

Last Day 8 – Sun rising from the West

QUESTION: Will the Sun rise from the West before the Day of Judgement?

ANSWER: Yes, Islam teaches that this is from the Signs of the Last Day. ¹

As is known to all of mankind, the Sun normally rises from the East. Its rising from the West will clearly be something unusual and of note.

We will mention here a verse from the sixth chapter of the Qur'an:

Do they wait for anything other than that the angels should come to them, or that your Lord should come or that some of the Signs of your Lord should come? The Day that some of the Signs of your Lord do come, no good will it do to a person to believe then if he did not believe before or had not earned good (by performing good deeds) through his Faith.

Soorah al An'aam (the 6th chapter) verse 158

The majority of scholars of tafseer (explanation of the meanings of the Qur'an) agree that the signs mentioned in this verse refer to the rising of the Sun from the West.

And this is in accordance with an authentic hadeeth (statement) of Muhammad (may perfect peace and security be upon him) when he said:

The (Last) Hour will not be established until the Sun rises from the West; and when it rises (from the west) and the people see it, they all will believe. And that is (the time) when no soul will benefit from its faith (if it had not believed beforehand).

¹ Refer to *al irshaad ilaa saheeh il i'tiqaad* of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan p242 for more information

So at that stage, it will be “too late” for a non Muslim to realize his or her error and accept Islam. Even for the Muslim at that time, it will be too late to repent for bad deeds and sins.

Why should this be?

If the true reality of the situation had not already been grasped by the non Muslims and the sinful Muslims up to that point, then after the rising of the Sun from the West, no one can have any doubt.

As was mentioned by one of the scholars of tafseer, al Qurtubi: at the time of the Sun rising from the West, the hearts of the people will be filled with terror at the gravity of the situation in a manner analogous to the person who is just about to die; at both these times, the heart is emptied of any desire to commit bad deeds, and instead is filled with remorse and repentance for any sins the person may have committed.

Indeed, Muhammad (may perfect peace and security be upon him) said:

'Allah accepts a servant's repentance as long as he has not reached the stage of the death rattle (the noise made by a person just as he is on the point of dying).'

So the rising of the Sun from the West will be an incontestable sign that the Universe as we know it is about to change forever, and that the Final Hour which so many people denied or ignored is about to occur.

=====

NEXT TIME: Where and how will the people be gathered before the Final Hour?