

JOURNEY TO THE HEREAFTER

The nearest translation of the Jumu'ah Bayaan by Shaykh-ul-Ḥadīth Ḥaḍrat Mawlāna Ādam Ṣāḥib رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ on Friday 5th January 2001 at Jame Masjid, Leicester.

The Use of Examples in Qur'ān and Ḥadīth

Last Jumu'ah, I spoke about how the Holy Qur'ān and the Aḥādīth of Rasūlullāh ﷺ use examples to help people understand Dīn. This method of teaching is a great blessing from Allāh ﷻ. Through examples, one can effectively convey key aspects of faith and practice.

In many parts of the Qur'ān, the word "مَثَلٌ" (mathal) is used to introduce an example. For instance, in the third Juz', Allāh ﷻ says:

مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ حَبَّةٍ أَنْبَتَتْ سَبْعَ سَنَابِلَ فِي كُلِّ سُنبُلَةٍ مِائَةُ حَبَّةٍ ۗ وَاللَّهُ يُضَاعِفُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ ۗ وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ

"The likeness of those who spend their wealth in the way of Allāh is as the likeness of a grain (of corn); it grows seven ears, and each ear has a hundred grains." (Qur'ān 2:261)

Through this verse, Allāh ﷻ teaches us that spending in His path brings immense reward—far beyond our expectations. Just like planting a single seed, results in hundreds of grains, Allāh ﷻ multiplies the reward many times over based on intention.

The Virtue of Sūrah al-Kahf

Dear friends, we should make an effort to recite Sūrah al-Kahf every Friday, as it carries many virtues. If someone recites it and passes away within that week, then Inshā'Allāh they will leave this world with Īmān.

Let me share a story: there was once an elderly man in another country who never missed a single Ṣalāh in the masjid. For Fajr and 'Ishā', he would bring a torch due to the darkness. One day, I noticed his absence and inquired about him. I was told that he had fallen ill. I visited him after Jumu'ah, and he told me that he had recited Sūrah al-Kahf the previous Friday and was trying to do the same that day. That very Jumu'ah, he passed away.

From the Aḥādīth, we learn that the one who recites this Sūrah on Jumu'ah receives a nūr (light) that extends from the heavens to the earth, and his sins are forgiven. If he dies before the next Jumu'ah, this recitation will be a source of help for him, Inshā'Allāh.

The Temporary Nature of This World

The word "مَثَلٌ" (mathal) also appears in Sūrah al-Kahf, where Allāh ﷻ says:

وَاضْرِبْ لَهُم مَّثَلًا الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا كَمَا أَنزَلْنَاهُ مِن السَّمَاءِ فَاخْتَلَطَ بِهِ نَبَاتُ الْأَرْضِ فَأَصْبَحَ هَشِيمًا تَذْرُوهُ الرِّيَّاحُ ۗ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ مُّقْتَدِرًا

"Set forth to them the parable of the life of this world: it is like the water We send down from the sky, which is absorbed by the earth's vegetation; but then it becomes dry stubble, scattered by the winds. Allāh has full power over everything." (Qur'ān 18:45)

This verse paints a vivid image: after rain falls, the earth blossoms with vegetation, spreading greenery as far as the eye can see. But once the seasons change, all of that dries up—leaving behind only dust and rocks.

In the same way, a person enjoying a luxurious life—house, car, happy family, good health—can suddenly find his situation changed. Old age creeps in. His beard turns white, his body weakens, he loses his appetite, and he no longer enjoys the same things. Despite having everything, he can no longer make use of it. The phone rings, but he cannot see the numbers. He has plenty of clothes but lacks the energy to open the wardrobe. His desire for fine things fades.

The Qur'ānic metaphor becomes real: the vibrant vegetation becomes barren soil.

The Elderly and Their Trials

This also applies to women. A time may come when an elderly mother is told by her daughter-in-law that she is no longer needed in the kitchen. The same kitchen she designed, cleaned, and took pride in—now she's told to sit in the next room. Though food is brought to her, she feels replaced, sidelined, and unnecessary. This is a form of emotional hardship and humiliation.

Allāh ﷻ explains that even those who once had beautiful gardens in this world will only have plants and trees on their graves in the end.

The Stages of Life

Allāh ﷻ created us in the wombs of our mothers. We were helpless—unable to eat, drink, or move without assistance. Then He granted us strength. We learned to walk, to run, to be independent. Eventually, we reach a stage where we decline again—just like an infant.

This is the example given by the Qur'ān. One day we are strong and thriving, and the next day, we are on the brink of the Ākhirah.

What Comes After

If a person fills his life with the love of Allāh ﷻ and Rasūlullāh ﷺ, following His commandments and living the Sunnah, then after death, he will become youthful again in Jannah. However, if he lived a life contrary to this, he will grow even weaker and will be destined for Jahannam.

A Final Du‘ā

May Allāh ﷻ grant us all the ability and understanding to follow His commandments and the Sunnah of Rasūlullāh ﷺ. Āmīn.