

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ بِهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ، مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ، وَمَنْ يُضِلِّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

أما بعد

فاتقوا الله، عباد الله، واعتصموا بحبله المتين وكتابه المبين، فإن الله أنزل عليكم الكتاب العظيم لتتدبروا آياته، وتعتبروا بقصصه، فإنه كتاب عظيم، فيه نبأ من قبلكم، وخبر ما بعدكم، وحكم ما بينكم: ﴿لَقَدْ كَانَ فِي قَصَصِهِمْ عِبْرَةً لَأُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ مَا كَانَ حَدِيثًا يُفْتَرَى وَلَكِنْ تَصْدِيقَ الَّذِي بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ وَتَفْصِيلَ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُدًى وَرَحْمَةً لِقَوْمٍ يُؤْمِنُونَ﴾

أيها المؤمنون

إن الله تعالى قصَّ علينا في كتابه العظيم قصصاً كثيرة، فيها عبرٌ وعِظَاتٌ، وكان من أعظم ما قصَّه الله علينا نبأ موسى وفرعون، فهي أعظم قصص الأنبياء، التي تُذكر في القرآن، ذكرها الله أكثر من غيرها، وذكرها في سور عديدة لينتفع منها أولو الألباب.

يا عباد الله.... الأسبوع القادم سيأذن الله تعالى-يوم الأربعاء و يوم الخميس يهتُ علينا يومٌ عظيمٌ أخذ رسول الله ﷺ على نفسه إن عاش ليصومنه فقال: ((لئن عشتُ إلى قابلٍ إن شاء الله لأصومنَّ التاسع)) توطئة لصيام يوم من أيام الله المشهودة

إنه يوم عاشوراء، فقد صحَّ عن النبي ﷺ أنه قال: ((صوم يوم عاشوراء إني أحتسبُ على الله أن يكفر السنة الماضية))

ذلك لأنَّ الرسول ﷺ وجد اليهود تصوم عاشوراء، فقال ما هذا، قالوا هذا يومٌ صالح، نجَّى الله بني إسرائيل من عدوهم فصامه موسى شكراً لله، فقال صلى الله عليه وعلي آله وسلم: ((فأنا أحقُّ بموسى منكم)). فصامه وأمر بصيامه

أيها الكرام: فما قصة موسى عليه السلام مع هذا اليوم؟ وما سبب فرجه؟ وكيف نصره الله على أطفَى الطغاة؟

قصة موسى عليه السلام قصة صراع طويل بين الحقِّ والباطل فعلى المسلم أن يتذكر مثل هذه القصص ليزداد إيماناً و يقيناً وتوكلًا واعتمادًا على الله وحده للنصر والفوز والتوفيق في الدنيا والآخرة.

Brothers and sisters in Islam....Fear Allah and be conscious of Him wherever you are, hold tightly onto the rope of Allah individually and collectively, His Quran and His Sunnah. Allah has revealed to us guidance contained in his revelation so that we can ponder, contemplate, think about and act upon his verses. Allah has also told us many stories about the previous nations that came before us so that we can learn lessons and apply them to our daily lives. One of the greatest stories that Allah has told us about in the Quran, that is repeated many times , and many different contexts is the story of Musa and Pharoah. One particular story which concerns us this month and in the upcoming days is the story behind why we fast the tenth day of Ashoora that is coming up next Thursday.

In this month of Muharram was the salvation of Musa and his people from Pharoah and his army. Allah سبحانه و تعالی had sent Musa with clear evidences and proofs, yet the Pharoah was arrogant and haughty and claimed,

فَقَالَ أَنَا رَبُّكُمُ الْأَعْلَى - 79:24

“I am your lord, most high” [An-Naazi’aat:24].

Musa عليه السلام came to him with great signs and called him to the oneness of Allah, to the tawhid of the Creator of the Heavens and the Earth yet Pharoah said in arrogance and in mockery of the message Musa was conveying from His lord

قَالَ فِرْعَوْنُ وَمَا رَبُّ الْعَالَمِينَ - 26:23

, “And what and who is the Lord of the mankind, jinns and all that exists?”[Ash-Shu’ara:23].

Musa عليه السلام responded,

قَالَ رَبُّ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا ۗ إِن كُنْتُمْ مُوقِنِينَ - 26:24

“Lord of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between them, if you seek to be convinced with certainty.”[Ash-Shu’ara:24].

