



# INTRODUCTION

## SURAH AL KAHF 13

أن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم كان يقول: "اللهم إني أسألك  
الهدى والتقى والعفاف والغنى"

'Abdullah bin Mas'ud (May Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) used to say: "Allahumma inni as'alukal-huda wat-tuqa wal-'afafa wal-ghina (O Allah! I ask You for guidance, piety, chastity and self-sufficiency)".<sup>1</sup>

- ♥ We need guidance all the time and we cannot take things for granted or according to our expectations.
- ♥ The main dua and sufficient dua in Surah Al Fatiha is “Guide us to the Straight Path”. The guidance of others helps us with our guidance as well. Allah Al Haadi guides us and gives us means for guidance, both built-in and external.

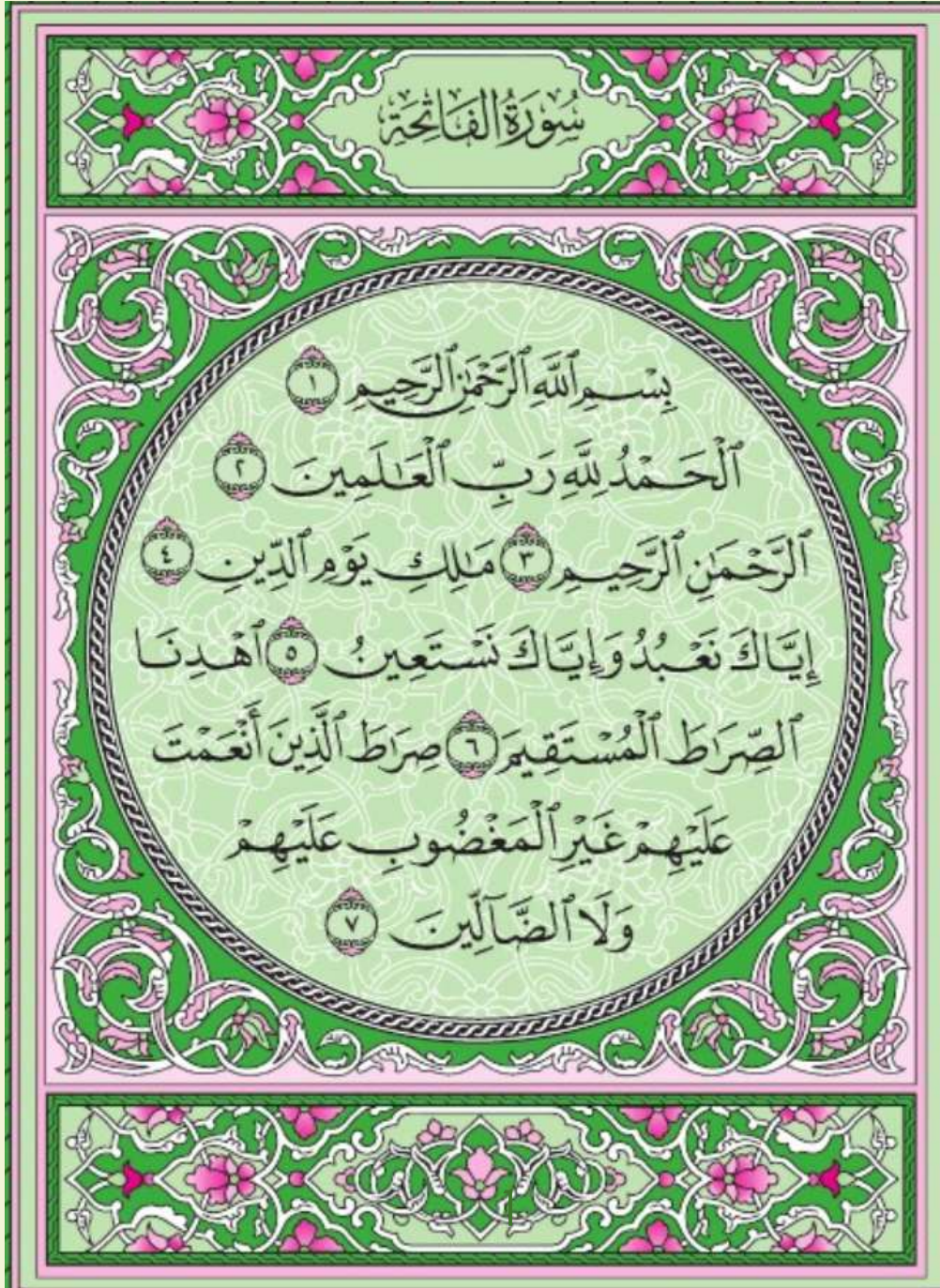
<sup>1</sup> Riyadh As Saliheen, Muslim, Book 1, Hadith 71



