

الْقُرْآنُ الْكَرِيمُ

THE NOBLE QUR'ĀN

With Tafsīr Upon the Way of the Righteous Salaf

Sūrah al-Aḥqāf



46

PURPOSE OF CREATION, REVELATION, MESSENGERSHIP,
AUTHORSHIP OF THIS QUR'ĀN, RIGHTEOUS AND REBELLIOUS
OFFSPRING, DESTRUCTION OF THE NATION OF 'ĀD AND
OTHERS, THE LIE OF SHIRK, JEWISH JINN AND THE QUR'ĀN

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Introduction

All praise is due to Allāh and may Allāh make good mention of His Prophet, his family and his companions and grant them peace and safety. To proceed:

We are pleased to present a translation of **Sūrah al-Aḥqāf**. This is part of a long term translation project on **TheNobleQuran.Com** platform, which is a *constantly updated* and *refined* translation base.

Abu 'Iyād

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

حم ﴿١﴾

1. Hā Mīm.

تَنْزِيلُ الْكِتَابِ مِنَ اللَّهِ الْعَزِيزِ الْحَكِيمِ ﴿٢﴾

2. The revelation of the Book is from Allāh, the All-Mighty, the All-Wise.

مَا خَلَقْنَا السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا إِلَّا بِالْحَقِّ وَأَجَلٍ مُّسَمًّى ۚ وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا عَمَّا أُنْذِرُوا مُّعْرِضُونَ ﴿٣﴾

3. We did not create the Heavens and Earth and whatever is in between them except with the truth (of the statement that none deserves to be worshipped except Allāh alone), and (for) an appointed term. But those who disbelieve turn away—(while engaged in amusements and distractions)—from that about which they are warned (of the resurrection and recompense).

قُلْ أَرَأَيْتُمْ مَا تَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ أَرُونِي مَاذَا خَلَقُوا مِنَ الْأَرْضِ أَمْ لَهُمْ شِرْكٌ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ ۚ أَتَتُونِي يُكْتَبُ مِنْ قَبْلِ هَذَا أَوْ أَثَرَةٍ ۚ مَنْ عِلْمٍ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ ﴿١٠﴾

4. Say (O Muḥammad): “Have you considered (the affair of) what you invoke besides Allāh? Show me what they have created of the earth (as evidence for your worship of them). Or did they have a share in (the creation of) the heavens (such that they deserve worship)? Bring me a book (revealed before this Qur’ān which commands this) or some trace of (transmitted) knowledge (to prove your claim) if you are truthful.

وَمَنْ أَضَلُّ مِمَّن يَدْعُوا مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ مَنْ لَا يَسْتَجِيبُ لَهُ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَمَةِ وَهُمْ عَنِ دُعَائِهِمْ غَافِلُونَ ﴿١١﴾

5. And who is more astray (in religion and intellect) than he who invokes besides Allāh those who will not respond to him until the Day of Resurrection and who are unaware of their invocation (which is being directed to them).

وَإِذَا حُشِرَ النَّاسُ كَانُوا لَهُمْ أَعْدَاءً وَكَانُوا بِعِبَادَتِهِمْ كَافِرِينَ ﴿١٢﴾

6. And when the people (who worshipped them) are gathered (on the Day of which they were warned), they— (who were taken as deities and worshipped)—will become enemies to them and will become deniers of their worship, (freeing themselves from them and the false worship directed to them).

وَإِذَا تَنَالَىٰ عَلَيْهِمْ ءَايَاتُنَا بَيِّنَاتٍ قَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لِلْحَقِّ لَمَّا جَاءَهُمْ هَذَا سِحْرٌ مُّبِينٌ



7. And when Our verses (which are) clear (in their evidences and truthfulness) are recited to them, those who disbelieve say of the truth (in these verses) when it comes to them: “This is clear magic!”

