

TAFSEER OF QUR'AN PART-8  
BY ASSIM AL HAKEEM

## **Outline of the Course**

1. Righteous deeds that require strong determination
2. Types of patience
3. Purification of the soul
4. Chapter No 92 Suratul Lail
5. Hidayah (guidance)
6. People of Hell
7. People of Paradise
8. Surah Ad-Duha
9. Surah Al-Inshirah
10. Surah At-Teen
11. Surah Al-Alaq
12. Surah Al-Qadr
13. Surah Al-Bayyinah
14. Surah Az-Zalzalah
15. Al-Adiyat

## **Course objectives:**

1. To be aware of the major topics in the Surah of the Makkan period
2. To know the basic beliefs introduced in the early phase of Qur'anic revelation
3. To have a general idea of the meaning of the Surahs from Surah Al Balad to Surah Al Adiyat

## **QUESTION & ANSWER BUCKET**

## **TRANSCRIPTS**

## ASSESSMENT

Multiple Choice Questions

Match the Columns

True or False

## COURSE DURATION

Video	–	2 hours 30 min
Study Guide	–	30 min
Assessment	–	15 min
Total Duration	–	3 hours 15 mins

## Lesson 1: Tafseer of Qur'an Part-43

### 1. Righteous deeds that require strong determination

Towards the end of chapter 90 Surah Al-Balad, where Allah has told us about the great obstacle or the steep path that is hard to do, namely, freeing the slaves, feeding the people, in times of hunger and famine, being kind to the orphans, who are related to you, and to give those who are broke and have nothing in their hands at all. And that you will believe in Allah and you must advise one another, to be patient and to be compassionate.

To be compassionate with kith and kin, with those around us, to love our parents, our siblings, our children, our spouses, to love those who are related to us are acts of great importance and are highly rewarded.

And if we succeed in doing this, we will be among the people who would be given the record books in their right hands and they will enter Paradise, unlike those who have no faith. They will receive their records of deeds in their left hands. These people will have the fire shut over them, with no access to see anything other than fire.

### 2. Purification of the soul

Purification of the soul is the most important message of Surah Ash-Shams. Allah has never sworn with as many things as He did here, and this indicates that Allah wants to assert something very important.

Allah swears by the sun and its brightness, by the moon, as it follows it, by the day as it shows up its brightness, by the night as it conceals [everything], by the heavens and by Him who built it, or the way it is built, by the Earth, and Him who spread it or how it was spread, and by the soul, and Him who perfectly proportioned it, and made clear to it what is right and what is wrong.

Man does not know what is best for man. And that is why man made laws require frequent and regular amendments.

Allah swore by all the above list of things, to affirm that "He has succeeded who purified it (his soul). And indeed he fails who corrupts it" by following his desires and lusts.

Now if you fail to purify yourself, listen to what's happened to the nation's before you. Thamood denied through their transgression. What prevented them from believing? It is their transgression.

The Prophet (pbuh) told us not to enter their homes or their villages except in a state of fear, and while crying and weeping.

Allah sent to them, Saleh, peace be upon him, and they rejected him. And they demanded a miracle. So Allah gave to them a huge she-camel. It came out from a rock without a father, and without a mother. And they did not accept this miracle.

Saleh told them that she drinks from the well alone for a whole day and the following day, you can drink from the well, and she would give you milk that would be sufficient for the whole village.

They belied him and they slaughtered that she-camel and Allah sent over them three punishments: As Sayhah (the awful cry), Ar Rajfah (the quake) and As Saa'qah (the Thunderbolt), three punishment from Allah Azza Wa Jal that completely destroyed them.

Allah so many times, repeats the stories of the previous nations, so that the Prophet Alaihis Salatu Was Salam would be entertained, and he would know that what he is facing is the same thing that all messengers and prophets of Allah had faced before.

## Lesson 2: Tafseer of Qur'an Part-44

### 3. Chapter No 92 Suratul Lail

Allah swears by the night as it envelops, and by the day as it appears in brightness. They are two of His great signs in this universe, and because people see them frequently every single day, they tend to be heedless and not pay any attention. Allah further swears by him who created the male and the female.

