

Juz Summary Points to Ponder each surah

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JUZ 1 – POINTS TO PONDER

SURAH AL-BAQARAH – AYAHS (1_39)

- *Try to nurture the qualities of Muttaqeen.
- *Taqwa (God consciousness) should reflect in our speech, actions, manners, dealings and worship.
- *Get rid of stubbornness and ego.
- *Love of dunya, lies, deception, ridicule, and hypocrisy ate the qualities of munafiqeen.
- *Telling a lie is part of hypocrisy. We must omit lies from our lives otherwise all our good deeds will go to waste even the salah we prayed and the fasts we kept.*In case, we find any one of these in ourselves, we must make sincere dua to get rid of it and apt good qualities.
- *Nurture good habits especially loving Allah subhana’wataAllah, truthfulness, honesty, respect and love of akhirah.
- *Worship Allah in order to be saved from the punishment.
- * Repeat them frequently: سبحان الله و بحمده . Our beloved Prophet (peace be upon him) loved to recite these words!
- *Acquire knowledge in order to get guidance and avoid the pride.

AYAHS (40_46)

- *Knowledge should be acquired in order to act on it.
- *It is very important to acquire knowledge that helps you gain taqwa.
- *You must turn to Allah for every problem in your life and ask Him for help and relief. Only He has the power to solve all your problems
- *Seek help through patience and prayer during every difficulty.
- *Strengthen Allah’s khashiyat (love and humbleness) in oneself.
- *Be patient in trials and difficulties hoping for reward by Allah subhana’wataAllah in Akhirah.

AYAHS (47_82)

- *Our duties towards Allah حقوق الله are equally important as our duties towards mankind حقوق العباد
- *Worship Allah alone without declaring any partners with Him.
- *Maintain good relations with parents, relatives, orphans and poor people.
- *Kind and gentle speech.
- *Be regular in salah.
- *Pay zakah.
- *Samai’na Wa’ Ata’na – say I hear and I obey at every command of Allah subhana’wataAllah.
- *We must not question any of Allah’s command. Just bear in mind it is from Allah and we have to abide by it to please Him.
- *Love and respect Allah’s friends.
- *Believe that Allah is all powerful and mighty and no one can hurt us with magic without His permission.
- *Respect the scholars and Gatherings of knowledge (halaqa) and pay attention to what is being taught.
- *Forgive the ones who create trouble for us due to jealousy and evil nature.
- *Focus on salah and charity if one fears the trials.

Ayahs (112_141)

- *Do every deed at the level of perfection for Allah like a Mohsin.
- *Along with imaan you must have righteous deeds عمل صالح to be victorious on the Last Day
- *Correct your intentions and deeds for Allah’s sake.

- *Pray salah, do zikr and recitation in masjid.
- *Learn to recite the Quran beautifully. Learn Tajweed.
- *Make dua that may Allah chooses us and our progeny for His work, propagation of His Deen.
- *Focus on the quality of the deed instead of quantity and make dua that may Allah accepts those from us. Ameen.
- *Be content with every decision of Allah subhana'wataAllah.
- *Advise (wasiyyah) and teach your children to live their lives as true muslims and to die as a Muslims.
- *Our actions, manners and charger should be of one who is a muttaqi (Allah consciousness).
- *Hearts become hard (insensitive) when sins are repeated. It means that in the beginning you might get disturbed when you sin but as you do it repeatedly it becomes a norm for you and it no longer bothers you.

JUZ 2 – POINTS TO PONDER

SURAH AL-BAQARAH – Ayahs 2:142 – 2: 252:

- *Change of Qibla: Believing in the Prophet (peace be upon him) means that whatever he has ordered us to do we must accept follow it. (2:143)
- *When you come across such people who are stubborn in accepting the Truth then do not argue with them. The people who have ilm (knowledge of Quran) should not follow the ignorant or their own evil desires. (2:145)
- *A Believer's Aim should be to race to do good deeds. Ramadan is without doubt a golden opportunity for all of us who hope to be saved from the Hell fire and yearn to dwell in Paradise, where we will have all that we desire. This is not a month of socializing and feasting even though it is common to see this around us. This is a month of competing with each other in improving our relationship with our Creator – A month where we ignore all distractions and race to him by doing lots of good deeds. (2:148)
- * We must not fear people rather than we must only fear Allah. Love and fear only Allah. If we have a firm faith that Allah is the ultimate power over our profits and losses then we won't fear anyone on this earth. Moreover, having fear of Allah, and abstaining from sins makes one gain the blessings of Allah Almighty and His Guidance. (2:150)
- *Remembrance of Allah strengthens our Faith (2:151 – 2:152)
- *Never be ungrateful and impatient due to trials of life. Every person on this earth ever existed is tested – be it by hunger, wealth, illness or fear. But the one who is patient, hopeful and continues to do good deeds, he will receive the mercy of Allah, His guidance and rewards! This is Allah's promise. (2:153- 2:155)
- *Safa and Marwa – these two places remind us of the sacrifice of Hajar, her patience and her eeman. If you are stuck in a hardship alone like her then keep reminding yourself by saying Raditubilla hi Rabba (I am pleased with Allah as my Lord) (2:158)
- * When we see an art we immediately ask who made it and admire it even it is abstract and we do not exactly understand it. But what about this beautiful earth that we live in. Have we ever thought how beautiful is His art? (2:164)
- *Always eat Halal (food that is allowed) and Tayyab (pure), and don't follow the footsteps of Satan. (2:168- 2:169)
- *Always hasten towards good, and get benefit from every kind of good deed, so that we would become Siddeeq (Truthful one) and Muttaqi (One with Taqwa) (2:177)
- *Never prefer dunya for temporary benefits, our top priority should be the teachings of Qur'an and we have to follow them by all means. (2:175)
- *Fasting is an important pillar of Islam, due to which we can attain Taqwa. (2:183- 2:184)
- *Allah is close to His servants, He says He responds when they make du'aa to Him sincerely (2:186)

- *Islam is the religion of peace, the only war is to remove oppression and Fitnah, indeed fitnah is worse than killing (2:191)
- * Hajj is remembrance of Allah and we must follow the teachings of our Prophet in this manner. Let Taqwa be your provision especially during Umrah and Hajj. (2:197-198)
- *There are two types of people one who ask Allah only for this world and other who ask Allah for the good in this world and the Hereafter. Each of them gets what he asks for (2:201-202)
- *Charity begins at home (2:215)
- *Allah knows what is good for us, And He knows more than us so be content what He has bestowed on you, and never be displeased with His decisions. (2:219-2:220)
- *Aqeedah is important, never compromise on it just to marry a person you like, this ayah gives criteria what should be chosen during marriage (2:221)
- *Allah orders men not to approach their wives for intimate relations when they are in a state of menstruation until they get purified. (2:222)
- *Allah loves the ones who purify themselves inside out...(by tawbah/istighfar to purify their hearts and by ghusl/wudhu to purify their bodies). (2:222)
- * The relationship of a husband and wife is like a farmer and his farm. It's the most important thing to him, he takes care of her...never leaves her unattended and expects good results. This shows the value of a wife. A husband needs to take care of the rights and feelings of his wife, take care of her, protect her and be her guide, treat her as a source of his happiness; he doesn't need an appointment to go to her, talk to her like a farmer to his farm. SubhanAllah research shows that if a wife separates from her husband, her physical, psychological health is effected just like a farm left unattended by a farmer goes down! Allah gave the similarity of a farm for a wife and not garden. Why? Because a garden is just for delight and farm is for way more than a garden. (2:223)
- *Important law of divorce, islam teaches us to be kind even dealing matters of divorce, never ignore ordained limits of Allah (2:227-2:229)
- *When a widow has fulfilled her term (iddah), she can remarry where she likes in a reasonable allowed manner. (2:234)
- *Salah is an obligation and must not be left even in times of unrest.(2:239)
- * Ilm is superior than wealth (taloot's example) (2:247)
- *Support the cause of deen with intention to please Allah, hard work and lots of supplication. (2:250)

JUZ 3 – POINTS TO PONDER

Surah Al Baqarah Ayahs 253 – 286

2:253 -Some people have been *preferred* over others, some has been given more. What do you do with it, with your money, with your beauty, with your intellect? It is a test.2:254 – If Allah has chosen you and given you a certain talent, you need to spend what Allah has blessed you with i.e from their wealth and ilm to please Allah because on the Day of Judgment no bargaining or business can get you into Jannah if you haven't prepared for it in this world.

2:255 – Realize the greatness of ayatul Kursi and increase in reciting it with FEELING. It protects us from fear, from magic, from jinn. Recite it after each fard prayer and before you go sleep. The greatness lies in the fact Allah azza wa jall is describing Himself in it. Learn the whole translation as when you recite it with conviction it will even be a stronger protection for you. لا اله الا الله

These words are the heaviest in the scale of your deeds in comparison to the things contained in this world. Repeat them frequently

2:256 – You can't forcefully make a person accept Islam(2:256)

2:257 – Be grateful Allah guided you, do you even realize it was Him who took you out of many darkneses and led you to the Light.

2:260 – Whenever you feel weak in faith or you are unsure – look at the examples how Allah brought back to life that which was dead and be in awe of His power. He can surely reassure your heart – all you need to do is ask and take a step towards Him.

2:261-262 – Realize being able to give sadaqah is an enormous blessing from Allah one you – each time you give sadaqah ask Allah to accept it and thank Him for giving you the chance and ability.

And never remind others of your generosity as it was not you! If you really did it for Allah alone you don't need appreciation of the creation: keep reminding yourself of this.

Your reward is with Allah. The people who spend their wealth in the way of Allah (charity, to help others and strengthen communities) will have a reward 700 times!! This is a business deal where there is no fear of any loss.

2:263 – Have sabr with people and forgive others if they don't show you the appreciation you wanted.

2:264 – When spending in a good cause we must take care not to show off our actions nor we should hurt the receiver by saying anything rude otherwise our charity will bear is no reward.

2:266 – The above mentioned action has such severe implications as explained by the example that a man can lose the rewards of his whole if he behaved like this in his old age. So we must be careful of our speech and actions till the very end of our lives.

* See your life as a garden whatever you planted will either show produce on Yawm ul Qiyamah or not. As long as you are sincere even the smallest deed brings many rewards.

2:267 – Allah encourages believers to spend and give from everything that is good and give that which they prefer for themselves. And He forbids them to give from khabeesat...all that is not good or that which they don't prefer for themselves.

2:268 – Whenever you are about to give sadaqah and shaytan comes to you whispering “do you really need to give so much, what about those shoes you wanted to buy” expel him and say aoodhu billaahi minash shaytaanir rajeem. Shaytan threatens you with poverty but remind yourself charity only increases your wealth!

*Stopping someone from doing good is from the ways of shaytan. Don't follow him.

2:269 – When Allah loves someone He grants him wisdom.

*Wisdom regarding spending means: that you know what to spend, where to spend and how to spend to benefit the recipient and yourself the most.

2:271 – Make sure you give secret sadaqah regularly. And Allah also promises that when a person gives charity wealth increases even though we feel its decreasing. When you spend even one penny for the sake of Allah in charity, Allah will increase you in your wealth and will give you from His treasures in a way you never expected!...

اللهم ارزقنا من حيث لا يحتسب

O Allah...provide for us from ways we never expected! Ameen.

-Give charity...it removes worries and pushes away difficulties. Alhamdulillah.

-Learn from the sahaba. They used to give charity whenever they sinned as its a source of removal of sins. You have worries, diseases, problems, depression? Give charity and see the result.

Prophet (peace be upon him) said “Charity given in secret extinguishes the wrath of the Lord,” [classed as saheeh by al-Albaani in Saheeh al-Jaami’, 3759.]

2:272 – Teach...share knowledge of the Deen with everyone you know. Use the means Allah has blessed u with. How special is the reward for a person who teaches people the Deen of Allah! The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “Allah, the angels, the inhabitants of heaven and earth, even the ant in its hole and even the fish in the sea, send blessings upon the one who teaches the people good.” (Narrated by al-Tirmidhi, 2609; classes as saheeh by al-Albaani in Saheeh al-Jaami’, 1838.)

By the grace of Allah, the one who teaches the people something about their religion deserves this dua, because what he taught them will bring them to good.

-(This reward mentioned above) without doubt is major gift and the one who understands this will race and strive towards this noble job. Use whatsapp to share what you yourself learn, use facebook, twitter, all social media. Use whatever means you have to share knowledge. Spend your money for this cause.

* Do your best in doing dawah but don't get upset or discouraged when people don't respond- the guidance is from Allah alone.

2:275 – Never try to justify dealing with ribaa (interest) to suit your own desires. If you are dealing with ribaa, be strong and step out of it, even if it means worldly loss. Your loss in the akhirah will be frightening.

*The people who take interest, they are as they're possessed by shaytan. There is a big difference between trade and interest but these people just can't see it.

2:276 – Sadaqah is actually giving someone something without expecting any return while Riba is giving someone something while expecting it back with increase. Sadaqah carries huge never ending benefit in the Akhirah while Riba carries temporary huge benefit in DUNYA only.

*Allah wants to eliminate Riba and encourage Sadaqah. So unless tradition of giving sadaqah increases Riba will never be eliminated in the society. We should be conscious of the needs of the people and be more caring and empathetic towards them.

2:280 – Giving someone extra time to pay you back borrowed money (or items) or pardoning them altogether for the sake of Allah is an act of worship!

2:282-283 – Whenever you are dealing with transactions with another party, realize the importance of writing things down. (eg contracts for big and small matters). Worldwide you see when you buy something you get a receipt – this was prescribed by Allah 1400 years ago!

*If you fear the Last Day then you must act justly in the financial matters.

2:285-286 – Read the last two ayaat of Surah Al Baqarah at night and it will be sufficient for you (as protection).

It was narrated from Abu Mas'ood al-Ansaari (may Allaah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "Whoever recites the last two verses of Soorat al-Baqarah at night, they will suffice him." Narrated by al-Bukhaari (5009) and Muslim (2714). Ibn al-Qayyim said in al-Waabil al-Sayyib (132): They will suffice him against any evil that may harm him.

Surah Ale Imran Ayahs 1-91

3:7 – Never be of those who interpret the ayaat of the Quran according to their own liking, leaving some and following some. Ask Allah for understanding of His Book.

3:8 – Keep praying for your heart to remain guided and not to deviate.

رَبَّنَا لَا نُزِغْ قُلُوبَنَا بَعْدَ إِذْ هَدَيْتَنَا وَهَبْ لَنَا مِنْ لَدُنْكَ رَحْمَةً إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْوَهَّابُ

"Our Lord, let not our hearts deviate after You have guided us and grant us from Yourself mercy. Indeed, You are the Bestower.

3:14 – Don't let fashion, children, money and cars distract you from racing towards Paradise. All the blessings on this earth are temporary. So we should think of the ways in which these blessings can become a means for our success in the Hereafter.

Attractive things are attractive but hearts should be attached to Allah...His worship and the Akhirah.

"Women and fragrance have been made dear to my affections, but prayer was made the coolness of my eyes." (Musnad Ahmad and Sunan al-Nasâ'î al-Kubrâ, saheeh)

Ultimate goal in Dunya is Ridwan Allah and in Jannah Ultimate gift will be Ridwan Allah! ♡

-When horizontal attractions pull us toward them we force ourselves to aim vertically. Momineen work for Allah...live and die for Allah. وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَشَدُّ حُبًّا لِلَّهِ His Love is way above than the love of worldly desires and wishes.

3:16 – Learn this beautiful du’aa and keep reciting it in Ramadan.

رَبَّنَا إِنَّنَا آمَنَّا فَاغْفِرْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ

“Our Lord, indeed we have believed, so forgive us our sins and protect us from the punishment of the Fire,”

3:17 – Even after doing good deeds, one must seek forgiveness of Allah. This is the sunnah of Prophets...to seek forgiveness for shortcomings and weaknesses regarding the worship done. Istighfar is a need, without which one feels a strange emptiness in his heart.

-The time before fajr is a prescribed time to do istighfar (seek forgiveness of Allah). Allah praises the people who make istighfar before dawn in the Qur’an (Check 51:15-19). Make sure you take five minutes before Fajr to sit down and ask for forgiveness.

3:24 – Never think “it’s just a little sin” or “eventually I will come out of the fire and go to Paradise”. Think of the greatness of the One you are disobeying and His power to make people do a deed of kufr just before they die because they were not sincere in their life. May Allah protect us from this!

3:26-27 – Honor, power, status and kingdom is in the hands on Allah. He grants these blessings to whom He wills. A Muslim needs to strongly believe that Allah is Able to do everything and nothing is impossible for Him.

3:28 – Friendship between a Muslim and non Muslim is not forbidden. Their relationship between them should be such that, a Muslim’s faith is not damaged due to it, and there’s no danger of him falling into sins and prohibitions. Other than that, being kind to people of other faiths, helping them out in times of need, showing politeness is important regardless of religion and race. Learn from the sahaba...they used to show kindness even to the non Muslim captives and prisoners of war and used to give away their own food to them. <3

3:30 – A person will find the result of all that he did in front of him on the Day of Judgment. That’s why Prophet (peace be upon him) used to say in prayer:, ‘Allahumma, ba’id baini wa baina khatayaya kama ba’adta baina-l-mashriqi wa-l-maghrib. (O Allah! Set me apart from my sins (faults) as the East and West are set apart from each other. (Bukhari)

3:31 – A Muslim loves Prophet and follow the Sunnah so that he can gain the love of Allah. Make an effort to follow as many sunan as you can and you will get the love of Allah and His forgiveness: amazing!

3:35 – Make dua for the unborn to be of those who will be for Allah’s service.

*True protection is from Allah, we are just the caretakers. So it is best to ASK Allah’s protection for our beloved by making du’a and reciting adhkar and blowing on them.

3:36 – Mariam’s mother (alaihimussalam) expected to have a boy. She couldn’t see how a baby girl could serve Allah in the way boys usually did. Allah told her that He knew better about the status of the child she’d given birth to. When you ask Allah for something & you get something else -don’t be disappointed- it’s going to be better for you than what you asked for. You asked for something less. He is giving you what He knows is more. (Fatima Barkatulla)

3:37 – Allah made Zakariyya (a.s) the guardian of Maryam (a.s) and he was chosen specially by Allah for this chance of doing good.

-Getting a chance of doing good, the opening of doors, the ease of doing it, and the strength to do it are all from the special bounties of Allah. Be grateful if He has chosen you to do something good and always say Alhamdulillah.

– Reaction of Zakariyya (a.s) when he notices the blessings of Maryam (a.s): Whenever you see Allah blessing people with what you also desire, then make du’aa for it instead of envying people. Ask Him of His bounties for you and the people. He is the Possessor of infinite treasures and He hears and responds to all duas!

وَاسْأَلُوا اللَّهَ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا

And ask Allah of his bounty. Indeed Allah is ever, of all things, Knowing. (Surah AnNisa)

3:38-We must copy the feeling of certainty of Prophet Zakariyya (a.s). Even when all odds were against him, there's not even a trace of doubt or disappointment in his dua when he says:

قَالَ رَبِّ إِنِّي وَهَنَ الْعَظْمُ مِنِّي وَاسْتَعَلَ الرَّأْسُ شَيْبًا وَلَمْ أَكُنْ بِدُعَائِكَ رَبِّ شَقِيًّا

He said, "My Lord, indeed my bones have weakened, and my head has filled with white, and never have I been in my supplication to You, my Lord, unhappy. (Surah Maryam 19:4)

3:39 – It's only because of his yaqeen and heartfelt sincere duas that Allah blessed Zakariyya a.s with a righteous obedient son, Yahya a.s and chose him to be a prophet as well. This shows us that a parent's dua has high chances of being accepted.

Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "There are three prayers that are not rejected: the prayer of a parent for his child, the prayer of the fasting person and the prayer of the traveller." Narrated by al-Bayhaqi; see Saheeh al-Jaami', 2032; al-Saheehah, 1797.

3:38 – Pregnant mothers should ask Allah with these words for a righteous child.

رَبِّ هَبْ لِي مِنْ لَدُنْكَ ذُرِّيَّةً طَيِّبَةً إِنَّكَ سَمِيعُ الدُّعَاءِ

3:41 – Increase in gratefulness, dhikr and tasbeeh when you notice a dua being accepted.

3:54 – Know that whoever plans against you or whatever plans you make which might fail and make you upset – wallaahul khayrul maakireen Allah is the best of Planners!

3:75 – We should not generalize a community, if few persons have done something wrong, it doesn't mean that whole community must be held accountable for it.

3:83 – The entire creation submits to Allah willingly or unwillingly – be of those who submit to Him with love and devotion!

3:92 – When you give something away in sadaqah you love, you will feel the effect on your emaan. Try it.

JUZ 4 – POINTS TO PONDER

Surah Ale Imran Ayahs 92-200*

[3:92] We must adopt Al Birr (Righteousness)! AlBirr is spending and giving that which you 'love the most' in the way of Allah. The point behind giving sadaqah (charity) is not necessarily to just give something away, but rather to give away things we love in order to develop our faith, train our souls upon seeking the Hereafter and the Love of Allah, and detaching it from the desire and frivolities of the Dunya (world).

*Upon hearing this ayah, the honorable companions presented their beloved possessions in front of our Prophet so that he can decide where these can be used.

*[3:97] Love the Bayt-Allah/Ka'abah and perform Hajj once in your life if you are able to do so.

*The impression of Ibrahim's feet remains on the Maqam as a clear sign for us.

*[3:99] You can follow the right path only if you have a strong connection with Allah

*[3:100] When you forgive someone...forget about some mutual misunderstandings of the past...then do not bring it up again and don't let the thoughts haunt you as then shaytan makes you feel bad again and increases enmity between you and your brothers/sister in Islam.

*Stay away from backbiting and gossip as its following in the footsteps of shaytan,

3:101 – we should recite this dua to be firm in our Deen because if our Imaan becomes weak then we might go astray.

يا مقلب القلوب ثبت قلبي على دينك

- *[3:102] Spend your whole life in the obedience of Allah and let death meet you while you are in a state of eeman.
- *[3:103] Hold on tightly to the rope of Allah i.e., the Qur'an, be firm on its path altogether as an Ummah and stay away from division.
- *[3:103] Acknowledge the biggest blessing of Allah and thank Him with our heart, tongue and good actions as He blessed you with guidance and saved you from being a disbeliever destined for hellfire.
- *[3:104] Calling people to the Qur'an, its rules, and to righteous deeds is every Muslim's duty. We must have a group among our communities whose sole purpose is to encourage people to do good deeds and refrain from falsehood.
- *[3:105] Those people who divided the believers for their worldly benefits they will have severe punishment.
- *[3:110] Allah calls the nation of the Believers the best nation because they enjoin Al-Ma'rûf (i.e. Islâmic Monotheism and all that Islâm has ordained) and forbid Al-Munkar (polytheism, disbelief and all that Islâm has forbidden), and they believe in Allâh.
- *[3:113-115] In these verses Allah has praised some of the people of the Book who have firm belief in Allah and they spent their nights in His worship. Again this means that we should not generalize a whole community.
- *[3:121] The Muslims suffered loss at the Battle of Uhud because of the love of wealth/Dunya. To be successful in both worlds one needs to work sincerely for the sake of Allah.
- *[3:134] Be a Muhsineen [doers of Good] – who spend in the way of Allah in all circumstances – in hard times and easy times, while healthy or ill, whether we are well off or whether we are facing any financial crisis... He controls his anger and forgives/pardons those who wrong him.
- *[3:135] If a believer commits a sin, he immediately remembers Allah and ask forgiveness as only Allah can forgive the sins.
- *[3:136] Race and strive hard in good deeds and sabr to gain Allah's forgiveness and a place in His vast Jannah. This is a special blessed month when the gates of Jannah have been opened for all who seek to enter it so avail this opportunity and do lots of good deeds and stay away from sins.
- *[3:141-142] Battle of Uhud was a trial for the Muslims so they can be recruited for Jannah.
- *[3:144] Be of the Shakireen (the grateful ones) – who even after bearing the biggest of sorrows, thank Allah and continue striving for Him, the ones who sacrifice all that they love to spread the Deen of Allah.
- *[3:146] Allah strengthens His servant and his eeman by testing him again and again. If you fear him and are patient, you will be successful.
- *[3:150] Whatever the situation, what or who ever you feel like turning to, tell yourself: huwa khayrun naasireen – He is the best of helpers.
- *[3:156] If a person goes out of the house and has an accident as result of which he dies then it is not sensible for the family to wish that if he had stayed in the house he would've been alive. It is Allah's decree and this was meant to happen exactly this way.
- *[3:159] Be lenient and forgive the mistakes of your companions on account of their sincerity, sacrifices and past good acts.
- *[3:164] Allah Ta'ala has truly blessed the Ummah by sending His Messenger (peace be upon him) to purify them and teach them His Book. Do we take this blessing for granted?
- *[3:169] Wish and pray for martyrdom to find special provision and reward from Allah in the Hereafter. Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) used to make dua: "O Allah I ask you for martyrdom on your way in the city of you Prophet (Madinah)."
- *[3:172] A trial can make the believer stronger in his Imaan while a hypocrite's self pride is destroyed in a trial.

