

Allah SWT says in Surah Al Zumar, ayah 71:

وَسِيقَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا إِلَىٰ جَهَنَّمَ زُمَرًا ۖ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا جَاءُوهَا فَفُتِحَتْ أَبْوَابُهَا وَقَالَ لَهُمْ خَزَنَتُهَا أَلَمْ يَأْتِكُمْ رُسُلٌ مِّنكُمْ يَتْلُونَ
عَلَيْكُمْ آيَاتِ رَبِّكُمْ وَيُنذِرُونَكُمْ لِقَاءَ يَوْمِكُمْ هَٰذَا قَالُوا بَلَىٰ وَلَكِن حَقَّتْ كَلِمَةُ الْعَذَابِ عَلَى الْكَافِرِينَ

And those who disbelieved will be driven to Hell in groups until, when they reach it, its gates are opened and its keepers will say, "Did there not come to you messengers from yourselves, reciting to you the verses of your Lord and warning you of the meeting of this Day of yours?" They will say, "Yes, but the word of punishment has come into effect upon the disbelievers.

And Allah SWT says in Ayah 73 Surah Al Zumar Ayah 73:

وَسِيقَ الَّذِينَ اتَّقَوْا رَبَّهُمْ إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ زُمَرًا حَتَّىٰ إِذَا جَاءُوهَا وَفُتِحَتْ أَبْوَابُهَا وَقَالَ لَهُمْ خَزَنَتُهَا سَلَامٌ عَلَيْكُمْ طِبْتُمْ فَادْخُلُوهَا خَالِدِينَ

The question is about (حتى إذا جاؤوها فتحت) in Ayah 71 and (حتى إذا جاءوها وفتحت) in ayah 73. There is (و) before (فتحت) in Ayah 73 and there is no (و) before (فتحت) in ayah 71.

Why is that and what does the (و) mean in Ayah 73?

AssalamuAlaikum,

Good job on the part of the participants digging deep into the art of Arabic Language.

The question is about (حتى إذا جاؤوها فتحت) in Ayah 71 and (حتى إذا جاءوها وفتحت) in ayah 73. There is (و) before (فتحت) in Ayah 73 and there is no (و) before (فتحت) in ayah 71

There are two aspects to the answer with respect to the (و) as mentioned in Ayah 73 from Surah Al Zumar.

The sentence in Ayah 71 of Surah Al Zumar that says (حتى إذا جاؤوها فتحت ابوابها). The doors of hell fire are closed. When the Kuffar come to the doors of hell fire, they open when they arrive. This sense is a conditional sentence. When they arrive, the doors of hell fire open for them.

As for Ayah 73 that says (حتى إذا جاؤوها و فتحت ابوابها). Now the ayah is talking about the believers when they come to Jannah. The (و) means that the doors have already been opened for them in advance in preparation for their arrival. This is out of respect and to honor them that the doors have been opened in advance for them. The other aspect here is that there is no conditional sentence here and that serves the purpose of glorifying the believers. The resulting verb of the conditional sentence was omitted to show the honor to the believers. This also serves the purpose of the greatness of the reward. There is no limit to the resulting condition. In the first ayah 71, when the kuffar come to hell fire, the resulting condition is the doors open to enter hell fire. The second ayah, the (و) eliminates the resulting condition of the stipulation verb, which means the result is unlimited to the believers. Subhan Allah. May Allah make us among the believers who enter paradise...Ameen.