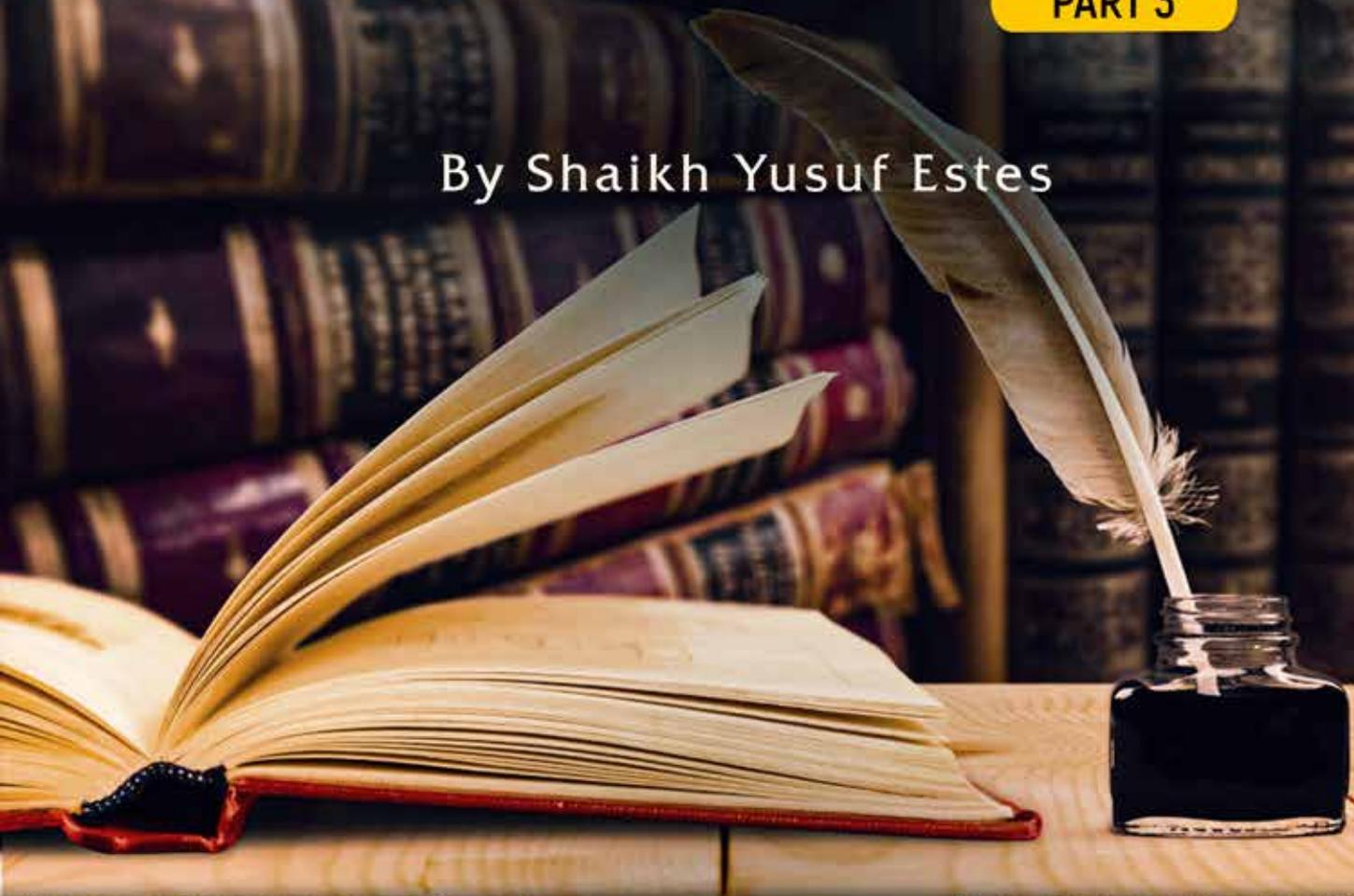


STUDY GUIDE

STORIES OF THE PROPHETS

PART 3

By Shaikh Yusuf Estes



AL HIDAAYAH

الهداية

The Guidance for Humanity

Based on the Glorious Qur'an and Authentic Hadith

From the series: Stories of the Prophets

COURSE OUTLINE



Course Topics

1. How did Shirk creep in the society of Prophet Nuh (pbuh)
2. The story of Prophet Nuh (pbuh)
3. Lessons learnt from the story of Nuh (pbuh)
4. Story of Prophet Ibraheem (pbuh)
5. Story of Isma'eel (pbuh) and the emergence of ZamZam
6. Story of Prophet Lut (pbuh)
7. Story of Prophet Yunus (pbuh)
8. Story of Prophet Hud (pbuh)
9. Story of Prophet Salih (pbuh) and the She-camel
10. Story of Ibraheem (pbuh) and the idols
11. Ibraheem's (pbuh) interaction with Nimrood
12. The sacrifice of Isma'eel (pbuh)
13. Yusuf (pbuh) thrown into the well
14. Story of Yusuf (pbuh) and the Aziz
15. Yusuf (pbuh) and the interpretation of dreams in prison

COURSE OUTLINE



Course Objectives

1. Draw lessons from the stories and the lives of the Prophets (pbut)
2. Learn about the fate of the people who denied the message of their Prophets (pbut)
3. To emulate the Prophets (pbut) in their manners and character

Question & Answer Bucket

Transcripts

Assessment

Multiple Choice Questions

Match the Columns

True or False

Course Duration

Video - 2 hours 20 min

Study Guide - 45 min

Assessment - 10 min

Total Duration - 3 hours 15 min



LESSON 1

THE LIFE AND STORY OF PROPHET NUH (PBUH)



1

How did Shirk creep in the society of Prophet Nuh (pbuh)

As evil creeps in the society in stages, the Shirk and disbelief that the people of Nuh (pbuh) indulged in also started in stages.

