

## Sūratu l-Kāfirūn – The Disbelievers – سُورَةُ الْكَافِرُونَ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قُلْ يَتَّيِبُهَا الْكَافِرُونَ ۝ لَا أَعْبُدُ مَا تَعْبُدُونَ ۝ وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ ۝ وَلَا أَنَا عَابِدٌ مَّا عَبَدْتُمْ ۝ وَلَا أَنْتُمْ عَابِدُونَ مَا أَعْبُدُ ۝ لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ وَلِيَ دِينِ ۝

In the name of Allāh, the Unimaginably Merciful, the All-Merciful:

<sup>1</sup> Say [Prophet], ‘Disbelievers: <sup>2</sup> I do not worship what you worship, <sup>3</sup> you do not worship what I worship, <sup>4</sup> I will never worship what you worship, <sup>5</sup> you will never worship what I worship: <sup>6</sup> you have your religion and I have mine.’

[M. A. S. Abdel Haleem]

## Vocabulary Words

worshipper [1 M]	عَابِدٌ	O [3+]	يَتَّيِبُهَا
you worshipped [3+ M]	عَبَدْتُمْ	disbelievers [3+ M]	الْكَافِرُونَ
for you [3+ M]	لَكُمْ	I worship	أَعْبُدُ
for me	لِي	you worship [3+ M]	تَعْبُدُونَ
religion	دِينِ	worshippers [3+ M]	عَابِدُونَ

## Short-Answer Questions

- Is this a مَكِّيَّة or a مَدِينِيَّة sūrah? What does that mean?
  - This sūrah is مَكِّيَّة , meaning it was revealed **1)** while the Prophet Muḥammad, صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ , was residing in Makkah, **2)** in the first 13 years of receiving waḥy (revelation), **3)** before the hijrah (migration).
- How does this sūrah connect to the one before it, al-Kawthar? Write two connections.

Connection	al-Kawthar	al-Kāfirūn
a.	In this sūrah, the disbelievers called the Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam, one who is cut off (‘abtar) to insult him.	In this sūrah, Allāh says to call them disbelievers (kāfirūn) to criticize them.

b.	The disbelievers' insult ('abtar) was not even true. In reality, there was nothing by which to criticize the Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu 'alayhi wa sallam.	Calling them disbelievers (kāfirūn) mentions a true crime, which they are guilty of committing.
c.	Allāh mentions these people as being the worst kind of enemies (shāni'aka).	Allāh clarifies that the worst enemy to the Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu 'alayhi wa sallam, were those who disbelieved in him from Quraysh (kāfirūn).

3. What is one reason why this sūrah was revealed?

- a. The disbelievers of Quraysh (kāfirūn) tried to compromise with the Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu 'alayhi wa sallam. They asked him if they could worship their idols for one year then worship Allāh for one year. This was Allāh's response to their proposition.

4. About whom is this sūrah speaking (kāfirūn)?

- a. This is not for all disbelievers like our neighbors, the Jews, and the Christians.
- b. This is speaking about a special group of people who received Allāh's favors and blessings for generations. Then they heard Allāh's revelation (the Qur'ān) delivered directly from His messenger, ṣalla l-lāhu 'alayhi wa sallam, and heard it with their own ears, but they still disbelieved.

5. What does this sūrah teach us about how we should practice our religion?

- a. We should be firm about not changing the core and pillars of 'Islām, but when we speak to people about these things we should be polite, as the Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu 'alayhi wa sallam, was.