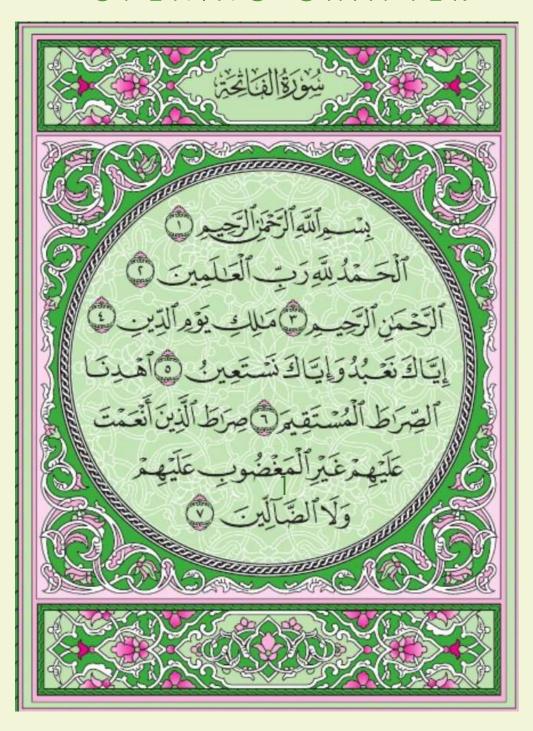


## سورة الفاتحة SURAH AL FATIHA

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 عَلَيْمٍمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْمٍمْ 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.

- Every ayah in Surah Al Fatiha is a foundation and it is sufficient. Every ayah purifies us and cures from all types of sicknesses, whether it is physical, mental or emotional sicknesses.
- Previously, we mentioned the path of those whom Allah favored and blessed. To be on the Straight Path is moderation and to know when to move or not, when to act or not requires guidance.
- We can get used to a certain way and when we become used to it, we start to exaggerate, but we want a Straight Path in our faith and utterances. It is not about being "on" all the time and "off" all the time.

- The people whom Allah favored are the prophets who are on the Straight Path. The second group are the sidiqeen who are truthful and Who made them truthful? Allah and this is a favor from Him. Allah places people in situations to bring out their truthfulness. The martyrs witness the goodness of Allah and not themselves. The martyrs do not see themselves, but they see Allah's favor and generosity. When they see His beauty, they do not see themselves.
- ◆ And the fourth group are the righteous and they are the basis for all other groups. A person cannot be truthful or a martyr without being righteous. The one who is "saalih" is valid to be near to Allah and to be in paradise. May Allah make us saaliheen. Ameen.

- Anything that Allah sends or commands will surely make a person better. Allah reforms and purifies us through a customized decree. Any decree that befalls us is not to break us, but to reform us and make us better.
- Reforming is to stop being affected by the comments of the people, but to see Allah and to purify ourselves. Reforming is to be under "beautiful maintenance" so that we keep going. In this way, we will not remain in one level in life, but to always become better.
- Can we be reformed and "valid" on our own?
  No, but it is all a favor from Allah.
- People are levels in paradise, but each feels content for the level he is in because he knows it is a favor from Allah. Even the last person to enter never feels less.

- We never want to look at what Allah favored others with because the moment we compare and look, it will make us forget the favors Allah favored us and it will never make us pleased. Rather it will make us ungrateful and we will not enjoy what we have.
- People feel threatened if others have something, thinking it will make less of them, but the greatest threat is our ego.

# THE PATH OF THOSE WHOM YOU HAVE FAVORED

غَيْرِالْمُغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ not of those who have evoked [Your] anger

### NOT OF THOSE WHO EVOKED YOUR ANGER (غَيْرِ الْمُغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ)

Now we will look at those who are not among the four whom Allah favored.

