



Quranic and Prophetic Nurturing Program

Surah An Naml – Class 17

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Introduction

Hadith: (كَانَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ إِذَا تَهَجَّدَ مِنَ اللَّيْلِ قَالَ " اللَّهُمَّ لَكَ الْحَمْدُ أَنْتَ نُورُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ، وَلَكَ الْحَمْدُ أَنْتَ قَيِّمُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ، وَلَكَ الْحَمْدُ أَنْتَ رَبُّ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ، وَمَنْ فِيهِنَّ أَنْتَ الْحَقُّ، وَوَعْدُكَ الْحَقُّ وَقَوْلُكَ الْحَقُّ، وَلِقَاؤُكَ الْحَقُّ، وَالْجَنَّةُ حَقٌّ، وَالنَّارُ حَقٌّ، وَالنَّبِيُّونَ حَقٌّ، وَالسَّاعَةُ حَقٌّ، اللَّهُمَّ لَكَ أَسْلَمْتُ، وَبِكَ آمَنْتُ، وَعَلَيْكَ تَوَكَّلْتُ، وَإِلَيْكَ أُنَبِّتُ، وَبِكَ خَاصَمْتُ، وَإِلَيْكَ حَاكَمْتُ، (فَاعْفِرْ لِي مَا قَدَّمْتُ وَمَا أَخَّرْتُ، وَمَا أَسْرَرْتُ وَمَا أَعْلَنْتُ، أَنْتَ إِلَهِي، لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ ").

(Whenever the Prophet (ﷺ) offered the night (Tahajjud) prayer, he used to say, "O Allah! All the Praises are for You; You are the Light of the Heavens and the Earth. And all the Praises are for You; You are the Keeper of the Heavens and the Earth. All the Praises are for You; You are the Lord of the Heavens and the Earth and whatever is therein. You are the Truth, and Your Promise is the Truth, and Your Speech is the Truth, and meeting You is the Truth, and Paradise is the Truth and Hell (Fire) is the Truth and all the prophets are the Truth and the Hour is the Truth. O Allah! I surrender to You, and believe in You, and depend upon You, and repent to You, and in Your cause I fight and with Your orders I rule. So please forgive my past and future sins and those sins which I did in secret or in public. It is You Whom I worship, None has the right to be worshipped except You ."¹

- Anything of the duniya can be brought in the blink of an eye, but it is important to remember there is no real life but the life of the hereafter. The kingdom of Suleiman (عليه السلام) and Balqees perished after they died but they left an impact with their leadership and infrastructure.

Inabah (الإنابة) – Returning to Allah with love

- Inabah is to return to Allah (ﷻ) with love. He is the Lord of the Great and Honorable Throne and nothing can flow without going to the highest authority which is Allah (ﷻ).

¹ Sahih al-Bukhari 7499



- We want to be foremost in running to His pleasure. Even if we know what to do and have the resources, we should return to Him and this is inabah and purity.
- Water shows purity, flow, flexibility and sustainability. If we do not have water then we will die.

Ayah 38

قَالَ يَا أَيُّهَا الْمَلَأُ أَيُّكُمْ يَأْتِينِي بِعَرْشِهَا قَبْلَ أَنْ يَأْتُونِي مُسْلِمِينَ

He said: "O chiefs! Which of you can bring me her throne before they come to me surrendering themselves in obedience?"

Word

Meaning

قَالَ يَا أَيُّهَا الْمَلَأُ

He said, "O you chiefs,

أَيُّكُمْ يَأْتِينِي بِعَرْشِهَا

which of you will bring her throne

قَبْلَ أَنْ يَأْتُونِي مُسْلِمِينَ

before they come to me surrendering

- Sometimes if we did not go through situations and clashes then the best will not come out from us. When the gift was sent to Suleiman (عليه السلام), the power given to him by Allah (ﷻ) was unveiled. An army was brought forth and the best was brought out from the chiefs of Suleiman (عليه السلام).
- It was out of the box to have the throne brought forth and to have a palace of glass. When she saw her throne, she saw it had changed, but when she saw the palace of glass, it was something she had never seen before. At that time she submitted, thus she was not "stone" but ice that melted.
- Balqees sent a gift to Suleiman (عليه السلام), but he said he will bring an army to them. Then Balqees said, "no she will come". Someone might think "let her come and she will submit", but Suleiman (عليه السلام) wants that she returns with her heart to Allah (ﷻ). This is the far vision of Suleiman (عليه السلام). He wants her submission to be from within.
- Suleiman (عليه السلام) initiated a challenge which he brought forth to his chiefs. Suleiman (عليه السلام) had many chiefs but there are two who are greatly "active". He brought



forth a task which is not part of their "task list". Suleiman (عليه السلام) invented a different task because he does not want to cause a clash in his dominion. This shows in an advanced civilization everyone knows his position, going to a higher authority, being open to a new challenge and becoming better.