Initially, the people were righteous and followed the teachings of Adam (pbuh), 'Laa Ilaha Illallah' (There is no god but Allah (swt)) and worshipped Allah (swt) only.

One amongst the righteous was a man named Waddan, who was loved and praised by everyone due to his kindness and charity.





When he passed away, the Shaitaan whispered to the people and tricked them into keeping pictures and statues of Waddan in their homes and meeting places so that they could remember him and his acts of kindness and charity.

However, when the first generation passed away, their children didn't know the reason for having Waddan's pictures in every place, which led them to think that he was a revered person and began asking favours of him and the same continued with their children.



They gradually forgot Allah (swt) and indulged in worshipping statues and pictures of different righteous people.



2

The story of Prophet Nuh (pbuh)

The people at the time of Nuh (pbuh) were very evil and wanted everything for themselves. The few rich people of the society oppressed and harassed the poor.

When Nuh (pbuh) was inspired by Allah (swt) and sent to preach His message, he argued with them using his intellect and showed them the various signs of Allah in the universe.





They were shocked when they heard the message because they hadn't heard something like this before. The poor of the society accepted the message because Nuh (pbuh) preached about kindness and equality for everyone.

Nuh (pbuh) tried using different methods and ways to convince them, but the rich people refused to accept his message because they didn't want to be equals with the poor people.



He preached them with proofs and signs from Allah (swt) for almost 1000 years, but still they refused to accept his message due to their arrogance and pride.

In fact, they challenged him to bring punishment upon them for not accepting his message if he was a true messenger.



When Allah (swt) inspired him to build an Ark, Nuh (pbuh) warned his people about the great flood that was about to come down upon them as a punishment for their disbelief.

However, they laughed at him and made fun when he started to build the ship because they thought that nothing was going to happen.

Allah (swt) inspired him to get all the righteous people, and animals in pairs of two in the Ark.



When all the believers had entered the Ark, Allah (swt) gradually sent down rain from the sky as a warning to the unbelievers.

When the unbelievers were adamant in their disbelief, the rains increased, and water gushed out of the earth too.



Nuh (pbuh) called out to his son and wife too, but they too were adamant in their disbelief and remained with the unbelievers thinking they would be able to save themselves from Allah's punishment.

The rains increased and water gushed forth from the earth causing the Ark to lift up and sail like in an ocean.

All the unbelievers drowned, while the believers were safe in the Ark with Nuh (pbuh), and finally after a long time, the water came down and Allah (swt) caused the ship to stop over Mount Judi.





3

Lessons learnt from the story of Nuh (pbuh)

Among the lessons learnt from the story of Nuh (pbuh) are –

- i** Knowledge based on truth is a good way to have the right beliefs.
- ii** The Prophets (pbuh) taught people about the importance of justice and fair treatment towards everyone. No one shall be judged on the basis of their wealth or status, but only on the basis of their beliefs and actions.
- iii** Prophet Nuh (pbuh) preached about showing gratitude to Allah by sharing your wealth and blessings with others.





LESSON 2

STORIES OF
PROPHET IBRAHEEM,
LUT & ISMA'EEL (PBUT)



4

Story of Prophet Ibraheem (pbuh)

After the people of Nuh (pbuh) were punished for their disbelief, people believed in the message preached by Nuh (pbuh) for a long time. However, as people began to spread out to different places, disbelief, and the whisperings of the Shaitaan crept back into the people slowly.

SATAN



Among the descendants of Nuh (pbuh) was Prophet Ibraheem (pbuh), whose father was a statue and idol maker.

Ibraheem (pbuh) knew about the truth and hated the idols and statutes that his father made and tried to convince and explain his people about the futility of believing in them.

After Ibraheem (pbuh) destroyed the statutes, he had to leave his home and travel to Egypt because his people and the King Nimrood didn't want him to live in their kingdom.





5

Story of Isma'eel (pbuh) and the emergence of ZamZam

When Ibraheem (pbuh) travelled to Egypt, he met some of the descendants of the children of Adam (pbuh).

Also, the king of Egypt gifted Ibraheem (pbuh) some sheep and a girl named Hajar.



Ibraheem (pbuh) married Hajar (pbuh) and they had a child named Isma'eel (pbuh).

Allah (swt) tested Ibraheem (pbuh) by commanding him to leave Hajar and Isma'eel (pbuh) in the desert of Makkah all alone.



When Hajar (pbuh) couldn't find water for Isma'eel (pbuh), she ran back and forth hoping to find water between Safa and Marwa seven times. After running back and forth between Safa and Marwa, Allah (swt) caused water to gush forth from the ground where Isma'eel (pbuh) was lying.



Hajar (pbuh) collected the water and made a boundary around it to prevent it from overflowing and spreading all over by saying ZamZam.

After knowing about the water, nomads and tribals asked for Hajar's (pbuh) permission and started settling around with them. As Isma'eel (pbuh) got older, he got married and settled around with them in those lands.



6

Story of Prophet Lut (pbuh)

Prophet Lut (pbuh) was a close relative of Prophet Ibraheem (pbuh), and he lived in a strange place called Sodom and Gomorrah.

Even though he had beautiful daughters, the men there were attracted to other men and had no interest in marrying his daughters.

Allah (swt) mentions in the Qur'an (Surah Hud, 11:77-82) the story about how Lut (pbuh) had to deal with his people when he had angels visiting him in the form of men.





He tried to protect his guests by offering them to marry his daughters, but they refused him. He also tried to warn them about Allah's anger and His punishment for their disbelief.

UNBELIEVERS

However, when they refused to acknowledge his teachings and believe in Allah (swt), Lut (pbuh) left the town with his family (except his wife because she was amongst the unbelievers) as he was commanded by Allah (swt), and Allah (swt) punished the unbelievers by raining fire and stones from the sky upon them.