Allah makes all these oaths to assert that your efforts are diverse. Some are good and some are evil. Also, they differ in their understanding of the same scriptural text. Bearing this in mind makes us show tolerance while interacting with people.

It should be pointed out that despite this diversity, truth remains one. You cannot have opposing views and yet consider them all to be correct.

Now Allah speaks about how diverse the endeavour of people, saying, as for him who gives (in charity) and keeps his duty to Allah and fears Him and believes in Al Husna, we will make smooth for him the path of ease.

To believe in Al Husna is to believe in what Allah has in store for His people.

Allah further says, "But he who is greedy, miser and thinks himself self-sufficient and does not believe in Al Husna -- meaning that he does not believe in the Hereafter he does not believe in the Day of Judgment; he does not believe in that when he gives away for the sake of Allah, Allah would replace that with something better in compensation, such person — will find his path smooth and easy towards hardship and evil.

In relation to belief in divine preordainment, there are four pillars, without which one cannot become a believer:

- i. Allah's infinite and eternal knowledge
- ii. that Allah had written everything, before He created the creation.
- iii. To believe that Allah Azza Wa Jal, willed everything that is happening or is going to happen whether it is pleasing or displeasing Allah.
- iv. To believe that Allah created us and our actions.

### 4. Hidayah (guidance)

In Ayah no. 12, in Surah Al-Lail, Allah says, Truly Ours it is to give guidance. Guidance is in the hands of Allah. Those who are fortunate, those who are blessed by Allah will be guided by Him. If you see that you want to go and do good deeds, and you feel the courage to do so, know that Allah loves you.

And whenever you want to do something good, and you find Allah is not making your path smooth and easy, know that Allah does not love you.

A man came to Al Hassan Al-Basri, and said, I try my level best to pray night prayer, but I can never wake up. And Al Hasan said, My son, Your sins have chained you down. If Allah wanted good for you, he would have made you wake up.

In the next verse, Allah further says, "And truly to Us, belongs the Last, and the First". The last is the Day of Judgment, and the first is this Dunya.

## **5. People of Hell**

In Ayah 13, Allah gives a warning. Allah is saying that your acts and deeds are diverse, but watch out. Therefore I have warned you of Our Fire blazing fiercely. As for this Fire, none shall enter it except the most wretched.

And we know that those who enter Hell are one of two:

- i. either someone who would go there for eternity -- and these are the most wretched; or
- ii. someone who would be punished there for some time, until he is purified from his sins, and then he will be admitted to Paradise.

## **6. People of Paradise**

In these last verses, Allah speaks about those who will be protected from the Hellfire.

And some scholars say that these verses are referring to Abu Bakr because he is the one who is considered to be the most righteous of the followers of the Prophet Alaihis Salatu Wasalaam and who gave all of his money for the cause of Islam and invested it wisely in freeing the slaves who became Muslim.

## Lesson 3: Tafseer of Qur'an Part-45

### 7. Surah Ad-Duha

Ad-Duha is the time that comes after sunrise and before noon. And that is why we have Duha prayer. It is the beginning of the day.

And this Surah was received after a short period of time when the revelation was stopped, due to which the disbelievers mocked the Prophet (pbuh) telling him that your Lord has forsaken you. Your devil that accompanies you is gone. So Allah Azza Wa Jal revealed this beautiful Surah showing His Prophet (pbuh) the numerous blessings and favours of Allah upon him.

Allah swears by the night, when it is still or by its darkness, that your Lord has neither forsaken you nor hated you. And then Allah tells his messenger Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam, Don't be concerned about this Dunya. Indeed, the Hereafter is better for you than the present, meaning this life that you live in, so it is not worthy of you being worried or depressed because what awaits you is far greater than what you are having here.

Verily your Lord will give you so that you shall be satisfied. Allah will give you until you are well pleased.

