

### INTRODUCTION

- With the remembrance of Allah, the hearts find rest. And the fuel and nourishment of our hearts is to remember our Creator.
- Sometimes we remember Allah, but we are remembering ourselves. Or we worship Allah, but we are worshipping ourselves.
- With Allah, we purely remember Him, submitting ourselves to Him.
- The real struggle in this life is to be attached to Allah and only see His beauty. The real resort, rest and solution is to turn to Him.
- Allah is The Most Rich and we think richness with Allah is when He gives us wealth and knowledge, but Allah is The Most Rich from being remembered together with Him.

- ▼ He is The Most Rich from any partner. Allah is the richest from being associated. Anyone besides Allah still needs someone, whether someone to support, or someone can affect him.
- Allah is The Most Rich from any partnership. We are placed as pairs – whether partners or rivals, so no one is rich by himself.
- When people do not attach to Him alone, He will leave them because He is in no need. We need to remember Allah purely and be grateful to Him purely.
- A challenge we face is (الاستحقاق) that we are worthy. Before, people would speak about confidence, and now it comes in another way. If people do not give you value or worth, then you need to give worth to yourself.

- People face issues where they say, "my husband does not give me value or my children don't know my value." So people will see you do not need anyone to give you worth, but give worth to yourself because you are doing this and you are worthy.
- ▼ The One worthy of attachment is Allah, and out of His kindness and gentleness, He makes us feel we are worthy of this money or worthy of this deed, subhan Allah.
- Allah is worthy to be praised all the time and He is worthy to be asked all the time. He is worthy to have all love and attachment.
- Our worth is how much we give worth to Allah. Allah is The Most Rich of all partners. He gives us senses and worship, but we should not believe in ourselves, but that Allah is worthy.

- What caused Banu Israel to be someone whom Allah is angry with? Because He granted them many favors, He sent many messengers, He saved them from Firaoun, gave them manna and salwa and the Book, but they think they are chosen ones. And this can happen to anyone.
- So when jealousy and enmity takes place, Allah brings a situation to make them feel they are not worthy when seeing the Prophethood going away from them.
- ▼ It is important to not forget The Bestower and that we came out of our mother's stomach not knowing anything. He gave us seeing, hearing and hearts so we may be grateful.

#### SURAH AN NAHL 78

# وَاللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُم مِّن بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ شَيْئًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ شَيْئًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ اللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُم مِّن بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَارَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ لَا لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

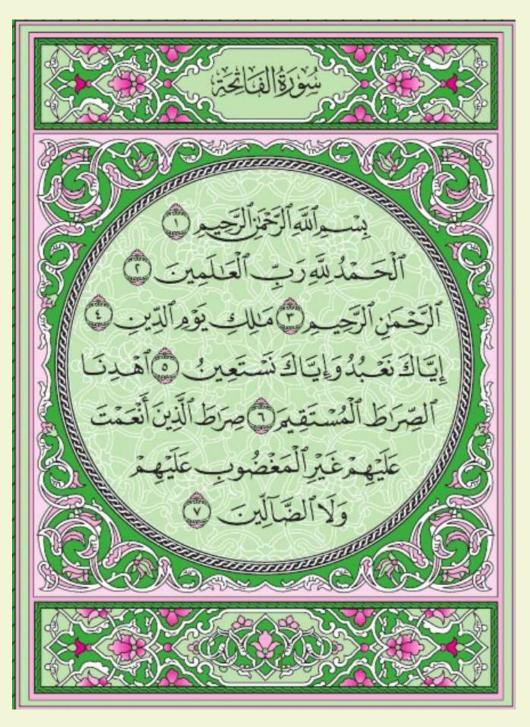
And Allah has extracted you from the wombs of your mothers not knowing a thing, and He made for you hearing and vision and intellect that perhaps you would be grateful.

- ▼ They do not accept for someone to have more knowledge than them, they do not accept for someone to have deeds like them and they do not accept for a messenger to not be from them.
- Banu Israel does not accept for someone else to have worth in the religion more than them, and Allah tells us to not be like them, but to always submit to Him.
- The moment we think we are worthy, we will be unhappy and all the "devils" will come out. The

- nafs at rest is the nafs that is pleased with Allah. It does not go and please itself.
- The deen and worship are all for Allah and when we perform any deed, we should not feel we are worthy.
- We cannot trust ourselves and we cannot give praise to ourselves because we can easily believe in our nafs.
- When a person first enters Islam, he witnesses to (لا إله الا الله) and not to his nafs.

