignorance and deviation differed upon was the issue of earthquakes. When an earthquake happened in *Dhimaar*<sup>4</sup>, the people of knowledge said that it was what was established for us in the Book; and those people of ignorance and deviation said that it indeed occurred due to 'Nature'. For this reason, I have gathered together some speeches, (*khutab*) and have compiled them into a treatise to destroy those who will be destroyed by proof and make live those who will be made alive by proof. Indeed, those who say that it (the earthquake) is due to 'Nature' render futile Allaah's revenge for His allies. Allaah, Glorified and Exalted, says about Saalih's people in *Soorah al A'raaf*:

<sup>1</sup> Translator's Note (TN): This treatise is taken from "*Majmoo' Rasaa'il Ilmiyyah*" (A Collection of Knowledge based Treatises) (1420 AH) by Shaykh Muqbil, *rahimahullaah* (May Allaah have mercy upon him). There are 5 *khutab* in total. This translation is of the Introduction and the first *khutbah* only.

<sup>2</sup> May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him.

<sup>3</sup> Hud: [118-119]. TN: All translations of *aayaat* are taken from "The Noble Qur'aan".

<sup>4</sup> TN: Dhimaar is a town in Yemen.

**{So they killed the she-camel and insolently defied the Commandment of their Lord, and said: "O Sâlih! Bring about your threats if you are indeed one of the Messengers (of Allâh). So the earthquake seized them, and they lay (dead), prostrate in their homes. Then he (Sâlih) turned from them, and said: "O my people! I have indeed conveyed to you the Message of my Lord, and have given you good advice but you like not good advisers.} <sup>5</sup>**

And He says about Shu'aib's people in Soorah al A'raaf:

**{The chiefs of those who disbelieved among his people said (to their people): "If you follow Shu'aib, be sure then you will be the losers!" So the earthquake seized them and they lay (dead), prostrate in their homes. Those who denied Shu'aib, became as if they had never dwelt there (in their homes). Those who denied Shu'aib, they were the losers. Then he (Shu'aib) turned from them and said: "O my people! I have indeed conveyed my Lord's Messages to you and I have given you good advice. Then how can I grieve for a disbelieving people's (destruction)."} <sup>6</sup>**

And He said in Soorah al Ankaboot about Shu'aib's people:

**{And they denied him (Shu'aib); so the earthquake seized them, and they lay (dead), prostrate in their dwellings.} <sup>7</sup>**

And He, the Exalted, said about Moosa's people in Soorah al A'raaf:

**{And Mûsâ (Moses) chose out of his people seventy (of the best) men for Our appointed time and place of meeting, and when they were seized with a violent earthquake, he said: "O my Lord, if it had been Your Will, You could have destroyed them and me before; would You destroy us for the deeds of the foolish ones among us? It is only Your trial by which You lead astray whom You will, and keep guided whom You will. You are our Walî (Protector), so forgive us and have mercy on us: for You are the Best of those who forgive.} <sup>8</sup>**

And He, Glorified and Exalted, said about the Day of Resurrection:

**{On the Day when the earth and the mountains will be in violent shake, and the mountains will be a heap of sand poured out.} <sup>9</sup>**

And He, Glorified and Exalted, said:

**{On the Day (when the first blowing of the Trumpet is blown), the earth and the mountains will shake violently (and everybody will die).} <sup>10</sup>**

And He, Glorified and Exalted, said:

---

<sup>5</sup> Soorah al A'raaf [7: 77-79]

<sup>6</sup> Al A'raaf [7:90-93]

<sup>7</sup> Al Ankaboot [29:37]

<sup>8</sup> Al A'raaf [7:155]

<sup>9</sup> Al Muzzammil [73:14]

<sup>10</sup> An Naazi'aat [79:6]

