*In the Name of Allah, the All-Merciful, the Ever-Merciful. Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon Prophet Muhammad.*

**وَاتْلُ عَلَيْهِمْ نَبَأَ ابْنَيْ آدَمَ بِالْحَقِّ إِذْ قَرَّبَا قُرْبَانًا فَتُقُبِّلَ مِنْ أَحَدِهِمَا وَلَمْ يُتَقَبَّلْ مِنَ الآخَرِ قَالَ لأقْتُلَنَّكَ قَالَ إِنَّمَا يَتَقَبَّلُ اللَّهُ مِنَ الْمُتَّقِينَ (٢٧)لَئِنْ بَسَطْتَ إِلَيَّ يَدَكَ لِتَقْتُلَنِي مَا أَنَا بِبَاسِطٍ يَدِيَ إِلَيْكَ لأقْتُلَكَ إِنِّي أَخَافُ اللَّهَ رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ (٢٨)إِنِّي أُرِيدُ أَنْ تَبُوءَ بِإِثْمِي وَإِثْمِكَ فَتَكُونَ مِنْ أَصْحَابِ النَّارِ وَذَلِكَ جَزَاءُ الظَّالِمِينَ (٢٩)فَطَوَّعَتْ لَهُ نَفْسُهُ قَتْلَ أَخِيهِ فَقَتَلَهُ فَأَصْبَحَ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ (٣٠)فَبَعَثَ اللَّهُ غُرَابًا يَبْحَثُ فِي الأرْضِ لِيُرِيَهُ كَيْفَ يُوَارِي سَوْأَةَ أَخِيهِ قَالَ يَا وَيْلَتَا أَعَجَزْتُ أَنْ أَكُونَ مِثْلَ هَذَا الْغُرَابِ فَأُوَارِيَ سَوْأَةَ أَخِي فَأَصْبَحَ مِنَ النَّادِمِينَ (٣١)**

“And recite to them the story of Adam's two sons, in truth, when they both offered a sacrifice [to Allah ], and it was accepted from one of them but was not accepted from the other. Said [the latter], "I will surely kill you." Said [the former], "Indeed, Allah only accepts from the righteous [who fear Him]. If you should raise your hand against me to kill me - I shall not raise my hand against you to kill you. Indeed, I fear Allah , Lord of the worlds. Indeed I want you to obtain [thereby] my sin and your sin so you will be among the companions of the Fire. And that is the recompense of wrongdoers." And his soul permitted to him the murder of his brother, so he killed him and became among the losers. Then Allah sent a crow searching in the ground to show him how to hide the disgrace of his brother. He said, "O woe to me! Have I failed to be like this crow and hide the body of my brother?" And he became of the regretful.” (5:27-31)

Try to imagine the feelings of Adam and Hawa when they lost both their sons. Qabeel had run away and did not repent, and Habeel was dead. They were in the process of preparing the marriage of Qabeel to Habeel's sister and vice versa. There is no bigger tragedy than a son's death. Hawa was the first mother in history to lose a son.

**What Were Adam's Feelings?**

In the seerah, in al-israa, and al-mi’ra. The Prophet saw a man who had countless people to his right, and countless to his left, and whenever he looked onto those to his right he laughed, and onto those to on his left he wept. The Prophet then asked Jibril who the man was, and Jibril replied that the man was Adam and that whenever he looked to his right he sees those of his children who obeyed him and so he laughs, and whenever he looks to his left he sees those who lost their way and he weeps.

When Habeel said to Qabeel, "Surely Allah accepts only of the pious," Qabeel, as most of us, did not understand his words. If you want to know whether Allah has accepted your deeds or not then look at yourself and see whether you fear Allah or not? How much have you feared Him or Felt Him throughout Ramadan? Enough to stop your sins and illicit cravings? Have you stopped emotionally and physically hurting people? Have you stopped disobeying you parents? Have you stopped from earning ill-begotten money? Have you been fearing Allah so He would save you from hell?

**Piety Is The Objective Of Ramadan:**

**يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ**

"O you who have believed, prescribed for you is the Fast, as it was prescribed for (the ones) who were before you, that possibly you would be pious" (2:183)

**What Does Piety Do?**

**1- Piety Leads To The Forgiveness Of Sins.**

**يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِنْ تَتَّقُوا اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَكُمْ فُرْقَانًا وَيُكَفِّرْ عَنْكُمْ سَيِّئَاتِكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ ذُو الْفَضْلِ الْعَظِيمِ**

"O you who have believed, in case you are pious to Allah, He will set for you an all-distinctive Criterion, (i.e., He will make for you an all-distinctive Criterion “between right and wrong”) and expiate for you your odious (deeds), and forgive you; and Allah is The Owner of the magnificent Grace" (8:29)

**2- Piety Leads You To Jannah.**

**تِلْكَ الْجَنَّةُ الَّتِي نُورِثُ مِنْ عِبَادِنَا مَنْ كَانَ تَقِيًّا**

"That is the Garden which We cause the ones of Our bondmen who were pious, to inherit" (19:63)

