

RAMADAN

IMMERSION



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Imtiaz

Introduction

- The translation of ulu al-'azm is the resolute prophets, meaning those of firm resolve.
- Every single person in this life will have problems. The prophets despite their closeness to Allah were not given ease, but rather their trials were even more, whether it be financial, familial, or health wise.
- These prophets stayed resolute.
- Ibn Abbas says 'azm is when you really decide to do something, i.e. firmness.

Who Are These Prophets?

- There are multiple interpretations of the ulu al-'azm.
 - One opinion is that every prophet is a part of this because they were all given this firmness.
 - Another opinion is that they are all the prophets specifically mentioned in the Qur'an.
 - The majority opinion is that there are four: Nuh (AS), Ibrahim (AS), Musa (AS), and Isa (AS).
 - The Prophet Muhammad SAW would eventually join them.
- We are not going to study the biographies of these prophets, nor the controversies or contemporary issues associated with them.
- We are taking inspirational moments from their lives that we can relate to and the resoluteness they showed.

- In chronological order of prophethood, it was Nuh (AS), Ibrahim (AS), Musa (AS), Isa (AS), and Prophet Muhammad (SAW). In order of virtue, it was Prophet Muhammad SAW, Sayyidina Ibrahim (AS), Sayyidina Isa (AS), Sayyidina Musa (AS), and Sayyidina Nuh (AS). There is an emphasis on these four in the Qur'an and the Prophet SAW is told about them.
- This hadith shows the uprightness of these four:
- Narrated Abu Sa'eed Al-Khudri: that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: "I am the chief of the children of Adam on the Day of Judgement and I am not boasting, and in my hand is the banner of praise and I am not boasting, and there has been no Prophet since Adam or other than him, except that he is under my banner. And I am the first for whom the earth will split open, and I am not boasting." He said: "The people will be frightened by three frights. So they will come to Adam saying: 'You are our father Adam, so intercede for us with your Lord.' So he says: 'I committed a sin for which I was expelled to the earth, so go to Nuh.' So they will come to Nuh and he will say: 'I supplicated against the people of the earth, so they were destroyed. So go to Ibrahim.' So they will go to Ibrahim, and he says: 'I lied three times.'" Then the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: "He did not lie except defending Allah's religion." "So go to Musa.' So they will come to Musa, and he will say: 'I took a life. So go to 'Eisa. So they go to 'Eisa and he says: 'I was worshiped besides Allah. So go to Muhammad (ﷺ).'" He said: "So they will come to me, and I will go to them." (One of the narrators) Ibn Ju'dan said: "Anas said: 'It is as if I am looking at the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ), and he is saying: "So I will take hold of a ring of a gate of Paradise to rattle it, and it will be said: 'Who is there?' It will be said: 'Muhammad.' They will open it for me, and welcome me saying, 'Welcome.' I will fall prostrate and Allah will inspire me with statements of gratitude and praise and it will be said to me: 'Raise your head, ask and you shall be given, intercede, and your intercession shall be accepted, speak, and your saying shall be heard.'

- And that is Al-Maqam Al-Mahmud about which Allah said: It may be that your Lord will raise you to Maqaman-Mahmud (17:79)." Sufyan said: "None of it is from Anas except this sentence: 'I will take hold of a ring of a gate of Paradise to rattle it.'" (Tirmidhi 3148)

The Need for Prophets

- Prophets provide us with divine knowledge, rather than the human knowledge we already have.
- The divine knowledge was sent to us with someone to explain to us. Human knowledge is limited and what we do not know is more than what we do know.
- Our knowledge has a limit, whereas divine knowledge is unlimited.
- Our knowledge is fallible, whereas His is infallible.
- It is a favor that He sent prophets to us.

The History of Prophethood

- Adam AS is the first prophet; there is a chain of prophets to him.
- Usually, they all come in succession to the Prophet SAW.
- There are 124,000 prophets according to a hadith in musnad Ahmad.

Responsibilities of the Prophets

- There should be no ambiguity about what their message is.
- They came to teach us about Allah, His Names and Attributes, and what our relationship should look like with him.
- They also show us how to worship Allah SWT.
- They come with rules, ethics and a code of conduct and tell humanity how to interact with each other.

Role Models for Humans

- They also come as role models to humans to show the way.
- The Prophet SAW was described by Aisha RA as the walking Qur'an and he was a model in many ways.
- The prophets showed the ways of their sharia and they trained their companions.

Establishing the Hujjah

- The message they brought was presented with clear signs. The hujjah was established, they came, the message was presented and you rejected. No one is punished until Islam reached them.