

## INTRODUCTION

- ▼ Every decree is customized for us and whatever struck us is never meant to miss us and whatever did not strike us was never meant to come to us. Belief in the decree shows our belief in the other five pillars of faith.
- All that we learn is important to build us so that we accept it when situations come to us. Allah does not test us with theory, but with practical.
- ▼ Every decree that befalls us is all from Allah and not from the people. When someone gives us or does not give us, it can make us feel deceived. How we deal with the decree will make us believe.
- Patience causes us to be on the Straight Path and gratitude helps us to not sink into our ego.

- ▼ It is not enough to just know one way, but to know what makes us guided and what makes us misguided. There are two ways in life, either guidance or misguidance, obedience, or disobedience, tawheed or shirk. Allah guides to both ways. When we do good, good things happen to us and if we do bad, bad things will come back to us. These two ways are shown in the decree.
- We are not alone in this life. We are facing decrees with people around us. In the story of Musa (عليه السلام) and Al Khidr, Musa (عليه السلام) has the book but Al Khidr represents the decree.
- ▶ Before we go to the Qur'an, we have to believe, before we go to the prayer, there is preparation we have to do.

- We need more to give up of ourselves and more forgiveness to go higher.
- We think when we are guided then we cannot commit sins, but when Musa (عليه السلام) went through the situation, it is his nature to speak, so he spoke each time with Al Khidr after being told not to ask.
- Allah placed in our nature something that we cannot overcome it because if we do everything right then we will become proud again.
- Sometimes we go through situations and we react in the same way again, and no matter how much taqwa we do, we still end up reacting the same. It is Musa's nature that he cannot keep quiet and he must express.

- Before he was under Firaoun and could not speak and at the same time he had an impediment in his tongue.
- And when Allah spoke to him, he made dua to undo the knot in his tongue and he could speak about everything now.
- Musa (عليه السلام) even spoke to the Prophet (繼) in the Israa and Mi'raaj telling him to go back to Allah and reduce the number of prayers. He is Kaleem Allah whom Allah spoke to so he speaks.
- We fall into the same mistakes due to our nature in order to keep us humble and place us in our position. If we always get it right with the decree then we will feel proud.
- Imagine someone comes from a jungle who has both good and bad qualities, and is

placed in a school, so that he becomes refined, but the bad qualities do not disappear totally.

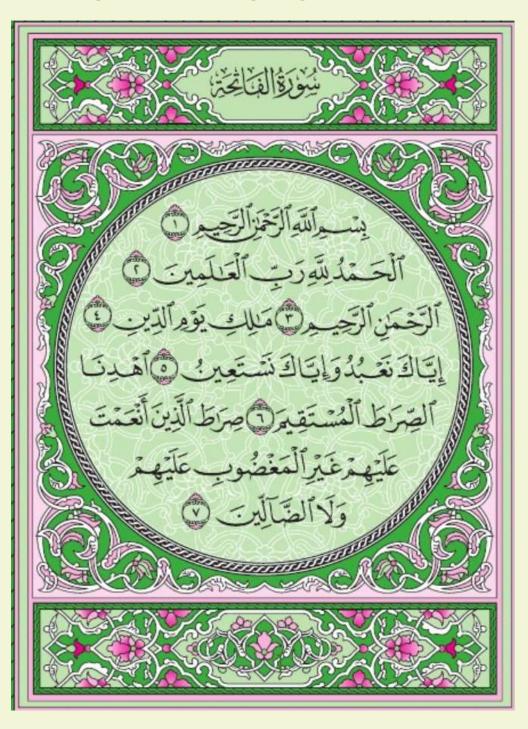
- Some people are angry but with knowledge, it becomes less, but it is still there. And this person will get tested with this.
- People can be slow or fast and it is not sinful, but it can cause clashes with others. And we go through decrees to make us reach a middle path.
- And it is the trick of the shaitan when he tells us, "your nature is disturbing others so do not come to the study circles."
- Life is not perfect and people are not perfect and this makes us more accepting of others, especially when it is not about sins.