And so Pharoah mocked and belittled this statement of Musa عليه السلام by saying to his followers,

قَالَ لِمَنْ حَوْلَهُ أَلَا تَسْتَمِعُونَ - 26:25

“Do you not hear (what he says)?” [Ash-Shu’ara:25].

So Musa عليه السلام reminded them and admonished them further and said,

قَالَ رَبُّكُمْ وَرَبُّ آبَائِكُمُ الْأَوَّلِينَ - 26:26

“Your Lord and the Lord of your ancient fathers!” [Ash-Shu’ara:26].

Left speechless Pharoah then replied with a false claim, a lie, saying:

قَالَ إِنَّ رَسُولَكُمْ الَّذِي أُرْسِلَ إِلَيْكُمْ لَمَجْنُونٌ - 26:27

“Verily, your Messenger who has been sent to you is a madman!” [Ash-Shu’ara:27].

He later continued to threaten Musa عليه السلام and said,

قَالَ لَئِنِ اتَّخَذْتَ إِلَهًا غَيْرِي لِأَجْعَلَنَّكَ مِنَ الْمَسْجُونِينَ - 26:29

“If you choose an ilah (god) other than me, I will certainly put you among the prisoners.” [Ash-Shu’ara:29].

Indicating that he had many other prisoners already to frighten Musa عليه السلام into silence.

Yet Musa عليه السلام continued thereafter to present the clear proofs until Pharoah said to him,

قَالَ أَجِئْتَنَا لِتُخْرِجَنَا مِنْ أَرْضِنَا بِسِحْرِكَ يَا مُوسَى - 20:57

فَلَنَأْتِيَنَّكَ بِسِحْرٍ مِثْلِهِ فَاجْعَلْ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَكَ مَوْعِدًا لَا نُخْلَفُهُ نَحْنُ وَلَا أَنْتَ مَكَانًا سُوًى - 20:58

“Have you come to drive us out of our land with your magic, O Musa (Moses)?

“Then verily, we can produce magic the like thereof; so appoint a meeting

between us and you, which neither we, nor you shall fail to keep, in an open wide place where both shall have a just and equal chance (and beholders could witness the competition).”[At-Taha: 57-58]

And when Pharoah came with his magicians Musa عليه السلام admonished them and said,

قَالَ لَهُمْ مُوسَىٰ وَيْلَكُمْ لَا تَفْتَرُوا عَلَى اللَّهِ كَذِبًا فَيُسْحِتَكُمْ بِعَذَابٍ ۗ وَقَدْ خَابَ مَن افْتَرَىٰ - 20:61

“Woe unto you! Invent not a lie against Allah, lest He should destroy you completely by a torment. And surely, he who invents a lie (against Allah) will fail miserably.”[At-Taha: 61].

So Musa responded to them:

قَالَ لَهُمْ مُوسَىٰ أَلْقُوا مَا أَنْتُمْ مُلْفُونَ - 26:43

فَأَلْقُوا جِبَالَهُمْ وَعِصِيَّهُمْ وَقَالُوا بِعِزَّةِ فِرْعَوْنَ إِنَّا لَنَحْنُ الْغَالِبُونَ - 26:44

فَأَلْقَىٰ مُوسَىٰ عَصَاهُ فَإِذَا هِيَ تَلْقَفُ مَا يَأْفِكُونَ - 26:45

“Musa (Moses) said to them: “Throw what you are going to throw!” So they threw their ropes and their sticks, and said: “By the might of Fir’aun (Pharaoh), it is we who will certainly win!” Then Musa (Moses) threw his stick, and behold, it swallowed up all the deviance and falsehood which they showed!” [Ash-Shu’ara: 43-45]

And so the magicians repented and believed,

فَأَلْقَى السَّحَرَةُ سَاجِدِينَ - 26:46

قَالُوا آمَنَّا بِرَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ - 26:47

“And the sorcerers fell down prostrate. Saying: “We believe in the Lord of the ‘Alamin (mankind, jinns and all that exists)” [Ash-Shu’ara: 46-47].

