

RAMADAN

IMMERSION



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Wahab Waheed

Verse 42

اَذْهَبْ اَنْتَ وَاَخُوكَ بِآيَاتِي وَلَا تَنِيَا فِي ذِكْرِي

Go, you and your brother, with My signs and do not slacken in My remembrance.

- Don't forget about your relationship with Allah while doing dawah.
- In order for us to have an effect on others, we have to continue building our relationship with Allah.
 - The more we want to effect people, the stronger that relationship has to become.
- Just because we become activists, teachers, etc., it doesn't mean we can lessen our efforts in keeping our relationship with Allah.
- Remember Allah at all times and have a set routine of thikr every day.
- Surah Muzzamil and Surah Muddathir were one of the first surahs to be revealed.
 - In Surah Muzzamil, Allah tells the Prophet SAW to focus on his worship.
 - In Surah Muddathir, Allah tells the Prophet SAW to stand up and give the message to the people.
- Half of our deen is about doing thikr and ibadah for Allah when you are alone and the other half of our deen is about calling others towards Allah.
 - These two aspects go hand in hand.
 - One without the other can compromise our ability of effecting people's lives.

Verse 43

اذْهَبَا إِلَىٰ فِرْعَوْنَ إِنَّهُ طَغَىٰ

Go, both of you, to Pharaoh. Indeed, he has transgressed.

- Allah says اذْهَبَا, meaning both of you go. There are two opinions regarding this:
 - This can be rhetorical, meaning when you get to Firaun, Harun will be with you.
 - This conversation took place later when Musa got together with Harun.
- طَغَىٰ means for a person to continue to cross the boundaries that Allah has set for us.
 - Firaun is the only person who claimed to be god himself and he killed 70,000 children.
 - He has crossed all limits of humanity and religiosity.

Verse 44

فَقُولَا لَهُ قَوْلًا لَّيِّنًا لَّعَلَّهُ يَتَذَكَّرُ أَوْ يَخْشَىٰ

And speak to him with gentle speech that perhaps he may be reminded or fear [Allah].”

- لَّيِّن is the name of a certain type of date.
 - It is called لَّيِّن because it is a very soft date that remains soft and does not become hard like other dates do.
- Allah is telling them to not only speak to him softly, but also not to change their tone and remain soft throughout the whole conversation, no matter what Firaun says that angers them.
 - When we give dawah to people, we need to keep our tones consistently soft and polite.
- Allah didn't tell any other prophet to speak softly in the Quran. Musa AS had a rough personality naturally, so Allah is reminding him that his personality cannot come in front of the mission of this deen.
 - Regardless of what type of personality we have, there are examples in all of the prophets for us.
 - It is not an excuse to say that our personalities prevent us from giving dawah.

- لَعَلَّهُ يَتَذَكَّرُ أَوْ يَخْشَى
 - Allah is telling them that there is still a chance that he might remember Him and turn back.
 - Allah has not lost hope in Firaun. He has love for all of His servants.
 - We should never lose hope in anyone and we should never give ourselves the guarantee that we are going to die with Islam.
 - The Prophet SAW made dua for Abu Jahl to become Muslim and he went to him 80 times to give him dawah.
 - He SAW never lost hope in him
 - It doesn't matter how much haram a person is doing, have hope for them because there is always a chance for change.

Verse 45

قَالَا رَبَّنَا إِنَّنَا نَخَافُ أَنْ يَفْرُطَ عَلَيْنَا أَوْ أَنْ يَطْغَ

They said, "Our Lord, indeed we are afraid that he will hasten [punishment] against us or that he will transgress."

- Fear is a normal emotion to have. The prophets and sahabah all felt afraid at some point in their life.
- يَفْرُطُ
 - There are 2 other ways of this word being used in the Quran:
 - أَفْرَطَ - to go above and beyond the bounds
 - فَرَّطَ - to go less than the bounds/do less than expected
 - The way the word is used here means that they are afraid that he will do either one because they are doing something so foreign to them.
 - They are worried he might kill them right away or he might give them less than what they expect by not even listening to them at all.

Verse 46

قَالَ لَا تَخَافَا إِنَّنِي مَعَكُمَا أَسْمَعُ وَأَرَى

[Allah] said, "Fear not. Indeed, I am with you both; I hear and I see.

- Their job is not to worry about his reaction. Their job is to preach and give the dawah.

- Allah reassured them completely by telling them that He is always listening and watching everything
- **أَسْمَعُ** comes before **وَأَرَى** because, generally, it is more difficult to hear than it is to see.
 - If something is distant, you can see it, but you cannot necessarily hear it.
 - Allah is assuring them that He can hear them first and that it is not difficult for Him.
- When we give dawah, we will feel a struggle and fear backlash, but know that Allah is with us.
- When a person becomes closer to Allah, He becomes the hearing that they hear with and the sight that they look with.
 - Allah hears the things that others say to you and He helps you refrain from looking at haram.
- We all have our own "Firaun," so we need to try to be like Musa AS and Allah will help us affect people the same way He helped Musa AS.

Verse 47

فَأْتِيَاهُ فَقُولَا إِنَّا رَسُولَا رَبِّكَ فَأَرْسِلْ مَعَنَا بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَلَا تَعَذِّبْهُمْ قَدْ جِئْنَاكَ بِآيَةٍ مِنْ رَبِّكَ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَىٰ مَنْ اتَّبَعَ الْهُدَىٰ

So go to him and say, 'Indeed, we are messengers of your Lord, so send with us the Children of Israel and do not torment them. We have come to you with a sign from your Lord. And peace will be upon he who follows the guidance.