However, when they refused to acknowledge his teachings and believe in Allah (swt), Lut (pbuh) left the town with his family (except his wife because she was amongst the unbelievers) as he was commanded by Allah (swt), and Allah (swt) punished the unbelievers by raining fire and stones from the sky upon them.



LESSON 3

STORY OF PROPHET YUNUS (PBUH)



7

Story of Prophet Yunus (pbuh)

Prophet Yunus (pbuh) was sent as a messenger to the people of Ninevah, and Allah (swt) inspired him as He inspired His other messengers to spread the message of 'La Ilaha Illa Allah' (There is no god but Allah).



Prophet Yunus (pbuh) tried hard to convince his people to believe in his message and also warned them about Allah's punishment if they continued disobedience and didn't believe in the oneness of Allah (swt), but they refused his message and challenged him to bring forth the punishment as the earlier people did with their messengers.



Prophet Yunus (pbuh), disappointed in his people because they refused to accept his message left them without the permission of Allah (swt) and went out into the sea looking for a new home.

When Prophet Yunus (pbuh) got into the boat without the permission of Allah (swt), a storm was caused in the sea, waves splashing the boat around violently and scaring the people onboard. Knowing that such situations occur only when a slave has wronged their master, the people onboard decided to draw lots to find the culprit.



Prophet Yunus' (pbuh) name was chosen multiple times and so he was asked to go off the boat into the sea.

As soon as he went overboard, Allah (swt) had a whale swallowed him off, and the storm calmed down.



Not knowing how to repent for his mistake, Prophet Yunus (pbuh) spent a long time in the belly of the whale, and then Allah (swt) inspired him with a supplication for repentance.



**"There is no god but you: glory to you:
I was indeed wrong!"**

Al Qur'an 21:87

Prophet Yunus (pbuh) realised his mistake and supplicated to Allah (swt) for forgiveness.

As soon as he prayed for forgiveness, Allah (swt) ordered the whale to vomit him out at the shore of his village.



When he gained his energy and returned to his people, he was surprised to see that all of them had accepted the message and had become believers while he was away.

The lesson learnt from the above story is that one's duty is to only convey the message given to them, and the acceptance and guidance of that is in the hands of Allah (swt).



Whoever Allah guides, nobody can misguide them, and whoever Allah lets go astray, nobody can guide them to the truth.



LESSON 4

STORY OF PROPHET HUD (PBUH)

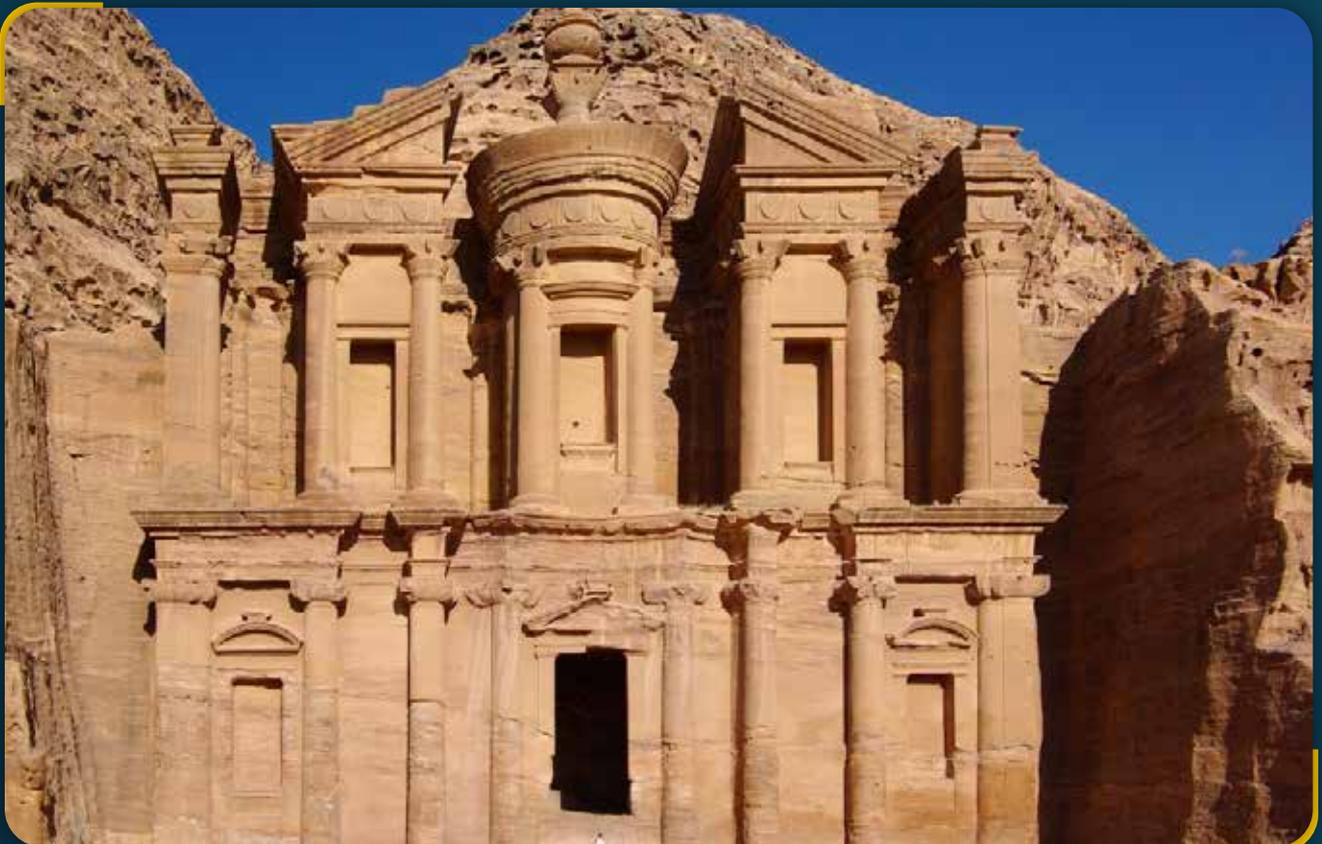


8

Story of Prophet Hud (pbuh)

The people of Sham (from the descendants of Nuh (pbuh) along with the people of Imran migrated away from Babylon after they got into a huge fight with the people of Ham.

