

Last Day 7 – The Beast

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

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

QUESTION: What is the Beast mentioned in the hadeeth quoted in the article ‘Last Day 6 – Gog and Magog’ about the ten signs before the Hour?

ANSWER:

The hadeeth quoted in the article ‘Last Day 6 – Gog and Magog’ mentioned:

Indeed the Hour will never be established until you see ten signs before it.

Muhammad (may perfect peace and security be upon him) then mentioned:

The smoke, the Dajjaal, the Beast, the rising of the sun from the west (up to the end of the hadeeth).

The Qur’aan also makes mention of this:

And when the Word (of torment) is fulfilled against them, We shall bring out from the Earth a beast for them, to speak to them because mankind did not believe with certainty in Our verses.

[Soorah an Naml (the 27th chapter) verse 82]

The great scholar of the meanings of the Qur’aan, ibn Katheer, mentioned about this Beast:

“This Beast will emerge at the end of time when people have become corrupt, negligent of the commands of Allaah and when they have changed the Religion of Truth. So Allaah will cause a Beast to emerge from the Earth for them....”

Unlike the previous signs of the Day of Judgement which we have mentioned, the emergence of the Beast will be the first of the unfamiliar signs, the like of which people will never have seen before.

For the previous signs - the emergence of the Dajjaal, the descent of Jesus (peace be upon him), and the appearance of Gog and Magog – will all be in human form. However, the Beast when it emerges will be something completely unlike anything which the people are used to.

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This Beast will be given the ability to distinguish between believers and non Muslims, and will inscribe a mark on the foreheads of the people accordingly.

What will the Beast look like?

Despite what some people might say, there is nothing in the authentic texts of Islam which gives a description of its appearance. Nor is there anything to say from where the Beast will emerge. Rather the Qur'aan and the authentic hadeeths have only mentioned that the Beast is one of the signs of Allaah, and it will speak to the people when they have come to have doubts about the signs of Allaah. In this way, it will be a proof for the believers and a proof against the people who stubbornly reject the Truth.

Once again, we see here an example of the principle that we have discussed before – that a Muslim submits to the information and commands that are contained in the Qur'aan and in the authentic texts, and acts upon them – even if they might seem fantastic and farfetched to other people's limited intellects. For this is why such a person is called a "Muslim" – literally, "someone who submits", someone who submits to the Truth when it comes to them.