# سورة الفاتحة

## SURAH AL FATIHA

### OPENING CHAPTER



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ 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 -

3

الرَّحْمَنِ 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 عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ 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.

## 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): it is important to follow the fitra Allah has granted us,
2. Senses: Allah gave us hearing, sight and feelings for guidance. And the fitra should support the senses, but if we are overly emotional, then we can go all over the place.
3. Intellect: it should put the senses in place. It is important as a foundation to receive the religion.

## OUTER GUIDANCE

4. Guidance of the deen (Qur'an and Sunnah):  
 we need guidance of the deen to help us and unite us all. We can have different natures, but it is not about saying what anyone wants, each is different, but when there is the Qur'an and Sunnah then we submit. However if there are no divine laws of the religion, then everyone will go their own way. The deen not only guides, but unites us.

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

- ♥ What will make the guidance sweet? When we have good companions. If we are alone then we will deceive ourselves thinking we know ourselves and know what to do.
- ♥ We need good friends to overcome our ego because they are our mirror.
- ♥ Fitna (trial) is when we hear or see something and we absorb it, and it makes us disbelieve in Allah and His blessings because we are sinking in the fitna.
- ♥ In the way to Allah, there will be situations we do not like or like, we are praised or dispraise; however, if we understand the wisdom of fitna then it will purify us.

- ♥ For some, the fitna will make a person worse and that is when they take it in and disbelieve in everything.
- ♥ There is a scholar who said if we find our friend changing, then we need to look back at ourselves because it is our sins that is causing the change.
- ♥ The scholar said “I can see my sin through the misbehavior of my wife, misbehavior of my ride and misbehavior of my servant”, subhan Allah.

### SURAH AR RA'AD 11

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّى يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ ۗ

Indeed, Allah will not change the condition of a people until they change what is in themselves.

### SURAH AT TAWBAH 49

أَلَا فِي الْفِتْنَةِ سَقَطُوا ۗ

Unquestionably, into trial they have fallen.

- ♥ People are a test for each other and we must know that no one can benefit or harm us.



- ♥ A fitna can make a person a believer if he overcomes it and it can make a person a disbeliever if he absorbs it.
- ♥ A fitna is something that touches our heart like an “electric shock” and to get out of it is by belief, and not disbelief.

## TRIALS AS DARK PATCHES OF NIGHT

أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " بَادِرُوا بِالْأَعْمَالِ فِتْنًا  
كَقِطْعِ اللَّيْلِ الْمُظْلِمِ يُصْبِحُ الرَّجُلُ مُؤْمِنًا وَيُمْسِي كَافِرًا وَيُمْسِي  
مُؤْمِنًا وَيُصْبِحُ كَافِرًا يَبِيعُ أَحَدُهُمْ دِينَهُ بِعَرَضٍ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا "

Abu Hurairah narrated that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: "Rush to do good deeds. A Fitnah will occur that is like a portion of the dark night, morning will come upon a man as a believer, who will be a disbeliever in the evening, and evening will come upon a believer, who will be a disbeliever in the morning. One of them will sell his religion for goods of the world."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Jami` at-Tirmidhi 2195

- ♥ The Prophet (ﷺ) said trials come as dark patches of the night. In the morning, he is a believer and becomes a disbeliever at night.
- ♥ If we want to reach, we must go through tests, but it is not to make us fail, but to make us better. And what should we do when facing trials? Be busy with good deeds. If we are not busy with good deeds then we will be busy with trials. It is important to occupy ourselves.
- ♥ When we have the religion, it will save us from struggles and take us to paradise with ease. And the behavior of someone who knows is different from someone who does not know.
- ♥ The One Who is most insulted in life is Allah and the most insulted from people is the Prophet (ﷺ). They say “Allah has a son, has a partner, is poor”, astaghfar Allah.

