

(*Note: Wherever the word “you” or “your” is singular and refers to one human being, it is printed with an italic y, as in: you. Wherever such a word refers to God, the y is printed in capital, as in: You.*)

For Fast 14

Chapter 15

- 19 And the earth — We have spread it out and made in it firm mountains and caused to grow in it of every suitable thing.
- 20 And We have made in it means of subsistence for you and for those (creatures) for whom you do not provide.

Note: As Allah provides for other creatures, it also becomes man’s duty to ensure the survival and sustenance of all other forms of life on earth.

- 21 And there is not a thing but with Us are the treasures of it, and We do not send it down but in a known measure.

Note: Quranic knowledge is disclosed to mankind gradually according to need, e.g. the issue of the death of Jesus. Similarly, scientific knowledge at any stage can only be discovered according to God’s measure.

- 22 And We send the winds fertilizing, then send down water from the clouds, so We give it to you to drink; nor is it you who store it up.

Note: The fertilizing winds, are those which raise a cloud that gives rain, or those which make herbage and plants fruitful. Here they represent the signs of the progress of Islam before its final triumph, which is indicated by the rain.

- 23 And surely it is We, Who give life and cause death, and We are the Inheritors.

Note: Wārith means one who inherits, and therefore one who remains after another has perished. The announcement made here is a prophecy that the true worshippers of Allah will be heirs in the land while the others will perish.

- 24 And certainly We know those among you who go forward and We certainly know those who lag behind.
- 25 And surely your Lord will gather them together. He indeed is Wise, Knowing.

Note: Al-mustaqdimīn (v. 24) are those who are foremost in accepting truth, and al-musta'khirīn, those who lag behind in accepting it. They will all be gathered together, i.e., ultimately those who now lag behind will be brought over to the right course. Some understand by these two words those who have gone before and those who will come afterwards respectively, in point of time.