Then Allah lists down some of his favours and blessing upon His Messenger (pbuh). Allah says :

i. Did Allah not find you an orphan, and gave you shelter. His father died when he was still in his mother's womb, and his mother died when he was six years. Thereupon, Allah put him under the care of his grandfather, who soon died and his uncle took over.

ii. He found you unaware and He guided you. The Prophet did not know the Qur'an, did not know what to do and what not to do. All that he had was his pure nature. He refused to worship the idols with the idol worshipers, though it was the norm and everybody did it. He refused to eat anything that was slaughtered in other than the name of Allah.

iii. And Allah found you in need and made you independent,

After reminding him of His blessings, Allah gives him the following commandments:

i. Treat not the orphan with oppression.

ii. Repulse not the Saa-il the one who asks. He may ask for money, provisions or knowledge.

iii. And proclaim the graces of your lord.

### 8. Surah Al-Inshirah

Surah Al-Inshirah (the expansion of the chest), which is of course not the physical aspect of it.



Here to show His blessings, Allah says,

i. Have We not opened your chest for you? Allah has purified physically and mentally. His Messenger's heart twice, Jibreel came and opened his chest, took his heart and washed it in a plate of gold in Zamzam water, cleansed it from hatred, envy, grudges, and put it back physically, and this is a miracle. And that is why the Prophet Alaihis Salatu Was Salam was the kindest of all men, he had no grudges, he had no hatred.

ii. And We removed from you your burden which weighed down your back. Allah Azza Wa Jal has forgiven the Prophet's (pbuh) previous and coming sins. And the messengers of Allah, all of them they do not do major sins. They may do minor sins, out of mistake, out of an error but immediately they repent to Allah.

iii. And We raised high your fame, and your name. and this is obvious in that his name is associated with Allah's name in the Adhan, in supplications and in Salaah.

Allah further asserts, Verily with hardship, there is relief; verily with the hardship there is relief.

Allah repeated it twice And in Arabic, the word hardship is Al-Usr and Al means the particular hardship. Allah says, **verily** with the hardship there is relief, not the relief, there is relief, which is so general. And Allah Azza Wa Jal repeated that by saying **verily** with the hardship, the same one previously mentioned, there is again relief, which means that there is a lot of relief, and some say two reliefs, would always beat one hardship. And this is the norm.

Allah concludes the Surah by saying, when you have finished, then stand up for Allah's worship, and to your Lord, turn your invocations. Wherever you finish any deed, then engage yourself in another deed. So if you finish praying, engage yourself in anything beneficial.

## Lesson 4: Tafseer of Qur'an Part-46

### 9. Surah At-Teen

Teen is the fig, the fruit. Allah swears by the fig and olive and by Mount Sinai and by this city of security (Makkah) that "Verily We created Man in the best mould, in the best structure.

Scholars say that Allah has sworn by three locations. And these locations represent the places of revelations: the fig and the olives are found in the Holy Land where prophet Jesus received revelation; mount Sinai is the place where Moses received revelation, and Makkah is the place where prophet Muhammad received revelation.

So Allah is swearing by the locations of revelation of the three great religions of the world, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Allah swears to emphasise the fact that Allah has created man in the best of structure, in the best of mould.

However, Allah says, despite the fact that Allah has created man in the best form, He reduced him to the lowest of the low. And this is in the case of the people who rejected Islam. Allah has reduced them to the lowest of the low.

Animals do what Allah created them to do, and they serve Allah in the way Allah created them to do. But man sometimes chooses to reject Allah and worship other things, despite his knowledge that Allah created everything whereas the other worshiped deities are themselves created.

But there is an exception. And Allah says, "except those who believe and do righteous deeds, then they shall have a reward without end.

So if this is the case, then "What causes you to deny the recompense", the accountability on the Judgement Day?

"Is Allah not the best of judges?" Indeed, Allah is.

### 10. Surat Al-Alaq

Now Surah Al-Alaq is the first verses of the Qur'an that were revealed to the Prophet when used to spend nights in the cave of Hira, and he used to worship Allah.

This was his practice until one night, Laylatul Al-Qadr, Gabriel came to him and gave him the revelation. And he said to him, Iqra (recite), and the Prophet said, I don't know how to recite. I'm not learned. So he kept on shaking him and saying, recite, recite. And then he revealed the verses of Allah where Allah says, "Read in the Name of your Lord who has created, created man from a clinging clot."| And this is one of the stages of the creation of the human being, that looks like a leech. Besides, this shows you that reading has a great value in Islam.