- ♥ When people ignore us, perhaps it is because we ignore Allah. The way we are deal with others is how Allah deals with us.
- ♥ When our heart is connected to Allah, we do not go into problems, but remember Allah. We remember He is The Most Forbearing, The Most Pardoning, The Most Forgiving. It gives us calmness and quietness.
- ♥ When we know Who is Allah, we will be engaged with His Most Beautiful Names and Actions. Allah will not push us towards something until we are satisfied.
- ♥ We need the religion and the religion is different levels and those who know are different level as well, and that is rushd to be truly guided.

- ♥ If we know the reason of trials, it makes us want to pass the trials for the Face of Allah.

## SUPPLICATION TO SEE THE FACE OF ALLAH

وَأَسْأَلُكَ لَذَّةَ النَّظَرِ إِلَى وَجْهِكَ وَالشَّوْقَ إِلَى لِقَائِكَ فِي غَيْرِ ضَرَاءٍ  
مُضِرَّةٍ وَلَا فِتْنَةٍ مُضِلَّةٍ اللَّهُمَّ زَيِّنَا بِزِينَةِ الْإِيمَانِ

I ask You for the sweetness of looking upon Your face and a longing to meet You in a manner that does not entail a calamity that will bring about harm or a trial that will cause deviation.<sup>3</sup>

- ♥ It is a beautiful world when anything we go through, we just think about Allah and how He is good and kind to us. We want to be good and Allah is The Most Worthy to be beautiful for Him.

## TRIALS CAN MAKE A HEART WHITE OR BLACK

سَمِعْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَقُولُ " تُعْرَضُ الْفِتْنُ  
عَلَى الْقُلُوبِ كَالْحَصِيرِ عُوْدًا عُوْدًا فَأَيُّ قَلْبٍ أُشْرِبَهَا نُكِبَتْ فِيهِ

<sup>3</sup> Sunan an-Nasa'i 1305



نُكْتَةُ سَوْدَاءٍ وَأَيُّ قَلْبٍ أَنْكَرَهَا نُكِتَ فِيهِ نُكْتَةٌ بَيْضَاءٌ حَتَّى تَصِيرَ  
 عَلَى قَلْبَيْنِ عَلَى أَبْيَضَ مِثْلِ الصِّفَا فَلَا تَضُرُّهُ فِتْنَةٌ مَا دَامَتْ  
 السَّمَوَاتُ وَالْأَرْضُ وَالْآخِرُ أَسْوَدُ مُرْبَادًا كَالْكُوزِ مُجَخِّيًّا لَا يَعْرِفُ  
 مَعْرُوفًا وَلَا يُنْكِرُ مُنْكَرًا إِلَّا مَا أَشْرَبَ مِنْ هَوَاهُ "

I heard the Messenger of Allah (may peace be, upon him ) observing: Temptations will be presented to men's hearts as reed mat is woven stick by stick and any heart which is impregnated by them will have a black mark put into it, but any heart which rejects them will have a white mark put in it. The result is that there will become two types of hearts: one white like a white stone which will not be harmed by any turmoil or temptation, so long as the heavens and the earth endure; and the other black and dust-coloured like a vessel which is upset, not recognizing what is good or rejecting what is abominable, but being impregnated with passion.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Sahih Muslim 144

- ♥ The trials come like straws to the heart and with knowledge, we say, “we do not want to fall into the trap of the fitna”, why? For the Sake of Allah.
- ♥ We want to have good feelings for Allah and so we want to be beautiful for Him. He will bring tests to us, do we want to drink the fitna or remove it?
- ♥ If this person pushes it away and does not want the fitna, then Allah will place a white dot in the heart, so the person feels good.
- ♥ Another person absorbs and drinks the trial, and when it is taken in, he sinks in it and eats himself up. He does not pardon because he feels bad and at the same time, he does not satisfy himself with what Allah and the Prophet (ﷺ) have said, so what happens? He changes.

The Prophet (ﷺ) said there will be a black dot in the heart, so he does not feel good.