They were very strong and powerful people who were proud of themselves. They carved out big buildings and temples and worshipped the moon and the stars along with Allah (swt).





Lying and worshipping others with Allah (swt) breaks down the society and causes people to be jealous and envious of others.

They desired to have what belongs to others through lying, cheating, stealing and even killing on some occasions.

Among all these problems, Allah (swt) sent Prophet Hud (pbuh) as a messenger and guide to his people.

He preached them the same message as all the other prophets before him, 'La Ilaha Illa Allah' (There is no god but Allah).

LA ILAHA ILLA ALLAH.
THERE IS NO GOD BUT ALLAH.

The more he tried to preach them about Allah (swt), the more they got angry and made plans to get rid of him, and only a few of his people believed and followed his message.



Hud (pbuh) warned them about the punishment that would befall them if they didn't believe in Allah (swt) and continued with their evil ways.

Even after several warnings and admonishments, they refused to accept the message of Hud (pbuh), and rather turned more evil and oppressive towards the believers.

They challenged Hud (pbuh) to bring upon the punishment he warned them about if he was a true messenger.

Allah (swt) punished them by sending upon them strong winds which threw them high up in the air and smacked them upon their tents bashing off their heads.

It went right through them and made them hollow like logs and they lay their dead.





9

Story of Prophet Salih (pbuh) and the She-camel

Allah (swt) sent a prophet named Salih (pbuh) to the people of Thamud. He came with the same message as that of every prophet before him, 'La Ilaha Illa Allah' (There is no god but Allah).

Though Allah (swt) had given them lots of blessings, He decided to test them in their belief.

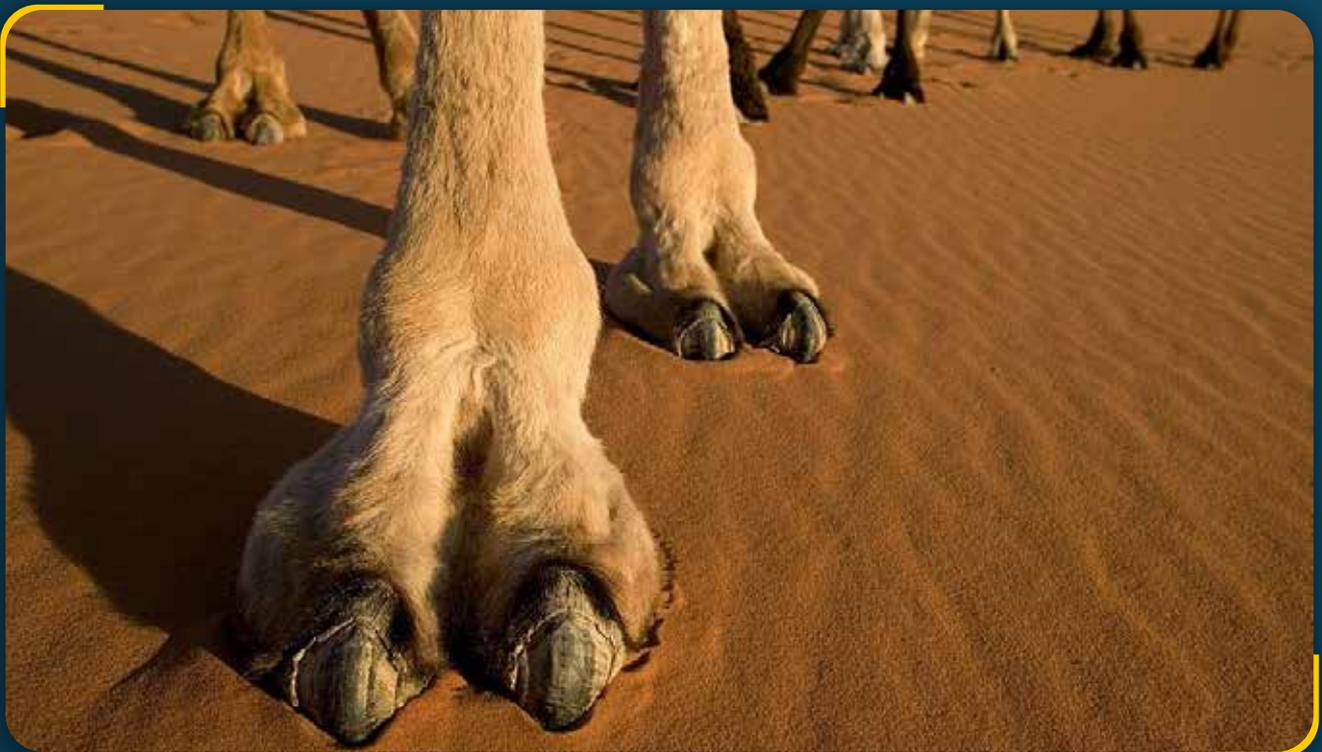
Water was very important for them, and they had huge wells and fissures in the ground for them to draw water for themselves.





While Salih (pbuh) was talking with their leaders and arguing with them intellectually about the message of oneness of Allah and His signs, they made fun of him saying that he was just one of them and not any angel or a messenger.

They challenged him for a miracle, saying that if you can get a she-camel to come out of these mountains, we will believe in you.