- ▼ There are two groups that are not on the Straight Path, those whom Allah is angry with and those who have gone astray.
- Imagine if we are taught our role at work and we do not apply it, will they keep us at work? No, they will be angry at us.
- Allah gives us knowledge and instructions of what to do, so we should learn and act upon it.
- ▼ If we are a teacher and we see the students applying what is learned, we will be happy with them, teach them more and be pleased with them.
- So those whom Allah favored are those who took the knowledge from Allah and acted on it, so Allah is pleased with them. But there are those whom Allah is angry with because He

- taught them and nurtured them, but they did not act, so Allah is angry with them.
- Those whom Allah favored are those who took the divine sources of what Allah said and the Prophet (≝) said. And this knowledge affected them, so they act on it. For example, we learn the fact that Allah is above the seven heavens, He rose over The Throne in a manner that suits His majesty. And if someone says, "Allah is everywhere", we will not accept it.
- ▼ It is important to learn what is right otherwise it will affect our Straight Path.
- The knowledge needs to be correct and right. For example, someone tells us place crystals and you will have energy, and then we say we feel good, but this is off the Straight Path because this is something the Prophet (≝)

never told us. Or someone recites many surahs which the Prophet (\*) never said, then it is not accepted.

- That's is why the Straight Path unites because it is to take it from the same source.
- Let us take the example of Banu Israel whom Allah mentions in the Qur'an of what happened before Firaoun died and after he died.
- When Banu Israel was under Firaoun, Musa (السلام) would tell them to be patient and they would follow him and be patient. When they were under the oppression of Firaoun, they were following the guidance, so they were on the Straight Path.
- Allah saved them from Firaoun by splitting the sea into twelve paths and this was clear

guidance for them. Allah mentions many times that Allah favored them when they believed in Him and followed the messenger without making a fuss.

- Then Firaoun was removed from their life and they are no longer under oppression, what should be done? Be grateful and remain firm on the Straight Path. Musa (عليه السلام) is with them, so they should not make a fuss and remain loyal.
- As soon as they were saved from Firaoun and they are given freedom, they became someone else.
- After they were saved, they saw people who were worshipping idols and they told Musa (عليه) make us an idol as they have an idol. They turned to shirk, so what is the problem? Their

knowledge to worship Allah alone is not being applied.

#### SURAH AL 'ARAAF 138

وَجَاوَزْنَا بِبَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ الْبَحْرَفَأَتَوْا عَلَىٰ قَوْمٍ يَعْكُفُونَ عَلَىٰ أَصْنَامٍ لَّهُمْ قَالُوا يَا مُوسَى اجْعَل لَّنَا إِلَٰهًا كَمَا لَهُمْ آلِهَةٌ قَالَ أَصْنَامٍ لَّهُمْ قَالُوا يَا مُوسَى اجْعَل لَّنَا إِلَٰهًا كَمَا لَهُمْ آلِهَةٌ قَالَ إِلَّهًا كَمَا لَهُمْ آلِهَةٌ قَالَ إِلَّهُا كُمُ قَوْمٌ تَجْهَلُونَ إِنَّكُمْ قَوْمٌ تَجْهَلُونَ

And We took the Children of Israel across the sea; then they came upon a people intent in devotion to [some] idols of theirs. They said, "O Moses, make for us a god just as they have gods." He said, "Indeed, you are a people behaving ignorantly.

- Allah is not always angry, but is angry towards those who earned it, and He is not quick to get angry.
- ▼ It is not good for humans to be angry because our anger is imperfect. And anger is from the devil. We see how our faces become when we

- are angry. Most of our anger is due to our ego when something does not go our way.
- ◆ Abu Dharr Al Ghafari (may Allah be pleased with him) used to love to gardening and some Companions came to help him, but it became worse. When he saw this, he was upset, and it is not wrong to be upset. So he remained quiet, sat down and sought refuge with Allah from the shaitan. And they said, "what's wrong?"
- ▶ He told them, the Prophet (ﷺ) said if someone is angry then it is from the devil and to change positions.
- Allah said anyone who suppresses his anger and pardons others, then Allah loves the gooddoers.
- So we do not want to stop our anger because others are there, but we want to stop our anger

- due to the knowledge we have about Allah and the Prophet (\*).
- There was a man who was angry and his face was turning red, the Prophet (ﷺ) said I know words if he were to say, then his anger would go. And that is to say, (اعوذ بالله من الشيطان الرجيم) (I seek refuge with Allah from the devil.)
- When we feel angry, it is important to deal with it and not escape from it. How?
  - 1. Seek refuge with Allah from the devil
  - 2. Change our position, if sitting, then to stand, and if standing, then to sit.
  - 3. Make wudhu
- There was a man who took the Prophet (ﷺ) by the neck, such that a mark appeared on his neck. He wanted money from the Prophet (ﷺ)

- and he said to give him. If someone is foolish, then a person should just give him.
- ✔ And in another incident, people said, "you are unfair when distributing the booty", but this made him upset because this is transgressing against the rules of Allah that His Messenger (ﷺ) would be unjust, subhan Allah.
- Or when Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her) had hung a curtain with an image on it, the Prophet (\*\*) told her to remove it otherwise the angels would not enter.
- Allah is always The Most Merciful and His anger is not all the time.
- ▼ It is written as a statement on the Throne of Allah, "My mercy precedes My anger."

