

## The Hour and Its Portents

1. Allah did not create this world for us to abide in it forever. A day shall come when it will come to an end. This day is the day when the Last Hour will be established. It is a an indisputable fact, as Allah the Most Glorified and Exalted said,

﴿ إِنَّ السَّاعَةَ لَأْتِيَةٌ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهَا وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴾ [غافر: ٥٩]

“Indeed, the Hour is surely coming, there is no doubt thereof; yet most of mankind believe not.” [Ghafir: 59]

﴿ وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لَا تَأْتِينَا السَّاعَةُ قُلْ بَلَىٰ وَرَبِّي لَتَأْتِيَنَّكُمْ ﴾ [سبا: ٣]

“Those who disbelieve say: ‘The Hour will not come to us.’ Say: ‘Yes, by my Lord, it will come to you.’” [Saba': 3]

﴿ اقْتَرَبَتِ السَّاعَةُ ﴾ [القدر: ١]

“The Hour has drawn near.” [Al-Qamar: 1]

﴿ اقْتَرَبَ لِلنَّاسِ حِسَابُهُمْ وَهُمْ فِي غَفْلَةٍ مُّعْرِضُونَ ﴾ [الانبيا: ١٠]

“[The time of] their account has approached for the people, while they are in heedlessness turning away.” [Al-Anbiya: 1]

Its proximity is not weighed by human measurement or what we are accustomed to. It is rather something related to the knowledge of Allah, and the period that has elapsed from the lifespan of this world.

Knowledge of the Hour is part of the metaphysical, whose knowledge Allah has exclusively confined to Himself. He did not disclose it to any of His slaves as He said,

﴿ يَسْأَلُكَ النَّاسُ عَنِ السَّاعَةِ قُلْ إِنَّمَا عِلْمُهَا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ وَمَا يُدْرِيكَ لَعَلَّ السَّاعَةَ تَكُونُ قَرِيبًا ﴾ [الأحزاب: ٦٣]

“People ask you concerning the Hour. Say,” Knowledge of it is only with Allah. And what may make you perceive? Perhaps the Hour is near.” [Al-Ahzab: 63]

The Messenger of Allah (May the blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) has stated signs indicating its nearness and proximity. They include emergence of the false Messiah. This will be a great tribulation for mankind, because Allah, the Most Glorified and Exalted, will grant him power to perform supernatural things by which a lot of people will be deceived. He will order the sky and it will rain, order the pasture and it will grow, bring the dead back to life, and perform other paranormal acts. The Messenger of Allah (May the blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) has stated that he is one-eyed and will bring with him something like Paradise and Hell; but what he calls Paradise will be, in fact, Hell. He will remain on earth for forty days, a day like one year, a day like one month, a day like one week, and the other days like the normal days. No spot will remain on earth except that he will enter it, except for Makkah and Madinah.

Among the portents of the Last Hour, is **the descent of ‘Isa bin Maryam (Jesus Christ)** on the white minaret east of Damascus, during the time of Fajr prayer, where he will observe the Fajr prayer with the people. Then he will seek the anti-Christ and slay him.

Among the signs is **the rising of the sun from its setting point (the west)** whereby people will see it, get scared, and start to believe, but no faith will be of any benefit at that point. There are many other signs and portents of the Last Hour.