

26 / Oct. 2010

→ English ↗

(7) You need a new start

(3) Provision

Be thankful for Allah's Provision

InshaAllah, Today we will continue to learn about "Provision"

and to learn its rules from the Quran and Sunna
of Prophet Mohamed (S.A.W).

In the previous class, we learned that:

(Riqq) → Provision : includes all what Allah decreed for you.

(health, life, family, wealth, air, energy, home

to senses and also the spiritual provision (belief, sincerity, Taqwa, Love of Allah, Love of Quran, love of Prophet Mohamed (S.A.W), compassion - good manners).

We also learned that:

1st Law of Provision: The Only Provider is Allah.

2nd law ~ ~ : Allah's provision is unlimited.

3rd ~ ~ ~ : Allah will provide sustenance to every living creature on earth

4th ~ ~ ~ : Allah provides abundance to good and evil people

Prophet David is an example of the good people whom Allah Provides a lot of Provision.

Today we will learn iushalAllah about the evil people, whom Allah Provides a lot. → The first example of the people of evil whom Allah gave them abundance of ^{wealth} so it was the way of their destruction is "People of Saba" in Surat 34 (Saba) V. 15 → V 19

Saba is the name of a community living in southern Yemen, in a fertile Land - some of which remains so today. They were highly civilized and were able to make good use of their water resources, as they were blessed with much rainfall; ~~as~~ They were able to build a great dam known as Marib. In this way, they were able to retain water in great quantities which they used as they needed.

The gardens to the right and left symbolise the splendid fertility of their Land which gave them beauty and affluence. Therefore - they were signs

reminding them of Allah, Who provide them with
every thing. So they were reminded of 2 things :
commanded

A) To make full use of what was granted to them
and to thank the Giver. V(15).

b) They To remember the nature of ^{Their} Allah's blessings,
the productive land and forgiveness of the sins.

Q So the question is : Were those people, the good ones
who appreciate these great provisions and thank
Allah for them ?

A The Answer is in(V16) → No. They didn't show
their gratitude to Allah.

Q So what is their punishment ?

Allah took away the source of provision i.e the dam,
as He let loose - raging - stone carrying torrents to
destroy their dam and its water flooded the whole
area . With the dam no longer functioning , the land
dried up .

Instead of beautiful gardens, they now had only a desert in which only a few wild trees bearing no good fruits.

(at-tūdīyyah) Then in (V 17) Allah is clarifying that: it was their bad attitude i.e being totally ungrateful - the reason behind this punishment.

Yet Sheba people paid no heed to that first warning and punishment from Allah - Now did that punishment make them to turn to Allah and appeal to Him to give back His provision.

Instead they became ungrateful to another provision. They had easy contact with the blessed cities : Makkah and Jerusalem i.e they had comfortable and safe land routes to these cities. It is reported that a traveller would leave one township in the morning and arrive safely to the next before dark. Journey times were short - easy and comfortable

This has to be considered a form of Allah's provision which they must appreciate and thank Allah for it.

On the contrary their prayers were out of arrogance and ignorance , calling on Allah for long ^{distance} travel .

So their prayers were answered . Accordingly the travelling became unsafe - not easy and they were lost in travelling . So they became like refugees scattered throughout Australia . They also became the subject of discussions in other's gatherings .

In other words, they were no longer a recognized community but scattered people who disappeared by time .

This is the story of the evil people who follow Iblis and were not thankful for Allah's Provision and blessings as Allah mentioned

so these blessings were their way to full destruction .

As Allah mentioned in V(19)

lessons from story of Sabas' people :-

- 1) Allah is the provider of all the provisions.
- 2) We must be grateful to Allah's blessings and provision as this will increase the Provisions as Allah mentioned in Surat Ibrahim
- 3) Being unthankful for Allah's Provisions will be the way for Allah's Punishment i.e loss of these provisions.
Allah always sends warnings to the people before sending His Punishment so let us reflect on these warnings.
- 4) People always deserve punishment i.e loss of the provisions ^{for} their ingratitude.
- 5) Try always to appreciate all forms of Allah's provisions don't take it for granted and forget to thank Allah for it and as this is the way to loose it. At that point → turn to Allah, admitting your mistake asking His forgiveness.

The second example of the evil people whom Allah provides a lot so that this abundant provision will be the way for their destruction is Qarun who was mentioned in Surat 28 - V 76 → 82
The 1st scene = arrogance at its height + sound advice ignored in favour of corruption - Qarun belongs to Moses' people. Allah had given him abundant wealth described in the surah as "treasures". Indeed the carrying of the keys to these treasures represented a heavy burden even for a band of strong men. And because of this great wealth he was very arrogant and treated his people unjustly.

However, some in his community tried to stop such injustice, counselling him to maintain the path that earns Allah's pleasure. This path requires wealthy people to watch Allah in all their actions for it is He, Who granted them all they have. Also they told him not to be proud of his riches as to forget the One who granted you this blessing.

Do not neglect to give due thanks. Do not treat your money as an object of extreme delight so that you become arrogant in your treatment of other people for Allah does not Love those who are exultant, i.e showing arrogance and using their power to humiliate others.

Then In V(77) Allah is Teaching us that : in Islam we must achieve harmony and balance. i.e

4

To enjoy the worldly life and to → seek the reward of the hereafter

This is the Islamic code of life : to make the wealthy look forward to the life to come hoping to be among the successful on the Day of judgement, without depriving him of his share of enjoyment in the present life.

