

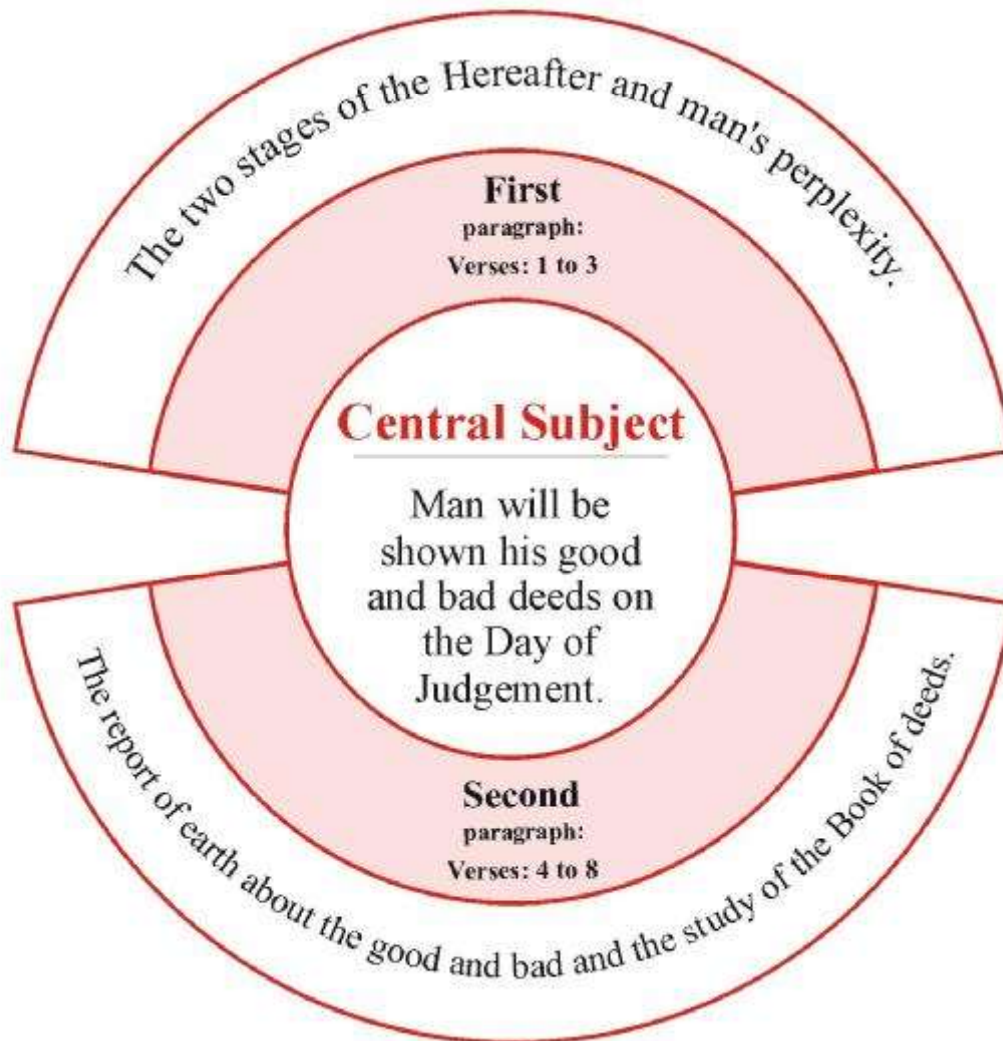
Flow Chart of Macro-Structure of Soorah Az-Zilzaal

99 - Soorah Az-Zilzaal

Makkan

Verses: 8

Paragraphs: 2



• **Period of revelation:**

Soorah Az-Zilzaal, probably, was revealed during the first phase of prophet's stay in Makkah (0 to 3 prophet-hood), when the invitation of Islam was being given secretly and when short, strong and comprehensive soorahs were being revealed in an excellent literary style.

The relationship of soorah Az-Zilzaal with the Book

- 1- In the previous soorah (Al-Bayyinah), those who accepted the invitation of Muhammad (pbuh) were called the best of all the creatures and those who rejected his invitation were called the worst of all the creatures and they were threatened with the punishment of Hell. Here, in soorah Az-Zilzaal, the stage before the punishment of Hell is mentioned. It is the stage of accountability when all the people whether they accepted or rejected the invitation will see their good and bad deeds in their books of deeds.
- 2- In the previous soorah (Al-Bayyinah), the argument was completed for the people of the Book and the polytheists in this world. Here, in soorah Az-Zilzaal it has been told that the people will be shown their books of deeds before the reward and punishment and thus the argument will be completed against them on the Day of Judgement as well.

Important Key words and Subjects

- 1- ﴿أَشْتَاتًا﴾ "Ashtaatan": (diverse, scattered): This word is used to explain the reality that on the Day of Judgement people will come before Allah with different and diverse creeds and deeds based on evil and virtue. (Verse: 6)
- 2- The picture of scenes of Day of Judgement has been painted in this soorah and it has been told that people will be shown their good and bad deeds. So the following words have been used for this purpose: ﴿يُرَوُّوْا أَعْمَالَهُمْ﴾ "To be shown their deeds." (Verse: 6) ﴿يَرَوْنَهَا﴾ "Shall see it" (Verse: 7, 8)

The Macro-structure of soorah Az-Zilzaal

Soorah Az-Zilzaal consists of two paragraphs.

- 1- Verses: 1 to 3: The picture of the two stages of the Hereafter has been painted in the first paragraph.

﴿إِذَا زُلْزِلَتِ الْأَرْضُ زِلْزَالَهَا﴾ "When the earth will be shaken to her utmost convulsion." (Verse: 1)

﴿وَأَخْرَجَتِ الْأَرْضُ أَثْقَالَهَا﴾ "And the earth shall bring out all her inner burdens." (Verse: 2)

﴿وَقَالَ الْإِنْسَانُ مَا لَهَا﴾ "Man shall say: 'What is happening to her'." (Verse: 3)

At the first stage, the earthquake will shake the whole earth and at the second stage the earth will burst open and all the dead will come out. The earth will tell what was done on its surface. The picture of man's bewilderment, wonder, fear and perplexity at this occasion has been painted.

2- Verses: 4 to 8: In the second paragraph, it is mentioned that people will be shown their Book of deeds before the Judgement.

﴿يَوْمَئِذٍ تُحَدِّثُ أَخْبَارَهَا﴾ “On that Day, she will report whatever had happened on her.” (Verse: 4)

﴿بِأَن رَّبِّكَ أَوْحَىٰ لَهَا﴾ “For your Lord shall have commanded her (to do so).” (Verse:5)

﴿يَوْمَئِذٍ يَصُدُّ النَّاسَ أَسْفَاطًا، لِّيُرَوَّا أَعْمَالَهُمْ﴾ “On that Day, men shall proceed in sorted out groups to be shown their Book of Deeds.” (Verse: 6)

﴿فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ خَيْرًا يَرَهُ﴾ “Then, whoever has done an atom's weight of good shall see it there.” (Verse: 7)

﴿وَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ شَرًّا يَرَهُ﴾ “And whoever has done an atom's weight of evil shall see it there.” (Verse: 8)

The earth will be given the power to speak by Allah and it will tell the true events which happened on it.

People will come to Allah in diverse conditions with their good and bad deeds and will see their virtues and evils in their Book of Deeds with their own eyes in order that the argument is completed against them.

Central Subject

To complete the argument against him, man will be shown all his virtues and vices on the Day of Judgement before the decision of Paradise or Hell is made for him.

