

## The spiritual clinic (21)

13 July 2009

### The answered supplications (7)

"Story of a role model of Patience" "The answered supplication of Prophet Ayub"  
"Do you know the answers of these fundamental questions?"

(title)

Ibn Ishaq stated that:

Prophet Ayub was a man of Rum. He was a descendant of Ibrahim offspring as Allah mentioned in Surat 6 (83-84)

This is Prophet (Ayub) Job, who was praised by Allah in Surat 38 V.44.

In this verse, Allah is praising Ayub (P. b. U. K)

for his main characters which are the

following: Being a model of (1) obedience

to Allah's commands (2) patient in adversity (3) bearing

his hardship with assured resignation, knowing that

whatever Allah decides is ultimately good (4) so he was

always <sup>(turning)</sup> returning to Allah for support.

So let's learn his story and his

answered supplications so that we can get the

benefit of his story.

### Ayoub (Job) story

1- Ayoub was repentant, remembering Allah with thankfulness, patience and steadfastness. This was the cause of his rescue and the secret of Allah's praising him.

\* A group of angels were discussing Allah's other human creatures, how those who were humble earned Allah's pleasure, while those who were arrogant incurred His displeasure.

2- One of the angels remarked:-

The best creature on earth today is Job, a man of noble character who displays excellent patience and remembers his Generous Lord. He is an excellent model for the worshippers of Allah. In return, his Lord has blessed him with a long life and plenty of riches, yet he is never selfish. His family, his servants as well as the needy and the poor share in his good fortune. He feeds and clothes the poor and buys

slaves to set them free. He makes those who receive his charity feel as if they are favouring him, so kind and gentle is he.

3 Iblis, over hearing all of this, became annoyed. He  
planned to tempt Job to corruption and disbelief, so he hastened to him. He tried to distract Job from his prayers by whispering to him about the good things in life, but Job was a true believer and would not let evil thoughts tempt him. This disturbs Iblis more, thus he began to hate Job even more.

Iblis complained to Allah about Job. He said that  
although he was continuously glorifying Allah, he was not doing so out of his sincerity but to testify Allah so that his wealth should not be taken away. It was all a show, all out of greed. "If you remove his wealth then you will find that his tongue will no longer mention your Name and his praying will stop."

4 Allah told Iblis that: Job was one of his most sincere devotees. He didn't worship Him because of the favors, his worship stemmed from his heart and had nothing to do with material thing. But to prove Iblis the depth of Job's sincerity and patience, Allah allowed him to do whatever he and his helpers wished with Job's wealth. (AF. 1<sup>st</sup> test)

Iblis was very happy. He gathered his helpers and set about destroying Job's cattle, servants and farms until he was left with nothing. Iblis appeared before Job in the form of a wise old man and said to him:

"All your wealth is lost. Some people say that it is because you gave too much charity and that you are wasting your time with your continuous prayers to Allah.

True to his belief, Job replied: (A) <sup>1<sup>st</sup> reply</sup>

"What Allah has taken away from me belongs to Him (Allah). I was only its trustee for a while.

"He gives to whom He wills and withholds from whom He wills"

5 with these words, Job again prostrated to his Lord. (A) <sup>1st prostration</sup>

When Iblis saw this, he felt frustrated, so he again addressed Allah:

"I have stripped Job of all his possessions, but he still remains grateful to You. However, he is only hiding his disappointment, for he places great store by his many children. The real test of a parent is through his

<sup>next</sup> (B) children. You will then see how Job will reject you!"

Allah granted Iblis authority, but warned him that it would not reduce Job's faith in his Lord nor his patience

Iblis again gathered his helpers and set about his evil deeds. He shook the foundation of the house in which Job's children were living and sent the building crashing, killing all of them. Then he went

disguised as a man who had come to sympathize with him. In a comforting tone, he said to Job:

6 "The circumstances under which your children died were sad. Surely your lord is not rewarding you properly for all your prayers?"