**{When the earth is shaken with its (final) earthquake. And when the earth throws out its burdens. And man will say: "What is the matter with it?" That Day it will declare its information (about all that happened over it of good or evil). Because your Lord will inspire it. That Day mankind will proceed in scattered groups that they may be shown their deeds. So, whosoever does good equal to the weight of an atom (or a small ant) shall see it. And whosoever does evil equal to the weight of an atom (or a small ant) shall see it.}**<sup>11</sup>

And He, Glorified and Exalted, said at the beginning of Soorah al Hajj:

**{O mankind! Fear your Lord and be dutiful to Him! Verily, the earthquake of the Hour (of Judgement) is a terrible thing. The Day you shall see it, every nursing mother will forget her nursling, and every pregnant one will drop her load, and you shall see mankind as in a drunken state, yet they will not be drunken, but severe will be the torment of Allâh.}**<sup>12</sup>

These evidences should distance the Muslim from inclining towards the speech of those atheists who oppose Allaah's Power, Wisdom and Justice; we believe in Allaah and disbelieve in the saying of the sinning atheists, and Allaah is sufficient for us and the best Disposer of affairs, the best Patron (*Maula*) and the best Helper.

All praise is for Allaah who guided us to this and we would not have been guided if Allaah had not guided us.

Abu Abdir Rahman Muqbil ibn Haadee al Waadi'ee.

---

<sup>11</sup> Az Zalzalah [99:1-8]

<sup>12</sup> Al Hajj [21:1-2]

## **KHUTBAH 1**

Indeed all Praise is for Allaah, we praise Him and seek His Help and ask for His forgiveness, we seek refuge in Allaah from the evil of ourselves and the evil of our actions, whomsoever Allaah guides, he is guided and whomsoever is led astray, there is no guide for him, and I bear witness that there is no god worthy of worship except Allaah alone without partner and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and messenger.

**{O you who believe! Fear Allâh (by doing all that He has ordered and by abstaining from all that He has forbidden) as He should be feared. (Obey Him, be thankful to Him, and remember Him always,) and die not except in a state of Islâm [as Muslims (with complete submission to Allâh)]} <sup>13</sup>**

**{O mankind! Be dutiful to your Lord, Who created you from a single person (Adam), and from him (Adam) He created his wife [Hawwâ (Eve)], and from them both He created many men and women; and fear Allâh through Whom you demand (your mutual rights), and (do not cut the relations of) the wombs (kinship). Surely, Allâh is Ever an All-Watcher over you.} <sup>14</sup>**

**{O you who believe! Keep your duty to Allâh and fear Him, and speak (always) the truth. He will direct you to do righteous good deeds and will forgive you your sins. And whosoever obeys Allâh and His Messenger [sal-Allâhu 'alayhi wa sallam], he has indeed achieved a great achievement (i.e. he will be saved from the Hell-fire and will be admitted to Paradise).} <sup>15</sup>**

As for what follows:

Allaah, Glorified and Exalted, says in His Noble Book:

**{And We sent no Prophet to any town (and they denied him), but We seized its people with suffering from extreme poverty (or loss in wealth) and loss of health (and calamities), so that they might humble themselves (and repent to Allâh). Then We changed the evil for the good, until they increased in number and in wealth, and said: "Our fathers were touched with evil (loss of health and calamities) and with good (prosperity)." So, We seized them all of a sudden while they were unaware. And if the people of the towns had believed and had the Taqwâ (piety), certainly, We should have opened for them blessings from the heaven and the earth, but they denied (the Messengers). So, We took them (with punishment) for what they used to earn (polytheism and crimes). Did the people of the towns then feel secure against the coming of Our punishment by night while they were asleep? Or, did the people of the towns then feel secure against the coming of Our punishment in the forenoon while they were playing? Did they then feel secure against the Plot of Allâh? None feels secure from the Plot of Allâh except the people who are the losers.} <sup>16</sup>**

And He, Glorified and Exalted, says:

---

<sup>13</sup> Aali 'Imraan [3:102]

<sup>14</sup> An Nisaa' [4:1]

<sup>15</sup> Al Ahzaab [33:70-71]

<sup>16</sup> Al A'raaf [7:94-99]

