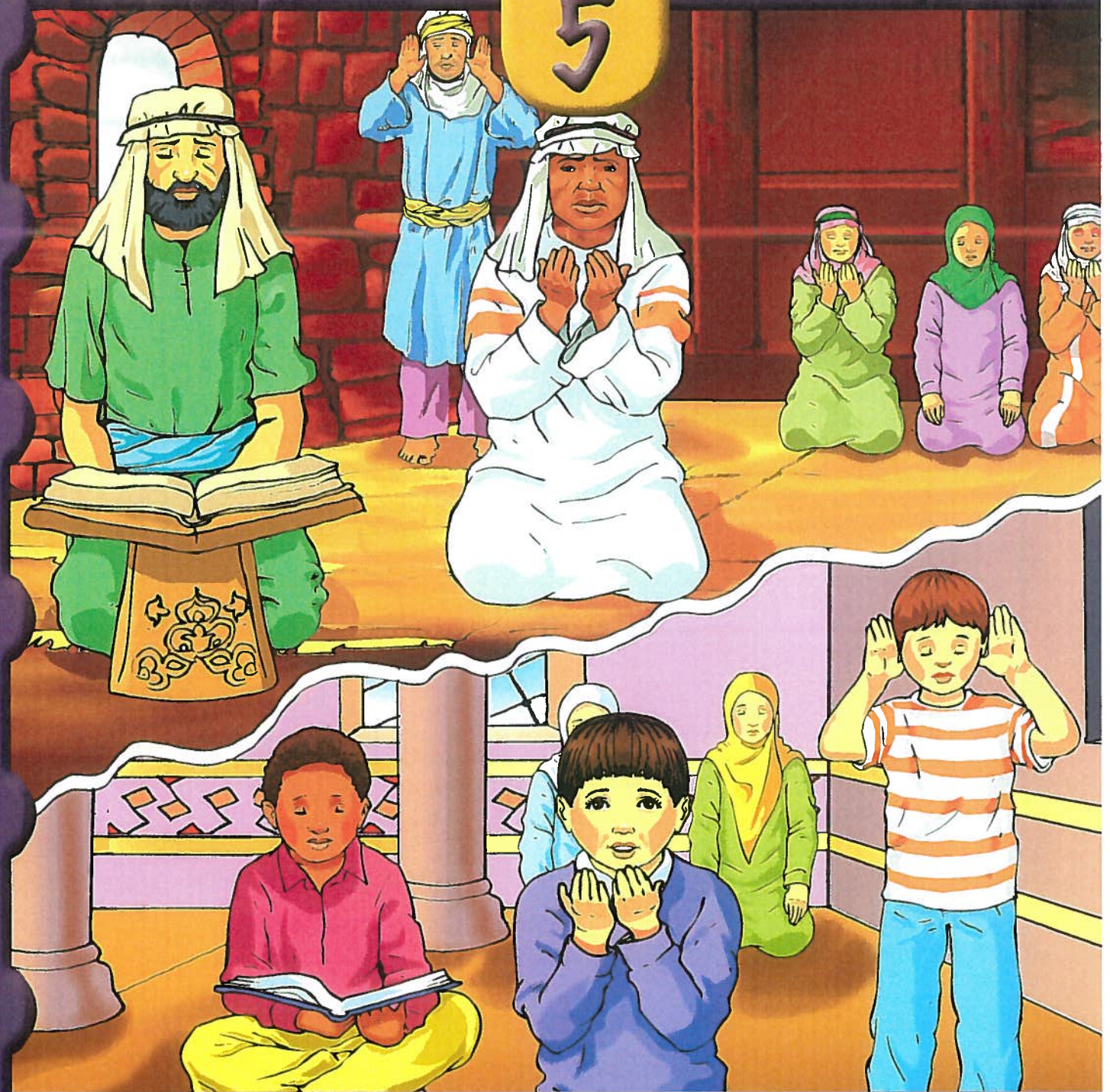


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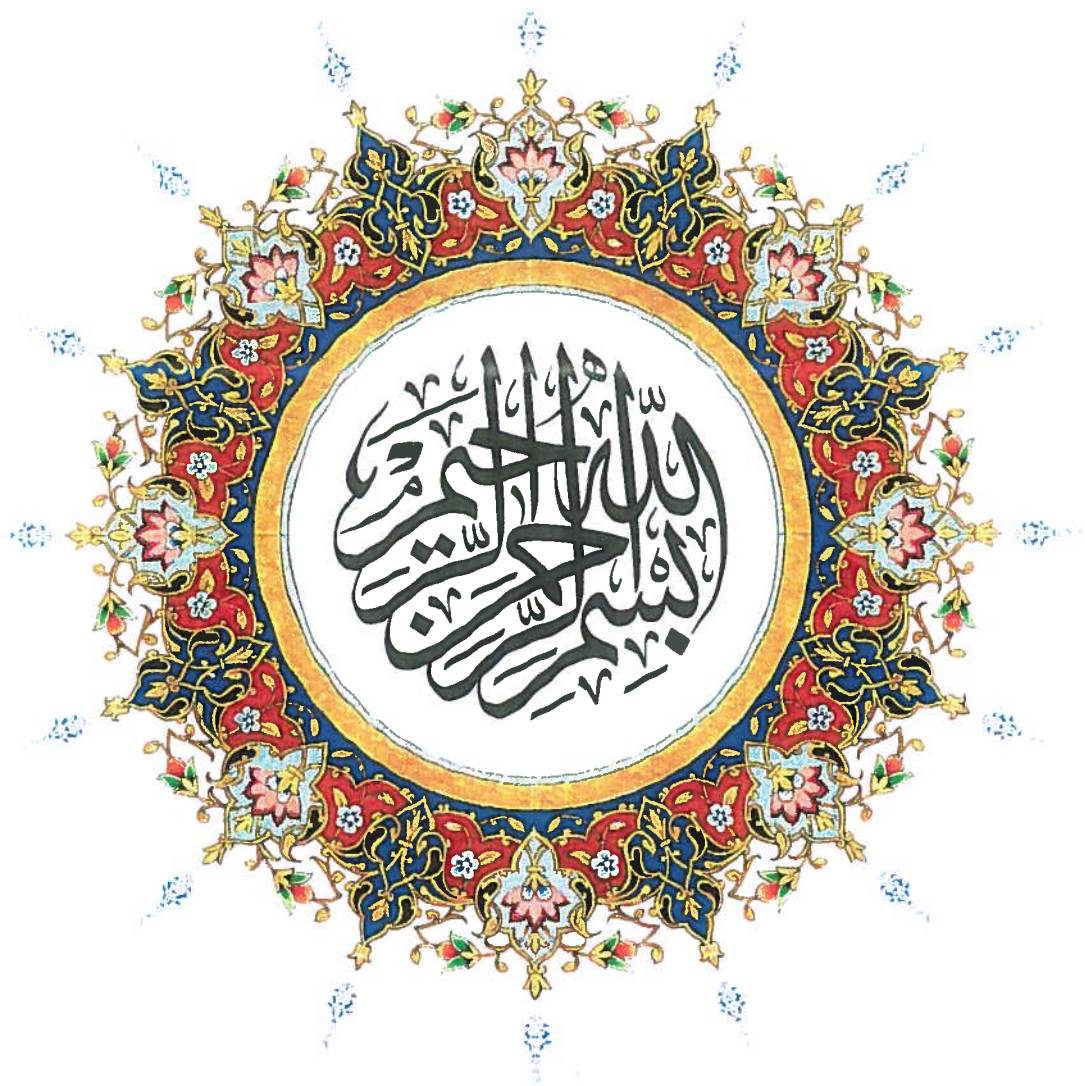


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ISLAMIC STUDIES TEXTBOOK SERIES - LEVEL FIVE





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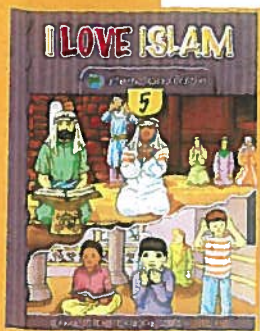


International Edition

5



ISLAMIC STUDIES TEXTBOOK SERIES - LEVEL FIVE



I Love Islam 5

International Edition

I Love Islam © is a series of Islamic Studies textbooks that gradually introduces Muslim students to the essentials of their faith. It brings to light the historic and cultural aspects of Islam. The series covers levels one through five, which are suitable for young learners and includes a student textbooks and workbooks as well as a teacher and parent's guides.

The Islamic Services Foundation is undertaking this project in collaboration with Brighter Horizons Academy in Dallas, Texas. Extensive efforts have been made to review the enclosed material. However, constructive suggestions and comments that would enrich the content of this work are welcome.

All praise is due to Allah (God), for providing us with the resources that have enabled us to complete the first part of this series. This is an ongoing project, and it is our sincere wish and hope that it will impact our Muslim children today, and for many years to come.

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Tawheed: The Faith of All Prophets



CHAPTER 1	Prophets of Islam	A2
CHAPTER 2	Prophets and messengers	A12
CHAPTER 3	Tawheed: The Faith of All Prophets	A22
CHAPTER 4	Away From Tawheed	A32
CHAPTER 5	Surat-un-Naba':	A46
Lesson 1	Surat-un-Naba': 1	A46
Lesson 2	Surat-un-Naba': 2	A48
Lesson 3	Surat-un-Naba': 3	A50



MANY PROPHETS, ONE GOD

CHAPTER 1	Prophet Hud	B2
CHAPTER 2	Prophet Salih	B12
CHAPTER 3	Prophet Lut and the People of Sodom	B22
CHAPTER 4	Turning to Allah: The Story Of Prophet Yunus	B34



MUSLIMS UNDER SIEGE

CHAPTER 1	Disobedience is Harmful: The Battle of Uhud	C2
CHAPTER 2	Searching for the Truth: The Journey of Salman Al-Farisi	C12
CHAPTER 3	Surat-ut-takweer :	C20
Lesson 1	Surat-ut-takweer 1	C20
Lesson 2	Surat-ut-takweer 2	C22



WORSHIP WITH HEART

CHAPTER 1	Al Khushoo' the Heart of Worship	D2
CHAPTER 2	Salat-ul-Jama'ah: A Prayer Allah loves	D10
CHAPTER 3	How To Pray Salat-ul-Jama'ah	D16
CHAPTER 4	Salat-ul-Jumu'ah: The Friday Prayer	D22
CHAPTER 5	Appreciating Allah's Gifts	D30
CHAPTER 6	Sujood-ush-Shukr	D38
CHAPTER 7	Zakah: The Third Pillar of Islam	D46



MY ISLAMIC CHARACTER

CHAPTER 1	Brotherhood in Islam	E2
CHAPTER 2	Muslims Love Each Other	E8
CHAPTER 3	The Six Rights of Muslims on One Another	E14
CHAPTER 4	Helping Others, Helping Yourself	E22
CHAPTER 5	I Do Not Hurt Others	E30
CHAPTER 6	Surat-ul-Mutaffifeen :	E38
Lesson 1	Surat-ul-Mutaffifeen 1	E38
Lesson 2	Surat-ul-Mutaffifeen 2	E40



ISLAMIC LIFE STYLE

CHAPTER 1	Muslim Fashion	F2
CHAPTER 2	Muslims Online	F8

"I Love Islam" Friends and Family



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Bilal



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Mrs. Siraj



Amir



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Mona



Khalid



Ahmad



Teacher Hibah



Baby Yousuf



UNIT A

Tawheed: The Faith of All Prophets

CHAPTER 1

Prophets of Islam **A2**

CHAPTER 2

Prophets and messengers **A12**

CHAPTER 3

Tawheed: The Faith of All Prophets **A22**

CHAPTER 4

Away From Tawheed **A32**

CHAPTER 5

Surat-ul-Naba': **A46**

LESSON 1

Surat-ul-Naba' 1 **A46**

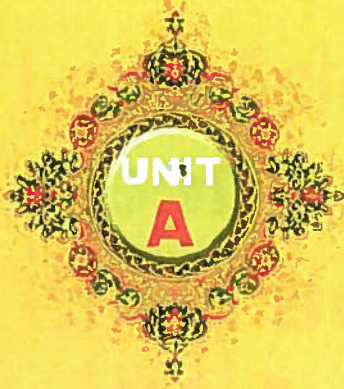
LESSON 2

Surat-ul-Naba' 2 **A48**

LESSON 3

Surat-ul-Naba' 3 **A50**





Prophets of Islam

CHAPTER ONE

Pre-reading Questions



- 1 What is the main message of all prophets?
- 2 Were the prophets ordinary men?
- 3 What are the characteristics of prophets?
- 4 What were some of the miracles our prophets brought with them?
- 5 Are the prophets mentioned in the Qur'an similar to those mentioned in the Bible?
- 6 Who was the last and final prophet?
- 7 How should we respect our prophets?

Introduction

As you learned earlier, the concept of tawheed (monotheism) is the most important concept in Islam. The key to Heaven is to understand and believe that there is no God but Allah, the One True Creator. Allah wanted the message of Islam and the belief in one God, 'tawheed,' to spread among mankind. He did this by appointing prophets and messengers.



Allah Sent Prophets to All Nations

Islam teaches that God sent prophets and messengers to all nations. Since the beginning of time, God has communicated His guidance through these chosen people. They were human beings who walked and lived among their people. They taught nations about faith in One Almighty God and how to be good. From the first prophet, Adam (P), to the last prophet, Muhammad ﷺ, Allah's message eventually reached all corners of the world. Allah says in the Qur'an:

﴿وَلِكُلِّ أُمَّةٍ رَّسُولٌ﴾ يونس: ٤٧

“And for every nation there is a messenger.” [10:47]

﴿إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ بِالْحَقِّ بَشِيرًا وَنَذِيرًا وَإِن مِّنْ أُمَّةٍ إِلَّا خَلَا فِيهَا نَذِيرٌ﴾ فاطر: ٢٤

“Indeed we have sent with you the truth conveying to people Our good tidings and warnings. And there is no nation, which has not

been sent a warning (messenger of warning).” [35:24]

The Qur'an itself tells us that it has mentioned only some of the prophets:

﴿وَرُسُلًا قَدْ قَصَصْنَاهُمْ عَلَيْكَ مِن قَبْلُ وَرُسُلًا

لَمْ نَقْصُصْهُمْ عَلَيْكَ﴾ النساء: ١٦٤

“And we told you about some messengers, while we did not tell you about others.” [4:164]

Since prophets appeared over thousands of years, and there were many in each nation, to make a full list of names is impossible. There are some ahadeeth of the Prophet which say that God sent thousands of prophets and messengers. Therefore, Muslims have to believe in and respect all the prophets that are mentioned in Al-Qur'an. And, they should also believe that Allah sent many other prophets and messengers whose names are not known. The Holy Qur'an stated:



Holy Qur'an

﴿ءَأَمَّنَ الرَّسُولُ بِمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ كُلٌّ ءَأَمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ

وَرُسُلِهِ ۚ لَا نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ أَحَدٍ مِنْ رُسُلِهِ ۚ﴾ البقرة: ٢٨٥

“The Messenger (Muhammad) believes in what has been revealed to him from his Lord, as do the men of faith. Each one (of them) believes in Allah, His angels, His books, and His messengers. We make no distinction (they say) between one and another of His messengers.” [2: 285]



Words of Wisdom

Hadeeth Shareef

عن أبي وهب الجشمي قال: قال رسول الله ﷺ قال:
 "تَسَمُّوا بِأَسْمَاءِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ ، وَأَحَبُّ الْأَسْمَاءِ إِلَى اللَّهِ: عَبْدُ اللَّهِ وَعَبْدُ الرَّحْمَنِ."
 رواه أبو داود والنسائي وأحمد

Abu Wahm Al-Jashmi narrated that rasoolullah ﷺ said:
 "Choose the names of prophets for yourselves. And the names that
 Allah loves the most are Abdullah and Abdur-Rahman."

Reported in Abu Dawood, Nasa'i and Ahmad.

All Prophets were Human Beings

Prophets and messengers were human beings who were very noble and pious role models. They were neither divine, nor angels nor jinn. Every prophet was born to a mother and a father, except Prophet Isa عليه السلام , who had no father, and Adam عليه السلام who had neither. Some prophets had brothers like Prophet Musa عليه السلام. Prophet Musa's brother was also a prophet, and his name was Haroon عليه السلام. Ismaeel and Ishaq were also brothers and prophets. Other prophets got married and had children, like Prophets Adam, Nuh, Ibraheem, Musa, Muhammad ﷺ and others. Although prophets and messengers were ordinary men, Allah ﷻ gave them special quali-

ties. They all had high morals, manners and attitudes. They were faithful, honest, patient, tolerant, and honorable. Additionally, some of them had long lives. Prophet Nuh عليه السلام lived for 950 years and Prophet Ibraheem lived more than 200 years! Other prophets died much younger than that, such as Prophet Muhammad ﷺ . He became a prophet at the age of 40 and died at the age of 63. Prophet Isa عليه السلام is the only prophet who has yet to die. Instead, Allah ﷻ raised him to Heaven. He will come back to Earth before the Day of Judgment, and he will confirm Islam as the true and final religion of God. He will also win over all evil people and powers.



All Prophets were Men

Being a prophet or a messenger was not an easy task. It was a very serious responsibility, which required a great deal of perseverance and strength. Some prophets were killed, like Prophets Zakariyya (Zachariah) and Yahya (John) عليه السلام. Others were put in prison for years, like Prophet Yousuf (Joseph). Almost all

prophets were persecuted and harassed, including Nuh (Noah), Ibraheem عليه السلام (Abraham), Yunus (Jonah), Musa (Moses), Isa (Jesus), Muhammad, and others. Therefore, Allah in His glorious wisdom carefully selected those individuals who would be most suited to serve as prophets. Allah also stated that he chose only men to be prophets and messengers.

Words of Wisdom

Holy Qur'an

﴿ وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ قَبْلِكَ إِلَّا رِجَالًا نُوْحِيْ اِلَيْهِمْ مِنْ اَهْلِ الْقُرَى ﴾ يوسف: ١٠٩

And We have not sent before you but men from (among) the people of the towns, to whom We sent revelations. [12:109]

However, Allah chose certain faithful women to play great and historical roles. Asiah, the wife of Phir'oun, Maryam, Khadeejah and

many others were exceptional role models. They were not prophets, but they were women of great faith.

The Message of Prophethood



▲ *The Cave of Hira, where Prophet Muhammad received the first verses of Al-Qur'an.*



▲ *Mount Sinai, where Prophet Musa received the Torah.*

How did prophets find out that they had been selected as prophets or messengers? There were two ways in which Allah ﷻ reached out to his prophets. The first way was by sending an angel to them. For example, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ received the message of prophethood from the Angel Jibreel while he was in Cave Hira'.

At other times, Allah ﷻ spoke directly to His chosen prophets. For example, Prophet Musa عليه السلام went to a desert or a mountain where

Allah ﷻ spoke to him directly.

All the prophets received the same basic message: That Allah is the only true Creator and Sustainer of the universe, and that He is the only One worthy of complete obedience and worship. Adam, Nuh, Ibraheem, Musa, Isa, Muhammad, and all the prophets brought their people this same message. None of them claimed to be divine or God-like in any way, and they all taught a pure belief in the One True God.

Characteristics of Prophets

What Are The Characteristics of Prophets?

1. The prophets of Allah were the best in their communities. They were the most moral and the most intelligent among their peoples. This was necessary because the life of a prophet served as a model for his followers. His personality had to be pleasant in order to attract people towards his message rather than drive them away.

﴿ وَإِنَّكَ لَعَلَىٰ خُلُقٍ عَظِيمٍ ﴾ القلم: ٤

“And most surely you are of a great moral character.” [68:4]

2. They usually came from well-known and highly respected families. Most prophets came from great lineage. Prophets Musa, Haroon, Yousuf, and Yaqoub were

the offspring of Prophet Ibraheem, the Father of Prophets, through his son Is'haq. Prophet Muhammad was the descendent of Prophet Isma'eel. Isma'eel was also the son of Prophet Ibraheem.

3. Prophets had to possess strong personalities. They had to be strong and resilient in the face of challenges and difficulties. Many Prophets had to face fierce and evil enemies.

4. Prophets had to be patient and tolerant. Each prophet had to bring the message of tawheed to his people and teach this message for many, many years. Many prophets, including Prophet Muhammad ﷺ were persecuted and ridiculed for



teaching Allah's message. Others, like Nuh, taught for hundreds of years, but only gained a few followers. In the case of Prophet

Yunus, the persecution and harassment got so bad that he fled, abandoning the people whom he was supposed to teach.

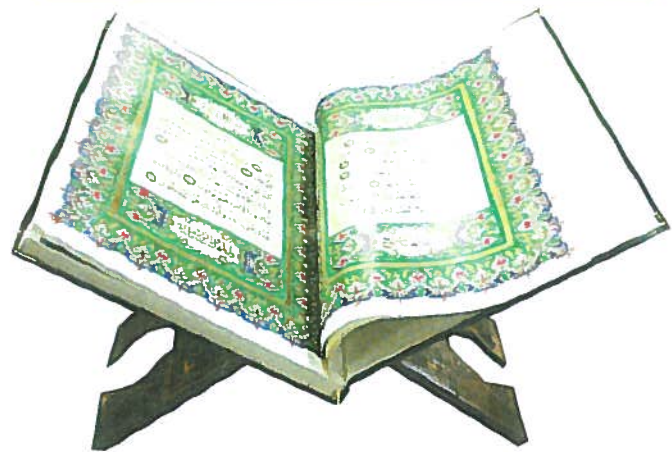
Prophets and Miracles

Allah ﷻ provided some of His prophets with miracles. These miracles usually had one of two purposes:

- To help them during times of danger or trouble (Prophet Ibraheem, Nuh, Yunus)
- Or as proof of Allah's greatness and to prove that the prophet is a true prophet. (Prophet Musa, Isa, etc.)