*[3:173] Whenever you are stuck in a problem, facing challenges from your enemies then just have strong eeman, yaqeen and tawakkal in Allah, His might, His Help and say: HasbunAllahu wa ni'mal Wakeel ("Sufficient for us is Allah , and [He is] the best Disposer of affairs.")

*[3:176-179] Never envy or wish to be in the shoes of those who do haram deeds but are still happy and successful in life! Their success and happiness is just limited to this worldly life and they will not have any of that in the life of the Hereafter.

When disbelievers or sinners get blessed by long luxurious lives or lots of worldly blessings and prosperity then know this is just to increase them in sin and punishment. These sort of people might think that they are successful but they are wrong and trapped in a very big misunderstanding. Allah says in Surah At Tawbah aya 85:

وَلَا تُعْجِبْكَ أَمْوَالُهُمْ وَأَوْلَادُهُمْ إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ أَنْ يُعَذِّبَهُمْ
بِهَا فِي الدُّنْيَا وَتَزْهَقَ أَنْفُسُهُمْ وَهُمْ كَافِرُونَ

And let not their wealth and their children impress you. Allah only intends to punish them through them in this world and that their souls should depart [at death] while they are disbelievers.

*[3:181] Allah doesn't need our money to be spent for Him, He is the Lord of all the things of the universe. It is us who need Allah's pleasure to be successful.

*[3:185] Protect yourself from the traps of this deceiving Dunya. Real success is for the one who is saved from the hellfire and made to enter Jannah in the Hereafter.

*[3:190-194] Aisha (radiAllahu 'anha) narrated that when these ayaat were revealed RasoolAllah (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam) wept till his beard became wet and he said: 'Woe to he who recites it but does not contemplate it.'

*[3:191] Increase in doing dhikr during your daily routine, eg while cooking, when in bed, when waiting for the bus, while sitting on the sofa.

*[3:193] Always make dua that you die as a Muslim.

*[3:200] Sabr is not only dealing with hardship you endure by the hands of people, it is also being patient with (ie resisting) your own evil inclinations!

Surah An Nisa (Ayahs 1 to 23)

*[4:1] You must fear Allah, know that he is Always Watching and be caring towards your relatives/your blood relations, help the needy among them and treat them with kindness for the sake of Allah and avoid breaking off ties with them.

*[4:3] Allah has allowed nikah to four women for all men IF they can treat all four with equality. But it's not obligatory on men, it's a lawful/legal solution to the problems that existed for women and that still continue to exist. This is just to preserve the rights of women and not to insult them.

-People mock this ruling of Islam and point fingers at men who marry more than once but on the other hand are OK with men who are involved in haram relationships outside of marriage.

*[4:4] Giving the dowry to the wives is obligatory on men when they marry. It's a practical proof to their commitment and his promise that he will take care and fulfill all his wife's rights and his responsibilities toward her. It's a gift of love which is given without expecting anything in return with a good intention.

*Wives *if they wish* can give some from the MEHER or all of it to the husbands to use. Nobody-NOT even the husband/her parents/kids can force her to give it or use it. It's totally hers and she can use it as she wills.

*[4:5-6] The property of an orphan must be looked after and cared for until the child becomes a responsible adult and is able to handle his wealth by himself.

*[4:7] Both men and women have their share in inheritance.

*[4:8] If needy relatives and orphans are present at the time of distribution of wealth then it is best to give them something from the inheritance and speak to them with kindness.

*[4:11-12] It is necessary to distribute the inheritance according the portions that Allah has ordained.

*[4:17-18] Do not delay seeking forgiveness of Allah after you commit a sin. Repentance at the time of death will not be accepted.

*[4:19] Men should treat their women kindly and not be harsh with them. They should not ask their wives to return the dowry in case of divorce or separation.

JUZ 5 – POINTS TO PONDER

Surah An Nisa Ayahs 24 to 147

*[4:24] Men are forbidden to marry already married women.

*[4:25] Nikah is the only way to fulfill a person’s sexual desires and it’s a noble contract between two serious people. There is no concept of a boyfriend girlfriend relationship in Islam.

*Allah has given woman her due status by putting a restraint of marriage. When a person marries a woman, he is obliged to provide her with food, shelter and most importantly protection from the world.

*[4:26] Imaan must be the priority when choosing a spouse.

*[4:28] Allah has made mankind weak. We must acknowledge this and strive to do our best and ask forgiveness for our mistakes in this path.

*Always think well of Allah azza wa jall and never think His laws are making things difficult for you. Allah ‘azza wa jall wants you to prosper and truly, by not following His instructions you are making your own life difficult.

*[4:29] Allah Ta’ala prohibits His believing servants from illegally acquiring each other’s property using various dishonest methods such as Riba, gambling and other wicked methods that appear to be legal, but Allah knows that, in reality, those involved seek to deal in interest.

*[4:29] Murder and suicide are strictly prohibited. Both acts are Haraam and carry severe punishment in the Akhirah. Every person has been given only one chance on this earth so he should make his life productive even in difficult times.

*[4:31] Major sins are, shirk, black magic, murder, disobeying parents, taking interest (riba), adultery, slandering someone.

Keep away from major sins and Allah will remove all your minor sins AND He will give you Jannah, now that is Mercy! :’)

*[4:32] There is no difference between a man and a woman with regards to the rewards in the hereafter. A woman can exceed a man if she excels in her responsibilities within the set boundaries.

* Whenever you see Allah blessing people with what you also desire, then make du’aa for it instead of envying people. Do not wish for what other people are given, of blessings or luxuries that you don’t possess, for this is decreed for them by Allah who is All Wise All Knowing, and wishing [or envying] does not change its decree. However, Allah tells you to ask Him for His favor and He will grant it to you, if it is best for you. For indeed He is Most Generous and Most Giving.

وَأَسْأَلُوا اللَّهَ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا

And ask Allah of his bounty. Indeed Allah is ever, of all things, Knowing.

[4:33] the distribution of inheritance is important because it helps to circulate the wealth in the society just like flow of blood is important for survival of a human body.

*[4:34] Men are “maintainers” – in charge of women because of their physical strength and their responsibility of earning livelihood. They are responsible for providing them.

*[4:34] A righteous woman is obedient to her husband and protects her honor and her husband’s property when he is absent.

*[4:36] Being kind to parents is mentioned directly after worshipping Allah alone: We need to stop ourselves from shouting at my parents and strive to do good for them.
Be good to close and far neighbors and remember this is an act of ibaadah.

*[4:36] Allah does not like boastful people. How can a man be a favourite of the society when he is not a favorite of Allah?

*[4:38] Never give sadaqah to show off to others!

*[4:51] Believing in Jibt (sorcery) and Taghut (shaytan) is Shirk and there's no forgiveness for this sin.

*Allah has given us His precious Book as a guide , cure and healing. Stick to the Qur'an and stay away from useless stuff like superstitions, black magic and other misguiding rituals.

*[4:56] The punishment for disbelieving in the ayaat of Allah is Hellfire which burns the skins over and over again. Imagine the skin being roasted in the Hellfire; the skin is an extremely sensitive part of the body and very sensitive to pain. May Allah protect our necks and skins from the Hell Fire.

*[4:58] Every Amanah [trust] is important, even of a child.

* We have to be just in our dealings with people by giving their due rights.

*[4:59] We must abide by the laws prescribed by Allah and His Messenger and the just ruler in every aspect of life.
Judge fairly between two parties, even though you prefer one of them! Solve arguments looking at what Allah instructs and not in ways you "feel" is best.

*[4:69] Obeying Allah and His Messenger will make you gain the companionship of the prophets, siddiqueen, martyrs and righteous ones in Jannah. :)

*[4:76] The Believers strive in the way of Allah and the disbelievers strive in the way of Taghoot and both groups have different goals.

[4:78] No matter how safe you think you are, death will find you- so don't ever fear men over Allah- and do your duty.

*[4:79] Whenever you are afflicted by pain or problems, reflect over your past sins and immediately repent.

[4:82] Contemplate (tadabbur) at least one ayah from the Quran a day. A true Muslim always ponders over the ayahs of Quran.

*[4:83] One must not spread any news or information without confirming its authenticity.

*[4:86] Say Assalamu alaykum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu to those you know and those you do not know of Muslims. :)

Muslim (54), Ahmad (2/391), and al-Tirmidhi (2513) narrated from Abu Hurayrah (may Allaah be pleased with him) that the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "You will not enter Paradise until you believe, and you will not believe until you love one another. Shall I not tell you about something which, if you do it, you will love one another? Spread salaam amongst yourselves." <3

*[4:92] Killing/Murdering a believer intentionally is the most hateful thing to Allah and its punishment is the Hell fire

* [4:97] If a land doesn't provide favourable circumstances for a believer then he must leave that place (Hijra) for the sake of Allah.(except for the ones who are oppressed)
There's a big reward for the ones who do hijrah for the pleasure of Allah. One can also do hijrah by leaving off a sinful life, repenting and turning to Allah.

*[4:101] Allah has given us the blessing of shortening the prayer when travelling, so we must avail this concession.

*[4:102] It is compulsory to pray in congregation when in the state of war then what about us who miss our FARD PRAYERS while enjoying the comforts of our homes?

*The Fard prayer performed during war is called Salat ul Khawf and this ayah explains one how to perform it.

- *[4:103] Make praying ON TIME a priority and ask Allah to help you pray on time. You will instantly feel the effect on your eemaan when you pray on time.
- *[4:104] After praying, do a lot of dhikr and tasbeeh, whether it is while you are sitting, standing or lying down. There must not be any excuse for not doing Dhikr.
- *[4:114] Secret talk are allowed if it is regarding a righteous deeds. However secret talk while you backbite, gossip and envy is forbidden.
- *[4:119] Know shaytan is your enemy and increase in saying with conviction (as if it is a sword): aoodhu billahi minash shaytanir rajeem! Study ways how shaytan deceives people and learn from them.
- *Shaytan has already declared that he will cause mankind to alter the creation of Allah. (plastic surgery, Botox,reshaping eyebrow)
- *[4:123] Success in both worlds is only achieved by doing righteous deeds and not by wishful thinking. Take steps to please Allah and watch your life get better! :)
- *[4:134] Don't just expect reward of Dunya. Strive in doing good deeds while focusing on the reward of the Hereafter.
- *[4:136] Believers should always keep adhering to their eemaan and maintain it so that their actions become righteous.
- *[4:135] We must support the truth even if we have to against our parents or close relatives. (Think about all the family disputes where you have to support a family member just because he/she is right)
- *[4:139] Never seek your honour in careers, reputations, joining forces with those who don't fear Allah in order to gain power or to win an argument. Real honour ('izzah) is in Islam and obeying Allah.
- *[4:140] It's not allowed to sit in gatherings when people make fun of Islam or the commands of Allah.
- *[4:142] You have energy for anything but when it comes to salah you feel tired? Standing lazy in salah, praying differently when with people and not being present with your heart are signs of hypocrites – they stand in prayers lazily And to show off to people. Check yourself!.
- *[4:142-143] Deceiving Allah, being lazy in performing prayers or showing off when praying, not remembering Allah and always staying doubting about the aspects of Deen are traits of the hypocrites.
- *[4:146] Stay away from hypocrisy. Repent, return to Allah, hold on to His rules and submit truly and sincerely to Islam.
- *A hypocrite can be forgiven if he repents sincerely, corrects himself, holds fast to Allah and becomes sincere in his religion.
- *[4:147] Be more grateful and complain less. Constantly complaining about big or small matters becomes a habit (it's too hot! the same food again? etc). Realize that being grateful is a way to avert the punishment of Allah.

JUZ 6 – POINTS TO PONDER

Surah An Nisa Ayahs 148 to 176

- *[4:148] Never proclaim the mistakes and evil deeds of others in public as Allah doesn't like it and it is against the honor of people.
- *[4:149] Allah doesn't approve that we publicise anyone's' fault rather It is better to advise them in privately or in front of others.
- * Allah forgives everyone day and night, so we must forgive people's mistake in order to get close to Allah.
- *[4:150] It's forbidden to differentiate between prophets because Allah has granted each of them a special status. Denying even one of the Prophets of Allah is a sign of kufr.
- *[4:151] Not discriminating among the Prophets is a sign of Imaan.
- *[4:153] Do not make halal what Allah has already declared haram like the People of the book.

- *[4:157] Whatever Allah has ordained as haraam it must be considered haraam. This is also a part of Imaan.
- *[4:163] All prophets were sent on a similar mission i.e., as givers of glad tidings and to warn the people.
- *[4:165] Beautiful names of Allah subhanahu WA ta'aala. عزيز is the one who has authority as well as respect and حكيم is the one who is extremely wise.
- *[4:166] Whatever has been revealed to our Prophet that was Allah's ilm so we must believe it completely. In this way we won't have any problem in obeying all the commands.
- *[4:170] It's truly best for us to believe and follow the HAQ that was revealed on Prophet Muhammad (sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam) in the form of Qur'an and Hadeeth.
- *[4:171] Protect your eeman and worship Allah alone without partners. Our religion is a religion of moderation but if a person deviates from the real path he can either go on the extreme side or he deprives the Deen of its true value (lessen its value). Do not go to extremes in religion like the people of the book who exaggerated over their prophet until they elevated him from the rank of prophethood to being a god.
- *[4:172] Prophet Isa ('alayhissalam) was not reluctant to obey Allah. We must assess ourselves how much do we strive to obey Allah?
- *Never be too arrogant to accept and submit to the orders of Allah and don't be embarrassed to carry out His rulings when others don't...eg. Obligations like prayer, zakah, hijab, e.t.c.
- *[4:174] Realize that the Quran is برهان . and the Quran is نور! Allah has sent guidance and light in the Book for us. We must read, recite and ponder on it not just in Ramadan but throughout the year. Whenever in a difficulty, open and read the Quran, it will definitely give you light in the darkest of times and provide solutions to all your problems.
- *[4:175] Unshakeable eman in Allah and a strong relationship with Him and His Book will be the reason of all blessings in your life including clear guidance to the straight Path.

Surah Al Maida Ayahs 1 to 81

- *[5:1] It is important for believers to fulfill all their covenants and obligations set b Allah.
- *[5:2] Ibadah is not just about Do's , it's about Don'ts too.
- *[5:2] Do not change to halal what Allah has fixed as haraam, be it regarding acts of worship or actions of daily life
- *[5:2] Do not violate the sanctity of شَعَائِرَ اللَّهِ.
- *[5:2] Help and encourage each other in righteous deeds but never cooperate with anyone in sins like lying, stealing, cheating, adultery and other haram acts.
- *[5:3] Have knowledge about food that is Haram (prohibited) for you: dead animals, blood, the flesh of swine, and that which has been dedicated to other than Allah , and [those animals] killed by strangling or by a violent blow or by a head-long fall or by the goring of horns, and those from which a wild animal has eaten, except what you [are able to] slaughter [before its death], and those which are sacrificed on stone altars.
- *[5:3] Decision making through divining arrows, going to fortune tellers, horoscopes e.t.c. is all forbidden and leads to shirk. These things destroy one's Imaan. Allah has blessed us with the prayer of Istikharah for seeking His help in decision making. [Comment and ask us about Prayer of Istikharah if you don't know]
- *[5:3] The one who has a strong character has a significant position in the society. Recent example Muhammad Ali- he led life with a strong character and he has touched everyone's heart no matter where you are in the world. So be a strong Muslim.
- *[5:3] Deen has been made complete by Allah. There is no space of new changes and innovations in it. There isn't a single aspect of our life that hasn't been covered by our Prophet (pbuh). After 1400 years it is still the same. No need for any innovations whatsoever.

- * [5:3] The beauty of this Deen is there is no rigidity. It's not that a person is dying of hunger and the things that are haraam will still remain haraam.
- *[5:4] Allah has allowed the Muslims to have pure and halal food and drink. And He has permitted men to marry pure women whether they are from the Muslims or from the people of the book (on the condition that they have never had any unlawful relations with men in the past).
- *[5:5] The beautiful obligation of wudhu: Necessary for prayer to be accepted, a source of getting closer to the Lord, a way to make your sins fall off and make the body parts shine on the Day of Qiyamah. In case of no water for wudhu, Tayammum with clean earth has been made permissible.
- *[5:8] Not letting enmity and hatred of others stop one from doing justice is a sign of person with real taqwa.
- *[5:11] When we obey Allah's commands, it becomes our right to have help by Allah.
- *[5:12] If we pray Salah, pay Zakat and give qarz e hasana then Allah will remove our shortcomings. Good deeds become a means of removal of our faults.
- *[5:13] When a person doesn't obey Allah, then their hearts become hard.
- *[5:13] Here it is asked to treat those people with ehsaan (with patience and forgiveness) who create hurdles in the right path.
- *[5:14] Disputes among people arise because they don't obey Allah.
- *[5:15-16] A lot of people read the Book but guidance comes to those who seek the pleasure of Allah in the path of peace
- *[5:15-16] Whenever you feel worried and confused and find yourself in darkness, turn to the Qur'an and find peace, solace and solution therein because Allah has called it "the Light". It is the Light which guides...it is the Light to which Allah takes his friends from the darkness of ignorance and pain. :')
- *[5:23] Never say NO to good deeds! Never say 'I cant do it..its not possible' Obey Allah and Be hopeful....trust Allah that He will help you in obedience to Him. Take the first step in obedience and watch Allah help you in taking the rest of the steps and give barakah!
- *[5:27] Ikhlas (sincerity of intention) and following the shari'ah is a must for any act of worship to be accepted.
- *[5:28] Don't let hasad (jealousy) take over you, especially not within your family. Fear your Lord. Hasan and eeman cannot go together.
- *[5:28] We should seek to draw closer to Allah by doin good deeds and strive harder for success in both worlds.
- *[5:31] We should not only feel ashamed on our sins but also repent and decide never to repeat that sin
- *[5:32] Saving one life for the sake of Allah is like saving all of mankind- how many chances do we have to aid in saving lives in our Ummah?
- *[5:35]We have to strive continuously for Allah's pleasure. It's not enough to just fast in Ramadan or just perform a Hajj. This is a continuous struggle- the moment you stopped that's when you start falling behind.
Strive for another Sadaqah after one.
- *[5:36]Repentance (Tawba) is easy in this world but on the Last Day if a person can present the wealth of the whole world for his escape, he won't be spared. In this world we sin for a small worldly benefit, but this sin won't be forgiven on the Last Day.
- *[5:38] In this world the thief's punishment is cutting his hand. Imagine what severe punishment will he face in the Hereafter.
- *[5:38-39] Teach children how serious the crime of theft is. When you catch (small) children stealing, advise them with wisdom and teach them to seek Allah's forgiveness afterwards. Spread awareness about its severe punishment to adults as well.
Taking out money from husband's pocket without his knowledge or approval is also a theft.

- *[5:49] Decide what is right and wrong according to what Allah says is right and wrong. Not what your desires or even other people say.
- *[5:54] Strive in the cause of Allah, don't fear the blame of the critic and definitely don't be a critic yourself! If you turn away from your Deen, Allah will replace you with people who are better than you, whom He will love and they will love Him back. Remember nothing is impossible for Allah!
- *[5:57] Real friendship should be with Allah, His Messenger and believers, not with the ones who mock our religion.
- *[5:71] Don't be deaf and blind to the commandments of Allah, especially when they don't seem to "suit" you.
- *[5:78-79] Along with accepting and following the rules of Allah yourself, call your family, friends and other people to submit, and follow all that has been ordained by Allah and stay away from all that is prohibited. Don't become careless if you see family members and friends sinning openly. Preventing another from wrongdoing with hikmah (wisdom) is a part of brotherhood. This is our duty as an ummah and not just the duty of Shaikhs, teachers and muftis.

JUZ 7 – POINTS TO PONDER

Surah Al Maida Ayahs 82 to 120

- *[5:82] The Christians who accepted Islam have been praised by Allah because of them not being arrogant. Arrogance and pride is despised by Allah. It keeps you away from accepting the truth. Abu Jahl went to listen to the Qur'an and didn't deny that it was the truth but arrogance kept him from accepting it. Do you see what a scary thing arrogance is; it can make you deny the truth when it's in front of you. Ask Allah to cure and protect you from kibr (arrogance)!
- *[5:83] The more one listens to the Qur'an with concentration the more it effects him, increases him in eeman and makes him closer to Allah...and when such a person makes du'a Allah showers him with his blessings! <3
- *[5:83] From the du'aa made by the Christians who accepted Islam we learn that good words...correct and humble talk leads one to Jannah. The hunger and thirst of fasting should never effect our speech and words. Stay calm for the sake of Allah and always speak good.
- *[5:84] Always pray for good companions in Dunya so that they help you reach Jannah in the Akhirah. :)
- *When a person has a strong desire to be among the Saliheen, he listens to the Quran with utmost interest.
- *[5:85] The words that a person say are of great importance. These words can either take him to Jannah or Hell.
- * It is indeed a challenge to speak good words while fasting. Hunger and thirst might make a good person somewhat rude. But this Holy Month demands respect from us and we must suppress our ill feelings and treat everyone with love and care.
- *[5:88] If a person earns wealth by halal means and enjoys it, there is nothing wrong in that. He must continue to thank Allah and fear Him.
- *[5:89] At times, the words we speak are very dangerous they might hurt someone to a great extent. It's penalty is giving Sadaqah if you can't apologise that person.
- *Don't swear or make an oath on people, eg I swear on my mother or son and be careful of saying "wallaahi" for useless things. Guard the oaths you make.
- And if you ever swore by Allah and didn't fulfill it, there will be a penalty. You have to feed or cloth ten needy persons, free a slave and if you can't then fast three consecutive days.

*[5:90] Alcohol and Gambling are two evil tools of Shaytan and their purpose is just to create enmity, envy in people and stop a person from prayer and dhikr of Allah. Allah not only said it is haram, He told us to stay far away from them!

*Know that, Khamr means something that intoxicates you. Means alcohol in the general meaning of the ayah but it can include anything that intoxicates you.

*[5:91] Alcohol and gambling mess up the relations. The person loses the closeness to Allah and Salah.

*[5:96] Only fear of Allah can stop a person from doing sins.

*[5:98] Try to balance your fear of Allah's punishment and hope in His mercy, so you don't slacken in your deeds nor ever despair.

*[5:100] Not equal are the pure things and the impure things. Choose only the pure (halal) things in your life as Allah accept only that which is pure. Make strong dua to stay away from impure/haraam things. Prophet (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam) used to always make this dua for this purpose:

اللَّهُمَّ اكْفِنِي بِحَلَالِكَ عَنْ حَرَامِكَ، وَأَغْنِنِي بِفَضْلِكَ عَمَّنْ سِوَاكَ

O Allah! Grant me enough of what You make lawful so that I may dispense with what You make unlawful, and enable me by Your Grace to dispense with all but You. [At Tirmidhi]

* In most of the households where women don't have power to prevent the haram earnings, they can ask Allah by above mentioned dua.

*[5:101] We must not point out others fault rather we must correct ourselves as no one is perfect.

* The people who are blessed with more wealth they will be asked about it all. More wealth is also a test.

* Our Prophet always remembered his whole Ummah (including us!) in his prayers. 'A'ishah (radhiAllahu 'anha) narrated: "Once, when I saw the Prophet in a good mood, I said to him: 'O Messenger of Allah! Supplicate to Allah for me!'" So, he said: 'O Allah! Forgive 'A'ishah her past and future sins, what she has hidden, as well as what she has made apparent.' So, I began smiling, to the point that my head fell into the lap of the Messenger of Allah (sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam) out of joy. The Messenger of Allah said to me: 'Does my supplication make you happy?' I replied: 'And how can your supplication not make me happy?' He then said: 'By Allah, it is the supplication that I make for my Ummah in every prayer.'

[Reported in 'Sahih Mawarid adh-Dhaman' (1875), and it is in 'as-Silsilah as-Sahihah' (2254)]

*[5:102] Beware of unnecessary excessive questions about religion that makes it hard to practice. Ask what is important to increase in knowledge and implement in your life.

*[5:105] Don't focus too much on others, while forgetting about yourself, your own mistakes and your relationship with Allah ('alaykum anfusakum)!

*[5:116] Know that in your relationship with Allah you are the slave and He is the Master: You don't know what is within Him, He knows all what is within you!

*[5:117] Prophet Isa was also taught by Allah to worship One God and not associate any partners with Him.

*[5:118] If you have not memorized much of the Qur'an then it is OK to keep repeating [with sincerity and humility] the ayahs you know to make your standing [qiyam] in night prayers longer. Abu Dharr said that RasoolAllah (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam) stood in qiyam one night and recited just one ayah till the morning! [repeatedly] The ayah was:

إِنْ تَعَذَّبْتَهُمْ فَإِنَّهُمْ عَبْدَاكَ وَإِنْ تَغْفِرَ لَهُمْ فَإِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ

"If You Punish them they are Your slaves and if You Forgive them, then You are All Mighty all Wise" [Al Maida 5:118] <3

(Narrated by An Nasa'ii)

*[5:119] Truth will certainly triumph! On the day of Qiyamah the truthful ones will get Jannah, Allah's Pleasure and eternal success as reward for believing in the Truth.