**{Such is the Seizure of your Lord when He seizes the (population of) towns while they are doing wrong. Verily, His Seizure is painful (and) severe.}**<sup>17</sup>

In Bukharee and Muslim, Aboo Moosa al Ash'aree, *radiyAllaahu anhu*<sup>18</sup>, said that Allaah's Messenger, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, said,

“Allaah gives respite to a Zaalim (polytheist, wrong-doer, oppressor, etc.) but when He seizes (catches) him, He never releases him.” Then he recited:

**{Such is the Seizure of your Lord when He seizes the (population of) towns while they are doing wrong. Verily, His Seizure is painful (and) severe.}**<sup>19</sup>

And He, Glorified and Exalted, said:

**{And there is not a town (population) but We shall destroy it before the Day of Resurrection, or punish it with a severe torment. That is written in the Book (of Our Decrees). And nothing stops Us from sending the Ayât (proofs, evidences, signs) but that the people of old denied them. And We sent the she-camel to Thamûd as a clear sign, but they did her wrong. And We sent not the signs except to warn, and to make them afraid (of destruction).}**<sup>20</sup>

And He, Glorified and Exalted, said:

**{Your Lord is He Who drives the ship for you through the sea, in order that you may seek of His bounty. Truly, He is Ever Most Merciful towards you. And when harm touches you upon the sea, those that you call upon vanish from you except Him (Allâh Alone). But when He brings you safe to land, you turn away (from Him). And man is ever ungrateful. Do you then feel secure that He will not cause a side of the land to swallow you up, or that He will not send against you a violent sandstorm? Then, you shall find no Wakîl (guardian – one to guard you from the torment). Or do you feel secure that He will not send you back a second time to sea and send against you a hurricane of wind and drown you because of your disbelief? Then you will not find any avenger therein against Us.}**<sup>21</sup>

And He, Glorified and Exalted, says:

**{Have they not travelled in the land, and seen what was the end of those before them – though they were superior to them in power? Allâh is not such that anything in the heavens or in the earth escapes Him. Verily, He is All-Knowing, All-Omnipotent. And if Allâh were to punish men for that which they earned, He would not leave a moving (living) creature on the surface of the earth; but**

---

<sup>17</sup> Hood [11:102]

<sup>18</sup> May Allaah be pleased with him.

<sup>19</sup> TN: Bukhaaree, vol. 6, Book of Commentary, no. 4686. Muslim, Book of Injustice, no. 1831.

All ahaadeeth references are taken from “The Translation of the Meanings of Sahih Al-Bukhari” Darussalam 1997 and from “Summarized Sahih Muslim” Darussalam 2000.

<sup>20</sup> Israa' [17:58-59]

<sup>21</sup> Israa' [17: 66-69]

**He gives them respite to an appointed term, and when their term comes, then verily, Allāh is Ever All-Seer of His slaves.}**<sup>22</sup>

And He, Glorified and Exalted, says:

**{And when We decide to destroy a town (population), We (first) send a definite order (to obey Allāh and be righteous) to those among them [or We (first) increase in number those of its population] who lead a life of luxury. Then, they transgress therein, and thus the word (of torment) is justified against it (them). Then We destroy it with complete destruction.}**<sup>23</sup>

In these verses, Allaah, Glorified and Exalted, relates to us the condition of those who disbelieved in the messengers and what Allaah did to them. Allaah did not oppress them, but they oppressed themselves.

In Bukharee and Muslim,

Jaabir, *radiyAllaahu anhu*, narrated that when this verse was revealed: “**Say: He has power to send torment on you from above....**” [6:65], Allaah’s Messenger, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, said, “O Allaah! I seek refuge with Your Face (from this punishment).” And when the verse: “**...Or (send torment) from under your feet....**” (was revealed), Allaah’s Messenger, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, said “(O Allaah!) I seek refuge with Your Face (from this punishment)”. (But when there was revealed): “**...Or to cover you with confusion in party strife, and make you to taste the violence of one another...**” [6:65], Allaah’s Messenger, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, said, “This is lighter (or, this is easier).”<sup>24</sup>

The warnings do not cease to happen from the time Allaah, Glorified and Exalted, created the earth until this time of ours. And in these *ayaat* is the strongest warning and severe threat to whoever turns away from what the Messengers, *salawaatullaahi wa salaamahu alayhim*,<sup>25</sup> came with.