- Allah told them to speak softly, not to compromise in their words.
 - Don't hold back your words or compromise your deen.
 - Softness is not found in changing what we believe in.
 - Softness is found in how we say it.
- Firaun thought that he was God. So, Allah tells them to first make sure to tell him that He is the Lord, not Firaun.
 - The first point that has to be agreed upon is that Allah is One.
- Every prophet was sent for these 2 reasons:
 - To encourage people to believe in Allah and follow a lifestyle that makes Allah happy

- To free people from injustices in this world.
- The first sunnah of the Prophet SAW was to serve people.
 - After he received the first revelation, Khadijah supported and comforted the Prophet SAW by telling him that Allah would never waste of harm him because he supports people who are poor, orphaned, and are on the outskirts of society.
 - One cannot be a true person who gives dawah if they do not make dua for people are oppressed and struggling.
- Bani Israel was enslaved by Firaun.
 - There was an elite class, which was the people of Firaun, and the working class, which was Bani Israel.
 - Bani Israel weren't always enslaved.
 - They were the children of Yaqub and Yusuf was a treasurer of the whole country.
 - Imam Hasan Ali An-Nadwi mentions that this change in their status happened because they started enjoying the wealth of this world and neglected and gave up on their relationship with Allah.
 - Allah SWT reminds us in the Quran:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّىٰ يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنفُسِهِمْ

Allah does not change the condition of a people until they change what is within themselves. (Raad, Ayah 11)

- Difficulties can still afflict us in order for us to raise our ranks.
 - A difficulty can come to us for one of 3 reasons. We know what the reason was based on our reaction:
 - If you come closer to Allah after the difficulty, then it came to you because Allah wants you to come closer to Him and it is a blessing.
 - If you tun away from Allah after the difficulty, then it came to you because it was a punishment and Allah is pushing you further away.
 - If nothing changes and you are still at the same level after the difficulty, then it came as a form of purification for your sins.

- The Prophet SAW said to the sahabah that he fears a day that they will be blessed with wealth, but that wealth becomes a source of them forgetting Allah.
- وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَىٰ مَنِ اتَّبَعَ الْهُدَىٰ
 - Peace and safety will only happen to an individual when they choose to follow the guidance of Allah.
 - When the Prophet SAW spoke to Abu Sufyan, he said, "أَسْلِمَ تَسْلِمًا: Become Muslim and you will be at peace."
 - The more comfort we want, the more we should strive for guidance. Just because we are Muslim, it doesn't mean we have all of the guidance.
 - This is why we ask Allah for guidance 17 times a day in Surah Fatiha.
 - More guidance means more good deeds

Verse 48-49

إِنَّا قَدْ أُوحِيَ إِلَيْنَا أَنَّ الْعَذَابَ عَلَىٰ مَن كَذَّبَ وَتَوَلَّىٰ (48) قَالَ فَمَنْ رَبُّكُمَا يَا مُوسَىٰ (49)

Indeed, it has been revealed to us that the punishment will be upon whoever denies and turns away." (48) [Pharaoh] said, "So who is the Lord of you two, O Moses?" (49)

- Firaun is speaking now and he asked them who *their* Lord is.
 - He doesn't say our Lord because he doesn't even want to consider the possibility that there is something above him.
- Firaun says رَبُّكُمَا, referring to both Musa and Harun AS. But, then he calls out to Musa AS only by saying يَا مُوسَىٰ.
 - To Firaun, Harun AS was just a normal person living there. Musa AS was raised in Firaun's house, so he has more of a connection to him. He received direct favors from Firaun, so Firaun wants to push that fact to Musa AS and remind him of it.

- Allah says in another Surah:

قَالَ أَلَمْ نُرَبِّكَ فِينَا وَلِيدًا وَلَبِثْتَ فِينَا مِنْ عُمُرِكَ سِنِينَ

[Pharaoh] said, "Did we not raise you among us as a child, and you remained among us for years of your life? (Al-Shuaraa, 18)

Verse 50

قَالَ رَبُّنَا الَّذِي أَعْطَى كُلَّ شَيْءٍ خَلْقَهُ ثُمَّ هَدَى

He said, "Our Lord is He who gave each thing its form and then guided [it]."

- Musa says our Lord because he wants to include Musa AS in the conversation as well.
 - It is a skill to make someone feel involved equally even though they are not equally involved.
 - The Prophet SAW was able to do this with the sahabah.
 - Whenever there was a victory or conquest, everyone felt the same level of happiness.
- Allah gave general guidance to every creature. He made everything and everyone know what to do and how to act without being taught (ex: animals knowing not to step on their offspring, people knowing how to walk)

Verse 51

قَالَ فَمَا بَالُ الْقُرُونِ الْأُولَى

[Pharaoh] said, "Then what is the case of the former generations?"

- Firaun asks Musa AS about their forefathers who did not believe in this message that he is bringing.
 - He asked this question in front of the entire cabinet, so everyone was awaiting the answer.
- Firaun tried to challenge Musa AS with this question because if he says they are going to hell, then everyone would become angry and if he says that they are going to paradise, then no one would care to change of listen to him.

Verse 52

قَالَ عَلَّمَهَا عِنْدَ رَبِّي فِي كِتَابٍ لَا يَضِلُّ رَبِّي وَلَا يَنْسَى

[Moses] said, "The knowledge thereof is with my Lord in a record. My Lord neither errs nor forgets."

- Allah inspired Musa AS with this answer.
 - When we start doing work for deen, Allah inspires us and allows us to do great things.
- If they were believers, then Allah knows where they are and if they were not believers, then Allah still knows where they are.