## سورة الفاتحة SURAH AL FATIHA

OPENING CHAPTER



## بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَٰنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

2

## الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

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

د 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 الضَّالِّينَ The path of those upon whom You have bestowed favor, not of those who have evoked [Your] anger or of those who are astray.

#### ALLAH ASH SHAHEED — THE WITNESS

- Out of Allah's generosity, He has the Most Beautiful Names and He is Ash Shaheed – The Witness. People give worth to those who are shuhadaa, but Allah is Ash Shaheed.
- Who makes sidiqeen to be sidiqeen? Allah As Saadiq – The Truthful.
- Who makes the prophets to be prophets, Allah
  Ar Rabb The Lord, The Nurturer.
- We want to witness to (لا إلله الا الله) and witness to His Divinity, to His perfection and worthiness, and not ourselves.

- We witness that Mohammed (ﷺ) is worthy to be followed and Allah is worthy to be worshipped, to be sincere and pure to Him.
- Sometimes we look at our worth and measure according to the praise of people.
- The greatest testimony is Allah and this gives us worth. We easily follow our school of thought, or the traces of our mind, but the Prophet (ﷺ) is worthy to be followed.
- ▼ It is Allah's favor to make the prophets prophets. Did they make themselves worthy to be prophets? No.
- Allah placed them in a decree and He gave them worth by granting them commands.
- The messengers have their worth by taking the command of Allah.

- The sidiquen are foremost and do not place their mind in every situation, but they place their belief in every situation. The sidiquen are in a battle in every second of their life to push away their nafs and place Allah Whom they trust. All that Allah makes us see, is to see His Oneness.
- The sidiqeen are martyrs while walking on the land because they are constantly battling themselves to only believe in Allah.
- The sidiqeen do not believe in themselves and there is no gap between knowledge or actions. They are foremost and quickly rely on Allah.
- So it is Allah's favor on them to make them sidigeen. May Allah make us among them.

- The sidiquen do not have questions of the grave and on the Day of Judgment, they will enter paradise with no hisaab or torment. Why? They gave 100% worth to Allah and not themselves.
- They are tranquil because they do not believe in their eyes, but believe in Allah. They do not believe in what they hear, but believe in what Allah has said.
- To have a messenger to always look up and follow protects us from following our ego. And it unites us all to have One Allah and to follow One Messenger.
- ▼ The sidigeen witness to (لا إله الا الله) in all their lives.
- We all want to be happy and at peace, but we become complicated when we think we are worthy of the knowledge.

- We are all here because Allah is worthy and not because we are worthy.
- The Prophet (ﷺ) is shaheed because he witnesses that Allah is worthy. He never called people to worship Him.
- ▼ Jibreel (عليه السلام) witnessed the greatness of Allah and big scenes, but he is never proud of the great role he has. He witnessed the creation of Adam (عليه السلام) and all the scenes, but he is full of humility to Allah.
- When people witness great things, they feel they have more power and worthiness.

## SURAH AAL IMRAAN 18 شَهِدَ اللَّهُ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَٰهَ إِلَّا هُوَوَالْمُلَائِكَةُ وَأُولُو الْعِلْمِ قَائِمًا بِالْقِسْطِ عَ لَا إِلَٰهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ

Allah witnesses that there is no deity except Him, and [so do] the angels and those of knowledge - [that He is] maintaining [creation]

- in justice. There is no deity except Him, the Exalted in Might, the Wise.
- When people live for a long time, they witness many things, and feel they know.
- The more Allah shows us, the humbler we need to be.
- After the sidiqeen, comes the shuhada (martyrs).
- The moment we hear "shuhadaa" we think someone died in battle.
- ▶ But Allah is Ash Shaheed, the angels are shaheed (witnesses), the ummah of Mohammed (ﷺ) will be shuhada (witnesses).
- And we cannot have this without seeing that Allah is Ash Shaheed in the first place. And that He is The One Who makes people to witness.
- Jealousy is painful because a person thinks he is worthy. Arrogance is painful because a

- person thinks he is worthy. Hatred is painful because a person thinks he is worthy.
- When we translate what we are given as being worthy then we will never be happy. We will only become humiliated and hard in the heart.
- Companions are those who saw the Prophet (ﷺ) and died on belief. A tabi'ee are those who did not see the Prophet (ﷺ), but saw the Companions and died on belief.
- One Tabi'ee told a Companion, "I envy you for seeing the Prophet (ﷺ)" and the Companion said, "hypocrites saw the Prophet (ﷺ)." But did this make them believe? No.
- ▼ Firaoun witnessed many signs, but did it change him, no? It become all against him.

