

Points to Ponder

Excerpts from Surah Hijr & Nahl

This Surah is named after a nation / civilisation of before. Commonly referred to as Thamud, in this Surah Ayah 80 Allah Taalaa refers to them as ASHABUL HIJR - People of the Rocky tract .

And verily, the dwellers of Al-Hijr (the rocky tract) denied the Messengers.

En route to the expedition of Tabook, Rasulullah Sallallahu alaihi wasallam passed by the ruins of this nation upon whom Allah had sent his punished and Rasulullah Sallallahu alaihi wasallam told the Sahabah to quicken their pace and he forbade them from even using the water of such a place since it is an area which was cursed by Allah.

Ayah 24 : And verily We know the eager among you and verily We know those who remain behind/ laggards.

Abu Waqid Al-Harith bin `Auf (R.A) reports: Rasulullah Sallallahu alaihi wasallam was sitting in the masjid with his Companions when three people came to him. Two of them stepped forward to the Messenger of Allah (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) and the third went away. Those two men stood by the side of Messenger of Allah (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam). One of them found a space in the circle and he filled it, while the other one sat behind him. When the Messenger of Allah (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) finished, he said, "Shall I not inform you about these three people? One of them sought refuge with Allah and Allah gave him refuge; the second one felt shy and Allah showed kindness to his shyness (and so he was accommodated in that meeting), and the last one averted, and so Allah turned away His Attention from him."

In matters relating to Deen and Islam we should be in the fore front. Allah specifally acknowledges this. Under this Ayah many of the commentators of the Quran mention the Hadeeth regarding the virtue of being in the front saff.

Rasulullah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said, "If people knew what blessings lie in the Adhan and the first row, and they could not achieve this (distinction) by casting lots, they would certainly do so.." [Sahih Bukhari]

However, the front row should preferably be occupied by those who endowed with the necessary knowledge of the matters relating to salaah and leading salaah. In

addition , the first row should not be occupied by minors, children even if they are of the age of understanding. Rasulallah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) is reported to have said

لِيَلْنِي مِنْكُمْ أَوْلُو الْأَحْلَامِ وَالنَّهْيِ

[Muslim]

“Those amongst you who are endowed with Intelligence and are senior in age, should stand behind me in Salaah”

Abu Malik Ash’ari (R.A.) relates: Rasulallah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) would take care of these things before commencing the prayer - that the rows of the men were at the front and the children behind them. Rasulallah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) would then state “This is the Salah of my Ummah” (Sunan Abu Dawood, vol 1, p98)

Therefore, when we bring children to the Masjid, do not place them in the front rows. Keep them on the flanks of the later rows and stand with them to help them , to teach them and to guide them.

Imam Qurtubi states a narration on the authority of Ka’ab Ahbaar R.A. that Allah has certain servants who when they perform Sajdah, Allah forgives everyone who are behind them.

So whether you get the first saff (row) or last, you still a winner!!!!

Qurans description of the Honey bee.

Ayah 68 /69 : *And your Rabb inspired to the bee, "Take for yourself among the mountains, houses, and among the trees and [in] that which they construct. "Then, eat of all fruits, and walk the ways of your Rabb made easy (for you)." There comes forth from their bellies, a drink of varying colour wherein is healing for men. **Verily, in this is indeed a sign for people who think.***

Ponder, when the world had the faintest idea of how honey was produced, the “walk/dance of the bee “and walk the ways of your Rabb made easy (for you)”

Ayah 89: *And [mention] the Day when We will resurrect among every nation a witness over them from themselves. And We will bring you, [O Muhammad], as a witness over your nation.*

Ever imagine the day when we will be called to testify in favour of the Prophets and against the corrupt from amongst their nations. What an honour???

But then Our Rasulullah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) will be called and made to testify against us too, the corrupt amongst us. !!!!

Rasulullah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) has said :

ثلاثة أنا خصمهم يوم القيامة ومن كنت خصمه خصمته يوم القيامة رجل أعطى بي ثم غدر ورجل باع حرا فأكل ثمنه ورجل استأجر أجيرا فاستوفى منه ولم يوفه أجره

I will testify against three people on the day of judgement :

- 1. A person who on my name, gave something or made a covenant then betrayed that .*
- 2. A person who sold a free person and usurped the proceedings from that sale.*
- 3. A man who hires a worker who fulfilled his duties, but he did not give him his wages*

Consider this third one carefully when you've employed someone.