

July 11

Surah At-Tawbah.....

**Traits of hypocritical** men and women, 1- they help each other to commit sin and spread evil, 2- oppose Allah's commands deliberately to rebel against Him, 3- break their promises, 4- are self-centered and stingy, 5- Mock believers

**Instructions towards the impending war** against Byzantine Empire that moved against the rising power in Arabia (Islam). Hypocrites have been exposed in the backdrop of Tabuk expedition.

**Message to the believers:** do not let the wealth and the pompous lifestyle of the hypocrites impress you, they have achieved the glittery life by sacrificing the chances of getting any reward in the Hereafter.

**Deeds with sincere intentions**, even though seemingly small, get acceptance from Allah SWT [the example of a companion, who was able to afford only a hand full of dates for the battle of Tabuuk – the Prophet (s.a.w) placed his charity above everything else that was given because of his sincerity]

**True believers** – do not make false excuses for their mistakes and laziness. They admit their faults and ask for forgiveness.

**A good leader/teacher** is a well-wisher of his followers and wants them to succeed.

**Surah Yunus (Jonah)** – Revealed in Makkah

The main subjects of this Surah are faith in Allah, authenticity of the Qur'an, answers to those who deny revelation, inspiring fear in the unbelievers, exposing the glory and magnitude of the act of creation and of the Creator, the lack of permanence of the world as well as calling the attentions of all peoples to the world after death.

**Rejecting meeting with Allah**, leads to an unaccountable life, committing immoralities, lack of any control over life, want of win by hook or by crook, prosperity, happiness, fame and power. These materialistic attitudes make people heedless of the signs of Allah and mislead them into wrong ways that lead to Hell.

**A Qur'an other than this-** When Quran is presented (recited) to the people (who do not believe meeting Allah), say, bring us a Qur'an other than this one, or at least make changes in it. Praise to be Allah, same mentality exists today when people say, reform the Quran or make it "moderate" and acceptable (to their wishes). The Prophet SAW has been said to say, "tell them, I have no authority of making any alterations in this Book for I am not its author but Allah is the One Who is sending it down to me. Therefore there is no question of any compromise about it. If you want to accept its way, you will have to accept it as it is; otherwise you are free to reject it".

**Tawhid intrinsically embedded in human nature-** People who reject faith or hardened atheists invoke Allah's help when they are pressed hard from all sides and despair of help from any other quarter.

**Thought provoking questions about Tawhid**, 1- Who provides you with sustenance out of the heavens and the earth, 2- Who holds mastery over your hearing and sight, 3- Who brings forth the living from the dead and the dead from the living, 4- Who governs all affairs of the universe? They will surely recognize that it is Allah. Then how are you being turned away?

**Allah alone guides to the truth**, He creates (first time) and he will create again. Believe in the truth with conviction and do not be among those who follow conjecture, surely conjecture can be no substitute for truth.

**Proof of the Quran's Truth-** The messenger (s.a.w) did not compose this Qur'an (as they say). This is from Allah. Bring a Surah like the Qur'an if you are doubtful. A repeated challenge which no one ever dared to take up.

**The Quran** is a mercy, blessing and cure for the problems of mankind. This Quran is better than all the riches that people accumulate in this world.

**There is a Messenger** for every nation and community. When their Messenger comes, the fate of that people is decided (based on the acceptance or rejection of his message)

**Allah knows everything of the universe** – "Not even an atom's weight escapes your Lord on the earth or in the heaven, nor is there anything smaller or bigger than that, except that it is on record in a Clear Book". Whatever you do, Allah is a witness over it.

**Refuting blasphemy** – some people say Allah has begotten a son. He is pure and without any defect, He is Self-sufficient in every way and He is the Owner of everything in the heavens and the earth. He is free from any son or family. These are the lies people attributed towards Him." 'Indeed those who invent lies against Allah will never prosper'