

"This Surah was revealed about Ka`b bin Al-Ashraf and a group of the disbelievers of the Quraysh." Al-Bazzar recorded that Ibn `Abbas said, "Ka`b bin Al-Ashraf came to Makkah and the Quraysh said to him, `You are the leader of them (the people). What do you think about this worthless man who is cut off from his people He claims that he is better than us while we are the people of the place of pilgrimage, the people of custodianship (of the Ka`bah), and the people who supply water to the pilgrims.' He replied, `You all are better than him.' So Allah revealed,

(إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ )

(For he who hates you, he will be cut off.)" This is how Al-Bazzar recorded this incident and its chain of narration is authentic. It has been reported that `Ata' said, "This Surah was revealed about Abu Lahab when a son of the Messenger of Allah died. Abu Lahab went to the idolators and said, `Muhammad has been cut off (i.e., from progeny) tonight.' So concerning this Allah revealed,

(إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ )

(For he who hates you, he will be cut off.)" As-Suddi said, "When the male sons of a man died the people used to say, `He has been cut off.' So, when the sons of the Messenger of Allah died they said, `Muhammad has been cut off.' Thus, Allah revealed,

(إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ )

(For he who hates you, he will be cut off.)" So they thought in their ignorance that if his sons died, his remembrance would be cut off. Allah forbid! To the contrary, Allah preserved his remembrance for all the world to see, and He obligated all the servants to follow his Law. This will continue for all of time until the Day of Gathering and the coming of the Hereafter. May the blessings of Allah and His peace be upon him forever until the Day of Assembling. This is the end of the Tafsir of Surat Al-Kawthar, and all praise and blessings are due to Allah.

## The Tafsir of Surah Qul ya Ayyuhal-Kafirun

### (Chapter - 109)

#### Which was revealed in Makkah

It has been confirmed in Sahih Muslim from Jabir that the Messenger of Allah recited this Surah (Al-Kafirun) and

(قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ )

(Say: "He is Allah One.") (112:1) in the two Rak`ahs of Tawaf. It is also recorded in Sahih Muslim in a Hadith of Abu Hurayrah that the Messenger of Allah recited these two Surahs in the two Rak`ahs (optional prayer) of the Morning prayer. Imam Ahmad recorded from Ibn `Umar that the Messenger of Allah recited in the two Rak`ahs before the Morning prayer and the two Rak`ahs after the Sunset prayer on approximately ten or twenty different occasions,

(قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ)

(Say: "O Al-Kafirun!") and

(قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ)

(Say: " He is Allah One.") (112:1) Ahmad also recorded that Ibn `Umar said, "I watched the Prophet twenty-four or twenty-five times reciting in the two Rak`ahs before the Morning prayer and the two Rak`ahs after the Sunset prayer,

(قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ)

(Say: "O Al-Kafirun!") and

(قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ)

(Say: "He is Allah One.") (112:1)" Ahmad recorded that Ibn `Umar said, "I watched the Prophet for a month and he would recite in the two Rak`ahs before the Morning prayer,

(قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ)

(Say: "O Al-Kafirun.") and

(قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ)

(Say: "He is Allah One.") (112:1)" This was also recorded by At-Tirmidhi, Ibn Majah and An-Nasa'i. At-Tirmidhi said, "Hasan." It has already been mentioned previously in a Hadith that it (Surat Al-Kafirun) is equivalent to a fourth of the Qur'an and Az-Zalzalah is equivalent to a fourth of the Qur'an.

(بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ)

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

(قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ- لَا أَعْبُدُ مَا تَعْبُدُونَ- وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ- وَلَا أَنَا عَابِدٌ مَّا عَبَدْتُمْ- وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ- لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ وَلِيَ دِينِ-)

(1. Say: "O disbelievers!") (2. "I worship not that which you worship.") (3. "Nor will you worship whom I worship.") (4. "And I shall not worship that which you are worshipping.") (5. "Nor will you worship that which I worship.") (6. "To you be your religion, and to me my religion.")

## The Declaration of Innocence from Shirk

This Surah is the Surah of disavowal from the deeds of the idolators. It commands a complete disavowal of that. Allah's statement,

(قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْكَافِرُونَ )

(Say: "O disbelievers!") includes every disbeliever on the face of the earth, however, this statement is particularly directed towards the disbelievers of the Quraysh. It has been said that in their ignorance they invited the Messenger of Allah to worship their idols for a year and they would (in turn) worship his God for a year. Therefore, Allah revealed this Surah and in it

### He commanded His Messenger to disavow himself from their religion completely

Allah said,

(لَا أَعْبُدُ مَا تَعْبُدُونَ )

(I worship not that which you worship.) meaning, statues and rival gods.

(وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ )

(Nor will you worship whom I worship.) and He is Allah Alone, Who has no partner. So the word Ma (what) here means Man (who). Then Allah says,

(وَلَا أَنَا عَابِدٌ مَّا عَبَدْتُمْ وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ )  
(

(And I shall not worship that which you are worshipping. Nor will you worship whom I worship.) meaning, 'I do not worship according to your worship, which means that I do not go along with it or follow it. I only worship Allah in the manner in which He loves and is pleased with.' Thus, Allah says,

(وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ )

(Nor will you worship whom I worship.) meaning, `you do not follow the commands of Allah and His Legislation in His worship. Rather, you have invented something out of the promptings of your own souls.' This is as Allah says,

إِنْ يَتَّبِعُونَ إِلَّا الظَّنَّ وَمَا تَهْوَى الْأَنْفُسُ وَلَقَدْ  
جَاءَهُمْ مِنْ رَبِّهِمُ الْهُدَى

(They follow but a guess and that which they themselves desire, whereas there has surely come to them the guidance from their Lord!) (53:23) Therefore, the disavowal is from all of what they are involved. For certainly the worshipper must have a god whom he worships and set acts of worship that he follows to get to him. So the Messenger and his followers worship Allah according to what He has legislated. This is why the statement of Islam is "There is no God worthy of being worshipped except Allah, and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah." This means that there is no (true) object of worship except Allah and there is no path to Him (i.e., way of worshipping Him) other than that which the Messenger came with. The idolators worship other than Allah, with acts of worship that Allah has not allowed. This is why the Messenger said to them,

(لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ وَلِيَ دِينِ )

(To you be your religion, and to me my religion.) This is similar to Allah's statement,

وَإِنْ كَذَّبُوكَ فَقُلْ لِي عَمَلِي وَلَكُمْ عَمَلُكُمْ أَنْتُمْ  
بَرِيئُونَ مِمَّا أَعْمَلُ وَأَنَا بَرِيءٌ مِمَّا تَعْمَلُونَ )

(And if they belie you, say: "For me are my deeds and for you are your deeds! You are innocent of what I do, and I am innocent of what you do!") (10:41) and He said,

لَنَا أَعْمَالُنَا وَلَكُمْ أَعْمَالُكُمْ )

(To us our deeds, and to you your deeds.) (28:55) Al-Bukhari said, "It has been said,

(لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ )

(To you be your religion.) means disbelief.

(وَلِيَ دِينِ )

(and to me my religion.) means, Islam. This is the end of the Tafsir of Surat Qul ya Ayyuhal-Kafirun.