Prophet Ibraheem عليه السلام was saved from the huge fire that was lit to burn him. Prophet Nuh عليه السلام was miraculously saved with his family and followers from the flood.

The nature of the miracles depended upon the time and society in which the prophet taught. Allah knew that people would be most impressed by miracles that accomplished valued tasks in society. So, He chose miracles that would be relevant to the society of His messengers. For example, Moses' contemporaries were excel-



lent at magic. So his major miracle was to defeat the best magicians of the day in Egypt. Jesus' contemporaries were recognized as skillful physicians. Therefore, his miracles were to raise the dead and cure the incurable diseases. The Arabs, the contemporaries of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, were known for their eloquence and magnificent poetry. So Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ major miracle was Al-Qur'an. The people of Arabia were impressed by the eloquence of Al-Qur'an and Arab poets and orators could not make even a few verses like it. Later, all Arabia became a Muslim nation.



Prophets in the Bible

There are 25 prophets mentioned by name in the Qur'an, although Allah tells us clearly that there were many more in different times and places. Christians and Jews also believe in most of the

same prophets and their miracles. Provided here are the 25 mentioned in the Qur'an and their English names from the Bible where applicable:

	Qur'anic Name	Biblical Name
1	Adam	Adam
2	Idrees	Enoch
3	Nuh	Noah
4	Hud	-----
5	Salih	-----
6	Ibraheem	Abraham
7	Isma'eel	Ishmael
8	Is-haq	Isaac
9	Loot	Lot
10	Ya'qoob	Jacob
11	Yousuf	Joseph
12	Shu'ayb	Jethro
13	Ayyoob	Job
14	Musa	Moses
15	Haroon	Aaron
16	Thul-kifl	Ezekiel
17	Dawood	David
18	Sulayman	Solomon
19	Ilyas	Elias
20	Al-Yasa'	Elisha
21	Younus	Jonah
22	Zakariyya	Zecharias
23	Yahya	John
24	'Isa	Jesus
25	Muhammad	-----

As you can see, most of the prophets in the Qur'an are recognized by the Bible. Some of the prophets have the same name in both the Qur'an and the Bible, like Prophet Adam عليه السلام. However, most prophets have names which sound different. For example, Prophet Sulayman عليه السلام is known as Prophet Solomon in the English

translation of the Bible. Prophet Yunus عليه السلام is known as Prophet Jonah. Also, Prophet Ayyoub is known as Job.

There are some prophets mentioned in the Qur'an that are not mentioned in the existing form of the Bible. For example Prophets Muhammad ﷺ, Shu'ayb عليه السلام, Salih and Hud عليه السلام .

Respecting our Prophets

1. Believing in all of the true prophets and admiring them is a Muslim's way of showing appreciation. Muslims appreciate the many sacrifices that these prophets made. We must be grateful that they worked so hard to bring Allah's message to mankind.

2. The best way to respect prophets and messengers is to follow their guidance and manners. If you want to give great respect to Prophet Muhammad, for example, you must obey him and try to follow his manners and Sunnah.

3. When Muslims mention the name of Prophet Muhammad or any other prophet, they make a prayer for them out of respect. This is a prayer asking God to grant the prophet His peace and blessings. In Arabic we say:

عليه السلام or صلى الله عليه وسلم

"Sallallahu alayhi wasallam or



▲ *The Tomb of Prophet Yahya (John) عليه السلام in the Omayyad Mosque in Damascus, Syria.*

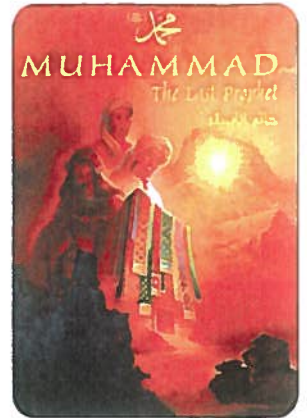
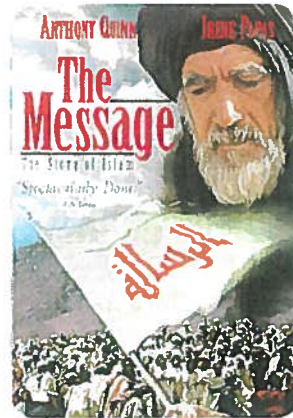
Alayhi-ssalam”

4. Muslims do not draw pictures of the prophets. In addition, Muslims do not portray the characters of the prophets in movies or plays. Muslims believe that portraying a prophet of God in a movie is disrespectful. No matter how good an artist or an actor is, it would be impossible for them to accurately portray the prophet's greatness. Also, Muslims do not



want to create images of prophets as other groups have done, because that could lead to idolizing those images. People in the past used to create statues of their great leaders, then ended up worshipping them.

That is why we do not see any actor playing Prophet Muhammad in the famous movie "The Message." And even in the animated movie "Muhammad: The Last Messenger," no image of the Prophet is ever depicted.



Healthy Habits

1. Always show love and respect for all the prophets of Allah.
2. Always follow the Sunnah and manners of Prophet Muhammad.
3. Say "Salla-Allahu Alayhi wa Sallam" or "Alay-his-Salam" whenever you hear or say the name of Prophet Muhammad or other prophets.



Chapter Review

Think

Critically

Why do you think Allah chose humans, not angels, for example, to be prophets and messengers?

Lesson

Review

- 1 What does Islam teach about prophets? Quote two verses from the Qur'an.
- 2 How many prophets are mentioned in the Holy Qur'an?
- 3 Explain how prophets were ordinary men. Why did Allah choose these individuals?
- 4 What were two ways in which these ordinary men learned that they were prophets?
- 5 Why did Allah ﷻ provide some of His prophets with miracles?
- 6 What are some of the characteristics of a prophet?
- 7 Which prophets are not mentioned by name in today's Bible?
- 8 What are the English Biblical names for Prophets Yunus, Dawood, Yahya Thul-Kifl, Ayyoub and Ya'qoub?
- 9 What is the significance of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ?
- 10 List three ways Muslims can show respect to the prophets.



Prophets and messengers

CHAPTER TWO

Introduction

Prophets and messengers were great people selected by Allah to show people the straight path. They came from different places and spoke different languages, but

they all conveyed the same message of Islam. They all focused on the most important concept of Islam, tawheed. Some of them were anbiyaa', or prophets, and others were rusul, or messengers.

Word

W **a** **t** **c** **h**

Prophet: Nabiyy نبي
Prophets: Anbiyaa' أنبياء
Messenger: rasool رسول
messengers: Rusul رُسُل

Many messengers, One Message

After the creation of Adam, just one original message has been repeatedly delivered to mankind throughout the history of humanity. All prophets taught their peoples about the oneness of Allah, or Tawheed, and the proper way to worship Him. They also taught people how to be righteous and lead positive and happy lives. Allah's message has been the same message from the first prophet, Adam to the last prophet, Muhammad ﷺ.

God gave them all His guidance and charged them with the task of conveying that guidance to His people. The Prophet's ﷺ mission was to encourage people to believe in the One True God, obey Him, do good, and avoid evil.

In Surat-ul-A'raaf, Allah tells us that although He sent different prophets to different peoples in different times, they all had the same message, "God is One, and He is the only One to worship."



﴿لَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا نُوحًا إِلَىٰ قَوْمِهِ فَقَالَ يَتَّقُوا اللَّهَ مَا لَكُمْ مِنْ إِلَهٍ غَيْرُهُ إِنِّي أَخَافُ عَلَيْكُمْ عَذَابَ يَوْمٍ عَظِيمٍ﴾ الأعراف: ٥٩

We sent Nuh to his people. He said: "O my people! Worship Allah! You have no other god but Him. Truly I fear for you the punishment of painful day." [7:59]

﴿وَإِلَىٰ عَادٍ أَخَاهُمْ هُودًا قَالَ يَتَّقُوا اللَّهَ مَا لَكُمْ مِنْ إِلَهٍ غَيْرُهُ أَفَلَا تَتَّقُونَ﴾ الأعراف: ٦٥

To the people of Aad, (We sent) Hud, one of their (own) brethren. He said: "O my people! Worship Allah! You have no other God but Him, will you not, then, seek protection." [7:65]

﴿وَإِلَىٰ ثَمُودَ أَخَاهُمْ صَالِحًا قَالَ يَتَّقُوا اللَّهَ مَا لَكُمْ مِنْ إِلَهٍ غَيْرُهُ﴾ الأعراف: ٦٦

To the people of Thamood (We sent) Salih, one of their own brethren. He said: "O my people! Worship Allah; you have no other god but Him." [7:73]

﴿وَإِلَىٰ مَدْيَنَ أَخَاهُمْ شُعَيْبًا قَالَ يَتَّقُوا اللَّهَ مَا لَكُمْ مِنْ إِلَهٍ غَيْرُهُ﴾ الأعراف: ٨٥

To the people of Madyan, We sent Shu'ayb, one of their own brethren, he said: "O my people! Worship Allah; you have no other god but Him." [7:85]

﴿وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ قَبْلِكَ مِنْ رَّسُولٍ إِلَّا نُوحِي إِلَيْهِ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنَا فَاعْبُدُونِ﴾ الأنبياء: ٢٥

Not a messenger did We send before thee without this inspiration sent by Us to him: that there is no God but I; therefore worship and serve Me. [21: 25]

Allah, The One True Creator

Prophets

Adam
Nuh
Abraham
Moses
Jesus
Muhammad

The Message

God is One
God is One
God is One
God is One
God is One
God is One

The Difference Between Prophets and messengers

The terms "prophets" and "messengers" are sometimes used as if they always mean the same thing. This is not the case all of the time. All prophets shared one common message, Islam. And all prophets were required to implement Islam in their own lives and guide their families too. However, some of the prophets were also messengers. Those messengers were ordered by Allah to deliver Allah's message to many other people.

A rasool means a person who is assigned to deliver Allah's message to the people of his tribe or in his area. The rasool, then, is a prophet whom Allah ordered to guide a large number of people to

worshipping God and practicing Islam. This was a very important role given to messengers in addition to the responsibilities of prophethood.

Of the many prophets Allah ﷺ sent, only 25 are mentioned by name in the Qur'an. All of them were messengers except Prophet Adam. He lived alone on Earth with his small family. Therefore, he was not ordered to convey Allah's message outside of his family. All the other prophets mentioned in the Qur'an from Nuh to Muhammad were rusul, or messengers. It should be noted here that Prophet Nuh was the first of Allah's messengers.

Contrasting Prophets and Messengers

Description	Prophets	messengers
Great people	*	*
Human beings	*	*
Men	*	*
Given divine messages	*	*
Must deliver the message to many other people		*
Perhaps given books		*

CORRECTION

Many people think that messengers are only those who received books from God. That is not true. There are messengers who did not receive books. Allah said in the Qur'an that Prophets Isma'eel, Lut, Yousuf, Ilyas, Yunus, Salih, Hud and others are rusul, or messengers, although they did not receive books. Look at the following ayaat:

﴿وَأَذْكُرُ فِي الْكِتَابِ إِسْمَاعِيلَ إِنَّهُ كَانَ صَادِقَ الْوَعْدِ وَكَانَ رَسُولًا نَبِيًّا﴾ مريم: ٥٤

And mention Isma'eel in the Book; surely he was truthful in (his) promise, and he was a messenger, a prophet. [19:54]

﴿وَإِنَّ إِيَّاسَ لَمِنَ الْمُرْسَلِينَ﴾ الصافات: ١٢٢

And Ilyas was most surely one of the messengers. [37:123]

﴿وَإِنَّ لُوطًا لَمِنَ الْمُرْسَلِينَ﴾ الصافات: ١٢٣

And Lut was most surely one of the messengers. [37:133]

﴿وَإِنَّ يُونُسَ لَمِنَ الْمُرْسَلِينَ﴾ الصافات: ١٣٩

And Yunus was most surely one of the messengers. [37:139]



The role of a messenger

The main role of the messenger is to convey the message of Allah to his people. Allah says:

﴿ مَا عَلَى الرَّسُولِ إِلَّا الْبَلَاغُ ﴾ آل عمران: ٨١

“The Messenger's duty is but to convey (the Message)...” [3:81]

Allah also says:

“O Apostle! Proclaim the (Message) which has been sent to you from your Lord. If you do not, you will not have fulfilled (your obligation) and taught His message.” [5:67]

As you learned earlier, messengers were given the responsibility of teaching their people Islam. Each messenger was only responsible for conveying Allah's message to his people. They were not responsible for bringing the message to people outside of their areas, unless Allah ordered them to do so. The situation of Prophet Muhammad was different. He was sent as a messenger and guide for

his people and for all of humankind. Allah says:

﴿ وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا كَافَّةً لِّلنَّاسِ بَشِيرًا وَنَذِيرًا وَلَٰكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴾ سبأ: ٢٨

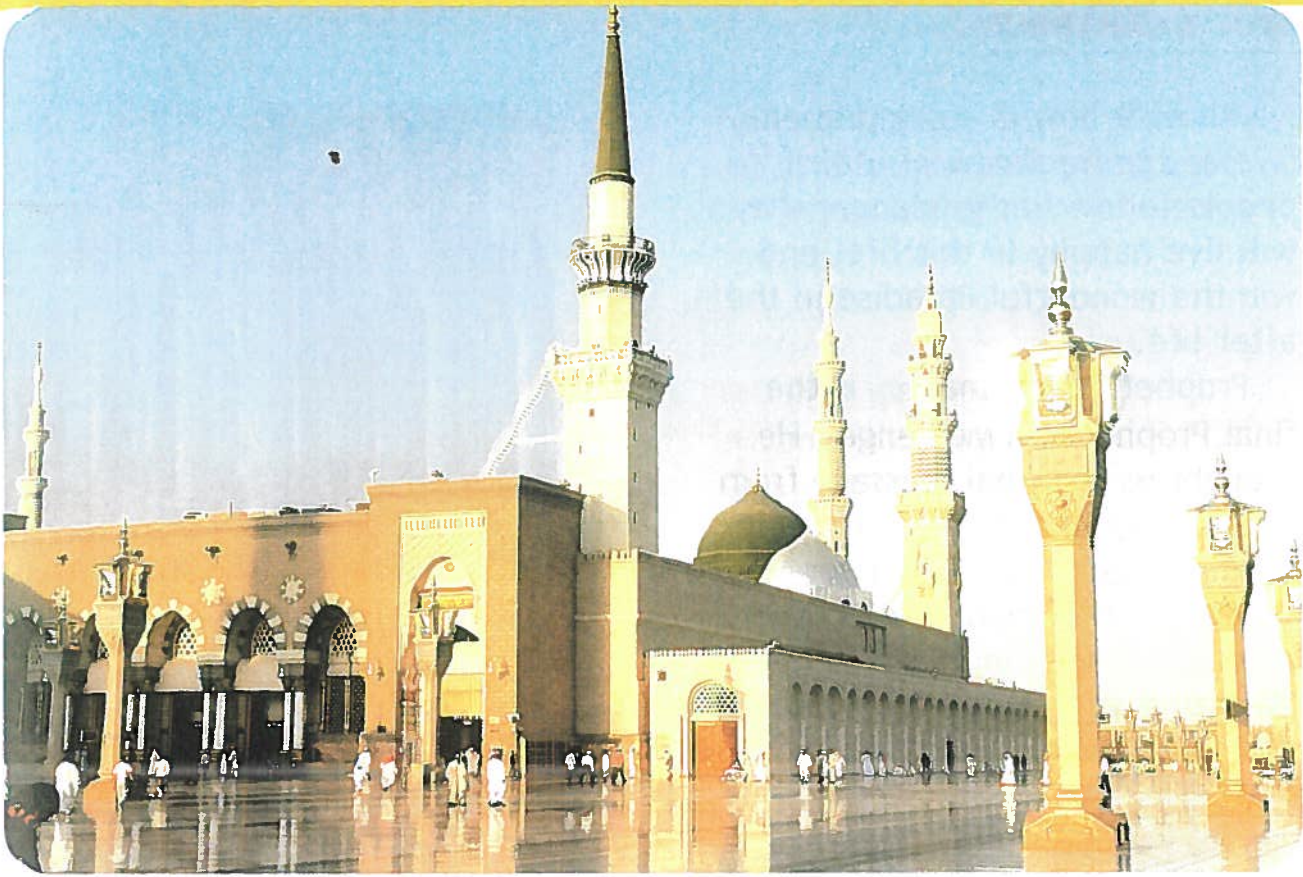
“We have not sent you but as a universal (Messenger) to mankind, giving them glad tidings, and warning them (against sin), but most people do not understand.” [34:28]

During his 23 years as a messenger, he taught the people of Arabia the message of Islam, and all of Arabia became a Muslim nation. Before he died, he sent his ambassadors with messages to the kings of Persia, the Roman Empire, Egypt, and other nations outside of Arabia inviting them to Islam. Some of these nations, as well as others not mentioned, accepted Islam after the passing of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.



messengers are sent to:

1. Teach Allah's message of faith
2. Teach people how to worship their Creator
3. Show people how to live moral and happy lives.



▲ *The Prophet's Mosque in Madinah*

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ: The Final Prophet and Messenger

All prophets were chosen by God, and their messages were equally true. However, their missions varied. The messengers before the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ were only given teachings for their nations. During those times, except for trade or war, nations didn't interact with each other. Furthermore, the teachings of each prophet lasted for a limited time, after which God would send another prophet to revise some of the teachings for the new circumstances.

But eventually the time came to unite all nations with a single religion. Allah wanted humankind to live in peace as one nation. For this purpose God sent Prophet Muhammad ﷺ to all mankind. Allah entrusted him to deliver His teachings to the whole world and for eternity. This teaching is Islam in its complete form.

Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ mission was to confirm the basic teachings of Islam that other prophets had taught. He also came with many additional teachings and guidance for the good of mankind. Islam as



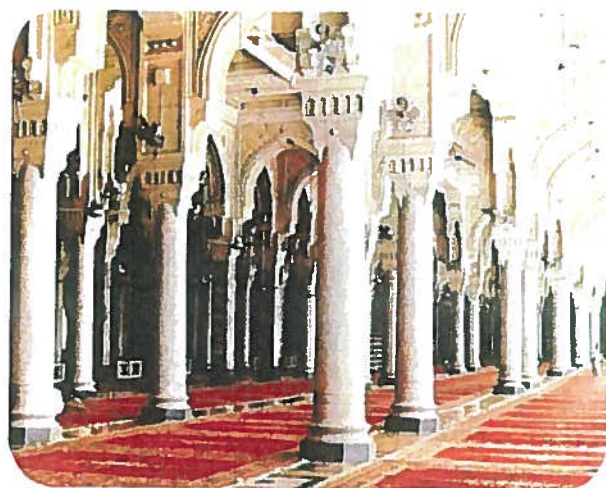
we know it now is a comprehensive and perfect way of life. If people follow this guidance, they will live happily in this life, and win the wonderful Paradise in the after life.

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is the final Prophet and Messenger. He brought us the final message from God, the Qur'an. No true prophet or messenger will come after Prophet Muhammad, and no divine message will come after Al-Qur'an. Allah says in Al-Qur'an:

﴿ مَا كَانَ مُحَمَّدٌ أَبَا أَحَدٍ مِّن رِّجَالِكُمْ وَلَكِن رَّسُولَ اللَّهِ وَخَاتَمَ النَّبِيِّينَ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا ﴾
 سورة الأحزاب: ٤٠

“Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the Last of the Prophets; and Allah is knowledgeable of all things.” [33:40]

Al-Qur'an's message confirms but replaces all former holy books and scriptures that people changed or were lost over time.



▲ *Inside the Prophet's Mosque in Madinah*

Anyone who claims to be a prophet after Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is a false prophet. And any claimed divine message after the Qur'an is not from God.

It is unfortunate that there are a few groups that claim to be Muslims, but they believe in a prophet after Prophet Muhammad. These groups cannot be Muslim. The Qur'an confirms that Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is the last and the seal of all Prophets and messengers. Al-Qur'an, too, is the final message from God.

The messengers and Their Books

While all prophets and messengers taught the same message of tawheed, only five were given revelations in the form of a book. These books contained the message of tawheed along with other teachings such as morality, worship, the Day of Judgment, and

the belief in Heaven and Hell. The messengers whom we are told received books are Prophet Ibraheem, Prophet Dawood, Prophet Musa, Prophet Isa, and Prophet Muhammad peace be upon all of them. These messengers received special books that had specific names:





Prophet	His Book	
Prophet Ibraheem	Al-Suhuf	صحف إبراهيم
Prophet Musa	At-Tawrah (Torah)	التوراة
Prophet Dawood	Zaboor (Psalms)	الزبور
Prophet Isa	Al-Injeel (Bible)	الإنجيل
Prophet Muhammad	Al-Qur'an	القرآن

As you learned earlier, Prophet Nuh was the first messenger. However, the first messenger who received a written message was Prophet Ibraheem. He was given the first scripture known as the Suhuf, or the scrolls. The Suhuf contained the true message of tawheed along with other teachings of Allah ﷻ. However, many years after he died, people began to corrupt and change the true teachings described in the Suhuf. This caused the people to eventually forget the true message of Allah ﷻ. The need for another written message or a book became urgent. Prophet Musa was chosen to be the next messenger. Allah ﷻ gave him At-Tawrah (the Torah) as a guide for his people. Some time after his death, Prophet Dawood and Prophet Isa were sent as messengers. They too offered to their peoples books of God. As before,

their people after them corrupted the original teachings.

The last and seal of all prophets was Muhammad ﷺ. Allah ﷻ provided Prophet Muhammad ﷺ with Al-Qur'an. Al-Qur'an has never changed since its revelation more than 1,400 years ago and it will remain unchanged until the Day of Judgment. It is exactly the same as it was when first revealed by Allah ﷻ. Allah promised in the Qur'an that He will protect His last book against any change or loss.

Allah says:

﴿ إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ ﴿٩﴾ ﴾ الحجر: ٩

“We revealed this book and We will surely protect it.”
[Surat-ul-Hijr 15:9]

Subhanallah! This is why there was no need for another prophet or messenger after Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.



