

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ

RECITE IN THE NAME OF YOUR LORD

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INTRODUCTION

RECITE AND RISE

عَبْدُ اللَّهِ بْنُ عَمْرٍو، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " يُقَالُ
يَعْنِي لِصَاحِبِ الْقُرْآنِ اقْرَأْ وَارْتَقِ "

Narrated 'Abdullah bin 'Amr: that the Prophet (ﷺ) said: "It shall be said - meaning to the one who memorized the Qur'an - 'Recite, and rise up.'"¹

- May Allah help us read His nurturing as this is what gets imprinted in the hearts.
- Expansion of the heart is required to go higher. Just like how the heart of the Prophet (ﷺ)

¹ Jami` at-Tirmidhi 2914

(عليه وسلم) was cleansed before he went up on the Night journey.

- Accepting and taking the reminders from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) bring expansion and takes a person higher whereas not taking the reminder feels like as if a person cannot swallow.
- Reminders are from our Rabb Who is nurturing and reforming us to take us higher even if they come through people or situations. Prayer and submission then takes us higher.
- To go higher is not with new information but with what is always there - with لا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ (Laa ilaaha illa Allah - There is no one worthy of worship except Allah).

SURAH AL GHASHIYA



SURAH AL GHASHIYA AND SURAH AL 'ALAA

عَنِ النَّعْمَانِ بْنِ بَشِيرٍ، قَالَ كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَقْرَأُ فِي الْعِيدَيْنِ وَفِي الْجُمُعَةِ بِ { سَبِّحِ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى } وَ { هَلْ أَتَاكَ حَدِيثُ الْغَاشِيَةِ } قَالَ وَإِذَا اجْتَمَعَ الْعِيدُ وَالْجُمُعَةُ فِي يَوْمٍ وَاحِدٍ يَقْرَأُ بِهِمَا أَيْضًا فِي الصَّلَاتَيْنِ.

Nu'man b. Bashir reported that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) used to recite on two 'Ids and in Friday prayer: "Glorify The name of Thy Lord, the Most High" (Surah lxxxvii.), and:" Has there come to thee the news of the overwhelming event" (lxxxviii.). And when the 'Id and Jumu'a combined on a day he recited these two (surah) in both the prayers.²

- The theme of the surah is a reminder of the recompense for the abrar and for the disbelievers.
- The name of the surah is one of the names of the Day of judgement.

² Sahih Muslim 878a

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 1

هَلْ أَتَاكَ حَدِيثُ الْغَاشِيَةِ

Has there reached you the report of the
Overwhelming [event]?

- The word (غَاشِيَةٍ) means something that covers and overwhelms. Covering like the ghashwa that covers the beauty. It can also mean someone cheating to cover their lies.
- Here it refers to the Day of Judgement which is something so overwhelming that it covers the hearts.
- In other places in the Qur'an, the word (أَتَى), means to come with ease whereas (جَاءَ) is to come with difficulty.
- Sometimes a news comes to us and it overwhelms us. We know that feeling when

we recall the time of Covid-19 when everyone would ask each other, 'did this news come to you?', 'did you hear about this?'

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 2

وَجُوهٌ يَوْمَئِذٍ خَاشِعَةٌ

[Some] faces, that Day, will be humbled,

- We might think khashiya is good but here it is referring to the humiliated, disgraced faces of the disbeliever.
- This ayah is describing the faces of the disbelievers. The messages and signs came to them again and again but they did not take it so their faces would be disgraced and humiliated on that Day.
- Whether we feel happy or sad, it shows on our faces. When a person is going through some

clarity, it shows on their face because they have been affected by it.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 3 & 4

3.

عَامِلَةٌ نَاصِبَةٌ

Working [hard] and exhausted.

4.

تَصَلَّىٰ نَارًا حَامِيَةً

They will [enter to] burn in an intensely hot Fire.

