

## Points to Ponder

### Excerpts from the 15<sup>th</sup> Juz of the Quran

Surah Israa' also known as Surah Bani Isra'eel.

Allah Ta'alaa talks about the different episodes of subjugation brought upon the Israelites due to their rebellion, corruption and mischief-making. At first, after the demise of Sayyidinaa Sulaiman alaihis salaam , the ruler of Jerusalem an Israelite, became corrupt. The ruler of Egypt attacked him and took away the gold and silver of Baytul-maqdis.

2. The second event relates to the period nearly four hundred years

After that. Some Jews settled in Baytul-maqdis started idol-worship

while the rest began disputing among themselves. This

prompted another ruler of Egypt to attack them.

3. The third event came to pass after some years when Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylon ransacked Baytul-maqdis. He conquered the city, looted property and took back a lot of people as prisoners of war.

When he left, he had a member of the family of the former king appointed a ruler of the city as his deputy.

**4. This new king, who worshipped idols and was corrupt, re-**

**belled against Nebuchadnezzar, he returned, killed people, destroyed**

**property and burned the city razing it to rubble. This hap-**

**pened nearly four hundred and fifteen years after the construction of the**

**Masjid. After that, the Jews went out as exiles to Babylon where they**

**lived in disgrace for seventy years. After that, the King of Iran attacked the King of Babylon and conquered it. Then the King of Iran showed**

**mercy to the Jewish expatriates and ordered that they should be sent**

**back to Syria along with things looted from them. Now the Jews had re-**

**pented having forsaken their habitual sins and misdeeds. When they re-**

**settled there, they restored the original structure of Masjid al-Aqsa with the support of the King of Iran.**

5. Then came the fifth event. When the Jews had peace and prosperity once again, the first thing they forgot was their past. They returned to the kind of evil deeds they were used to. Then, it so happened that, one hundred and seventy years before the birth of Sayyidna Easa as the king who had founded Antakiah (Antioch) attacked, killed forty thousand Jews and took with him another forty thousand as prisoners and slaves, even desecrated the Masjid though its structure remained safe. But, later, the successors of that king rendered the city and the Masjid totally denuded. Soon after this, Baytul-maqdis came under the authority of Roman kings. They put the Masjid back into shape and it was after eight years that Sayyidna Easa as was born.

**6. Forty years after the physical ascension of Sayyidna Easa as the Jews chose to rebel against their Roman rulers. The Romans destroyed the city and the Masjid once again relegating it to what it was. The king at that time was called Titus who was neither Jewish nor Christian because long after him Constantine I was a Christian. From that time to the time of Sayyidna 'Umar ra, this Masjid lay desolate until he had it reconstructed.**

The two events mentioned in bold above seem to be the two events that Allah refers to in this Surah Ayah Nos. 4, 5, 6.

*And We conveyed to the Children of Israel in the Scripture that, "You will surely cause corruption on the earth twice, and you will surely reach [a degree of] great haughtiness.*

*So, when the promise came for the first of the two, We sent against you slaves of Ours given to terrible warfare. They entered the very innermost parts of your homes. And it was a promise (completely) fulfilled.*

*Then We gave you once again, a return of victory over them. And We helped you with wealth and children and made you more numerous in man power.*

One of the indications to their downfall, was the proliferation of the rich, opulent and rapacious. They caused chaos through their greed and debauchery and that became the precursor of their destruction.

*Ayah 16: And when We intend to destroy a city, We command its affluent but they defiantly disobey therein; so the word comes into effect upon it, and We destroy it with [complete] destruction.*

So the increase in affluence and in wealthy people within a society is not by default and indication of the prosperity of a nation, in fact if the wealthy are corrupt it is very much an indication towards their decline. Poverty is a bounty we don't ask for, but it has its lustre and light that cannot be achieved through wealth and opulence. In Surah Kahf Allah instructs Rasulullah Sallallahu alaihi wasallam to:

*And remain (O Muhammad SAW) patiently with those who call on their Lord morning and afternoon, seeking His pleasure, and let not your eyes overlook them, desiring the pomp and glitter of the life of the world; and obey not him whose heart We have made heedless of Our Remembrance, one who follows his own lusts and whose affair (deeds) has been lost.*

Our Rasulullah Sallallahu alaihi wasallam was often heard making the following Dua:

اللَّهُمَّ أَحْيِنِي مِسْكِينًا ، وَأَمْتُنِي مِسْكِينًا ، وَاحْشُرْنِي فِي زُمْرَةِ الْمَسَاكِينِ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

*O Allah, let me live as a poor person, die as a poor person and raise me on the day of Qiyamah with the poor [Tirmidhi]*

## What to teach your child first?

Teach a child the last Ayah of Surah Bani Israeel Ayah no. 111 . It's a Sunnah. [ibn Katheer, Qurtubi]

وَقُلِ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي لَمْ يَتَّخِذْ وَلَدًا وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ شَرِيكٌ فِي الْمُلْكِ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ وَلِيٌّ مِنَ الْذِلِّ وَكَبُرَهُ تَكْبِيرًا

When any child from the family of Rasulullah Sallallahu alaihi wasallam began to talk, Our Rasulullah Sallallahu alaihi wasallam would teach them this Ayah.

It seems difficult..... but break into small parts and let the child repeat it every day. In a month the child would know most of it.

Surah Kahf

Are you in debt??? Is your financial life on a downward spiral?

Read this Ayah:

وَقُلْ أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي لَمْ يَنْخِذْ وَلَدًا وَلَمْ يَكُنْ  
لَّهُ شَرِيكٌ فِي الْمُلْكِ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ  
لَّهُ وَلِيٌّ مِّنَ الظَّالِمِينَ وَكَبِيرٌ تَكْبِيرًا  


Followed by this Ayah: three times.

وَتَوَكَّلْتُ عَلَى الْحَيِّ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ

## **Always say inshaa Allah**

*Ayah 24/ 25 : And never say of anything, "Indeed, I will do that tomorrow," Except (with the saying), "If Allah wills!" And remember your Lord when you forget*

***“And remember your Lord when you forget”***

Read the following 10(11) Ayaat of Surah Baqarah daily and you will not forget the Quran or any thing related to Islam:

**Ayaat 1-5**

**255-257 and**

**284-287**

Whoever recites the above Ayaat before going to sleep, will not forget any portion of the Quran which was memorised. (Ref: Sunan Daarimi ; narrated by Abdullah bin Masood R.A)