Chapter Review

Activity

Time

Draw a map which shows where at least twenty prophets and messengers delivered their messages.

Think

Critically

1. Compare and contrast the characteristics of Allah's prophets and messengers.
2. What are the similarities and differences between prophets and other great Muslim personalities?
3. List all the suwar in the Qur'an that are named after prophets or messengers.

Lesson

Review

- 1 What is the message that all prophets taught to their families and peoples?
- 2 What are the similarities between prophets and messengers?
- 3 What is the difference between a prophet and a messenger?
- 4 How many prophets and messengers are mentioned in the Qur'an altogether? How many were prophets and how many were messengers?
- 5 Did all messengers receive books from Allah? Explain.
- 6 Draw a table showing the names of the messengers who received books, and the names of these books.



Tawheed: The Faith of All Prophets

CHAPTER THREE

Word

W **a** **t** **c** **h**

Tawheed-ul-Khaliq	توحيد الخالق
Tawheed-ul-ebadah	توحيد العبادة
Tawheed-ul-Asmaa'-was-Sifaat	توحيد الأسماء والصفات
Shahadah (testimony of faith)	شهادة
Kufr	كفر
Shirk	شرك

The Meaning of Tawheed

Tawheed is an Arabic word which means believing in and worshipping one God. Tawheed is the most important belief in Islam. The English word for Tawheed is monotheism.

Surat-ul-Ikhlās is one of the shortest suwar (plural of surah) in Al-Qur'an. But, it is one of the most important. This surah explains the idea of Tawheed. Tawheed simply means the belief in one God, the true Creator of the universe, and worshipping Him alone.

Allah is "One" without a partner and unique without a match. Allah is the first and the last, and He knows everything. He is the only One worthy of worship, and no one is capable of being God except Him. Believing in Tawheed (monotheism) is the most important part of being a Muslim. Do you know that a person cannot become a Muslim without saying the Shahadah?



أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

I bear witness there is no god but Allah (God)
and that Muhammad is the Messenger of God.

WORDS OF WISDOM
Holy Qur'an

سورة الإخلاص

Surat-ul-Ikhlās

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ۝ اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ ۝ لَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ ۝
وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ

TRANSLITERATION

- [1] Qul huw-Allahu ahad
- [2] Allah-us-samad
- [3] Lam yalid walam yoolad
- [4] Walam yakul lahu kufuwan ahad

UNDERSTOOD MEANING

- [1] Say: "Allah is the one and only God.
- [2] Allah needs no one, but all need Him.
- [3] He has no child, nor was He born.
- [4] And no one is like Him."

Kufr and Shirk

Some people think that there is no god. They claim that the universe somehow just happened without a creator. This is called kufr كفر or disbelief. Others think that there are many gods who helped create this world. This is called shirk شرك (polytheism) and

it is the opposite of tawheed (monotheism). Therefore, shirk is the act of believing in or worshipping false gods in addition to our true Creator.

All of these beliefs are rejected in Islam. In fact, to disbelieve in God or to believe in another creator or creators is the worst possible sin. Allah says:



﴿ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَغْفِرُ أَنْ يُشْرَكَ بِهِ وَيَغْفِرُ مَا دُونَ ذَلِكَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَمَنْ يُشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدِ افْتَرَىٰ إِثْمًا عَظِيمًا ﴾ النساء: ٤٨

“Allah does not forgive associating partners with Him; but He may forgive anything else, to whom He pleases; to set up partners with Allah is to commit a most heinous sin indeed.” [4:48]

The Three Parts of Tawheed

In order to understand the idea of tawheed, scholars in Islam have divided tawheed into three different parts.

1

Tawheed-ul-Khaliq **توحيد الخالق** : Belief in One Creator

Tawheed-ul-Khaliq, which scholars also call “**توحيد الربوبية** Tawheed-ur-Ruboobiyyah,” is to believe that

Allah (God) is the only creator of the world. God alone is the One Who created the universe. As you





▲ *Stone Fish. Yes this is a fish, NOT a stone. Can you see its mouth or eyes?*

learned earlier, one of Allah's names is Al Khaliq, or The Creator.

Tawheed-ul-Khaliq also means that Allah alone provides care to all of His creations. He alone controls the universe and allows

things to happen. When something happens, it only happens with Allah's permission.

Tawheed-ul-Khaliq is also called tawheed-ur-Ruboobiyyah which means belief in one lord.



﴿اللَّهُ خَالِقُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ﴾ الرعد: ١٦

“Allah is the Creator of all things.” 13:16



▲ *Do you know what this beautiful flower is?*

The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ explained the concept of Allah's control over the universe. He said: "If all of mankind gathered together in order to help you, they would only be able to help you as much

as Allah had already permitted. Also, if all of mankind gathered together to harm you, they would only be able to harm you as much as Allah had already permitted."

2

Tawheed-ul-Ibadah توحيد العبادة : Worshipping One God

Tawheed-ul-Ibadah توحيد العبادة is one of the most important parts of tawheed. Tawheed-ul-Ibadah, which is also called Tawheed-ul-Uloohiyyah توحيد الألوهية means that no one has the right to be worshipped but Allah. When we pray, give zakat (alms), and fast in Ramadan, it is all done in the name of Allah.

All actions of ibadah should be done for Allah alone. Worshipping others instead of Allah, or even worshipping others along with Allah, is the greatest sin anyone can commit. Many people worship people, saints, idols, animals, planets or other things. They think these things lead to God, or they are parts of God. This is not





▲ *Salah is the act of worshipping the One True God.*

tawheed, and these practices are rejected in Islam.

Ibadah should be done directly to Allah, not through anyone or anything else. For example, many people think that they have to pray or communicate with God through a religious person or a religious leader. When they ask

God for forgiveness, they do it through a saint or a religious person. In Islam, you pray, make supplication (du'aa'), and perform all acts of worship to Allah directly. Muslims repent and seek His forgiveness privately. Allah can see and hear you whenever you say or even whisper your prayers, no matter where you are. He is very loving and very close to us.



Holy Qur'an

﴿ قُلْ إِنَّمَا أُمِرْتُ أَنْ أَعْبُدَ اللَّهَ وَلَا أُشْرِكَ بِهِ ۚ إِلَيْهِ أَدْعُوا وَإِلَيْهِ مَرْجِعُ ۚ ۝۳۶﴾

Say, "I am commanded to worship Allah alone, and not to join partners with Him. Unto Him do I call, and unto Him is my return." [13:36]



Words of Wisdom

Holy Qur'an

﴿ وَقَالَ رَبُّكُمْ ادْعُونِي أَسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ ﴾ غافر: ٦٠

And your Lord says, "Call on Me; I will answer your (Prayer)." [40:60]

﴿ وَإِذَا سَأَلَكَ عِبَادِي عَنِّي فَإِنِّي قَرِيبٌ أُجِيبُ دَعْوَةَ الدَّاعِ إِذَا دَعَانِ فَلَيْسَ سَجِيئًا لِي وَلِيُؤْمِنُوا بِي لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْشُدُونَ ﴾ البقرة: ١٨٦

When My servants ask you about Me, I am indeed close (to them): I listen to the prayer of everyone when he calls on Me. Let them also listen to My call, and believe in Me so they may walk in the right way. [2:186]



Words of Wisdom

Ahadeeth Shareefah

قال رسول الله ﷺ

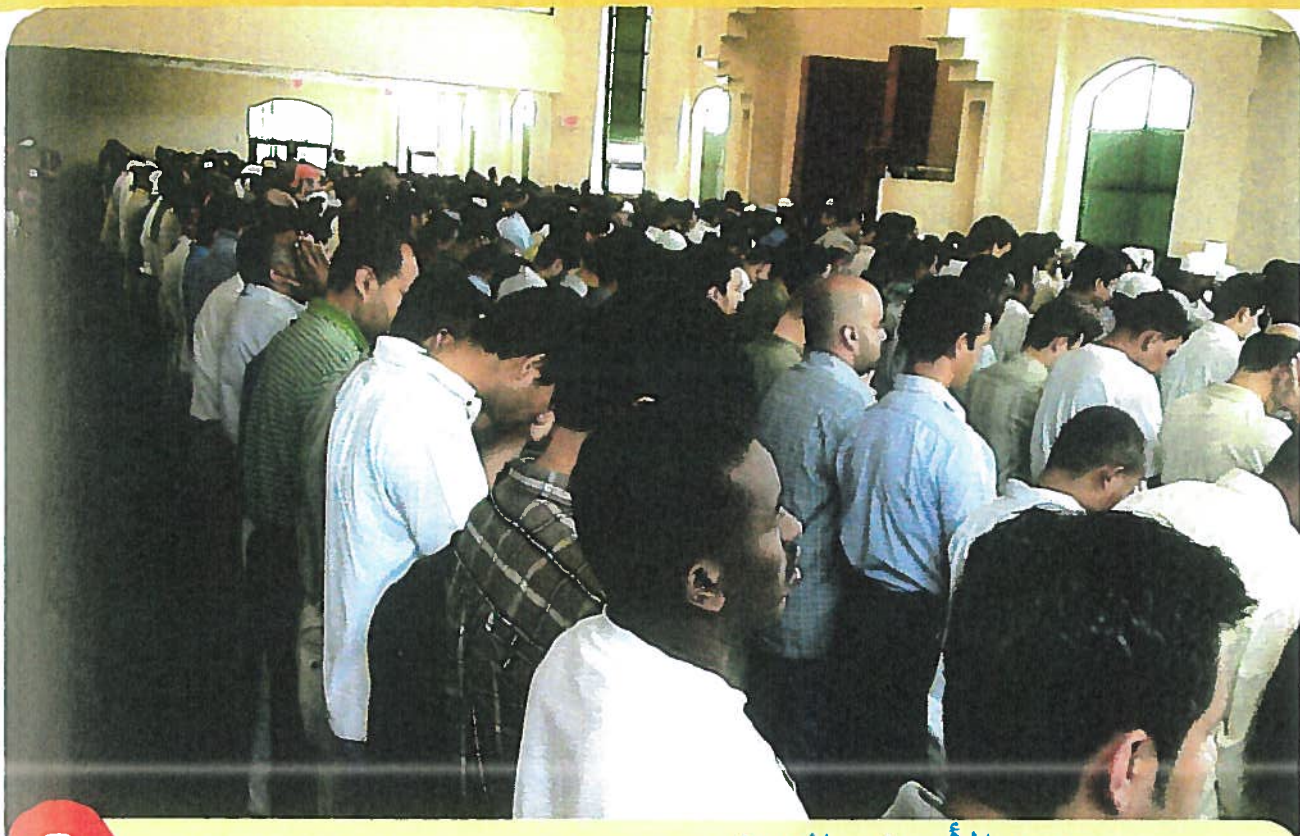
- ١- "إِذَا سَأَلْتَ فَاسْأَلِ اللَّهَ وَإِذَا اسْتَعْنَيْتَ فَاسْتَعِنْ بِاللَّهِ" رواه البخاري عن ابن عباس
- ٢- "مَنْ حَلَفَ بِغَيْرِ اللَّهِ فَقَدْ أَشْرَكَ."

رواه الترمذي عن ابن عمر

The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

- 1- If you ask (something) in prayer ask only Allah, and if you seek help, seek it only from Allah. (narrated by Bukhari)
- 2- Anyone who swears by anything other than God is committing an act of shirk, or disbelief. (narrated by Tirmithi)





3

Tawheed-ul-Asmaa' was-Sifaat : توحيد الأسماء والصفات

Belief in the high attributes of the One True God

Allah is One, but He has ninety-nine names or attributes that we are made aware of. We understand who our Creator is through His many names. Each attribute has a meaning that is only for God. Tawheed-ul-Asmaa' was-Sifaat means that Allah's names and attributes can only describe Him and no one else. For example,

one of Allah's names is Al-Qawiyy, or the Powerful. A human being can also be described as powerful, or qawiyy. We can say that he or she is a powerful fighter, or a strong leader. However, they are not nearly as powerful as Allah. The name of the attribute is perhaps the same, but the meaning and quality of it is extremely different.

Words of Wisdom

Holy Qur'an

﴿ اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ لَهُ الْأَسْمَاءُ الْحُسْنَىٰ طه: ٨ ﴾

Allah! there is no god but He! To Him belong the Most Beautiful names. [20:8]

Benefits of Tawheed

- 1 It makes us depend on Allah alone and not fear people. Tawheed teaches us that no one can hurt us without the permission of the Creator.
- 2 It makes people equal since all are created by the same One Creator.
- 3 It unites humanity since it teaches us believe in the same God, the same message, and perform the same kinds of worship.
- 4 It frees man from worshipping other humans.



Hadeeth Shareef

عن ابن عباس رضي الله عنهما قال:
 كنت خلف رسول الله ﷺ يوماً فقال: "يا غلام إني أعلمك كلمات احفظ الله يحفظك احفظ الله
 تجده تجاهك إذا سألت فاسأل الله وإذا استعنت فاستعن بالله واعلم أن الأمة لو اجتمعت على أن
 ينفعوك بشيء لم ينفعوك إلا بشيء قد كتبه الله لك ولو اجتمعوا على أن يضروك بشيء لم يضروك
 إلا بشيء قد كتبه الله عليك رفعت الأقلام وجفت الصحف"
 رواه الترمذي وقال هذا حديث حسن صحيح

Abdullah Ibn Abbas narrated: One day I was riding behind rasoolullah ﷺ and he said to me:

Oh son, I am going to teach you a few words, Remember Allah so He will remember you. Remember Allah, so He will support you wherever you are. If you ask for anything, ask Allah [first], and if you seek help, ask the help of Allah [first]. And know that if all the people gather to do good for you, they will not be able to do that unless Allah wants it to happen, and if they gather to hurt you, they will not be able to do that unless Allah wants it to happen. The pens have been lifted the ink on the pages has dried (meaning, Allah has decided this and no one can change it). Reported in At-Tirmithi

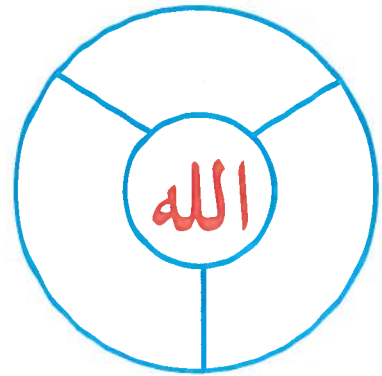


Chapter Review

Activity

Time

Create a pie chart about the three kinds of tawheed.



Think

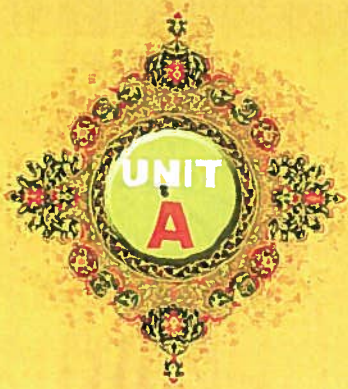
Critically

Explain the differences among the three kinds of tawheed.

Lesson

Review

- 1 What is the meaning of tawheed?
- 2 What is the first thing that a person says when he or she becomes a Muslim?
- 3 Explain Kufr and Shirk.
- 4 Name and briefly explain the three different parts of tawheed.
- 5 What are the benefits of believing in tawheed?



Away From Tawheed

CHAPTER FOUR

Pre-reading Questions



- 1 What is the opposite of tawheed?
- 2 What does shirk mean?
- 3 How bad is it to believe in or worship anything other than God?

Word

W a t c h

Shirk (Polytheism)	شِرْك
Mushrik	مُشْرِك
Shirk Al Asghar	الشْرِك الْأَصْغَر
Ar-Riyaa'	الرِّيَاء
Sihr	سِحْر



Introduction

In the lesson about tawheed we learned how Islam stresses the importance of the One and Only God. In this lesson we are going to learn about shirk, which means believing in other Gods along with Allah and worshipping them. **Shirk** is a major sin in Islam and in this lesson we will learn why.



Shirk Explained?

Shirk **شرك** is the opposite of tawheed. If tawheed is to worship the One and only God, then shirk is to worship something other than Allah. Shirk is the worst sin in Islam. A person who falls into Shirk is called **Mushrik** **مُشْرِك**. Allah says in the Qur'an:

﴿إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَغْفِرُ أَنْ يُشْرَكَ بِهِ وَيَغْفِرُ مَا دُونَ ذَلِكَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَمَنْ يُشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدِ افْتَرَىٰ إِثْمًا عَظِيمًا﴾ النساء: ٤٨

“Surely Allah does not forgive that anything should be associated with Him, and forgives what is besides that to whomsoever He pleases; and whoever worships anything with Allah, he indeed commits a great sin.” [4:48]

Human beings were created to worship Allah, their only true Creator, Who is also the Creator of the whole universe. Allah **سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ** says in the Qur'an:

﴿اللَّهُ خَلِقُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُوَ الْوَاحِدُ الْقَهَّارُ﴾ الرعد: ١٦

“Allah is the Creator of all things, and He is the One, the Supreme.” [13:16]

﴿وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ﴾ الذاريات: ٥٦

“I have not created jinn or mankind except for my worship.” [51:56]

By committing shirk a person is going against the statement of tawheed.

لا إله إلا الله

La ilaha illAllah

People become Muslim when they believe in and declare the Shahadah, but they depart from Islam when they act against it. Believing in other gods beside Allah is an act against Shahadah and causes a person to go away from tawheed and out of Islam.

Islam is a religion that teaches pure monotheism. Monotheism means the belief in One God only. Remember how the Arabs during Jahiliyyah used to practice polytheism, which is believing in and worshipping many gods. Both the Qur'an and Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad **ﷺ** stress that there is only one God.



Some people during ancient times invented false religions which called to worship many instead of worshipping Allah, the One and only true Creator of man and the universe.

Types of Shirk

In the tawheed lesson we mentioned 3 different categories of tawheed. In the section that you are about to read we will revisit the three categories of tawheed,

but this time we will look at how shirk can be committed by acting against the three different categories of tawheed.

1

Shirk in Ar-Ruboobiyyah

شِرْكُ الرَّبُوبِيَّةِ

As Muslims we believe that it is Allah alone Who creates, controls and maintains the universe. The belief that other people or things shared in the act of creating, controlling and or maintaining the universe is a form of shirk. For example, ancient Greeks and Romans used to believe in many

gods and goddesses. Their gods had names like Zeus, Athena, Eros and Mercury. In Arabia and elsewhere, they used to worship idols and statues hoping that they would help them get closer to God. In Hinduism, a religion followed in India and other parts of the world, people also believe in





Some idol worshippers made their false gods from gold, but this does not make their false beliefs true.

and worship many gods and goddesses. Each god or goddess has a role to play in creating or controlling parts of this world.

AstaghfiruAllah! This is a form of shirk and Islam rejects all shirk.

Many Christians believe that God has three parts:

1. God the father,
2. God the son, or Jesus Christ
3. God the Holy Spirit.

In Christianity this is known as the Trinity. It says that the one God consists of three persons.

As Muslims we know that God is the only Creator of the Universe. God or Allah does not have a father or a son and cannot be divided into two or three persons.

Many of the people who worship idols, people or other things believe in God as the Creator of the world. But they think that God somehow is also part of these things or people that they worship. Others do not believe in one God, but believe in many gods. These imagined gods and goddesses sometimes fight and disagree.



2

Shirk in Ibadah

شِرْكٌ فِي الْعِبَادَةِ

There are a few categories of shirk in ibadah, or worship.

Types of Shirk in Ibadah

Anyone who directs any act of worship to something other than Allah falls into shirk. Worshipping humans, animals, idols or anything else is strictly forbidden in Islam. Actions involving prayer, supplication, bowing and prostration are clear examples of worship. Those who commit this type of shirk have moved away from Islam. However, there are other examples of worshipping other than Allah which can be also described as acts of shirk. Sadly, some Muslims worship saints or travel to graves to ask for help from dead people. They make tawaaf around these graves and they sacrifice in the name of the dead people. All of these are major forms of shirk and must be avoided. We must offer our worship only to Allah, not to anyone or anything else.

In the Qur'an, Allah says

﴿ قُلْ إِنَّ صَلَاتِي وَنُسُكِي وَمَحْيَايَ
وَمَمَاتِي لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴾

“Say, ‘Truly, my prayer, my sacrifice, my life and my death are

all for Allah, Lord of the worlds’.”
[6:162]

As you learned earlier, shirk will not be forgiven and whoever dies while committing it will not be able to enter Jannah. But remember, Allah is Al Ghafoor, which means the Most Forgiving. Allah will accept the repentance of those who repent before they die and they will inshaAllah, be forgiven.

Ash-Shirk-ul-Asghar

الشَّرْكَ الْأَصْغَرُ

(The Minor Shirk)

There are other types of shirk in worship and they are described as **Ash-Shirk-ul-Asghar**. Although these acts do not necessarily automatically take the person beyond the path of Islam, they are still very serious sins.

Mahmood Ibn Lubayd reported that Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“The thing that I fear for you the most is minor shirk.”

The companions asked “O Messenger of Allah what is minor shirk?” He replied, “Showing off (Ar- Riyaa’), for Allah will say on the Day of



Judgment when people are receiving their rewards, 'Go to those whom you were showing off to in the world and see if you can get any reward from them.'"

Ar-Riyaa' is having insincere intentions and performing acts of worship in order to show off to other people. A person is committing riyaa' if he/she prays in front of people just so the people can think that he or she is a very good Muslim. It is very important for a person to make sure that he/she has pure intentions to only please Allah and nobody else.



Healthy Habit

Always purify your intention when you perform good deeds. Avoid riyaa' or it will wipe out your rewards.

Other forms of minor shirk involve:

► **Swearing by other than Allah.** Once, Abdullah Ibn Omar عنه رضي الله saw a man swearing by his father, and another swearing by Al-Ka'bah, so he told them not to do that. Then he said: "I heard Prophet Muhammad ﷺ once saying:

"مَنْ حَلَفَ بِغَيْرِ اللَّهِ فَقَدْ أَشْرَكَ"

'Whoever swears by other than Allah has committed an act of shirk.'"