## THE MERCY OF ALLAH PRECEDES HIS ANGER

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صِلَى الله عليه وسلم قَالَ " إِنَّ اللهَ لَلَّا عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صِلَى الله عليه وسلم قَالَ " إِنَّ اللهَ لَكَ عَنْ الْخَلْقَ كَتَبَ عِنْدَهُ فَوْقَ عَرْشِهِ إِنَّ رَحْمَتِي سَبَقَتْ غَضَبِي The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "When Allah had finished His creation, He wrote over his Throne: 'My Mercy preceded My Anger.'1

The Anger of Allah is a restricted attribute (مقیدة), so we cannot tell our children, "Allah will be angry with you" for something He did not mention He is angry with. We should not give the impression to our children that Allah is always angry, astaghfar Allah. Just as a mother who always shows her anger to the children and when she is really angry for something, they will not value it because they can no longer distinguish.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sahih al-Bukhari 7422

- ◆ Allah is always The Most Merciful. Imagine how much wrong we do, but does He get angry with us? Imagine if someone is angry with us all the time to become better, we may change from the outside, but we will hate it inside. And we will not be reformed in this way.
- When Firaoun was drowning, he wanted to say (عليه السلام) wanted to put a عليه السلام) wanted to put mud in his mouth because he knows the Mercy of Allah is so great.
- When the people want the Day of Judgment to start, they will go to every messenger. They first went to Adam (عليه السلام) and said, "today My Lord is angry, He has never been angry like this before and never angry like this after." He said to go to Nuh (عليه السلام) and this continued until they went to Ibrahim (عليه السلام), Musa (عليه السلام), Musa (عليه السلام)

and finally Mohammed (ﷺ) and he said, "he will" and he prostrated to Allah and praised Him, until Allah allowed him to ask and intercede.

#### SURAH AL 'ARAAF 152

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ اتَّخَذُوا الْعِجْلَ سَيَنَالُهُمْ غَضَبٌ مِّن رَّيِّمْ وَذِلَّةٌ فِي النَّانِينَ الْخُيَاةِ الدُّنْيَاءَ وَكَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي الْمُفْتَرِينَ الْخُيَاةِ الدُّنْيَاءَ وَكَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي الْمُفْتَرِينَ

Indeed, those who took the calf [for worship] will obtain anger from their Lord and humiliation in the life of this world, and thus do We recompense the inventors [of falsehood].

- ▶ Banu Israel worshipped a calf made of gold and the wrath of Allah befell them. And similarly, if we take any idol besides Allah, we will earn the wrath of Allah. May Allah protect us form shirk. Ameen.
- Something that will always save us from the wrath of Allah is tawheed Oneness of Allah.

When things are not going well in our life, we need to go back and seek refuge with Allah from shirk. Perhaps we turned to something, to someone else or ourselves, and so we want to return back to Allah alone.

# SUPPLICATION TO BE PROTECTED FROM SHIRK

Allāhumma innī a`ūdhu bika an ushrika bika wa anā a`lam, wa astaghfiruka limā lā a`lam.

O Allah, I seek refuge in You lest I associate anything with You knowingly, and I seek Your forgiveness for what I know not.<sup>2</sup>

In conclusion, Surah Al Fatiha is not just about being on the Straight Path, but to avoid going off the Straight Path.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Sahihut-Targhib wat-Tarhib 1/19

We ask Allah for His pleasure and paradise and we see refuge from His anger and hellfire. Ameen.

MAY ALLAH BE PLEASED WITH US. AMEEN.

#### REFERENCES

TAFSEER SHEIKH AS SA'ADY تفسير الشيخ السعدى 1.

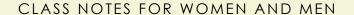
#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

LISTEN TO THE CLASS - FOR WOMEN

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

TO REQUEST ACCESS TO THE RECORDING:

https://markazalsalam.com/recordings-notes



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