Salih (pbuh) agreed to their demands, but also reminded them that there shall be conditions attached to it and one must believe in the message sent to them after seeing the miracle.

Allah (swt) had the mountain split open and a unique 10 months pregnant she-camel emerged out of it.



However, when the miracle of Allah (swt) came, there was a condition attached to it. Salih (pbuh) warned them that the She-camel was a miracle of Allah (swt) and must not be harmed in anyway. He also informed them that they could drink water from the well on alternate days and the She-camel would drink from it on the other alternate days.

However, the disbelieving people did not like these conditions and hated Salih (pbuh) and his message. They planned to get rid of the She-camel even after having warnings from Salih (pbuh).

Nine people gathered from the tribe and planned to hamstring and kill the she-camel so that they can get rid of her.



When Salih (pbuh) came to know that they hamstrung her and bled her to death, he warned them that they shall face the anger and punishment of Allah (swt) because they had harmed his miracle.



They still continued making fun of him and challenged him to bring forth the punishments he kept warning them about it.

After three days had passed by, they were punished by Allah (swt) with thunderbolts from the sky, and earthquakes on the earth at the same time leaving them no place to escape.



LESSON 5

THE STORY OF PROPHET IBRAHEEM (PBUH) AND HIS DA'WAH



10

Story of Ibraheem (pbuh) and the idols

The people at the time of Ibraheem (pbuh) worshipped different objects like stones, moon, sun, and stars.

When Ibraheem (pbuh) was small, he used to play with the idols and asked his father to make idols of different shapes so that he could have fun.



However, when Allah guided Ibraheem (pbuh), he thought that how could such an idol be God when it was created by man himself.



How can they be of any help when they can't even hear you and respond to your prayers?

One day, Ibraheem (pbuh) went into the temple and smashed all their idols except the biggest one and put the axe in its hands.



When the people returned and saw their idols smashed, they were shocked and couldn't understand what had happened.

They remembered that Ibraheem (pbuh) used to complain about their belief in the idols and so they found him and brought him back to the temple.



They questioned him about their idols and who had smashed them, but Ibrahim (pbuh) asked them to question the biggest idol because he was the only one remaining and had the axe in his hands.

Since they knew their idols couldn't speak, they blamed Ibrahim (pbuh) for the act and planned to punish him for his act.



11

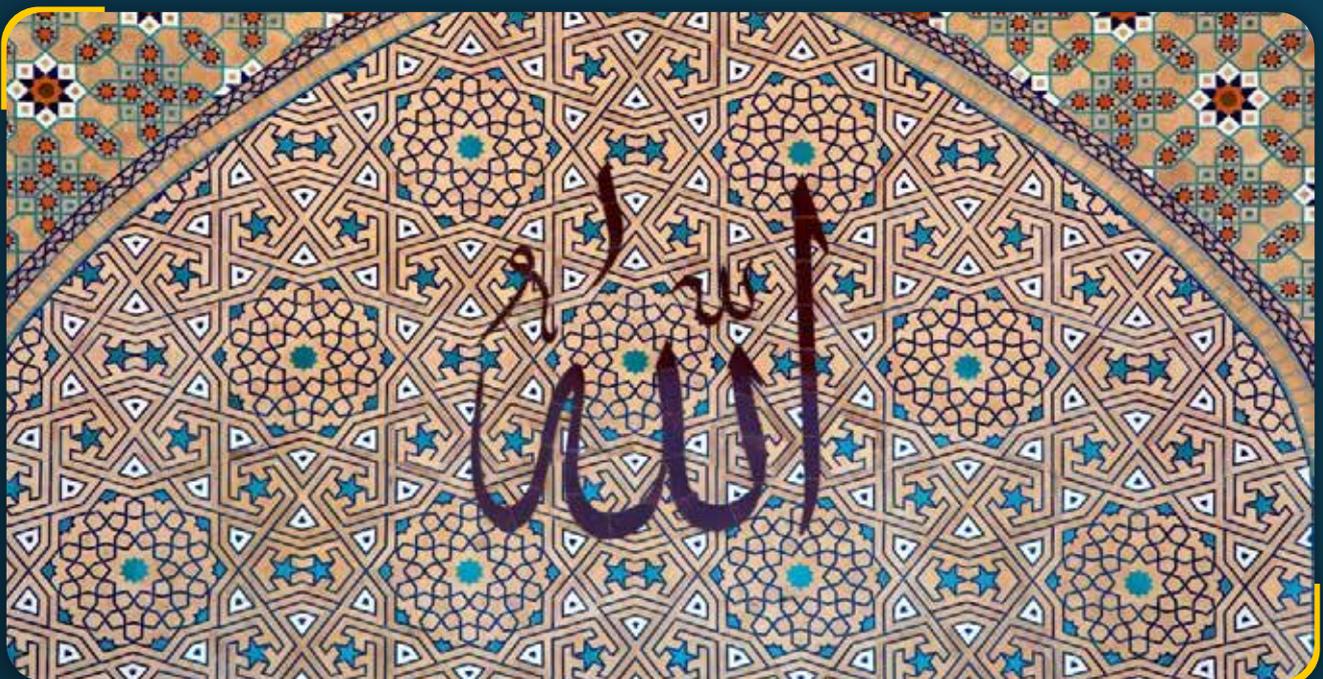
Ibraheem's (pbuh) interaction with Nimrood

Ibraheem's (pbuh) people were upset about his actions towards their idols and wanted him to be punished.

He was summoned by king Nimrood for interrogation and to decide his faith, whether he should be punished in the fire or not.

Ibraheem (pbuh) had discussions with Nimrood about Allah (swt) because Nimrood claimed himself to be God.

When Ibraheem (pbuh) confronted him and claimed that only Allah (swt) can give life and death to people.





Hearing this, Nimrood had two individuals brought before him and had one of them killed and let the other one go claiming that he too can give people life and death.