He says, "Read, and your Lord is the Most Generous or Honourable, who has taught by the pen, taught the human being, that which he knew not.

Allah further says, "Nay, Verily, man does transgress all bounds, because he considers himself self-sufficient. This is a fact. When people think that they don't need anyone, they transgress, they go and exceed all boundaries in bad and evil things.

Then Allah tells us about one of those who has greatly transgressed and went way beyond all acceptable boundaries. Allah says, "Have you seen him, who prevents a servant [of Allah] when he prays? This is in reference to Abu Jahl, who threatened to offend the prophet when he was prostrating by stepping on his neck. But Allah saved the messenger.

So Allah says, "Have you seen him who prevents a slave [devout person] when he prays?"

"Tell me if he is on the guidance of Allah or enjoins piety?" So you who deny such a person from praying, don't you know that this worshiper is on guidance of Allah? Don't you know that he only enjoins what is right? Doesn't he know that Allah sees everything that he does?

Nay, if he does not stop his transgression, We will catch him by the forelock. And this is in reference to what happened to Abu Jahl in the Battle of Badr, where he was killed, and then was pulled by his head and thrown in a well,

"Let him call upon his council. We will call the guards of Hell.

Nay. O Muhammad, do not obey Him, fall prostrate and draw near to Allah.

Since you are sure that you have found the true path, do not pay attention to what the others try to do in order to hinder your progress towards it.

## Lesson 5: Tafseer of Qur'an Part-47

### 11. Surah Al-Qadr

Allah says, "Verily We have sent it down in the night of Al-Qadr. And what will make you know what the night of Al-Qadr is? The question is to magnify and to display the importance of this thing that was repeated. Allah says that we have revealed it [the Qur'an], we have sent it down in the night of Al-Qadr and Al-Qadr means, either the Night of Decree where Allah pre-ordained everything, or the night of high status and the night of importance.

The Qur'an was revealed in Ramadan, and it was revealed in the night of Al-Qadr.

However, there are two types of Revelation:

i. Sending the Qur'an in its entirety to the Preserved Tablet on the Laylatul Qadr. The first five Ayat of Suratul Al-Alaq, were also revealed on the Night of Qadr in Ramadan to the Prophet (pbuh)

ii. Sending down the Qur'an over 23 years to the Prophet (pbuh)

The night of Qadr is the night that the Prophet (pbuh) encouraged us to look for and increase our Ibaadah, due to its several virtues. In the next verse, Allah says that it is better than one thousand months

It is a gift from Allah, given to this Ummah since their lifespans range between 60 and 70 years, compared to the previous nations where they used to live for hundreds of years.

In that night, Allah says, "Therein descends the angels and Jibreel, the Rooh, the Spirit, by Allah's permission with all decrees".

Whenever the angels are in a place, it is a sign of mercy of goodness and blessings of Allah.

This night is full of Peace until the appearance of dawn. Spending the night in devotions clears all previous sins.

Allah did not reveal Laylatul Qadr to the people. He kept a secret for a wisdom. People should be keen to be in that night in worship.

### 12. Surah Al-Bayyinah

In this Surah, Allah says that those who disbelieve from among the people of the scriptures [Jews and the Christians] and among the polytheists, will not leave their belief until there comes to them clear evidence, meaning that everyone believes in what he believes and they are not going to abandon what they believe until they see the Evidence. What is this evidence?

"A messenger from Allah reciting purified pages", purified from Shirk, purified from lies, purified from anything that does not benefit it.

They all, at the time of the Prophet (pbuh), were waiting for a messenger because the Scriptures say there will come a messenger with the final revelation with the final guidance from Allah. And he will reading to them from purified scriptures.

And these pages, they contain correct and straight books from Allah. And this is the Qur'an.

And the people of the scriptures did not differ until after there came to them clear evidence, they would not leave their religion to a new religion until they see the evidence, which is a messenger with purified books.

But when they saw the messenger, they differed because they did not think that he would be from the Arabs.

"They were commanded not, but that they should worship Allah, and worship none but Him alone, establish Salaah and give Zakaah, and that is the right religion."

And this shows us that the religion of Allah, in essence is the same.