أَمْ يَقُولُونَ افْتَرَاهُ ۚ قُلْ إِنِ افْتَرَيْتُهُ ۖ فَلَا تَمْلِكُونَ لِي مِنَ اللَّهِ شَيْئًا ۚ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَا تُفِيضُونَ فِيهِ ۚ كَفَىٰ بِهِ شَهِيدًا بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَكُمْ ۚ وَهُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ ﴿٨﴾

8. Or do they say (when it is recited to them):

“He (Muḥammad) has forged it (as revelation from Allāh)?” Say: “If I have forged it, then you possess no power to protect me in anything from Allāh (and His punishment). He is most knowledgeable of what you

say (in private) among yourselves about it (that it is a mere fabrication, or magic, or poetry, or tales). **Sufficient is He as a Witness between me and you** (that I am truthful and you are liars). **Yet He is the Oft-Forgiving** (to those who repent), **Ever-Merciful** (to His believing servants) (perhaps that you may be drawn to repentance).

قُلْ مَا كُنْتُ بِدَعَا مِّنَ الرُّسُلِ وَمَا أَدْرَىٰ مَا يُفْعَلُ بِي وَلَا بِكُمْ ۖ إِنَّا نَتَّبِعُ إِلَّا مَا يُوحَىٰ إِلَيْنَا وَمَا أَنَا إِلَّا نَذِيرٌ مُّبِينٌ ﴿٩﴾

9. Say (O Muḥammad): “I am not a novelty, the first among the messengers (of Allāh) (as many came before me). I do not know what will be done with me or with you (in the affair of this world). I (do not fabricate or innovate anything, but) only follow what is revealed to me, and I am not except a clear warner.

قُلْ أَرَأَيْتُمْ إِن كَانَ مِّنْ عِندِ اللَّهِ وَكَفَرْتُمْ بِهِ ۖ وَشَهِدَ شَاهِدٌ مِّنْ بَنِي إِسْرَءِيلَ عَلَىٰ مِثْلِهِ ۖ فَقَامَنَ ۖ وَأَسْتَكْبَرُوا ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَهْدِي الْقَوْمَ الظَّالِمِينَ ﴿١٠﴾

10. Say: “(O Pagans of Quraysh and later, O Jews of Medina), have you considered that if this Qur’ān was from Allāh, and you disbelieved in it while a witness among the

Children of Israel—(the Prophet Moses or the learned Jewish scholar, ‘Abd Allāh bin Salām)—**testified to its like** (in the Torah, of monotheism, messengership, resurrection and recompense), **and then believed in it while you arrogantly reject it** (that you are anything but astray)?” **Verily, Allāh does not guide the wrongdoing people.**

وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لِلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا لَوْ كَانَ خَيْرًا مَّا سَبَقُونَا إِلَيْهِ ؕ وَإِذْ لَمْ يَهْتَدُوا بِهِ ؕ فَسَيَقُولُونَ هَذَا إِفْكٌ قَدِيمٌ ﴿١١﴾

11. And those who disbelieve (from the Nobles of Quraysh, and then later, the Jews) **say to those who believe:** “**If** (the message of Muḥammad) **was a good thing, then they** (the weak and poor or the likes of ‘Abd Allāh bin Salām) **would not have preceded us to it.”** And when they do not guide themselves by it they will say (in order to explain it away): “**This** (Qur’ān is composed of the tales of) **ancient falsehood** (which Muḥammad has compiled).”

وَمِنْ قَبْلِهِ كَتَبَ مُوسَىٰ إِمَامًا وَرَحْمَةً ۖ وَهَذَا كِتَابٌ مُّصَدِّقٌ لِّسَانًا عَرَبِيًّا لِّيُنذِرَ الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا وَيُنشِئَ لِّلْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿١٢﴾

12. And before it —(this Qurʾān)—was the Scripture of Moses as a guide and mercy (to its adherents) (but which they, the Jews, did not adhere to). And this —(the Qurʾān)—is a confirming Book (revealed) in an Arabic tongue to warn those (Pagans) who do wrong and (to serve) as good tidings to the doers of good.