Here, rasoolullah means minor shirk.

► **Following one's desires while not obeying Allah and His Prophet.** Some people love money,

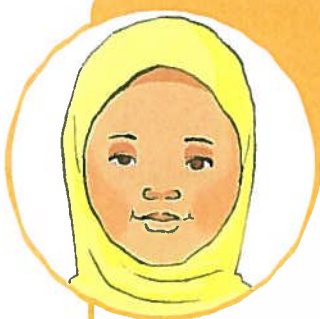


games, fame and other worldly things more than they love Allah. They will do forbidden things to have more fun. They do such things even if they have to disobey Allah and displease Him. Some people even skip prayers in order to keep playing video games or watch TV. To them, their desires

are more important than Allah ﷻ. Allah says in the Qur'an,

﴿أَفَرَأَيْتَ مَنِ اتَّخَذَ إِلَهَهُ هَوَاهُ وَأَضَلَّهُ اللَّهُ عَلَىٰ عِلْمِهِ﴾

“Have you then seen the one who follows his low desire as god, and Allah has made him go astray although he has knowledge?” [45:23]



Healthy Habit

Always obey Allah first, and avoid disobeying Him for a little fun in this life.

► **Wearing charms or using spells to weaken jinn or evil spirits.** Some people wear certain charms and use spells to protect themselves or children from jinn. They think that these things have the power to protect them from the harm of devils. These people are committing minor acts of shirk. Instead, they should pray, read Qur'an, or make dua'a to Allah, asking Him for His protection. This is what rasoolullah used to do when he wanted Allah's protection against evil powers.

► **To believe in fortune telling and fortune tellers.** Prophet Muhammad ﷺ once said,

من أتى كاهناً فصدقه بما يقول فقد كفر

بما أنزل على محمد ﷺ.

رواه أبو داود

“Whoever visits a fortune teller and believes in what he says, he has disbelieved in what has been revealed to Muhammad,” Reported by Imam Abu Dawood.

Reading horoscopes, for example, is a type of fortune telling. Muslims must avoid reading them and believing them.

It is important to understand that just because these forms of shirk are called minor shirk, it does not mean that they are not serious. The reason they are called minor shirk is because they are not as obvious as compared to major shirk. Sometimes it is hard for a person to know they are committing Ash-Shirk-ul-Asghar. So, we should be very careful not to commit **Ash-Shirk-ul-Asghar**.

3

Shirk in Al-Asmaa' was-Sifaat

شِرْكٌ فِي الْأَسْمَاءِ وَالصِّفَاتِ

You learned earlier that Allah has the greatest names and attributes. They are also called Al-Asmaa'-ul-Husna. Therefore, you know that God is unique and none is like Him. However, many people fall into shirk because they do not believe in the names and attributes of God properly. They may give God some names or attributes that are unfitting to Allah ﷻ. Here are examples of shirk in Al-

Asmaa' and As-Sifaat.

► **An-Nafi:** Denying the great attributes of Allah. Some people deny that Allah has the greatest qualities and attributes. They say the names of God like Ar-Rahman, Al-Kareem, or Al-Qawiyy have no actual meaning. They claim that God is not merciful or generous or powerful, and that these are just empty names. This is the worst type of shirk in Al-Asmaa' and As-Sifaat. Allah has the best names

and attributes and He is so great because these attributes are real and actual.

► **At-Tashbeeh:** Giving Allah ungodly attributes. Some people give God human qualities, like getting sick, tired, jealous or greedy. Astaghfirullah! For example, some religious books say that God created the world in six days, got tired then He rested on the seventh day. This is very wrong. God is like no other and that means we cannot compare Him to humans or to any of His creations.

► **At-Tahreef:** Changing the meaning of God's attributes. Some people understand the meaning of

God's names or attributes in an incorrect manner. We should always understand the meaning of Allah's names and attributes the way God or the Prophet explain them. For example, some would say that God's name Al-Wadood does not mean the loving, because that makes God emotional like people or animals. Therefore, when Allah describes Himself in the Qur'an as loving this thing or that, they say it means that Allah wants it. That is also wrong. Allah loves people and His good creation, but the quality of His love is greater and different than that of people or animals.

Effects of Shirk

1

Shirk puts humans in a very low status.

Allah created jinns, animals, humans, and many other things. But Allah says that man is created in the highest of forms. This means that human beings are put above all other creations. Humans are known as Khaleefat-ullah fil-Ardh (the vicegerents of Allah on Earth). When a person commits shirk, then he falls from a very high status to the lowest one.

Allah says:

﴿وَمَنْ يَشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ فَكَأَنَّمَا حَرَّمَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ فَتَخْطَفُهُ الطَّيْرُ أَوْ تَهْوِي بِهِ الرِّيحُ فِي مَكَانٍ سَحِيقٍ﴾

“Whoever claims partners unto Allah, it is as if he had fallen from the sky and the birds had snatched him or the wind had blown him to a very low place.” [Surat-ul-Hajj 22:31]

2

Shirk is the cause of evil and superstitions.

It is because of shirk that many people believe in the powers of jinn and spirits. Some people think fortune tellers can predict the future or cause something to happen or not to happen. They do that because they don't have proper faith and tawheed in their hearts. All these are forms of evil practices that lead to shirk.

Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه narrated that rasoolullah ﷺ said:

”اجْتَنِبُوا الْمَوْبِقَاتِ: الشِّرْكَ بِاللَّهِ

وَالسَّحْرَ”

رواه البخاري

“Avoid the destructive sins; shirk and witchcraft.”

Reported in Al-Bukhari

3

Committing shirk is injustice.

Injustice means to deny someone's right or to treat someone unfairly. By worshipping and praising something instead of Allah, we are being ungrateful and unjust to Allah. Only Allah has the right to be worshipped.

﴿وَإِذْ قَالَ لُقْمَانُ لِابْنِهِ وَهُوَ يَعِظُهُ يَا بُنَيَّ لَا تُشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ إِنَّ الشِّرْكَ لَظُلْمٌ عَظِيمٌ﴾

“Luqman said to his son while advising him, ‘Oh my son! Do not call partners to Allah. Indeed shirk is a great injustice.’”

[Luqman 31: 13]

4

Shirk causes anxiety and fear.

A person who commits shirk lives in constant fear and anxiety. He fears powers like this idol, or that fire, or that spirit etc. While

trying to make one idol happy, he is afraid another one will be angry with him. Remember that we should only fear Allah.



Idols that used to be worshipped by disbelievers in Arabia and around the world

5

Shirk wipes off rewards in the Hereafter.

Heaven is forbidden to those who associate partners with Allah. No person who commits shirk will be allowed to enter Paradise. Also, Allah does not accept the good deeds of a mushrik. Therefore, those who commit shirk will have no rewards for whatever good deeds they do in this life. Allah will reward them during this life only by giving them more wealth, health and entertainment. But they will not win any rewards in the next life and they will never

win Jannah. This is because they disbelieve in Allah or worship others with Him. Allah describes this in the Qur'an:

﴿ وَقَدِمْنَا إِلَىٰ مَا عَمِلُوا مِنَّ عَمَلٍ
فَجَعَلْنَاهُ هَبَاءً مَّنثُورًا ﴾

“And We will come to what deeds they have done, so We shall make them as scattered floating dust.” [25:23]





Create a table for the shirk against the three types of tawheed. List three examples of shirk under each type. Use the example below to create your table.

	Tawheed-ur-Ruboobiyyah	Tawheed-ul-Ibadah	Tawheed-ul-Asmaa'
1.			
2.			
3.			

STORY TIME

The People of Prophet Musa

The people of Prophet Musa had to leave their homes in Egypt to escape the evil Pharaoh. While searching for a new home, Musa's people wandered in the desert of Sinai for many years. One day, Musa عليه السلام received Allah's order to climb a high mountain there. Prophet Musa عليه السلام had to stay there for forty days and nights praying to Allah and listening to what Allah would tell him and his people. But forty days and nights seemed a very long time. And while Musa عليه السلام was away, his people became impatient. They decided to make a calf out of gold and worship it. When Musa عليه السلام came down from the mountain, he saw the calf and became very angry. He smashed the calf into pieces and scolded his people so much that they felt ashamed of themselves. "You must never, ever worship anything else apart from Allah," Musa عليه السلام instructed them.

Musa عليه السلام had brought a book to his people which Allah had revealed to him on the mountain. This book is called At-Tawrah, or the Torah. In At-Tawrah, it is stated that men should never worship anything else except Allah. They must never kill a fellow man. They must not take things which do not belong to them. They must be good to their parents and to one another.

Prophet Musa's people understood then that they had been very ungrateful to Allah. It was Allah Who had created them and saved them from Pharaoh and his soldiers. They prayed to Allah and thanked Him for what He had done for them. They asked for His forgiveness and made a promise that they would do good deeds.

Allah سبحانه وتعالى forgave those who were ashamed of the bad deeds they had done and wanted to return to Allah.





1. Why is shirk the worst sin man can ever commit?
2. Why do you think Allah would not accept the good deeds of a person if he or she is a mushrik?



- 1 What is shirk?
- 2 Describe how one can commit shirk in tawheed-ur-Ruboobiyyah?
- 3 Describe how one can commit shirk in tawheed-ul-Ibadah?
- 4 Describe how one can commit shirk in tawheed-ul-Asmaa' Wassifaat?
- 5 Does Allah forgive shirk? Support your answer with an ayah from the Holy Qur'an.
- 6 Is Ash-Shirk-ul-Asghar not very important?
- 7 What are the five effects of committing shirk?
- 8 How did the people of Musa عليه السلام commit shirk?

WORDS OF WISDOM

Holy Qur'an

سورة النبأ

Surat-un-Naba 1-16

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

عَمَّ يَتَسَاءَلُونَ ﴿١﴾ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ ﴿٢﴾ الَّذِي هُوَ فِيهِ يُخَلِّفُونَ ﴿٣﴾ كَلَّا سَيَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٤﴾
ثُمَّ كَلَّا سَيَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٥﴾ أَلَمْ نَجْعَلِ الْأَرْضَ مِهْدًا ﴿٦﴾ وَالْجِبَالَ أَوْتَادًا ﴿٧﴾ وَخَلَقْنَاكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا ﴿٨﴾
وَجَعَلْنَا نَوْمَكُمْ سُبَاتًا ﴿٩﴾ وَجَعَلْنَا اللَّيْلَ لِبَاسًا ﴿١٠﴾ وَجَعَلْنَا النَّهَارَ مَعَاشًا ﴿١١﴾ وَبَنَيْنَا
فَوْقَكُمْ سَبْعًا شِدَادًا ﴿١٢﴾ وَجَعَلْنَا سِرَاجًا وَهَاجًا ﴿١٣﴾ وَأَنْزَلْنَا مِنَ الْمُعْصِرَاتِ مَاءً ثَجَّاجًا ﴿١٤﴾
لِنُخْرِجَ بِهِ حَبًّا وَنَبَاتًا ﴿١٥﴾ وَجَنَّاتٍ أَلْفَافًا ﴿١٦﴾

TRANSLITERATION

1. Amma yatasa' aloon
2. An-in-naba-il 'athee
3. Allathee hum feehee mukhtalifoon
4. Kalla saya'lamoon
5. Thumma kalla saya'lamoon
6. Alam naj'al-il-arda mihada
7. Waljibala awtada
8. Wakhalaqnakum azwaja
9. Waja'alna nawmakum subata
10. Waja'alnal-layla libasa
11. Waja'alna-nnahara ma'asha
12. Wabanayna fawqakum sab'an shidada
13. Waja'alna sirajaw-wahhaja
14. Wa-anzalna min-al-mu'sirati ma'an thajjaja
15. Linukhrija bihi habbaw-wanabata
16. Wajannatin alfafa

UNDERSTOOD MEANING

- [78:1] About what do they ask one another?
[78:2] About the great event,
[78:3] About which they disagree
[78:4] Nay! they shall soon come to know
[78:5] Nay! Nay! they shall soon know.
[78:6] Didn't We make the Earth a landscape?
[78:7] And made the mountains as pegs?
[78:8] And We created you in pairs,
[78:9] And We made your sleep to be rest (to you),
[78:10] And We made the night to be a covering,
[78:11] And We made the day for seeking livelihood
[78:12] And We made above you seven strong [heavens],
[78:13] And We made [the sun as] a shining lamp
[78:14] And We send down from the clouds water pouring heavily,
[78:15] So that We bring forth seeds and plants,
[78:16] And lush gardens dense and luxuriant.

WORDS OF WISDOM

Holy Qur'an

سورة النبأ

Surat-un-Naba 17-30

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

﴿ إِنَّ يَوْمَ الْفَصْلِ كَانَ مِيقَتَنَا ﴿١٧﴾ يَوْمَ يُفْعَخُ فِي الصُّورِ فَنَأْتُونَ أَفْوَاجًا ﴿١٨﴾ وَفُتِحَتِ السَّمَاءُ ﴿١٩﴾ فَكَانَتْ أَبْوَابًا ﴿٢٠﴾ وَسُيِّرَتِ الْجِبَالُ فَكَانَتْ سَرَابًا ﴿٢١﴾ إِنَّ جَهَنَّمَ كَانَتْ مِرْصَادًا ﴿٢٢﴾ لِلطَّغْيِينِ ﴿٢٣﴾ مَتَابًا ﴿٢٤﴾ لَيْبِثِينَ فِيهَا أَحْقَابًا ﴿٢٥﴾ لَا يَذُوقُونَ فِيهَا بَرْدًا وَلَا شَرَابًا ﴿٢٦﴾ إِلَّا حَمِيمًا وَغَسَّاقًا ﴿٢٧﴾ جَزَاءً وَفِاقًا ﴿٢٨﴾ إِنَّهُمْ كَانُوا لَا يَرْجُونَ حِسَابًا ﴿٢٩﴾ وَكَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِنَا كِذَابًا ﴿٣٠﴾ وَكُلُّ شَيْءٍ أَحْصَيْنَاهُ كِتَابًا ﴿٣١﴾ فَذُوقُوا فَلَنْ نَزِيدَكُمْ إِلَّا عَذَابًا ﴿٣٢﴾ ﴾

TRANSLITERATION

17. Inna yawm-al-fasli kana meeqata
18. Yawma yunfakhu fissoori fata'toona afwaja
19. Wafutihat-is-sama'o fakanat abwaba
20. Wasuyyirat-iljibalu fakanat saraba
21. Inna jahannama kanat mirsada
22. Littagheena ma'aba
23. Labitheena feeha ahqaba
24. La yathooqoona feeha bardaw-wala sharaba
25. Illa hameemaw-waghassaqa
26. Jazaaw-wifaqa
27. Innahum kanoo la yarjoona hisaba
28. Wakaththaboo bi-ayatina kiththaba
29. Wakulla shay-in ahsaynahu kitaba
30. Fathooqoo falan-nazeedakum illa 'athaba

UNDERSTOOD MEANING

- [78:17] Surely the Day of Judgment has a fixed time:
[78:18] That day on which the trumpet shall be blown so you shall come in large groups,
[78:19] And the heaven shall be opened and it shall have gates,
[78:20] And the mountains shall be moved and turn as a mirage
[78:21] Surely hell is in wait,
[78:22] For the evil people, it is their home
[78:23] Living therein for ages.
[78:24] They shall not taste therein cool nor drink
[78:25] But boiling and extremely cold fluids,
[78:26] A penalty that fits their deeds
[78:27] Surely, they didn't expect to be questioned,
[78:28] And they disbelieved in our verses.
[78:29] And We have recorded everything in a book,
[78:30] So taste! for We will give nothing more except punishment

WORDS OF WISDOM

Holy Qur'an

سورة النبأ

Surat-un-Naba 31-40

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

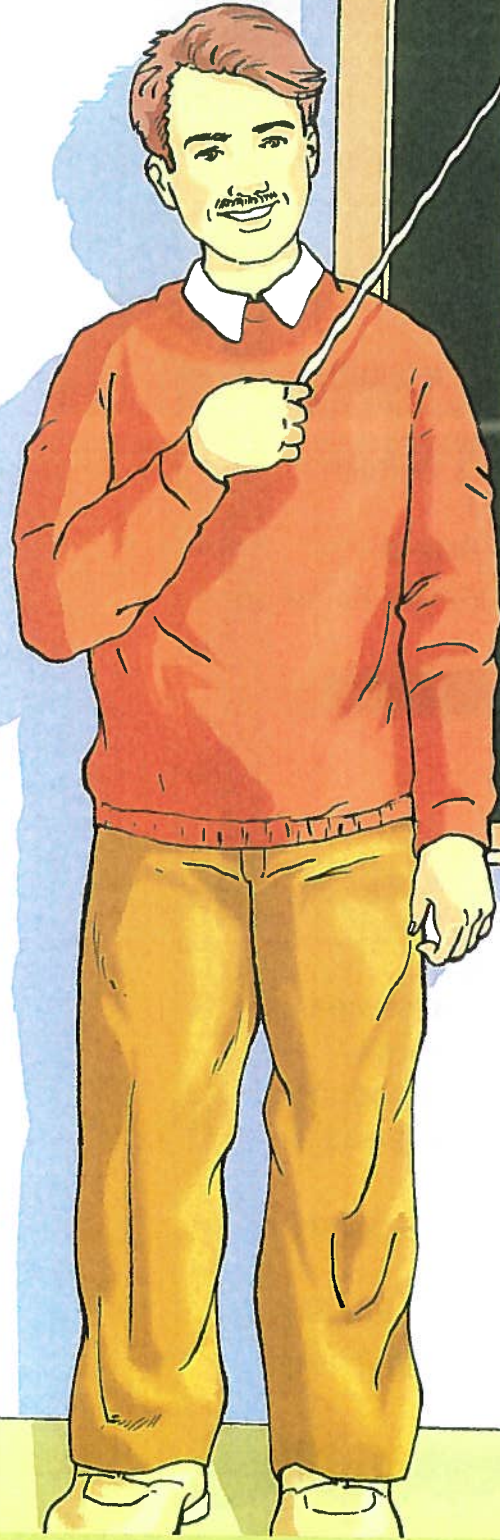
إِنَّ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ مَفَازًا ۝ (٣١) حُدًى وَاعْتِبَاءَ ۝ (٣٢) وَكَوَاعِبَ أَزْوَاجًا ۝ (٣٣) وَأَسَاطِيرَ دِهَاقًا ۝ (٣٤) لَا يَسْمَعُونَ فِيهَا
لَغْوًا وَلَا كِذَابًا ۝ (٣٥) جَزَاءً مِّن رَّبِّكَ عَطَاءً حِسَابًا ۝ (٣٦) رَبِّ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا الرَّحْمَنُ لَا
يَمْلِكُونَ مِنْهُ خِطَابًا ۝ (٣٧) يَوْمَ يَقُومُ الرُّوحُ وَالْمَلَائِكَةُ صَفًّا لَا يَتَكَلَّمُونَ إِلَّا مَن أذِنَ لَهُ الرَّحْمَنُ
وَقَالَ صَوَابًا ۝ (٣٨) ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمُ الْحَقُّ فَمَن شَاءَ اتَّخَذْ إِلَىٰ رَبِّهِ مَآبًا ۝ (٣٩) إِنَّا أَنْذَرْنَاكُمْ عَذَابًا
قَرِيبًا يَوْمَ يَنْظُرُ الْمَرْءُ مَا قَدَّمَتْ يَدَاهُ وَيَقُولُ الْكَافِرُ يَلَيْتَنِي كُنْتُ تُرَابًا ۝ (٤٠)

TRANSLITERATION

31. Inna lilmuttaqeena mafaza
32. Hada-iqa wa'aa'naba
33. Wakawa'iba atraba
34. Waka'san dihaqa
35. La yasma'oona feeha laghwaw-wala kiththaba
36. Jaza'an mir-rabbika 'ata'an hisaba
37. Rabb-is-samawati wal-ardi wama baynahuma-rrahmani la yamlikoona minhu khitaba
38. Yawma yaqoom-ur-roohu walmala-ikatu saffal la yatakallam-oono illa man athina lah-ur-rahmanu waqala sawaba
39. Thalik-al-yawm-ul-haqqu faman sha'a-ttakhatha ila rabbihi ma'aba
40. Inna antharnakum 'athaban qareebay-yawma yanthur-ul-mar'o ma qaddamat yadahu wayaqool-ul-kafiru ya laytanee kuntu turaba

UNDERSTOOD MEANING

- [78:31] Surely, the pious will win,
[78:32] Gardens and vineyards,
[78:33] and women of equal age;
[78:34] And a pure cup.
[78:35] They shall not hear therein any vain words or lying.
[78:36] A reward from your Lord, a gift for their deeds:
[78:37] The Lord of the heavens and the Earth and what is between them, the Most Merciful, they shall not be able to talk to Him.
[78:38] The day on which the spirit and the angels shall stand in line; they shall not speak except those whom Allah permits and who speaks the right thing.
[78:39] That is the day of truth, so whoever wants may take the protection of his Lord.
[78:40] Surely We have warned you of a near punishment: the day when man shall see what he did before, and the unbeliever shall say: Oh! I wish I was dust!



1 ادم

2 ادريس

3 نوح

4 هود

5 صالح

6 ابراهيم

7 لوط

8 اسماعيل

9 اسحاق

10 يعقوب

11 يوسف

12 ايوب

13 ذوالكفل

14 شعيب

15 موسى

16 هارون

17 داوود

18 سليمان

19 الياس

20 اليسع

21 يونس

22 زكريا

23 يحيى

24 عيسى

25 محمد



MANY PROPHETS, ONE GOD

CHAPTER 1	Prophets Hud	B2
CHAPTER 2	Prophets Salih	B12
CHAPTER 3	Prophet Lut and the People of Sodom	B22
CHAPTER 4	Turning to Allah: The Story Of Prophet Yunus	B34

B64

B1



Prophet Hud عليه السلام

CHAPTER ONE

Pre-reading Questions



- 1 Who were the people of 'Aad?
- 2 What did the people of 'Aad Worship?
- 3 Whom did Allah choose as a prophet for 'Aad?
- 4 How did the people of 'Aad reject Prophet Hud?
- 5 How did Allah punish the disbelievers among the people of 'Aad?