Allah said Verily those who disbelieve from among the people of the Scriptures and Al Musrikoon, they will abide in the fire of Hell. and these are the worst creation.

Allah says "Verily those who believe [in the Oneness of Allah, and in the messenger, Muhammad Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam] are the best of creatures.

Their reward with their Lord is the Gardens of Eden, where the rivers flow underneath, and they will abide there in forever. Allah will be pleased with them and they will be pleased with him.

## Lesson 6: Tafseer of Qur'an Part-48

### 13. Surah Al-Zilzal

Chapter 99 gives us a description of some of the things that would happen on the Day of Judgment. Allah says:

i. When the Earth is shaken with its earthquake. This refers to the final earthquake. If we look at the devastating effect of earthquakes in this life, in a matter of seconds, we can see the fear it throws in people's hearts, the destruction it has to property and to lives. So you can imagine how it would be on the Day of Judgment.

ii. And when the earth throws out its burdens. And this is a reference to the earth throwing the bodies that it has to its surface, and that is when the resurrection takes place. All the graves would be emptied.

On that day, these resurrected souls and these bodies that Allah had created, once again, those who are destined and doomed to hell will say what's wrong?

The believers do not ask such a question because they know the reason. "On that day, it will declare its information". It would testify that this particular individual did this and this when he was on earth. So even the ground you walk on will testify.

"This is because your Lord has inspired it?"

"On that day, the people will proceed in scattered groups that they may be shown their deeds the day where the Earth would have its final earthquake".

Whosoever does evil equal to the weight of an ant shall see it. And whoever does this evil equal to the weight of an ant, will see it.

Scholars differed: some say the deeds will be weighed, while others say it is the people who will be weighed.

### 14. Al-Adiyat

Allah starts this Surah with a few oaths. Allah swears by those that run, by the horses. Horses have a great position in Islam. Goodness is always associated with horses because horses are used in battle. So they are means of Jihad.

Allah swears by the steeds that run with panting breath, Striking sparks of fire by their hooves. And when they run, their hooves hit the stones and they spark as when you want to light fire. They raid at dawn, and this is the best time of raiding when the enemy is not aware.

They raise the dust in clouds, while they are running. And while doing so they penetrate forthwith into the midst of foes.

Allah swears that to assert that man is ungrateful Kanood to his lord. The word Kanood as Al Hassan Basri explains, is the man who sees only the calamities and the shortcomings and turns his face away from the good things; he does not acknowledge the favours and blessings of Allah

Allah is a Witness over all of his deeds, and that individual himself that disbelieves will testify against himself on the Day of Judgment. His arms, feet, the whole body would testify against him.

Allah further asserts, "Man is violent in the love of wealth." And this is human nature. But a believer is commanded not to follow his desires.

Does he not know that when the contents of the graves are brought out and poured forth, and that which is in the chests of men shall be made known, that verily on that day their Lord will be well acquainted with them, meaning that no one knows their deeds, whether bad or good except Allah the Almighty.

### Question and Answer Bucket

#### 1. Why is giving for the sake of Allah associated with Taqwa?

**Ans.** Allah Azza Wa Jal says, "As for him who gives and maintains Taqwa and believes in Al Husna, Allah will make smooth for him the way to ease. Now this giving of charity or for the cause of Allah should be for the pleasure of Allah, not for anything else.

And the more you give, the more Allah expands your chest and you feel content and happy by helping others for the sake of Allah.

#### 2. Does Allah will evil?

**Ans.** Everything happening, is happening by Allah's Will, whether good or bad. He allows both to happen in his kingdom. Sometimes he causes the believers to be subdued by the disbelievers in order to discipline the believes and make them realise their mistakes. Thus, He wills evil to happen although He does not love it, for a particular purpose, and out of infinite wisdom.

#### 3. What are the types of patience?

**Ans.** Patience is classified into three types.:

- i. Patience on doing what Allah commanded you to do, no matter what that might be.
- ii. patience on restraining oneself from doing what Allah has prohibited, no matter how attractive or alluring it is.
- iii. patience at times of adversity. It is Allah's preordainment, and therefore, we should accept it without complaining.