We continue as we said before to see the lessons and hear the *ayaat* and hear the occurrences which trouble the Muslims. But the enemies of Islaam make these occurrences into natural occurrence (i.e caused by ‘Nature’) so as to render futile the signs of the Prophets and to render futile Allaah’s Revenge for His Prophets. Allaah, Glorified and Exalted, said:

**{Verily, Qârûn (Korah) was of Mûsâ’s (Moses’) people, but he behaved arrogantly towards them. And We gave him of the treasures, that of which the keys would have been a burden to a body of strong men. Remember when his people said to him: "Do not exult (with riches, being ungrateful to Allāh). Verily, Allāh likes not those who exult (with riches, being ungrateful to Allāh). "But seek, with that (wealth) which Allāh has bestowed on you, the home of the Hereafter, and forget not your portion of lawful enjoyment in this world; and do**

---

<sup>22</sup> Faatir [35:44-45]

<sup>23</sup> Israa’ [17:16]

<sup>24</sup> TN: Bukhaaree, vol. 6, Book of Commentary, no. 4628.

<sup>25</sup> May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon them.

**good as Allâh has been good to you, and seek not mischief in the land. Verily, Allâh likes not the Mufsidûn (those who commit great crimes and sins, oppressors, tyrants, mischief-makers, corrupters)." He said: "This has been given to me only because of the knowledge I possess." Did he not know that Allâh had destroyed before him generations, men who were stronger than him in might and greater in the amount (of riches) they had collected? But the Mujrimûn (criminals, disbelievers, polytheists, sinners) will not be questioned of their sins (because Allâh knows them well, so they will be punished without being called to account). So, he went forth before his people in his pomp. Those who were desirous of the life of the world, said: "Ah, would that we had the like of what Qârûn (Korah) has been given! Verily, he is the owner of a great fortune." But those who had been given (religious) knowledge said: "Woe to you! The reward of Allâh (in the Hereafter) is better for those who believe and do righteous good deeds, and this none shall attain except those who are As-Sâbirûn (the patient in following the truth)." So, We caused the earth to swallow him<sup>26</sup> and his dwelling place. Then he had no group or party to help him against Allâh, nor was he one of those who could save themselves. And those who had desired (for a position like) his position the day before, began to say: "Know you not that it is Allâh Who enlarges the provision or restricts it to whomsoever He pleases of His slaves. Had it not been that Allâh was Gracious to us, He could have caused the earth to swallow us up (also)! Know you not that the disbelievers will never be successful.}"<sup>27</sup>**

And in Bukharee and Muslim (the Saheehayn), it is narrated by Abu Hurairah, *radiAllaahu anhu*, that he heard the Prophet, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, say:

“Allaah willed to test three Israelites who were a leper, a blind man and a bald-headed man. So He sent them an angel who came to the leper and said, ‘What thing do you like most?’ He replied, ‘Good colour and good skin, for the people have a strong aversion to me.’ The angel touched him and his illness was cured, and he was given a good colour and beautiful skin. The angel asked him, ‘What kind of property do you like best?’ He replied, ‘Camels (or cows).’ (The narrator is in doubt, for whether the leper or the bald-headed man demanded camels and the other demanded cows). So he (i.e. the leper) was given a pregnant she-camel, and the angel said (to him), ‘May Allaah bless you in it.’