Pharoah continued upon his way and Allah stated,

فَلَمَّا أَسَفُونَا انتَقَمْنَا مِنْهُمْ فَأَغْرَقْنَاهُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ - 43:55

فَجَعَلْنَاهُمْ سَلَفًا وَمَثَلًا لِّلْآخِرِينَ - 43:56

“So when they angered Us, We punished them, and drowned them all. And We made them a precedent (as a lesson for those coming after them), and an example to later generations” [Az-Zukhruf: 55-56].

Then Allah commanded Musa عليه السلام,

وَلَقَدْ أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَىٰ مُوسَىٰ أَنْ أَسْرِ بِعِبَادِي فَاصْرَبْ لَهُمْ طَرِيقًا فِي الْبَحْرِ يَبَسًا لَا تَخَافُ دَرْكًا وَلَا تَخْشَىٰ -

20:77

“And indeed We inspired Musa (Moses) (saying): “Travel by night with Ibadi (My slaves) and strike a dry path for them in the sea, fearing neither to be overtaken [by Fir’aun (Pharaoh)] nor being afraid (of drowning in the sea).”[At-Taha: 77].

So Musa عليه السلام and his people exited and Pharoah was in pursuit, until they arrived at the Red Sea, Pharoah behind them and the Sea in front of them and “the companions of Musa (Moses) said:

فَلَمَّا تَرَأَى الْجَمْعَانِ قَالَ أَصْحَابُ مُوسَىٰ إِنَّا لَمُدْرَكُونَ - 26:61

“We are sure to be overtaken.”[Ash-Shu’ara: 61].

Musa عليه السلام replied,

قَالَ كَلَّا إِنَّ مَعِيَ رَبِّي سَيَهْدِينِ - 26:62

“Nay, verily! With me is my Lord, He will guide me.”[Ash-Shu’ara: 62]

That was the eemaan and certainty of Musa عليه السلام. Allah inspired Musa عليه السلام to hit the Sea with his stick and it opened into 12 pathways and so they entered and crossed with the water holding like mountains as they walked upon the dry pathways.

Pharoah upon seeing that entered in chase however upon entering the mountains of water collapsed upon him,

وَجَاوَزْنَا بِبَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ الْبَحْرَ فَأَتْبَعَهُمْ فِرْعَوْنُ وَجُنُودُهُ بَغْيًا وَعَدُوًّا ۗ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا أَدْرَكَهُ الْغَرَقُ قَالَ آمَنْتُ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا الَّذِي آمَنْتُ بِهِ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ وَأَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ - 10:90

الآنَ وَقَدْ عَصَيْتَ قَبْلُ وَكُنْتَ مِنَ الْمُفْسِدِينَ - 10:91

فَالْيَوْمَ نُنَجِّيكَ بِبَدَنِكَ لِتَكُونَ لِمَنْ خَلْفَكَ آيَةً ۗ وَإِنَّ كَثِيرًا مِّنَ النَّاسِ عَنِ آيَاتِنَا لَغَافِلُونَ - 10:92

“And We took the Children of Israel across the sea, and Fir’aun (Pharaoh) with his hosts followed them in oppression and enmity, till when drowning overtook him, he said: “I believe that La ilaha illa (Huwa): (none has the right to be worshipped but) He,” in Whom the Children of Israel believe, and I am one of the Muslims (those who submit to Allah’s Will).” So it was said to him, “Now (you believe) while you refused to believe before and you were one of the Mufsidun (evil-doers, corrupts, etc.). So this day We shall deliver your (dead) body (out from the sea) that you may be a sign to those who come after you! And verily, many among mankind are heedless of Our Ayat (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.)” [Yunus: 90-92]

And so Allah saved Musa عليه السلام and destroyed Pharoah. It is for this reason when the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم entered Madinah and found the jews to be fasting on the 10th of Muharram he asked regarding that and they replied, “It is the day Allah saved Musa and his people from their enemy [Pharoah] and so Musa fasted this day”, so the prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم replied, “I am more deserving of Musa than you” and so he fasted and commanded the people to fast.

Similarly the prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم stated if he lived till the upcoming year he would fast the 9th aswell to oppose the others who were fasting only the 10th as he found them. Hence it is sunnah to fast the 9th and 10th of Muharram. (This Wednesday and Thursday)

Regarding the reward of fasting the day the prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم stated, "It expiates the previous year of sins" [minor sins]. This should not be confused with the day of 'Arafah that expiates the previous year and upcoming year.