- The more we have knowledge and the more we go into decrees, the more our faults are revealed, why? To be humble and to show us that we cannot understand and know everything.
- Even if we have knowledge of the book, it does not give us access to interpret the decree.
- We are to have taqwa of Allah with whatever we are able to. We have to find what we feel comfortable for us from good deeds. For example, some people can spend with ease, some can fast with ease, some can seek knowledge we ease, some can memorize with ease.
- We will be balanced and not scattered or torn, and when we are on the straight path, we will

- help others as well. When a decree comes, it makes us balanced.
- There is a story of a husband whose wife would always fast and he felt bad to tell her about it, then she went to class and learned that a wife must inform her husband before fasting, and then she changed by asking him first. Then he was happy and wished she had learned this earlier.

# سورة الفاتحة SURAH AL FATIHA

OPENING CHAPTER



# بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَٰنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful.

2

# الْحَمْدُ لِللهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

[All] praise is [due] to Allah, Lord of the worlds -

الرَّحْمَٰنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful,

4

مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ

Sovereign of the Day of Recompense.

5

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

It is You we worship and You we ask for help.

6

اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

Guide us to the straight path -

7

ِ صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْمٍ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْمٍ وَلَا الضَّالِينَ The path of those upon whom You have bestowed favor, not of those who have evoked [Your] anger or of those who are astray.

## GUIDE US TO THE STRAIGHT PATH

اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ Guide us to the straight path

#### FIVE TYPES OF GUIDANCE FROM ALLAH

### BUILT-IN GUIDANCE

- 1. Fitra (natural disposition)
- 2.Senses
- 3.Intellect

### OUTER GUIDANCE

- 4. Guidance of the deen (Qur'an and Sunnah)
- 5. Special guidance from Allah

#### 4. GUIDANCE OF THE DEEN

#### MEANS OF GUIDANCE OF THE DEEN

1. To make dua

- 2. Faith
- 3. Qur'an
- 4. Struggle
- 5. Good companions
- To have good companions on the path of guidance makes it easy, sweet and it keeps us humble.
- In Surah Al Kahf, the first three stories are all about companions. The first story is companions of the deen. The second story is the companions of the garden − one was given duniya and one was not, but the one who did not have from the duniya advised his friend. Sometimes a person has knowledge, and he can help a companion who does not know. And in the story of Al Khidr, it reveals our

- nature to keep us humble, and that is guidance as well.
- Sometimes we have companions that we meet in class, sometimes we have companions outside of class such as our spouses and parents, and sometimes we have companions that we are with them all the time, inside and outside of class.
- We should never underestimate the good companion in the way of guidance. We need a good companion to help us in the religion, and when we go home and face someone who does not have knowledge, we need to be a good companion to them and show the best.
- We should not leave our companion, but always advise them. And the third story are

companions who have knowledge and decree and each is a mirror for the other. There is so much transparency and sensitivity in that companionship and this helps to make us humble.

- All of these companionships are needed, and the hardest is the third because it shows our weakness and the easiest is the first companionship. And the second companionship requires patience.
- There are three types of companions (two are good and run away from the third):
  - 1. Be with the one whom you learn from
  - 2. Be with those who learn from you
  - 3. Run away from someone does not teach you and they do not learn from you

- ▼ In all the stories of Surah Al Kahf, it is either about learning from someone or teaching someone.
- The surah teaches us how to behave with different companions, for example, the companions of the deen teach us to not argue and to make dua.