- The word (عَامِلَةٌ) means to constantly work with so much exertion to the point of breaking down. The disbelievers strove hard but in the end it led to the fire. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) protect us.
- No one likes to be in this state of exertion, toil and tire that would take them apart. It is humiliating and belittling.

- In this life we do not want to be striving without ikhlas (sincerity) or ittiba (following the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)). In the end we want to reach the Pleasure of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- A person could be striving and spending but it could be for their own desires or for others so in the end they would only be tired and not feel happiness and peace.
- They feel a burning sensation because of their strive and they feel 'burned out'.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 5

تُسْقَى مِنْ عَيْنٍ آتِيَةٍ

They will be given drink from a boiling spring.

- They drink extremely, boiling hot water.

- On the other hand we notice that the rain that comes from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is never boiling.
- We want to quench our hearts with what is Divine and comes from above.
- Here the boiling water is coming from below. If we take in these words of desire, bad intentions, or words that are filled with sickness they will be boiling, painful and will never quench us.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 6

لَيْسَ لَهُمْ طَعَامٌ إِلَّا مِنْ ضَرِيحٍ

For them there will be no food except from a
poisonous, thorny plant

- The disbelievers have no nourishment except a thorny plant.

- Nobody likes to eat something that would choke them. Even if we are eating a fish fillet, we will mash it up completely to make sure even a tiny bone does not remain.
- The thorny plants we see are usually in places without enough water. The places of the thorns are actually places where the branches and leaves could have been if there was water. To preserve water, those places end up as thorns.
- Some words can be choking and difficult to swallow. We do not want to live our life with words that are choking and difficult to swallow but with Words that come from the sky. We want to take what is divine which is the Words of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 7

لَا يُسْمِنُ وَلَا يُغْنِي مِنَ جُوعٍ

Which neither nourishes nor avails against
hunger.

- These words can never satisfy a person and there is no benefit from it.
- Sometimes we eat to satisfy our hunger and other times to enjoy it.
- Nothing can nourish us like what Allah (سبحانه) (وتعالى) says.
- Words out of ego, desires and whispers cannot satisfy us.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) gave us a pure fitrah to take it.
- We do not want to feel these feelings but to take what is pure, be sincere to Allah (سبحانه

صلى الله عليه) and to follow the Prophet (وتعالى
(وسلم).

- The Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) has Al Kawthar, and we want to drink from it.
- We do not want to be someone who is toiling and in the end there is no pleasure.
- Then Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) shows us the furqan.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 8

وَجُوهٌ يَوْمَئِذٍ نَّاعِمَةٌ

[Other] faces, that Day, will show pleasure.

- This is about the people in paradise. They knew there is The Overwhelming Day and this news did not make them sink nor did they ignore it but they acted on it. They knew there is a Last Day, there is a paradise and hell and they want to return to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) when

He is pleased with them and they are pleased.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 9

لِسَعْيِهَا رَاضِيَةٌ

With their effort [they are] satisfied

- The word (عَامِلَةٌ) is truly toiling. But here (سَعْيٍ) is mentioned which is easier.

SURAH AL ISRAA' 19

فَأُولَئِكَ كَانَ سَعْيُهُمْ مَشْكُورًا

it is those whose effort is ever appreciated [by Allah].

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) appreciates their strive.
- They were pleased with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) as their Rabb, Islam as their religion and the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) as their messenger. They believed in this and worked for it.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 10

فِي جَنَّةٍ عَالِيَةٍ

In an elevated garden,

- In life rooftops are not open to all but it is something exclusive and delightful.
- These believers are in high gardens.
- The higher you go, the sound becomes less.
- In cosmopolitan cities, the lower floors are louder. There are also have rooftop cafes where the sound is less.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 11

لَّا تَسْمَعُ فِيهَا لِأَغْيَةٍ

Wherein they will hear no unsuitable speech.

- The breathing in paradise is tasbeeh (glorification of Allah).