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا رَبُّنَا اللَّهُ ثُمَّ اسْتَقَلُّوا فَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ

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13. Verily, those who say: “Our Lord is Allāh (besides whom none is worthy of worship)” and then remain steadfast (upon this statement with obedience and righteousness), there shall be no fear over them (in the Hereafter) and nor shall they grieve (over what they leave behind after death).

أُولَٰئِكَ أَصْحَابُ الْجَنَّةِ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا جَزَاءٌ بِمَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٤﴾

14. Those are the inhabitants of Paradise, abiding therein forever as reward for what they used to work (of righteous deeds).

وَوَصَّيْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ بِوَالِدَيْهِ إِحْسَانًا ۖ حَمَلَتْهُ أُمُّهُ كُرْهًا وَوَضَعَتْهُ كُرْهًا ۖ وَحَمَلُهُ وَفَصْلُهُ
ثَلَاثُونَ شَهْرًا ۚ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا بَلَغَ أَشُدَّهُ وَبَلَغَ أَرْبَعِينَ سَنَةً قَالَ رَبِّ أَوْزِعْنِي أَنْ أَشْكُرَ
نِعْمَتَكَ الَّتِي أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيَّ وَعَلَىٰ وَالِدَيَّ وَأَنْ أَعْمَلَ صَالِحًا تَرْضَاهُ وَأَصْلِحْ لِي فِي
ذُرِّيَّتِي ۚ إِنِّي تُبْتُ إِلَيْكَ وَإِنِّي مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ ﴿١٥﴾

15. And We have enjoined upon man to be dutiful and kind to his parents. His mother bore him (in her womb) with hardship and gave birth to him with (more) hardship. And his bearing (in the womb) and weaning (period) is thirty months (in total). (Then he continues to grow) until, when he reaches the peak of his youth, and reaches (the age of) 40 years, he says: “O my Lord, grant me the ability to be grateful to you for Your favour (of guidance) which You have bestowed upon me and upon my parents, and to work righteousness that pleases You, and make righteous for me my offspring. Indeed, I repent to you and I am of the Muslims (in submission to You alone).”

أُولَٰئِكَ الَّذِينَ تَقَبَّلُ عَنْهُمْ أَحْسَنَ مَا عَمِلُوا وَتَتَجَاوَزُ عَنْ سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ فِي
أَصْحَابِ الْجَنَّةِ ۖ وَعَدَ الصِّدْقِ الَّذِي كَانُوا يُوعَدُونَ ﴿١٦﴾

16. Those are the ones from whom We shall accept the best of their deeds (the ones which are rewardable, the obligatory and commended) **and overlook their evil deeds,** (whereby they shall) **enter among the** (generality of the) **inhabitants of Paradise.** (That is) **the promise of truth which they used to be promised** (by the Messengers of their Lord).

وَالَّذِي قَالَ لَوْلَايَهِ أَفِ لَكُمْ أَنْ تُعَدِّدِنِي أَنْ أُخْرَجَ وَقَدْ خَلَتِ الْقُرُونُ مِنْ قَبْلِي
وَهُمَا يَسْتَغِيثَانِ اللَّهَ وَيْلَكَ ءَأَمِنْ إِنَّ وَعْدَ اللَّهِ حَقٌّ فَيَقُولُ مَا هَذَا إِلَّا أَسَاطِيرُ
الْأَوَّلِينَ ﴿٧﴾

17. But as for the one who says to his parents (when they call him to belief in Allāh and the resurrection): **“Fie to you both! Are you promising me that I shall be brought out** (of the earth again) **while generations have already perished before me** (without being resurrected)”, **the while they** (the parents) **invoke Allāh for help** (in guiding their son) (and say to their son): **“Woe be to you! Believe! Indeed, the promise of Allāh is true.”** But he says (in response): **“This is nothing but the tales of the ancients** (written and passed on which you came across and believed in).”

