

Last Day 28 – Denying the Resurrection

Based on the works of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan (حفظه الله)

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

QUESTION: Do people deny that they will be resurrected from their graves?

ANSWER:

Without doubt, some people do not accept that this will happen. In fact, many people in the West think the idea of life after death is something farfetched and odd.

We have seen how Islam addresses the doubts of these people (see the earlier *Last Day* articles for more details).

It is perhaps worth reminding ourselves of the degree of certainty with which Islam responds to their doubts – certainty which these people do not and in fact cannot ever have that they are right and Islam is wrong about this.

The Qur'aan mentions:

Those who disbelieve say: "The Hour will not come to us!"

Say: "Yes, by my Lord, the Knower of the Unseen, it will certainly come to you."

[Soorah Saba (the 34th chapter) verse 3]

And they ask you (O Muhammad), "Is it true?"

Say: "Yes, by my Lord, it is certainly true and you cannot escape it!"

[Soorah Yoonus (the 10th chapter) verse 53]

The disbelievers pretend that they will never be resurrected.

Say: "Yes, by my Lord, you will certainly be resurrected, then you will be informed of what you did; and that is easy for Allah!"

[Soorah at Taghabun (the 64th chapter) verse 7]

Indeed, those people who dispute with regards to the Hour are in very great error.

[Soorah ash Shura (the 42nd chapter) verse 18]

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So no matter how much the atheists claim loudly that there is no Resurrection, no life after death, no God and therefore no real point in living other than "to do good", they can never have any certainty at all in denying these matters and the other matters of the unseen.

For how can they have any certainty in this - has anyone ever come back from the dead to reassure them that they are right and the believers in the Resurrection are wrong?

Then compare that with how Islam deals with this issue of the Resurrection – the certainty about its occurrence, the reasons for its occurrence, the effect that thinking about it should have on a person, on their behaviour and thereby on society at large; and, maybe most significantly for us, the lack of knowledge that we have about when it will occur.

All that Islam teaches about the last of these issues – when it will occur - is that there are certain signs which tell us that it is close to happening and that it will occur in the near future.

Muhammad (may perfect peace and security be upon him) told his companions that the relationship between his coming as a prophet and the coming of the Resurrection was like that of the index finger to the middle finger – i.e. very close.