- ♥ The one who does not absorb the trials, then his heart becomes white and the fitnas do not affect him because he constantly struggled. And with the struggle, Allah rewards him by facing trials without a struggle. For example, we struggle to come to class, but then as we struggle and struggle, then Allah makes it easy.
- ♥ And the one who absorbs the trials will see truth as falsehood and falsehood as truth.
- ♥ Surah Al Kahf is about trials and what saves us from trials is “to be in the cave”, and are we alone? We are with good companions.

## SURAH AL KAHF 13

نَحْنُ نَقُصُّ عَلَيْكَ نَبَأَهُم بِالْحَقِّ إِنَّهُمْ فِتْيَةٌ آمَنُوا بِرَبِّهِمْ وَزِدْنَاَهُمْ  
هُدًى

It is We who relate to you, [O Muhammad (ﷺ)], their story in truth. Indeed, they were youths who believed in their Lord, and We increased them in guidance.

- ♥ If we accept the nurturing of Allah, then He will increase us in guidance and He will tie our hearts. Their heart is not torn with any trial, why? Because they accepted the nurturing of Allah and remained together.
- ♥ When we are alone, the guidance is not complete or sweet.

## SURAH AL KAHF 28

وَاصْبِرْ نَفْسَكَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ يَدْعُونَ رَبَّهُمْ بِالْغَدَاةِ وَالْعَشِيِّ يُرِيدُونَ  
وَجْهَهُمْ وَلَا تَعْدُ عَيْنَاكَ عَنْهُمْ تُرِيدُ زِينَةَ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَلَا تُطِعْ مَنْ  
أَغْفَلْنَا قَلْبَهُ عَن ذِكْرِنَا وَاتَّبَعَ هَوَاهُ وَكَانَ أَمْرُهُ فُرُطًا



And keep yourself patient [by being] with those who call upon their Lord in the morning and the evening, seeking His countenance. And let not your eyes pass beyond them, desiring adornments of the worldly life, and do not obey one whose heart We have made heedless of Our remembrance and who follows his desire and whose affair is ever [in] neglect.

- ♥ We are to be patient with companions because that is guidance itself. It is guidance when we face ourselves with others, and we want to be better for Allah.
- ♥ An effective way to change for the best is when we have a good companion. Duniya friendship does not have something solid to hold on to. But good companions want the Face of Allah. And we do not want to lose our friends due to our desires, so we need to be patient with them.

- ♥ If our eyes turn away and want another companionship, then we will fall into the trials.

## A BELIEVER'S LOVE FOR OTHERS WHAT HE LOVES FOR HIMSELF

عن أنس رضي الله عنه عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال: "لا يؤمن أحدكم حتى يحب لأخيه ما يحب لنفسه"

The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "No one of you becomes a true believer until he likes for his brother what he likes for himself".<sup>5</sup>

- ♥ We think companions are only outer, but companionship is when the inner comes out. Good things will come out and even bad things so that we may be purified.

## SCHOLAR'S SAYINGS ABOUT FRIENDSHIP

- ♥ One of the scholars said anyone who leaves his friend will be left alone (by Allah).
- ♥ The one without a friend is like a right hand without a left hand.

<sup>5</sup> Riyadh As Saliheen, Al Bukhair and Muslim, Introduction, Hadith 183

- ♥ The stranger is the one without a loved one.
- ♥ The one without a friend does not have a life.
- ♥ Meeting of friends is removal of sorrow.
- ♥ To have companions and talk to them are the best deeds in life.
- ♥ In life there are things hidden and apparent, and what is hidden is greater and more precious. We may be apparent, but what is hidden is the heart and this is the most valuable which only Allah sees.
- ♥ Allah is so apparent by His signs, guidance and favors on us, but what is hidden to us from Allah is more beautiful. So He covers His beauty with a Veil. And is it not to cover faults, but His beauty. So there are His signs and His words that are apparent, and the more we are

transparent with Allah, the more He will lift the veil and we will feel the connection to Allah.

♥ Allah will not show Himself to someone who is struggling with himself and the people.

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



## REFERENCES

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



## RELATED RESOURCES

TRIALS

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

LISTEN TO THE CLASS – FOR WOMEN

<https://vimeopro.com/markazalsalam/qnp-surah-al-fatihq>

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