So when we witness something, it is not because we are worthy, but so that we submit and become humble.

#### SURAH AL AN'AAM 19

قُلْ أَيُّ شَيْءٍ أَكْبَرُ شَهَادَةً عَقُلِ اللَّهُ عَشَهِ يَذُ بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَكُمْ وَأُوحِيَ إِلَيَّ هَٰذَا الْقُرْآنُ لِأُنذِرَكُم بِهِ وَمَن بَلَغَ أَئِنَّكُمْ لَتَشْهَدُونَ أَنَّ مَعَ اللَّهِ هَٰذَا الْقُرْآنُ لِأُنذِرَكُم بِهِ وَمَن بَلَغَ أَئِنَّكُمْ لَتَشْهَدُونَ أَنَّ مَعَ اللَّهِ آلِهَ قُلْ الْمُهَدُ قُلْ إِنَّمَا هُوَ إِلَٰهٌ وَاحِدٌ وَ إِنَّنِي بَرِيءٌ مِمَّا آلِهَةً أُخْرَىٰ قُلُ لَا أَشْهَدُ قُلْ إِنَّمَا هُوَ إِلَٰهٌ وَاحِدٌ وَ إِنَّنِي بَرِيءٌ مِمَّا تُشْركُونَ تُشْركُونَ تُشْركُونَ

Say, "What thing is greatest in testimony?" Say, "Allah is witness between me and you. And this Qur'an was revealed to me that I may warn you thereby and whomever it reaches. Do you [truly] testify that with Allah there are other deities?" Say, "I will not testify [with you]." Say, "Indeed, He is but one God, and indeed, I am free of what you associate [with Him]."

We see we have knowledge, but we need to witness that Allah is Al 'Aleem and that He taught us, and not because we are worthy.

- ▼ The more the believers and angels witness, their level becomes higher and the more the disbelievers and hypocrites witness, it will be against them.
- We connect "shaheed" with death, though the meaning of "shaheed" is:
  - 1. Alive: those who witness to the Oneness of Allah are alive

#### SURAH AAL IMRAAN 169

وَلَا تَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ قُتِلُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَ اتَّاءَبَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ عِندَ رَبِّمْ يُرْزَقُونَ يُرْزَقُونَ

And never think of those who have been killed in the cause of Allah as dead. Rather, they are alive with their Lord, receiving provision,

There are those who fight to prove themselves, to show they are brave or fighting for their tribe, and these are not martyrs.

- 2. Present: a person cannot witness if he is absent. The Companions never wanted to miss out on anything with the Prophet (ﷺ) because they want to witness to (الا الله محمد رسول الله), and not to witness to show "I'm there." And when we witness something, we should not be absentminded.
- 3. Knowledgeable: someone who does not have knowledge and witnesses things will not understand. Keep in mind knowledge is knowledge of Allah, Qur'an and Sunnah. Can the testimony of someone who is foolish be taken? No. No matter how much we try to prove ourselves to people, they will still not believe, but Allah

- is Ash Shaheed because He witnesses everything from the inside and outside.
- 4. Trustworthy: imagine someone who witnesses but he is a betrayer, cheater or liar, can he be taken as a witness? No.
- Allah is The True Shaheed, He is alive Who never dies. He is present, has complete knowledge and is trustworthy.
- \* Allah witnesses Himself that His worthy and He is deserving of our attachment (الالله الالله). And if we do something good, it is sufficient that Allah is our Witness. We do not need the people to witness for us. And this gives us peace.
- Allah witnesses against people. If a person has a bad or evil intentions, Allah witnesses against

- him and He will even make his limbs against him on the Day of Judgement.
- Allah will make people witnesses. He will allow for people to be witnesses, so we do not give praise to ourselves for witnessing something.

