



Quranic and Prophetic Nurturing Program

Surah An Naml – Class 11

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Introduction

Hadith: (الَّذِي قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ - "مَثَلُ الْقَلْبِ مَثَلُ الرَّيشَةِ تُقْلَبُهَا الرِّيَاحُ بِفَلَادَةٍ") ("The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: 'The likeness of the heart is that of a feather blown about by the wind in the desert.'")¹

- The heart is like a feather, it can easily move and get affected.
- There are treasures behind every decree of Allah (ﷻ).

Ayah 23

إِنِّي وَجَدْتُ امْرَأَةً تَمْلِكُهُمْ وَأُوتيَتْ مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَلَهَا عَرْشٌ عَظِيمٌ

"I found a woman ruling over them: she has been given all things that could be possessed by any ruler of the earth, and she has a great throne.

Word	Meaning
إِنِّي وَجَدْتُ امْرَأَةً	I found a woman
تَمْلِكُهُمْ	owning them
وَأُوتيَتْ مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ	and she has been given from everything
وَلَهَا عَرْشٌ عَظِيمٌ	and for her is a great throne

¹ Sunan Ibn Majah Book 1, Hadith 93



- What is the detail the hudhud mentioned to attract and inspire Suleiman (عليه السلام)? Surely the detail he brought to him was at his level since Balqees is a queen and Suleiman (عليه السلام) is a king.
- (إِنِّي وَجَدْتُ) ("I found a woman ruling over them"): the hudhud found something and this shows we went out of his "comfort zone". Birds go out every morning hungry and come back full because of their complete tawakul. This teaches to go out and not just stay in our comfort zone. The hudhud is serving the great vision and what is this vision? (لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ). The vision is to raise the Word of Allah (ﷻ). The hudhud has this vision and has gheerah about it. The hudhud does not accept that Suleiman (عليه السلام) rules the world and there are people in his territory who are worshipping the sun, subhan Allah. Notice the hudhud did not just immediately say, "I found people worshipping the sun" but he identified who was doing it, and in a civilization everything is proper, official and documented.
- Also the hudhud is mentioned and acknowledged to show a civilization recognizes the one puts forth an idea and is credited for it. What did the hudhud find?
- (إِنَّمَا تَمَلِكُهُمْ وَأَوْتَيْتُ مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ) (she has been given all things that could be possessed by any ruler of the earth,): he said I found a "woman" (امرأة) and this brings forth more gheerah from Suleiman (عليه السلام). She owns the town and she has been given from everything (من كُلِّ شَيْءٍ). What does this mean "from everything"? Power, wealth, food, drink, armies, fortresses, transport, buildings, resources, thus in any civilization are people, buildings and connections. It is power when a country owns all that it has and nothing is outsourced; everything is made in-house and this is a strength.
- (وَلَهَا عَرْشٌ عَظِيمٌ) (and she has a great throne.): she also has a great throne where she would sit. The greatness of the throne reflected the greatness of the kingdom, greatness of the one in charge, and greatness of the many advisors she has.
- In Islam the one with authority is given respect and is given their proper place; this gives stability. It is from reverence to Allah (ﷻ) to honor the elderly, the carrier of the Qur'an and the ruler.
- It also teaches us to never underestimate the kingdom of anyone despite Suleiman (عليه السلام) having more for example he did not underestimate the civilization of the



ants. A person needs to be content with what he has and not compare himself to others and no one is less because Allah (ﷻ) is never unjust to the slaves.

Ayah 24

وَجَدْتُهَا وَقَوْمَهَا يَسْجُدُونَ لِلشَّمْسِ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ وَرَزَّيْنَ لَهُمُ الشَّيْطَانُ أَعْمَالَهُمْ فَصَدَّهُمْ عَنِ السَّبِيلِ فَهُمْ لَا يَهْتَدُونَ

"I found her and her people worshipping the sun instead of Allah, and Shaitan (Satan) has made their deeds fair-seeming to them, and has barred them from (Allah's) Way: so they have no guidance."

Word	Meaning
وَجَدْتُهَا وَقَوْمَهَا	I saw her and her people
يَسْجُدُونَ لِلشَّمْسِ	prostrating to the sun
مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ	from besides Allah
وَرَزَّيْنَ لَهُمُ الشَّيْطَانُ	and the shaitan adorned for them
أَعْمَالَهُمْ	their deeds
فَصَدَّهُمْ عَنِ السَّبِيلِ	so they were barred from the true way
فَهُمْ لَا يَهْتَدُونَ	thus they were not guided

- Notice the hudhud not only mentioned what Balqees and her people were doing, but the reason for it. Suleiman (عليه السلام) does not need an explanation to understand it, but it shows he listens to the reflections of the hudhud and it shows they speak on the same page. It also shows Suleiman (عليه السلام) respects what the hudhud said.