Sensing Nimrood's behaviour, Ibraheem (pbuh) confronted him with saying that Allah (swt) can have the sun rise from the east and set in the west. If you are capable, have it rise from the west and set in the east.



When Nimrood realised that he was cornered and that he couldn't reply, he had Ibraheem (pbuh) condemned to being punished by fire.

He ordered for a huge fire to be built, something that nobody had seen before. It was so huge that flames were reaching up into the sky higher than one could see, and one couldn't see from end to the other.



They grabbed him to throw him into the fire, and while throwing him into it, they burned themselves too.

But Allah (swt) ordered the fire to be cool and safe for Ibraheem (pbuh) and didn't let any harm come to him.

As for Nimrood, Allah (swt) punished him by having a tiny insect go in through his ear canal and into his nose tract and bite him. It was very painful, and he summoned all his doctors and magicians to help him out with his pain, but none of them could help him with his misery.

The only thing that helped him with his pain temporarily was when they hit him with their wooden shoe on his head.

Eventually, the continuous biting and hitting on the head caused him to die.



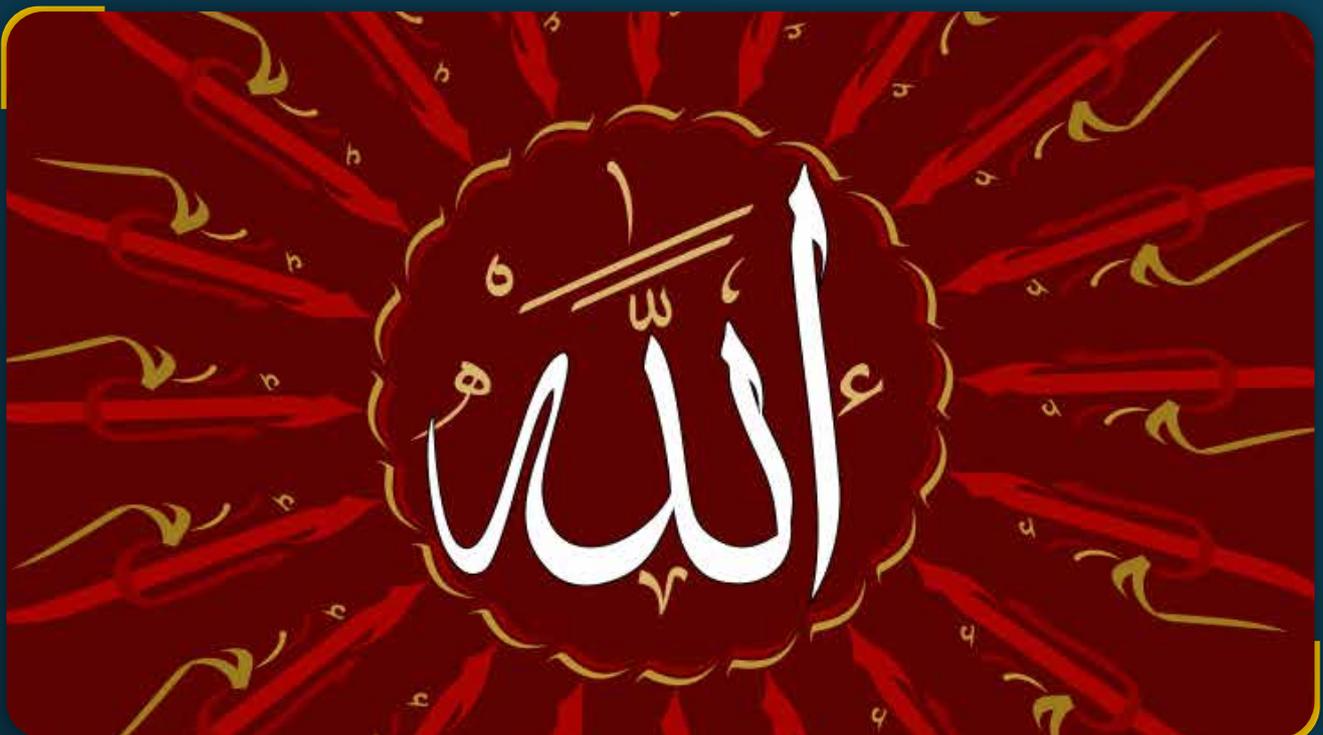
12

The sacrifice of Isma'eel (pbuh)

Ibraheem (pbuh) had to leave his home because the people no longer wanted him amongst them.

When he was in Egypt, he was gifted a girl by the king over there, Hajra (pbuh) – who was his second wife.

When he was about 90 years old, he prayed to Allah (swt) to grant him an offspring, and it was not difficult for Allah (swt) to grant his request because He has power over all things.





Allah (swt) granted his supplication, and they had a child who they named Isma'eel.

When Isma'eel was growing up, Allah (swt) tested Ibraheem in a strange way. He had Ibraheem (pbuh) have a vision of sacrificing his son.

When he took his son for the sacrifice and informed him about his vision, Isma'eel (pbuh) readily agreed to it knowing that it was Allah's command.

When Ibraheem (pbuh) tried to pass the knife across his son's neck, Allah (swt) had a ram placed and it was sacrificed in his place and granted him the reward for completing Allah's (swt) commands.





LESSON 6

STORY OF YUSUF (PBUH)



13

Yusuf (pbuh) thrown into the well

Prophet Yusuf (pbuh) was one of the twelve sons of Yaqoob (pbuh), and among the most loved by him.

When he was very young, Allah gave him a dream where in he saw 11 stars, the sun, and the moon all bowing down to him.

Yaqoob (pbuh) realised that the dream meant Yusuf (pbuh) was destined for prophethood and asked him to abstain from informing anyone about his dream because they may be jealous and try to harm him.