Having said this Iblis waited anxiously, hoping Job was now ready to reject Allah. But again Job disappointed him by replying <sup>(B)</sup> (reply) <sup>(B)</sup>

"Allah sometimes gives and sometimes takes. He is sometimes pleased and sometimes displeased with our deeds. Whether a thing is beneficial or harmful to me, I will remain firm in my belief and remain thankful to my Creator.

Then Job <sup>2nd prostration</sup> <sup>(B)</sup> prostrated to his lord. Iblis was so sad and again called on Allah.

"O my Lord, Job's wealth is gone, his children are dead, but he is still healthy in body, and as long

as he enjoys good health, he will continue to worship You  
in the hope of regaining his wealth and producing more  
7 children. Grant me authority over his body so that I may  
weaken it. He will surely neglect worshipping You and  
becomes disobedient".

Allah wants to teach Iblis a lesson that Job was a  
devoted servant of his Lord, so He granted Iblis his  
third request but placed a condition:

I give you authority over his body but not over his  
soul, intellect, or heart, for in these places reside the  
knowledge of Me (Allah) and My religion.

Armed with this new authority, Iblis began to take  
revenge on Job's body, and filled it with disease until  
it was reduced to skin and bone and he suffered severe  
pain. But through all the suffering Job remained strong  
in his faith, patiently bearing all the hardships  
without complaining. Allah's righteous servant did not

despair to turn to others for help, but remained hopeful of Allah's Mercy. Even close relatives and friends deserted him. Only his kind Loving wife stayed with him. In his hour of need, she showed her kindness on him and cared for him. She remained his sole companion and comforter through many years of his suffering.

Ibn Asakir narrated:

"Job was a man having wealth of all kinds: beasts, slaves, sheep, vast lands and many children. All those favors were taken from him and he was physically afflicted as well. Never a single organ was sound except his heart and tongue, with both of which he glorified Allah, the Almighty all the time day and night. His disease lasted for a long time until his visitors felt disgusted with him. His friends kept away from him and people abstained from visiting him. No one felt sympathy for him except his wife. She took care of him, knowing his former charity



and piety for her"

9

Therefore, Iblis became desperate. He consulted his helpers but they could not advise him. They asked

"How is that your cleverness cannot work against Job - yet you succeeded in misleading Adam, the father of man, out of Paradise!"

test  
D) Iblis went to Job's wife in the form of a man "where is your husband"? - he asked her.

She pointed to an almost lifeless man on the bed and said: "There he is, suspended between life and death"

Iblis reminded her of the days when Job had good health, wealth and children. Suddenly, the painful memory of years of hardship overcame her - and she burst into tears.

She said to Job:

"How long are you going to bear this torture from our Lord?"

Are we to remain without health, children or friends forever?

Why don't you call upon Allah to remove this suffering?

Job in a soft voice replied:

10

Iblis must have whispered to you and made you dissatisfied.

Tell me, how long did I enjoy good health and riches?

She replied: "For eighty years"

Then Job asked "how long am I suffering like this?"

She said "For seven years".

Then Job told her:

"In that case, I am ashamed to call on my Lord to remove the hardship, for I have not suffered longer than the years of good health and plenty. It seems your faith has weakened and you are dissatisfied with the fate of Allah. If I ever regain health, I swear I will punish you with 100 strokes! From this day onward, I forbid myself to eat or drink anything from your hand.

Crying with a heavy heart, she had no choice except to leave him and seek shelter elsewhere. In his helpless state, Job turned to Allah, not to complain

11

but to seek his mercy: it was his 2 answered

supplications to Allah:

Surat 21 (V: 83-84).

In his supplication to Allah, Job does not appeal for his condition to be changed, because he wants to remain patient in adversity. Now does he suggested anything to his Lord. but he has the attitude of perfect humility before Allah. Job was Allah's model servant, who was neither panick or frustrated regarding this severe hardship, instead he leaves the matter entirely to Allah.