- It's inhabitants talk about how Allah (سبحانه) guided them and the Qur'an - everything is real and not fake.
- They visit the prophets and they see the Face of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) grant us from His favors.
- There is no vain talk in paradise that can take a person down.
- There is no disturbance that can bring pain
- This shows the believers are not indulging in vain talk even in this life. They spoke good words, hadith, Qur'an, spread salaam, and remembered Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 12

فِيهَا عَيْنٌ جَارِيَةٌ

Within it is a flowing spring.

- They are flowing springs.
- May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make our deeds ongoing.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 13

فِيهَا سُرُرٌ مَّرْفُوعَةٌ

Within it are couches raised high

- There will be thrones or cushions that are elevated and very high. They are very soft and comfortable as if the person is sinking in it.
- Highness shows exclusiveness and these are from the delights of paradise.
- Even the relationships there are very cozy.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 14

وَأَكْوَابٌ مَّوْضُوعَةٌ

And cups put in place

- Their cups are set in place. We see glimpses of these beautiful table arrangements in life but

they are nothing like paradise which no ears have heard or no eyes have seen,

- Everything is in its' place and this shows the believers put everything in its place in life. This includes the rights of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) and the people.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 15

وَنَّمَارِقُ مَصْفُوفَةٌ

And cushions lined up

- The cushions are arranged and organized.
- When we get a new sofa set, we can immediately recognize if any cushion is slightly out of place.
- In life we want to be in rows, without conflicts.

SURAH AS SAFF 4

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الَّذِينَ يُقَاتِلُونَ فِي سَبِيلِهِ صَفًّا كَأَنَّهُمْ بُنْيَانٌ
مَّرْصُوصٌ

Indeed, Allah loves those who fight in His cause in a row as though they are a [single] structure joined firmly.

- We do not want to cause conflict or quarrels.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 16

وَزَرَابِيُّ مَبْثُوثَةٌ

And carpets spread around.

- Rugs on the entrance without furniture can look like a painting and is very beautiful.
- The believer is submissive to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and beautiful in his submission. It is not out of humiliation but with honor.
- May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) grant us these beautiful qualities to submit to Him, to be in rows, to use the best words and to have ongoing deeds.

- Now we go to a great overwhelming transition

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 17

أَفَلَا يَنْظُرُونَ إِلَى الْإِبِلِ كَيْفَ خُلِقَتْ

Then do they not look at the camels - how they are created?

- After talking about these great overwhelming matters of hellfire and paradise if a person is still not believing then Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) speaks about what we can see in the form of questions.
- These creations are also overwhelming.
- The camel was a known animal among Arabs in that time. They are desert animals, whose ears are small and hairy to trap sand from the desert. Their lashes are thick, long, and curled so they can continue walking in the desert.

- Their hooves are soft like sponges so they do not sink in the sand.
- Though it is a strong animal, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) subjected it to us so it can still be handled by someone who is young.
- Their hump stores water so they can remain without water for long periods of time.
- They rarely sweat so heat is retained inside them. This is out of the mercy of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), so that in the cold, dry nights, the rider can remain warm.
- We see how Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) subjected the creation to serve the human so he can focus on believing in Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 18

وَإِلَى السَّمَاءِ كَيْفَ رُفِعَتْ

And at the sky - how it is raised?

- Then look at the skies that are raised without pillars. The clouds are floating above us and are not falling. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is holding them up and we do not need to maintain them.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 19

وَإِلَى الْجِبَالِ كَيْفَ نُصِبَتْ

And at the mountains - how they are erected?

- Three-quarters of the mountains are under the earth. No one can try to build a structure similar to it.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 20

وَإِلَى الْأَرْضِ كَيْفَ سُطِحَتْ

And at the earth - how it is spread out?

- This whole earth has been stretched so we can plant and live on it.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 21

فَذَكِّرْ إِنَّمَا أَنْتَ مُذَكِّرٌ

So remind, [O Muhammad]; you are only a reminder.

