

MIFTAAH SEMINAR

TAFSEER OF THE 4 QULS



Mufti Abdul Wahab Waheed

Summary of Surah Al-Ikhlās

The Quraysh questioned the lineage of Allah, comparing Him to Isa (AS) and Uzair (AS) and using human standards of lineage. In response, Allah revealed:

Verse 1:

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ

"Say, He is Allah, [Who is] One."

- Allah is singular and unique. He is One, but His Oneness does not imply loneliness.

Verse 2:

اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ

"Allah, the Eternal Refuge."

- Allah is independent and self-sufficient. He needs no one, while all creation depends on Him.

Verse 3:

لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ

"He neither begets nor is born."

- Allah is beyond human concepts of lineage; He never gave birth, nor was He ever given birth.

Verse 4:

وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ

"Nor is there any equivalent to Him."

- No one is equal to Allah in His attributes or essence.

- His qualities, such as mercy, power, and forgiveness, are unparalleled.

Key Lessons from the Surah

1. Allah provided a concise description of Himself:
 - He is unique (أَحَدٌ).
 - He is self-sufficient (الْصَّمَدُ).
 - He has no lineage (لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ).
 - He has no equal (وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ).
2. This was revealed as a response to the Quraysh's request for a description of Allah, emphasizing His simplicity and unmatched greatness.

Virtues of Surah Al-Ikhlās

1. Equivalent to One-Third of the Quran:

2. Beloved by the Prophet and Companions:

- A Sahabi recited Surah Al-Ikhlās in every salah. When others complained, the Prophet (ﷺ) inquired about his reason. The Sahabi replied, "Because I love this Surah."
- The Prophet (ﷺ) said:
- **"Your love for it has earned you entrance into Jannah."** (Sunan al-Tirmidhi, 2901)

3. Weight of Actions in Allah's Scale:

- The weight of deeds depends on three factors:
 - **Sincerity (إخلاص):** The act must be solely for Allah.
 - **Quality (إتقان):** The act must be performed with care and excellence.
 - **Present-Mindedness (خشوع):** The act must be done with focus, devotion, and attention, without the mind wandering.

Surah Al-Kafirun, which establishes that there is no compromise in belief in Allah:

لَكُمْ دِينُكُمْ وَلِي دِينِي

"For you is your religion, and for me is my religion."

This signifies the unwavering nature of faith in Allah.

Once we recognize the significance of something so meaningful—our faith and tawheed—we must protect it. This is where **Surah Al-Falaq** and **Surah An-Nas** come into focus, highlighting the importance of safeguarding what Allah has given us.

Our value is not tied to material possessions or dollar amounts but to things that provide true purpose in life. Among these are:

- **Kalima (Tawheed):** It defines our purpose.
- **Parents:** They guide and anchor us.
- **Education:** It helps us grow and fulfill our role in life.
 - When we value the **kalima**, we must also protect it. This protection involves **physical and spiritual measures**.

Surah Al-Falaq

Revelation Context

- According to many scholars of tafsir, Surah Al-Falaq and Surah An-Nas were revealed together and are often recited together.
- They both begin with seeking Allah's refuge but address different types of harm:
 - Surah Al-Falaq: Protection from external harm caused by others.
 - Surah An-Nas: Protection from internal harm caused by whispers of Shaytan and self-inflicted thoughts.
- There is a difference of opinion among scholars about whether Surah Al-Falaq is **Makki** or **Madani**.
 - The majority view is that it is a **Makkan surah**, with its order of revelation being the 20th

- However, many of the incidents involving the Prophet ﷺ reciting this surah occurred in Medina.

Connection with Surah An-Nas

- Surah Al-Falaq and Surah An-Nas share the same virtues and purpose: **seeking protection** from harm.
- Allah ended the Quran with these two surahs to emphasize the importance of protecting what is valuable, such as:
 - The reward of completing the Quran.
 - Faith, blessings, and guidance from Allah.

Virtues

- The Prophet ﷺ said:
- "There is nothing that I have been given that can serve as better protection than Surah Al-Falaq and Surah An-Nas."

Themes and Protection in Surah Al-Falaq

1. External Harms Addressed:

- Black Magic:
 - Belief in its reality is part of Islamic creed.
 - Reciting Surah Al-Falaq protects from such harm.
- Evil Eye:
 - Proven through Quran and hadith, including incidents during the Prophet's time.
 - Preventive steps include avoiding flaunting possessions unnecessarily.
- Jealousy:
 - Jealousy from others can lead to harm. Recitation of this surah serves as protection.

2. Common Concerns:

- People may still feel affected despite reciting these surahs.
- These are preventative measures, and their effectiveness depends on yaqeen (certainty) when reciting them.

- Instant results are not guaranteed, as we should rely on Allah's wisdom.

Virtues of Recitation

- Aisha (RA) narrated that the Prophet ﷺ never went to sleep without reciting these surahs.
- Despite being divinely protected, the Prophet ﷺ regularly recited these surahs to teach their importance for his followers.
- Near the end of his life, the Prophet ﷺ would recite these surahs when feeling ill, blowing into his hands and wiping over his body.
 - When he was too weak to do this, Aisha (RA) assisted him by blowing into her hands and wiping over his body.

