



## Introduction

- The word (النمل) is mentioned once in the surah in ayah 18.

حَتَّىٰ إِذَا أَتَوْا عَلَىٰ وَادِ الْنَّمَلِ قَالَتْ نَمَلَةٌ يَتَأْمِهَا الْنَّمَلُ أَدْخُلُوا  
مَسَكِنَكُمْ لَا يَحْطِمُنَّكُمْ سُلَيْمَانٌ وَجُنُودُهُ وَهُمْ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ  
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- Ants are always working and they can be crushed since they have silicone in them, similar to glass. We know they are made of glass because the word (يحطمكم) in Arabic means glass that crushes.

### Hadiths about ants:

عن أبي هُرَيْرَةَ، عَنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " أَنَّ نَمَلَةً قَرَصَتْ نَبِيًّا مِّنَ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ فَأَمَرَ بِقَرْيَةِ النَّمَلِ فَأُخْرِقَتْ فَلَوْحَى ) ( Abu Huraira reported Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) as saying: An ant had bitten a Prophet (one amongst the earlier Prophets) and he ordered that the colony of the ants should be burnt. And Allah revealed to him:" Because of an ant's bite you have burnt a community from amongst the communities which sings My glory.")<sup>1</sup>

- We learn from the hadith that ants are a nation and they glorify Allah (ﷻ) constantly. Their constant glorification of Allah (ﷻ) makes them firm and enables them to continue their hard work. We also learn that if just one ant bites us we should not burn everything around us; we should not escalate problems more than what they deserve.
- No one punishes with fire except Allah (ﷻ). We should not kill ants or bees either.

<sup>1</sup> Sahih Muslim 2241



ذَكَرَ لِرَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ رَجُلًا أَحَدُهُمَا عَابِدٌ وَالْآخَرُ عَالِمٌ فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ "فَضْلُ الْعَالِمِ" عَلَى الْعَابِدِ كَفَضْلِي عَلَى أَنَّا كُمْ . ثُمَّ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ "إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ وَأَهْلَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ حَتَّى النَّمَاءَ فِي جُهْرِهَا وَحَتَّى الْحُوتَ لَيُصَلُّونَ عَلَى مُعَلَّمِ النَّاسِ الْخَيْرِ" ("Two men were mentioned before the Messenger of Allah ﷺ. One of them a worshiper, and the other a scholar. So the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: 'The superiority of the scholar over the worshiper is like my superiority over the least of you.' Then the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: 'Indeed Allah, His Angels, the inhabitants of the heavens and the earths - even the ant in his hole, even the fish - say Salat upon the one who teaches the people to do good.'")<sup>2</sup>

- Allah ﷺ praises the one who teaches people to do good. The angels, the inhabitants of the heavens and earth, and even the ants supplicate for those who teach people to do good.
- Tasbeeh is to push away all bad and from this hadith we learn the ants appreciate those who teach good.
- Every ayah of the Qur'an is to be considered and it brings out the best from us when we take it step by step. In the Qur'an are the best news, clear commands and it teaches us about Allah ﷺ. The ayat also describe the messengers and prophets to us so that we can take them as role models.
- When we consider all the ayat which come to us, whether it is in the Qur'an or in life then it will be clear.
- The Clear Book is the Qur'an and the Preserved Tablet.

وَمَا مِنْ عَابِدٍ فِي السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ إِلَّا فِي كِتَابٍ مُّبِينٍ

And there is nothing hidden in the heaven and the earth, but is in a Clear Book (i.e. Al-Lauh Al-Mahfuz).<sup>3</sup>

## Ayah 2

هُدًى وَبُشْرَى لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ

A guide (to the Right Path); and glad tidings for the believers [who believe in the Oneness of Allah (i.e. Islamic Monotheism)].