- The Prophet (ﷺ) used to like to hear others reciting the Qur'an though it has been brought down upon him. Sometimes we feel shy to say something which was already said by someone before us though there should be no discomfort unease.
- (وَجَدْتُهَا وَقَوْمَهَا) ("I found her and her people"): the hudhud said he found her and her people, doing what?
- (يَسْجُدُونَ لِلشَّمْسِ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ) (worshipping the sun instead of Allah,): worshipping the sun besides Allah (ﷻ). Everything can be encompassed except Allah (ﷻ). If a person can draw something then why worship it? Subhan Allah.
- They reached to the extent of prostrating to the sun and prostration is only for Allah (ﷻ). The prostration of the angels to Adam (عليه السلام) was out of honor, not worship and it was to remove Iblis from them. Yusuf (عليه السلام) was prostrated to out of respect and it was fulfillment of his vision. But after the legislation of Mohammed (ﷺ) there is no prostration except to Allah (ﷻ).
- There is prostration:
 1. In the prayer
 2. For recitation (symbol in the Qur'an to prostrate)
 3. For forgetfulness: when missing something in the prayer
 4. Gratitude: when hearing good news or being protected from something immediate. This is not every time but when something immediate happens.
- It is important to not prostrate to the sun even as an exercise or meditation, subhan Allah.

Ayat about the Sun:

ابراهيم - الآية 33 وَسَخَّرَ لَكُمُ الشَّمْسَ وَالْقَمَرَ دَائِبِينِ ۚ وَسَخَّرَ لَكُمُ اللَّيْلَ وَالنَّهَارَ
الأنبياء - الآية 33 وَهُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ اللَّيْلَ وَالنَّهَارَ وَالشَّمْسَ وَالْقَمَرَ كُلُّ فِي فَلَكٍ يَسْبِحُونَ

الحج - الآية 18 أَلَمْ تَرَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَسْجُدُ لَهُ مَنْ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَنْ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَالشَّمْسُ
وَالْقَمَرُ وَالنُّجُومُ وَالْجِبَالُ وَالشَّجَرُ وَالدَّوَابُ وَكَثِيرٌ مِّنَ النَّاسِ ۚ وَكَثِيرٌ حَقٌّ عَلَيْهِ الْعَذَابُ وَمَنْ
يُهِنَّ اللَّهُ فَمَا لَهُ مِنْ مُكْرِمٍ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَفْعَلُ مَا يَشَاءُ ﴿١٨﴾

يس - الآية 38 وَالشَّمْسُ تَجْرِي لِمُسْتَقَرٍ لَّهَا ۚ ذَلِكَ تَقْدِيرُ الْعَزِيزِ الْعَلِيمِ

الرحمن - الآية 5 الشَّمْسُ وَالْقَمَرُ يُحْسِنَانِ



نوح - الآية 16 وَجَعَلَ الْقَمَرَ فِيهِنَّ نُورًا وَجَعَلَ الشَّمْسَ سِرَاجًا

التكوير - الآية 1 إِذَا الشَّمْسُ كُوِّرَتْ

Hadiths about the Sun:

Hadith: ما طلعت شمس يوم قط إلا بعث بجنبتها ملائكة يناديان ، يسمعن أهل الأرض إلا الثقلين : يا أئمها الناس ! هلموا إلى ربكم) ؛ فإن ما قل وكتف ، خير مما كثر وألهى ، ولا أبى شمس قط إلا بعث بجنبتها ملائكة يناديان ، يسمعن أهل الأرض إلا الثقلين : الله أعلم (. أَعْطِ مُنْفَقًا خَلْفًا ، وَأَعْطِ مُمْسَكًا تَلْفًا (Every day when the sun rise there are two angels on the two sides of the sun calling, which all inhabitants of the earth will hear it except the humans and jinn. They will say: "O you people, come to your Lord, for whatever is little and sufficient is better than what's more and distracting ". When the sun sets except there are two angels on the sides of the sun will call which all will hear except the humans and jinn, "O Allah give anyone who responded in the morning and gave then give him something in return and anyone who did not then give him destruction)²

- This is our test to believe in the unseen and hear with our heart.