Word

W a t c h

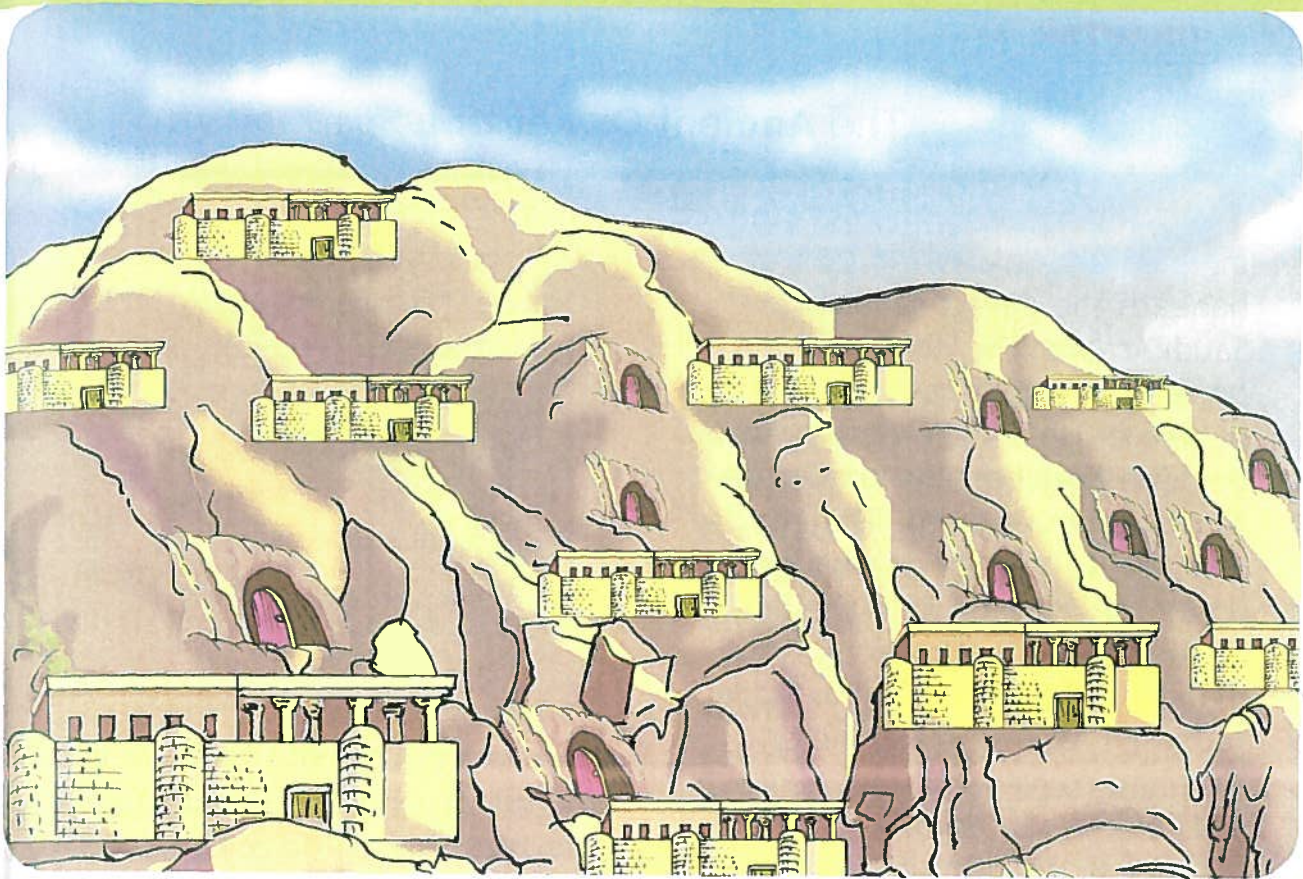
Hud	هود
Aad	عاد
Iram	إرم
Ubar	أبر

The People of 'Aad



Many years after Prophet Nuh عليه السلام, there lived a very industrious, hardworking people. They were the people of 'Aad عاد.

'Aad was a King and he was also the grandson of Prophet Nuh. This is why his people and offspring were called the people of 'Aad. The people of 'Aad lived in an ancient city called إرم Iram, a place in the south of present day Saudia Arabia near the borders of



Yemen and Oman. Allah blessed them with great wealth and they lived life in peace and comfort. Allah ﷻ gave them many blessings and made them very successful traders. They were very strong physically and there was no disease in their society. The people of 'Aad built large and beautiful houses. On every hill they built a tower, and they were very proud of their beautiful buildings.



Allah is **المغني Al-Mughni; The Giver of Wealth.**

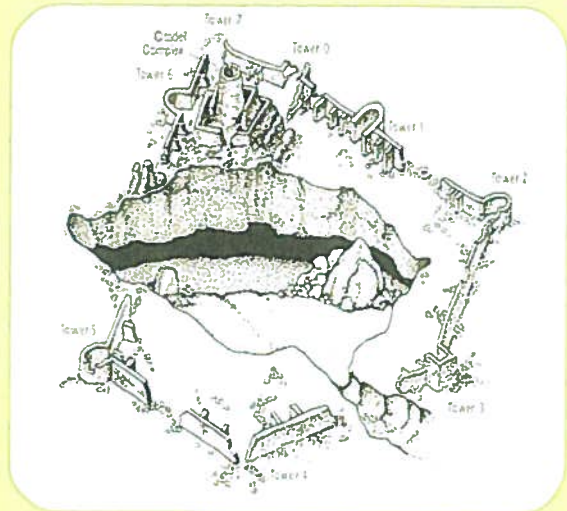
All money or wealth people have is from Allah.

﴿ ۱۸ ﴾ **وَأَنذَرَهُمْ وَأَغْنَىٰ وَرَاقَتَيْنِ**

“And He is the One who gives wealth and belongings.” [53:48]

The Ancient City of Ubar

UBAR-A wealthy incense trading post was said to be lost beneath the desert sands of Saudi Arabia. The Koran-the holy book of the Muslims-said the people of Ubar were destroyed because they became corrupted by power and wealth. The city was said to have been swallowed up by the ground. With the help of the space shuttle radar, ruins matching the story of Ubar were found-an incense trading city that had collapsed into a giant sinkhole. While no one can say for sure if the ruins actually were Ubar (no inscription with



the actual name of Ubar was found), there is a good chance the site inspired at least some parts of the Ubar stories.

<http://www.skeptic.com/atlantist/atlantist3.html>

The People of 'Aad Worship Idols

Despite all of the blessings that Allah ﷻ had granted them, the people of 'Aad did not believe in one God. Instead, they worshipped idols, which they carved out of stones. When anything good happened to them, they thanked their idols. Whenever they were in trouble, they prayed to those idols for help. Those people had forgotten all about Prophet Nuh and his message of worshipping one God, or tawheed. They forgot the awful punishment of Allah for worshipping false gods.

Allah Chooses Hud to be a Prophet

Among the people of 'Aad lived a man named Hud. Allah ﷻ chose him as His next prophet. He was from the tribe of 'Aad itself, and was respected because of his noble family and his good manners. He was the great-grandson of Prophet Nuh عليه السلام. Hud was a very patient and kind man. When he received the command of Allah to teach His message, he immedi-

ately did so. He came to the people and said:

“O Brothers, why do you worship stones that you have carved yourself? The idols can not give you anything or take anything away from you. Allah has sent me to you.”

Prophet Hud عليه السلام also said to his people:

“Allah has taught you all that you are able to do. He has also given you children and many animals. Therefore you should stop worshipping your false gods. Worship only Allah and obey His commands. Do well and do not commit wrongs and evil. Your Lord is only one, and He alone should be worshipped. He has created you, given you health and wealth, and made you a powerful nation.”

Prophet Hud explained to them that the idols would only take them further away from God.

The Holy Qur'an says in Surat Hud:

وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنكُمْ يُرِيدُونَ
 أَن تَتَّخِذَ آلَهُمْ حُجَّةً ۚ
 وَهُمْ يَأْتُونَكَ بِبُرْهَانَ
 مِمَّا كَانُوا يَعْبُدُونَ ۚ
 وَإِلَىٰ عَادِ أَخَاهُمْ هُودًا قَالَ
 يَا قَوْمِ أِعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مَا لَكُم مِّنْ
 إِلَٰهٍ غَيْرُهُ ۚ إِنِّي أَخَافُ
 أَن يُسْأَلَكُمْ عَلَيْهِ ۖ أَجْرًا
 إِن أَجْرِي إِلَّا عَلَىٰ الَّذِي
 فَطَرَنِي ۚ أَفَلَا تَعْقِلُونَ ٥١

وَيَقَوْمٍ أَسْتَفْهِرُوا بِكُم تُمُوتُوا إِلَيْهِ
 يُرْسِلِ السَّمَاءَ عَلَيْكُمْ مِدْرَارًا وَيَزِدْكُمْ قُوَّةً
 إِلَىٰ قُوَّتِكُمْ وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا أَهْوَاءَ قَوْمِكُمْ ۚ
 وَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُجْرِمُونَ ٥٢

“And to the people of 'Aad, We sent their brother Hud. He said, “O my people! Worship Allah! You have no other Ilah (god) but Him, certainly, you do nothing but invent (lies)!” [11:50]

“O my people I ask of you no reward for this [Message]. My reward is only from Him Who created me (Allah). Won't you then understand?” [11:51]

“And O my people! Ask forgiveness of your Lord and then repent to Him. He will send you (from the sky) abundant rain, and add strength to your strength, so do not turn away as sinners.” [11:52]

The People of 'Aad Reject Prophet Hud

Prophet Hud عليه السلام tried to explain to his people how everything they had was a blessing from Allah. How Allah ﷻ had made them Prophet Nuh's successors, and how He had given them strength and power. The people of 'Aad rejected Prophet Hud's message and continued ridiculing him.

They said:

“We are not going to listen to you. We are not going to let our gods down, just because you tell us so. Who are you, anyway? You are nothing but a liar. If you are not a liar, then prove it.”

Allah ﷻ repeated their words in the Qur'an:

﴿ قَالُوا يَا هُوْدُ مَا جِئْتَنَا بِبَيِّنَةٍ وَمَا نَحْنُ بِتَارِكِي آلِهَتِنَا عَنْ قَوْلِكَ وَمَا نَحْنُ لَكَ بِمُؤْمِنِينَ ﴾
 ﴿ إِنْ نَقُولُ إِلَّا اعْرَابُكَ بِبَعْضِ آلِهَتِنَا بِسُوءٍ ﴾

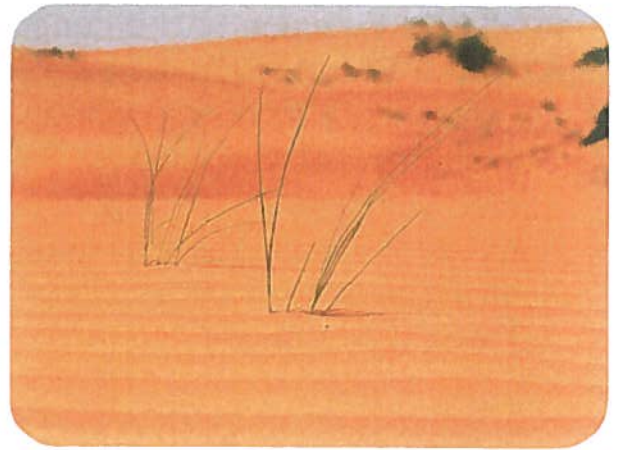
“O Hud! No evidence have you brought us, and we shall not leave our gods at your command! And we don't believe in you.

All that we say is that some of our gods have touched you with madness.” [Surat Hud11: 53-54]

Prophet Hud was very sad and disappointed when he heard this. He said to them, “Do you think the houses you have built will last forever? Remember that it is Allah Who has given you your fortunes.”

Allah ﷻ recounts in the Qur'an:

﴿ قَالَ إِنِّي أَشْهَدُ اللَّهَ وَأَشْهَدُوا أَنِّي بَرِيءٌ مِمَّا تُشْرِكُونَ ﴾



▲ The city of Iram, which is now known as Ubar was buried under the sands of the Empty Quarters for thousands of years. Scientists discovered the buried city in 1996 on the border between Saudi Arabia and Oman.

He (Prophet Hud) said: “I call Allah to witness and bear you witness that I am innocent of your sin. You worship others with Him (Allah).”

﴿ مِنْ دُونِهِ فَكَيْدُونِي جَمِيعًا ثُمَّ لَا تُنظِرُونَ ﴾

﴿ إِنِّي تَوَكَّلْتُ عَلَى اللَّهِ رَبِّي وَرَبِّكُمْ مَا مِنْ دَابَّةٍ إِلَّا هُوَ آخِذٌ بِنَاصِيَتِهَا إِنَّ رَبِّي عَلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ ﴾

“So plot against me, all of you, and give me no breaks; I put my trust in Allah. He is my Lord and your Lord!” [11:55]

Despite Prophet Hud's warnings, the people of 'Aad went on wor-

shipping their false gods. He was very disappointed. When he warned the people of 'Aad about the punishment of Allah, they challenged Prophet Hud. They said:

“We don't care. Tell your Lord to send us His punishment.”

The Qur'an quotes them as saying:

﴿ قَالُوا أَجِئْتَنَا لِنَعْبُدَ اللَّهَ وَحْدَهُ وَنَذَرَ مَا كَانَ يَعْبُدُ آبَاؤُنَا فَأُنَا بِمَا تَعِدُنَا إِنْ كُنْتَ مِنَ الصَّادِقِينَ ﴾

“Then bring down [the punishment] on us that you have threatened, if you are truthful.” [7:70]

Allah Punishes the Disbelievers

Shortly afterwards, a huge black cloud appeared in the sky, over the people of 'Aad. When the unbelievers of 'Aad saw it, they said: “This cloud is surely going to bring us some refreshing rain.”

But they were very much mistaken. Allah says in the Qur'an:

﴿ فَلَمَّا رَأَوْهُ عَارِضًا مُسْتَقْبِلَ أَوْدِيَّتِهِمْ قَالُوا هَذَا عَارِضٌ مُمِطِرٌ فَأَبَلْهُم مَّا أَسْتَعْجَلْتُمْ بِهِ رِيحٌ فِيهَا عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ ﴾
 ﴿ نُدَمْرُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ بِأَمْرِ رَبِّهَا فَأَصْبَحُوا لَا يُرَى إِلَّا أَسْكَرُهُمْ كَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي الْقَوْمَ الْمُجْرِمِينَ ﴾

“Then when they saw it as a dense cloud coming towards their valleys, they said: ‘This is a cloud bringing us rain!’ Nay but it is that punishment which you were asking for! A wind wherein is a painful punishment! Destroying everything by the command of its Lord!” [46:24-25]

The clouds grew larger and larger as the wind howled louder and louder. At the first sign of the storm, Prophet Hud had gathered his followers and family and taken them to a safe place. The wind was full of dust and sand. It blew violently for eight continuous days. The people ran into their big houses and beautiful castles to hide. But nothing could save them from the punishment of Allah.

The wind swept everything away. That violent storm did not stop until the entire region was reduced to ruin. The unbelievers were destroyed and swallowed by the sands of the desert. Nothing was left except a few large stones, which were the remains of the houses and towers. Only Prophet Hud عليه السلام and his followers remained unharmed because they believed in Allah and obeyed Him.

WORDS OF WISDOM

Holy Qur'an

سورة القمر

Surat-ul-Qamar 18-22

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

كذبت عاد فكيف كان عذابي ونذر ﴿١٨﴾ إنا أرسلنا عليهم ريحا صرصرا في يوم نحس
 مستمر ﴿١٩﴾ تنزع الناس كأنهم أعجاز نخل منقعر ﴿٢٠﴾ فكيف كان عذابي ونذر ﴿٢١﴾ ولقد
 يسرنا القرآن للذكر فهل من مدكر ﴿٢٢﴾

TRANSLITERATION

18. Kaththabat 'Aadun fakayfa kana 'athabee wanuthur
 19. Inna arsalna 'alayhim reehan sarsaran fee yawmi nah-
 sim-mustamirr
 20. Tanzi'u-nnasa ka'annahum a 'jazu nakhlim-munqa'ir
 21. Fakayfa kana 'athabee wanuthur
 22. Walaqad yassarnal-qur'ana liththikri fahal mim-mud-
 dakir

UNDERSTOOD MEANING

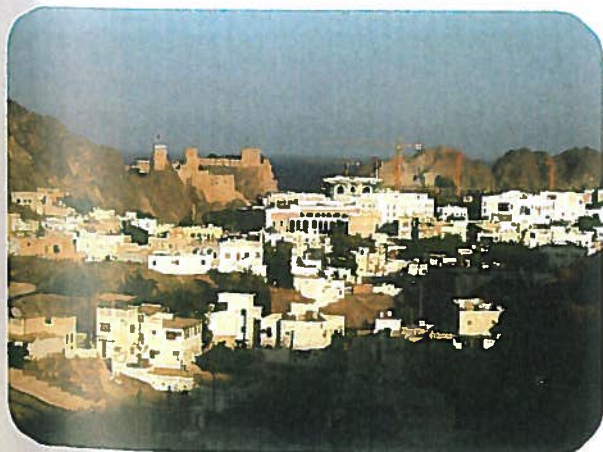
- [54:18] 'Aad disbelieved, so how (great) was My punish-
 ment and My warning!
 [54:19] Surely We sent on them a tornado in a day of
 continuous curse
 [54:20] Tearing men away as if they were the trunks of
 hollow and torn up palm-trees.
 [54:21] How (great) then was My punishment and My
 warning!
 [54:22] And certainly We have made the Qur'an easy for
 remembrance, but is there anyone who will reflect?



▲ *People in Oman say this is the Tomb of Prophet Hud. It is located near the city of Salalah.*



▲ *A Masjid in Oman*



▲ *Musqat, the capital of Oman*

The Country of Oman

Oman is a Muslim and Arab country in Asia. It is located in the southeastern corner of the Arabian Peninsula. Oman has a long Islamic history. During the eighth year after Hijrah, around 630 AD, Prophet Muhammad sent one of his Sahabah, Amr idn-ul-As, to invite Omanis to Islam. Omanis responded quickly and embraced the new faith. Some historians believe that the 'Aad, the people of Prophet Hud, used to live in Ubar in present Oman. Historians believe that Ubar is the same city of Iram which is mentioned in the Qur'an.

Country Facts

Capital: Muscat

Main Cities: Salalah, Nazwa, Suhar, Soor

Area: 212,500 sq km

Population: 3 million

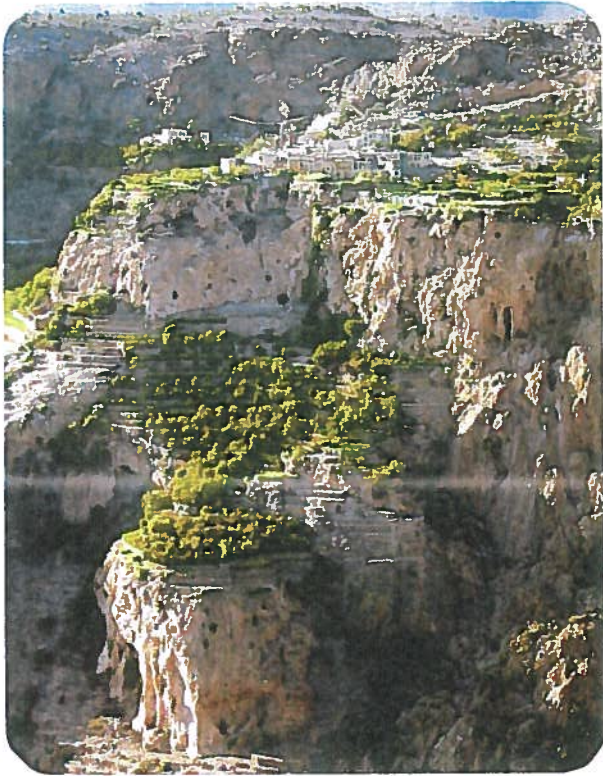
People: Arab, Asian, African, Baluchi

Language: Arabic, English, Persian

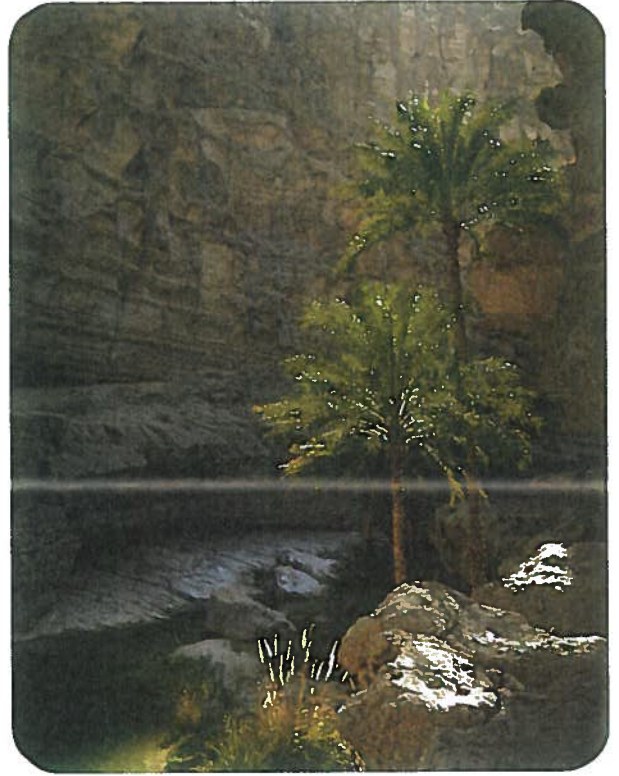
Religion: Muslim

Currency: Omani Riyal

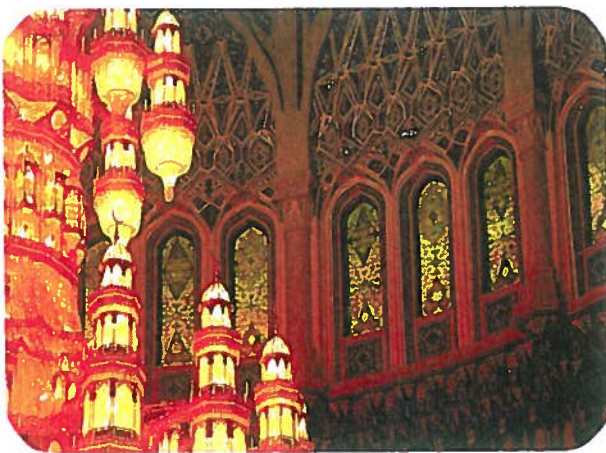
My Beautiful Muslim World



▲ *A beautiful village in Oman*



▲ *An oasis in Oman*



▲ *Inside a palace in Oman*



▲ *An area near Iram (or Ubar)*

Chapter Review

Activity

Time

Do some online research about the city of Ubar. Write a journal entry on what you learned about the city of Ubar, and make a collage of pictures on it.

