

In The Name of Allaah, The Most Merciful, The Bestower of Mercy.

Allaah [The Most High] said:

قَدْ مَكَرَ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ فَأَتَى اللَّهُ بُنْيَانَهُمْ مِنَ الْقَوَاعِدِ فَحَرَّ عَلَيْهِمُ السَّقْفُ مِنْ فَوْقِهِمْ وَأَتَنَّهُمُ الْعَذَابُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ

ثُمَّ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ يُخْزِيهِمْ وَيَقُولُ أَيْنَ شُرَكَآئِيَ الَّذِينَ كُنْتُمْ تُشَاقِقُونَ فِيهِمْ قَالَ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ إِنَّ الْخِزْيَ الْيَوْمَ وَالسُّوءَ عَلَى الْكَافِرِينَ

Those before them indeed plotted, but Allah struck at the foundation of their building, and then the roof fell down upon them, from above them, and the torment overtook them from directions they did not perceive. [Surah An-Nahl. Verses 26]

[قَدْ مَكَرَ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ] – Those before them indeed plotted]: Meaning, **plotted against their Messengers, employed various types of tricks in order to reject that which the messengers brought and established gigantic safeguards (by way of arguments, views etc) on their plots.**

[فَأَتَى اللَّهُ بُنْيَانَهُمْ مِنَ الْقَوَاعِدِ] – but Allah struck at the foundation of their building]– Meaning, an affair came to them from its basis and foundation [فَحَرَّ عَلَيْهِمُ السَّقْفُ مِنْ فَوْقِهِمْ] – and then the roof fell down upon them, from above them]: Meaning, so what they built became a punishment for them.

[وَأَتَنَّهُمُ الْعَذَابُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ] – and the torment overtook them from directions they did not perceive]: Meaning, that is because they thought that such a building will benefit and protect them from punishment, but their punishment occurred from that which they built and established.

This is one the best of parables regarding how Allaah nullifies the plots of his enemies, for indeed they pondered and reflected on that which the Messengers brought when they belied them, made up principles and rules for it based on falsehood, referred back to them to reject that which the Messengers came with, employed tricks to bring discomfort to the Messengers and inflict harm on them and those who

followed them, but their plot became a source of evil against them, so their plan became their destruction, because their plot was evil as Allaah said:

[وَلَا يَحِيقُ الْمَكْرُ السَّيِّئُ إِلَّا بِأَهْلِهِ] – But the evil plot encompasses only him who makes it]. [Soorah Faatir. Verse 43] **(1)**

Allaah [The Exalted] said:

وَقَدْ مَكَرُوا مَكْرَهُمْ وَعِنْدَ اللَّهِ مَكْرُهُمْ وَإِنْ كَانَ مَكْرُهُمْ لِتَزُولَ مِنْهُ الْجِبَالُ

Indeed, they planned their plot, and their plot was with Allaah. And though their plot was a great (one, still) it would never be able to remove the mountains].

Az-Zujaaj [may Allaah have mercy upon him] said, "Even if their plot reached the severity where it could move a mountain, they would still not be able to bring the affair of Islaam to an end". **(2)** Even if their plot were to reach a stage where it could move a mountain, Allaah will still aid the religion He has ordained. **(3)**

Al-Awfee [may Allaah have mercy upon him] reported from Ibn Abbaas [may Allaah be pleased with him and his father] who said, "Their plot cannot move mountains". Ibn Jareer [may Allaah have mercy upon him] said, "This deed which they commit is against themselves, such as associating partners with Allaah and disbelief in Him cannot bring any harm to the mountains nor anything, rather it will haunt them". **(4)** The signs of Allaah, His divine laws and His manifest miracles at the hands of the Messengers are like mountains in robustness and firmness, so the intent is to belittle their plot and that it cannot remove the signs of Messenger ships. **(5)**

[1]: An Excerpt from Tafseer as-Sadi. Slightly paraphrased]

[2]: Zaadul Maseer Fee Ilmit Tafseer. By Imaam Ibnul Jawzi]

[3]: Fat-hul Qadeer. 3/160]

[4]: Al-Misbaah Al-Muneer Fee Tah'dheeb Tafseer Ibn Katheer]

[5]: Roohul Ma'aanee p362. Vol 8]