Incident of Black Magic on the Prophet ﷺ

- A Jewish individual used the Prophet's ﷺ hair to perform black magic.
- Symptoms included weakness, insomnia, and headaches.
- Jibreel (AS) informed the Prophet ﷺ about the magic and its location (a well).
- The Prophet ﷺ was instructed to remove the items used for the magic and recite Surah Al-Falaq and Surah An-Nas.
- As he recited each verse, a knot tied in the magic was untied, and by the end of the recitation, all 12 knots were undone, and the Prophet ﷺ felt relief.

Key Practices and Takeaways

- These surahs are not just preventative but can also aid in removing harm already inflicted.
- The Prophet ﷺ emphasized consistent recitation of these surahs for protection.
- Ensure proper disposal of personal items like hair to prevent misuse.

Verses

Ayah 1:

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ الْفَلَقِ

Say, "I seek refuge in the Lord of the daybreak."

- Reflection on "الْفَلَقِ":
 - The word "فلق" generally refers to the **break of dawn**.
 - It signifies hope and relief, as daybreak splits through the darkness of the night, symbolizing the removal of difficulties and hardships.
 - Allah describes Himself as the **Lord of the Daybreak**, reminding believers that relief comes from Him alone, no matter how dark or challenging the night of their lives may seem.
 - Other uses of "فلق" in the Quran:
 - Refers to the splitting of a seed to bring forth vegetation (فَالِقُ الْحَبِّ وَالنَّوَى, Surah Al-An'am 6:95).
 - The splitting of the sea during Prophet Musa's time (فَانفَلَقَ, Surah Ash-Shu'ara 26:63).
 - The broader message is that **Allah can split through any hardship or darkness to bring relief and light**.

Ayah 2:

مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ

"Seeking refuge from all harm caused by creation."

- Reflection on "شَرِّ":
 - "شر" (evil) can arise when blessings or neutral creations are misused.
 - Wealth is good but can lead to evil if used incorrectly.
 - Health is a blessing but can cause arrogance if misused.
 - Tongues are for communication but can harm through lies or backbiting.

- **Philosophical Discussion:**
 - Does Allah create evil?
 - Everything Allah creates is inherently good or neutral. Evil manifests when humans misuse these blessings.
 - Example: Fire is a blessing for warmth but becomes harmful if misused.
- **Free Will vs. Predestination:**
 - Humans have free will, and while Allah knows their choices, He does not force them. Evil results from human choices.

Ayah 3:

وَمِنْ شَرِّ غَاسِقٍ إِذَا وَقَبَ

"And from the evil of darkness when it settles."

- Reflection on "غَاسِقٍ":
 - "غَاسِقٍ" refers to the **darkness of the night**, particularly the moment when the sky is completely dark and visibility is lost.
 - The night is often associated with fear and vulnerability, as sins and crimes are more likely to occur under its cover.
 - Metaphorically, "غَاسِقٍ" also represents the darkest moments of life, where one feels lost or burdened.
- **Prophetic Guidance:**
 - Avoid unnecessary activity after Isha prayer.
 - Use the night for rest and worship (e.g., Tahajjud).

Ayah 4:

وَمِنْ شَرِّ النَّفَّاثَاتِ فِي الْعُقَدِ

"And from the evil of those who blow upon knots"

Concept of شَرِّ (Evil): Derived from "شراره," meaning **spark**.

- Spark Analogy:
 - A spark can either extinguish or grow into a fire depending on its surroundings (e.g., moisture or dryness).
 - Similarly, the "**spark of evil**" depends on the state of our hearts.

- **Reflection on "نفث":**

- Refers to the harmful practice of **blowing on knots**, symbolic of black magic.
- Magic and sorcery are considered **shirk** (major sin), as they rely on forces other than Allah.
- **Distinction Between نفث and نفس:**
 - "نفث" (harmful blow): Intent to harm or curse.
 - "نفس" (beneficial blow): Intent to heal or help, such as blowing on water for Ruqyah.
- Protect against magic through:
 - Reciting Surah Al-Falaq and Surah An-Nas.
 - Strengthening reliance on Allah.

- **Ayah 5:**

وَمِن شَرِّ حَاسِدٍ إِذَا حَسَدَ

"And from the evil of an envier when he envies."

- Reflection on "حسد":

- **Hasad (jealousy):** A destructive emotion where one wishes harm or deprivation upon someone else.
- The Prophet ﷺ said:
- "Jealousy consumes good deeds as fire consumes wood."
- Two types of permissible envy (not jealousy):
 - Envy of someone who spends their wealth in the path of Allah.
 - Envy of someone who has knowledge and uses it to spread Allah's deen.
- Prevent jealousy and its harm by:
 - Saying "ما شاء الله لا قوة إلا بالله" when impressed by someone or something.
 - Recognizing that all blessings come from Allah.

Key Themes of Surah Al-Falaq

1. External Protection:

- Surah Al-Falaq focuses on seeking protection from external harms, such as:
 - Natural calamities.
 - Jealousy (hasad).
 - Black magic (sihr).

2. Reliance on Allah:

- Allah is the ultimate source of relief and protection from all external evils.

3. Complement with Surah An-Nas:

- While Surah Al-Falaq deals with **external evils**, Surah An-Nas focuses on protection from **internal evils**, such as whispers of Shaytan and personal weaknesses.

Practical Lessons

- Recite Surah Al-Falaq daily for protection, especially in morning and evening adhkar.
- Be conscious of one's own actions to ensure you do not harm others through:
 - Jealousy.
 - Evil eye (ayn).
- Build trust in Allah's ability to provide relief in all situations.
- Follow the Prophetic routine of making the most of the morning hours and reducing unnecessary activities at night.