<sup>2</sup> Jami` at-Tirmidhi 2685

<sup>3</sup> Surah An Naml 75



Word	Meaning
هُدًى وَبُشْرَى	guidance and glad tidings
لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ	for the believers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• (هُدًى وَبُشْرَى لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ) (<b>A guide (to the Right Path); and glad tidings for the believers [who believe in the Oneness of Allah (i.e. Islamic Monotheism)]</b>): the one who believes then the Qur'an will be guidance and glad tidings for him. There will be ease, no warnings, and no confusion. When a person believes in Allah (ﷻ) then He will go from point A to B in a straight line with no confusion, and for every step he is receiving glad tidings so he wants to continue down that path.</li><li>• A person can have the best curriculum but not a good teacher, or a good teacher but not the best curriculum. Both cases will not work.</li><li>• Confusion, misguidance, harshness, repelling, being difficult and disbelief are resolved with this ayah.</li><li>• It is important to draw a line for the people and this is an example of an advanced civilization. For example, if a road is closed then they will inform the people what to do and where to go.</li><li>• The guidance tells us what to do and what not to do. The ayat of the Qur'an will not only guide us but it will also give us glad tidings.</li><li>• (بُشْرَى) means distinct in its beauty, the word (بُشَّارٍ) also means the early morning.</li><li>• (بُشْرَى) is to hear good news without seeing it. It is happy news with joy.</li><li>• The more a person believes in Allah (ﷻ), the more the Qur'an will be guidance and glad tidings, and this will protect us from much evil. The more we believe, the more we will be motivated to continue down the path.</li><li>• We want to go to Allah (ﷻ) with honor, guidance and glad tidings. We do not want to go to paradise with "chains", with much hardship and difficult nurturing.</li><li>• Clarity and transparency are important in order to guide the people with glad tidings.</li><li>• The Prophet (ﷺ) said to always give glad tidings and to not repel the people. Also we should make things easy and not difficult.</li></ul>



**Hadith: (عَنْ أَنَسِ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " يَسِّرُوا وَلَا تُعَسِّرُوا، وَبَشِّرُوا وَلَا تُنَفِّرُوا ." )** said, "Facilitate things to people (concerning religious matters), and do not make it hard for them and give them good tidings and do not make them run away (from Islam).)<sup>4</sup>

**Homework: search for the ayat which contain the words (بُشْرَى) and (هَدْيٌ) in the Qur'an.**

**Ayah 3**

الَّذِينَ يُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَيُؤْتُونَ الزَّكَاةَ وَهُمْ بِالْآخِرَةِ هُمْ يُوقِنُونَ

Those who perform As-Salat (Iqamat-as-Salat) and give Zakat and they believe with certainty in the Hereafter (resurrection, recompense of their good and bad deeds, Paradise and Hell, etc.).

Word	Meaning
الَّذِينَ	those who
يُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ	establish the prayer
وَيُؤْتُونَ الزَّكَاةَ	give zakat
وَهُمْ بِالْآخِرَةِ	and those whom in the hereafter
هُمْ يُوقِنُونَ	they believe with certainty

**What are the qualities of the believers?**

- The below qualities are important for any civilization. It is telling us about internal and external connections and how to connect with Allah (ﷻ) and with the people.
  1. (الَّذِينَ يُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ) (Those who perform As-Salat (Iqamat-as-Salat)): our connection with Allah (ﷻ) is our priority. When this connection is correct then the rest of our connections will be good. If our relation with Allah (ﷻ) is weak then how do we

<sup>4</sup> Sahih al-Bukhari 69



expect to connect with the people. When things are getting messy in our life then we should correct our prayer. When any matter would disturb the Prophet (ﷺ), he would go to the prayer. This means an advanced civilization is one that connects to Allah (ﷻ).

The first matter Allah (ﷻ) will ask us about on the Day of Judgment is our prayer. When the prayer is good then the rest of the deeds will be good and when it is bad then the rest of our deeds will be bad.

The prayer is coolness and it brings relief.

2. **وَيُؤْتُونَ الزَّكَاةَ** (and give Zakat): they give what's good and it is given with a good heart. We should not be someone who is only expecting, but we should initiate and give without wanting anything in return because we want our own purification. The first to say salam is the better one than the one who reacts to goodness.
3. **وَهُمْ بِالْآخِرَةِ هُمْ يُوقِنُونَ** (and they believe with certainty in the Hereafter (resurrection, recompense of their good and bad deeds, Paradise and Hell, etc.)): and they believe with certainty in the hereafter, and notice (مَنْ) shows affirmation. They have certainty in the Day of Judgement, and it is a high level to believe in the unseen. All the unseen matters will be seen on the Day of Judgement and what will make us feel the unseen matters? Situations and glimpses in this life that will remind us of the Day of Judgement. A person will see the sun and remember how will the sun be on the Day of Judgement, a person will see shade and remember how will the Shade Under the Throne of Allah (ﷻ) will be. A person will see being greeted kindly and remember how will the greeting and welcome be in paradise.

**May Allah (ﷻ) grant us all qualities of the believers. Ameen.**