Again
Also the righteous people advised Qarun

not to spread corruption on earth for Allah does not Love those who spread corruption.

Actually wealthy people can spread corruption in the form of injustice, doing what causes envy and hatred i.e. A) spending money wastefully i.e buying too expensive houses, cars, jewellry and spending money in gambling.

also B) blocking money proper use i.e giving charity to the poor, building masquids and Islamic schools . . .

. Such was the honest advice given to Qarun by his people. Yet in one sentence, his reply carried every meaning of corruption; as he said (V 78) i.e. I have got this wealth through the knowledge I have, all by my own endeavour, so, why are you trying to tell me how to use what is my private property?

And because of this ungrateful attitude towards Allah's

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provisions therefore a warning was issued to him (V 78),
i.e Allah is warning him that : if he believed himself
to be powerful and rich, Allah had in the past
destroyed communities that were far more powerful and
wealthy. He should have known this, because it is
such knowledge that saves man from destruction.
let him know, then - that he and all the guilty people
like him are worth nothing in Allah's sight.

4

The second scene:

It shows Qarun appearing before his people in all
his pomp. So the people were divided into 2 groups (as usual)

Those who cared only for worldly life

They wished to have the great wealth
of Qarun, it does not matter to
them whether the price for this
wealth is too high (dignity
honesty), the method is too
wicked (corruption) or the
means too low (V 79)

and.

Those who listen to the
voice of faith ,remained
i.e Maintain their bond with
Allah,

they have diff. standard
of values based on
the real knowledge
that : Allah's
reward is better
by far than all that
Qarun has

Those who maintain their bond with The All mighty , are too noble to let worldly considerations get the better of them. They realized that happiness is not related to the deceiving materialistic enjoyments , rather it is the acceptance and the mental peace so they are patient with the face of adversity and patient despite being deprived of what they might wish for . Allah elevated their spirits to rise above all that life on earth can offer . Thus do they seek only Allah's reward and with confidence and reassurance . V.(80)

The third scene of the story

Law : It is when the attraction of the material pomp is at its greatest , Allah intervenes in order to end the test and save the weaker elements of the community from such temptation . (V 81).

Q O Allah , how this can happen inspite of the great wealth , arrogance and power of Qarun ?

A. Allah The All Powerful → sent Qarn and his dwelling went into the earth (swallowed) over which his pride was great. Now he is powerless, weak, incapable of using his wealth or power to save him.

Q what happens to his people when they lived this huge event?

A. This disaster he received, made them turn back to Allah, lifting the cover of error that had blinded them. (82)

∴ The lessons :

- 1) Wealth is a test which can bring about a terrible end.
- 2) Wealth is not an indication of Allah's Pleasure.
- 3) Allah gives in plenty or in small measure to any of his servants for reasons, other than being pleased or displeased with them.
- 4) Had wealth been evidence of Allah's pleasure, He would

not have punished Qarun so severely.

At the end he curtains off drawn with a victory of belief
hearted: 'Faith has the highest weight than any
wordly consideration.'

Q Who will be granted the happy life in the hereafter?

A. ✓(q3)

Those who look at the earthly life, its concerns
values and standards with little interest. Corruption
is far from their minds. No thought of arrogance is
ever entertained by them. They have the right
sort of knowledge which give things their proper value.

The third example of people whom Allah granted them great wealth , while He was not pleased with them so that that wealth will be the way to their destruction is Pharaoh . in Suraat 43. from V 46 → 56 .

The meaning :-

(V 46) This episode starts with a brief reference to the first meeting between Moses and Pharaoh who as Moses clarified the same truth stated by every messenger : that he is a Messenger sent by the Lord of all worlds.

(47) When Moses mentioned the signs which Allah sent him (to motivate people to belief in Allah) (Pharaoh People) with e.g flood, frogs , loss of crops and lives↑; Yet they remained arrogant , and refused to follow him - they rejected his message and made fun of it and laughed at him

(48) They always appeal to him to do his best to lift their hardship , promising that they will ^{then} follow the Right way.

(50) Yet when the suffering is removed , they still broke their word.

(51-53) Pharaoh, Firwan proclaimed to his people saying that : the Kingdom of Egypt and the rivers are flowing at Firwan's feet , (a sign of his great wealth , position and power) . Also he clarified that he is better than Moses who is not a king or a prince , also his Divine message is not confirmed by a petty thing as a gold bracelet , nor have any angel to accompany him.

19

(54) He used all the types of influences until their minds are fully convinced to them , so they obeyed him refusing to listen to Moses or to belief in his message . They were people lost in evil .

(55-56) So as they angered Allah , The All Powerful , He finished all the team (the leader and the ignorant followers) and drowned them all . They are a lesson for those who come after them .

- 1- So let's all learn that our evaluation for people has to be based on their reality i.e are they good or evil people.
- 2- Regarding provision it is not a sign of love of Allah , rather it is a test for the evil and the good ones .
- 3- Allah provides the evil people a lot of provision so it will be their way of destruction as Prophet Mohamed (S.A.W) said


"When you see that : Allah gives a person what he wants though he is persisting in sin ; that means that Allah is getting him into destruction "
- 4- We always need to remember that : Allah loves the good people and provide them according to His Mercy and wisdom - what is the best for them
- 4 - The Reward of Allah is the best provision ever .