**3- Piety Makes Life Easier.**

**وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مِنْ أَمْرِهِ يُسْرًا**

"…and whoever is pious to Allah, He will make for him, of His Command, easiness" (65:4)

**4- Piety Dispels Worries And Grieves, And Expands Your Livelihood.**

**وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مَخْرَجًا**

"… And whoever is pious to Allah, He will make for him (a way) of going out" (65:2)

**5- Piety Leads To The Endowment Of Poor Countries With Blessings.**

**وَلَوْ أَنَّ أَهْلَ الْقُرَى آمَنُوا وَاتَّقَوْا لَفَتَحْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ بَرَكَاتٍ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالأرْضِ وَلَكِنْ كَذَّبُوا فَأَخَذْنَاهُمْ بِمَا كَانُوا يَكْسِبُونَ**"And if the population of the towns had believed and been pious, We indeed would have opened upon them blessings from the heaven and the earth" (7:96)

**Is humanity nowadays Qabeel-oriented or Habeel-oriented?**

**Why is murder the first crime to be documented by the Qur'an? Why not adultery or drinking alcohol?** The angels feared murder, as is evident in the ayah

**قَالُوا أَتَجْعَلُ فِيهَا مَنْ يُفْسِدُ فِيهَا وَيَسْفِكُ الدِّمَاءَ وَنَحْنُ نُسَبِّحُ بِحَمْدِكَ وَنُقَدِّسُ لَكَ قَالَ إِنِّي أَعْلَمُ مَا لا تَعْلَمُونَ**

"... They said, “Will You make therein one who will corrupt in it and shed blood…" (2:30)

**Are we closer now to Qabeel or Habeel** after the advancement of civilization that we reached? If so, then **beware** of teaching your child that aggression is the means to power. You could be the underlying cause of your child's aggressive behaviour without you being aware of it. Beware of beating your children and wives.

"Is Habeel considered passive?" Of course not! Is Habeel going to let his brother kill him? Yes, he will, and that is what had happened! However, the Prophet once mentioned that those who are murdered in protection of their money, their religion, their selves, or their families are considered martyrs. Yet, murder must not take place among relatives nor at the times of strife.

The Prophets pointed out that at the time of strife those who are sitting are better than those who are standing; and those who are standing are better than those who are walking; and those who are walking are better than those who are striving. When someone asked him what to do when attacked at home, the Prophet replied with the ayah

**لَئِنْ بَسَطْتَ إِلَيَّ يَدَكَ لِتَقْتُلَنِي مَا أَنَا بِبَاسِطٍ يَدِيَ إِلَيْكَ لأقْتُلَكَ إِنِّي أَخَافُ اللَّهَ رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ**

"… Indeed, in case you stretch out your hand against me to kill me, in no way will I be stretching out my hand against you to kill you" (5:28)

**Do you know who is the Habeel of the Muslims?.** Othman Ibn-Affan: The Habeel of the Prophet.

During the time Othman Ibn-Affan, the Prophet described as the man whom the angels are shy of, there was a strife.

Othman sent a message to all the towns stating that he will do them whatever they need as long as there is nothing out of the line of obedience to Allah. He got no reply. He then sent them again stating that all those who have any complaints should come forward and justice would take place. He also stated that the cost of the complainant's traveling would be compensated, and that they should not fear any enmity as it is not one of his characteristics. He got no reply.

Madinah was then surrounded by 3000 people. Othman was advised by **Ali Ibn-Abu-Taleb, Zubayr and Talha** either to wear ihram clothes so that he would not be murdered, leave Madinah or to declare war against them. Othman responded by saying that ihram would be ineffective because they would not hesitate to kill him. Leaving was not an option for him either, because he would never run away and leave the city of the Prophet behind.

He also refused to fight in the city of the Prophet and declared that the strife was underway. He would rather have himself killed than have bloodshed in Madinah.

Then came in Abu-Huraira with his sword and announced that he will support Othman. However, Othman ordered him to put away his sword, for surely Abu-Huraira would not like to shed blood in the city of the Prophet. Othman, then reminded him that to kill one soul is equivalent to killing everyone. When Abu-Huraira asked him what would happen to him Othman resorted to the ayah,

**لَئِنْ بَسَطْتَ إِلَيَّ يَدَكَ لِتَقْتُلَنِي مَا أَنَا بِبَاسِطٍ يَدِيَ إِلَيْكَ لأقْتُلَكَ إِنِّي أَخَافُ اللَّهَ رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ**

"… Indeed, in case you stretch out your hand against me to kill me, in no way will I be stretching out my hand against you to kill you" (5:28)

Othman then told Abu-Huraira that the Prophet once told him that he would be rewarded with Jannah for a calamity he would face, and therefore he is being patient.

Those who wanted to stir strife had surrounded Othman's house. Before his assassination, Othman saw a vision whilst asleep. He saw the Prophet asking him whether they [the besiegers] made him go hungry, and he replied with a yes. He (asked whether they made him go thirsty, and he replied with a yes. He asked him whether they surrounded him, and he once more replied with a yes. He then asked him if he would be patient for the night, fast the following day, spend the following night with the Prophet and have breakfast with him, Abu-Bakr and Omar Ibnul-Khattab? Once more, Othman replied with a yes. The following day Othman woke up smiling, and demanded that his servant pull his ears as he once did to him, arguing that this world's retribution is less severe than the hereafter's.