At the moment Job adressed his Lord with such confidence and humility, his prayer was answered and Allah's mercy was bestowed on him in abundance. His personal affliction was removed and his health was restored. This indicates complete recovery, leaving no trace of illness. The affliction which concerned his

12 family was lifted. Allah compensated him for the one he had lost. All these blessings are acts of Allah's blessing.

2<sup>nd</sup> answered) supplication) Again in Surat (38) - V(41), Allah mentioned the call of Prophet Job for help from Allah, but in this - it was

① Satan that Job complained from as the source of his suffering.

Again Allah answered his supplication in Surat 38 (V42) and

② ordered him to hit the ground with his leg so a cool spring

would gush forth. He was to wash himself with its

water and drink from it. This was enough for him to

recover his health and he regained his family, also Allah

gave him <sup>more</sup> additional favours.

This is the story of Prophet Ayoub,

a Prophet known for his main character which is

patience in adversity, perfect humility to his Lord...

To analysis his story we will realize the

following facts which will help us to

follow Ayoub in his patience towards Allah's Decree :-

B 1- We learned that Job was obedient to Allah, and having good manners in his life - inspite of these facts, he was exposed to a great hardship which was the loss of everything : wealth, health and the family. His hardship was not for days or months, but it was for years and years

So if there are some questions which come to every mind : ① Why Job was exposed to these trials inspite of being obedient to Allah?

2) Are we created in life to be exposed to hardships and trials all the time and why?

3) What is the true nature of this worldly life?

4) Why are we always in hardships?  
These are basic fundamental questions which we need to know its answers from the Quran so that we can get the benefit of

14 The story and supplications of Prophet Job.

In the Quran, Allah answered all these questions

Let's read from:

1. Surat (67) V. 2.

∴ Life is a test, where everyone will be accountable for his deeds (answers of the questions of the test) on the Day of judgement.

This Quranic rule: Life is a test

must be clear to every muslim so that he will be

ready to know about the nature of that test, which

Allah clarified in the next verse.

② Surat (47) V: 31

This is Quranic rule: Allah will try man

in the worldly life test until the reality of everyone is proved.

So every one must be ready for the trials

of the worldly life which are part of the test.

③ Again in Surat (29) - AL-AN/Kabur.

Allah mentioned in V. (2-3) about the nature of the test of the worldly life.

15

Surat 29 (V-2-3):-

Allah is clarifying that belief is not a word we say  
but it is a reality that imposes duties.

2) A trust that carries requirement.

3) A struggle that demands patience.

It is not enough that people should claim to believe,

When they make this claim, they are not left alone.

They are subjected to hardships and trials to

prove their sincerity and true metal, just as

gold is tested with fire so as to separate it from

cheap elements.

We must believe that: Allah knows what people

harbour in their hearts before any hardship or trial, but

the test reveals, in practice - what is known to Allah

yet - hidden from human knowledge. Allah makes

people accountable for what they actually do

This is an act of justice and grace.

16 Q What are the forms of hardships in the test (worldly life)

A In Surat (2) V. (155) :-

Quranic Rule: fear, hunger and diminution of wealth, lives and crops are the forms of the trials of the test of worldly life. They are not forms of Allah's punishment ~~on~~ to his servants, as Allah has no desire to put believers to such hard trials or cause them much suffering, but it is the Law of worldly life → A test..

Q Is there is any way to escape any of the trials of the test of worldly life?

A In Surat 57 (V.22)

Allah is clarifying that: everything that affects Mankind is duly measured and destined i.e. the destiny of all things was measured and decided by Allah before the start of this whole worldly life.



17

so Prophet Mohamed said (S.A.W)

Allah ordained the measures of everything 50,000 years before He created the heavens and the Earth

= Quranic Rule: there is no way to escape any hardship which Allah has decreed for us.

∴ The important question is:

What <sup>is</sup> the Quranic cure and medicine for the hardships of our test in this worldly life?

This will know from the story of Prophet Job next week insha Allah, so

Let's reflect on the story in depth until next week.?

M. Sahy  
Houston TX  
July 2009