

## For Fast 21

### Chapter 23

- 28 Then when you (Noah) are firmly seated, you and those with you, in the ark, say: Praise be to Allah, Who delivered us from the unjust people!
- 29 And say: My Lord, cause me to land a blessed landing and You are the Best of those who bring to land.

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*Note:* V. 29 contains a prayer used while travelling in a vehicle, ship or aircraft.

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- 37 (Noah's people said of him): There is nothing but our life in this world, we die and we live and we shall not be raised again;
- 38 he is only a man who has forged a lie about Allah, and we are not going to believe in him.
- 39 He said: My Lord, help me against their calling me a liar.

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*Note:* When preaching the truth, and being rejected, this is what one must pray; also, more generally, this prayer can be said when one is falsely accused.

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*The time when a prayer is not accepted:*

- 62 And We do not impose on any soul a duty beyond its ability, and with Us is a book which speaks the truth, and they are not wronged.
- 63 But their hearts are in ignorance about it, and they have besides this other deeds which they do.
- 64 Until, when We seize those who lead easy lives among them with punishment, then they cry for help.
- 65 *Do not cry for help this day. Surely you will not be helped by Us.*
- 66 My messages were indeed recited to you, but you used to turn back on your heels
- 67 haughtily, passing nights in talking nonsense about it.

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*Note:* V. 62 says that Allah did not require people to accept beliefs or perform deeds which were beyond their ability to accept and carry out. However, the rejecters of truth behaved ignorantly, committed misdeeds, made no improvement in their existing comfortable lives, turned away from Allah's messages arrogantly, and did not give them serious consideration. Only then did they face punishment, and their pleas for help were rejected. This is just like a student who doesn't study before the exams but then cries for help during the exam, or a patient who doesn't follow the doctor's advice but cries for help when he falls ill.

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- 94 My Lord, then do not place me with the unjust people.

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*Note:* This is a prayer to avoid being associated with, or included with, or counted among a group of wrongdoers, when you are innocent. A minor example is that you go along to watch a crowd misbehaving, and get counted as one of them.

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- 97** And say: My Lord, I seek refuge in You from the evil suggestions of the devils,  
**98** and I seek refuge in You, my Lord, should they come to me.

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*Note:* The “devils” are those people who seek to mislead us, or the thoughts in our own minds.

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*Prayer for deliverance from punishment is not accepted when punishment is just:*

- 105** Were not My messages recited to you, but you used to reject them?  
**106** They will say: Our Lord, our misfortune overcame us, and we were a people in error.  
**107** Our Lord, take us out of it (the fire of hell); then if we return (to evil), we shall be unjust.  
**108** He will say: Go away into it, and do not speak to Me.  
**109** Surely there was a group of My servants who said: Our Lord, we believe, so forgive us and have mercy on us, and You are the Best of those who show mercy.  
**110** But you ridiculed them, until they made you forget remembrance of Me, and you used to laugh at them.

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*Note:* This passage is similar to verses 62–67 explained above. The words, “they made you forget remembrance of Me”, mean that due to ridiculing and laughing at the servants of God, you forgot to pay any attention to the good in their message or even to any good which you yourselves believed in doing. An example before us is how the founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement is daily ridiculed and mocked at by his opponents, making them forget to act even on the Islamic teachings that they themselves believe in.

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