Second Khutbah

So what are some practical benefits that we can learn from the story of Musa and Pharaoh?

1. Fulfill your responsibilities, play your role, do your part. Musa did not

Musa (peace be upon him) did not lie idle waiting for a miracle. He could have stayed put and prayed to Allah to deal with Pharaoh but he did not, rather he did all that he could in his personal capacity until he could go no further when faced by the sea in front of him and Pharaoh and his army behind him. Only then, did the miracle of the parting of the sea take place. This life is one of cause and effects, miracles can happen but our responsibility is that we do everything we can in our personal capacity then leave it to Allah. We put our complete trust in Allah, but we put forth the means and the actions.

2. Never lose hope in Allah

Musa (peace be upon him) and his people faced certain death, either it would be from Pharaoh's army who were in close pursuit behind them or they would be forced to enter the sea in which it would be impossible to survive. Despite this, Musa never lost hope in Allah's promise.

Some of his followers started to lose hope and began exclaiming:

"Indeed, we are to be overtaken!" Surah Ash-Shu'arah, Verse 61

فَلَمَّا تَرَأَى الْجَمْعَانَ قَالِ اصْحَابُ مُوسَى اِنَّا لَمُدْرِكُونَ

In spite of this, Musa's faith did not waiver and he said to his people with full certainty:

قَالَ كَلَّا إِنَّ مَعِيَ رَبِّي سَيَهْدِينِ - 26:62

"No! Indeed, with me is my Lord; He will guide me." Surah Ash-Shu'arah,

And so, the sea was parted opening a way for Musa and the Children of Israel to escape.

We too must never lose hope, or trust, or certainty in Allah or about Allah's promises to aid the believers, though we may be in situations where we may think that there's no way out, let's remember that the help of Allah is always near. If Allah can part the sea to help Musa and his people, He too can remove our difficulties and obstacles. What's required of us is that we have complete reliance in Allah and have hope in Him.

3. Expect the unexpected and good things come to those who are patient and trust in Allah.

Though miracles are exclusive to Prophets, we too can experience things which are out of the ordinary or unexpected. We've all probably experienced moments in our lives where everything seemingly was going wrong only for the situation to be saved by a series of events which happened coincidentally or by chance. As believers, we believe that everything happens only by the will of Allah and though something may seem like a coincidental string of events, we believe that it was all planned by Allah.

4. Flee from sins

When the Children of Israel, the believers, were being persecuted and they could no longer freely practice their religion, Allah instructed Musa (peace be upon him) to flee with them to another land. If we too are faced with such a situation and our Islam, our Iman or our faith is at risk, we too should try to flee to a place where we

can safeguard our faith. Flee to the masjid, flee to another Muslim brother's or sisters house, take a trip for umrah or hajj.

By the will of Allah, if we constantly remember Allah and his commandments then most of us will not be in such a predicament where our Iman is in danger, but we may be in a situation where we may fall into sin. It may be due to who we befriend, or socialize with, or the places we visit or even the neighbourhood we live in. If we are in a situation where it is difficult to avoid sin or we find ourselves persistently committing sins due to such factors, we should leave those places or those associates who have a bad influence on us.

If we have 'friends' who we have tried to invite to good but we find that instead, they are pulling us towards the wrong path, we should disassociate with them if such a relationship takes us away from the right path.

5. Change now

When Pharaoh and his army were engulfed by the sea and they began drowning, Pharaoh cried out:

قَالَ آمَنْتُ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا الَّذِي آمَنْتُ بِهِ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ وَأَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ

"I believe that there is no deity except that in whom the Children of Israel believe, and I am of the Muslims." Surah Yunus, Verse 90

But this declaration of faith was not accepted by Allah as he had already began his transition into the next life and the veils of the unseen had begun to unravel before him. So brothers and sisters, we as believers must not wait until it's too late to change. We must not wait to start praying, we must not wait to start paying zakat, we must not wait to make hajj, we must not wait to start practicing Islam. Because Our book of deeds will be sealed when death overtakes us and from then on, we can no longer add a good deed (except if we did acts of Sadaqah Jariyah) nor erase any sins that have been recorded.

The mercy of Allah is vast and every day His doors of repentance is open to us. All we have to do is ask and have a firm resolve to change and our Lord, The Most Merciful will erase our sins as if they never happened!