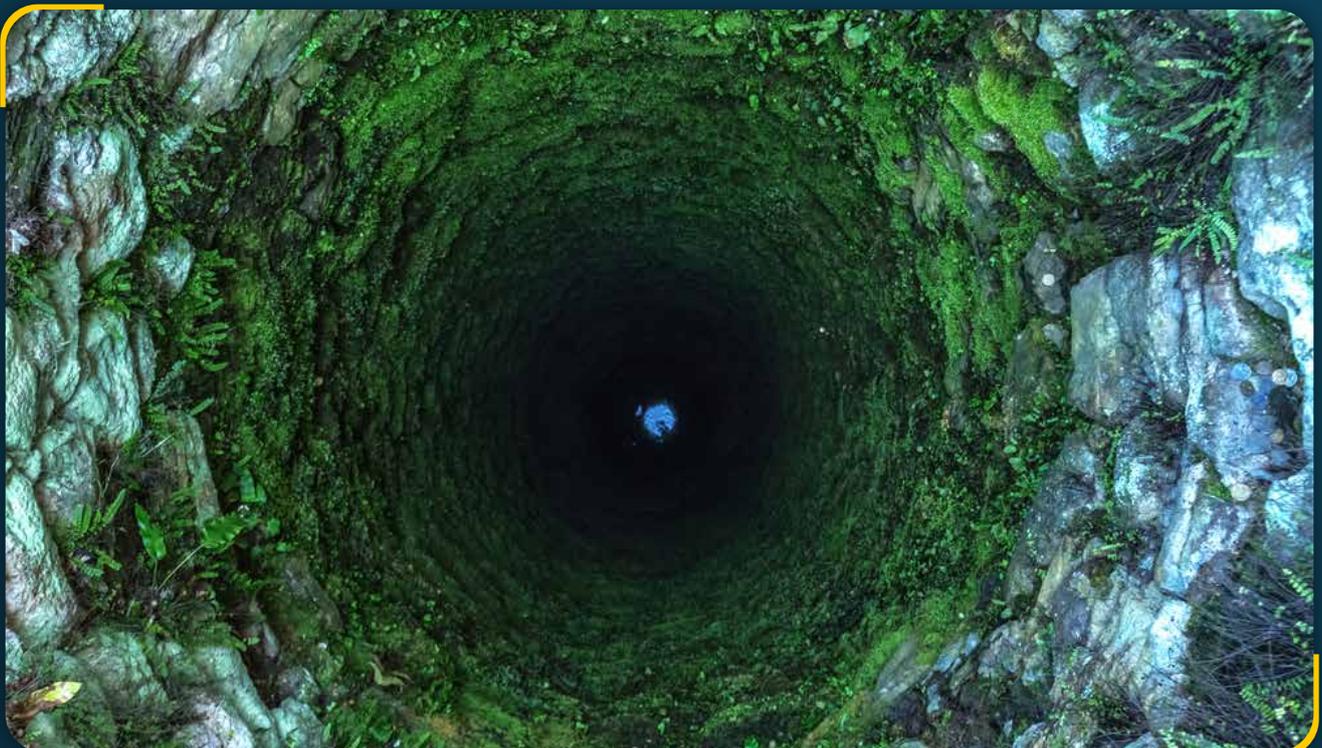


When he was about eighteen years, his brothers out of jealousy tried to come up with ways to get rid of him and gain their father's favour for themselves. After much deliberation, they came up with a plan to throw him in a well so that he could be taken away by a passing caravan.

They went up to their father and tried to excuse with him about letting Yusuf (pbuh) go out with them for an outing and enjoy himself.

They gave him guarantees and assurances that they would take the best care of him and make sure no harm comes to him.

Finally, they convinced him and took Yusuf (pbuh) out with them. While moving around, they found a deep well on a route frequented by caravans and threw him into the well without any means for escaping.





They took his shirt and put some sheep blood on it to convince their father that he was killed and eaten up by a wolf.

Yaqoob (pbuh) was overcome by grief, and he wept for a year out of sorrow for Yusuf (pbuh).



14

Story of Yusuf (pbuh) and the Aziz

A caravan passed by the well in which Yusuf (pbuh) was thrown by his brothers, and they lowered a bucket to draw some water from the well.

Yusuf (pbuh) startled by the bucket coming at him, caught hold of it so that he could be pulled up with it.

When the people of the caravan found him, they were very happy because they could sell him as a slave in the market and earn good money.





He was bought by the Aziz in the slave market and took him home. When the wife of Aziz, Zulekha saw him, she was mesmerised by his beauty and got attracted towards him.

She wanted to hug him and hold him, but since he was a Prophet, he didn't concede to her advances and tried to run away from her. She chased after him and trying to catch him ripped a part of his shirt from the backside.



As soon as Zulekha saw the Aziz to be standing in front of them, she tried to pass the blame on Yusuf (pbuh) and claimed that he tried to attack her, and she ripped a part of his shirt in her self-defense.



Upon hearing his wife's accusations, the Aziz ordered Yusuf (pbuh) to be investigated and imprisoned for his actions, but Allah (swt) helped him clear his name and made it known to everyone that it was the fault of the Aziz's wife and not Yusuf (pbuh).

Meanwhile, since the women of the town had heard the story and made fun of Zulekha, she invited them over for tea to her house to show them the effect Yusuf (pbuh) had on others.

When everyone had come over, she gave each a fruit and a sharp knife to cut it. When they were about to cut the fruit, she summoned Yusuf (pbuh) to her, and the women mesmerised by his beauty ended up cutting their fingers without realising it.



Allah (swt) protected Yusuf (pbuh) against falling into sin and a frustrated Zulekha conspired to send Yusuf (pbuh) to the prison.



15

Yusuf (pbuh) and the interpretation of dreams in prison

When Yusuf (pbuh) was put in prison, he had a couple of guys approach him and narrate their dreams to him.

