

RAMADAN

IMMERSION



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Waheed

The Right of the Quran

- The right of the Quran is that we ponder over it
- Allah says in the Quran:

أَفَلَا يَتَدَبَّرُونَ الْقُرْآنَ

Will they not ponder the Quran?

Having Taqwa

- Umar ibn Al-Khattab was known to be affected by the Quran
- A young man from Umar's community was approached by an attractive woman who enticed him until he caved in and was about to enter her home. He remembered a verse from Surah A'raf.

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ اتَّقَوْا إِذَا مَسَّهُمْ طَائِفٌ مِّنَ الشَّيْطَانِ تَذَكَّرُوا فَإِذَا هُمْ مُبْصِرُونَ

Those who are righteous—when an impulse from Satan strikes them, they remind themselves, and immediately see clearly.

- Right when he remembered this, he fell unconscious. When he woke up and was helped to his home, he told his father what happened. This time, when he recited the verse to his father again, he passed away.
- The man was buried without Umar knowing. When Umar later visited his grave, he said:

يَا قَتَى لِمَنْ خَافَ مَقَامَ رَبِّهِ جَنَّاتٍ

O young one! For the one who fears the maqam of his Lord is two gardens

- **مَقَام** can mean standing in front of Allah or the honor of Allah
- When Umar said this, a voice called out from under the ground that the man had already been given both gardens.
- The Prophet SAW said, “Who will take these five statements from and act upon it or teach it to someone else?” No one raised their hand except for Abu Hurayrah. The Prophet SAW said, “Stay away from haram and you will be the most righteous person. Be pleased with what Allah has given you and you will be the wealthiest person. Love for your brothers what you love for yourself and that is the sign of a true Muslim. Be good to your neighbors and that is a sign of true belief. Don't laugh too much, laughing too much kills the heart.”
 - Abu Darda's wife said to him that he always smiles when he tells a story. She feared that other people would think he has a mental issue. Abu Darda said every time the Prophet SAW told a story, he smiled.
 - The same people who would smile before salah would weep in their salah.
 - It is important to have a balance. When it comes to your relationship with Allah, you should be serious.

Personalizing the Quran

- Ahnaf ibn Qays was sitting one day and came across an ayah:

لَقَدْ أَنْزَلْنَا إِلَيْكُمْ كِتَابًا فِيهِ ذِكْرُكُمْ أَفَلَا تَعْقِلُونَ

We have sent down to you a Book, containing your mention. Do you not understand?

- He realized that he could find himself in the Quran and find out which category of people he was from. The Quran mentions all of the different kinds of people, so he started looking in the Quran.
- He came across an ayah in Surah Dhariyat:

كَانُوا قَلِيلًا مِنَ اللَّيْلِ مَا يَهْجَعُونَ وَبِالْأَسْحَارِ هُمْ يَسْتَغْفِرُونَ وَبِالْأَسْحَارِ هُمْ يَسْتَغْفِرُونَ

They used to sleep a little at night. And at dawn, they would pray for pardon. And in their wealth, there was a share for the beggar and the deprived.

- Then, he went to Surah Sajdah:

تَتَجَافَى جُنُوبُهُمْ عَنِ الْمَضَاجِعِ يَدْعُونَ رَبَّهُمْ خَوْفًا وَطَمَعًا وَمِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنْفِقُونَ

Their sides shun their beds, as they pray to their Lord, out of reverence and hope; and from Our provisions to them, they give

- There are 70 places in the Quran when Allah speaks about salah and zakah
 - In salah, you are taking from Allah and His treasures and in zakah, you are giving to His creation
- Then, he came across the ayah in Surah Furqan:

وَالَّذِينَ يَبِيتُونَ لِرَبِّهِمْ سُجَّدًا وَقِيَامًا

And those who pass the night prostrating themselves to their Lord and standing up.

- He went to Surah Ali Imran next:

الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ فِي السَّرَّاءِ وَالضَّرَّاءِ وَالْكَاطِمِينَ الْغَيْظِ وَالْعَافِينَ عَنِ النَّاسِ وَاللَّهُ يُحِبُّ الْمُحْسِنِينَ

Those who give in prosperity and adversity, and those who restrain anger, and those who forgive people. God loves the doers of good.