Think

Critically

The people of 'Aad were big and tall. They were very strong. Why do you think Allah punished them by sending tornados to blow them around like hollow tree trunks?

Lesson

Review

- 1 What were the people of 'Aad famous for?
- 2 The people of 'Aad lived in what present country?
- 3 Why was Prophet Hud generally respected among his people?
- 4 What were the first few sentences Prophet Hud said to his people after he was chosen by Allah ﷻ as his prophet?
- 5 According to the Holy Qur'an, what did Prophet Hud's people say when they heard his message? Why you think they said that?
- 6 What was the punishment on the people of 'Aad?
- 7 Who was saved from the punishment?



CHAPTER
TWO

Prophet Salih
عليه السلام

Pre-reading Questions



- 1 Who were the people of Thamood?
- 2 Who was Prophet Salih?
- 3 How did Thamood disobey Allah?
- 4 What was the miracle sent to Thamood?
- 5 What happened to the disbelievers?

Word

W a t c h

Salih صالح
Thamood ثمود
Mada'in Salih مَدَائِن صَالِح
Naqah ناقه

The People of Thamood

Many years passed since the punishment that befell the people of 'Aad. New generations came to succeed them. Among these were the people of Thamood. The people of Thamood **ثمود** were Arab tribes. They lived in a place now called **مدائن صالح** Mada'in Salih in the northwestern part of present day



▲ An ancient house in Mada'in Salih

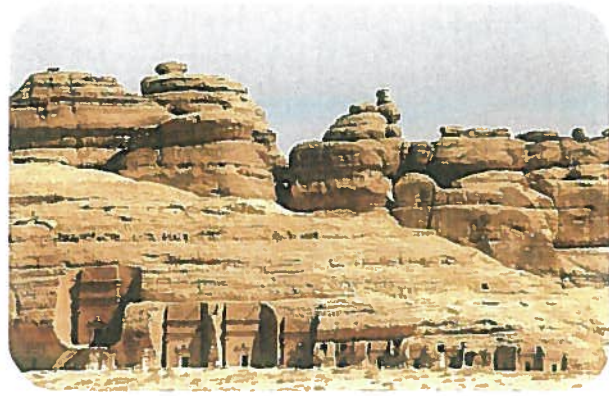


▲ *Satellite picture of Arabia, Mada'in Salih is in the far Northwest of Saudi Arabia*

Saudi Arabia. Mada'in Salih is an Arabic name that means "Towns of Salih."

Prophet Salih

The people of Thamood had beautiful gardens. They were blessed with beautiful springs, date palms and trees which had plenty of fruit. They lived in huge houses that they carved out of massive red rocks in the mountains. Allah made them very skillful at carving. The people of



▲ *Ancient houses in Mada'in Salih*

Thamood were arrogant, and they oppressed the poor who lived among them.

The people of Thamood moved away from tawheed and started to worship idols. Therefore, Allah ﷻ decided to send them a prophet from amongst themselves to guide them back to the right path. This prophet was صالح عليه السلام Salih. He was a well respected citizen of the people of Thamood. He came from a good family, and was well known for his good character.

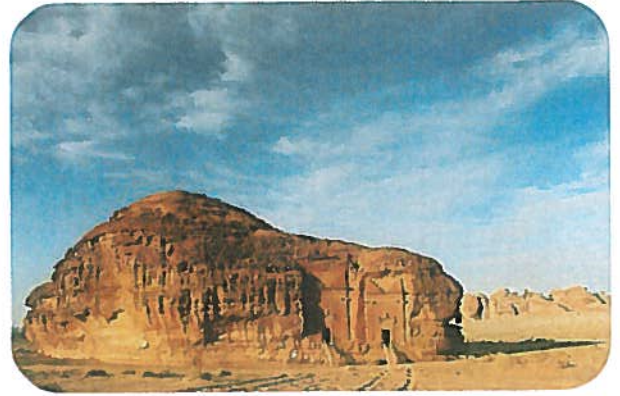
Thamood Rejects Allah's Message

"Worship only Allah," Prophet Salih عليه السلام told his people. "You have no other god but Allah, so you should do good. I am giving you good advice: You should believe what I say, for Allah has made me His Prophet." Allah ﷻ recounts in the Qur'an,

Prophet Salih told his people, "Oh my people! Worship Allah, you have no other god but Him." [Surat-ul-A'raf 7:73]



▲ *Ancient houses in Mada'in Salih*



The people of Thamood did not listen to him. They said:

“O Salih! We wished you to be our chief, until you told us to leave our gods and worship your God Alone! We really doubt what you invite us to.”

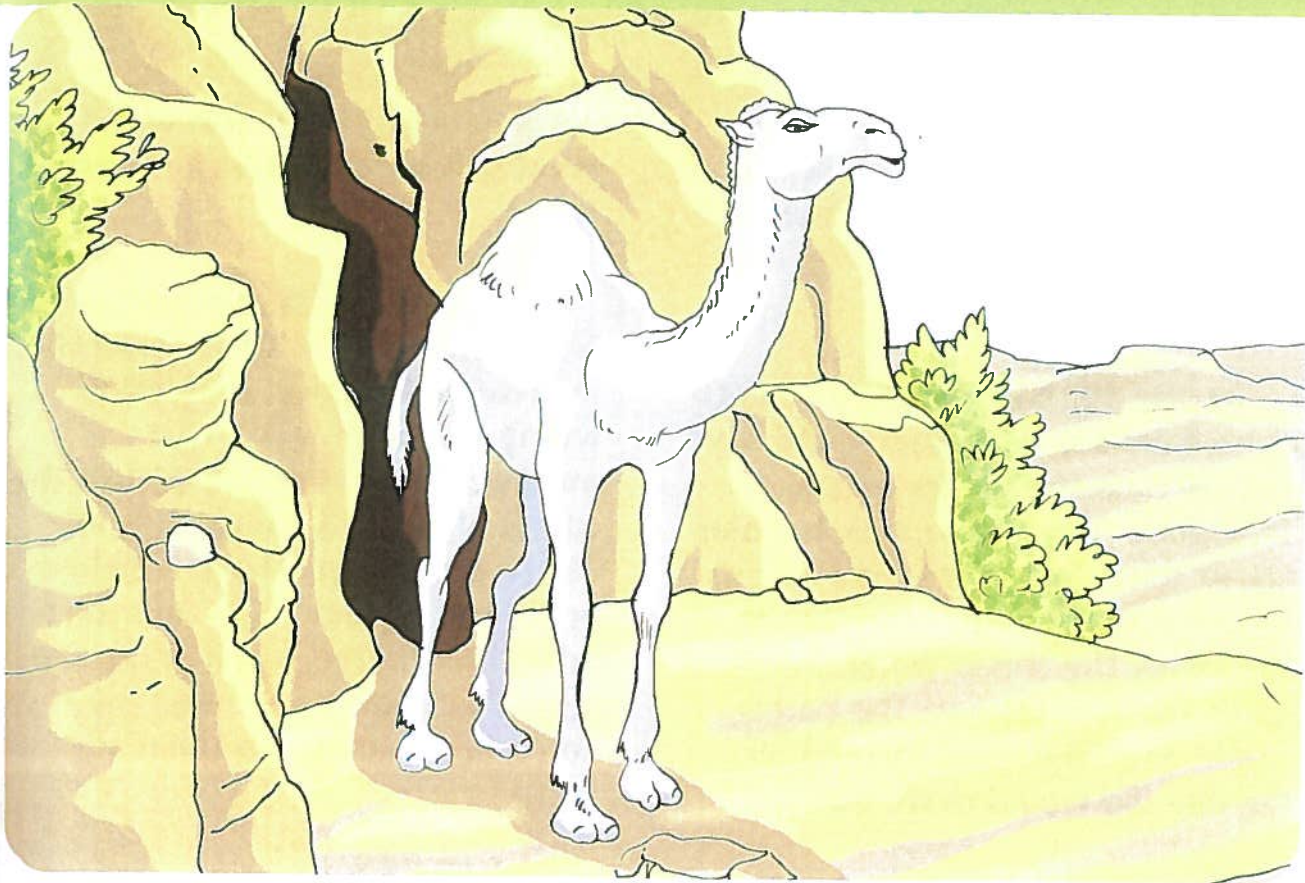
The rich and powerful of the tribe did not listen to Prophet Salih's message. However, many of the wise, poor and humble people followed him. The rich and powerful accused Prophet Salih of being a liar. They said:

“You are nothing but a man, just like any of us. If you are speaking the truth, then show us a proof that you are a prophet.” [Surat-ush-Shu'araa' 26:154]



Healthy Habit

Always take the orders of Allah seriously whenever you learn about them; do whatever Allah orders you to do promptly.



The Miracle of the Camel

Prophet Salih prayed to Allah ﷻ to answer their request. Soon afterwards, a mountain moved and split. From it came a giant ناقه *naqah*, or she-camel, which was pregnant. This camel soon gave birth. Allah ﷻ provided the Thamood people this miracle to prove that Salih was a Prophet. This was also a test from Allah for them, to see if they would obey His orders. Now they didn't have any excuses for not believing in Prophet Salih. The proof they asked for had been brought to them. Prophet Salih عليه السلام told them:

“O my people! This she-camel of Allah is a sign to you. Leave her to feed on Allah's Earth, and do not harm her, or a swift punishment will fall on you! [11:64]

The she-camel and her young lived among Thamood. Allah ordered Prophet Salih to tell his people of the camel's rights. She would drink from the water of the well for one day, and leave it to them the second day:

“She has a right to drink (water), and you have a right to drink water, each on a day appointed.” [Surat-ush-Shu'araa' 26:155]

“And tell them that the water is to be shared between her and them. Each one has the right to drink by turns.”

[54:28]

On the day the she-camel was to drink from the well, she would have enough milk for all the people of Thamood. They would milk her and fill all their containers. She was so big that when she would graze in the valley the sheep would flee and leave the way for her. The cattle would not come near the well on the day she would drink from it.

The people of Thamood were very amazed by this camel. Therefore, some of them believed in and followed Prophet Salih عليه السلام. It was clear that she was

not a normal camel. She was a miracle from Allah and a blessed animal.

The disbelievers, however, were bothered by her a lot because this miracle proved that they were wrong and Salih was a true prophet. They began to accuse the camel of being a danger to their cattle and sheep. These unbelievers began to feel angry and started to feel hatred towards the she-camel and her young one. They could not bear to see them anymore.



Healthy Habit

Always listen to elders and teachers who teach you good things and give you wise advice.



Thamood Kill the Camel and Allah Punishes the Disbelievers

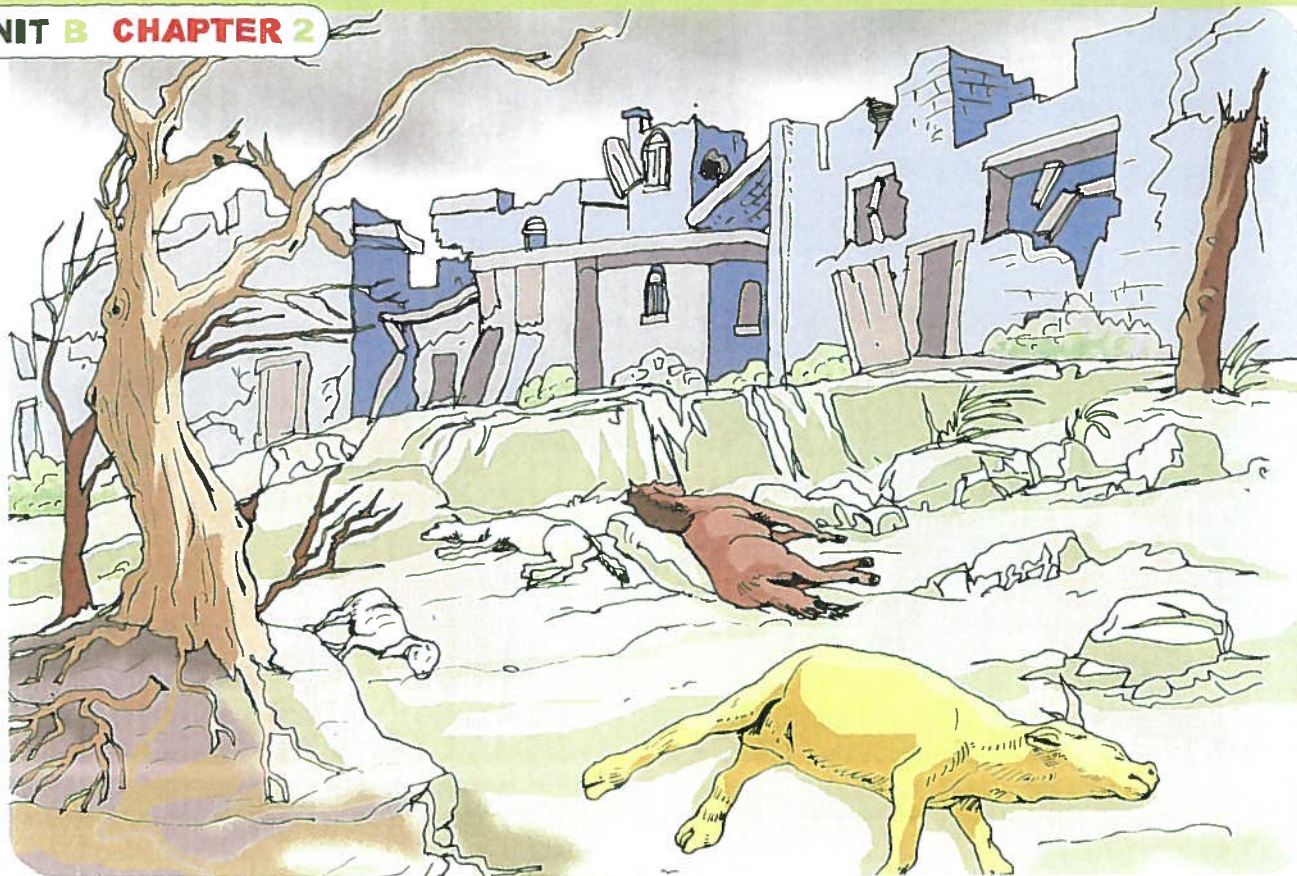
One day, the people of Thamood plotted to kill the camel. That way they could use the well every day. Nine men were appointed to kill the she-camel and her infant. While everyone was asleep, these men went out secretly to do the evil job.

The camel stood up as soon as she saw them, but they hit her on the neck, and she fell to the ground. First they slaughtered her. Then they slaughtered her young. The next day, nobody saw the she-camel or her young. The people searched and found them both dead. When Prophet Salih heard this, he became very angry.

Prophet Salih warned them saying:

“Enjoy yourselves in your homes [no more than] three days. This is a promise that will not be belied!” [11:65]

This was a warning for them to repent to Allah ﷻ. Instead, the same nine men decided to kill Prophet Salih as well. They said, “Swear to one another that we shall make a secret night attack on him and his family. Afterwards, we will surely say to his near relatives that we do not know who attacked Salih.” Allah ﷻ recounts in the Qur’an:



They said:

“We did not witness the destruction of his family, and we are telling the truth!”
[27:48-49]

But Allah ﷻ did not allow them to carry out their plot. As they were going to kill Prophet Salih, Allah showered rocks on them. The nine men were the first to die.

A second day passed after Prophet Salih's warning. Prophet Salih again warned the rest of his people of Allah's punishment that would befall them. The people of Thamood ignored him, and continued to worship their idols. Allah ﷻ

instructed Prophet Salih to leave the area with his family and followers.

On the third day, as the sun rose, a terrible Earthquake shook the land. The Earthquake destroyed everything. All the people were destroyed. The area was left barren as if nobody had lived there before! Prophet Salih عليه السلام and his followers were saved from this punishment. He turned away from the dead disbelievers saying:

“O my people! I have indeed delivered to you the message of my Lord, and have given you good advice but you do not like good advisers!”
[7:79]

WORDS OF WISDOM

Holy Qur'an

سورة الشمس

Surat-u-Shams

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَالشَّمْسِ وَضُحَاهَا ① وَالْقَمَرِ إِذَا تَلَّهَا ② وَالنَّهَارِ إِذَا جَلَّهَا ③ وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا يَغْشَاهَا ④ وَالسَّمَاءِ وَمَا بَنَاهَا ⑤ وَالْأَرْضِ وَمَا طَلَّهَا ⑥ وَنَفْسٍ وَمَا سَوَّاهَا ⑦ فَأَلْهَمَهَا فُجُورَهَا وَتَقْوَاهَا ⑧ قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَنْ زَكَّاهَا ⑨ وَقَدْ خَابَ مَنْ دَسَّاهَا ⑩ كَذَّبَتْ ثَمُودُ بِطَغْوَاهَا ⑪ إِذِ انبَعَثَ أَشْقَاهَا ⑫ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ نَاقَةَ اللَّهِ وَسُقْيَاهَا ⑬ فَكَذَّبُوهُ فَعَقَرُوهَا فَدمدمَ عَلَيْهِم رُبُّهُمْ بَدَنِيهِمْ فَسَوَّاهَا ⑭ وَلَا يَخَافُ عُقْبَاهَا ⑮

TRANSLITERATION

1. Washshamsi waduhaha
2. Waalqamari itha talaha
3. Wannahari itha jallaha
4. Wallayli itha yagshaha
5. Wassamai wama banaha
6. Wal-Ardi wama tahaha
7. Wanafsin wama sawwaha
8. Fa-alhamaha fujooraha wataqwaha
9. Qad aflaha man zakkaha
10. Waqad khaba man dassaha
11. Kaththabat thamoodu bitaghwaha
12. Ith-inba'atha ashqaha
13. Faqala lahum rasoolullahi naqat-Allahi wasuqyaha
14. Fakaththaboohu faAAaqaroooha fadamdama AAalayhim rabbuhum bithanbihim fasawwaha
15. Wala yakhafu 'uqbaha

UNDERSTOOD MEANING

1. By the sun and its brightness
2. And [by] the moon when it follows it
3. And [by] the day when it displays it
4. And [by] the night when it covers it
5. And [by] the sky and He who built it
6. And [by] the earth and He who spread it
7. And [by] the soul and He who made it well
8. And inspired it [with discernment of] its wickedness and its righteousness,
9. Certainly will succeed, whoever purifies it,
10. And will fail whoever corrupts it.
11. Thamud disbelieved [their prophet] with its tyranny,
12. When the most wicked of them came out.
13. And the messenger of Allah [Salih] said to them, "[Do not harm] the she-camel of Allah or [prevent her from] her drink."
14. But they denied him and killed her. So their Lord brought down upon them destruction for their sin and made it equal [upon all of them].
15. And He does not fear the consequence thereof.

Activity

Time

Write a journal entry on a make believe trip to Mada'in Salih in Saudi Arabia. Describe the place and your feelings about what the people of Thamood did to Prophet Salih and to themselves. You may browse the internet for many pictures, movies and information about Mada'in Salih.

Chapter Review



1. Why do you think the people of Prophet Salih were so rude and arrogant with him?
2. Did the miracle of the camel help Prophet Salih? Explain why?



- 1 The people of Thamood came after which people?
- 2 What were the people of Thamood famous for?
- 3 What did the people of Thamood worship?
- 4 Allah ﷻ chose Salih as the prophet for the people of Thamood. According to the Qur'an, what was the first sentence Prophet Salih said to his people?
- 5 What did the people of Thamood request of Prophet Salih as proof of his prophecy?
- 6 What was the agreement, according to the Qur'an, regarding the female camel and her infant?
- 7 What did some of the unbelievers accuse the she-camel and her infant of? What did they do about it?
- 8 How many days did Prophet Salih give his people to repent to Allah ﷻ?
- 9 How did Allah protect Prophet Salih from the unbelievers?
- 10 What was the punishment for the disbelievers among the people of Thamood?



Prophet Lut and the People of Sodom

CHAPTER THREE

Pre-reading Questions



- 1 Who was Prophet Lut?
- 2 What were Lut's people like?
- 3 What happens to people who ignore the truth?