Surah Al An'am Ayahs 1 to 110

The main theme of this beautiful surah is Tawheed. At-Tabarani recorded that Ibn `Abbas said, "All of Surat Al-An'am was revealed [at once] in Makkah at night, accompanied by seventy thousand angels, raising their voices in glorification of Allah" <3

*[6:3] Allah Ta'ala is Aware of all conditions and actions so beware of doing wrong even when you are hidden from the people.

*[6:6] Read about the destroyed generations from the past mentioned in the Quran with the purpose of learning from their mistakes and check yourself if you are guilty of similar crimes! Repent and return to Allah before it's too late.

*[6:8] What is the point of 'emaan' when the unseen would be visible? Do you see the beauty of having emaan? You are believing in things and scenes which you 'haven't seen' – and you will be rewarded for this beautiful faith. Have strong emaan in al ghayb!

*[6:14] Focus and ponder over the signs of Allah and disassociating yourself from shirk, proclaim of being Muslim submitting to Allah alone! <3

*[6:17] Allah states that He Alone brings benefit or harm, and that He does what He wills with His creatures, none can resist His judgment or prevent what He decrees, SubhanAllah! We have to believe that Allah gives and takes but no one can take away our faith in Allah from our heart. It's something no one can snatch from you. Even if we are to lose everything in this world, even if we go through the worst of all trials, diseases and sufferings...we should know that it's His Decree, His Plan for us...if He has touched us with hardship today, we have to believe that it is ONLY HIM WHO has the power to remove it!

And this realization itself helps us navigate through all the bumps and roadblocks in our life. We have submitted to the One Who will never abandon us, never leave us.

It is recorded in the Sahih that the Messenger of Allah used to supplicate,

«اللَّهُمَّ لَا مَانِعَ لِمَا أَعْطَيْتَ وَلَا مُعْطِيٍّ لِمَا مَنَعْتَ، وَلَا يَنْفَعُ ذَا الْجَدِّ مِنْكَ الْجَدُّ»

(O Allah, there is none Who can avert what You grant or give what You deprive, and no fortune ever helps the fortunate against You.) <3

*[6:21] Receiving a blessing while you have been of the thankful ones, shows Allah is pleased with you but the ones who receive blessings while they have been disobedient...their blessing is nothing but a respite for them to increase in sins.

*[6:33-36] Be concerned about bringing your family, friends and others in your community to the straight path but do not let the concern eat you up. Do not grieve if they don't listen, if they insult and ridicule you...remember only the one who wants to be guided will be guided by Allah insha Allah.

*[6:38] Allah calls us to reflect and ponder on ayahs and the world we live in.

*[6:40] All our prayers and Sadaqah must be for Allah alone.

*[6:44] if even after disobedience a person is blessed with all the bounties then this is a sign of great test ahead for him.

*[6:46] The blessings of seeing, listening and responding from the heart are enormous blessings...we should thank Allah for them!

*[6:51] On the Final Day, only Allah can help us.

*[4:53] When you do da'wah don't turn away from the people who are weak or low in worldly status but high in eeman. Treat everyone equally.

*[6:54] Our Rabb is the Most Merciful. He has mercy on the one who turns to Him in repentance and forgives his sins.

*[6:59] Our Rabb is Al 'Aleem. He knows what is on the land and in the sea. Not a leaf falls but that He knows it. And no grain is there within the darkneses of the earth but He knows it. He knows what our souls whisper to us and He is closer to us "than the jugular vein". So He knows what you are going through, what you are feeling. Your Lord does not forget either; so do not think that anything you have done has gone to waste. He knows when you prevented yourself from doing bad for His sake, so just because you didn't see the result of your choice immediately, don't think that it went unnoticed. Just know that Allah knows! <3

*[6:61] Our Rabb is Al Qahir. He has full power over His servants so He can send His angel to us and take away our soul any time He wills. So let's ask ourselves: Are we prepared for that moment?

*[6:63-65] Our Rabb is Al Qadir – Able to do Everything. He is All Able to send a punishment our way because of our sins from above or below us. He is the Only One who can save us from distress on land and in the darkness of the sea. So why can't we accept these facts with our hearts and minds and leave off shirk and bidd'ah?

*[6:68] when u notice irrelevant argument on any ayah in a gathering leave that place as soon as u realise it.

*[6:70] stay away from such people who have made religion a game that is they don't take it seriously because your Imaan is in danger among such people.

*[6:74-79] Learn how Prophet Ibrahim used his intellect, his power to reflect, and reason to reject the practices of his community and submitted to the Creator of the heavens, earth, moon, stars and sun. He made Allah the focus of His devotion and worship and preached to his people in the wisest of ways. He said:

إِنِّي وَجَّهْتُ وَجْهِيَ لِلَّذِي فَطَرَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ حَنِيفًا وَمَا أَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ

Indeed, I have turned my face toward He who created the heavens and the earth, inclining toward truth, and I am not of those who associate others with Allah ."

*[6:83-87] Your sacrifices for Deen will never go wasted. Prophet Ibrahim (alayhissalam) left his family/his community and sacrificed everything for the sake of Allah so Allah rewarded him by blessing him progeny (with children and grandchildren) who were also blessed with prophethood and were of the chosen righteous ones.

*[6:92] Read the Qur'an, understand and follow its rulings...for, by doing so, Allah will fill your life with all sorts of blessings! :)

*[6:93] Visualize how the angels at death will seize the souls of the wrongdoers and sincerely pray not to be one of them.

*[6:94] Remind yourself you won't take your houses, cars and fashion into your grave. The money you worry about now is insignificant on the scales in the Hereafter.

*[6:95] Learn to ponder over the blessings. Have you ever thought about the seeds from the fruits that just go in the bin. If sowed they can become a fruitful tree! SubhanAllah He brings out a large tree out of a small seed.

*[6:99] Realize the blessing of food and say bismillah when you eat from your heart, remembering Who provides you with all this food. Say the sunnah supplication when you finish food and teach others.

*[6:101-104] Read the meaning of these verses and know that your Rabb is the Originator of the heavens and the earth. He is self sufficient, has no partners nor children. He is the Creator of everything you see and don't see. Vision perceives Him not, but He perceives [all] vision; He is the Most Gentle, Most Aware of everything. Don't be blind to His power...recognize and accept the facts and submit to the One True God – Allah! <3

*[6:107] Prophet's responsibility was to convey the message of Truth. Now it is up to us how we change ourselves in this path.

*[6:108] The journey to the hereafter is a difficult one . We must prepare ourselves for it.

JUZ 8– POINTS TO PONDER

Surah Al An'am Ayahs 111 to 165

*(6:111) The one who doesn't wish to be guided and who doesn't want to accept facts of Deen will never accept them even if he witnesses angels descending from the sky or dead bodies speaking.

*We must make dua and ask Allah to show us what is right and what is wrong. It is very important for a person to know what is right so that all his actions are according to the Truth

*(6:112) Success and Victory is achieved when you follow the Truth instead of following the majority of people. The people will lead you astray.

*One of the reason of being misguided is influence of the company of wrong people. Friends can also make you go astray.

*(6:114) The one who is in search for the Truth, he will only make the Book of Allah his standard , not the people.

* Never think of yourself as "always right" otherwise you won't be able to accept any Truth told to you.

*(6:116) "Majority is authority" is not in our Deen. Majority is not always right. We must not follow what is "trending" in a society. Just because everyone's doing it, doesn't necessarily means it is right.

* We do that in our daily lives-let's think about from where is our dress inspired from? Who are we following in our eating habits?

*(6:119) Do not lead people on the wrong path because of your lack of knowledge of Deen following just your whims and desires. Don't say: 'I think this...', or 'I wish that....'e.t.c. Gain authentic knowledge from Quran and Hadeeth.

*(6:120) Protect yourself from all kinds of sins. A sin is something which causes the soul and heart, both to be restless! Being arrogant and persisting in sin, in other words, living the way you want and forgetting about Allah leads to a

depressed life. How many act like they have it all, but are in reality depressed and restless?

*(6:123) It is also a test that influential people stop you from spreading the message or (more related to us) from using our gadgets to help spread the message.

*(6:122) The example of the one who is guided to the Light of the Truth and the one who is far from the Truth lost in the darkness is like the living and the dead.

*(6:125) Doing righteous deeds becomes easy for the one who gets the tawfiq of guidance by Allah. Pray for it!

* Whoever Allah guides, his chest expands to accommodate the Truth. There are levels of Guidance. Prophets are on the highest level.

* Check yourself: Which level you think your heart is on?

*(6:127) Jannah is the home of Peace – no disturbance, no worries, a reward for the one who accept the Truth and does righteous deeds.

*(6:131)Allah hasn't destroyed a nation without sending Guidance to them. When a nation constantly denied the Truth, then only Allah sent destruction to them.

*(6:132) The status and level of the people in Akhirah will depend on their deeds. We will know on the Day of Qiyamah who has gone

foremost in good deeds and won the race.

*We must strive to increase our good deeds in order to get a higher level InshaAllah

* Level increases by taking action, not by sitting lazily:)

- * When you know and believe that Allah knows whatever good you are doing then people's comments and thoughts don't matter anymore.
- *(6:138) We must not add anything from ourselves into the Deen.
- *(6:140) In murder, the killing of a fetus or an unborn child is also included.
- *[6:141] Allah doesn't like the people who go over the limits.
- *[6:145] You can't eat haram unless it is extreme necessity like starving to death. Then only, it is allowed to eat enough to survive not to eat till your heart is content.
- *(6:151-152] Shirk, being disobedient to parents, killing your children out of fear of poverty, apparent and hidden immoralities, murder, consuming orphan's wealth, not giving full measure and weight in justice, unjust testification and not fulfilling promises and covenant of Allah are all actions which have been declared HARAM!
- *(6:135) Eeman and Righteous actions go hand in hand. If you have eeman then you have to prove it through your righteous actions.
- [6:142] Reflect on how Allah created al an'aam (the livestock) for us to benefit from. And be grateful for the meat you eat and the milk you drink.
- *[6:151] Breaking promises(big or small) creates grudges and causes trouble in a society.
- *[6:155] This blessed Book has come so that we can follow it.
- *[6:156] We not only just have to read the Quran but also have to understand its message.
- *[6:159] the people who have made different sects don't have any link to Deen.
- *[6:162] Make all your good deeds only for Allah- sacrifice, your life and death rituals – all according to Sunnah not by any family traditions.
- *[6:160] Feel blessed you have a Lord who multiplies (reward of) good deeds with minimum ten, while only counting bad deeds once.
- *[6:161] Sirat Al Mustaqeem is the straight path which was the path of Prophet Ibrahim (alaihissalam), pure from shirk, leading straight to Allah's Pleasure.
- *[6:162] Acts of worship and all actions of your life are only for Allah, with complete submission and you should race to obey and follow his rules. Stay away from shirk and dedicate your life to Allah and ask Him to help you to do so.
- We must follow Sunnah in every aspect of our life including all the rituals carried out after our death. We must inform our families about the Sunnah in this regard.
- [6:163] When the Truth reaches you, be the first to accept it. Don't wait for others to join in, as in let others practice first, then I'll do it.
- *[6:165] Know that wealth is a trial and that Allah tests you with every single thing He gives you.

Surah Al A'raf Ayahs 1 to 65

- *[7:3] Allah has revealed His Book to guide you and to warn you to stay away from worshipping others besides Him.
- *[7:8] The level of your deeds will be determined by their weight in the Balance established on the Day of Judgement in the court of Allah. The ones whose scales are heavy – it is they who will be the successful. Ask Allah to make your mawaazeen (scales) heavy with good deeds on the Day of Judgement.
- * We have to fill our weighing scale with good deeds InshaAllah.
- *When you have this thought in mind then you will spontaneously be in search for chances of doing good to others.
- *[7:9] Being grateful satisfies you and you strive to do more good. It is like a cycle one good results in another good and your reward for Akhirah increases.

*[7:11] Be grateful to Allah al Musawwir for the form He shaped you in. Stop complaining about your (or others') looks!

*[7:11] This ayah corrects the concept of evolution/ Darwinism. Allah has made humans as humans, they are not evolved from apes!

*[7:12] Shaytan disobeyed Allah, refused to prostrate to Adam because of his arrogance so he was far removed from the Mercy of Allah. Never be arrogant as it is the seed to all bad deeds. Don't ever think you are "better" than anyone nor look down on other people. That one good deed of a person who in your eyes isn't as "good or religious" as yourself, might be more sincere and worthier to Allah than all your deeds together!

*[7:13] disrespect for those who deny Allah's order. And respect for the ones who accept the orders
* we must try to be steadfast in our belief and face any surrounding challenge with determination.

*[7:16-17] Shaytan has taken up a challenge to lead the children of Adam away from the straight path and make you ungrateful. He will stop you from doing good from every way that he can. Beware of Shaytan and his traps. Seek Allah's protection.

*[7:17] shaytan interferes in everything. He shows the negative side of every situation so that a person can only complain and be ungrateful

*[7: 20] Shaytan whispered again and again to Prophet Adam until he disobeyed Allah. If he, being the prophet of Allah was not safe from Shaytan we are in more danger of his whispers and traps. Always make dua that Allah protects you from him.

*Shaytan's major and ultimate goal is to make you ungrateful for the extreme favour of you Rabb which is GUIDANCE...so beware and always thank Him for it from your heart, tongue and actions. And for all the times you have fallen into ungratefulness, disobedience to Allah, accept your mistakes and Seek forgiveness from Him humbly like prophet Adam.

رَبَّنَا ظَلَمْنَا أَنفُسَنَا وَإِن لَّمْ تَغْفِرْ لَنَا وَتَرْحَمْنَا لَنَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ

"Our Lord, we have wronged ourselves, and if You do not forgive us and have mercy upon us, we will surely be among the losers."

*[7:22] It is shaytan's aim to undress mankind. Nowadays even our traditional dresses are modified in order to accentuate the bodies as much as possible.

*[7:26] Realize the blessing of clothes Allah gave to you to cover and adorn yourself. Say the sunnah supplication when you dress yourself and teach your family too.

At the same time, never let your love for fashion keep you away from any act of worship! (Eg neglecting the prayer because you want to go

shopping, buying clothes with money you “don’t have” etc)

* if we earn and consume halal and cover our bodies then we can become Allah’s favourite.

*[7:27] The people who deny the Truth, Shaytan becomes their ally.

*[7:31] Eat and drink, Wear nice things but don’t be excessive [spendthrift]. Allah doesn’t like those who commit excess.

Also make an extra effort to wear clean clothes when you pray or go to the masjid.

[7:31] We must maintain and clean the places where Salah is performed (Masjids) and where Islamic teachings are being given.

*[7:32] All the bounties of this world are for us to enjoy. We must not restrain ourselves from them without a valid reason

*[7:35] whoever obeys Allah, they will have no fear on the Day of Judgement.

*[7:40] Never be arrogant towards even one ayah or ruling in the Quran (O, hijab is not for me, I don’t need to follow that rule OR O everybody deals in Riba/Interest...it can’t be avoided, e.t.c.) For maybe if you do so, Jannah will be made IMPOSSIBLE for you. Be humble.

*[7:42] Whatever you go through know, truly know, that Allah will not burden your soul with more you can bear and know one dip in Paradise will make you forget EVERY pain of this life.

*[7:43] If you are of the Muslims then be glad and grateful to Allah that He pulled you from the darkness of ignorance to the light of Islam. Feel thankful in your heart and say it out loud.

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي هَدَانَا لِهَذَا وَمَا كُنَّا لِنَهْتَدِيَ لَوْلَا أَنْ هَدَانَا اللَّهُ

“Praise to Allah , who has guided us to this; and we would never have been guided if Allah had not guided us”

*One of the beautiful things in the people going to Jannah is that their hearts will be pure. Allah will remove whatever is within their breasts of resentment or hate for each other. And this is mentioned in two places in the Qur’an...this ayah and in Surah Al Hijr.

*[7:46] The people of A’raf will be those whose scales of good and bad deeds will be equal and they will be made to wait till a decision is made for their final destination. May Allah protect us from that agony! Aameen. Better to race in good deeds to fill up our scales of good deeds than to be one of the people of Al A’raf...insha Allah! C’mon the race is ON in this special season of good deeds where rewards are multiplied! smile emoticon

*[7:49] The ones who are afflicted by any mishap in this world, deserve a place in Jannah because of their Imaan and sabr.

*[7:51] If you forget Allah in this life, be sure He will forget about you when you stand alone and scared on the Day of Judgement!

*[7:55] Take some time out each day in which you open your heart and talk to Allah, all alone with humility, fear and hope.

*[7:57] Reflect on the blessing of rain and make dua when it rains. And thank Allah for it.

*[7:65] As Muslims we love all the prophets sent by All! Our dear Prophets Nuh, Musa, Hud, Salih, Lut, Shuaib and Muhammad (alayhimussalam) all worshipped one God and called their people to do good and leave off evil deeds.

JUZ 9 – POINTS TO PONDER

Surah Al A’raf Ayahs 88 to 189

*[7:85] Don't cheat people when you run a business. The arrogant chiefs of Prophet Shuaib's nation used to deceive the people regarding weight and measurement and rejected the prophet's message so Allah punished them with a major earthquake.

*[7:88] Don't let community pressure avert you from getting closer to Allah. If your environment or the people around you try to stop you from practicing your Deen, rely on Allah and don't worry if you lose out on materialistic things; Allah will replace them with what's better for you.

*[7:91] If a person is continually committing sins then he won't be spared from the punishment.

*[7:94] Financial difficulty and all other trials have one purpose: to make you humble. When you lose something or things get tough, do you humble yourself before Allah, trying to worship more, increase in du'a or do you forget about Allah due to bad thoughts about Him or self pity? Reflect and turn back to Him before it's too late.

*[7:95] Allah always tests people with either one of the two conditions:

First, with hardship to see if they humble themselves and turn to Him by increasing in du'aa to Him but when they don't do that, He tries them with ease, sends them His blessings so that they might turn to Him in gratefulness and submission. But when they still remain arrogant and oblivious to the signs sent by Him, He punishes them in ways they never imagined!

*[7:96] Only those people who deny the message by Allah and do not fear the trials deserve the punishment.

*[7:97] Do not be of the ones who turn ungrateful, disobedient or ignorant to the rules of Allah when they feel safe and secure! A peaceful and secure environment is also a test from Allah.

*[7:100] The worst punishment is to have a sealed heart. Ask Allah to make you benefit from what you hear and see and to make you not only gain knowledge, but to actually benefit from it. Are you benefiting from your knowledge?

*[7:126] The magicians of Fir'awn saw the signs that Musa (a.s) showed and accept the Truth. They prayed for sabr and desired to die as Muslims.

Whenever you are tested in your Deen and have a strong will to die as a Muslim, make the du'aa that the magicians made:

رَبَّنَا أَفْرِغْ عَلَيْنَا صَبْرًا وَتَوَفَّنَا مُسْلِمِينَ

– Our Lord pour upon us patience and let us die as Muslims.

*[7:128] We must be patient during a trial. Ask Allah for help first, He will give you such patience that the trial won't worry you anymore.

*[7:129] Hope for the best. Don't be impatient.

*[7:131] "Bad" and "good" things don't happen because of people, they happen by the will of Allah.

*[7:133] Recognize the signs sent by Allah and turn to Him!

The followers of Firawn were tested by years of famine, a deficiency in fruits, flood, locusts, lice, frogs and blood. Every time they were punished they promised they would be believers but then when the punishment was removed they returned to denial and arrogance.

*[7:137] Going through a trial may elevate your status in Akhirah or it may misguide you. Always ask Allah to help you protect your Imaan.

*[7:138 & 148] Allah chose the followers of Musa and then tested them by showing them people who were worshiping idols, they failed that test by doing the same.

* Being impressed by the appearance is a big test and we all are guilty of it in some way or the other.

*[7:138] The psychology of idol worship: A person gets attracted to the obvious glow and glitter around the idols and gets inspired by the ignorant people worshiping them so much so that he gets involved in it too. Whereas Allah is unseen, not visible to human eye, so a person who doesn't reflect on the hidden

signs finds it difficult to believe and turn to Him in worship. This is a test...a major one...the ones who pass this, will be the only successful ones!

*[7:148] Know that, Allah will keep testing His servants until the sincere believers can be clearly differentiated from the weak ones and the hypocrites. The children of Israel were weak and oppressed waiting for years for the help and mercy of Allah so when Allah drowned Fir'awan and his people to save them, the Children of Israel took the calf as God, forgot Allah and started worshipping it.

It's clear from this, that whenever Allah deprives someone of something, it is only so that he can come closer to Him by ways of du'a and worship asking Allah to fulfill that need. And Allah finally fulfills that need according to his own timing, his own way it's so that the servant can rise in eeman and gratefulness. But then insan gets the name insan due to his forgetful nature. So when there's no longer a need that needs to be fulfilled, he forgets Allah's favors, disobeys Him and gets involved in Shirk. Reflect over this...and correct your affairs.

*[7:143] Prophet Musa's request to see Allah could not be fulfilled because it's not allowed and not possible for anyone in dunya to see Him in this life.

*[7:146] Stay away from arrogance which makes one reject the Truth and think lowly of people. The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "He will not enter Hellfire who has the weight of a seed of faith in his heart and he will not enter Paradise who has the weight of a seed of arrogance in his heart." (Sahih Muslim 91)

*[7:150] The anger of Prophet Musa over his people when they got involved in shirk is noteworthy. He got angry with the purpose of reprimanding but then when things were clear and understood by the people, he calmed down and made du'aa:

رَبِّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِإِخِي وَأَدْخِلْنَا فِي رَحْمَتِكَ وَأَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ الرَّحِيمِينَ

"My Lord, forgive me and my brother and admit us into Your mercy, for You are the most merciful of the merciful."

*Getting angry when you see something wrong is a sign of Imaan but you must react to such situation within the limits that is with kind words and do not hold any grudges.

*[7:153] The biggest of the sins can be forgiven by Allah if repented with sincerity.

*[7:156] Allah's vast mercy is only for those who perform prayer, give zakah and believe in His ayaat.

*[7:157] Prophets have come to relieve us from the burdens of society

*[7:158] The secret to your success is by recognizing the status of the prophet (sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam), following him and the Book that was revealed on him.

*[7:163] Playing with the Deen is an extremely dangerous thing. You might be able to fool others or even yourself by bending the rules of Allah, but you will never deceive Allah. The fishermen who tried to go around catching fish on the day of Sabbath were transformed into apes, this is how severe the punishment of Allah was for those who tried to be "clever"!

*[7:165] Upon seeing a bad deed, it is important that we stop people from doing it because Allah doesn't appreciate our silence when we see falsehood.

*[7:168] No one is exempted from trials and tests. Everyone is tested on this Earth.

*[7:170] Don't wait for worldly benefit when you teach the rulings of the Qur'an, seek Allah's pleasure and Jannah.

*[7:170] Whatever the conditions are, never ever leave the Book of Allah! Hold on to it...it's oxygen to your soul and the reason for your safety in the Hereafter!

*[7:172] All souls have already testified to Allah being their Lord before they were even sent to this world so nobody can say that they were not informed about Allah!

*[7:172] No one in this world can say that the message of Islam hasn't reached him.

*[7:175-176] Don't let your worldly desires get the better of you after Allah has blessed you with knowledge of Islam. Allah likens such a person to a dog.

- *[7:179] Some people are worse than cattle. The reference is to the cattle's inability to think and reason, while blindly following the stuff they are accustomed to. But then, some of us are worse than cattle...because the cattle follow their instincts that Allah has given them and they "submit" to Allah! While we are absorbed in ignorance and all the material desires and worldly glitter...not being concerned with Allah's rules and prohibitions. Are not we supposed to be the "Best of all creation"?
- *Hell Fire will be filled with people who never used their hearts, minds, eyes and ears to recognize the signs of Allah, to reflect on them and never accepted the truth.
- *[7:180] Study the Names of Allah; understand them and LIVE by them. One of the etiquette of supplicating is to make du'aa to Allah by calling Him by His Names relevant to the content of the dua. For example when you ask Allah to fulfill a need of yours, you make dua by calling Him like: Bless me Ya Wahhab [The Giver of gifts], Ya Mujeeb [The One who responds], Ya Ghaniyy [the One Free of all needs], bless me with the best in both worlds! (just an example to show how to call Him when making duaa) :)
- *[7:185] We are encouraged to ponder and reflect on this universe.
- *[7:186] Why doesn't the hearts accept the truth? It is easy to fight with the whole world but fighting with ones self and accepting that you are wrong is not easy. Such people find faults in the scholars and Quran.
- *[7:187] Daily think about the coming of the Last Hour – what if it is tomorrow? Prepare for it. Ask forgiveness from those you wronged and repent to Allah for all your shortcomings in your worship. Prepare and be ready just like a pregnant woman keeps everything prepared and ready (to rush to the hospital) before her due date arrives!
- *[7:188] Only Allah knows the unseen (الغيب). Prophets have no knowledge of it.
- *[7:189] Say the sunnah supplication before intercourse and ask Allah for a righteous child in times of pregnancy and act upon this by raising your children with knowledge of Islam. So many complain about their children; but did you teach them from young what Allah likes and dislikes and above all, are you a good example yourself?
- *[7:196] Prophet Muhammad (sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam) did not possess knowledge of the unseen. If he had it he would have protected himself from all harm and would have lead a pleasant life.
- *[7:197] Do not make du'aa to anyone else but ALLAH! The one you call upon besides Him are unable to help you, they can't even help themselves.
- *[7:199] Learn to pardon the people, enjoin what is right and turn away from the ignorant ones.
- *[7:200-201] As soon as you have a bad thought, say aoodhu billahi minash shaytaanir rajeem! Make it a habit to say bismillah before doing most of your daily routine as it can protect you from sinning easily.
- [7:204] When the Quran is recited, don't talk through it carelessly. Pay attention and try to understand as much of it as you can. Even when standing behind the imam in congregation, listen to what he recites instead of reading along with him or holding a mushaf and read...Focus on what Allah has said in this ayah: "So when the Qur'an is recited, then listen to it and pay attention that you may receive mercy."
- *[7:205] Make the morning and evening supplications a part of your daily routine. Start reading them daily so you will slowly memorize them and they will become very easy for you to say anytime, anywhere. Know their rewards are immense.
- *[7:206] Angels are always doing Dhikr , they never get tired.