- Then, he read the ayah in Surah Hashr:

وَيُؤْتُونَ عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِهِمْ وَلَوْ كَانَ بِهِمْ خَصَاصَةٌ وَمَنْ يُوقِ شُحَّ نَفْسِهِ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

They give them priority over themselves, even if they themselves are needy. Whoever is protected from his natural greed—it is they who are the successful.

- Then, he went to Surah Shura:

وَالَّذِينَ يَجْتَنِبُونَ كَبَائِرَ الْإِثْمِ وَالْفَوَاحِشَ وَإِذَا مَا غَضِبُوا هُمْ يَغْفِرُونَ
وَالَّذِينَ اسْتَجَابُوا لِرَبِّهِمْ وَأَقَامُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَأَمْرُهُمْ شُورَىٰ بَيْنَهُمْ وَمِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنْفِقُونَ

And those who avoid major sins and indecencies; and if they become angry, they forgive. And those who respond to their Lord, and pray regularly, and conduct their affairs by mutual consultation, and give of what We have provided them.

- After going through all of those ayat, he said, "I don't see myself in these verses." So, he started looking at another group of people in the Quran.

- He looked at the verse in Surah Saffat

إِنَّهُمْ كَانُوا إِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ يَسْتَكْبِرُونَ وَيَقُولُونَ إِنَّا لَتَارِكُو آلِهَتِنَا لِشَاعِرٍ مَجْنُونٍ

When it was said to them, "There is no god except God," they grew arrogant. And said, "Are we to abandon our gods for a mad poet?"

- Then, he went to the next ayah in Surah Zumar:

وَإِذَا ذُكِرَ اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ اشْمَأَزَّتْ قُلُوبُ الَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْآخِرَةِ وَإِذَا ذُكِرَ الَّذِينَ مِنْ دُونِهِ إِذَا هُمْ يَسْتَبْشِرُونَ

When God alone is mentioned, the hearts of those who do not believe in the Hereafter shrink with resentment. But when those other than Him are mentioned, they become filled with joy.

- Then, he looked at the verses in Surah Mudathir:

مَا سَلَكَكُمْ فِي سَقَرٍ قَالُوا لَمْ نَكُ مِنَ الْمُصَلِّينَ وَلَمْ نَكُ نُطْعِمِ الْمِسْكِينَ وَكُنَّا نَخُوضُ مَعَ الْخَائِضِينَ وَكُنَّا نُكَذِّبُ بِيَوْمِ الدِّينِ حَتَّىٰ أَتَانَا الْيَقِينُ

[And asking them], "What put you into Saqar?" (42) They will say, "We were not of those who prayed, (43) Nor did we used to feed the poor. (44) And we used to enter into vain discourse with those who engaged [in it], (45) And we used to deny the Day of Recompense (46) Until there came to us the certainty." (47)

- After this, Ahnaf sought refuge from being among those people. He looked further in the Quran until he came across the verse in Surah Tawbah:

وَآخَرُونَ اعْتَرَفُوا بِذُنُوبِهِمْ خَلَطُوا عَمَلًا صَالِحًا وَآخَرَ سَيِّئًا عَسَى اللَّهُ أَنْ يَتُوبَ عَلَيْهِمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ

Others have confessed their sins, having mixed good deeds with bad deeds. Perhaps God will redeem them. God is Forgiving and Merciful.

- Ahnaf finally found himself in this verse
- Shaytan can make you think you are doing good and blind you from the wrong you are doing.
- Even if we are doing good, we should still be humble
- The moment someone loses regret for their sins, it leads to a person's downfall
- Remorse happens from recognizing your sins
- The difference between Adam and Iblees was that Adam acknowledged his mistake and repented.
- When people apologize to us, we should acknowledge their apology. Allah acknowledges ours, so we should acknowledge others'
- Just because you do good deeds, that does not mean that you are safe. It can make a person arrogant.
- Imam Ghazali said that the good deeds that make a person arrogant can be worse than the bad deeds that make a person humble.

Loving A Surah or Verse

- The Prophet SAW made someone an imam in Masjid Quba. Whenever the companion lead salah, after reading a surah, he would read Surah Ikhlas before going into ruku'
- The people complained about this to the Prophet SAW. The Prophet SAW called him over and asked why he read Surah Ikhlas in every salah. He said, "because it describes the attributes of Al-Rahman and I love to recite it."
- He loved this surah because he was coming from the background of a pagan society that worshiped false gods and he found Allah.
- We have to find our own personal connection with the Quran and find our own attachments within the Quran.