Word

W **a** **t** **c** **h**

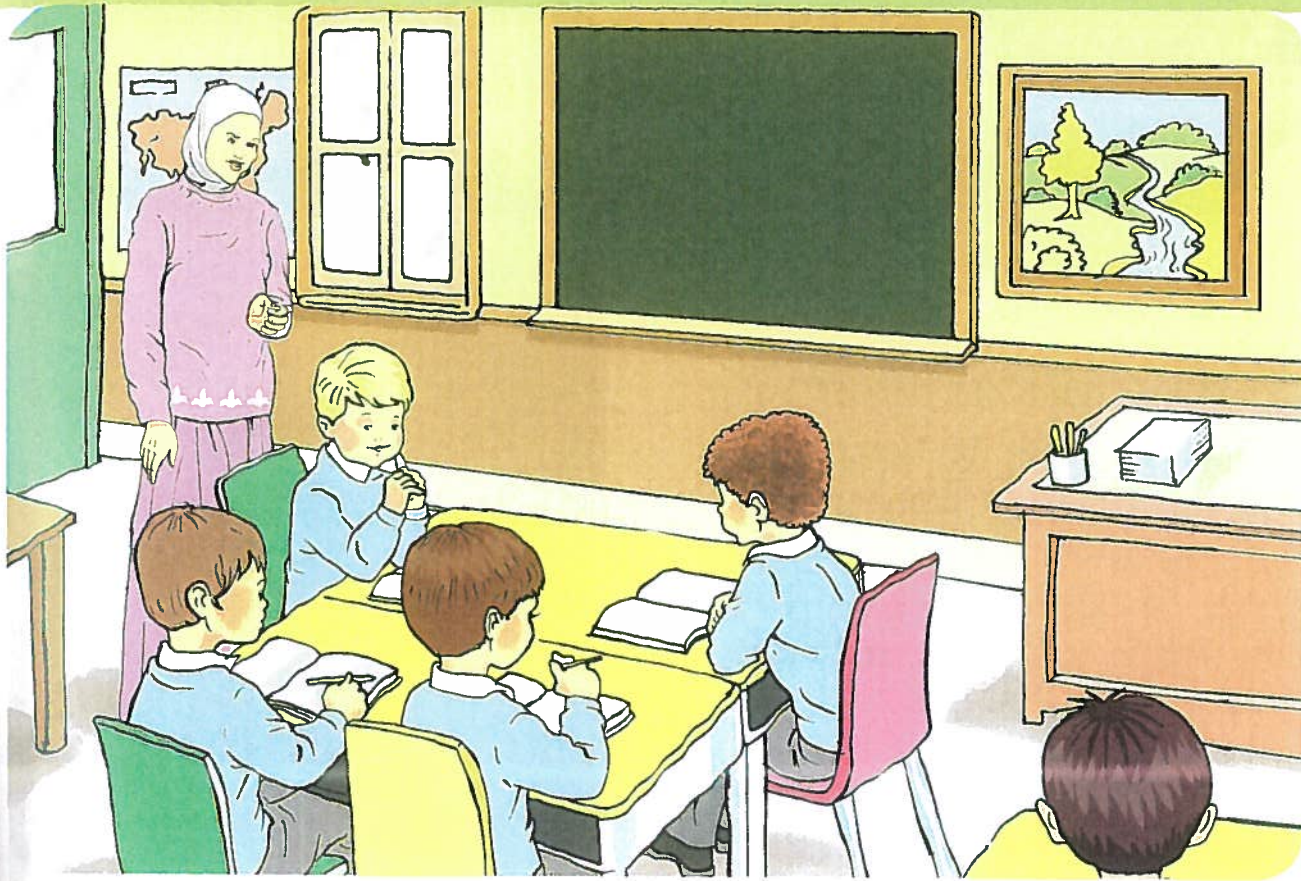
Lut	لوط
Sodom	سَدُوم
Dead Sea	البحر الميت



Miss Hibah called on Amir to read the introduction from his book during Islamic Studies class. Amir began reading and the class listened with full attention.

We Love Our Messengers

“Allah's words bring us His Light, Guidance, and Mercy. We should thank Allah for His revelation. We should also appreciate all the efforts of Allah's messengers. They went through many hardships and made many sacrifices so that we could learn the



truth. This is why we say ‘*Sallallahu Alayhi wa Sallam*’ or ‘*alayh-is- salam*’ after we say a messenger’s name. This means, ‘*Peace be upon him.*’ We Muslims have always wished peace on our prophets and messengers.

“The misguided people, on the other hand, have always tried to hurt or kill the prophets, or to stop the spread of Allah’s word. The story of Prophet Lut is one example.”

Amir finished reading the section. Miss Hibah divided the class into groups. She told them to read the story in the book individually. She then gave each group a different part of the story to write about. She also said that the

groups could draw pictures to go with their part of the story. She would give each group a different part of the story to write about.

The class went to work. For about twenty minutes, the class read the story silently. Then they got into their groups and worked on writing their parts. At the end of the class, each group presented its work.

These are the presentations, in order:

Group 1: Bilal as the presenter.

Bilal read, "Lut Ibn Haran عليه السلام was the nephew of Ibraheem. He was one of the messengers sent by Allah. He was sent as a warner to the People of Sadoom, or Sodom, south of the Dead Sea."

Bilal showed the class a map of the Dead Sea from the textbook. This is how it looked:

Bilal continued reading, "The people of Sodom were the worst kind of people in the world. They did all kinds of bad deeds. They used to lie, cheat, steal, drink and



▲ *Map of Palestine*



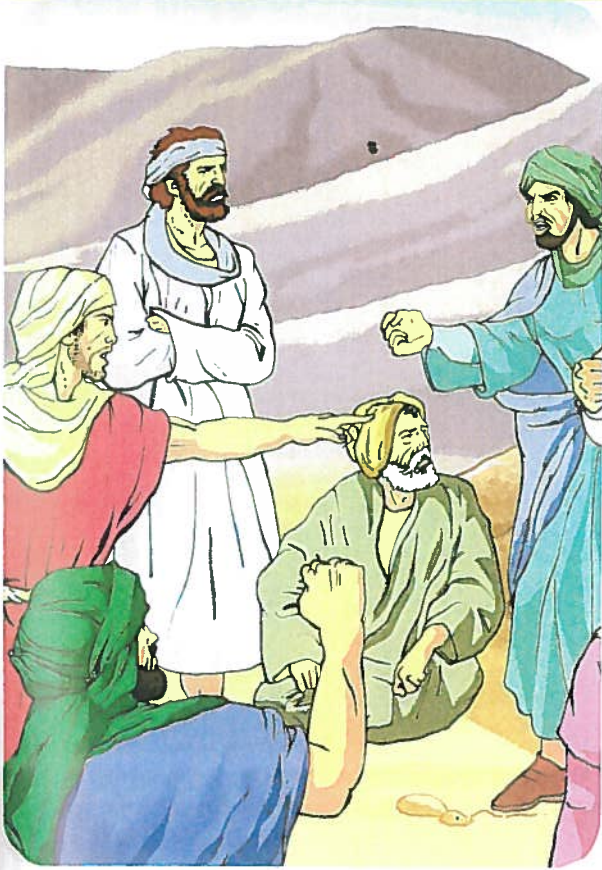
▲ *The City of Sodom, south of the Dead Sea*

do many other shameful acts.

Bilal showed the class some of the pictures that his group drew.

Bilal read more: "Prophet Lut عليه السلام was sent to these people on a mission. He wanted to guide them to the straight path and help them quit their evil actions.

Even though the people of Sodom are called Lut's people, he was not related to them. But he



looked upon them as his brothers and sisters because he cared about them. He wanted them to go to Jannah.

Bilal finished reading, and Teacher Hibah praised the group. "Very well done, Group 1! Next group!"

Group 2: Mona as the presenter

Mona read, "Prophet Lut عليه السلام was unhappy with the people of Sodom, so he asked them to fear God. He told them that God was the only Lord of the World and they must worship and obey Him alone. Prophet Lut also told them that he was Allah's messenger and they should respect and obey him.

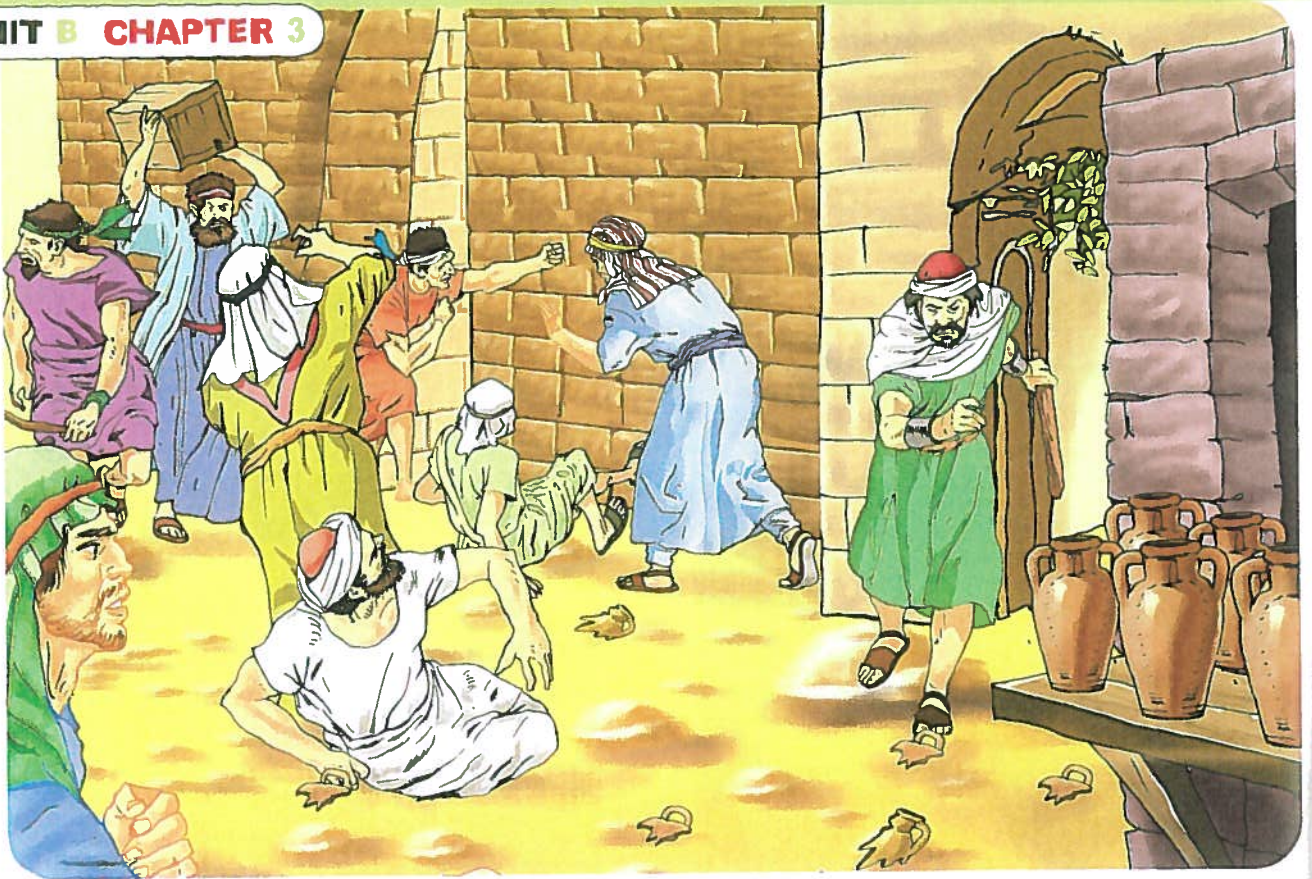
He also asked them to listen, as he gave them good and true advice.

Prophet Lut advised his people to stop committing their terrible sins. He said they must live within Allah's rules. The people disobeyed him and even forbade him to speak. They insisted on being bad. Very few people believed Prophet Lut!

"He warned them that Allah's punishment and anger would be terrible if they did not listen. They challenged Lut." Mona held up a picture that a group member drew.

Mona read on, "Even though the people knew that what they were doing was wrong, they did not stop. Lut spent a long time preaching to them but it made no difference. His people did not believe him and did not listen to his advice. They ignored his warnings and threatened that if he did not stop what he was preaching, they would throw him out of the city.

"Instead of being ashamed of their own deeds, they attacked the good people. They made fun of them for being pure and honest. They acted as if they were good and that the righteous ones were bad." Mona looked up as she finished. Miss Hibah smiled.



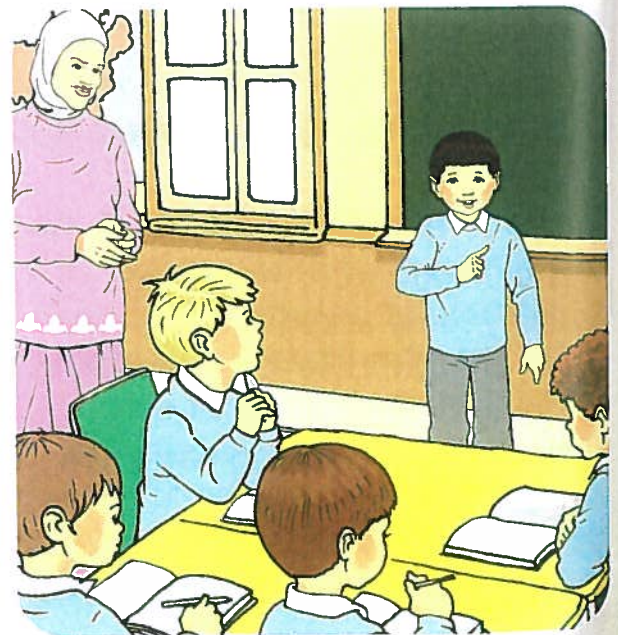
"Good job, Group 2. You described how bad the people of Sodom were, and how difficult it was for Prophet Lut to preach to them. Next group!"

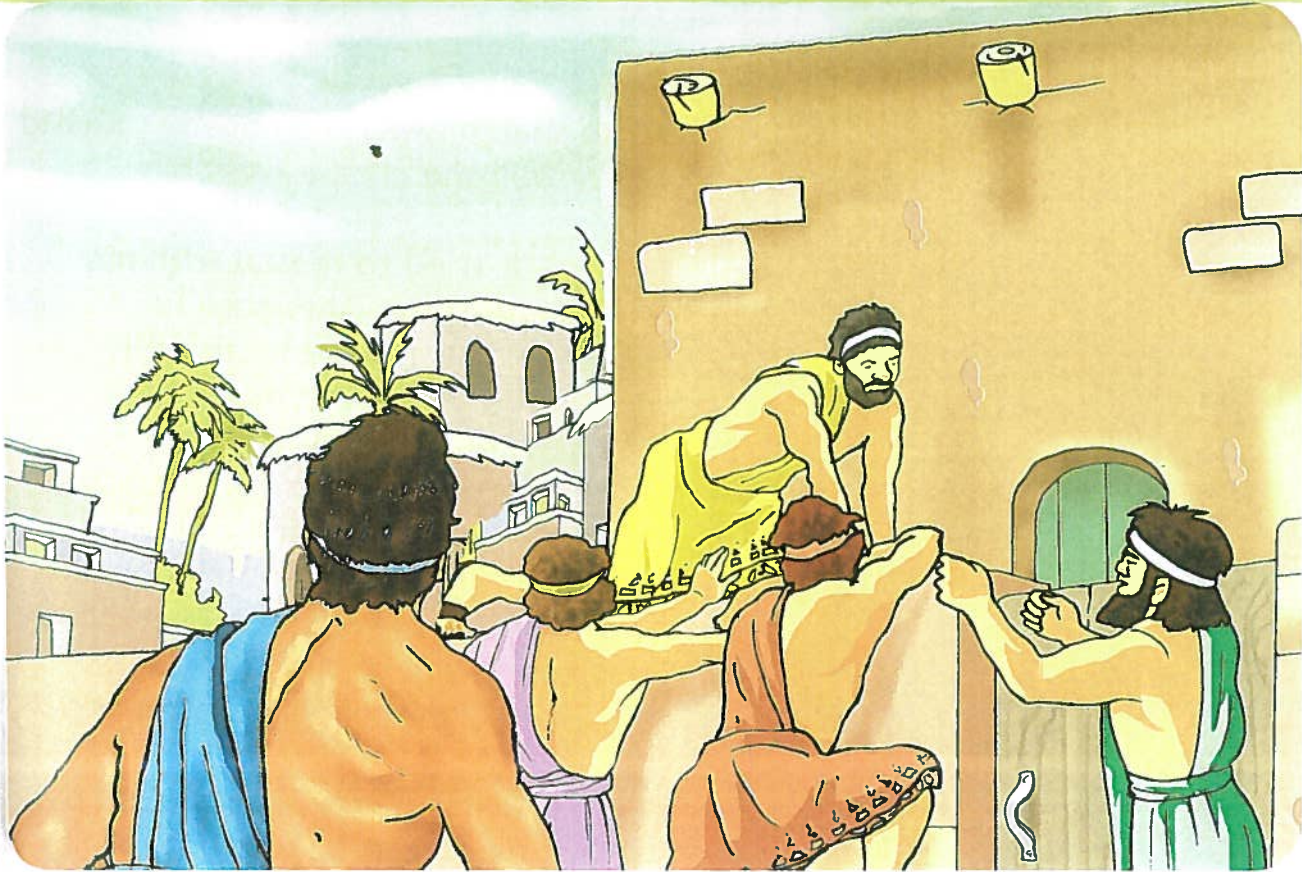
Group 3: Zaid as the presenter

Next, Zaid walked up to the front of the classroom. He read, "Lut's people were very difficult to deal with. Not only did they threaten to kick him out of the city, but they challenged him. They did not believe in God or His punishment. They challenged Lut to bring God's punishment to them."

"They said, 'Bring us the wrath of God if you tell the truth.'"

They were foolish and ignorant to ask for their own destruction. Prophet Lut was very sad that the people were so blind to the truth. He made dua'a asking God to give him victory over the evil people.





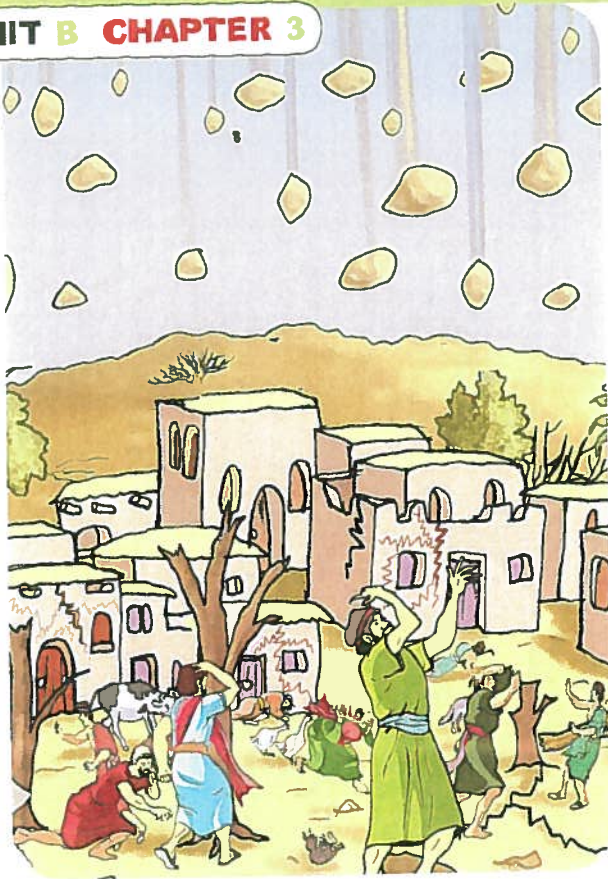
Lut was hurt because his efforts were not working.

"God was displeased by Sodom's insult towards His messenger. He would support His Prophet. God is fair. He sent the people warnings before He punished them. He sent His angels, Jibreel, Israfeel, and Mikaeel on a mission. First, they would visit Prophet Ibraheem and Sarah. Then they would come to Lut."

"After Jibreel, Israfeel, and Mika'eel told Ibraheem and Sarah that they would have another son, Is'haq, they continued their journey. The second part of their mission was to punish the bad people of Sodom. They would also save

Prophet Lut and the believers. The angels were disguised as young men as they approached the villages of Sodom. Lut was working in his field. When Lut saw them he knew they were special. They were very handsome. The angels invited themselves in. Lut did not think it was safe for the young men to stay with the people of Sodom because they were evil." This was the end of Zaid's presentation.

Miss Hibah said, "Thank you Group 3. That was a great presentation. Let's see what happened next. Group 4!"



Group 4: Khalid as the presenter

Khalid stood in front of the class and began to read. "Prophet Lut felt helpless in front of the angels. He tried to send them away. He warned them that the people of Sodom were probably the worst people on Earth. He repeated himself again and again but the angels were on a mission. They had to follow God's orders, So they stayed with Prophet Lut.

The bad people heard news of the arrival of the handsome young men. They wanted the men to join them in committing their evil sins. They almost went crazy as they attacked Lut's house, trying

to snatch away the angels." Khalid showed the class a drawing.

"Lut tried to reason with his people again. The more he advised them, the harder they tried to get to the young men. Lut said, 'Oh Lord! Help me against the people who do mischief. Oh Lord! Protect me and my family from the evil things they do! Oh my people! I wish that I had power to stop you, or that I could have some strong support against you.'"

"Lut felt alone, surrounded by evil men. But he was not alone. Lut had the support of God. His guests were not ordinary men. They were powerful angels. They came to test the people before bringing the punishment to them. The angels now showed Lut who they really were. They told him to leave the city before the morning. In the morning, a horrible punishment would meet the people of Sodom." Khalid was done reading.

Teacher Hibah said, "Jazakum Allahu Khairan, you did a great job Group 4. I will now finish the story for the class. Everyone did an excellent job."

Miss Hibah spoke to the class. "Lut had left Sodom with his family and a few followers. It is said that Jibreel rooted up the



▲ *Ancient ruins on the shore of the Dead Sea..*

whole village with the tip of his wing, with everything in it, including people, houses, trees, and animals. He lifted it until it reached the sky. The angels could even hear the roosters crow and the dogs bark. Then he flipped it upside down. God's punishment had finally come. He rained down brimstone as hard as baked clay, spreading layer on layer. The showers of brimstone showed that these people were truly wicked, and that they deserved such a punishment."

"Allah replaced the village with a useless lake that had a very foul smell. The people of Sodom

became a lesson for the people who wanted to listen. It was a sign of God's inevitable punishment and justice to the evildoers. Allah had destroyed the wicked people and protected His messenger, his family and the few believers who stayed with him."