Othman's attackers stormed into his house and tore him apart with their swords while he was reading the ayah,

**فَسَيَكْفِيكَهُمُ اللَّهُ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ**

"… So Allah will soon suffice you for them" ( 2:137)

**The Moment Of Murder**

**فَطَوَّعَتْ لَهُ نَفْسُهُ قَتْلَ أَخِيهِ فَقَتَلَهُ فَأَصْبَحَ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ**

"Then his self-persuaded him to the killing of his brother, so he killed him, then he became among the losers" (5:30)

How was he able to bring himself to kill his own brother? The prophet once explained that temptation is presented to the heart like a straw mat, one straw at a time. The heart that accepts it is specked with a black speck, and he who turns away from it is specked with a white speck. This continues until the heart is either white or black.

**How did the idea of murder occur to Qabeel?** It occurred from hunting and watching the animals kill. However, animals do not kill one of their own species. For example, no lion kills another lion. Satan went to Qabeel with an animal and a stone, and kept hitting the stone against the animal's head until it died, in order to teach him how to kill. Qabeel took a stone and kept hitting Habeel's head with it until he bled and died. Qabeel regretted what he did when his brother died.

According to statistics, murderers feel regret right after the act of killing and seeing the victim bleed. At that instance Satan laughs at the murderer and says,

**قَالَ إِنِّي بَرِيءٌ مِنْكَ إِنِّي أَخَافُ اللَّهَ رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ**

“Surely I am quit of you; Surely I fear Allah, The Lord of the worlds”" (59:16)

Qabeel thereby lost the Hereafter. All those who are wrongly murdered are going to be partly blamed on Qabeel because he was the first to murder in humanity. Can you imagine that he carries the blame for all those who were unduly murdered even in wars! Those who enact immoral and corrupt practices will incur the vices of all those who follow them.

**Qabeel lost his brother**, the hand that assisted him, lost his father, lost his marriage and lost the security of Jannah.

Allah created this world for you to live together, not kill one another.

Just like there are murderers and those who are corrupt, there are also those who are similar to Habeel, Ibrahim, Musa, Isa, and Mohammad, and there are those who are reformers. If you happen to be one of the reformers, then you are one of those Allah created the Earth for.

**Qabeel killed Habeel and had no idea what to do with the body.** The concept of burial did not yet exist at the time, and he had the first dead body in humanity on his hands. The body started to smell, and the animals and vultures started circling the area. Did you know that the disintegration of the dead body and the resulting smell are of Allah's mercies? Had that not been the case, then people would have kept their dead's bodies with them, without burying them, and life would have been very depressing. Through the raven, Allah taught us how to bury our dead so we can forget and go on with our lives and meet our dead in Jannah if Allah wills.

**فَبَعَثَ اللَّهُ غُرَابًا يَبْحَثُ فِي الأرْضِ لِيُرِيَهُ كَيْفَ يُوَارِي سَوْأَةَ أَخِيهِ قَالَ يَا وَيْلَتَا أَعَجَزْتُ أَنْ أَكُونَ مِثْلَ هَذَا الْغُرَابِ فَأُوَارِيَ سَوْأَةَ أَخِي فَأَصْبَحَ مِنَ النَّادِمِينَ**

"Then Allah sent forth a raven (Or: crow) searching into the earth to show him how he should overlay the shameful parts (i.e. the vile body) of his brother. He said, “Oh woe to me! Am I unable to be like this raven, (and) so overlay the shameful parts of my brother?” So he became among the remorseful" (5:31)

He became remorseful, but his remorse was not that of repentance, but that of helplessness because he did not know how he will end up. He killed his brother and did not know what to do with the body. **Never undertake any action without clearly understanding its consequences.**

Qabeel ran away, and Adam and Hawa' lost both their sons. If you want to know how they felt, ask a mother who had lost a son at the hands of his brother, not at those of an enemy.

But Allah compensated Adam and Hawa' with another son, Sheith (Seth), whose offspring is the rest of humanity. Sheith became a prophet. Moreover, of Adam's offspring came Idris (Enoch). Thus, Allah endowed Adam with a martyr and two prophets.

**وَاذْكُرْ فِي الْكِتَابِ إِدْرِيسَ إِنَّهُ كَانَ صِدِّيقًا نَبِيًّا (٥٦)وَرَفَعْنَاهُ مَكَانًا عَلِيًّا (٥٧)أُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِنْ ذُرِّيَّةِ آدَمَ**

"And mention in the Book Idris; surely he was most sincere, a Prophet. And We raised him to a most exalted place. Those are they whom Allah has favored among the Prophets of the offspring of Adam" (19:56-58)

***This Stories Message***

1. Surely Allah accepts only of the pious
2. Never break ties with your relatives
3. Watch out for blood on your hands,
4. Know thy self. And protect yourself from six afflictions of the human soul. ***pride, envy, desire, greed, stubbornness, and rage***
5. Be patient in strife and thankful to Allah