“The angel then went to the bald-headed man and said, ‘What thing do you like most?’ He said, ‘I like good hair and wish to be cured of this disease, for the people feel repulsion for me.’ The angel touched him and his illness was cured, and he was given good hair. The angel asked (him), ‘What kind of property do you like best?’ He replied, ‘Cows’. The angel gave him a pregnant cow and said, ‘May Allaah bless you in it’. The angel went to the blind man and asked, ‘What thing do you like best?’ He said, ‘(I like) that Allaah may restore my eyesight to me so that I may see the people.’ The angel touched his eyes and Allaah gave him back his eyesight. The angel asked him, ‘What kind of property do you like best?’ He replied, ‘Sheep’. The angel gave him a pregnant ewe. Afterwards, all the three pregnant animals gave birth to young ones, and multiplied and brought forth so

<sup>26</sup> Narrated Abu Hurairah [*radhi-yAllâhu 'anhu*]: The Prophet [*sal-Allâhu 'alayhi wa sallam*] (or Abul-Qâsim ) said, "While a man was walking, clad in a two-piece garment and proud of himself with his hair well-combed, suddenly Allâh made him sink into the earth and he will go on sinking into it till the Day of Resurrection." TN: Bukharee, vol. 7, Book of Dress, no. 5789.

<sup>27</sup> Al Qassas [28:76-82]

much that one of the (three) men had a herd of camels filling a valley, and one had a herd of cows filling a valley, and one had a flock of sheep filling a valley. Then the angel, disguised in the shape and appearance of a leper, went to the leper and said, 'I am a poor man, who has lost all means of livelihood while on a journey. So, none will satisfy my need except Allaah and then you. In the Name of Him Who has given you such nice colour and beautiful skin and so much property, I ask you to give me a camel so that I may reach my destination'. The man replied, 'I have many obligations (so I cannot give you).' The angel said, 'I think I know you; were you not a leper to whom the people had a strong aversion? Weren't you a poor man, and then Allaah gave you (all this property)?' He replied, '(This is all wrong), I got this property through inheritance from my forefathers.' The angel said, 'If you are telling a lie, then let Allaah make you as you were before.'

"Then the angel, disguised in the shape and appearance of a bald man, went to the bald man and said to him the same as he told the first one, and he too answered the same as the first one did. The angel said, 'If you are telling a lie, then let Allaah make you as you were before.'

"The angel, disguised in the shape of a blind man, went to the blind man and said, 'I am a poor man and a traveller, whose means of livelihood have been exhausted while on a journey. I have nobody to help me except Allaah, and after Him, you yourself. I ask you in the Name of Him Who has give you back your eyesight to give me a sheep, so that with its help, I may complete my journey'. The man said, 'No doubt, I was blind and Allaah gave me back my eyesight; I was poor and Allaah made me rich; so take anything you wish from my property. By Allaah, I will not stop you for taking anything (you need) of my property which you may take for Allaah's sake.' The angel replied, 'Keep your property with you. You (i.e., three men) have been tested and Allaah is pleased with you and is angry with your two companions.'" <sup>28</sup>

And Allaah, Glorified and Exalted, says:

**{O mankind! it is you who stand in need of Allâh. But Allâh is the Rich (Free of all needs), the Worthy of all praise. If He willed, He could destroy you and bring about a new creation. And that is not hard for Allâh.}**<sup>29</sup>

The Lord of Honour mentions in Soorah al Qamr the Prophets and their peoples who denied them and what Allaah did to them by way of destruction. He said:

**{Are your disbelievers (O Quraish!) better than these [nations of Nûh (Noah), Lût (Lot), Sâlih, and the people of Fir'aun (Pharaoh), who were destroyed]? Or have you an immunity (against Our torment) in the Divine Scriptures?}**<sup>30</sup>

We can say to the Communists, the Ba'athists, the Naasirites, the modernists and the scientists: are your disbelievers better than these? Or have you an immunity (against our Torment) in the Divine Scriptures? [54:43]!

And He, Glorified and Exalted, says in His Noble Book:

---

<sup>28</sup> TN: Bukharee, vol. 4, Book of Stories of the Prophets, no. 3464.