The first one had a dream that birds had made a nest on his head, and they were eating out of his head, and the second man dreamt that he was serving a cup of wine for the king.

Yusuf (pbuh) explained to them the meaning of their dreams and said that the first prisoner would be executed, and the birds are going to eat the brains out from his head after he's dead, while the second one would be pardoned and go on to serve the king.





He asked the second person to remind the king about him when he's freed and serving the king.

When the decision day arrived, the first individual was executed and the birds ate out his brains, and the second individual was let go and put into the service of the king just as Yusuf (pbuh) had interpreted.

However, the Shaitaan caused the second individual to forget about Yusuf (pbuh) and go about with his services.

The king had a weird dream which frustrated him and kept him awake for nights. He called up his advisers, interpreters, and magicians to help him understand his dream, but it was of no use because they too were confused about the dream.

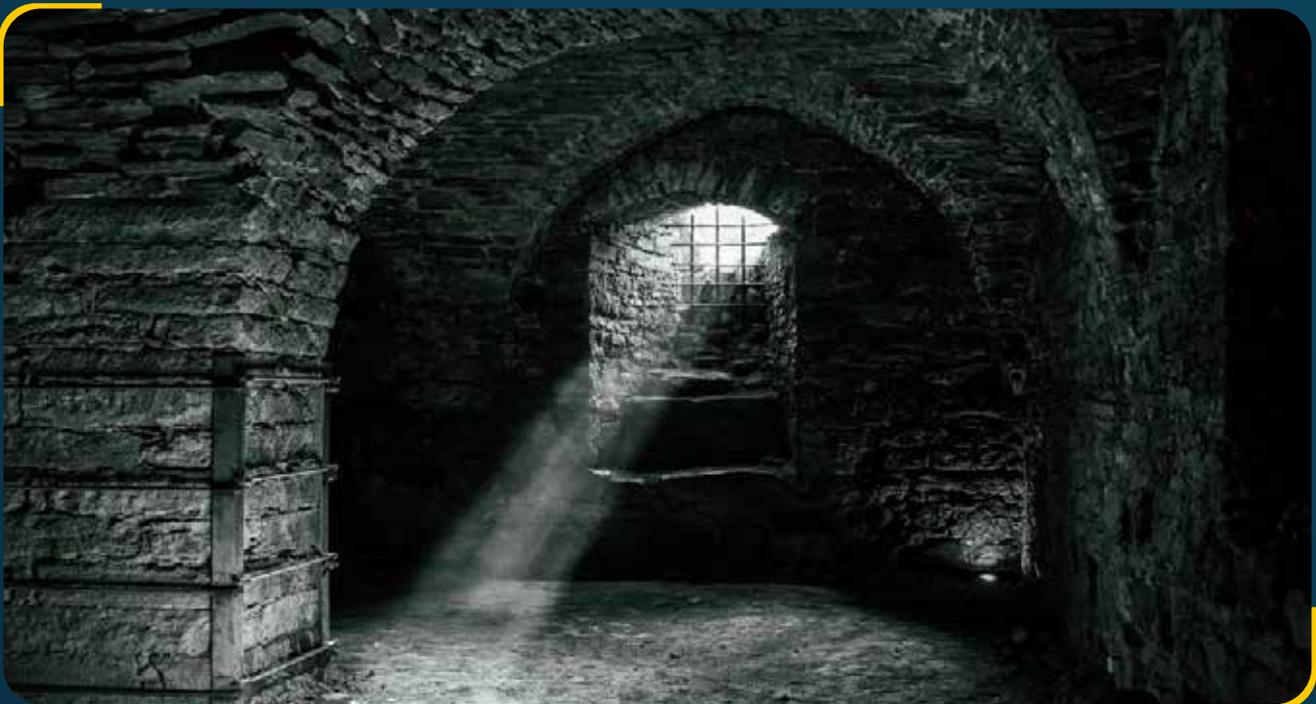




In this moment, the king's cup bearer remembered about Yusuf (pbuh) and mentioned about him to the king.

The king asked him to go and get the dream interpreted by Yusuf (pbuh), but Yusuf (pbuh) refused it until his innocence was proven by the Aziz and his wife.

When the king heard about the incident, they were summoned and asked about the incident, and Zulekha (the Aziz's wife) testified about Yusuf's (pbuh) innocence, and Yusuf (pbuh) was freed and let go after he was proved to be innocent.





QUESTION AND
ANSWER BUCKET



Q1

What is the importance of obedience towards one's parents?

Answer

The real obedience is to Allah (swt), His messenger, and to one's parents. Therefore, obedience to parents is given the utmost importance in the Qur'an after obedience to Allah (swt).

If your parents tell you something, you need to listen to them and obey their commandments if it is in conformity with the commands of Allah (swt) and His messenger.



"Your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him, and that you be kind to parents. Whether one or both of them attain old age in thy life, say not to them a word of contempt, nor repel them, but address them in terms of honour.

And, out of kindness, lower to them the wing of humility, and say: 'My Lord! bestow on them Your Mercy even as they cherished me in childhood.'"

Al Qur'an 17:23-24



Q2

Was the flood in the story of Nuh (pbuh) worldwide?

Answer

Though it may be considered as a good question, such information does not really matter. What matters is that the people didn't obey the message of their prophet and got drowned as a punishment for it.

There are stories all around the world about an ancient flood that came centuries ago, and the world that they knew was underwater because of their disbelief and disobedience to Allah (swt).

Q3

What are some of the sayings of Prophet Idrees (pbuh)?

Answer

Prophet Idrees (pbuh) was one of the prophets of Allah (swt), and therefore was inspired by Him with some excellent sayings.

He said that if you really want to show your gratitude to Allah, for what Allah gives you, you share it with other people.

He also said that a person becomes very happy when they look at their good deeds interceding for them with Allah.

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