Surah Al Anfal Ayahs 1 to 40

- *[8:1] Mutual relations are better than all wealth and glory in the world so do not fight with each other regarding wealth.

*[8:2] When Allah is mentioned does it have an effect you? Ask Allah to make you increase in emaan when the Quran is being recited. How many of us listen to the Quran and remain unchanged? It takes sincere dua to Him, to make you of those who “feel” the ayaat of the Quran.

*[8:2-4] Read these ayaat and strive this Ramadan to be of the believers whom Allah describes in these verses! As for them Allah has kept high positions, forgiveness and an amazing provision!

*[8:22] The worst of living creatures in the sight of Allah are those who turn a deaf ear to the commands of Allah (the disbelievers). Why would you want to imitate them in their behavior, trends, speech, celebrations etc?

*[8:24] Know that Allah intervenes between a man and his heart.

It's like we are never on our own, Allah has control on our hearts. We might be determined to do something but we don't do it...why? Because Allah doesn't allow it. Or we might be aiming to achieve something but Allah inspires us to do otherwise. Like in the case of a believer...if somehow he inclines towards kufr or shirk, if Allah wills, then He comes between him and his heart and changes his feelings/saves him OR it might be the other way round too (na'uzubillah)!

So we need to HASTEN to respond to Allah, His commands and ask/beg Him to make us firm on the truth...As we never know if we are slow in responding to His orders...there might come a time when Allah might seal our hearts...so that we are never able to implement those important orders and no light of guidance shall enter into our hearts! NA'UZUBILLAH! Prophet sallallahu alyhi wasallam said, “The hearts are between two of Allah's fingers, He changes them (as He wills).” (Ahmed)

*[8:25] Allah warns His believing servants of a Fitnah, trial and test, that encompasses the wicked and those around them. Therefore, such Fitnah will not be restricted to the sinners and evildoers. Rather, it will reach the others if the sins are not stopped and prevented. Mother of the believers Umm Salamah said, I heard the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) saying; “If sins become apparent in my Ummah, Allah will surround them with punishment from Him.” She said; ‘O RasoolAllah! Will they have righteous people among them then?’ He said; “BALAA (YES)!” She said; ‘What will happen to them?’ He said; “They will be stricken as the other people, but they will end up with Allah's forgiveness and pleasure!” (Ahmad, 6:304)

Do read the explanation of Ayahs 20-30 of Surah Al Anfaal...Mind blowing SubhanAllah! This was from ayah 25.

*[8:27] Do not be dishonest with Allah and His Prophet. When a person doesn't fulfill the commands of Allah, he is being dishonest e.g if we don't perform the Wudhu correctly or we don't pray Salah properly.

*[8:29] If you fear Allah, Allah will grant you Furqan – a criterion differentiate between right and wrong and He will remove from you your misdeeds and forgive you.

*[8:37] a person is bankrupt in reality when his wealth, children and hard work of his whole life won't repay him in Akhirah. He'll be empty handed then.

*[8:40] Scared? Alone? Remember, Your Rabb is your Mawla – Protector. And He is your Naseer – Helper. And Excellent is He as the protector, and Excellent is He as the helper. So seek His Help and trust His decisions for you!

JUZ 10 – POINTS TO PONDER

Surah Al Anfal Ayahs 41 to 75

*[8:41] Wealth belongs to Allah. We must be careful when spending the wealth we have, whether we are spending in a good cause or not.

*Here the distribution of war gains is discussed as part of Imaan.

*Only Imaan (belief) is not enough we must take appropriate actions according to our Imaan.

8:42 Ghazwa of Badr: Sometimes situations looks very unfavourable but there is khair in such situations too. Muslims were not ready for a war but still they fought trusting their Rabb. **رضيت بالله ربا**

*[8:43-45] Seek Allah's help, be patient and steadfast during difficulties. Sometimes there is khair in them. The problem usually is huge but Allah lessens its effect on His servant so that he can deal with it according his capability.

*Remember Allah with dua and tasbeeh when you fear people or situations. Think about the khair in this fear-you will remember Allah otherwise it might be possible that you might not remember Him in this busy life.

*[8:46] We must obey Allah and His beloved Prophet and not fight among ourselves because these differences weaken us as a community and our Deen.

*[8:48] Sometimes we feel so "good" and strong and we feel like no one or no hardship can overcome us – this is from shaytan who is trying to make you forget about Allah. Always know you are completely dependent on Allah, even for a new shoelace!

* In the Ghazwa of Badr, shaytan was present in physical form among the kuffars and was encouraging them, but when he saw the army of angels with Muslims, he ran away saying I fear Allah.

*[8:49] Human always consider the benefits and losses of this world. But if a believer takes risk and spend it in the way of Allah, the people around him call him "deluded".

*[8:50] Make dua your soul will be taken by the angels of Mercy and not by the angels of Punishment.

[8:51] Allah is never unjust. The denial and arrogance of disbeliever becomes a cause of punishment for them.[

*[8:53] Stay away from sins, ungratefulness, complaining and forgetting your obligations. For if you do all that, mercy and blessings of Allah might cease to reach you.

*[8:58] Stay away from being treacherous whether to Muslims or Non Muslims. Allah doesn't like the traitors. We must honest in every aspect of our life in our relations, our job, our studies everything.

*[8:63] Only Allah can bring hearts together. For example family members who've become enemies, turn to Allah and ask Him to soften the hearts. Choosing sides, trying to manipulate or even bribe others won't work; in the end it's only Allah who brings the hearts together.

*Care and love for each other is part of our Imaan. You cannot correct a person with hateful behaviour.

*[8:64] Ask yourself: is Allah really sufficient for me or do I keep seeking other people or other means in times of hardship? Am I satisfying myself with posting "statuses" on social media or with the remembrance of Allah?

*Follow the teachings of your beloved Prophet (sallAllahu alayhi wasallam) as it is the key to gaining Allah's way and Love.

*Allah's help is all what a believer needs in this life.

*[8:66] Be Patient as Allah always helps those who are patient. He withholds something from you only to give you more.

*The help from Allah is proportionate to the amount of Sabr a believer has.

*[8:72] Hijrah has a bid significance in Islam. In the age of wordly attractions that we are living in,doing Ibadah is also a form of Hijrah because we leave the attractions of the world to do our Ibadah.

Surah At Tawbah Ayahs 1 to 91

We do not recite 'Bismillah....' when beginning Surah at Tawbah, because Prophet (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam) didn't teach us to do so and because 'Bismillah' is a sign of peace while this surah starts with Allah's orders to fight those who pose a threat to Deen.

*[9:5] Know which are the four sacred months: Muharram, Rajab, Dhul qa'dah and Dhul hijjah...the reward for good deeds is multiplied during these months and sins have serious consequences,

*[9:11] Whoever becomes Muslim- Allah forgives all his previous sins. How many times do you hear: “O really, she became Muslim now? She always used to go clubbing!” “He is a Muslim now, he was like the biggest player ever!”

Never hold a new Muslim accountable for anything they did, nor remind them or others of their bad deeds in jahiliyyah unless they mention them as examples themselves.

*To be a Muslim, one must deny polytheism, establish prayer, and give alms (zakat).

*[9:13] Never fear any person or anything or situation more than Allah.

*[9:14] Sometimes Allah punishes or rewards people through the hands of other people. Ask Allah to use you as a tool to benefit Islam and the Muslims!

*[9:16] Don't complain when you are being tested, see it as an opportunity to bring you one step closer to Jannah.

Next time you are tested, try it, first say alhamdulillah alaa kulli haal – in every situation) instead of “I can't believe this!”

*[9:18] Building and maintaining Masajid of Allah, keeping them clean and always full of remembrance of Allah is the duty of Muslims who perform prayers, give zakah and fear Allah. It's from the acts most beloved to Allah.

{Check out this lovely documentary about maintainance of Al Masjid Al Haram in Makkah:

*[9:19] But these acts are not more pleasing to Allah than having a firm believe in Him and preparing for the Last Day.

*[9:22] There is no limit to the rewards given by Allah on the Last Day to the believers.

*[9:24] Love of Allah and His Prophet (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam), love of striving to follow their teachings, for working to spread His deen should be more than love of our ego, family, wealth, jobs and beloved possessions.

*We must obey and love Allah and His Messenger more than our families. We have such passion that all other things become secondary.

* We spent our whole life running after the worldly things- good education, good house, good job, good spouse but we can't take any of these things with us. So our priority must be striving for Akhirah and gaining this world must be secondary.

*What do your actions show – where does your love really lie? Check yourself.

If you had an opportunity now to go to a place where you could help and defend the oppressed Muslims- would you, really?

*[9:25] Victory comes from Allah not by a good support of people.

*[9:26] Allah has armies from the unseen that can help and protect you. Always beg Allah to protect you and your children.

*[9:27] Allah accepts repentance for the greatest misdeeds. Are we even truly accepting the apologies of those who wronged us? Sometimes we say “that apology isn't good enough” or we say “it's ok” but we don't mean it. Be more accepting for the sake of Allah.

*[9:28] The thought of a disbeliever is “impure” because he has included other beings with Allah

*[9:32-33] Islam is the only religion that Allah will make victorious over all other religions, no matter what the haters plan and do to spoil its image.

*[9:34-35] Don't hoard your money or keep on saving it, not wanting to give some sadaqah. Be generous!

-The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “There is no day on which the people get up but two angels come down and one of them says, ‘O Allaah, give in compensation to the one who spends (in charity),’ and the other says, ‘O Allaah, destroy the one who withholds.’” (Narrated by al-Bukhaari, 1374; Muslim, 1010)

-The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) also said: “Allaah said: ‘Spend, O son of Adam, and I shall spend on you.’” (Narrated by al-Bukhaari, 5073; Muslim, 993)

*Here the punishment, of the ones who don't pay Zakah, is mentioned that how their wealth that they kept to themselves will be heated in the Fire and their body parts will be "seared" by them.

Astaghfirullah! Such a painful punishment.

*[9:37] Ask Allah to always make you aware when you should do tawbah – some people's hearts keep bothering them after sinning to repent- while others don't even realize the bad of their deeds, in fact they are enjoying their bad habits (eg coming together with friends and gossip). Pray for a heart that gets restless when you sin!

*[9:39] If you don't strive in Allah's way, Allah will put others in your way. Don't be of those who are easily replaced, leave a legacy!

*[9:40] Believe with all your heart, that if you are a doer of good deeds for the sake of Allah then HE is with you always. His help, His support and love is always with you no matter what, no matter when...even if the whole world is against you!

Do not grieve; indeed Allah is with us <3

*[9:45] Only those person is lazy in Deen whose Imaan is weak.

*[9:51] Whatever Allah has written in our destiny is bound to happen...we cant change it. So always hope for the best...and don't let negative feelings stop you from doing good deeds and going forth in the way of Allah! Eeman in Qadr is a part of Eeman!

It is reported in Musnad Ahmad and Sunan Abi Dawud on the authority of Ibn Ad-Dailami that he said: I went to Ubai bin Ka'b (May Allah be pleased with him) and I said to him "There is something within me (doubt) -regarding Al-Qadar. Please narrate to me something that perhaps by it Allah would take it (doubt) from my heart." He said, "Even if you spend gold equal to the weight of Uhud mountain, Allah will not accept it until you believe in Qadar. And know that what has afflicted you was not to miss you and what has missed you was not to afflict you and if you die believing something other than this, then you are one of the people of Hell-fire." I then went to Abdullah bin Mas'ud, and Hudhaifa bin Al-Yaman and Zaid bin Thabit (May Allah be pleased with him) and they all reported something similar from the Prophet (May the peace and blessing of Allah be upon him) to me.

(The above quoted Hadith is Sahih. Al-Hakim reported it in his collection Sahih.)

*[9:54] Sign of hypocrisy: laziness in Salah and unwilling to spend wealth in the path of Allah.

*[9:55] and [9:85] Do not wonder and be amazed at the shower of favors on the those who are away from Deen or the disbelievers. Allah only gives them to make them increase in sin through those blessings. It is actually a punishment for them as it makes them more arrogant.

*[9:58] The people who live and think only about themselves and their well being are hypocrites.

*[9:59] Tell yourselves 'Hasbunallah" (Allah is enough for us). Be happy with all that comes from Allah, and be content with Him. Because you see, He *is* enough. And when He is enough for you, then all that comes from Him in this life will become enough for you – it will fill your heart. This is a powerful mindset to adopt because it makes you feel instantly capable and you find yourself embracing many things with a confident spirit.

*[9:60] Know the recipients of zakah (yearly obligatory charity). Zakah expenditures are only for the poor(who don't have anything) and for the needy (who have some but less than their needs) and for those employed to collect [zakah] by the government and for bringing hearts together [for Islam] and for freeing captives [or slaves] and for those in debt and for the cause of Allah and for the [stranded] traveler even if he is well off at home – an obligation [imposed] by Allah. And Allah is Knowing and Wise.

*[9:65-66] Whoever ridicules/makes fun of a Muslim woman or man for sticking to and applying the teachings of Islam is a disbeliever. This is regardless of whether it is concerning woman's hijab, or a man's long beard, or any other matter of the Shari'ah.

This is based on the following narration from Abdullah Ibn Umar:

► At a gathering during the Battle of Tabuk, one man said, "I have not seen anyone like our Quranic readers who is more desirous of food, more lying in speech and more cowardly when meeting the

enemy.” His companion said, “You have lied and you are a liar. I shall definitely tell the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) about that.”

That news was conveyed to the Messenger of Allah and Allah [subhanahu wa taála] revealed on him a verse of the Quran about that topic. Abdullah ibn Umar added, “I saw the man holding on to the bag of the camel of the Messenger of Allah and the dust was striking him while he was saying, ‘O Messenger of Allah, we were just joking and playing. The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) was simply saying the verse of the Quran that was revealed to him right then],

•► “Was it Allah, and His Signs and His Messenger you were mocking? Make no excuse, you have disbelieved after you had believed. If We pardon some of you, We will punish others among you because they were sinners” (al-Tauba 65-66).

SubhanAllah, ridiculing believers has been equated with ridiculing Allah, His Signs and His Messenger.

*[9:67] To stop someone from doing good deeds is also hypocrisy.

*[9:71] A relationship of a Momin with another Momin is unique. They are like bricks of a strong wall, all the bricks are held together with trust and love.

*[9:72] There are great rewards for the believing men as well as believing women. They will own gardens beneath which rivers are flowing. But the greatest reward the believers will get is the رضا (approval) of Allah! SubhanAllah!

*Stop being worried about the approval of people. Ask for Allah’s ridwaan (approval, pleasure) – this is the best you can ever attain.

*[9:75] Never say “if I had the money, I would give that and that charity” and then when you have the money you don’t.

Allah knows your intention. Give when you have little and when you have more...invest for the life of your Akhirah!

The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “Whoever gives charity equal to a date from good (halal) earnings – for Allaah does not accept anything but that which is good – Allaah will take it in His right hand and tend it for the one who gave it as any one of you tends his young horse, until it becomes like a mountain.” (Narrated by al-Bukhaari, 1344; Muslim, 1014)

*[9:81] Never make the hot weather an excuse to avoid doing good deeds. Be it going to the masjid for obligatory prayers for brothers, or fasting long hot days or wearing hijab for sisters, or helping out the poor or other such projects for the sake of Allah. Remember! The intensity of the fire of Hell is much greater than the heat of this world. Do all that you can to be protected from it!

*[9:87] Those people who turn away from good deeds, Allah seals their hearts.

* Not knowing Deen is not a good thing, we must try to learn and understand the Deen.

JUZ 11 – POINTS TO PONDER

Surah At Tawbah Ayahs 92 to 129

*[9:92] When you have a chance to work for a project to spread the message of Islam, be eager to help out. Don’t be like the hypocrites of Madina, backing out making lousy excuses instead of striving with their lives and wealth for the sake of Allah!

*[9:94-96] These ayahs are about the hypocrites who didn’t take part in the battle, Allah سبحانه و تعالی is not pleased with them. The ones previously mentioned in ayah 92 were genuinely unable to take part in the battle but they were sincere in their devotion, Allah, the exalted, is pleased with them.

*[9:99] Sadaqah is a means of gaining closeness to Allah. The Sadaqah is the one whose appreciation you don’t want from the people, you only do it for Allah سبحانه و تعالی .

- *[9:100] Race to do good deeds for the sake of Allah, just like Muhajiroon and Ansar of Madina at the time of the Prophet (sallAllahu ‘alayhi wasallam). Allah has promised them His pleasure and paradise.
- *For a greater reward, our hearts must be focuses towards the right direction, you accept Islam as your Deen, Allah as your Rabb and Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم as Allah’s Rasool.
- *[9:101] If we don’t stop sinning, Allah can be punish us in this life and the Hereafter. Remind yourself; the punishment in the Hereafter is even worse.
- *[9:102-103] The ones who know they have sinned and guilty about it should ask for forgiveness and give sadaqa as it purifies their soul and causes their wealth to increase.
- *[9:104] When we do something good for a person we think that that we are doing good for them but in reality Allah is accepting this good deed from us and increases its reward according to our sincerity.
- *[9:108] No good deed is accepted without Ikhlas. Build masjid for the sake of Allah. The Prophet (sallAllahu alyhi wasallam) said, “Whoever builds a mosque for the sake of Allaah, like a sparrow’s nest or even smaller, Allaah will build for him a house in Paradise.” (Ibn Majaah-738 Classed as saheeh by al-Albaani)
- *[9:108] In this ayah, Allah تعالى و سبحانه has praised the people of Masjid Quba. They purify themselves and Allah loves them.
- *We must make a point of staying in Wudhu during the day and make Wudhu before going to sleep.
- *[9:109] Build or start any business or project with a foundation of taqwa (ie observing the rules of Allah). If you build any business or venture without following Allah’s rules it will collapse.
- *[9:111] Can you believe that you, a human being, can do a transaction/a trade with the Lord of the Worlds Himself? You strive for Him, for just a few moments in this temporary world, with your person and your wealth and you get eternal pleasure, peace and success!
Wouldn’t a fool decline a transaction like this? Yet many are not willing to aid Islam nor raise their children to benefit the Ummah!
- *Allah تعالى و سبحانه has acquired the wealth and lives of the believers in exchange of Jannah <3 These believers must rejoice on this beautiful transaction as they have devoted their lives and wealth for the sake of Allah!
- * We have the world and the Akhirah, both in front of us. But what is our priority when we have to make a choice between the two?
- *[9:112] True believers are those who race to this transaction with Allah! They are the repentant, the worshippers, the praisers [of Allah], the travelers [for His cause], those who bow and prostrate [in prayer], those who enjoin what is right and forbid what is wrong, and those who observe the limits [set by] Allah. Are you one of them?
- *[9:113] You can not ask for forgiveness for polytheists, whether they are relatives or not.
- *[9:115] Allah تعالى و سبحانه has always made the halal and haraam clear for a nation, but even then if the people deny it then they are misguided.
- *[9:117] The more hardship you face in doing good, the more Ajr you get.
- * Sometimes the opportunities for good deeds are in front of us but we find it difficult to step forward – a small daily example is doing Wudhu and praying Salah in winters. Even if you don’t want to get out of bed, get up and pray. Allah تعالى و سبحانه will not consider your unwillingness because He is Ever forgiving, Ever Merciful.
- *[9:118] Never be lazy and ignorant in fulfilling obligatory duties. If you have an opportunity of doing a good deed just do it...it might be your only source of entering jannah. Never be lazy.
- *[9:119] Having “good friends” is not just an extra, Allah commands us to be with the saadiqeen (those who are true to Allah)! Do you befriend people because of their status, money or looks or because of their Deen?

*[9:122] Every community should have a special group of people who possess authentic knowledge of Deen. They should regularly check on their people, keep reminding them of the rules and obligations set by Allah and impart knowledge to all who seek it.

* There must be centres made exclusively to teach Deen so the people from far away places and villages (where this facility doesn't exist) can come, learn from here and then preach to their people back home.

* By learning this Ilm, we do a job for Allah and Allah helps such people through ghaib.

* knowledge is Prophets legacy! By gaining knowledge we are acquiring a part of the Prophets' legacy.

*[9:124] Ask Allah that whenever you read a surah or its translation, it increases you in eemaan. And eemaan means faith and action!

*[9:127] Some people say that it is better not to know about Deen so that we won't be answerable in Akhirah. Rather this lack of knowledge will cause utmost humiliation to them on the Last Day

*[9:128] Our beloved Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم was not just a teacher. He (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) cared for us, our guidance and our Akhirah, without even knowing us. Show and prove your love for him by following his ways. Learn a new sunnah and share it with others! :)

*[9:129] What happens when you say: "hasbiyallahu laa ilaaha illaa huwa 'alayhi tawakkaltu wa huwa Rabbul 'arshil 'adheem" SEVEN times in the morning and evening, every single day inshaaAllah?

Allah will grant you whatever you desire from this world and the next! (hadith reported in Abu Dawud and Ibn As-Sunni).

Start saying this amazing dua each day!

Surah Yunus Ayahs 1 to 109

*[10:3 & 31] Allah established Himself above the Throne arranging all the matters of the entire creation, that means that He manages the affairs of every single thing out there, be it the skies, earth, animals, insects, birds, humans or the unborn in the bellies of all females. We have to trust in Him, in His Decisions for us as He is Al Mudabbir [Arranger and Planner of all affairs]. He is able to manage all our matters, perfectly! SubhanAllahi wa bihamdihi!

*There is no intercessor except after His permission.

*[10:4] Know that the Day of Judgment is there to establish justice for each one of us.

*[10:5] Allah سبحانه و تعالی has not made the sun and the moon and the calculation of years without any purpose. There are signs for the people who want to ponder.

*[10:6] When you see the evening fall, and days and nights altering, remember Allah.

*[10:7] No belief in the meeting of Allah, all focus toward enjoying Dunya and heedlessness towards Qur'an and its rulings...this is the attitude of the people of hellfire. May Allah protect us from being of them!

*[10:9-10] Imaan and action go hand in hand. If one increases the other also increases. E.g Increase in Imaan causes us to hurry to Salah. Salah gives us peace and we race to other good deeds. Good deeds give us satisfaction and we gain strength to do sabr in difficult situations and so on.

*Allah promises delight & success for those who believed in Allah and His Messenger and complied with what they were commanded to follow. Allah promises that He will guide such people because of their eemaan or through their eemaan! This means:

1) When people have eemaan & strive to do good, Allah increases them in guidance & good! 2) Because of their eemaan, Allah will guide them on the Day of Qiyamah, on the Siraat (Slippery Bridge) till they reach Paradise!

As Mujahid said; "Their faith will be a light in which they will walk."

And on reaching Paradise, they will glorify and praise Allah due to extreme pleasure and delight. Allah will make dhikr & tasbeeh second nature to them — easy, natural, automatic!

O Allah we beg you to make us of the people of Paradise, with whom you are Pleased! Reserve a place for us in your vast Jannah ya Rabb!

10:10 If we have the attitude of saying الحمد لله for everything in this world then InshaAllah when we are entered into Jannah, we'll say الحمد لله upon entering there too!

10:11-12 When a person faces a test or goes through difficult times, he remembers Allah سبحانه و تعالی all the time while lying, standing or sitting.

*[10:13] Reflect over the kindness and mercy of your Rabb! Isn't it amazing how He never responds to calls and duas of people which they make in a state of hasty anger, grief against themselves, their children or their wealth, e.t.c. because they do not truly intend it. But you must be careful and avoid praying for evil as much as you can as the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) said: "Do not pray against yourselves, do not pray against your children, do not pray against your wealth, for your prayer may coincide with a time of response from Allah and Allah will respond to your prayer." (Abu Dawood 2:185)

*[10:14] Do you realize the honour and responsibility Allah gave to every single Muslim on this earth? You can't just live heedlessly- you have to show the world an example. Ask Allah to give you awareness of your role on this earth.

*[10:22] At times of extreme difficulty when you call out to Allah with a sincere heart, Allah removes you from that state.