The class was silent as Miss Hibah finished the story. Miss Hibah let them think quietly for a while. They were thinking about what happens to those who defy Allah and His messengers. They were also thinking how good it was to trust Allah and believe in Him.

WORDS OF WISDOM

Holy Qur'an

سورة القمر

Surat-ul-Qamar 33-40

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

كَذَّبَتْ قَوْمُ لُوطٍ بِالْبُدْرِ (٣٣) إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ حَاصِبًا إِلَّا آلَ لُوطٍ نَجَّيْنَاهُمْ بِسِحْرِ (٣٤) نِعْمَةٍ
 مِنْ عِنْدِنَا كَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي مَنْ شَكَرَ (٣٥) وَلَقَدْ أَنْذَرَهُمْ بَطْشَتَنَا فَتَمَارَوْا بِالْبُدْرِ (٣٦) وَلَقَدْ
 رَاوَدُوهُ عَنْ صَيْفِيهِ فَطَمَسَا أَعْيُنَهُمْ فَذُوقُوا عَذَابِي وَنُذِرَ (٣٧) وَلَقَدْ صَبَحَهم بَكْرَةٌ عَذَابٌ
 مُسْتَقِرٌّ (٣٨) فَذُوقُوا عَذَابِي وَنُذِرَ (٣٩) وَلَقَدْ يَسَّرْنَا الْقُرْآنَ لِلذِّكْرِ فَهَلْ مِنْ مُدَكِّرٍ (٤٠)

TRANSLITERATION

33. Kaththabat qawmu lootim-binnuthur
 34. Inna arsalna 'alayhim hasiban illa aala lootin-najjay-nahum-bisahar
 35. Ni'matan min indina kathalika najzee man shakar
 36. Walaqad antharahum batshatana fatamaraw binnuthur
 37. Walaqad rawadoohu 'an dayfihi fatamasna a'yunahum fathooqoo 'athabee wanuthur
 38. Walaqad sabbahahum-bukratan 'athabum-mustaqirr
 39. Fathooqoo 'athabee wanuthur
 40. Walaqad yassarnal-qur'ana liththikri fahal min-mud-dakir

UNDERSTOOD MEANING

[54:33] The people of Lut disbelieved in the warning.

[54:34] Surely We sent upon them a stonestorm, except Lut's followers; We saved them a little before daybreak,

[54:35] A favor from Us; thus do We reward those who [believe] and give thanks [to Allah].

[54:36] And certainly he warned them of Our punishment, but they argued with him about the warning.

[54:37] And certainly they asked him to let them harm his guests, but We blinded their eyes and they were given a taste of My punishment and warnings.

[54:38] And certainly a lasting punishment overtook them in the morning.

[54:39] So taste ye My punishment and My warnings.

[54:40] And certainly We have made the Quran easy to remember, but is there anyone will remember?



▲ *The Dead Sea. The lowest and saltiest body of water in the world. Salty rocks can be seen clearly in the picture.*

The Dead Sea

The Dead Sea is the lowest point on the surface of planet Earth. It is on the border between the West Bank in Palestine, and Jordan, south of the Jordan River. This body of water is the lowest and the saltiest in the world.

The Dead Sea is about 50 miles long, 11 miles wide and 1200 feet deep at its deepest point.

The Dead Sea has attracted visitors from around the world.

The Dead Sea is called in Arabic البحر الميت Al-Bahr ul-Mayyit, meaning "the Dead Sea." It is given this name because it is so salty, no fish or sea life can live in it. It also used to be called Bahr Lut, meaning "the Sea of Lut" because it is located near Sodom, the area of where the people of Lut used to live.

Chapter Review

Activity

Time

1. On the map of Palestine, locate the Dead Sea and the village of Sodom.

Think

Critically

1. Why did Allah send the angels to the People of Sodom to give them a punishment, instead of just punishing them right away?
2. How is the story of Lut عليه السلام similar to the story of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ?

Lesson

Review

- 1 Describe the people of Sodom.
- 2 Where is the village of Sodom located?
- 3 How did Lut عليه السلام act with his people?
- 4 How did the wicked people treat Lut?
- 5 Who visited Prophet Lut in Sodom and what did they tell him?
- 6 What happened to the people of Sodom?
- 7 Where is the Dead Sea? How big is it and how deep is it?



Turning to Allah: The Story Of Prophet Yunus

CHAPTER FOUR

Pre-reading Questions



- 1 What would you do if you were trapped in a small, dark place?
- 2 Who should you always turn to if you need something?
- 3 Why did Allah send prophets to His people?

Word

W **a** **t** **c** **h**

Younus ibn Matta	يونس بن متى
Naynawa	نينوى
Sabr	صبر
dua'a	دُعاء
Tasbeeh	تسبيح
As-Samee'	السميع

Allah ﷻ loves His servants very much. Allah sent many prophets to show people the right way to Jannah.

One of Allah's prophets was a man called **Younus ibn Matta** عليه السلام .

Allah ﷻ chose **Younus** from among the people to be their prophet. Younus and his people lived in a village called **Naynawa** in Iraq.

Younus عليه السلام started teaching his people Islam. He called on them to worship only one God. They did not want to obey him.

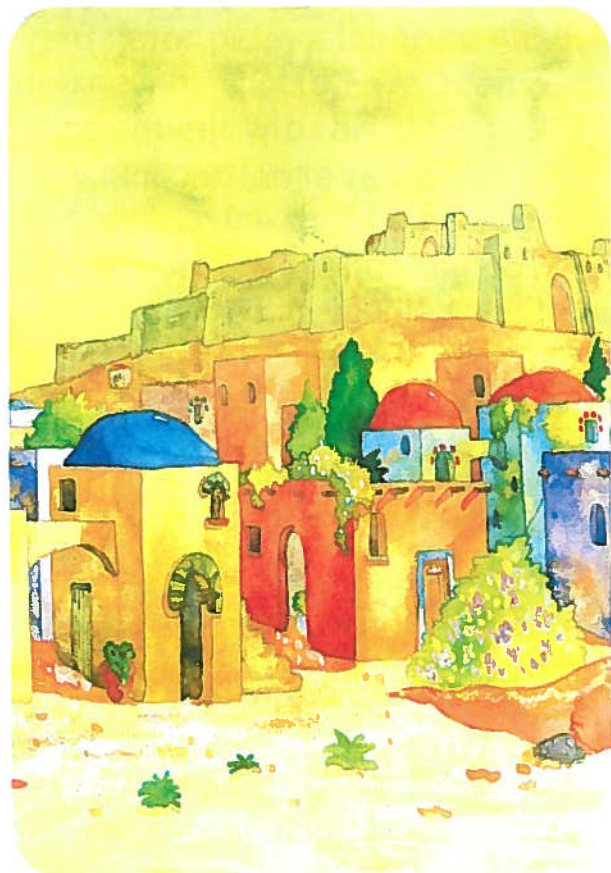


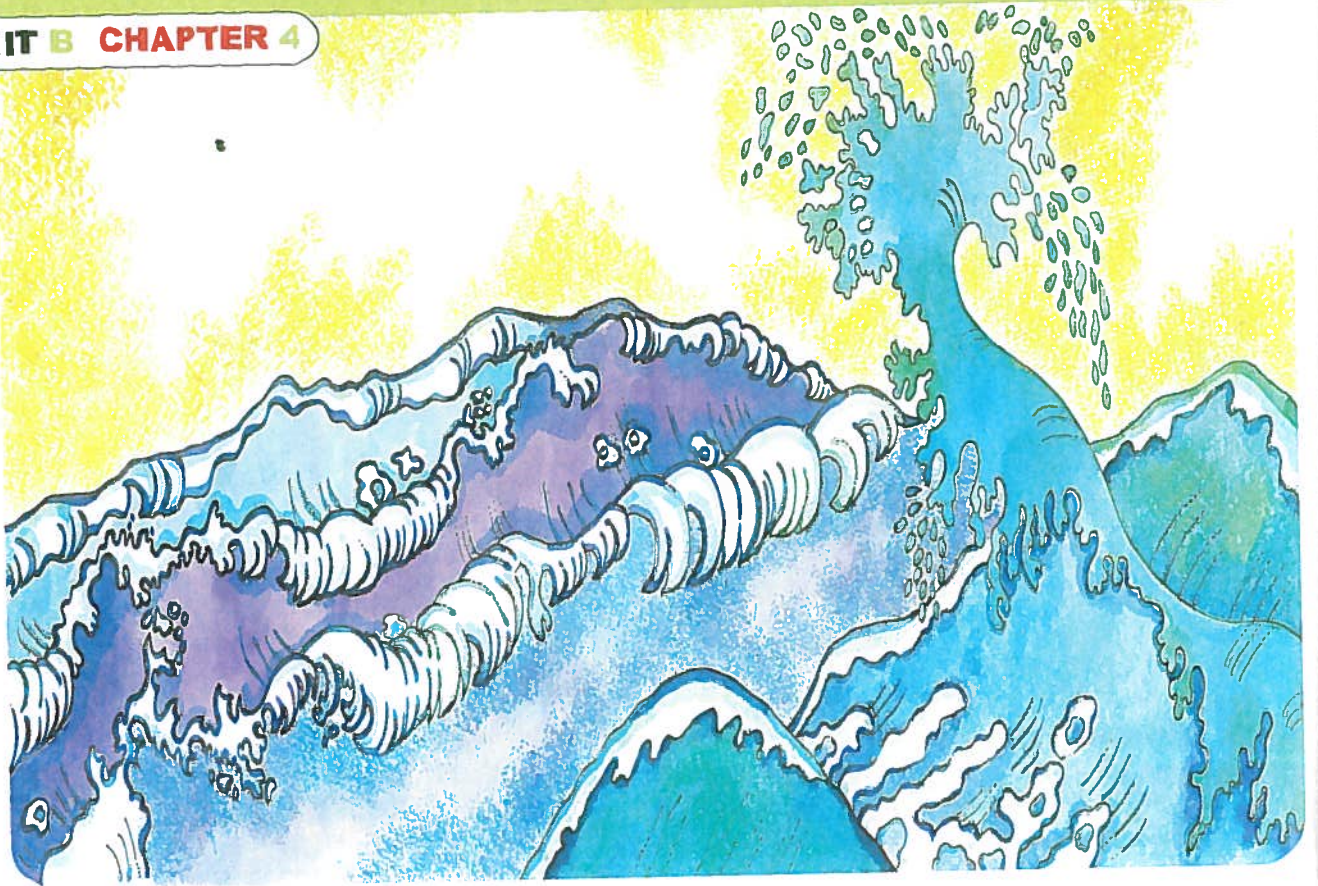
Prophet Yunus was afraid for his people because they did not believe in Allah ﷻ. He warned them that if they didn't believe in the One God, they would be punished after three days.

They laughed at Prophet Yunus and did not obey him.

Prophet Yunus became angry, and he decided to leave the village of Naynawa. He left the village **without getting permission from Allah**. Yunus got aboard a ship and sailed away from his people.

While Yunus عليه السلام was on the ship,





A STRONG STORM CAME.

The ship was about to sink!!!

People on board started throwing their belongings into the water. They wanted to keep the boat above the water.

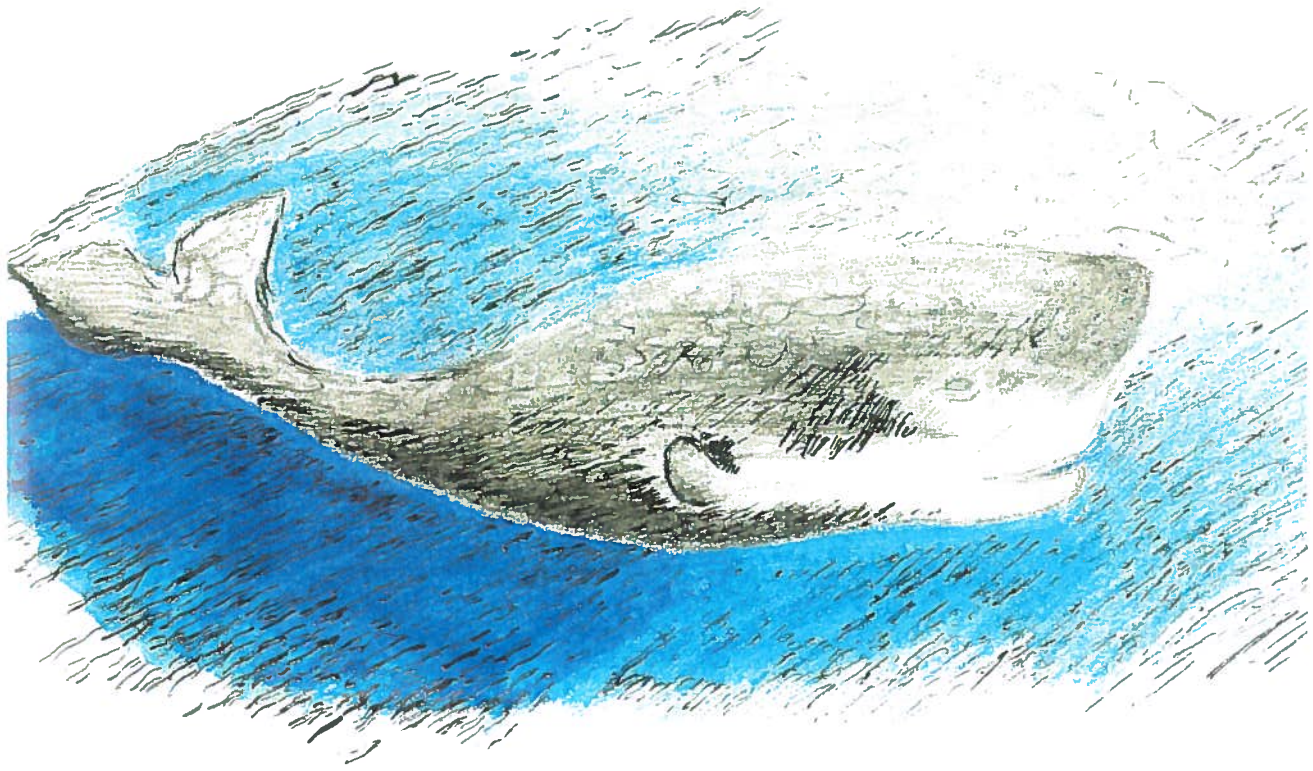
The ship was still going to sink.

They thought that the boat would sink because too many people were on it. So they decided to throw at least one person in the water. They made a draw many times, and the name of Yunus came up each time! Yunus was thrown into the sea.

ALONG CAME A BIG WHALE!

When Prophet Yunus was in the water, a big whale came and swallowed him. Allah ordered the whale not to hurt Yunus while he was in his stomach.

Now, Prophet Yunus was in the stomach of the whale. It was so dark and wet.



Younus was in three types of darkness:

1. He was inside the stomach of the whale
2. He was deep under water.
3. It was night time.
Younus عليه السلام realized that

he had left his people without waiting for permission from Allah. He knew he should have been more patient with his people. He started asking Allah for forgiveness and saying that he had been wrong.

It must have been
SO SCARY
for Prophet Younus!



The Power of **dua'a** and **Tasbeeh**

﴿فَكَادَىٰ فِي الظُّلُمَاتِ أَن لَّا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ
سُبْحَانَكَ إِنِّي كُنْتُ مِنَ الظَّالِمِينَ﴾

“And he called out within the darkneses, ‘There is no God except You; exalted are You. Indeed, I have been of the wrongdoers.’”

Surat-ul-Anbiya'a Ayah 87

I have been wrong.

That was the **dua'a** and **tas-beeh** of Prophet Yunus during his days and nights in the whale's stomach. He said it over and over again.



Healthy Habit

When you are upset, sad and need Allah's help, Say:

“لا إله إلا أنت سبحانك إني كنت من الظالمين.”

“La ilaha illa anta subhanaka innee kuntu mina-thal-imeen.”

This means: “There is no God except You; exalted are You. Indeed, I have been of the wrongdoers.”



- This time, Prophet Yunus learned his lesson and showed **sabr**. This means that he was patient and waited for Allah to do what was best.

Allah heard Prophet Yunus's **du'aa'**.

Allah **is** *As-Samee'*

↓ السميع

All-hearing

Allah ﷻ made the whale come on shore and spit Yunus out of his stomach. Prophet Yunus عليه السلام was very sick when he came out.

Allah grew a gourd tree with big leaves over Yunus. Now he could eat from its fruit. Yunus rested under its big leaves until he became well enough to go back to his people in Naynawa. He began his journey home.

Meanwhile, in the village of Naynawa, a strong wind started. The people were scared.

Now, they knew that Yunus was a prophet from Allah.

They were sorry that they had not obeyed Yunus, and they began to worship only Allah. Now, all of the people of Naynawa became believers.

They started praying and making dua'a to Allah to stop His punishment and to forgive them.

Allah ﷻ is so merciful and forgiving, that He answered their du'aa'.

Allah forgave them and stopped the storm.



Healthy Habit

Always make dua'a to Allah to help you. Ask Him for help before you ask any body else. Make dua'a every day, and every time you need help, even if it is for a small thing.

Do you know how many people lived in the town of Naynawa?

More than 100,000 people!!!

That means there were 100,000 more believers!

This means He answers dua'a and prayers.

When Yunus felt better, he returned to Naynawa. To his surprise, all of the people welcomed him! He was so happy.

He started teaching them Islam, and this time, they listened to him.

Chapter Review

Activity

Time

1. Draw a whale swimming in the sea under a ship.
2. Write a short paragraph about what you would do if you were in the stomach of the whale.

Think

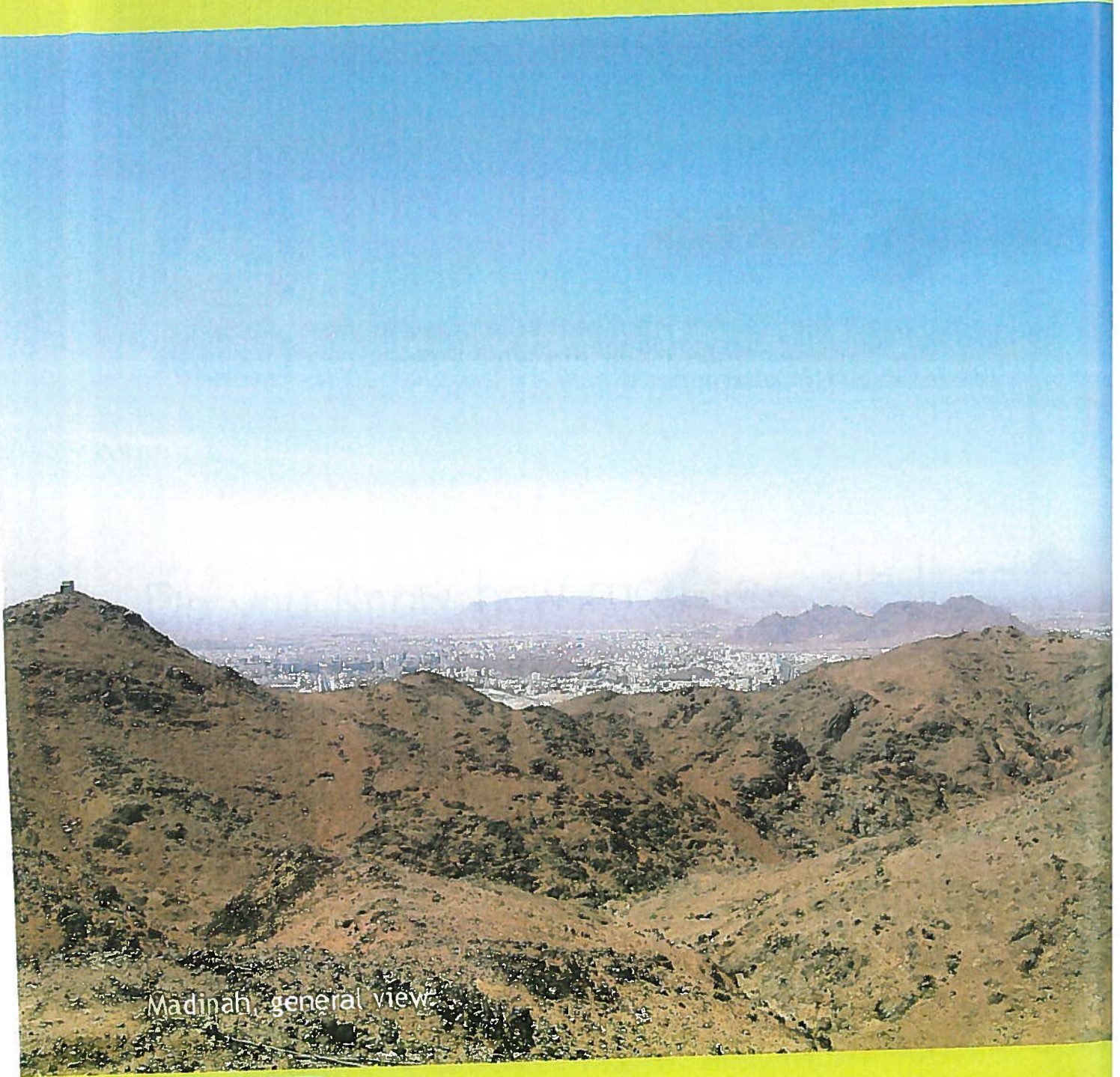
Critically

1. You learned about the story of Prophet Nuh in previous years. Compare and contrast the stories of Prophet Nuh and Prophet Yunus.

Lesson

Review

- 1 What did Prophet Yunus try to teach his people?
At first, did they listen?
- 2 What did Prophet Yunus do when his people disobeyed him?
Was this the right thing to do?
- 3 What happened to Yunus in the sea?
- 4 When Yunus realized his mistake, what did he do?
- 5 How did Allah show Yunus that He had forgiven him?
- 6 When you make a mistake, and need help from Allah,
what should you do and say?



Madinah, general view

Time Line

