

# Punishment

*In the name of ALLAH the most Beneficent the most Merciful*

ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala knows the condition of everything he has created. He himself is ever living. ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala is the Maintainer of everything. His knowledge and His power extend over the heavens and the Earth. There is none who speaks more truth than ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala.

When the ear piercing sound of the trumpet is heard, announcing the advent of the day of Judgement, it is on that day, when a person will remember, what actions he committed in this duniya (world), and he will have to face the consequences of punishment, due to his/her bad actions, and disobedience.

Time and again ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala punishes the sinner, in this life as well, and we are given many examples of this occurrence:

ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala sent Moosa (AS) (Moses) with many miracles to Fir'oun (Pharaoh) and his ministers, but they continually rejected these miracles. To punish them for their kufr (revolt), ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala seized them, and they met their demise, by being drowned.

Moosa (AS) filled a well with water and made du'aa (Supplication). As a result of his du'aa (Supplication) the water had such an effect that if an immoral woman had drunk from it, her face would have turned black and she would have suffered an immediate death! This is the punishment of ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala given to the sinners of this duniya (world).

It is extremely evil for a person to make a Wish against a prophet, or his followers. Unfortunately, a man named Bal'am Ba'oor committed this grave mistake and he was punished, when ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala seized him.

There was a village at the sea side where the majority of its inhabitants used to disobey Allah Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala. They were prohibited from fishing on Saturdays, yet the temptation to fish was so great, that they failed to abide by the prohibition. ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala seized those who disobeyed his command, and as punishment they were transformed into monkeys, three days after which they all died.

There was an orchard, and the owners of this orchard wanted to pluck the fruits of their orchard for themselves, with no intention of giving a share, to the miskeen (poor). To punish them for their selfishness, ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala sent fire to burn down

the orchard, during the night, thereby depriving the owners of their orchard. This is how ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala punishes, those who commit sin!

When the Quraish refused to obey the Prophet Muhammad (SAW), it was then, that the Prophet Muhammed (SAW) invoked Allah Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala to afflict them with years of drought. They faced draught and severe exhaustion, so much so that they were forced to eat bones. A man would look towards the sky and imagine seeing something like smoke between him and the sky, because of the severity of his hunger. This was the punishment in the duniya (world) that was given to the people of Quraish.

Such is the seizure of Allah Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala, when he seizes the people while they are doing wrong. Verily his punishment is painful and severe. Therefore, there is a sure lesson for those who fear the torment of the hereafter. The day of Recompense is the day when all the dwellers of the heavens and the earth will be present for the reckoning.

The punishment in this duniya (world) is given by ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala in order to make people realise, the error of their ways, and thereby provide them with the opportunity to repent, so that they may return to the path of Imaan (Faith) and Taqwa (Piety). However, if people do not repent then ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala opens onto them the gates of all things i.e. all the comforts and luxuries, even as they are rejoicing in that which they have been given, ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala seizes them suddenly, leaving them no hope of ever recovering the bounties they have lost.

In order to save oneself from the punishment of ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala, one must perform actions, that will earn the pleasure and love of ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala. The wise individual realises these facts. The one who ponders these facts can easily become a pious person, an obedient slave of ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala, a true Muslim, a true human being and a merciful person towards mankind.

May ALLAH Subhaanahu Wa ta'aala enable us to apply our best efforts, with sincerity to become a true follower of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW), the seal of prophet hood and the best person ever seen.

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