*[10:24 & 45] Remind yourself in times of hardship but also in times of ease that this life is only temporary. Don't get too comfortable in it, making you lose focus on your final destination.

*[10:26] RACE to do good deed because Allah has saved the best reward for you and زِيَادَةٌ EXTRA. What does Allah mean by 'EXTRA'?

Among Hadiths is what Imam Ahmad recorded from Suhayb that Allah's Messenger (sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam) recited this Ayah, **لِّلَّذِينَ أَحْسَنُوا الْحُسْنَىٰ وَزِيَادَةٌ**

(For those who have done good is the best and even more) And then he said: "When the people of Paradise enter Paradise, a caller will say: 'O people of Paradise, Allah has promised you something that He wishes to fulfill.' They will reply: 'What is it Has He not made our Scale heavy Has He not made our faces white and delivered us from Fire' Allah will then remove the veil and they will see Him. By Allah, they have not been given anything dearer to them and more delightful than looking at Him." (Muslim and a group of Imams also related this Hadith)

*Know that the rewards and pleasure in Paradise will be GREATER than the good deeds you did but the punishment of sins will be EQUAL to the sins committed. Isn't Allah Ar Raheem?

*[10:31] Allah سبحانه و تعالی has given us the ability to see and hear. We must acknowledge it and ask Allah سبحانه و تعالی for our needs as He is our Rabb.

*[10:45] When disbelievers are resurrected on the Last Day they will say that we got such a short time in the world. It's like we just came to know a few people and the time ended.

*[10:57] Quran is the cure for the diseases of heart (nifaq, grudges, lies etc). Quran is a blessing, it is the guidance. Next time you feel sad, anxious, depressed, hurt or angry, try it, pick up the Qur'an and read it and ask Allah to let it calm you down. It does help!

*[10:58] Read what Allah says in this ayah. He says that the Qur'an is the biggest blessing that has come down to us. It's a blessing that is way way way better than every other blessing that humans desire to accumulate. So if you are guided to read it, recite it, understand and reflect on its verses and put them

to practice, Allah says: **فَلْيَفْرَحُوا**-CELEBRATE (this blessing), be happy about it. Because this is better than every other favor from Allah, it truly is the best of all gifts from Allah! :')

We should be grateful for this blessing from our hearts, our tongues and by our actions...by always reading the Qur'an, acting on it and teaching it to others.

*[10:60] Majority of people are not grateful. Shukr of Quran is acting upon its teachings and spreading its message.

*[10:61] Allah is watching! Think about how the quality of our Salah will change if we know our friends or family is watching us. Whatever we are doing is being recorded in a clear register.

*[10:62] Be of the friends of Allah, the ones who love each other for the sake of Allah and who are always busy in doing good. For them Allah has promised that they shall have no fear, worries or grief on the Last Day.

*[10:71] Do not be of those who deny the ayaat of Allah. The nation of Nuh (alayhissalam) rejected their prophet and denied the signs so Allah punished them with a huge flood and drowned them.

*[10:76] Magic can never overpower the Qur'an. Always protect yourself by reading the Qur'an.

*[10:78] Be careful of having negative assumptions when people advise you. Just take "what" they advise you instead of wondering "why" they are advising you.

*[10:81] Jinns and black magic are not powerful than the Quran as It is Haqq.

*[10:83] Never keep away from doing any Islamic obligation because you are scared of what opposing parties might do to you.

Instead make this dua:

Rabbanaa laa taj'alnaa fitnatal lil qawmidh dhaalimeen – Our Lord make us not (objects of) trial for the wrongdoing people!

*[10:87] At times of chaos in Deen, masjid can be established in houses and congregations can be held. Do not leave off prayer in any conditions!

*[10:90] Tawbah (repentance) at the time of death will never be accepted.

*[10:92] Allah has made the body of Fir'awn an ibrah a sign for all to see and learn from. Do not tread the same path as him, a path of arrogance, ignorance & the attitude: "whatever! I know what's right"

*[10:96] Those who don't strive for the Truth can't see the Truth. Just like if you're not hungry you won't look for food, but if you're hungry you'll search for it.

*[10:98] The people of Prophet Yunus alaihissalam repented and corrected themselves before Allah sent his punishment. Be of the wise ones. Repent and turn to Allah before it's too late!

*[10:99] Never try to force anyone to believe in Allah -after inviting them, the hidayah is from Allah.

*[10:101] Ponder on the creation of this earth and the skies,

*[10:106] Shirk is not allowed in any form. Make dua only to Allah سبحانه و تعالی , prostrate only to Him, sacrifice only for His sake.

*[10:107] Know that if Allah should touch you with adversity, there is no remover of it except Him; and if He intends for you good, then there is no repeller of His bounty. He causes it to reach whom He wills of His servants. And He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.

Both these states of hardship and goodness are directed to every slave of Allah and this is why He says afterwards: 'Yuseebu bihi' (causes it to reach) – i.e. it's like a spear or targeted arrow which never misses the spot. We usually associate this example with bad things, but we never think about how it also relates to good things. When the khayr (good) is directed at you, it will never miss you, so don't think that your life is bereft of good stuff when all it takes is one intent from Allah and before you know it, His bounties are poured over you. But if you must struggle in your life, then realise it will merely be like a touch before it is lifted from you, so in both cases, rejoice and take delight in the beautiful way that Allah works in our lives.

Allahu Akbar.

*[10:108] The Truth is clear. The ones who accept benefit themselves and the ones who reject cause their own destruction.

Surah Hud Ayahs 1 to 6

*[11:3] Repent and seek forgiveness often. From the benefits of istighfar is that Allah forgives sins and sends showers of His blessings and provision.

* We are either in a state of peace or in a state of difficulty. When in peace we must remember Allah سبحانه و تعالی by saying “Alhamdulillah” and when in difficulty remember The Exalted by saying “Astaghfirullah”

JUZ 12 – POINTS TO PONDER

Surah Hud Ayahs 6 to 123

*[11:6] Allah KNOWS every creature’s rizq (provision) and place of rest even though there are millions of creatures in the universe.

*[11:7] He created the seven heavens seven earths and the Arsh and all of us...why? TO TEST US! All khair and shar comes to us to test us....to see which one of us is BEST in deeds.

*[11:9] Don’t despair and don’t be ungrateful when you face a problem. It’s just a test from Allah so be a true believer and show patience while continuing to do good deeds as this will cleanse your soul and bring out great reward.

إِلَّا الَّذِينَ صَبَرُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ أُولَئِكَ لَهُمْ مَغْفِرَةٌ وَأَجْرٌ كَبِيرٌ

Except for those who are patient and do righteous deeds; those will have forgiveness and great reward. (ayah 11)

Only place in the Quran where Allah accompanies الصَّالِحَاتِ وَعَمِلُوا with صَبَرُوا instead of ءامنو showing us that at the times of tests and trials, be it of ease or difficulty....no doubt sabr is important but accompanying that sabr with continuous good A’mal is necessary too. That’s the real purpose of the test...to make us *learn to continue* with good deeds with sabr *in spite of the burden of the test we are facing.*

That’s where the mercy and ajr of Allah comes and raises us in degrees of righteousness! :’)

*[11:10] When you get out of trouble or solve a problem, never fall into the trap of saying “Because I did this and this everything was ok”. Remember, it was only Allah who took you out of that situation. Instead of boasting, say Alhamdulillah.

*[11:13-14] Are you not convinced when you read the Quran that it is the truth? We know the Quran and everything in it is the truth, but do we follow the instructions in it as well?

*[11:15-16] Whoever does a good deed only to gain some benefit in the life of this world and doesn’t have any intention of pleasing Allah nor preparing for the meeting with Him, will have nothing but the Fire in the Akhirah.

Allah will give them what they have desired.

*[11:23] Be humble. If you want to go to jannah, you have to adopt humility alongwith having eeman and doing good deeds.

*[11:24] The one who accepts the Truth and the one who denies the Truth can never be equal.

*[11:27] When you hear something good don’t judge the person, listen and value his wise words.

*[11:29] Whoever has spread the message of Truth, he has purified himself from the worldly desires. Working for Deen is a noble act, it is a blessing. When you are appointed by Allah then you must not worry about the world.

*[11:38] Whenever you do something for the sake of Allah and people laugh at you, don’t get embarrassed or discouraged. Just think of Nuh alayhi sallam when he was constructing the Ark; his reward is with Allah. The mockers will be ridiculed on the Day of Judgement and you will be laughing inshaaAllah!

*[11:41] Saying bismillah before any significant deed is one of the most powerful habits you can teach yourself and your children!

*[11:43] Hazrat Nuh عليه السلام has served the Deen for such a long time, he was a pious man. But when his son didn't accept the Truth even he was not spared and faced the punishment.

*We must not be proud of our caste or the pious forefathers in our families as they will not be able to save us from the consequences of our shortcomings.

*[11:45] Name, caste, lineage, righteous parents will never help to save us from Allah's punishment. Only our righteous deeds will help us and save us.

*[11:47] Even after doing so many good deeds, even after calling his people to Allah for 950 years, even being a prophet, Nuh ('alayhissalam) feared Allah would be angry at him, for questioning about the fate of his son! What about us? Do we dare to question Allah for His decisions for us?

Let's learn from Prophet Nuh and memorize his dua:

رَبِّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ أَنْ أَسْأَلَكَ مَا لَيْسَ لِي بِهِ عِلْمٌ وَإِلَّا
تَغْفِرْ لِي وَتَرْحَمْنِي أَكُنُ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ

"My Lord, I seek refuge in You from asking that of which I have no knowledge. And unless You forgive me and have mercy upon me, I will be among the losers."

*[11:49] We must be patient and always be hopeful. If you see someone committing a major sin, don't

think that he/she may never be guided. We must not stop امر بالمعروف و نهي عن المنكر

*[11:50] The crime of the people of Aad was that they followed the evil chiefs and elite of their clan and rejected Allah and His Messenger. Do we see a similar behaviour in our communities?

*[11:52] Seeking forgiveness of Allah and repenting to Him brings about provisions and strength! Nabi (saw) taught this dua to a man:

“اللهم اغفر لي، وارحمني، واهدني، وعافني، وارزقني”

"O Allah! Forgive me, have mercy on me, protect me and provide me with sustenance." He (sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam) said: 'Surely, this supplication is better for you in this life and in the Hereafter.' (Riyad as Saliheen, Book of Du'a Book 17, Hadith 1469)

Let's memorize it. A du'a for khair in both worlds!

*[11:56] Everything and every matter of our lives is in Allah's control.

*[11:60&68] Here the punishment of the people are told so we can take heed and do not lose this only chance of pleasing Allah سبحانه و تعالی .

*[11:72-73] When good and wonderful things come to the slave – and they will come often insha'Allah – do not be so caught up in amazement and stunned thought. Your Lord is able to do anything. The Command and Decree of Allah is not a surprise for the slave who knows the Power and Capability of Allah. This is why the angels exclaimed back, 'Do you wonder at the Decree of Allah? May the mercy of Allah be upon you...' See, at the point when you recognise a great ni'mah (blessing) of Allah, there is a blessed moment in which your initial reaction is recorded with heaviness on the scale. What is required of you at that point is immediate gratitude, and for you to praise Allah, and exalt Him without delay. This is just one of the reasons why the verse ends with 'Indeed, He is Praiseworthy and Honorable' – Allah is reminding us (through the words of his angels) about our actions at such a moment. He is effectively teaching us how to deal with Him and His Blessings.

It's easy for us to get caught up in the excitement of good news, but just as our immediate reaction to calamities should be patience and words of forbearance, likewise our immediate reaction to good news should be words of praise and gratitude. Don't stand there in wonder when the gates of khayr open up,

but hasten to words of praise and remembrance because that is what Allah wants to hear from us at that point. O Allah, grant us all news which delights us and causes us to praise You more and helps us remain in gratitude to You, ameen. [excerpt from reflections of Fajr Blog]

*[11:74] A believer is caring at heart. He not only worries about himself but for all his brothers and sisters in Deen. Prophet Ibrahim was given the good news in his old age of a son...his dua was finally accepted...he was happy for himself but then worried about the coming punishment on the people of Lut. The sincerity of the Prophets is such a beautiful thing to read about. These were legends; great men who desired nothing more than that Allah be worshipped in the land. They wanted nothing but guidance for their people. They didn't desire wealth, or fame, or social ranking... just that people turned to their Creator, and were saved in this life and the Next. Let's learn from the prophets!

*(11:77-83) The actions of the people of Lut ('alayhissalam) were forbidden by Allah, declared a major sin. Allah sends His curse and punishment on people who do this. Homosexuality is haraam! And we know from the verses of the Qur'an that those who support it (wife of Prophet Lut) will be with those who will be punished for doing this haraam act! Beware!

*[11:84-85] Never cheat when selling or even buying things, never alter weight, deceive people by certain types of marketing etc. Because of this act the people of Shuaib عليه السلام faced punishment.

*[11:88] When you advise people to good, explain with wisdom and kindness. Don't argue with them but explain that you only wish good for them and wish to be together with them in Jannah.

*[11:90] Another beautiful name of Allah: الودود. Extremely affectionate — He even loves the ones who do wrong and wants them to come back to the straight path.

*[11:97-98] Fir'awn was a leader to evil and oppressive actions in Dunya so he will be a leader on the Day of Qiyamah as well — a leader leading his followers to the Hell Fire.

*[11:102] A Hadeeth of our beloved Prophet (sallallahu alyhi wasallam) which gives me goose bumps every time I read it..

"Allah will let the wrongdoer continue until when He begins to punish him, He will never let him go."

Then He [sallallahu alyhi wasallam] recited (this ayah of Surah Hud),

"Such is the Seizure of your Lord when He seizes the (population of) the towns while they are doing wrong. Verily, His Seizure is painful, (and) severe." [Surah Hud 102] [Narrated by Muslim]

May Allah Ta'ala guide us and help us act on His guidance, before it gets too late.

*[11:106-108] Race to good deeds and to Jannah! The blessed ones with scales heavy with good deeds will have a pleasant eternal life in Jannah while those who were busy in doing evil deeds will end up screaming eternally in Hell Fire.

*[11:114] Good deeds wipe out bad deeds by the grace of Allah! If you feel guilty after sinning, do a good deed even if it is as simple as saying la ilaha illAllah...

*[11:119] Allah will fill Hell with jinn and men all together, pray you are not one of them!

*[11:120] When you feel down or weak in iman, read stories of the Prophets and ask Allah to make firm your heart thereby!

Allah has written numerous stories and examples in the Qur'an to console the Prophet (sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam) and his followers' hearts. All stories comfort us and make us learn sabr and tawakkal!

Surah Yusuf Ayahs 1 to 52

When the Yahood as Prophet Muhammad (sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam) about Yusuf ('alayhissalam) to test his knowledge, Allah revealed the whole story to inform him and as a form of consolation to him. It's a story full of lessons of all types for all ages. You will learn something new everytime you read this beautiful surah!

*[12:2] Make learning the Arabic language with the intention to understand the Quran a priority!

*[12:5] Dreams are of three types. Good dreams are from Allah. We should narrate them only to a loved one. Bad dreams are from shaytan to worry us. If we get a bad dream we should recite *istiaza* (A'aoodhubillahi min asshaytanir Rajeem) thrice and spit on the left and turn to the other side and not tell anyone about it. And third type is from your own mind of the happenings around you.

*Relay good dreams only to a loved one not to those of whom you fear jealousy.

*[12:8] Stay away from hasad/envy. Envy and eeman cannot stay together...it eats up good deeds and it's a characteristic of shaytan. A true servant of Allah cannot feel jealous—he is content with what Allah has chosen for Him, and for others.

Whenever you see Allah blessing people with what you also desire, then make du'aa for it instead of envying people. Ask Him of His bounties for you and the people. He is the Possessor of infinite treasures and He hears and responds to all duas!

*[12:9] You can't plan a bad deed and say "I will just repent afterwards!"

*[12:14] The difference between the heart and the tongue is called a lie. It is dangerous. If a person doesn't stop lying when he is fasting, his fast will be of no benefit for him.

*[12:18] Learn sabr from Prophet Ya'qoob ('alayhissalam). He controlled his sadness and his anger for the sake of Allah and accepted the decision of Allah. Would we react in the same way if a similar news is delivered to us?

*Whenever bad news comes to you, tell yourself: patience is most fitting (sabrun jameel).

*[12:23] There are seven whom Allaah will shade with His shade on the day when there will be no shade except His and one of them is a man who is called by a woman of rank and beauty and says 'I fear Allaah' [and turns away from the temptation]...(al-Bukhaari, no. 620; Muslim, no. 1712; and others).

*[12:24] • Having desires is natural for human beings but controlling them is being a Believer, having TAQWA. Human beings were created good and pure with a natural awareness of good and evil. The Almighty also created in humans desires and gave them an ability to control those desires according to the Divine law. We were given desires but also a conscience and ability to control them.

*[12:25] As a believer submitting to the commands of Allah, we need to RUN from fitna/temptation of all kinds. Whatever you feel can cause fitna for yourself or others in terms of eeman...run from it.

• If a person intends to do an evil action and keeps thinking about it, shaytan will never give up till he carries out that evil deed. So it is a must that the person strives against his evil thoughts and whispers of shaytan.

It is well known that the Nafs al-Ammarah bi-I-Su' [the soul inside that is ever commanding one to do evil] takes him here and there. So it is upon him to remember that Allah, Majestic and All-High, sees him and has full knowledge of him. He knows the eyes that betray trusts and that which the chests keep hidden. And that He, Majestic and All-High [is such that] nothing at all escapes Him. So it is upon him to keep bringing to his mind at all times that Allah sees him and has full knowledge of him; that he fear Him; that he repent to Allah; that he push his soul to do good, always and ever; and that he strive his utmost against it to do acts of obedience [to Allah] and make it remain upon acts of obedience.

The son of Imam Ahmad bin Hanbal narrates the following story about his father's death. Death had approached the pious and scholarly Imam, and the people around him were saying "Laailaahillallaah". Imam Ahmad went into a semi-conscious state and repeated, "No...not yet, not yet." This worried people around him as they did not expect a person of his piety to be warding death off. When Imam Ahmad regained consciousness, his son asked him about his statement. Imam Ahmad replied, "Shaitan came to me and said: 'Ahmad, you are free (meaning, I have lost you)!' To this, Imam Ahmad replied "No, not yet, not yet." [Imam Ahmad meant that a person never gets rid of Shaitan until he actually dies.]

*[12:30] Be busy in good deeds and don't interfere with the life of others and don't judge others. Allah might put you in a similar situation someday so don't be quick to think negative and be judgmental of

others. Everyone is imperfect and perfection belongs only to Allah! We all are struggling in one way or the other and we are nobody to judge others.

*[12:32] Committing a sin and then being proud of it and letting everyone know about it is piling sin upon sin and losing all chances of forgiveness from Allah!

*[12:35] Fear Allah and always seek His help to stay steadfast on His Deen and Allah will in turn help you and protect you from fitnah.

*[12:36-41] Are you of those who forget all their obligations, duties and manners when they are caught us in a huge problem?

Learn from Yusuf ('alahissalam)...He cared for the guidance of others and didn't forget his duties as a believer and called people to Allah even when he was in prison. He showed his excellent character even in prison so his fellow prisoners trusted him, confided in him and sought his help.

*[12:39-40] Call people to contemplate over the blessings of Allah and involve them in a friendly discussion to bring them to the right path instead of just lecturing them and commanding them to halal and haram.

* When you are doing dawah, use the best of loving and kind terms to talk to the people. Know that being gentle, loving and polite is an important factor while addressing the people. Use the best of speech and tell them about the mercy of Allah and His generosity showing them he still has a chance to reflect, repent and turn to Him in submission. This teaches us that no matter how rude or unpleasant the attitude of the people is, we should never be offended by their negative reactions, continue being kind to them, pray for them and never become tired of continuous work for His cause.

*We have to believe that Our Rabb is AlWaahid and Al Qahhar. He is the One and Only God. There is nothing and nobody like Him. He is the Most Powerful and has full power over His servants so He can give and withhold, give life and take it away by sending His angel to us and take away our soul any time He wills. He is All Able to send a punishment our way because of our sins from above or below us. He is the Only One who can save us from distress on land and in the darkness of the sea. So why can't we accept these facts with our hearts and minds and leave off shirk and bid'ah?

*[12:42] Effort + Patience + Trust In Allah = Success

Never think you have become successful due to your skills and hard work. It's always Allah Who made you so. That's because your skills and dedication are also from the blessings of Allah.

* Trust Allah when things don't work out the way you want. Allah has something better planned for you. Allah's Plan is the best.

* Make your iman so strong that no doubt, worry or difficulty shakes it.

* Stay connected with people you care for. Be kind and loving for the sake of Allah. Remember that love, which is for the sake of Allah, is above material needs; encouraging one another to do good deeds that are pleasing to Allah.

*[12:46] Don't feel bad if people remember you only when they need you. Feel privileged and consider it a blessing that Allah has chosen you to be like a candle that comes to their mind when there is darkness in their lives. Learn from the prophets and be kind to them for the sake of Allah! Expect reward just from Allah and not from the people.

*If Allah has given you a special talent or ilm then pass it to your fellow believers with expertise and do not be stingy. Sharing your knowledge, time and talents is also sadaqah.

*[12:47-49] Enjoy the blessings of Allah, eat and drink but avoid extravagance. Save for the future. Fear Allah regarding wasting of food and drink. Ask Allah to protect you and your family from deprivation of his blessings, food and water.

Prophet Muhammad (sallAllahu 'alayhiwasallam) used to make this dua for protection from a sudden change of fortune:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ زَوَالِ نِعْمَتِكَ، وَتَحَوُّلِ عَافِيَتِكَ،
وَفُجَاءَةِ نِقْمَتِكَ، وَجَمِيعِ سَخَطِكَ

“O ALLAH! I seek refuge in You from the decline of Your blessings, and changing of (my) state of well-being, the suddenness of Your punishment and any kind of displeasure from You.” [Saheeh Muslim 2739]

*[12:45-52] Never doubt the wise planning of Allah. He knows while you don't. Reflect on how Allah saved Yusuf (alayhissalam) from the prison.

“He could've sent a fierce wind or an earthquake to break Yusuf free, but instead Allah sent a dream. With Yusuf in full command over it. It's like a code was placed in the mind of the King, and a puzzle spread out in the land, but none of these people had the keys to it. Not even the King whose mind contained the puzzling dream.

Instead the solution was placed in the hands of Yusuf – a prisoner confined between walls. And the keys he was given not only solved the riddle and interpreted the dream, but they paved the way for his freedom and saved a nation from starvation and ruin. Contemplate the ways of Allah. They are not always straightforward, but they are wise and often mind-blowing.” [Fajr Blog]

JUZ 13 – POINTS TO PONDER

Surah Yusuf Ayahs 53 to 111

* From the qualities of Prophet Yusuf (alayhissalam) was that he was very handsome, caring, honest, trustworthy, protective and knowledgeable.

The last part of Surah Yusuf continues the story of Prophet Yusuf (Joseph) that was begun earlier in the chapter. There are many lessons that can be learned from his story of betrayal at the hands of his brothers.

*[12:53] The soul is a persistent enjoiner of evil. That's why controlling the soul is said to be the biggest jihad ever. The ones who control their selves from falling into evil are the best of Mujahideen. The Prophet (sall Allahu alayhi wasallam) used to recite this dua every morning and evening:

يَا حَيُّ يَا قَيُّوْمُ بِرَحْمَتِكَ أَسْتَغِيْثُ أَصْلِحْ لِيْ شَأْنِيْ كُلَّهُ
وَلَا تَكِلْنِيْ إِلَى نَفْسِيْ طَرْفَةَ عَيْنٍ

O Ever Living One, O Eternal One, by Your mercy I call on You to set right all my affairs. Do not place me in charge of my soul even for the blinking of an eye (i.e. a moment).

[Al-Hakim 1/545, Albani, Sahihut-Tarhib wat-Tarhib, 1/273.]

*Hazrat Yusuf عليه السلام had to spread the message of Allah that is why he wants to make his matter clear in front of the people. Sometimes it is better to clear your position in front of the people.

*[12:54] Whoever is honest in the matter of this world, that is dealing with people, honest with his job etc., then that person will be honest in spreading the Truth. He will not add or lessen anything by himself in the message.

*[12:56] The reward of a doer of good is never lost. Yusuf (alayhissalam) was tested so many times but he was patient and continued doing good deeds and Allah rewarded him with a high position job in the kingdom.

* When Prophet Yusuf (Joseph) was in prison, the two prisoners said to him, “Indeed we think that you are one of the Muhsinun (good-doers).” And when he came out of prison and ruled the land, it was also said to him, “Indeed we think that you are one of the Muhsinun (good-doers).” In this very chapter of Yusuf, Allah states, “We make not to be lost the reward of Al-Muhsinun (the good doers).”

Lesson learnt: Be a Muhsin (good-doer) irrespective of the position you find yourself in life and regardless of whether others do good towards you. Why? Because Allah loves the Muhsineen (good-doers) and their reward is never lost.

*[12:62] When you know the truth but still you wait for the right time – that is Sabr.