أُولَٰئِكَ الَّذِينَ حَقَّ عَلَيْهِمُ الْقَوْلُ فِي أُمَمٍ قَدْ خَلَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِهِم مِّنَ الْجِنِّ وَالْإِنسِ إِنَّهُمْ
كَانُوا خَاسِرِينَ ﴿١٨﴾

18. Those are the ones against whom the word (of punishment) has become justified and put into effect (whereby, through this fate of theirs, they) enter among (the destroyed) nations which had passed on before them of jinn and men. Indeed, they were losers (for destroying themselves with sins).

وَلِكُلِّ دَرَجَةٍ مِّمَّا عَمِلُوا وَيُوفِّيهِمْ أَعْمَالُهُمْ وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ ﴿١٩﴾

19. And for all—(believers and disbelievers, whose mention has preceded)—are degrees (of reward and punishment) for what they have done. And (it as such) so that He may recompense them fully for their deeds without them being wronged.

وَيَوْمَ يُعْرَضُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا عَلَى النَّارِ أَدْهَبَتْهُمُ ظِلْمَتُهُمْ فِي حَيَاتِهِمُ الدُّنْيَا وَأَسْتَمْتَعَتْ بِهَا
فَأَلْيَوْمَ يُجْزَوْنَ عَذَابَ الْهُونِ بِمَا كُنتُمْ تَسْتَكْبِرُونَ فِي الْأَرْضِ بِغَيْرِ الْحَقِّ وَبِمَا
كُنتُمْ تَفْسُقُونَ ﴿٢٠﴾

20. And on the Day when those who disbelieved (in the Messengers and their call) are exposed to the Fire, (it will be said to them): “(Have) you exhausted your good things (which you were given) in your worldly life, and took your pleasure from them(?). So (now) on this Day you will be recompensed (in full) with a punishment of humiliation because you used to be arrogant upon the earth without due right, and because you used to disobey rebelliously.

وَأَذْكُرَ آخَا عَادٍ إِذْ أَنْذَرَ قَوْمَهُ بِالْأَحْقَافِ وَقَدْ خَلَّتِ الْيُدُورُ مِنْ بَيْنِ يَدَيْهِ وَمِنْ خَلْفِهِ أَلَّا تَعْبُدُوا إِلَّا اللَّهَ إِنِّي أَخَافُ عَلَيْكُمْ عَذَابَ يَوْمٍ عَظِيمٍ ﴿٢١﴾

21. And mention (to them) (O Muḥammad) (the story of Hūd) the brother of (the nation of) ‘Ād, when he warned his people in (the region) of al-Aḥqāf, and warners had already passed before him and after him, (saying to them): “Worship none but Allāh (alone). Indeed, I fear for you the torment of a mighty day.”

قَالُوا أَجِئْتَنَا لِنَأْفِكَنَا عَنْ آلِهَتِنَا فَأْتِنَا بِمَا تَعِدُنَا إِن كُنتَ مِنَ الصّٰدِقِينَ ﴿٢٢﴾

22. They said: “Have you come to us (out of envy in order) to mislead us away from our gods? Then bring to us what you have promised us (of punishment for worshipping these gods), if you are of the truthful.”

قَالَ إِنَّمَا الْعِلْمُ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ وَأُبَلِّغُكُمْ مَا أُرْسِلْتُ بِهِ وَلَئِنِّي أَرَاكُمْ قَوْمًا تَجْهَلُونَ



23. He said: “Verily, the knowledge (of the time it shall befall you) is with Allāh (alone). And I convey to you that which I have been sent with (of revelation). However, I see that you are a people showing foolish ignorance (of the consequences of your deeds) (and in requesting the hastening of your punishment out of mockery).