Hadith: عن أبي ذرٍ . رضى الله عنه . قَالَ قَالَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ لِأَبِي ذَرٍ حِينَ غَرَبَتِ الشَّمْسُ " تَدْرِي أَيْنَ تَذَهَّبُ " . قُلْتُ) اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَعْلَمْ . قَالَ " فَإِنَّهَا تَذَهَّبُ حَتَّى تَسْجُدَ تَحْتَ الْعَرْشِ ، فَتَسْتَدِينَ فَيُؤْدَنَ لَهَا ، وَيُوْشِكُ أَنْ تَسْجُدَ فَلَا يَقْبَلُ مِنْهَا ، وَتَسْتَدِينَ فَلَا يُؤْدَنَ (لَهَا ، يُقَالُ لَهَا ارْجِعِي مِنْ حَيْثُ جِئْتَ . فَتَطْلُعُ مِنْ مَغْرِبِهَا ، فَلَكِ قَوْلُهُ تَعَالَى { وَالشَّمْسُ مُسْتَفْرِأٌ لَهَا ذَلِكَ تَقْدِيرُ الْغَيْرِ الْعَلِيمِ } " (The Prophet (ﷺ) asked me at sunset, "Do you know where the sun goes (at the time of sunset)?" I replied, "Allah and His Apostle know better." He said, "It goes (i.e. travels) till it prostrates itself underneath the Throne and takes the permission to rise again, and it is permitted and then (a time will come when) it will be about to prostrate itself but its prostration will not be accepted, and it will ask permission to go on its course but it will not be permitted, but it will be ordered to return whence it has come and so it will rise in the west. And that is the interpretation of the Statement of Allah: "And the sun Runs its fixed course For a term (decreed). that is The Decree of (Allah) The Exalted in Might, The All-Knowing." (36.38))³

- The sun seeks permission to rise and set everyday, but when it is not given permission from its Lord to rise from the east then it will return from where it came from which is the west. This is the major sign of the Day of Judgement. The sun is subjected

² Sahih At Targheeb 1706, Authenticated by Al Albani as Sahih

³ Sahih al-Bukhari 3199



to us to increase us in faith. A person should not be impressed with science, but know there is more of the unseen. This does not mean to leave science, but not put it up as a god. Science is subjected to the faith.

- A person should not worship any “sun” in his life. Human beings like to worship something big which they do not own. Balqees had everything but she did not own the sun. In the story of Ibrahim (عليه السلام), Namrud could not respond back when he was told to bring the sun from the west.
- All that we see and do not see is owned by Allah (ﷻ). What is the reason they were worshipping the sun?
- (وَرَيْنَ لَهُمُ الشَّيْطَانُ أَعْمَالَهُمْ) (and Shaitan (Satan) has made their deeds fair-seeming to them,): the shaitan beautified the act of worshipping the sun. Recall in **ayah 4:** (إِنَّ الَّذِينَ لَا يُمْتَنُونَ بِالْآخِرَةِ رَيَّنَا لَهُمْ أَعْمَالَهُمْ فَهُمْ يَعْمَهُونَ (Verily, those who believe not in the Hereafter, We have made their deeds fair-seeming to them, so that they wander about blindly.). What makes someone to have the duniya beautified for him? Because he only has near-term vision; he does not connect to the akhira. When a person believes in the akhira then his vision will be long-term and everything will be in its place.
- When the Prophet (ﷺ) would be impressed with anything of the duniya, he would say, (اللَّهُمَّ لَا يَعِيشُ إِلَّا عِيشُ الْآخِرَةِ) (O Allah there is no real life but the life of the hereafter). This tones down being impressed with the duniya and it will be protection so that a person can always enjoy it properly.
- (فَصَدَّهُمْ عَنِ السَّبِيلِ فَهُمْ لَا يَهْتَدُونَ) (and has barred them from (Allah's) Way: so they have no guidance.): because of their attraction to the duniya, they were barred from seeing the truth and the correct path; thus they could not be guided. When something besides Allah (ﷻ) is being worshipped then one will not be guided.
- Belief in the akhira is required to stop anyone from being attracted to the “sun” and from being able to see right.

How can we change ourselves for the better?

- Belief in the akhira and Allah (ﷻ) will bring everything to us
- Do not feel impressed with science because knowing the unseen is greater and gives a more complete picture.



- Bring news that is appropriate to the level of the one being addressed.

May Allah (ﷺ) keep us firm and make us keys for good. Ameen.