

Sura 101: Al-Qari'a (The Striking Calamity)

In the name of God, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy

Verses 1 to 11:

1. *The Striking Calamity;*
2. *What is the Striking Calamity?*
3. *And what will explain to you what the Striking Calamity is?*
4. *(It is) a Day when people will be like scattered moths;*
5. *And the mountains will be like tufted wool.*
6. *Then, he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) heavy;*
7. *He will live a pleasant life.*
8. *But he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) light;*
9. *His abode will be the abyss.*
10. *And what will explain to you what this is?*
11. *Raging Fire.*

“The Striking Calamity; what is the Striking Calamity? and what will explain to you what the Striking Calamity is?” The Sura starts with a single word like a single projectile being thrown. The word, *“The Striking Calamity,”* is thrown without an explanation, then it is repeated again to maximize the effect of the strike. The answer then comes, *“(It is) a Day when people will be like scattered moths; and the mountains will be like tufted wool.”* This is the first scene. It is a scene that makes the hearts fly and makes the limbs shake. Then the end result is explained, *“Then, he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) heavy; he will live a pleasant life. But he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) light; his abode will be the abyss. And what will explain to you what this is? Raging Fire.”* The terms heavy and light indicates that God has standards; certain values are important and others are not in the sight of God. Those who will come to the Day of Judgment with heavy weighted deeds will have a pleasant life. No details were given about what is involved in the pleasant life. Using such a term without specifying any details opens the imagination for a life full of the best kind of bliss.

But those who bring light weighted deeds, their abode will be the abyss. What does that mean? It means raging fire.