<sup>29</sup> Faatir [35:15-17]

<sup>30</sup> Al Qamr [54:43]

**{So, We punished each (of them) for his sins, of them were some on whom We sent Hâsib (a violent wind with shower of stones) [as on the people of Lût (Lot)], and of them were some who were overtaken by As-Saihah [torment – awful cry, (as Thamûd or Shu'aib's people)], and of them were some whom We caused the earth to swallow [as Qârûn (Korah)], and of them were some whom We drowned [as the people of Nûh (Noah), or Fir'aun (Pharaoh) and his people]. It was not Allâh Who wronged them, but they wronged themselves.}**<sup>31</sup>

And we in our country Yemen have not seen an end after the earthquake disaster in Dhimaar with its casualties, then recently the earthquake in Adayn.<sup>32</sup>

Indeed, the evils present in Adayn are present in Sa'adah. And the evils present in Adayn are the evils present in San'aa'. And the evils present in Adayn are the evils present in Aden, and in Hadramawt and elsewhere in the country, but Allaah, Glorified and Exalted, chose the area of our brothers in Adayn to act as a warning for us. An increase in earthquakes at the end of time is considered a sign from the signs of Prophethood, as the Prophet, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, informed us in the hadeeth of Salamah ibn Nufayl, *radiAllaahu anhu* <sup>33</sup>

And in all of this affair: have we learned our lesson? Have we returned to Allaah? Or have we persisted as Our Lord, Mighty and Majestic says:

**{See they not that they are put in trial once or twice every year (with different kinds of calamities, disease, famine)? Yet, they turn not in repentance, nor do they learn a lesson (from it).}** <sup>34</sup>

Did the Yemenis criticize the alcohol factory? Did they free themselves from democracy? Did they free themselves from the evil (*fasaad*) present amongst themselves? Indeed, did they free themselves from uniting with the Communists? So the matter needs repentance and returning back to Allaah, the Mighty and Majestic:

**{And fear the Fitnah (affliction and trial) which affects not in particular (only) those of you who do wrong (but it may afflict all the good and the bad people), and know that Allâh is Severe in punishment.}** <sup>35</sup>

Some of the atheists say: do not say that the earthquakes result from sins. So the sinning Yemenis will persist; and the Lord of Honour says in His Noble Book:

**{And whatever of misfortune befalls you, it is because of what your hands have earned. And He pardons much. }** <sup>36</sup>

---

<sup>31</sup> Al 'Ankaboot [29:40]

<sup>32</sup> A little while ago the Iranian earthquake resulted in around 50 000 casualties. And all of this was because of the turning away from Allaah and from the Legislation (*Sharee'ah*) of Allaah. Oh Allaah, do not punish us for what the foolish amongst us have done and have Mercy upon us by Your Mercy, Oh Most Merciful of those who have mercy.

<sup>33</sup> And likewise in the hadeeth of Abu Hurairah, *radiAllaahu anhu*, agreed upon.

TN: The Prophet, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, said, "The Hour (Last Day) will not be established until (religious) knowledge will be taken away (by the death of religious learned men), earthquakes will be very frequent, time will pass quickly, al Fitn (trials and afflictions) will appear, murders will increase and money will overflow amongst you." Bukharee, vol. 2, Book of Al-Istisqaa, no. 1036.

<sup>34</sup> At Tawbah [9:126]

<sup>35</sup> Al Anfaal [8:25]

And He, Glorified and Exalted says:

**{No calamity befalls on the earth or in yourselves but it is inscribed in the Book of Decrees (Al-Lauh Al-Mahfûz) before We bring it into existence. Verily, that is easy for Allâh. In order that you may not grieve at the things over that you fail to get, nor rejoice over that which has been given to you. And Allâh likes not every prideful boaster.}**<sup>37</sup>

And He says:

**{No calamity befalls, but by the Leave [i.e. Decision and Qadar (Divine Preordainments)] of Allâh, and whosoever believes in Allâh, He guides his heart [to the true Faith with certainty, i.e. what has befallen him was already written for him by Allâh from the Qadar (Divine Preordainments)]. And Allâh is All-Knower of everything.}**<sup>38</sup>