#### SURAH AL FURQAN 72

وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَشْهَدُونَ الزُّورَوَإِذَا مَرُّوا بِاللَّغْوِ مَرُّوا كِرَامًا

And [they are] those who do not testify to falsehood, and when they pass near ill speech, they pass by with dignity.

- Sometimes we witness something that can make us sad, bad or depressed. May Allah make us witness all that will increase us in faith and devotions. Ameen.

Anything Allah makes us to witness in life is to make us witness to His beauty and perfection.

## THE PATH OF THOSE WHOM YOU HAVE FAVORED

## صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ

The path of those upon whom You have bestowed favor

#### THE SHUHADAA (MARTYRS)

- ▼ It does not mention the prophets, sidiqeen, martyrs or righteous, but that Allah bestowed upon them. So the focus is Allah bestowed upon them. It does not mention the good people in Surah Al Fatiha.
- So for any good we do, when we learn, do good deeds or submit, it Allah's favor and blessing on us.

- When we give charity, it is Allah's favor on us to give.
- When we see anything difficult, we want to witness to Allah's goodness in every decree.
- ▼ A person cannot be from the "shuhada" without being from the "saliheen", which means someone who always reforms and purifies himself. A person cannot witness if he is corrupt.
- The more we purify ourselves, the more Allah will make us witness. But if we want people to change then we will not witness.
- And a person cannot be from the sidiqeen if he is not shaheed who witnesses to the Oneness of Allah.
- There are different types of "shuhadaa":

- 1. Duniya: are those who only witness for themselves, or to show they are brave. So they are shuhada of the duniya. They will be praised by the people, but they will have no reward with Allah.
- 2. Someone who dies by being killed, stomach pain, drowning, building falls on him and the one who dies in the battle for the sake of Allah.

#### FIVE WHO WILL BE MARTYRS

عنْ أبي هُرَيْرةَ، رضي الله عنه ، قالَ: قالَ رَسُولُ الله عَلَيْ: المُطعُونُ، وَالمبْطُونُ، والغَرِيقُ، وَصَاحبُ الشُّهَدَاءُ خَمسَةٌ: المَطعُونُ، وَالمبْطُونُ، والغَرِيقُ، وَصَاحبُ . الهَدْم وَالشَّهيدُ في سبيل الله متفقٌ عليهِ

The Messenger of Allah (\*) said, "The martyrs are of five kinds: One who dies of plague; one who dies of disease of his belly; the drowned; one who dies under the debris (of construction,

etc.), and one who dies while fighting in the way of Allah."

They will witness to (الا إله الا الله), they will witness angels who give them glad tidings. He will witness his place in paradise.

Allah will forgive him, protect him from the torment of the grave, he will crown him with a crown of dignity of pearls and rubies, and seventy of his people will receive the intercession.

The shaheed has only one wish and he wishes to live again to die again for Allah due to what he saw. No one wants to go back to the duniya, but he wants to go

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Riyadh As Saliheen, Al Bukhari and Muslim, Book 11, Hadith 69

back to taste the sweetness of witnessing to (لا إله الا الله).

- We cannot be witnesses on our own, but we believe that Allah is Ash Shaheed and that is a short-cut.
- Anyone who asks for the shahada truthfully, he will attain the shahada, even if he dies in bed.
- The first martyr in Islam is the son of Khadija (may Allah be pleased with her) from her former husband. His name is Al Haarith ibn Abi Halaa (may Allah be pleased with him) who was killed for saying (لا إله الا الله).

#### SURAH AAL IMRAAN 53

## رَبَّنَا آمَنَّا بِمَا أَنزَلْتَ وَاتَّبَعْنَا الرَّسُولَ فَاكْتُبْنَا مَعَ الشَّاهِدِينَ

Our Lord, we have believed in what You revealed and have followed the messenger, so register us among the witnesses [to truth]."

#### REFERENCES

TAFSEER SHEIKH AS SA'ADY - تفسير الشيخ السعدي

#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

LISTEN TO THE CLASS - FOR WOMEN

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

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 <a href="https://t.me/markazalsalampublicationsENG">https://t.me/markazalsalampublicationsENG</a>

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

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FOR CHILDREN CLASS NOTES

https://t.me/dropletsofdew

FOR BEGINNERS TO ISLAM

https://t.me/truthfulentry