Surah 71 Surah Nooh

NOOH

THE LINK BETWEEN SURAH NOOH AND THE PRECEDING SURAHS

The series of Surahs from Surah Mulk to Surah Jinn are like one Surah because they have almost the same subject matter. Surah Mulk established the belief that none but Allah should be regarded as the source of all blessings. Thereafter, Surah Qalam emphasized that no compromises should be made with regard to this belief. Next Surah Haqq, gives grave warnings of a terrible punishment for those who reject this belief. At the same time, it also conveyed glad tidings to those who believed in Tawheed.

Surah Haqq is followed by Surah Ma’aarij, which condemns the Mushrikeen for their foolishness in asking for Allah’s punishment instead of heeding the warnings. Surah Nooh and Surah Jinn provide further proofs to substantiate the belief. Surah Nooh contains a detailed proof from the life and teachings of Nooh (AS).

A SUMMARY OF THE SURAH

Surah Nooh contains the following:

* Nooh (AS) preaches to his people, but they reject his message and behave haughtily.
* An example is given about how the Kuffaar were destroyed.
* Logical proofs contained in Nooh (AS)’s preaching are given.
* The essence of the Surah is that there should be no compromise in promoting Tawheed. It must be preached with tolerance and determination despite the obstacles that the Kuffaar may place.
1. Verily We sent Nooh (as a Nabi) to his nation instructing him, “Warn your people (against committing Shirk) before a painful punishment afflicts them.”

2. He said, “O my people! Indeed I am a clear (definite) warner to you.”

3. “Worship Allaah, fear Him and obey me (in belief and action).”

4. “Allaah will then forgive your sins and grant you respite (will not punish you and will allow you to live) until a specified period (the time when your death is destined). Verily, when Allaah’s specified period (the time of your death) arrives, it is not delayed. If only you knew (the truth of this, you would accept immediately).”

5. (However, besides a few people, the rest of his nation rejected his message despite his tireless efforts. When he grew frustrated after 950 years of preaching to them,) He said, “O my Rabbi! Indeed I called my people (to Towheed) day and night.”

6. “However, my calling only made them run further away.”
7. “Whenever I called them so that You may forgive them, they [rejected my message to such an extent that they actually] placed their fingers in their ears [not to hear me], covered themselves with their shawls [so not even to see me], remained implacable [persisted in arrogance] and expressed great pride.”

8. “I then called to them publicly [in a gathering]…”

9. “…and explained [the Deen] to them openly and privately [to individuals].”

10. “I said to them, ‘Seek forgiveness from your Rabb [for your kufr by accepting Imaan]. Indeed He is Most Forgiving.’”

11. “(If you do this,) He will send [much-needed] rain to you in torrents…”

12. “…increase your wealth, your sons and make orchards and rivers for you. [He will cause you to prosper even in this world.]”

13. “What is the matter with you that you are not convinced of Allaah’s majesty [greatness]…”

14. “…when He has created you in so many phases?” [He created the food from which blood is formed, then the semen from the blood, then the foetus from the semen, then the many stages of foetal development before the birth of a child.]"
15. “Have you not seen how Allaah has created the seven skies in layers…”

16. “...has made the moon a celestial light in them (in the skies) and the sun a (bright) lamp (from which you derive immense benefit)?”

17. “Allaah has created you (your father Aadam) from the earth in a unique manner.”

18. “He will then return you to the earth and then remove you from it in a unique manner (when you are resurrected on the Day of Qiyaamah).”

19. “And Allaah has spent out the earth for you…”

20. “…so that you may travel on its wide roads.” (Allaah has created all these bounties for man so that he recognises Allaah through them and expresses gratitude for them by worshipping only Him Alone.)

21. (After 950 years of extensive preaching,) Nooh said, “O my Rabb! They have refused to obey me and have followed people whose wealth and children have only increased their loss (by causing them to fall deeper into kufr and sin by not listening to my guidance became their pride and arrogance)

22. “(In addition to this,) They have devised mighty plots (to oppose the true Deen by not listening to my guidance).”
23. “They say (to others), 'Never forsake your gods! Do not forsake Wadd, Suwa, Yaghooth, Ya’ooq and Nas!’” (These were names of their idols.)

24. “(By doing this,) They have certainly led many (people) astray. Do increase the deviation (sinful ways) of the oppressors (so that they become deserving of more punishment).”

25. (Eventually) Because of their sins they were drowned (in a great flood) and made to enter the Fire (in their graves as well as in the Aakhirah). (Although they had many gods, great wealth and many children,) They found none to assist them against (the punishment of) Allaah.

26. Nooh said, “O my Rabb! Do not leave even one of the Kaafiroon (alive) on earth.”

27. “Surely if You leave them (to live on earth) they will mislead Your (Mu’mineen) bondsmen and only sinners and Kuffaar will be born to them (thereby causing more kufr and sin to reign on earth).”

28. “O my Rabb! Forgive me, my parents, whoever enters my home as a Mu’min and all the Mu’mineen and Mu’minaat. (As for the Kuffaar, I pray that you) Increase the oppressors (the Kuffaar) only in destruction! (Do not let any of them survive.)"