And earthquakes are tests as Allaah, the Exalted, says:

**{O you who believe! Seek help in patience and As-Salât (the prayer). Truly, Allâh is with As-Sâbirûn (the patient). And say not of those who are killed in the way of Allâh, "They are dead." Nay, they are living, but you perceive (it) not. And certainly, We shall test you with something of fear, hunger, loss of wealth, lives and fruits, but give glad tidings to As-Sâbirûn (the patient). Who, when afflicted with calamity, say: "Truly, to Allâh we belong and truly, to Him we shall return." They are those on whom are the Salawât (i.e. who are blessed and will be forgiven) from their Lord, and (they are those who) receive His Mercy, and it is they who are the guided ones.}**<sup>39</sup>

Are we infallible from error? Do we raise ourselves to the station of the angels who do not disobey Allaah in what He has ordered them and they do what He commands? Indeed, evil is rife in society. The Prophet, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, spoke truthfully when he said in Saheeh Bukhaaree from the hadeeth of an Nu'maan bin Basheer:

The Prophet, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, said, "The example of the person abiding by Allaah's Orders and Restrictions in comparison to those who violate them is like the example of those persons who drew lots for their seats in a ship. Some of them got seats in the upper part, and the others in the lower. When the latter needed water, they had to go up to bring water (and that troubled the others), so they said, 'Let us make a hole in our share of the ship (and get water) saving those who are above us from trouble.' So, if the people in the upper part left the others do what they had intended, all of them would be perished, but if they prevented them (from doing so), both parties would be saved."<sup>40</sup>

---

<sup>36</sup> Ash Shooraa' [42:30]

<sup>37</sup> Hadeed [57:22-23]

<sup>38</sup> At Taghaabun [64:11]

<sup>39</sup> Al Baqarah [2:153-157]

<sup>40</sup> TN: Bukharee, vol. 3 Book of Partnership, no 2493 and Book of Witnesses, no 2686.

So, evil and corruption exist in Yemen; every day it becomes manifest, so to Allaah we belong and to Him is the return. Some deviants say: what is the sin of the children? We say: they were punished because of the sin of their Fathers and families. In the saheeh, it is narrated by Aa'ishah, *radiAllaahu anhaa*, that the Prophet, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, said:

“An army will invade the Ka’bah and when the invaders reach Al-Baidaa (desert of Madinah), all the ground will sink and swallow the whole army.” I said, “O Allaah’s Messenger! How will they sink into the ground while amongst them will be their markets (the people who worked in business and not invaders) and the people not belonging to them?” The Prophet, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, replied, “All of those people will sink but they will be resurrected and judged according to their intentions.”<sup>41</sup>

And in the saheeh also, a hadeeth narrated by Zainab bint Jahsh, that:

“The Prophet, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, once came to her in a state of fear and said, “None has the right to be worshipped but Allaah. Woe unto the Arabs from a danger that has come near. An opening has been made in the wall of Ya’juj and Ma’juj like this, ” making a circle with his thumb and index finger. Zainab bint Jahsh said, “Oh Allaah’s Messenger! Shall we be destroyed even though there are pious persons among us?” He said, “Yes, when ‘Al khabath’ (evil persons, illegal sexual intercourse, illegitimate children and all kinds of evil deeds) will increase.”

