



The Thinking Muslim

SURAH AL-NASR EXPLAINED

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INTRODUCTION TO AL-NASR

- This is one of the shortest surahs in the Qur'an
- Majority say this was revealed in the Medinan period
- Ibn Abbas said this surah was a farewell address of the Prophet (pbuh)
 - Meaning Allah is hinting towards the Prophet's (pbuh) death and completion of his mission
- Some reports suggest that the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was reciting this surah while entering Mecca during its conquest at the end of his life
 - Suggesting that his mission was now complete



VERSE 1

إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ

When the victory of Allah has come and the conquest

Explanation:

- Arabic word نصر
 - It means a great amount of help. Almost like a life and death situation type of help
 - The dominant interpretation is that it is speaking about Allah's aid to His messenger against the Quraysh and others who fought against him
 - In the end, he would get the aid and victory at the conquest of Mecca
- Arabic word الفتح
 - It means the final victory of the religion of Allah over its enemies that were fighting against it in Mecca. So some say it was revealed before the conquest of Mecca (prophecy)
- The help from Allah is the means to get to the goal (conquest and victory). This is why help is mentioned first in the verse



VERSE 2

وَرَأَيْتَ النَّاسَ يَدْخُلُونَ فِي دِينِ اللَّهِ أَفْوَاجًا

And you see the people entering into the religion of Allah in
multitudes

Explanation:

- Referring to the end of the Prophet's mission when large amounts of people will be entering Islam and standing by the Prophet's (pbuh) side
 - After the conquest of Mecca, people of various tribes from all over the Arabian peninsula came together willingly converting to Islam without fighting
- Allah is also indicating that His religion alone will have victory and not others in the end because it is the truth and is His religion



VERSE 3

فَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ وَاسْتَغْفِرْهُ ۚ إِنَّهُ كَانَ تَوَّابًا

Then exalt [Him] with praise of your Lord and ask forgiveness of Him. Indeed, He is ever Accepting of repentance

Explanation:

- Meaning when what is mentioned in the previous verses takes place, then prepare to meet Allah by making abundance of tasbeeh, praise, and lots of forgiveness for himself and his Ummah
 - The Prophet (pbuh) died two years after the conquest of Mecca
- He is being told to praise and glorify Allah because the victory and conquest are not possible without His aid. Everything that happened is because of Allah's blessing and favor



CONCLUSION OF AL-NASR

- Allah will continue and increase His aid when we glorify, praise, and seek His forgiveness. This is because the more we are grateful to Him, the more He gives us from His blessings
- The Prophet (pbuh) began increasing his tasbeeh, praise, and seeking forgiveness after this surah was revealed
- Names of this surah
 - Al-Nasr (help), Al-Bishaarah (good news), Al-Tawde' (farewell)
- There is a correlation between this surah and Surah al-Fath (chapter 48)