

Names of Allah

(from the Stories of the Quran)

October 6, 2019

Al Azeez Al Qadeer

Every morning we recite:



La ilaha illa Allah wahdu la shareeka lahu, lahu mulk wa lahu hamd, wa huwa ala kulli shai'in Qadeer

The meaning of this dua is that there is nobody worthy of worship but Allah, and there's nobody else like Him and to Him belongs all the kingdom and all praise is due only to Him, and He is able to do everything.

Rasool SAW said anybody who says dua ten times in the morning and in the evening, the reward is that of freeing four slaves and all sins are expiated. If you say it a 100 times then nobody is better than you except who said more than 100 times.

This statement gives us a purpose, a vision and a statement - that we do the best we can to exalt the name of Allah SWT. When we have a purpose, we can truly live a life of joy, of

happiness. Allah SWT has blessed us with the permission to learn and understand the Word of Allah SWT.

Without the Names of Allah SWT, our lives will be devoid of color, taste, true worth and happiness. These Beautiful Names add a whole new dimension to our lives, subhanAllah.

The challenge in today's story is *shakk*, or doubts - why people have doubts, what causes them and how to resolve them. Whatever doubts we have, they need to be clarified at some point or the other. Allah SWT in His Mercy and Compassion will not leave us in doubt, He will always show us the answers, when we have doubts about the big things.

The story today is that of Uzayr AS and the Name of Allah SWT to discuss will be Al Azeez Al Qadeer. Al Qadeer is He who can do anything and this will fill gaps when we question why certain things happen in our lives. Allah SWT misses out nothing, He fills all the gaps because everything is predestined, ordained for us and everything has a place and purpose.

IsmAllah Al Qadeer comes from *qudr* which is power, ability and decree. Without plans we are lost, unproductive, unorganized, without focus etc. Plans make us function in a specific way, to achieve things. Who inspires us to make the best plans - Allah SWT. Because Allah SWT doesn't need a plan, He can do anything - His Ability is without gaps - but He teaches us to plan because it is beneficial for us. To Allah SWT also belongs complete Authority. He will do what He Wills - what He decrees, it will happen for sure.

Everything in this *dunya* is through means, it is through a process but our resurrection, our recreation will be done without process, Allah SWT will say be and it will be.

In ayah 259 of Surah Baqarah, the story of Uzayr AS is revealed. Uzayr AS was one of the people sent to the Banu Israeel, and this tribe, though they have knowledge, they are always deviant, and doubtful. He was sent to them to revive their faith. He was told to go to a town, to nurture him for the people coming after, and this town was destroyed and empty and he had doubts about how he would preach to people here. So Allah SWT put Uzayr AS to sleep for a 100 years, like a resurrection for him. And when he awoke, Allah SWT sent him an angel in the form a human who asked him how long he'd been asleep. He answered, a day or part of a day. This is similar to how we will spend time in the grave as well, it will feel like a long time for the body, and yet a short time for the soul, subhanAllah.

The angel told him that he'd been asleep for a hundred years and told him to look at his food and drink, and his ride, a donkey. His food and drink which should have gone bad quickly remained as it was, yet his donkey which has a longer life than food or drink, had died and was only a pile of bones.

Allah SWT then showed him how the bones will connect each other, standing up and covered it with flesh and brought it to life, subhanAllah. And so when we don;t understand anything in our

life, we should just trust and believe in Al Qadeer, in His Power and Ability. This will pull us out of the darkness of the doubts and into the light of knowledge.

When Uzayr AS returned to the empty town, then people asked him who he was and he replied Uzayr AS and they knew him, the person who was dead for a 100 years. And with all this evidence and proof, he started teaching them the Torah. And these people, the Banu Israeel thought he was IbnAllah, the son of God, and they thought this because of the resurrection, which was something like a miracle.

This story protects us from *shirk*, and allows us to understand that everything is preordained. The foundation of this story of *qudrat*. Never despair, or have doubts - remember qudratAllah, and don't attach to anything strange or the mysteries in our lives, but only to Allah SWT.