

Surah 17. Al-Israa

Asad: or thou have a garden of date-palms and vines and cause rivers to gush forth in their midst in a sudden rush,¹⁰⁷

Malik: or until a garden of date-palms and grapes be created for you and you cause rivers to flow in it;

Pickthall: Or thou have a garden of date palms and grapes, and cause rivers to gush forth therein abundantly;

Yusuf Ali: "Or (until) thou have a garden of date trees and vines and cause rivers to gush forth in their midst carrying abundant water;"²²⁹³

Transliteration: Aw takoona laka jannatun min nakheelin waAAinabin fatufajjira alanhara khilalaha tafjeeran

Khattab:

or until you have a garden of palm trees and vineyards, and cause rivers to flow abundantly in it,

Author Comments

107 - This seems to be a derisory allusion to the allegory of paradise so often mentioned in the Qur'an.

2293 - This ill-assorted and crude jumble of the sort of miracles which the Unbelievers wanted is in very appropriate contrast to the sober and reasoned argument which has begun in the last sentence of verse 93 and continued in sections 11 and 12, which close this Sura. It is throughout reminiscent of the materialistic imagination of Jewish sceptics, which was mainly responsible for the fall of the Jewish nation (see verse 104 below). For a thirsty people sojourning in a dry land, the finding of a spring of water as in the story of Moses or of the well of Zamzam is an appropriate miracle. But miracles are not for faithless crowds to gape at. A beautiful well-watered Garden is a symbol of Felicity: but a sceptic cannot order Allah to produce it for his pleasure. The same may be said about a house adorned with gold, except that its symbolism is even more materialistic. The fall of the sky or producing Allah face to face or climbing to the skies by a ladder, or bringing down a book of parchment which men could handle, are all irreverent suggestions that make no distinction between spiritual and material things.

[View Page](#)

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