

Noble Qualities of Prophet Ibrahim

Learning Objectives

- To understand the qualities of Prophet Ibrahim (as) and what they resulted in
- To begin to understand the relationship between Prophet Ibrahim (as) and Allah

So many great qualities were combined in the personality of Prophet Ibrahim (as). Ayatullah Nasir Makarim Shirazi in his Tafsir of this passage quotes an Arab poet who says:

***It is not beyond Allah
To combine the world [all good qualities] in one [person]***

Last lesson we discussed the Noble Qualities of Prophet Ibrahim. Today let's look at the outcome of these noble qualities: Allah

- 1) **Chose Prophet Ibrahim for Himself.** Allah entrusted the mission of spreading monotheism to him. He made him a friend (Khaleel), a beloved servant. The Holy Quran says;

وَاتَّخَذَ اللَّهُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ خَلِيلًا

and Allah took Ibrahim as a friend (4:125)

- 2) **Guided him on the right path**, protecting him from all types of mistakes and slips.
- 3) **Gave him good in this world** – Mufasssireen interpret this as all the favours that were bestowed upon Ibrahim (a) in this world, namely; honourable reputation, virtuous progeny, raising the walls of the Ka'bah, long life, wealth, and prayers that were answered.
- 4) **Placed him among the righteous in the Hereafter.** This is a direct answer to his dua:

رَبِّ هَبْ لِي حُكْمًا وَأَلْحِقْنِي بِالصَّالِحِينَ

My Lord, grant me wisdom and make from the Righteous. (26:83)

- 1) **Made his creed a part of the Islamic Ummah**, not just for the people of his time. The last part of the verse above tells us that the Holy Prophet (s) was told to follow the creed of Prophet Ibrahim (as). Such was his status that he became an example for all times to come.

Points to Ponder

1) Being alone is not something to be apprehensive about. Nabi Ibrahim is an excellent example of one man who stood against the people and rituals of his time and established himself as the most praiseworthy leader of generations of believers to come. Human beings are wary of standing alone, afraid of the loneliness and isolation it brings, but it is necessary to do so when principles are at stake.

2) The righteous ones (*Saliheen*) are a chosen group of people and will have a high status in the hereafter. Many Du'as ask for a place among the *Saliheen* (*My Lord, grant me wisdom and join me with the righteous, (26:83), Admit me, by Your mercy, among Your righteous servants, (27:19)*). The

Holy Qur'an tells us that only certain people can be admitted into this group: *And those who believe and do good deeds, We will surely admit them among the righteous.* (al-Ankabut, 29:9)

3) God chooses worthy people and praises them in the Quran, making them inspiring examples for others to follow. But the praise and status only comes after the person has shown sincerity and worthiness himself.

Prophet Ibrāhīm (as) is an excellent example of one man who stood against the people and rituals of his time and established himself as the most praiseworthy leader of generations of believers to come. Human beings are wary of standing alone, afraid of the loneliness and isolation it brings, but it is necessary to do so when principles are at stake.

Remember Prophet Ibrahim (as) when you feel you are alone, hanging on to the principles and values that come from God. Remember how Prophet Ibrahim was alone, but God called him a nation.

Activity Suggestions

Reflect on a time that you were doing the right thing but felt alone. What can be done to make this feeling go away?

Discuss what 'Khaleel' could mean – Imagine being a friend of Allah