فَلَمَّا رَأَوْهُ عَارِضًا مُسْتَقْبِلَ أَوْدِيَّتِهِمْ قَالُوا هَذَا عَارِضٌ مُّمْطِرُنَا بَلْ هُوَ مَا اسْتَعْجَلْتُمْ بِهِ ۖ رِيحٌ فِيهَا عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ ﴿٢٤﴾

24. Then when they saw it as a dense, large cloud— (spanning the horizon)—approaching their valleys, they said (in rejoicement): “This is a cloud bringing us rain.” (Hūd said): “Rather, it is what you asked to be

hastened. A wind (within the cloud) wherein is a painful punishment.”

تَدْمِرُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ بِأَمْرِ رَبِّهَا فَأَصْبَحُوا لَا يُرَى إِلَّا مَسَكِنُهُمْ كَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي الْقَوْمَ
الْمُجْرِمِينَ ﴿٢٥﴾

25. Destroying everything (it was decreed to destroy) by the command of its Lord. So they became such that nothing could be seen except (the structures) of their dwellings. Thus do we recompense the criminal people.

وَلَقَدْ مَكَّنَّهُمْ فِيمَا إِن مَّكَّنَّاكُمْ فِيهِ وَجَعَلْنَا لَهُمْ سَمْعًا وَأَبْصَرًا وَأَفْئِدَةً فَمَا أَغْنَىٰ عَنْهُمْ سَمْعُهُمْ وَلَا أَبْصَرُهُمْ وَلَا أَفْئِدَتُهُمْ مِنْ شَيْءٍ إِذْ كَانُوا يَجْحَدُونَ
بِآيَاتِ اللَّهِ وَحَاقَ بِهِمْ مَا كَانُوا بِهِ يَسْتَهْزِءُونَ ﴿٢٦﴾

26. And We had certainly established them (in the land) with such (bodily strength, length of life and abundant wealth) as We have not established you (O Pagans of Quraysh, and which if We did, you would have exceeded them in transgression). And We made for them faculties of hearing, seeing and understanding (with the hearts). But their hearing, seeing and hearts did not avail

them in anything (from Allāh's punishment) when they continued denying the signs of Allāh, and they were completely encompassed by that (punishment) which they used to mock.

وَلَقَدْ أَهْلَكْنَا مَا حَوْلَكُمْ مِّنَ الْقُرَىٰ وَصَرَّفْنَا الْآيَاتِ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْجِعُونَ ﴿٢٧﴾

27. And indeed, We have destroyed what surrounds you of the cities (such as Hġjr, 'Ād, Thamūd, Sodom, Ma'rib and others) and We diversified the (types of) signs (shown to them) perhaps that they might return (from disbelief to belief).

فَلَوْلَا نَصْرُهُمُ الَّذِينَ اتَّخَذُوا مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ قُرْبَانًا ءِلَٰهَةً ۖ بَلْ ضَلُّوا عَنْهُمْ ۚ
وَذَٰلِكَ إِفْكُهُمْ وَمَا كَانُوا يَفْقَهُونَ ﴿٢٨﴾

28. So why did those whom they took as gods besides Allāh as a means of nearness (to Him) not aid them (when the punishment fell). Rather, they (the deities) left them in the lurch (or they, the polytheists, left their deities in the lurch). And that was their false statement (of disbelief) and what they had been fabricating (that their deities bring them closer to Allāh).

وَإِذْ صَرَفْنَا إِلَيْكَ نَفَرًا مِّنَ الْجِنِّ يَسْتَمِعُونَ الْقُرْآنَ فَلَمَّا حَضَرُوهُ قَالُوا أَنصِتُوا فَلَمَّا قُضِيَ وَلَّوْا إِلَىٰ قَوْمِهِم مُّنْذِرِينَ ﴿٢٩﴾

29. And (mention, O Muḥammad) when We directed to you a group of (three to ten of) the Jinn (who were upon the religion of the Jews), listening to the Qur’ān. And when they attended (its recitation), they said (among themselves): “Listen in silence.” And when it was finished, they went back to their people as warners.