<sup>42</sup>

And Allaah, Glorified and Exalted, says in His Noble Book:

**{And ask them (O Muhammad [sal-Allâhu 'alayhi wa sallam]) about the town that was by the sea; when they transgressed in the matter of the Sabbath (i.e. Saturday): when their fish came to them openly on the Sabbath day, and did not come to them on the day they had no Sabbath. Thus We made a trial of them, for they used to rebel against Allâh's Command (disobey Allâh) And when a community among them said: "Why do you preach to a people whom Allâh is about to destroy or to punish with a severe torment?" (The preachers) said: "In order to be free from guilt before your Lord (Allâh), and perhaps they may fear Allâh." So when they forgot the reminders that had been given to them, We rescued those who forbade evil, but with a severe torment We seized those who did wrong because they used to rebel against Allâh's Command (disobey Allâh). So when they exceeded the limits of what they were prohibited, We said to them: "Be you monkeys, despised and rejected." And (remember) when your Lord declared that He would certainly keep on sending against them (i.e. the Jews), till the Day of Resurrection, those who would afflict them with a humiliating torment. Verily, your Lord is Quick in Retribution (for the disobedient, wicked) and certainly He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful (for the obedient and those who beg Allâh's forgiveness). And We have broken them (i.e. the Jews) up into various separate groups on the earth: some of them are righteous and some are away from that. And We tried them with good**

---

<sup>41</sup> TN: Bukharee, vol. 3, Book of Sales, no. 2118.

<sup>42</sup> TN: Bukharee, vol. 4, Book of the Stories of the Prophets, no. 3346 and in vol. 9, Book of Fitan, no. 7059

**(blessings) and evil (calamities) in order that they might turn (to Allâh's obedience).}**<sup>43</sup>

So, indeed evil is widespread: an alcohol factory, (women) going out without *hijab*<sup>44</sup>, (*tabarruj*) and unveiling. Allaah knows best what will happen. Give up the disputes between tribes who do not judge by Allaah's Book or by the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allaah, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*.

As for those who attribute affairs to 'Nature' and say 'Natural Events' then if they want 'Nature' to be in control of their affairs, then they are disbelievers.

In Bukharee and Muslim, it is narrated on the authority of Zaid ibn Khaalid al Juhane:

Allaah's Messenger, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, led the morning prayer at al-Hudaybiyah and it had rained the previous night. When the Prophet, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, had finished the prayer, he faced the people and said, "Do you know what your Lord has said?" They replied, "Allaah and His Messenger know better." (The Prophet, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, said), "Allaah said, 'In this morning some of Ibaadi (My slaves or worshippers) remained as true believers and some became disbelievers; he who said that it had rained with the Blessing and Mercy of Allaah is the one who believes in Me and does not believe in the star, but he who said it had rained because of such and such (star) is a disbeliever in Me and is a believer in the star.'" <sup>45</sup>

And in Bukharee and Muslim it is narrated on the authority of Aa'ishah, *radiyAllaahu anhaa*, Ibn Abbaas, *radiyAllaahu anhu* and others, that the Prophet, *sallAllaahu alayhi wa sallam*, said,

".....indeed the sun and the moon do not eclipse due to the death or life of anyone, but they both are from the signs of Allaah which Allaah frightens His servants with, so if you see an eclipse, remember Allaah until it has ended." <sup>46</sup>

And the Lord of Honour says in His Noble Book:

**{Verily, Allâh grasps the heavens and the earth lest they should move away from their places, and if they were to move away from their places, there is not one that could grasp them after Him. Truly, He is Ever Most Forbearing, Oft-Forgiving.}** <sup>47</sup>

So can America stop earthquakes, floods or rain? No, they cannot even do less than that such as cure AIDS or other modern diseases!

---

<sup>43</sup> Al A'raaf [7:163-168] The evidence taken from these ayaat is that committing evil is a reason for destruction and what is authentic from the sayings of the scholars is that those who were transformed (into monkeys) were the group committing the evil only.

<sup>44</sup> The legislated covering of the whole body.

<sup>45</sup> TN: Bukharee, vol. 2, Book of Al-Istisqaa', no. 1038.

<sup>46</sup> TN: The wording is from Muslim (Arabic vol. 9, 38, no. 2093). There is a similar hadeeth in Bukharee, vol. 2, Book of Eclipses, no. 1058.

<sup>47</sup> Faatir [35:41]

Allaah is sufficient for us, the Best Disposer of Affairs, the Best Patron and the Best Help.

End of first Khutbah.