*[12:64] Allah is the best guardian and protector. Entrust all your affairs to Allah and be of the peaceful and content believers.

*Whenever you are going away from home, entrust your family and your home in Allah’s protection.

*[12:67] Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “The evil eye is real.” (Al-Bukhaari 5048 and Muslim 2187)

Prophet Yaqub (‘alayhissalam) feared the evil eye too, so ordered his sons not to enter together from one gate.

Always seek protection from the evil eye (‘Ain in Arabic and Nazar in Urdu) by reciting duas/adhkar of protection. [<http://islamqa.info/en/11359>]

Although it is correct that the evil eye comes from people who feel jealous (hasad), it may also come from a person who is not jealous but merely likes something, because of the hadeeth: “Whoever among you sees something in himself or in his possessions or in his brother that he likes, let him pray for blessing for it, because the evil eye is real.” (Classed as saheeh by al-Albaani in al-Kalim al-Tayyib, 243)

*Planning and taking precautions is important but in the end, one must trust Allah and His decisions for him.

وَعَلَيْهِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلِ الْمُتَوَكِّلُونَ

*[12:68] If you are a student of knowledge, then know that seeking knowledge has no end. There will also be someone more knowledgeable than you. But complete knowledge of everything lies only with Allah.

*[12:77] Never blame anyone specially when you do not know the truth.

*[12:83] Even after losing two of his beloved sons, Prophet Yaqoob continued being patient. Learn from him. Indeed sabr is a major part of eeman.

*[12:86] Like yaqoob (alayhissalam) cry, complain and ask Allah alone and not the people. Say,

إِنَّمَا أَشْكُو بَثِّي وَحُزْنِي إِلَى اللَّهِ

“I only complain of my suffering and my grief to Allah (Ayah 86)

People cannot help, if Allah doesn’t let them, so seek help just from Him and beg Him to answer your dua.

*[12:87] No matter how worse a situation is, never despair of relief from Allah! Indeed, no one despairs of relief from Allah except the disbelieving people. So – always be hopeful. Allah Taala always listens and responds no matter what the difficulty, no matter what the wish/desire/request just keep praying and asking Him because His promises are true. Just believe in Him with all your heart and stay away from Haram deeds in desperation!

*[12:90] Be a possessor of Taqwa and Sabr – as the one who has these two traits gathers all blessings of this world and the Hereafter!

*[12:91] It is never too late to confess your mistakes and say sorry to someone.

*[12:92] When Prophet Yusuf’s moment of truth arrives, and he finally tells his brothers who he really is, they admit before him that Allah has raised him in authority over them, and that they did wrong to him.

He then says the famous words that Prophet Muhammad repeated after the conquest of Makkah:

“This day let no reproach be on you..” and further, asked Allah to forgive them as well.

This is one of the most beautiful lessons to be learned from chapter Yusuf in dealing with difficult people: forgive them when they ask for pardon/admit their mistake, do not take revenge, and thenceforth dwell cordially with them.

*Both Hazrat Yusuf عليه السلام and Nabi صلى الله عليه وسلم had the power to take revenge, they were in much powerful position, but they humbled themselves. What do we do when we are in position to take revenge from someone?

Very few of us have family members plotting to kill us off. If Prophet Yusuf could forgive his brothers for 'ruining' his youth (apparently) and separating him from his parents for so many years, we can also try to forgive those who wrong us on a much lesser level, especially if they ask for pardon and change their behavior.

*[12:100] After Yusuf (alayhi salaam) is reunited with his parents and family, he says:

وَقَدْ أَحْسَنَ بِي إِذْ أَخْرَجَنِي مِنَ السِّجْنِ وَجَاءَ بِكُمْ مِنَ الْبَدْوِ مِنْ بَعْدِ
أَنْ نَزَعَ الشَّيْطَانُ بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَ إِخْوَتِي ۚ إِنَّ رَبِّي لَطِيفٌ لِمَا يَشَاءُ ۚ إِنَّهُ هُوَ
الْعَلِيمُ الْحَكِيمُ

“and He was indeed good to me, when He took me out of prison and brought you out of the desert after shaytan had sown enmity between me and my brothers. Certainly my Lord is Lateef to who He wills.

Truly, He Alone is the Most Knowing, Most Wise.” (12:100)

Yusuf (alayhi salaam) connects ihsaan (utmost good) and Lateef in this ayah, showing that he recognized the connection between Allah’s Lutf and His Ihsaan. Yusuf (alayhi salaam) went through many difficult trials, but he recognized that Allah was al-Lateef with him because Allah was good to him in a very discreet way. We would not think that those trials and difficulties were good for him, but they were. So, Allah will do ihsaan to someone without them realizing it, and He raises their status through ways they may dislike.

*The dream that he had seen in childhood came true after forty long and difficult years and it was worth the wait.

*[12:100-101] SubhanAllah! Can’t help but wonder how Yusuf (alayhissalam) must have felt when he saw his dear father and the rest of his family in front of him after all those years of separation, hardship and tests. Can’t help but wonder at his super strong eeman, patience & steadfastness during those difficult years and then his feeling of sheer gratefulness & love for the One who was with Him all along; Al Lateef Al Aleem Al Hakeem! :’)

This is the eeman & love, we should be working for. This characteristic – of being patient with the Decisions & Will of Allah, is what we should strive to learn. And this certainty that everything will make perfect sense in the end is what we badly need to ingest into our oft-worrying, poor, thick skulls!

(Mariam Anwer)

*Yusuf عليه السلام was abandoned by his brothers, he was sold into slavery selfishly, he was betrayed by Al ‘Aziz who he trusted. He was molested by a woman he worked for. He was thrown mercilessly into jail, when he was innocent. He genuinely helped two prisoners, and they forgot about him – leaving him to wait patiently in jail, all alone. Did Yusuf عليه السلام suffer hardships? Yes. But he was still stronger than them, he refused to break down. He was stronger, and through his tests he taught us that we are human – yes, but we have the ability and inner strength to overcome the tide. Everyone expects us break down in our storms, but we can be unrelenting in faith, and refuse to be the victim – this strength will help us stand, when everyone expects us to fall. (Alima Ashfaq)

*[12:111] There was certainly in their stories a lesson for those of understanding. Never was the Qur’an a narration invented, but a confirmation of what was before it and a detailed explanation of all things and guidance and mercy for a people who believe.

Surah Ra'ad

*[13:2] Look at the sky every day and think of your meeting with Allah.

*Everything in this Universe is in constant motion. Think about it the sun, moon, stars, planets, all the living things, even at night our bodies are functioning. Allah has arranged all these matters.

*[13:3] Allah has made pairs (male & female) in the plants too! It is possible for Allah to just grow the fruits without this arrangement but it is a clear sign for the ones who want to ponder. He has made the pair of every single living being on this earth. SubhanAllah!

*[13:4] From one single patch of land, Allah has grown different kinds of fruits, each having its own unique taste.

*[13:5] When Allah has made everything in such detail then how come disbelievers doubt that Allah will resurrect them?

*[13:6] Find a balance in being afraid for Allah's punishment and hope for His reward. Don't be too "strict" as it can make you give up (good deeds) – nor too "loose" as it can make you give in (to bad deeds)!

*[13:8] Allah سبحانه و تعالیٰ knows what is inside every womb, be it of a human or any other living being.

*[13:9] Allah is: الْكَبِيرُ الْمُتَعَالَى

The Grand, the Exalted. He knows everything in the heavens and the earth. Turn to Him and be sincere to Him.

*[13:10] He knows what have we said and what is still hidden in our hearts even if the people around us don't know.

*[13:11] If a person is not seeking guidance then the guidance will not reach him. He will gain only that much which he has desired.

[13:14] Do not ask/call anyone other than Allah. Those whom you call/ask other than Allah, can't do anything for you. They themselves are in need of Allah.

[13:15] Everything in the universe, even shadows prostrate to Allah with humility but disbelievers refuse to understand and submit.

[13:17] Be of those who are of benefit to the people as only such people feel happy and satisfied. Be merciful to the people and Allah will be the same and more to you!

*[13:21] Imagine a family member is continuously being nasty to you, would you even want to see them, let alone visit them out of yourself? However the Prophet salallahu alayhi wa sallam mentioned that the true wasil (one who joins or connects) is the one who tries to uphold family ties with those who "cut off" from him.

Ibn 'Umar said, "If someone fears his Lord and maintains ties of kinship, his term of life will be prolonged, he will have abundant wealth and his people will love him." (Grade: Hasan by Al-Albani - Reference : Al-Adab Al-Mufrad 58)

So make that phone call, buy a gift or go and visit that family member whom you were not in good contact with- and know for sure that, your reward is with Allah!

*[13:22] Those who are patient just for the sake of Allah and gazing at His Face will have Eternal Gardens as reward.

*[13:23] Make dua you will be together with your family in Jannah.

*[13:25] Never cut yourself off from family (unless it is to safeguard your Deen)- beat that ego!

*[13:28] Know, truly know, that from all that is out there, the only thing that will assure your heart is the remembrance of Allah. Never seek to fill your emptiness with shopping, a relationship or any worldly matter to a point that your peace of mind depends on it – as it will leave you more empty.

Surah Ibrahim

*[14:1] The Qur'an is an amazing gift from Allah! Do not take it for granted. It takes one out from the darkness of ignorance to Light of eeman and to the path that leads to the Creator's love and pleasure.

*[14:7] Be grateful. It's the key to happiness and more of Allah's blessings. Allah says that if you thank Him, He will surely increase you in all blessings, what a merciful Lord! Be thankful not just when you receive blessings or for the existing blessings but also when you face problems and unpleasant things because if you remain patient Allah will increase you [again] in levels in Jannah.

*[14:17] Think about the horrors of the Hellfire; drinking foul and boiling fluids, death coming from everywhere but you will not die. Ask Allah each day to protect you from the Fire!

*[14:22] All shaytan does is invite you to disobedience – all that happens next is your choice of actions...it's up to you if you respond and follow his whispers!

*[14:27] Increase in saying laa ilaaha illallah randomly as dhikr during the day and try to feel what you are saying as when a person says these beautiful words, believes in them, acts on them and stays away from shirk, his relationship with Allah gets stronger. Allah makes sure that such a person stops fearing the storms sent his way and stays firm in belief in dunya, in the grave and on the Day of Qiyamah.

يُثَبِّتُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِالْقَوْلِ الثَّابِتِ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَفِي
الْآخِرَةِ وَيُضِلُّ اللَّهُ الظَّالِمِينَ

*[14:31] Never let any friendship prevent you from righteous deeds like praying on time [in the masjid for men] and spending your money for your akhirah – like how some say “O come let's go shopping now, just catch up your prayer later!” Or: “Why would you give that money away (sadaqah), get that new mobile first!”

On the Day of Judgement your salah and sadaqah will avail you, your friends won't be there.

*[14:39] Ibrahim (alayhissalam) was 100 years old when he had Ishaq (alayhissalam) and then Ismail (alayhissalam). He was no common man. He was Allah's prophet and then Allah's friend. Everyone would expect his dua to be responded to as soon as he makes it the first time...but Allah delayed His response to him. But he kept making dua for years and years without stopping and was hopeful and continued praying...without being depressed and without losing hope. So Allah accepted and responded at His own timing. And then the Prophet was thankful to Him without any complains or grudges with Him! Learn and copy!

*[14:40] Teach the children how to pray.

Take care of their spiritual needs, emotional needs and physical needs. Ibrahim prayed for their spiritual needs first then asked Allah to provide them with love of people (emotional needs) and then lastly he prayed for their food (physical needs). It's because when Insan is busy with fulfilling his spiritual (Prayer/Dhikr/Quran) or emotional needs (busy with close family/close friends), he forgets his physical needs (food/other) or it's the last thing on his mind! Reflect on this awesome Reminder!

*Make the dua of Ibrahim (alayhissalam) from your heart for yourself and your offspring:

رَبِّ اجْعَلْنِي مُقِيمَ الصَّلَاةِ وَمِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِي رَبَّنَا وَتَقَبَّلْ دُعَاءِ

My Lord! make me establish prayer and from my offspring (too), O our Lord, and accept my prayer.

*Always ask Allah to be of those whose dua is accepted and then have yaqeen (be certain) that Allah will accept and answer your supplications.

*[14:41] Consistently make dua for your (believing) parents to be forgiven. Use the dua of Ibrahim:

رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِوَالِدَيَّ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَوْمَ يَقُومُ الْحِسَابُ

O our Lord! Forgive me (grant me protection) and my parents and the believers on the day when the reckoning shall come to pass!

And remember when you make dua for others- the angels say Aameen to the same for you!

*[14:42] Whenever you are hurt, upset or wronged by anyone comfort yourself by knowing that your Lord is aware of the wrongdoers and He will deal with them! He is Al Jabbaar – the One who punishes the oppressors AND the One who mends the hearts of the believers!

JUZ 14 – POINTS TO PONDER

Surah Al Hijr

It is clear from topics and style of Surah Al-hijr that the period of its revelation is about the same as that of Surah Ibrahim, for two things are quite prominent in its background. First, it appears from the repeated warnings in this Surah that in spite of the fact that the Holy Prophet ﷺ had been propagating the Message for many years, his people in general had not shown any inclination towards its acceptance, they had become more and more obdurate and stubborn in their antagonism, enmity and ridicule with the passage of time. Secondly, by that time the Holy Prophet ﷺ had begun to feel a little tired of making strenuous efforts to eradicate disbelief and opposition of his people. That is why, Allah has consoled and comforted him over and over again by way of encouragement. Also, this surah has brief arguments on Tauhid on one hand, and admonition in the story of Adam and Satan (shatan) on the other hand.

*[15:2-3] Don't be too caught up in the life of this world and forget your purpose. Don't be of those who regret on the day of Qiymah and wish that they had submitted.

* Allah has given freedom to everyone on this earth now it is up to us, how we use this freedom for our benefit that is to please Allah سبحانه و تعالی .

*[15:6] Don't be sad when people insult you or make fun of you for sticking to the Quran and its rulings. Know that the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) was called a Majnoon (madman) but he continued his mission and Allah granted him success and honor!

*[15:9] Allah has promised that the Qur'an will be preserved and guarded without any change till the Last Hour.

Be of those who 'guard' (hifdh) the Quran, even if you only memorize one ayah a day; good deeds are those who are consistent!

*[15:16] Stars have been created to beautify the skies not to inform you of your future. Stay away from asking about zodiac signs, knowing horoscopes, reading or believing in them.

*[15:19-20] Reflect over the earth on which you stay. How amazing that it carries millions of other creatures like you and serves you without shaking.

*[15:21] There is nothing which is not in the treasures of Allah. So why the disappointments? Why the hasad/envy? If someone else gets blessed with some blessing you also want then do not despair do not feel jealous...That specific thing is not over...the depositories of it are with Allah...there's no limit to His treasures. If shaytan whispers then reflect on this ayah and Ask/Beg/Implore Allah sincerely for what you want!

And whatever He sends or gives...it's according to a certain measure بِقَدَرٍ مَّعْلُومٍ that which He knows is BEST for you. And if He doesn't give then still don't be sad or depressed because it is KHAIR for you according to ALLAH'S knowledge and wisdom.

*[15:22] When the wind blows, say the sunnah supplication: Allaahumma innee as'aluka khayrahaa, wa a'oodhu bika min sharrihaa – O Allah, I ask You for the good of it and seek refuge in You against its evil.

*[15:26] Know your origin. Man was made out of clay from an altered black mud. You came from down there and go back down there after death, Then why the arrogance?

*[15:34] Being arrogant towards even one command of Allah can prevent you from going to Paradise; think twice before you decide to do whatever you feel like doing instead of what Allah asks you to do.

*[15:39] Disobedience is made attractive by Shaytan to mislead you from the path leading to Jannah.

*[15:40-42] There are basically two groups:

- The Mukhlaseen (sincere chosen servants of Allah) who stick to the straight path, don't give in to the whispers of shaytan and eventually enter Jannah.
- The Ghaween (the deviators) who easily give in to the whispers of shaytan, deviate from the straight path and follow him to Hell.

May Allah include us in the Mukhlaseen and not Ghaween. Aameen.

*[15:44] Hell has seven gates; a portion of criminals designated for every gate. May Allah protect us from Hell.

*[15:47] One of the beautiful things in the people going to Jannah is that their hearts will be pure. Allah will remove whatever is within their breasts of resentment or hate for each other. And this is mentioned in two places in the Qur'an, Surah Al A'raf 43 and Surah Al Hijr 47.

*[15:48] Whenever you feel exhausted by your daily tasks, think of Paradise where you will never ever be tired again insha Allah!

*[15:49] Allah is Al Ghafoor and A Raheem, forgives sins and has mercy but He is also the one who punishes. So one should not become relaxed and ignorant he hears about His mercy neither should he lose all hope when he hears of His punishment, Rather there should be a balance of hope and fear together to stay firm on the straight path.

*[15:68] Honouring your guests, giving them of the best you have is an act of 'ibaadah!

*[15:61-75] The actions of the people of Lut ('alayhissalam) were forbidden by Allah, declared a major sin. Allah sends His curse and punishment on people who do this. Homosexuality is haraam! And we know from the verses of the Qur'an that those who support it (wife of Prophet Lut) will be with those who will be punished for doing this haraam act! Beware!

*[15:72] If a person disobeys Allah سبحانه و تعالى and runs after his own desires (شهوات) then he is like a blind and deaf man who can't differentiate between the rich and the wrong.

*[15:85] Learn to forgive people and forget their wrongdoing.

*[15:87] Study Surah Al Fatihah, as in its seven ayaat lie immense benefits! Make learning how to pronounce Surah Al Fatihah correctly a priority, learn the translation, know that Allah answers you when you read its ayaat in salah and learn about its benefits from the sunnah!

*[15:87-88] Allah has given you the Qur'an as a gift...which is the best blessing one could ever get so don't be distracted by what the materialistic people do or say.

*[15:91] We must obey all the commands of Allah سبحانه و تعالى mentioned in the Quran.

*[15:92] As Allah سبحانه و تعالى will ask us about those commands mentioned in Quran that we didn't obey.

*[15:95] Whenever people mock you, know that Allah will be sufficient for you against them; just stick to His way, keep your dignity and don't lower yourself to their level. Your 'izzah (honour) is with Allah!

*[15:98-99] When you feel tired, scared and sick of people's resentment and complains...start the tasbeeh, hamd and dhikr of Allah...and pray 2 rakat and seek help of Allah in Sujood! (super peaceful feeling)

*If you desire to be in Jannah then be firm on the straight path, continue with good deeds and worshipping Allah so much so that death comes to you while you are in this state! Insha'Allah.

*Make dua' that your last deed will be your best deed!

Surah An Nahl

THEME: The very first verse gives direct and strict warning to those who were rejecting the Message (people of Makkah) outright, immediately after this warning they have been admonished to give up *shirk*, for this false creed was the main obstacle in the way of the Message. Then the following topics come over and over again, one after the other:

Very convincing proofs of *Tauhid* and refutation of *shirk* have been based on the plain signs in the universe and in man's own self.

The objections of the disbelievers have been answered, their arguments refuted, their doubts removed and their false pretexts exposed.

Warnings have given of the consequences of persistence in false ways and antagonism to the Message.

The moral changes which the Message of the Holy Prophet ﷺ aims to bring practically in human life have been presented briefly in an appealing manner.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ and his companions have been comforted and told about the attitude they should adopt in the face of antagonism and persecution by the disbelievers.

*[16:1] This ayah is signal for Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم to make Hijrah from Makkah to Madinah.

*[16:4] Never forget where you came from; you were created from a sperm-drop. Whenever you start feeling haughty, remind yourself of this. Know that you can be the highest of creatures or the lowest!

*[16:7] Allah created the animals mentioned as modes of transport, as food and as delight for our eyes. And he has created other similar creation which we do not know now of now but which will be created in the future

by the human MIND that was also a HUGE AMAZING creation of Allah! وَيَخْلُقُ مَا لَا تَعْلَمُونَ

*Our duty when we use/see these blessings is to be grateful to Allah and to take care of these animals rights...not abuse them and be kind to them

*[16:9] Keep asking Allah to lead you on the way to Him and not on all those other deviating paths.

*[16:12] Have you ever imagined what if we have to pay the bills for the light from the sun or the rain from the clouds? These are our basic needs and we pay the bills for these in our houses and Allah سبحانه و تعالی has provided them free of charge.

*[16:10] Reflect on the blessing of rain; it's clean water for you to drink falling from the sky. Imagine if rain would be sticky or salty! When it rains say: Allaahumma sayyiban naafi'an – O Allah (bring) beneficial rain clouds (Al-Bukhari) and get rewarded for reviving a sunnah!

*[16:11] Reflect over the blessings coming from the sea, of meat, ornaments etc. How Allah moves the boats therein for business and trade.

*[16:18] Allah has created the universe and everything in it like skies, mountains and rain from the sky for the service of humans...all the various blessings and favors of Allah are coming to us free...bilkul muft...Allah doesnt demand anything in return..and the blessings continue even when we sin!

SubhanAllah! Our duty and our purpose in life is to be grateful for His favors-grateful by:

*Our Heart, *Our tongue and *Our Actions

(Worship Allah alone and not do shirk)

*[16:20-21] Seeking help from the dead in the graves and making dua to them is MAJOR SHIRK and sheer stupidity of humans as the dead cannot hear and can't even help themselves or do as they wish.

*[16:25] It might happen that on the Day of Judgement you find yourself carrying your own sins and some of the burdens of others of those who you misguided – or for example when you backbite, that person will take from your good deeds and when you run out, you will get their bad deeds as well! Ask Allah to protect you from ever having to bear the burden of others!

*[16:28] Death does not mean that the life has ended, it is start of a new life where one gets the punishment or the reward according to his deeds.

*[16:24&30] Those who disbelieve they call the Book “legends of former people” while the believers call it “khair” .

*[16:30] Allah’s Book is the best gift...and all it does is bring the best bounties to the ones who stick to it.

*[16:31] The reward of righteous deeds will be Jannah.

*[16:34] Ask for Allah’s maghfirah – protection from the evil effects of your own bad deeds.

*[16:40] Allah only has to say “be” and it happens. Israfeel عليه السلام is holding the trumpet in his mouth since he got created and is waiting for a signal from Allah سبحانه و تعالی for the qayamat to occur.

*[16:45] For some people their sins feel like a mountain pressing on them while others ‘wave’ their sins away like a fly (ie they think lightly of their bad deeds). Ask Allah to guide you to always take your sins seriously!

*[16:48] Look at the shadows- they are doing Sajdah in front of their Rabb too!

*[16:53]Count your blessings! Whatever you have comes from Allah – so why turn to others people when you lose something or want something? Teach your children to realize that all they have comes from Allah and to thank Him and to ask Him (before seeking anyone’s help)!

*[16:45-47] Never be satisfied with your life of wrongdoing and sins. Fear Allah and His punishment. He might stop giving you chances to repent and reform and send you a torment when you are unaware.

*[16:51] There are no two gods. There is only one god and that is Allah.

*[16:58] Never be ungrateful at the birth of a girl instead of a boy- this is mentioned in the Quran!

*[16:61] If you think Allah isn’t punishing you for your bad deeds, know that He sometimes lets people continue in their wrongdoing to be punished in the Hereafter. Don’t wait for Allah’s punishment, change yourself now!

*[16:64] Whatever hardship you are facing, make the recitation of Quran your daily routine and you will be at ease InshaAllah.

*[16:66] Reflect over the blessing of milk! Think about its perfect white color even when it comes from between all blood and usual stuff in the body. Have you ever thought of what an awesome miracle it is? Say alhamdulillah whenever you see milk and drink it! :)

*[16:67] The juices made from dates and grapes are both beneficial(best source of energy especially the drink نَبِيذ) and haram (if kept for longer period, they get fermented).

*[16:69] Honey has healing features: use it as a cure and you are reviving a sunnah!

*[16:72] Know that whatever the situation is with your spouse; he or she was Allah’s choice for you so there must be wisdom in it for you.

*[16:76] Ask Allah to be of those who spread justice and not of those who bring no benefit to others.

*[16:77] Remind yourself that the Day of Judgement is less than a glance of the eye away.

*[16:79] Have you ever had those moments when you think a situation will no doubt crush you, only for you to make it through? Have you ever doubted your abilities only to find that somehow you triumph? Have you ever been so low and down, but in the end, Allah held you up?

The birds are an interesting example in the verse above. They are from the Signs of Allah which He has put in place for us to take lessons from. Just as He keeps them soaring above the ground, likewise He will keep you afloat of the troubles of this world. So let Him take care of you, and let go of those worldly things if they are anchoring you down. These are indeed Signs for those whose faith helps them see with basirah (insight).

(Fajr Blog)

*[16:80] Allah gave you a house as protection and place of rest; create an atmosphere of eman in your homes. Say the sunnah dua for entering and leaving your house, recite Surah Al Baqarah regularly in your house, don't listen to music in your houses nor display family pictures on the wall! Your home is a blessing; don't use it as a place to disobey Allah!

*[16:90] Allah orders justice and good conduct and giving to relatives and forbids immorality and bad conduct and oppression.

