

# Free Choice

Translation by M. A. S. ABDEL HALEEM

*I swear by the planets that recede, move, and hide, by the night that descends, by the dawn that softly breathes: this is the speech of a noble messenger, who possesses great strength and is held in honor by the Lord of the Throne— he is obeyed there and worthy of trust. Your companion is not mad: he did see him on the clear horizon. He does not withhold what is revealed to him from beyond. This is not the word of an outcast devil.*

*So where are you [people] going? This is a message for all people; for those who wish to take the straight path. But you will only wish to do so by the will of God, the Lord of all people. (81:15-29)*



فَلَا أُقْسِمُ بِالْخُنَّسِ (81:15) وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا عَسْعَسَ  
(81:17) وَالصُّبْحِ إِذَا تَنَفَّسَ (81:18) إِنَّهُ لَقَوْلُ  
رَسُولٍ كَرِيمٍ (81:19) ذِي قُوَّةٍ عِنْدَ ذِي الْعَرْشِ  
مَكِينٍ (81:20) مُطَاعٍ ثَمَّ أَمِينٍ (81:21)  
وَمَا صَاحِبُكُمْ بِمَجْنُونٍ (81:22) وَلَقَدْ رَآهُ بِالْأُفُقِ  
الْمُبِينِ (81:23) وَمَا هُوَ عَلَى الْغَيْبِ بِضَنِينٍ (81:24)  
وَمَا هُوَ بِقَوْلِ شَيْطَانٍ رَجِيمٍ (81:25) فَأَيْنَ  
تَذَهَبُونَ (81:26) إِنْ هُوَ إِلَّا ذِكْرٌ لِلْعَالَمِينَ (81:27)  
لِمَنْ شَاءَ مِنْكُمْ أَنْ يَسْتَقِيمَ (81:28) وَمَا  
تَشَاؤُونَ إِلَّا أَنْ يَشَاءَ اللَّهُ رَبُّ الْعَالَمِينَ (81:29)