- This is addressing the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم). All of these are reminders.
- The word (تذكرة) means reminders and it also means ticket.
- Every reminder is a ticket to take us to paradise, to believe, to be grateful to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), to have taqwa and to love Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Nobody likes to pass up any free tickets. Imagine, we have 'ticket's of reminders

coming to us from around so we do not want to leave them.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 22

لَسْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ بِمُصَيِّرٍ

You are not over them a controller.

- When we remind others naturally we expect action. For example, if we remind our children to brush their teeth, we expect them to do it.
- But here Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) tells the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) that he is not a controller over the people.
- This shows everyone has a choice and this is our the mercy and love of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- The Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) wants everyone to have the best life but the person himself has to make the choice.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 23

إِلَّا مَنْ تَوَلَّىٰ وَكَفَرَ

However, he who turns away and disbelieves -

- On the other hand is the one who turns away and covers the truth.
- We want to accept - even if we cannot apply straight away we accept it and not reject.
- The word (كَفَرَ) means to cover.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 24 & 25

24.

فَيُعَذِّبُهُ اللَّهُ الْعَذَابَ الْأَكْبَرَ

Then Allah will punish him with the greatest punishment.

25.

إِنَّ إِلَيْنَا إِيَابَهُمْ

Indeed, to Us is their return.

- In the end, everyone will return to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). We see crowds in life like when we go for hajj or umrah but the final return is nothing like it.
- Imagine all of the people from the beginning to the end and all the animals will return. This is overwhelming by itself.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 26

ثُمَّ إِنَّ عَلَيْنَا حِسَابَهُمْ

Then indeed, upon Us is their account.

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will reward the good-doers and punish the evil-doers.
- There will be justice for the evil-doers and favor to the good-doers. This is not a simple matter.

- Some people will have no account while others will have an easy account. For some people the account will be difficult.
- The account could take from time from Dhuhr to 'Asr or even take 50, 000 years
- It is a Day of Standing with no sitting.
- May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us from those who remember the akhirah.
- Knowledge is important to connect matters to akhirah and to have feelings for it.

NURTURING LESSONS

- So many things can overwhelm us but the thing that we should be overwhelmed by is لا إله إلا الله محمد رسول الله (Laa ilaaha illa Allah Muhammad Rasool Allah- There is no one worthy of worship except Allah and Muhammad is His Messenger).
- Practical day to day matters like work, food and drink can overwhelm us, but here Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) reminds us of the same things in the akhirah which is what should truly overwhelm us.
- After the descriptions of hellfire and paradise, we go higher to the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم).
- The Name of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) only appears at the end.

SURAH AL GHASHIYA 24

فَيُعَذِّبُهُ اللَّهُ الْعَذَابَ الْأَكْبَرَ

Then Allah will punish him with the greatest punishment.

- What is truly overwhelming is the punishment.
- Something real is what is overwhelming.
- If the attractions of duniya overwhelm you, then look at paradise.
- We do not want to be overwhelmed by work, or pleasures but to remember the akhirah.
- Even to just sit and see look at these creations by themselves can be overwhelming.

MAY ALLAH NOT MAKE THIS WORLD OUR GREATEST CONCERN. AMEEN.

REFERENCES

1. تفسير الشيخ السعدي - TAFSEER SHEIKH AS SA'ADY



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[LISTEN TO THE CLASS – FOR WOMEN](#)

<https://vimeopro.com/markazalsalam/recite-in-the-name-of-your-lord>

TO REQUEST ACCESS TO THE RECORDING: <https://markazalsalam.com/recordings-notes>

[CLASS NOTES FOR WOMEN AND MEN](#)

FOR STUDENTS OF KNOWLEDGE, TEACHERS AND DA'EES IN ENGLISH

<https://t.me/markazalsalampublicationsENG>

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FOR BEGINNERS TO ISLAM

<https://t.me/truthfulentry>