*[16:92] One must not let his hard work go to waste- if you break a promise then your good deeds are wasted.

*[16:95-96] Do not attach yourself too much to dunya and its people. Keep reminding yourself that whatever you have will end, but what Allah has is lasting. And Allah will surely give those who were patient their reward according to the best of what they used to do.

Allah says: Whoever does righteousness, whether male or female, while he is a believer – We will surely cause him to live a good life, and We will surely give them their reward [in the Hereafter] according to the best of what they used to do.

*[16:97] Whoever chooses the right path in this world, be it a man or a woman, will have a pure and good life in this world as well as in the Akhirah.

*My message to those fellow Muslimmahs who think that their struggles to maintain a good household (keeping their spouse and his family happy and raising righteous children) will not be rewarded. Be assured that you will be rewarded in this life too, InshaAllah ! :')

*[16:98] Say a'oodhu billaahi minash shaytaanir rajeem with conviction when you recite the Quran!

*[16:103] You have to believe in Quran to be rightly guided.

*[16:113] If u thank Allah سبحانه و تعالی for the blessings, your blessings will increase. But if you are unthankful then these blessings will be taken away.

*[16:114] Being thankful is a form of Ibadah.

*[16:119] If you do something wrong because you didn't know better, Allah will forgive you however only if you, when knowledge comes to you, repent and correct yourself. How many times do we commit a certain sin because we were ignorant, but when the knowledge comes to us, we keep doing that same sin, knowing it's wrong? When you gain knowledge about something, ask Allah to help you live by it as you will be accountable for it!

*[16:121] When a person is extremely thankful, then Allah chooses him to guide others.

*[16:125] It's your responsibility as a Muslim to call people to Allah. Give them dawah with wisdom, caring advice and polite ways.

JUZ 15 – POINTS TO PONDER (Part 1)

A year before Hijrah to Madina, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was taken by Allah, from Masjid Al Haram to Masjid Al Aqsa and then towards the heaven and shown different signs in Jannah and Jahannum. In this trip, he ﷺ was gifted with the obligation of the five prayers, the last two ayaat of Surah Al-Baqarah and the news of forgiveness for the one who is saved from shirk. Also the **angels** mentioned to the Prophet ﷺ that he recommend Hijama (cupping) to his ummah (nation).

Surah Al-Isra 1 – 111

[17:7] Do good because when you do good, you do good for yourselves. When you do one good deed you get 10 to 70 rewards and when you sin it's just one.

[17:9] The Quran guides you to what is most suitable in each and every daily life situation; ask Allah to help you take the Quran as your day-to-day manual and not as a book gaining dust on your shelf.

[17:11] Do you ever say or even ask things in anger you don't mean? Be careful what you ask for in your dua, especially when you are angry! Avoid praying for evil as much as you can as the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) said:

“Do not pray against yourselves, do not pray against your children, do not pray against your wealth, for your prayer may coincide with a time of response from Allah and Allah will respond to your prayer.” (Abu Dawood 2:185)

[17:14] We have to keep our record book clean and pure...if we are embarrassed to make our deeds public today then how will it be on the Day of Qiyamah...when we will have to read our record of all our actions in front of Allah and ALL of creation, our body parts are going to witness for and against us...the *kiraman katibeen* (recording angels) will be witness for or against us. Ask Allah, to be of those who are happy when they are made to read their Record on the Day of Judgement.

[17:19] If you wish the best life in the Akhirah, strive for it and meet that specific standard to be successful in the akhirah while you are a believer then and only then your efforts will be appreciated, accepted and rewarded. Such people are business minded...always thinking about the actions the deeds that will bring them profits in the Hereafter. They are the Akhirah Oriented people, not just intending and thinking while doing nothing...hard work is necessary to get to Paradise.

Akhirah Oriented= Intentions + Effort

[17:20-21] Allah's gifts are coming to both groups. The ones who desire just Dunya and the ones who desire the Akhirah. Both are using those gifts to reach their own specific aims but it's only the Akhirah-Oriented group that will be successful. And in the Akhirah their levels will be higher and their reward much better.

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[17:23-24] Check yourself seriously; how are you with your parents? Sincerely ask Allah to help you fulfil their rights and make dua for Allah to have mercy on them every single day.

[17:26-30] Never spend your money wastefully because if you do, then you are from the friends of Shaytan. Don't hoard your money or keep on saving it, not wanting to give some sadaqah. Be generous. The Prophet ﷺ said:

“There is no day on which the people get up but two angels come down and one of them says, ‘O Allaah, give in compensation to the one who spends (in charity),’ and the other says, ‘O Allaah, destroy the one who withholds.’” (Narrated by al-Bukhaari, 1374; Muslim, 1010)

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) also said:

“Allah said: ‘Spend, O son of Adam, and I shall spend on you.’”

(Narrated by al-Bukhaari, 5073; Muslim, 993)

[17:32] Allah didn't just say, don't commit any unlawful sexual intercourse, He said do not even come close to anything which can lead to it! Meaning protect your eyes, ears, tongue, hands and legs from even going that way. How come then, we take free mixing, chatting to the other sex on social media etc so lightly? Doesn't Allah who created us know us best?

[17:36] Allah says in this ayah,

“Do not pursue that of which you have no knowledge. Indeed, the hearing, the sight and the heart – about all those [one] will be questioned”.

This can be understood by the hadeeth:

“From the perfection of one's Islam is his leaving that which does not concern him.” [al-Tirmidhi, hasan].

Imagine that. It's basically saying that our Islam will never be perfect if we're so concerned with things that are none of our business. And in this verse we understand the reason why... because it leads us to regretful questioning. It leads us to paths that bring more harm than good. It leads us to woefully

wronging others and ourselves. It leads us to bad thoughts, suspicions, ill-feelings, partiality and unfair bias. It leads us to a complete waste of our time.

[17:50] Life after death is certain. Be you stone or iron, Allah will raise you up and take account of all that you used to do

[17:52] Your whole life – a chain of happy and sad moments – will seem like a couple of hours on the Day of Judgement; don't attach yourself to moments, happy or sad, as they will pass, but keep moving forward seeking the pleasure of Allah.

[17:53] If you speak, speak good or stay silent.

[17:57] Au'liya always seek means of access to their Lord (Allah), hope for His Mercy and fear His Torment. We should also need to turn towards Him, instead of calling upon other means out of our desires.

[17:64] Music is one of the things that are prohibited by Allah and His Prophet but unfortunately is very common in our homes. Very few might know that music is the sound of shaytan...as Allah tells shaytan in this ayah (to test the humans)

“And incite those whom you can among them with your voice.....” (17:64)

Among the many other interpretations, in Tafsir Ibn Kathir and Tafsir Al Qurtubi, Scholars Mujahid and Ad-Dahhaak interpreted *“voice of shaytan”* to mean music, song and amusement. According to Ibn Abbas, the *“voice”* refers to every form of invitation that calls to the disobedience to Allah Ta'ala.

[17:78] The recitation of Quran at fajr is witnessed by special angels – make an effort in reciting the Quran beautifully and with feelings at fajr.

[17:79] Study the virtues of the (voluntary) night prayer; don't think this prayer is *‘reserved’* for those with strong emaan. When your emaan feels weak, get up and pray in the night (after 'esha and before fajr) and feel the effect on your soul of conversing with Allah privately in the night! (The sahabah used to feel its paradise on earth).

[17:109] Can you easily cry over arguments with others, or even by watching certain movies but you can't find tears out of fear and love for Allah? Can you cry in salah? Ask Allah to be of those who can cry because of the effect of the Quran and its message on their hearts.

[17:110] Call upon Allah or call upon the Most Merciful. Whichever [name] you call – to Him belong the best names.

JUZ 15 – POINTS TO PONDER (Part 2)

Surah Al Kahf 1- 74

The Prophet (sallAllahu alayhi wasallam) said:

“Whoever reads Soorat al-Kahf on the night of Jumu'ah, will have a light that will stretch between him and the Ancient House (the Ka'bah).” (Narrated by al-Daarimi, 3407. classed as saheeh by Shaykh al-Albaani in Saheeh al-Jaami, 6471)

Surah Al-Kahf was revealed during the last stages of the Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ mission in Makkah, before the migration to Madinah. After over a decade of oppression, the Muslims organized themselves to leave Makkah and start a new life there.

[18:6] Worry, be concerned not only for yourself and family but for the whole ummah and their guidance like Muhammad (sallAllahu alayhi wassallam).

[18:13] Allah guides the youth who are strong in belief and stand up for the truth – ask Him to guide the youth you know to firm emaan and steadfastness.

Lesson from the أصحاب الكهف : If a person does not compromise on affairs of the Deen and seeks the help of Allah in difficulty while doing Tawakkal...Allah helps and opens the right ways for him. Allah's help is not for the one, who claims he is self sufficient and is arrogant in depending on Allah. We have to learn from Ibrahim (A.S). Sometimes it so happens that when we seek the help of Allah and trust

Him....there is no real change in the conditions except that our eeman goes up and our relationship with Allah gets better on account of the worship (dua+tawakkal+hope)

[18:23] Always say inshaa'Allah when you intend to do something in the near future. And teach children the beauty of this dhikr – how many of us use inshaa'Allah as a way of saying 'no' to our children and thereby destroy the beauty of this concept?

[18:28] Be inspired by those who make an effort to please Allah, be in their company and don't get distracted by those who chase this world!

RasoolAllah ﷺ was ordered to be in the company of righteous people then what about us?

[18:32] Learn to be thankful for all blessings.

[18:34] Never compare yourself with others, boasting about what you have and others don't. And if you see others doing this, advise them gently to be grateful to Allah instead.

[18:39] When Allah blessed a man with a beautiful garden, instead of being thankful that man was arrogant and proud so a huge disaster hit his garden and destroyed it. Always seek Allah's protection by

saying **ماشاء الله لا قوة إلا بالله**

[18:49] Know that every single deed, big or small, is recorded in your Book of Deeds. Teach children this concept from young.

[18:60] If you are a student of knowledge, then know that seeking knowledge has no end. There will also be someone more knowledgeable than you. But complete knowledge of everything lies only with Allah.

[18:66-82] The journey of Musa(allai'hisalam) with Khizar ended, as Musa (allai'hisalam) didn't hold himself with patience in inquiring about orphan's murder and hole in the boat. It shows patience is the key to acquire knowledge.

JUZ 16 – POINTS TO PONDER (Part 1)

Surah Al Kahf 75 to 110

[18:82] Musa's (alayhissalam) story teaches us that the outer appearance of things usually fools us...only Allah knows what situation is best for any individual. A problem is not always a problem. Only Allah knows better how that specific problem is going to be beneficial for a person. Similarly, we complain about a certain system or problem in the DUNYA...but then it's according to Allah's Plan and His wisdom. He created the dunya and the creatures in it...how can we doubt about His decision for us? Soon when the veils of the unseen will be lifted then we will know and be sure that what happened was right for us...and we couldn't have chosen a better destiny for ourselves. Sometimes it so happens that we fail to get the things we really want but many years down the road we realize that what happened was best for us...not getting that specific blessing then was the best for us! So our duty is to strive and do our best and if things don't go the way we want them to go then we have to accept the Decisions of Allah for us and not be angry or depressed as He is the Only One who creates us, provides for us, and takes from us!

[18:82] Be righteous and fear Allah for, if you do so Allah will not just keep you in His special care and protection but even your family and future generation will be in His special protection because of your good deeds.

[18:83-98] Don't let the luxuries make you lazy and useless. Dhul Qarnain was a wealthy and powerful king but that didn't make him arrogant and lazy. He used to travel far and wide just to check on people and bring reform. He helped the people against Yajooj Majooj and built a strong wall with melted iron.

[18:98] Always ask for the mercy of Allah...when sick, worried or in problems.

[18:103-104] Don't let the world blind you of your obligations and goal to reach Jannah. The biggest losers will be those who live and die only for dunya and do not prepare for the meeting with Allah. Their good deeds will carry no weight on the Day of Qiyamah.

[18:107] Aim for Al Firdaws – Highest level of Paradise. It is reserved for those who believe and do lots of righteous deeds.

[18:109] If the sea were ink for the Words of my Lord, surely, the sea would be exhausted before the Words of my Lord would be finished) Allah subhana'watalah says that even if those oceans were ink for the Words of Allah, and all the trees were pens, the pens would be broken and the water of the sea would run dry, and the Words of Allah would remain, for nothing can outlast them. For no one can comprehend the greatness of Allah or praise Him as He deserves to be praised, except the One Who praises Himself. Our Lord is as He says He is and He is beyond what we can say. The blessings of this world, the beginning and end of it, in comparison to the blessings of the Hereafter, are like a mustard seed compared to the entire world.

JUZ 16 – POINTS TO PONDER (Part 2)

Maryam, the mother of Jesus is the only woman mentioned by name in the Quran, and this next chapter is named after her. The first part of the chapter relates the stories of John and Jesus, peace be upon him, from the Islamic perspective. The story of Prophet Abraham, peace be upon him, is also mentioned both to show the unified origin of the message of Islam, and to console the Muslims who were facing persecution or migration to Abyssinia. In the last part of the chapter, the disbelievers of Makkah are heavily criticized for their unjust behavior. The believers are given hope that they will one day prevail. Many of these verses were shared with the King of Abyssinia, a devout Christian, and influenced his decision to offer protection to the Muslim refugees at the time.

Surah Maryam 1 to 98

[19:3] Surah Maryam opens with the beautiful scene of **Zakariya** who after many years of not having a child, begs Allah 'azza wa jall to bless him with a child. But what's beautiful about this verse is the last word – the du'a of Zakariya is described as being 'khafiyya' which means 'quiet', 'secretive', and 'hidden'. Zakariya knew he was calling upon the All-Hearing Lord who hears the most silent of prayers and so his approach reflected his belief and knowledge of Allah. It also reflects how deep and private his plea was because asking for a child when you can't have one is a most personal thing. This secret supplication of Zakariya teaches us a **lesson**: when we speak, we ought to speak bearing in mind who we are speaking to. We ought to level our speech according to the ranking and respect of the ones we address. There's no need to wail or call aloud in prayer because we're not calling upon a deaf God; rather we're calling upon He Who hears even the prayers of the heart.

[19:4] We read in Surah Ale Imran that when Zakariyya Alayhissalam saw that Maryam Alayhissalam got Rizq from Allah, he immediately made dua to Allah, having the Yaqeen that if Allah could provide for her from Ghayb (unseen means) then He [subhanahu wa ta'ala] could also provide for him what he sought, despite he being of old age, and his wife being barren. When most people see others with what they don't have, they either start pitying themselves or they become jealous. What should our attitude be? What is the attitude of a Prophet? He said,

"My Lord, indeed my bones have weakened, and my head has filled with white, and never have I been in my supplication to You, my Lord, unhappy.

SubhanAllah...learn from him his faith in Allah, his hope in Him, his certainty that He-Allah Ta'ala Knows everything and is Able to do anything and everything and the way of his silent plea...silent dua!

[19:5] Like Muhammad (sallAllahu alayh wasallam) Zakariyyah (alayhissalam) also worried about his nation, his people. That is the reason he prayed for a son who could spread his message when he was no longer there.

[19:11] Praise Allah and glorify Him when you receive blessings from Him.

[19:13-14] Good children fear Allah, are pure, kind, righteous, dutiful to parents and of benefit to the society.

[19:23] The Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) said,
“None of you should wish for death because of a calamity befalling him; but if he has to wish for death, he should say: “O Allah! Keep me alive as long as life is better for me, and let me die if death is better for me.” (Al Bukhari, Book of patients 70:575)

[19:39] Race to do good deeds and not be of the one who will regret on the Day of Qiyamah.

[19:41] Be kind and polite while doing dawah to parents. Deal with love and care, be polite and never shout back even if they are rude to you. Learn from the ways of Ibrahim (alayhissalam) and make dua for your parents like he did.

[19:58-59] There are two generations. One got rewarded due to their obedience to Allah and the other got warned of Hell because they neglected their prayer and followed their evil desires.

[19:71] There is none of us who will not cross the bridge of Sirat which is over hell fire. Everyone will pass through it. Narrated by Abu Sa’id Al-Khudri:

We, the companions of the Prophet said, “O Allah’s Messenger ! What is the bridge?” He said, “It is a slippery (bridge) on which there are clamps and (Hooks like) a thorny seed that is wide at one side and narrow at the other and has thorns with bent ends. Such a thorny seed is found in Najd and is called As-Sa’dan. Some of the believers will cross the bridge as quickly as the wink of an eye, some others as quick as lightning, a strong wind, fast horses or she-camels. So some will be safe without any harm; some will be safe after receiving some scratches, and some will fall down into Hell. The last person will cross by being dragged over the bridge.”

(Sahih Bukhari- Volume 9, Book 93, # 532)

[19:85] The righteous God fearing ones will be the special guests of Allah.

[19:96] Subhan’Allah, by performing the acts that Allah loves, we receive His love and affection. This love and affection is manifested by His placing acceptance for us with other people. He will love us and His creatures will love u, Allahu Akbar!

JUZ 16 – POINTS TO PONDER (Part 3)

Surah Ta Ha was revealed at approximately the same time period. It is reported that Umar ibn Khattab read part of this chapter when he discovered his sister reading from the Quran and interrogated her about it. Against all odds, his heart softened and he embraced Islam. Most of the chapter is dedicated to the story of Prophet Musa (Moses), peace be upon him. The Arab tribes were familiar with and accepting of Moses as a prophet, and relating this story shows the continuity in Allah’s message and methods of bringing guidance to His people. This chapter also emphasizes the importance of salaah (prayer) in strengthening the faith and hearts of believers.

Surah Taha 1 to 135

[20:14] Always be busy in remembrance/dhikr of Allah. Perform your prayers on time. This was the message given to Prophet Musa (‘alayhissalam).

[20:25] Learn Prophet Musa’s du’a:

My Lord, expand for me my breast [with assurance] And ease for me my task.

The dua...again in fikr for people. Nabi Musa(‘alayhissalam) also worried about his people just like Muhammad ﷺ in Al Kahf and Zakariyya(‘alayhissalam) in Surat Maryam. We have to learn and copy.

[20:41] Allah says to Musa (a.s):

“And I produced you for Myself”. (chose you)

When Allah loves someone, he makes him pass through various tests and then chooses him for Himself. One has to adopt a certain way for the work of Allah, sacrifice ego and desires. Problems will come and go but sabr and secret conversations with Allah in prayer one becomes the chosen one of Allah who lives just for His sake and His pleasure.

It was narrated that Anas bin Malik said:

“The Messenger of Allah said: ‘Allah has His own people among mankind.’ They said: ‘O Messenger of Allah, who are they?’ He said: ‘The people of the Qur’án, the people of Allah and those who are closest/special to Him.”

(Sunan Ibn e Majah, Book of Sunnah, Hadith no 214, Classified as Sahih By Allama Albani)

[20:44] Learn to speak gently and politely. When Allah ordered Musa (‘alayhissalam) to speak gently and politely to a tyrant and oppressor like Fir’awn then what should our way be with people who are way better than him?

[20:78] When you are a sinner, success and status in dunya won’t prevent you from the punishment of Allah.

[20:84] Hasten and race to do the actions which please Allah. When Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was ordered to pray for more ilm and increase in knowledge...even though he was a prophet then what about us? ***“My Lord, increase me in knowledge.”***

[20:124] Read, recite, understand and practice the Qur’an because if you don’t, you will have a depressed life! And on the Day of Qiyamah our sight will be due to the Qur’an and the one who ignored it in Dunya will be raised blind on that Day.

[20:130-131] Be patient and stick to dhikr, tasbeeh and prayer. Avoid the things that tempt you to worry about life of dunya and stick to the teachings of the Qur’an. Allah will then grant you peace and success.

JUZ 17 – POINTS TO PONDER (Part 1)

The first part of Juz 17, **Surah Al-Anbiyaa**, is titled “the Prophets.” The leaders of Makkah had dismissed the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ as a false prophet or a mere “poet.” Some doubted his intentions or his sanity. These verses set the record straight, that the Prophet teaches the same message of tawhid, Unity of God, that all previous prophets had also taught their people. A long line of prophets is discussed, the message being that they all were rejected by their people, yet their message lived on. The leaders of Makkah and other unbelievers are warned that their rumors and backbiting will not hurt the Prophet or the message of Islam in the least; on the contrary, they will be the ones facing punishment in the Hereafter. Rather than being a curse, it was a blessing to them that the Prophet was amongst them, to give them a warning and a chance to change their behavior for the better.

Surah Al-Anbiyaa 1 to 112

[21:1] Allah warns us that the day of reckoning is approaching, while the people are heedless of it, they are too stubborn to come out of their bubble of heedlessness and work for the Hereafter. Elsewhere in the Quran, Allah says

“They think it (day of judgment) is far off, but we see it as near at hand”

People living as unaware of Allah and the Day of Judgment, their mere attachment is to their children, rank, and status of world, but the first instance of death, will lose value and importance of these pleasures . We must reflect carefully and realize what is the real purpose and the true gain, so that we prepare for the hereafter before the Hour arrives.

[21:4] Allah is the Hearing and the Knowing, whatever secrets we have kept in our hearts or whatever we say, He hears it all and nothing of it ever escapes His observation. He knows the minutest of details of all things hidden and open.

[21:5] Do not argue on things you don’t have knowledge about. Instead, seek help from the people who have correct knowledge.

[21: 10] The Quran is sent down for YOU, it’s a reminder, on how to deal with your day to day life challenges. Allah revealed His Book and sent His Messenger as a mercy for His servants, so that the person who reflects may be reminded. Thus, a man will benefit from the Book of Allah, it is a remembrance in which Allah revealed what He permits and prohibits.

[21:16] The heavens and the earth were not created for play, everything that exists in this universe has a purpose, a reason for its existence. Then what makes you think that you have no purpose in life? To a muslim, the whole purpose of life is worship to the One True Almighty Allah under His conditions. Open your heart and your mind now and ask Allah, the Lord of the Heavens and the earth, to guide you to His true way, and then be ready to accept your true purpose of life.

[21: 19] Allah doesn't need our worship or our good deeds, He is needless and we all are dependant on Him. He has angels who worship Him and glorify Him night and day and they do not slacken to do so, and they obey His Orders and they do not disobey Him. However, Allah did not order them to worship Him due to a need or deficiency in Him; rather, Allah does not need His Slaves to worship Him as the obedience of an obedient person does not benefit Him (Allah) and the disobedience of a disobedient person does not harm Him. So whoever amongst the Slaves of Allah obeys Him, his obedience is for the benefit of his own self, and whoever disobeys Him, his disobedience to Allaah is against his own self.

[21: 22] If there are two kings, the actions of each one being the same as those of the other, it would not be possible for them to manage the same city. It follows necessarily that if they acted together , the city would be ruined. When two actions of the same kind converge on one substratum, that substratum is corrupted necessarily. Thus the fact that the entire universe is highly organized in its form, is the clear proof that God is One (And for Allah is the highest example).

[21: 24-25] All previous Prophets (peace be upon them) have called for true faith, they all called for the worship of Allah alone. Every Prophet told his people from the very beginning,

“Worship Allah, the Almighty. You have no other god but Him” (Surah al Araf: 59)

“And verily We have raised in every nation a messenger , (proclaiming): Serve Allah and shun false gods”(Surah An Nahl: 36)

[21:26-28] Those that the disbelievers claim to be the “children” of Allah, such as angels, Ezra, Jesus etc, they are rather the honored servants of Allah. Without doubt the prophets were the best of the Allah's creation, but still they were human beings, that Allah chose to deliver His message. We are in no position to attribute to them the characteristics that Allah Himself hasn't attributed. They do not initiate any matter before Him or go against His commands; on the contrary, they hasten to do as He commands, and He encompasses them with His knowledge so that nothing whatsoever is hidden from Him.

[21: 30-33] Those who deny His Divine nature and worship others instead of Him, do they not realize that Allah is the One Who is Independent in His powers of creation and is running the affairs of all things with absolute power. So how can it be appropriate to worship anything else beside Him or to associate others in worship with Him.

[21-34] Life slips away second by second. Are you aware that every day brings you closer to death or that death is as close to you as it is to other people? Everyone who has ever appeared on this earth was destined to die. Today, we hardly come across the traces of many of these people who passed away. Allah Alone is the Ever-Living Who never dies, while the Jinn, mankind and angels, including those who carry Allah's Throne, shall die. The Irresistible One and Only, will alone remain for ever and ever, remaining Last, as He was the First.

[21: 35] Allah will test us over and over again. When a misfortune falls upon us, we think of it as a test or trial. But the fact of the matter is that even the blessings of Allah are His tests. Allah tests us with good things to see if we are thankful to Him or if we turn arrogant and forget to remember, or even thank Him. Remember that gratitude for blessings is a blessing which needs to be given thanks for, so that one will continue to enjoy the blessings of his Lord, thanking his Lord for those blessings and praising Him for helping him to be among those who give thanks.

[21- 37] Being hasty and reckless is from Shaytan. Even though being hasty is in our nature, controlling it is important. Be tolerant, have patience and think well before you take any action as these are from the best of traits.

