



The Thinking Muslim

# SURAH AL-FALAQ EXPLAINED

By

Rameez Abid

[www.thethinkingmuslim.com](http://www.thethinkingmuslim.com)



# INTRODUCTION TO AL-FALAQ & AL-NAAS

- The two sister surahs that offer protection (al-Mu'awwidhataan)
- According to most, they were both revealed together
- They both complement each other
  - Falaq deals with evils that come to us from the outside
  - Naas deals with evils that come to us from the inside
    - These are more dangerous so Allah uses three of His Names
- Virtues
  - Read before going to sleep
  - Read after every obligatory salah
  - Prophet (pbuh) used to recite them whenever he was sick even till the end
- Why they were revealed
  - A Jewish man cast a spell which would cause him to become confused whether he had done something or not



# VERSE 1

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ الْفَلَقِ

Say, "I seek refuge in the Lord of daybreak"

## Explanation:

- The Arabic word **أَعُوذُ**
  - Comes from a word which means when something weak holds onto something strong
    - So in the same way us weak humans need to hold onto to Allah for our dear life. Allah is the One with whom we seek shelter and protection from evil



# VERSE 1

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ الْفَلَقِ

Say, "I seek refuge in the Lord of daybreak"

## Explanation:

- The Arabic word الفلق
  - Literally means something that tears open
    - Ex: a hard rock that cracks open, a piece of bread that is torn apart
- Used here in the surah to indicate that Allah tears the night open into the morning
  - Meaning that the person is seeking refuge in someone who can tear apart anything including any evil that may come his/her way



## VERSE 2

مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ

From the evil of whatever He has created

### Explanation:

- Meaning from the evils that exist in all types of creations
  - Ex: humans, animals, jinns, insects, etc.
  - Emphasis here are external threats



# VERSE 3

وَمِنْ شَرِّ غَاسِقٍ إِذَا وَقَبَ

And from the evil of the night when it grows dark

## Explanation:

- The Arabic word غَاسِقٍ
  - Refers to the night when it becomes dark
  - Reason for seeking refuge from it?
    - Because most evil things take place under the cover of darkness
- The Arabic word وَقَب
  - Literally means a hole in which water gets filled up
    - Used in this surah to indicate the light that disappears into a hole resulting in darkness



## VERSE 4

وَ مِنْ شَرِّ النَّفَّاثَاتِ فِي الْعُقَدِ

And from the evil of those 'witches' blowing onto knots

### Explanation:

- The Arabic word النَّفَّاثَاتِ
  - Refers to females who tie knots into strings and then blow into them for the purpose of causing harm to someone
    - Don't confuse with fairytale type
  - Could include males as well but more common among women so that is why they are emphasized
- People turn to these things to solve their problems when they forget about Allah



# VERSE 5

وَ مِنْ شَرِّ حَاسِدٍ إِذَا حَسَدَ

And from the evil of an envier when he envies

## Explanation:

- The Arabic word حَسَدَ
  - Something that happens in the heart
  - Def: A feeling that is trapped inside the heart of a person because of which he/she wants good things taken away from someone else
    - Person does not want the other person to have it
  - Don't confuse with jealousy
- It is said it was the first sin to be committed in Heaven and Earth
- It could be in worldly matters or religious



# CONCLUSION OF AL-FALAQ

- Seeking refuge in Allah from four things
  - They all deal with external threats
- Envy is not an attribute of the believer because he/she knows it's all from Allah
  - In the life of the Prophet (pbuh), the people most described with this attribute were the Jews
  - In one hadith, it is described as something that "shaves" away the religion due to the hatred that occurs due to it
- Issue of the Prophet (pbuh) being afflicted with magic
  - It did not effect revelation or his intellect but only the body
    - He was similarly afflicted with other things: injury, fever, etc.
      - Shows us his humanity
    - Some prophets were killed which is worse!
  - To show that he was not a magician
  - It's mentioned explicitly in authentic hadiths of Bukhari, Muslim, and others!