

# السَّلَامُ عَلَى نَبِيِّ اللَّهِ أَيُّوبَ

## PROPHET AYYŪB (JOB <sup>AS</sup>)

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

JUNIOR LEVEL

### Prophet Ayyūb (Job) (as)

#### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Learn and discuss the story of Prophet Ayyūb (as)
- Discuss the morals of this story

They say patience is virtue and to describe someone's patience, they will say, 'as patient as Job'. Rightfully so, because Prophet Ayyūb (as) was one of the great examples of patience.

Our Imams have explained that initially Prophet Ayyūb (as) enjoyed great bounties from Allah (SWT). Despite being wealthy, having a great family, and being well-respected, he continued to remain humble towards Allah (SWT) and completely pious. Satan was very jealous of this and decided to ask Allah (SWT) to test His servant by allowing him to take away all bounties Prophet Ayyūb (as) had i.e. children, wealth and health.

#### THE TEST OF WEALTH

The first test was that of wealth, whereby Satan slowly took away all his worldly possessions like his money, cattle, servants and every worldly possession. This did not affect Prophet Ayyūb (as). He still continued to thank Allah (SWT) as per usual, being patient in this calamity.



#### THE TEST OF CHILDREN

His next calamity was that of losing all his children. All his children died, though his wife remained with him.

This can be very difficult because something like money and business can be recovered, but losing children is very difficult. However, he still did not complain to Allah (SWT) and continued to thank Him and bear the calamity patiently.



## THE TEST OF HEALTH

This time, Allah (SWT)'s final test was of health. Prophet Ayyūb (as) became very sick and weak. He was bed-ridden for many years. This was the biggest test and still he did not complain. He still thanked Allah (SWT). His wife tried to look for all ways and means to cure him. Satan came to her as a human and asked his wife that he would cure Prophet Ayyūb (as) only if Prophet Ayyūb (as) would acknowledge that he and not, Allah (SWT) who cured him. She accepted and so, was tricked by Satan. However, when Prophet Ayyūb (as) heard this, he became angry at his wife, and promised to punish her.

## THE HUMILIATION

After all of Satan's failed plans, some rabbis came to the house of Prophet Ayyūb (as) and tried to humiliate him by saying that God had abandoned him. At this point, Prophet Ayyūb (as) still did not complain but in the most polite way, he said the following

وَأَيُّوبَ إِذْ نَادَىٰ رَبَّهُ أَنِّي مَسَّنِيَ الضُّرُّ وَأَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ الرَّاحِمِينَ

“And (remember) Job when he called unto his Lord (saying :) ‘Verily distress has touched me, and You are the Most Merciful of the merciful ones.’”

## HIS PRAYERS ANSWERED

After having suffered all these losses and defeating Satan, Allah (SWT) answered his prayers:

فَأَسْتَجِبْنَا لَهُ فَكَشَفْنَا مَا بِهِ مِنْ ضُرِّهِ وَأَيُّوبَ أَهْلَهُ وَمِثْلَهُم

مَعَهُمْ رَحْمَةً مِّنْ عِنْدِنَا وَذِكْرَىٰ لِلْعَابِدِينَ

“So we responded to him (his prayer) and we removed the distress that was upon him, and we restored his family to him, and the like of them with them; a mercy from us and a reminder for the worshippers.”

All that he lost, he gained back by the miracle of Allah (SWT) due to continuous thankfulness, contentment and patience that he showed.

## MORALS OF THE STORY

### 1. EVERY PERSON HAS THEIR OWN TRIALS

This is a clear example of all the tests one can face in life be they of wealth, children or health. We in our day to day life will face at least one if not all three of these categories of tests. Thus, we must exercise patience in these trials so as to develop piety and faith in Allah (SWT) as these are ways to purify ourselves.

### 2. EVERY CALAMITY IS SURROUNDED BY BLESSINGS

Many a times we will face difficulties in our daily lives and we start thinking negatively i.e. Allah (SWT) does not love us and is not being fair etc...This is not a good attitude. We must remember that as human beings, our knowledge is limited and we can never know the true meaning and purpose behind many things that happen to us and in the world in general.

### 3. PATIENCE DURING AFFLICTIONS

We must always exercise patience during testing times as this will allow us to increase our faith in Allah (SWT) and be more thankful and grateful to Him. It will also help us deal with the affliction and overcome it. This was evident in Prophet Ayyūb's (as) story because with each affliction he showed perseverance and patience. Thus, after bearing all the hardships, he was rewarded.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اصْبِرُوا وَصَابِرُوا وَرَابِطُوا وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ

لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ

“ O you who have faith! Do persevere and outdo (all others) in endurance, and be ready (to guard the bounds) , and be in awe of Allah that you may be prosperous.”

(3:200)

This verse tells us to be patient in all hardships and thus, we will be prosperous in the end. This is a clear emphasis on patience and the fruits it can bear for us.

## Review Questions

### Q1. During difficult times we should:

- a. Blame Allah (SWT) for everything.
- b. Be angry and blame everyone else.
- c. Be steadfast and bear the hardships with patience by keeping faith in Allah (SWT)

### Q2. Having patience can be beneficial because:

- a. We can increase our faith in Allah (SWT)
- b. Allah (SWT) will reward us with blessings in this and the next world.
- c. Both a and b.