- Suleiman (عليه السلام) is challenging them to serve a bigger picture. An advanced civilization is one that uplifts its people by thinking outside the box.
- (قَالَ يَا أَيُّهَا الْمَلَأُ) (He said: "O chiefs!"): (الْمَلَأُ) are one and they are all thinking the same; they all speak one and this makes it easy. When they are all one, then it fills the eyes with beauty. A person can notice when someone is different or not, subhan Allah.
- If a meeting is made up different people then they fight. It is important to choose a team that are all the same and do not contradict one another. Qualifications can be different but they are not opposite in their thinking.
- (أَيُّكُمْ يَأْتِينِي بَعْرَشَهَا) (Which of you can bring me her throne): this is the task brought forth by Suleiman (عليه السلام). The hudhud went straight to Suleiman (عليه السلام) and did not go to other hudhuds or ifreets. For initiatives, it needs to go straight to the head, and then it will be directed and brought forward. If the hudhud told others that he saw people worshipping the sun, they might say "leave them". But when it goes to the right person then it flows.
- The command came from the top from Suleiman (عليه السلام) and this will cause the task to be completed. Whatever we do is for Allah (ﷻ) thus we should not think, "we did it".
- Suleiman (عليه السلام) wanted the throne of Balqees to be brought to him because the hudhud told him she has a great throne. Suleiman (عليه السلام) does not need a throne but it is to make her submit.
- The throne of Balqees was a great and beautiful one because it was praised in the Qur'an, subhan Allah. It had gold and rubies. She wanted to leave but could not carry her throne. When she left, she told her people to take care of it and not show it to anyone. She locked her throne in a house within a house within a house with a total of seven homes, subhan Allah. And it was locked with nine locks. Thus she never thought her throne could ever be brought to her.
- Anything we have can be brought before we reach, but this is when we submit to Allah (ﷻ).



- (قَبْلَ أَنْ يَأْتُونِي مُسْلِمِينَ) (before they come to me surrendering themselves in obedience?): here is the deadline for the task. Before Balqees comes surrendering in obedience, the chiefs are to bring her throne beforehand. A deadline motivates and keeps a person to continue to act.
- We will all return to Allah (ﷻ) and the deadlines we have is when the sun rises from the west or when the soul reaches the throat. When we die, we cannot do anything, but now we need to act because there is a deadline.
- Suleiman (عليه السلام) wants her throne before her Islam, and not after she becomes Muslim.

Ayah 39

قَالَ عِفْرِيتٌ مِّنَ الْجِنِّ أَنَا آتِيكَ بِهِ قَبْلَ أَنْ تَقُومَ مِنْ مَّقَامِكَ وَإِنِّي عَلَيْهِ لَقَوِيٌّ أَمِينٌ

A 'Ifrit (strong one) from the jinn said: "I will bring it to you before you rise from your place (council). And verily, I am indeed strong, and trustworthy for such work."

Word	Meaning
قَالَ عِفْرِيتٌ مِّنَ الْجِنِّ	An ifreet from the jinn said
أَنَا آتِيكَ بِهِ	"I will bring it to you
قَبْلَ أَنْ تَقُومَ مِنْ مَّقَامِكَ	before you get up from your place (council)
وَإِنِّي عَلَيْهِ لَقَوِيٌّ أَمِينٌ	and verily I am strong and trustworthy for such work".

- The best from the people will not come out if they are not challenged. If there are no challenges then the qualities will be disabled. Imagine having a son who is clever but lazy, when will his talent come out? When he is challenged and when he delivers then you will know what kind of tasks he should be given based on his strength.
- A good leader brings out the best from the people.



- (قَالَ عِفْرِيتٌ مِّنَ الْجِنَّ) (A 'Ifrit (strong one) from the jinn said:): the word (الْجِنَّ) comes from covered and closed from the senses, discreet. Jinn are made of fire but there are good and bad jinn. They have different qualities which humans do not have such as flying and diving deep but they cannot open closed doors, subhan Allah. When we enter a home and say "Bism Allah" then they will not enter. When we eat and say "Bism Allah" then they will not eat with us. They are quick to submit when they get it. When Surah Ar Rahman was recited, they were quick to submit.
- We cannot deal or interact with jinn. Allah (ﷻ) sent the Prophet (ﷺ) to the jinn to deliver the message but for Suleiman (عليه السلام) it was a different case who was given authority over them.
- (عِفْرِيتٌ) an ifreet is an active, strong and quick jinn. What did the ifreet say?

Homework: find qualities of the jinn from Surah Al Jinn.

- (أَنَا آتِيكَ بِهِ قَبْلَ أَنْ تَقُومَ مِنْ مَّقَامِكَ) ("I will bring it to you before you rise from your place (council).): He said, "I will bring it to you" and he gave himself a deadline before Suleiman (عليه السلام) leaves his council. The original deadline was before they come as Muslims which would have taken a two to three months' worth due to the journey they would take.
- (وَإِنِّي عَلَيْهِ لَقَوِيٌّ أَمِينٌ) (And verily, I am indeed strong, and trustworthy for such work.): the ifreet also mentioned his qualifications that he is strong and trustworthy, so he will not steal from it.

How can we change ourselves for the better?

- Surrender to Allah (ﷻ)
- Do not be impressed with the duniya because it can easily be brought
- Give tasks to challenge and bring out the best from others
- Give deadlines to tasks
- Know that anything you do is for Allah (ﷻ) so do not be impressed by it

May Allah (ﷻ) make us among those who submit. Ameen.