93 | Surah al-Duha

سورة الضحى

11 Ayat

Parent's tafsir: adapted from Ibn Kathir
Tafsir al-Qur'an al-'Azim · 93:1–11

Background and Revelation

Al-Duha brings reassurance to the Prophet ﷺ and recalls Allah's care throughout his life. Ibn Kathir records Jundub's authentic report concerning a pause in revelation and the hostile claim that the Prophet ﷺ had been abandoned. The surah answers that claim, promises further goodness and recalls earlier favours. It then directs the response to those favours towards kindness and gratitude. The parent should understand that the opening reassurance addresses the Messenger ﷺ, while the later commands also teach how received mercy should shape one's treatment of others.

Tafsir of the Surah

Ayat 1–3: The reassurance of the Lord. Ibn Kathir explains al-duha through the light of the morning and the stillness of night as its darkness settles. These signs point to their Creator's power. The declaration that follows rejects abandonment and hatred: the Prophet's ﷺ Lord has neither left him nor detested him. The pause in revelation did not support the hostile interpretation placed upon it.

Ayat 4–5: Better things to come. Ibn Kathir explains the Hereafter as better for the Prophet ﷺ than this worldly life. He connects this with the Prophet's ﷺ lack of attachment to the world and his choice of what was with Allah. The following promise concerns the gifts and honour Allah would grant until he was satisfied. The reassurance is grounded in Allah's generosity and the enduring life to come.

Ayah 6: Shelter after orphanhood. Ibn Kathir recalls the Prophet's ﷺ loss of his parents and the care provided through his grandfather and then his uncle. He also describes the support and protection that later surrounded his mission. These means were part of Allah's care and wise arrangement. The question invites recognition of protection already received, preparing for the command to show kindness to the orphan.

Ayat 7–8: Guidance and provision. Ibn Kathir connects the gift of guidance with al-Shura 42:52, which describes revelation as a light and states that the Prophet ﷺ had not previously known the Book. He explains the gift of sufficiency after poverty as Allah freeing him from dependence on others. The passage recalls gifts of guidance and provision as reasons to recognise and thank the One who gave them.

93 | Surah al-Duha

سورة الضحى

11 Ayat

Parent's tafsir: adapted from Ibn Kathir
Tafsir al-Qur'an al-'Azim · 93:1–11

Tafsir of the Surah · Continued

Ayat 9–11: Mercy and gratitude in conduct. Ibn Kathir explains the command concerning the orphan through gentle treatment rather than humiliation or harshness. He records explanations of the petitioner that include someone seeking knowledge or material help. The final command is to speak of Allah's favour with gratitude; his commentary includes the gifts of prophethood and the Qur'an. The conclusion turns remembered care into responsibility: kindness towards the vulnerable and thankful acknowledgement of the Lord's gifts.

93 Surah al-Duha

سورة الضحى

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَٰنِ الرَّحِيمِ

١ وَٱلضُّحَىٰ

Memorised

By the morning light.

٢ وَٱلَّيْلِ إِذَا سَجَىٰ

Memorised

And the night as it settles.

٣ مَا وَدَّعَكَ رَبُّكَ وَمَا قَلَىٰ

Memorised

Your Lord did not abandon you, nor did He forget.

٤ وَلَلْـَٔاخِرَةُ خَيْرٌ لَّكَ مِنَ ٱلْأُولَىٰ

Memorised

The Hereafter is better for you than the First.

٥ وَلَسَوْفَ يُعْطِيكَ رَبُّكَ فَتَرْضَىٰٓ

Memorised

And your Lord will give you, and you will be satisfied.

٦ أَلَمْ يَجِدْكَ يَتِيمًا فَـَٔاوَىٰ

Memorised

Did He not find you orphaned, and sheltered you?

93 | Surah al-Duha

سورة الضحى

Memorisation · Continued

٧ وَوَجَدَكَ ضَآلًّا فَهَدَىٰ

Memorised

And found you wandering, and guided you?

٨ وَوَجَدَكَ عَآئِلًا فَأَغْنَىٰ

Memorised

And found you in need, and enriched you?

٩ فَأَمَّا ٱلْيَتِيمَ فَلَا تَقْهَرْ

Memorised

Therefore, do not mistreat the orphan.

١٠ وَأَمَّا ٱلسَّآئِلَ فَلَا تَنْهَرْ

Memorised

Nor rebuff the seeker.

١١ وَأَمَّا بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ فَحَدِّثْ

Memorised

But proclaim the blessings of your Lord.

Parent tafsir: adapted from Ibn Kathir, Tafsir al-Qur'an al-'Azim, 93:1–11.
Arabic commentary: quran.ksu.edu.sa/tafseer/katheer/sura93-aya1.html
Revelation report: Sahih al-Bukhari 4950, cited by Ibn Kathir.
Translation by Talal Itani, ClearQuran.com · wording unchanged · CC BY-ND 4.0.
Reuse permissions: clearquran.com/download/