[21: 47] Allah will call His creatures for account on the Day of judgment, nobody will be wronged on that day, and every one will be rewarded or punished according to his or her deeds, and even anything as small or as insignificant as a mustard seed will be brought forth.

[21: 61-69] Prophet Ibrahim broke the idols of his people and the priests decided to burn him alive in a big furnace. The transgressors thought that the Prophet Ibrahim (peace be upon him) would burn to death. But prophet Ibrahim (peace be upon him) came out of the fire safe as if nothing had touched him, Allah had cooled the fire for him, and make it a source of comfort and protection for him. When Allah could cool down the fire for Ibrahim (peace be upon him), what makes you think He could not answer your duaa? When we fear Him alone and put our trusts in Him, He opens the doors for us whose keys we thought don't even exist.

[21:78-79] We usually get caught up in problems due to the wrong decisions we take. So always ask Allah for wisdom and the sense to make a proper decision.

[And he said], "My Lord, grant me authority and join me with the righteous."

(Dua of Ibrahim (a.s) from Surah Ash Shu'ara ayat 83)

[21:83] You and all around you will go through tests and problems at one point or the other. So when you do stay calm and patient and call on Allah for help like Prophet Ayyub (peace be upon him):

"Indeed, adversity has touched me, and you are the Most Merciful of the merciful."

Allah responded to his call and gave him back all that he lost, as a reminder to all His slaves, who call out to Him in distress.

[21:87] We should always accept our mistakes and seek forgiveness from Allah. Like Yunus (peace be upon him), he called out:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ سُبْحَانَكَ إِنِّي كُنْتُ مِنَ الظَّالِمِينَ

"There is no deity except You; exalted are You. Indeed, I have been of the wrongdoers."

It was narrated that Sa'd ibn Abi Waqqaas (may Allaah be pleased with him) said: The Prophet ﷺ said: *"The prayer of Dhu'l-Noon when he was in the belly of the fish: 'Laa ilaaha illa Anta, subhaanaka inni kuntu min al-zaalimeen (There is no god but You, glory to You, verily I was one of the wrongdoers).' A Muslim never calls upon his Lord with these words concerning any matter, but his prayer is answered."* (Narrated by al-Tirmidhi, 3505; classed as saheeh by al-Albaani in al-Silsilah al-Saheehah, 1644)

You're in trouble → Allah knows you're in trouble → Allah gives you a beautiful gift to get you out of trouble → USE IT.

[21:91] Like Maryam (peace be upon him)...sisters who live a pure and chaste life fearing Allah and taking care of His rulings, Allah gives her the best rewards as a righteous husband and dutiful children in Dunya and Jannah in the Akhirah.

[21: 74- 92] All the Prophets and legends before us, were tested, and they called out to Allah for help. We are slaves of Allah following trails set by Prophets before us. They encountered hard times, and so we will encounter hard times. They were tested, and so we will be tested. They bore patience, and so we must bear patience, because we are one Ummah, with one religion. It's truly uplifting when we take these legends and towering figures as our role-models and guides, because despite the struggles, they remain the best men to walk the face of this planet and this is something to truly look up to and be proud of.

[21:40] The passion of all these righteous people was:

to race and strive in the way of Allah

pray to Him in hope and fear

submit to all His commands

"Indeed, they used to hasten to good deeds and supplicate Us in hope and fear, and they were to Us humbly submissive." (Surah Al- Anbiyaa : 90)

May Allah include us among such righteous believers.

[21: 95-96] It has been decreed that the people of each township that has been destroyed will never return to this world before the Day of Resurrection.

[21:96] Ya'jooj and Ma'jooj are the biggest signs of Qiyamah. Read about them in Surah Al Kahf.

[21: 97- 104] When Allah mentions the people of Hell and their punishment for their associating others in worship with Allah, He follows that with a description of the blessed who believed in Allah and His Messengers. These are the ones for whom the blessing has preceded from Allah, and they did righteous deeds in the world. Just as they did good in this world, Allah will make their final destiny and their reward good; He will save them from punishment and give them a great reward. May Allah make us from them, ameen. During this blessed month of Ramadan, lets memorize this wonderful duaa, and make the paradise pray for us! اللهم انى استلك الجنة و اعوذبك من النار Anas ibn Malik narrated the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“Whoever asks for Paradise, three times, Paradise will say: “O Allah, admit him to Paradise.” And whoever asked to be saved from Hell, three times, Hell will say: “O Allah, save him from Hell.” (Sunnan Ibn Majah – Book 37, Hadith 4484)

[21: 107] The Prophet ﷺ was a mercy to mankind. He ﷺ is the best role model for all humans. Among his outstanding virtues and characteristics, he was an extraordinary husband, a perfect father, and a unique grandfather. He was also a great statesman, judge, and spiritual leader.

[21: 110] Allah knows the Unseen in its entirety; He knows what His creatures do openly and what they do secretly. He knows what is visible and what is concealed; He knows what is secret and hidden. He knows what His creatures do openly and in secret, and He will requite them for that, for both minor and major actions.

[21: 111] Allah doesn't punish us for our sins immediately- out of His mercy. He delays it to allow us to repent from our sins and turn back to Him. But this offer is for a limited time only, to turn to Him by our *“appointed time”*- beyond which we will find no escape. Now just because we live an easy and comfortable life, doesn't necessarily mean that Allah is pleased with us, it could very well be that this period of comfort is proof AGAINST us.

JUZ 17 – POINTS TO PONDER (Part 2)

Surah Al-Hajj, the first 24 verses focus on a similar theme, warning the unbelievers that the punishment is coming. The rest of surah is believed to have been revealed after the Muslims migrated to Madinah. There, they began to form a community dedicated to the worship of Allah and the practice of Islam. When the believers spent their first Hajj month in Madinah, however, some believers found themselves feeling torn – nostalgic for their homes in Makkah, wavering in the face of hardships, and/or angry about being prevented from performing Hajj by the Makkan leaders.

Surah Al-Hajj 1 to 78

[22: 1- 2] Nothing could protect man from the horrors of Day of Judgment except the fear of Allah. Be conscious of Him in this life, and you will be under His protection during the horrors of the Hour.

[22: 5- 6] Allah's power and ability to resurrect that is evident from the way He initiates creation. He created from worthless drop; from semen of despised water. If He could give it life, surely is able to give life to the dead. Indeed He is able to do all things.

[22: 8- 10] Don't be among those who dispute concerning Allah, don't get caught up in innovation and misguidance, and become those who reject the truth, the followers of falsehood – they abandon what Allah has revealed to His messenger of the clear truth, and follow the statements of their misguiding leaders calling to innovation, desires and [their] opinions and mislead others from the right path. For such people is disgrace in this world, and a painful punishment in Hereafter.

[22: 11] Beware & Be careful! and DO NOT be of the ones who are happy in worshiping Allah as long as He showers them with blessings & bounties and turn depressed, doubtful & frustrated as soon as Allah tests them with trials and problems. Know dear Believer, this life is a test and you will be tested both with times of ease as well as difficulty. You will only be successful & at peace if you accept the decree of Allah and remain strong, patient and submissive to Allah at all times. May Allah guide us and bless us with strong eeman at all times, Aameen!

[22: 12- 14] Those who believe firmly in their hearts and confirm their faith by their actions, doing all kinds of righteous deeds and avoiding evil actions. Because of this, they will inherit dwellings in the lofty ranks of the gardens of Paradise.

[22: 15] Know that Allah will always protect, support and help His Messenger, His Book and His religion, and whoever thinks otherwise, let him go and kill himself if it annoys him so much. For Allah will most certainly help and support him.

[22: 16] Ask Allah sincerely to show you the right path, prove to Him that you are worthy of His guidance and He will surely open the doors of Hidayah for you.

[22: 18] Allah alone is deserving of worship. Everything prostrates to His might, willingly or unwillingly, and everything prostrates in a manner that befits its nature. Thus, everything in the Heavens and earth is His slave, and prostrate to Him alone, yet there are those among man who refuse prostration, and are stubborn and arrogant.

[22: 23- 24] Those who believe and do righteous deeds, they have been guided to the straight path in this world, and will be admitted to the paradise in the Hereafter. We ask Allah to make us from them.

[22: 25] Be extra conscious of Allah when you are in the Blessed House of Allah. The Haram is unique in that the mere intention of sin therein (whether or not its actually carried out) is sufficient to bring punishment from Allah.

[22: 26] The House of Allah has been purified from idols, for those who circumbulate, and pray only to Allah.

[22: 27- 29] Perform **Hajj** (pilgrimage) to the House of Allah, with all its manasik. And if you do what Allah has commanded us to do in the rituals of Hajj then there is a great reward for you.

[22: 30] Don't think of any sin as small, think of the One you are disobeying. Avoid disobeying Him and regard committing sin as a very serious matter, and you will attain much good and a great reward for doing that.

[22: 31] Submit to His will, stay away from all falsehood and seek the truth.

[22: 33] There are benefits for you in the animals marked for sacrificial for a specified term; they may be milked or ridden before the time of slaughter, but they should be sacrificed within the boundaries of Haram, which includes Mina.

[22: 34] Sacrificing cattle and shedding their blood in the Name of Allah has been prescribed for all nations, and even though the Laws of the Prophets may vary and may abrogate one another. All of the Prophets called mankind to worship Allah Alone with no partner or associate.

[22: 35] The characteristics of His humble slaves; they are those whose hearts fear Him, and when afflictions fall upon them, they bear it patiently, those who fulfill the duties which Allah has enjoined upon them, the duty of performing the obligatory prayers, and spend out of the the good provision which Allah has given them. They spend on their families and servants, and on the poor and needy; they treat people kindly while remaining within the limits set by Allah. With last ten nights of Ramadan ahead of us, lets try to imbibe and instill these habits into ourselves, so we would be written amongst those who are His humble slaves bi'dhniAllahi ta'ala!

[22: 36] It's a blessing of Allah upon us that He created Budn (cattle and camel) for us and made them one of His symbols. He has decreed that they should be brought to His Sacred House; indeed, they are the best of that which may be offered as a sacrifice to Allah.

[22: 37] Sacrifice is prescribed for you so that you will remember Him at the time of slaughter. He is the Creator and Provider. Nothing of its flesh or blood reaches Him, for He has no need of anything other than Himself.

[22: 38] Trust Allah and repent to Him for your sins! Allah defends His servants who put their trust in Him and turn to Him in repentance; He protects them from the worst of evil people and the plots of the sinners; He protects them, guards them and supports them. And He does not like any of His servants who bear these characteristics, i.e., treachery in covenants and promises and the one who denies the blessings, and does not acknowledge or appreciate them.

[22: 42- 44] Allah consoles His Prophet Muhammad ﷺ for the disbelief of those among his people who opposed him. Every prophet that came with the truth from Allah was criticized, ridiculed, threatened and mocked at, so if you are holding on to the truth and you are facing oppositions, then do not grieve, indeed you are on the right path and your reward is with Allah

[22: 46] Do not be blind or heedless to the signs of Allah. There is blindness more pervasive and more subtle than the blindness of the eyes. There is deafness more insidious than that of the ears. It is the blindness and deafness of the heart and mind – born of heedlessness, and thoughtlessness. We ask Allah to bless us with the heart that can see Allah's greatness and body that would find comfort and pleasure in His worship.

[22: 47- 51] Be of those who do good and encourage good. As those whose hearts believe and whose actions confirm their faith, for them is forgiveness for their previous bad deeds, and a great reward in return for a few good deeds. While those who discourage people from following the Prophet, for them is the agonizingly hot Fire with its severe punishment, may Allah save us from it.

[22: 61- 62] Allah is the Creator, he directs your affairs as He wills. He is **All-Hearer, All-Seer**. He hears what you say, and He sees you, nothing about you is hidden from Him whatsoever. Thus He is True God, no one deserves worship except Him. We are in need of Him and we should submit to Him alone. Everything that you worship instead of Him (may He be exalted) is false, because it can neither bring you benefit nor cause harm.

[22: 66] Allah is the One who gave you life, then He causes you to die and then He will again give you life, are you still grateful to Him?

[22: 70] Not even the weight of a speck of dust, or less than that or greater escapes His knowledge in the heavens or in the earth. He knows all things even before they happen, and He has written that in His Book, *Al-Lawh Al-Mahfuz*.

[22: 73] Allah points out the insignificance of the idols and the foolishness of those who worship them. Even if all the idols and false gods whom you worship were to come together to create a single fly, they would not be able to do that, moreover, they are unable to resist it or take revenge against it if it were to take anything from the good on which it lands. If they wanted to recover that, they would not be able to, even though the fly is the weakest and most insignificant of Allah's creatures.

[22: 74] They have not recognized the might and power of Allah when they worship alongside Him those who cannot even ward off a fly, because they are so weak and incapable, and Allah is the All-Strong Who, by His might and power, created all things.

[22: 75- 76] Allah tells us that He chooses Messengers from His angels as He wills by His law and decree, and He chooses Messengers from mankind to convey His Message. He knows what will happen to His Messengers and the Message He sent them with, for none of their affairs are hidden from Him.

[22: 77- 78] Worship Allah and strive hard in good deeds. Allah has selected you and chosen you over all other nations, and has favored you and blessed you and honored you with the noblest of Messengers and the noblest of Laws. He has not given you more than you can bear and He has not obliged you to do anything that will cause you difficulty except that He has created for you a way out. Thus, fulfill your duties towards Allah, doing that which He has enjoined upon you and avoiding that which He had

forbidden, and seek the help and support of Allah and put your trust in Him, and get strength from Him. He is your Protector and your Helper, He is the One Who will cause you to prevail against your enemies. **Note:** Surah al-Hajj is the only Surah where there are 2 points/verses of **sujud**(prostration). This is interesting because the sujud is a significant mark of submission, and the entire story of Ibrahim (May Allah be pleased with him) and the rites of Hajj that we perform today are all about submission and submitting to a Command Allah.

JUZ 18 – POINTS TO PONDER (Part 1)

The first part of this section consists of the entire Surah Al-Muminoon (Chapter of the Believers). The name is taken from the first verse: “The believers must (eventually) win...” The message of this chapter is one of hope and strength to the early Muslim community, who at the time were facing persecution at the hands of the polytheistic leaders in Makkah. The chapter starts out by describing a Muslim believer and other worthy qualities. The verses then remind the believer of the glory of Allah’s creation, the promise of reward in the Hereafter, and the pending punishment for those who disbelieve. Readers learn a bit about the lives and messages of the Prophets Noah (*Nuh*), Moses (*Musa*), and Aaron (*Harun*). Surah Al Mu’minoon

[23: 1- 10] Do you see yourself as a ‘mu’min’? Here’s your checklist:

You have Khush’u (humility/ tranquility/ fear of Allah) in prayer

You avoid useless activities (that’s of no benefit for a person’s Deen or Dunya). You really try to stay away from backbiting, excessive talking, lying and swearing.

You make paying Zakah a priority and give it with love.

You guard your private parts.

You are always faithful to the trusts and promises.

You plan your life around your salah times and not the other way around..

If you are just cautious of these few obligations, Allah says He will admit you into His paradise. May Allah make us from them, ameen.

[23: 12- 14] It’s Allah, the Best of the Creators, who has created you so miraculously inside the wombs of your mothers. He reminds you of your origin again and again to pull you away from your arrogant behaviour.

[23: 18- 20] Be content with what you have as Allah knows what you need, when you need it and how much you need it. Allah sends down rain in due measure, according to what is needed, not so much that it damages the lands and buildings, and not so little to be insufficient for crops and fruits, but whatever is needed for irrigation, drinking and other benefit.

[23: 20] Allah brought forth trees from Mount Sinai which produces oil and condiment for us to eat. Look around yourself, and contemplate on the fact that how many blessings Allah has bestowed upon you, just to see if you are grateful to Him, or turn arrogant and heedless. Be careful, Don’t be among the latter ones!

[23: 21- 22] Reflect over the multiple benefits He has given to us in cattle, for we drink their milk which comes out from between dung and blood, eat their meat, clothe ourselves with their wool and hair, and ride on their backs and carry heavy burdens on them to far away lands.

[23: 23- 27] When you ask Allah for His help in trials or difficulties, be ready to accept His help and do whatever He inspires you to do! Like Noah (alayhisallam) when He asked Allah to support and help him, Allah gave him an impossible task of constructing a ship, he complied by the command right away, without questioning Him.

[23- 29] Let’s learn from Prophet Nuh and memorize his dua:

‘My Lord! Cause me to land at a blessed landing place, for You are the Best of those who bring to land.’

[23:30] Sometimes Allah asks you to do something you might not see or understand the benefit of, but you just have to trust it is good for you.

[23: 51] All messengers were given the message to eat and drink from the good food and work righteously. There's a deep connection between good food and good deeds.

[23: 52- 53] Our religion is one, then let's hold on to the rope of Allah tightly and do not become divided. Remember; United we stand, divided we fall.

[23: 55- 56] Don't let your abundance in wealth and children make you think that you are VIP in Allah's sight and thus He has blessed you with such gift, rather realize that even His blessing are tests, to see if you are grateful or ungrateful

[23: 57- 61] There is no better month than to be among those who hasten to do good deeds. Those are the people who fear Allah, believe in His signs, worship Him alone, and give out from their wealth.

[23: 60] Always have that feeling in your heart while you are doing any good deed, that Allah MIGHT not accept it, without losing the hope that He will accept it. Always ask Allah to accept from your good deeds.

It was narrated by Ummul Mumineen, Aisha(R.A):

I asked Allah's Messenger (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) about this verse; "And they give what they give while their hearts are fearful "(23:60) whether they were people who drank alcohol and stole. He (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) replied, "No, daughter of as-Siddiq, but they are those who fast, pray and give sadaqah while fearing that their (good) deeds may not be accepted from them (by Allah). They are those who COMPETE with one another in good deeds." (Tirmidhi and Ibn Majah)

[23: 62] No matter what trial or difficulty you are going through in your life, remind yourself that Allah doesn't burden a soul beyond its capacity, He knows you have the potential to manage this problem, that's why He put you through this

[23: 62] Allah will never wrong any soul, nothing will be omitted from our record of good deeds. As for evil deeds, He will forgive and overlook many of them in the case of His believing servants.

[23: 71] If Allah had followed or worked according to our desires and inclinations, the world would have been ruined. It's He alone under whose control the entire universe is, and who manages it all so perfectly (Exalted may He be).

[23: 75- 77] Sometimes Allah gives you a trial or suffering as a warning for you to turn back to Him, and sometimes He gives you blessings upon blessing so may turn to Him and thank Him, but if you persist in your evil actions, then His punishment will seize you in unimaginable ways.

[23:79] Thank Allah for the fact you can hear and see and are blessed with an intellect – we take these things for granted.

[23: 80- 83] It's Allah who has given us life, and when we eventually die, it's He who will recreate us, and indeed it's even more easy for Him to give us the life second time, while He created us first time from simply nothing.

[23: 96] The best way to behave when mixing with people is to treat kindly the one who treats you badly, so as to soften his heart and turn his enmity to friendship, and to turn his hatred to love. When someone is condescending to you, ignore them and be extra nice to them, and they will eventually change their attitude towards you.

[23: 97] During this month of dua'a, let's memorize this dua for the protection from Satan and his evil plots;

[23: 101] When the our arrives, the lineage or any relationship will be of no avail on that Day, not even a father will not ask about his son or care about him. Whenever you are doing anything for the sake of Allah, and your family opposes you, remember that, you will die alone, you will be in your grave alone, and you will be resurrected alone!

[23: 102- 103] The deed that is the heaviest on the scales of good deeds is best character. Besides, the prophet of Allah told us that saying 'SubhanAllah' 'Alhamdulillah' 'SubhnAllahi wa bihamdihi SubhanAllahil Azeem' are the words that are light on tongue, and heavy on scales. Make a habit of

reciting these words while doing your daily chores, working, driving or surfing, and make the scales of you good deeds heavy!

[23: 104] The people of the Hell fire will have horrific smiles on their faces because of their lips being contracted by scorching until the teeth are exposed. Remind yourself of the horror of the Fire when you are about to sin and think: is this really worth it?

[23: 105- 110] People of Hell will admit their sins on the Day of Judgment and will repent to Allah, but it will be of no use, Allah will refuse to speak to them, since they refused to listen to His words and mocked at those who believe in them.. What a humiliation! May Allah protect us on that Day, ameen.

[23:110- 111] When make fun of you, ridicule you for following Allah’s path, be patient and remind yourself that Allah will be proud of you on the Day of Judgment and will admit you into His paradise. May Allah make us from them, ameen

[23: 115] You are not created purposelessly, there is a reason why Allah created you. What is your true purpose in this world? Find the answer, because that will be the deciding factor that where you will end up eternally.

[23: 117] Those who associate partners with Allah, and worship other deities besides Him, they will never be the successful ones, neither in this life, nor in the Next. The surah begins with the description of who are truly successful, and it ends by describing the people who are the ultimate losers. SubhanAllah!

[23: 118] Allah concludes this beautiful surah with a lovely dua’a. Let’s memorize this dua’a as well, and attain His forgiveness,

رَبِّ اغْفِرْ وَارْحَمْ وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرَّحِمِينَ

“My Lord! Forgive and have mercy, for You are the best of those who show mercy!”

JUZ 18 – POINTS TO PONDER (PART 2)

This chapter, Surah An-Nur contains verses which outline the criminal code for fornication, adultery, accusations of adultery without proof, and slander. There are also guidelines for both men and women regarding personal modesty.

A general rule was established that relations among Muslims should be based on good faith, not suspicion and spying. Norms of personal privacy were established, while encouraging good relationships among relatives, friends and neighbors. These guidelines helped to reunite the community, establish clear limits, yet in a spirit of mutual affection and sincerity.

The section ends with additional reminders about the “signs” of Allah’s creation, the miracles in everyday life, which should strengthen our faith.

Surah An Noor 1 to 64

[24:2] A great test in your iman is to check yourself in your ‘opinion’ about the laws of Allah – also regarding punishment of crimes. Do you feel aversion to it or do you accept it and see the wisdom behind it? Your belief in Allah is not complete if you don’t accept the rules in punishments for certain deeds.

[24:4] Accusing chaste women of things they never did is a grave sin! Even sisters do this amongst each other by bringing fake stories about persons they don’t like into the world, may Allah protect us all from doing this and being victim of this.

[24:15] Don’t just receive news with your tongue rather than your ears – ie think about something you hear instead of hastening to repeat it whether you verified the truth or not. How many relationships have been broken and people have become depressed because of others spreading stories?

[24:11-20] Read the background and tafseer of these ayaat...it speaks of Aishah’s (radiAllahu anha) story. The lesson we learn from this story is that when we are hit by a problem or face false blames from

the people, we have to be very patient. We should be strong and not be angry or very defensive or abusive. Just have to be patient and seek help and justice from Allah.

[24:21] Slandering an innocent chaste woman of immorality is a very big sin. Stay away from it even if what you think is true. Allah and His prophet also don't like those who talk a lot.

Prophet (ﷺ) said,

“A person utters a word thoughtlessly (i.e., without thinking about its being good or not) and, as a result of this, he will fall down into the fire of Hell deeper than the distance between the east and the west.” [Al-Bukhari and Muslim].

[24:22] Whenever you are angry with someone, eg a relative, and you find it hard to forgive them, just think: would you not like it that Allah should forgive you? When you forgive, you are the winner!

[24:24] How many times have you told 'white lies' to get out of a certain situation or for people not to find out certain things? On the Day of Judgement your mouth will be sealed and your limbs will bear witness to all you said and did.

[24:27] When you enter your house say ***“Assalamu Alaykum”***! How many times do we just enter without saying the salaam to our family or children?

[24:28] When you go to someone's house and no one responds to the door (knock max three times) – then leave, this is the right of the occupants in case they are not prepared to receive visitors and this should be respected!

[24:30] Not only men but also women should lower their gaze! When you see billboards with half-naked models etc you should look away instead of inspecting the lovely dress she is wearing. Instead how many even buy magazines full of people revealing their awrah (parts of the body which should be covered) for the sake of fashion and trends; have we become blind?

[24:31] Ask Allah truly and sincerely to give you proper understand of what a hijab is and above all to help you apply this in your daily wear. Hijab is not just a headcover nor it's a tight-fitting long dress – study the conditions of the hijab. And also, know who are your mahram and non-mahram – how many say 'o it's ok, he's just my cousin, I don't have to cover for him!' In this ayah you'll find exactly for who you don't have to cover- which means to all the rest you should. Please read: [Precious, Hidden and Protected](#)

[24:37] Business, work and daily chores do not stop believers from Zikr, praying on time and giving zakah.

[24:40] Ask Allah An-Noor to give you light in this life and light in the next and light to be able to cross the siraat to Paradise!

[24:43] Look at all the different clouds and remember Allah, who drives the clouds and makes them into different shapes. Can you then help yourself from not being amazed by His perfect power?

[24:52] SUCCESS CODE: *“And whoever obeys Allah and His Messenger and fears Allah and is conscious of Him – it is those who are the attainers.”*

[24:58] Teach your children (under the age of puberty) to ask permission to enter your room before the fajr prayer, at noon and after the night prayer because these are times of privacy for you.

May Allah guide us to reflect and act on these points. Aameen