#### SURAH AL AN'AAM 71

Say, "Shall we invoke instead of Allah that which neither benefits us nor harms us and be turned back on our heels after Allah has guided us? [We would then be] like one whom the devils enticed [to wander] upon the earth confused, [while] he has companions inviting him to guidance, [calling], 'Come to us.' "Say, "Indeed, the guidance of Allah is the [only] guidance;

- and we have been commanded to submit to the Lord of the worlds.
- When we have good companions, we will be put together, and when we do not, we will be scattered.
- understand that We must in any companionship there is the shaitan waiting to separate between them. He is not happy when he sees friends learning and being happy, so he takes them out one by one, how? By using people. Someone will say something, and he will put in the mind of the other, "you see what she said, you see what he did.". We must believe all people are simple and kind, but what makes them complicated? The shaitan enflames them. And then he will say, "leave them, you were better off before" so that people separate.

- Anyone who leaves a companionship will become confused and will not know what he is good in anymore.
- ▼ It is important to not turn on our heels. Allah guides us and gives us friends, but we do not want to turn away from it. The shaitan plays on the desires of others in order to make them turn away.
- ◆ Good companions do not keep us confused and it is important to remain, even when facing situations. If we leave, then we think, "how can I come back, it would be embarrassing" and so forth. We should never remind anyone of their mistakes because no one likes to be reminded.

#### SINS SEPARATE BETWEEN PEOPLE

عن عبد الله بن عمر، أن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم قال: «والذي نفسي بيده؛ ما تواد اثنان ففرق بينهما إلا بذنب يحدثه أحدهما

Anas reported that the Messenger of Allah (\*\*), may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said, "Two people do not love each other in Allah Almighty or in Islam if the first wrong action that one of them does creates a split between them."

- Two friends change and separate due to sins and this companionship makes us quickly detect and seek forgiveness.
- ♥ Good companionship has a great impact in our guidance. The Prophet (ﷺ) made companions between the Muhajireen and Ansar who were different from each other. If it

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Al-Adab Al-Mufrad 401, Authenticated by Al Albani as Sahih

- was our choice, we would choose someone matching to us.
- Allah chooses who is opposite to us so that we see ourselves and become better.
- ✔ If we find our friend changing, it is because of a sin. So instead of arguing and saying, "why did you change?", we should go back and seek forgiveness.
- If we need a break from a companion due to arguing, then we have three days to reconcile.

#### THREE DAYS TO RECONCILE

لا يحل لرجل أن يهجر أخاه فوق ثلاث ليال؛ يلتقيان، فيعرض هذا ويعرض هذا، وخيرهما الذي يبدأ بالسلام

It is not permissible for a Muslim to have estranged relations with his brother beyond three nights, the one turning one way and the other turning the other way when they meet;

- the better of the two is one who is the first to give a greeting.<sup>2</sup>
- The best of the two is the one who begins the salam, so we do not want to turn our face against our friend.
- The best companion with Allah is the one who is best to his friend, and this itself is guidance.

# BEST COMPANION WITH ALLAH IS THE BEST TO HIS FRIEND

قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم: «خير الأصحاب عند الله ، «خيرهم لصاحبه،

The Messenger of Allah (\*) said, "The best of companions with Allah is the one who is best to his companions.3

MAY ALLAH GRANT US GOOD COMPANIONS AND PROTECT US FROM ALL TRIALS. AMEEN.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Sahih Muslim 2560

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Riyadh As Saliheen, Al Bukhair and Muslim, Introduction, Hadith 311

#### REFERENCES

TAFSEER SHEIKH AS SA'ADY - تفسير الشيخ السعدي



#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

LISTEN TO THE CLASS - FOR WOMEN

https://vimeopro.com/markazalsalam/qpnp-surah-al-fatiha

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

#### CLASS NOTES FOR WOMEN AND MEN

FOR STUDENTS OF KNOWLEDGE, TEACHERS AND DA'EES IN ENGLISH https://t.me/markazalsalampublicationsENG

FOR STUDENTS OF KNOWLEDGE, TEACHERS AND DA'EES IN ARABIC https://t.me/markazalsalampublicationsAR

FOR CHILDREN CLASS NOTES

https://t.me/dropletsofdew

FOR BEGINNERS TO ISLAM

https://t.me/truthfulentry