



ANSWER

وَمَشْهُودٍ

and that which is attended [85:3]



COMMENTARY

(and by the Promised Day, and by that which attends, and that which is attended... 85:2,3)

With reference to a prophetic Hadith reported by Tirmidhī, the phrase 'the Promised Day' refers to the Day of Judgement; the phrase 'that which attends' refers to 'Friday'; and the phrase 'that which is attended' refers to the day of 'Arafah'. Thus in this verse, Allah has taken oath by four objects: [1] 'the sky, the one having stellar formations'; [2] 'the Day of Judgement'; [3] 'Friday'; and [4] 'the Day of 'Arafah'. The relationship between the objects of oath and the subject of oath is as follows: They bear evidence to the Divine omnipotence, and they are a proof of reckoning and reward and punishment on the Day of Judgement. Friday and the day of 'Arafah (the main day of Hajj that is 9th Zul-Hijjah of the Islami[c] Calendar) are blessed days for the believers to accumulate treasures for the Hereafter. Further, the subject of oath curses the infidels who burned the Muslims on account of their faith, and gives cheerful news to the righteous believers of securing elevated ranks in the Hereafter.

TAFSĪR IBN KATHĪR

The Explanation of the Promised Day and the Witness and the Witnessed

Allah says, **(And by the Promised Day. And by the Witness, and by the Witnessed.)** Ibn Abi Hatim recorded from Abu Hurayrah that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, (And by the Promised Day.) (This refers to the Day of Judgement. (And by the Witness.) This refers to Friday, and the sun does not rise or set on a day that is better than Friday. During it there is an hour that no Muslim servant catches while asking Allah from some good except that Allah will give it to him. He does not seek refuge from any evil in it except that Allah will protect him. (And by the Witnessed.) (This refers to the day of 'Arafah (in Hajj)).) Ibn Khuzaymah also recorded the same Hadith. It has also been recorded as a statement of Abu Hurayrah and it is similar (to this Hadith).

And Allah Ta'ālā knows best.