قَالُوا يَاقَوْمَنَا إِنَّا سَمِعْنَا كِتَابًا أُنزِلَ مِن بَعْدِ مُوسَىٰ مُصَدِّقًا لِّمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ يَهْدِي إِلَى الْحَقِّ وَإِلَىٰ طَرِيقٍ مُّسْتَقِيمٍ ﴿٣٠﴾

30. They said: “O our people! Verily, we have heard a Book revealed after Moses, confirming what came before it (of the Torah), guiding to the truth and to a straight path.”

يَقَوْمَنَا أَجِيبُوا دَاعِيَ اللَّهِ وَآمِنُوا بِهِ يَغْفِرَ لَكُم مِّن ذُنُوبِكُمْ وَيُجِرْكُم مِّنْ عَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ ﴿٣١﴾

31. “O our people! Respond to—(Muḥammad)—the caller of Allāh and believe in him (and what he has come with).

He (Allāh) will forgive you of your sins and protect you from a painful punishment.”

وَمَنْ لَا يُجِبْ دَاعِيَ اللَّهِ فَلَيْسَ بِمُعْجِزٍ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَلَيْسَ لَهُ مِنْ دُونِهِ أَوْلِيَاءُ
أُولَئِكَ فِي ضَلَالٍ مُبِينٍ ﴿٣٢﴾

32. And whoever does not respond to Allāh’s caller, then he will not render (Allāh) incapable on earth (by trying to escape from Him), and he will not have (any) protectors besides Him (who can repel His punishment when it comes). Those (who do not respond to the call) are in clear error.

أَوَلَمْ يَرَوْا أَنَّ اللَّهَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَلَمْ يَعْْيَ بِخَلْقِهِنَّ بِقَدِيرٍ عَلَى
أَنْ يُحْيِيَ الْمَوْتَىٰ بَلَىٰ إِنَّهُ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿٣٣﴾

33. Do they not know that Allāh, who created the heavens and the earth and was not rendered incapable (or fatigued) by their creation, is surely able to give life to the dead (a matter far easier for Him than the creation of the heavens and earth). Yes indeed, He is able over all things (that He desires to create and wishes to do).

وَيَوْمَ يُعْرَضُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا عَلَى النَّارِ أَلَيْسَ هَذَا بِالْحَقِّ ۖ قَالُوا بَلَىٰ وَرَبِّنَا ۚ قَالَ فَذُوقُوا الْعَذَابَ بِمَا كُنْتُمْ تَكْفُرُونَ ﴿٣٤﴾

34. And on the Day those who disbelieved (in the call of the Messengers) will be exposed to the Fire (it will be said): “Is this (punishment you are being subjected to) not the truth (of which you were informed by the Messengers)?” They will say: “Yes, by our Lord (it is the truth)!” He will say: “Then taste (now) the punishment (of which you were informed) because you used to disbelieve.”

فَاصْبِرْ كَمَا صَبَرَ أُولُو الْعَزْمِ مِنَ الرُّسُلِ وَلَا تَسْتَعْجِلْ لَهُمْ ۚ كَانَتْهُمْ يَوْمَ يَرَوْنَ مَا يُوعَدُونَ لَمْ يَلْبَثُوا إِلَّا سَاعَةً مِّنْ نَّهَارٍ ۚ بَلَّغُ ۚ فَهَلْ يُهْلَكُ إِلَّا الْقَوْمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ ﴿٣٥﴾

35. Therefore, be patient (O Muḥammad) as those with firm will and resolution among the Messengers were patient (after they were rejected). And be not in haste regarding (what is justified upon) them (of punishment). On the Day they will see that which they are promised, it will be as if they did not remain (in this world) except an hour of a day. (This Qur’ān is a) notification (conveyed

from Allāh to you, through His Messenger, for you to take heed and reflect). **So are any destroyed**—(despite the vastness of Allāh’s mercy and bounty)—**except a (rebelliously) disobedient people?**



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