

COMMENTARY OF SURAH AL-QALAM (c.68) PART EIGHT

THEME: Don't be intimidated by the rich and influential people

ISIA OF EDMONTON [www.jammat.org]
SHAYKH SALEEM BHIMJI

COMMENTARY OF SURAH AL-QALAM (c. 68)

Part Eight: Verses Fourteen & Fifteen

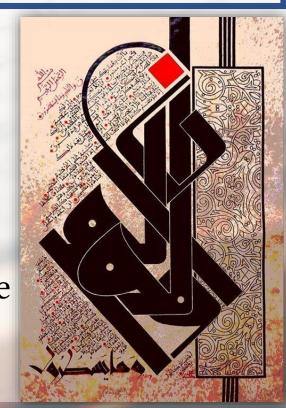
أَن كَانَ ذَا مَالٍ وَ بَنِينَ ٥ إِذَا تُتْلَى عَلَيْهِ آيَاتُنَا قَالَ أَسَاطِيرُ الْأُوّلِينَ

"Because he possesses a large amount of wealth and sons;

when Our communications are recited to him, he simply

responds by saying: 'These are nothing but stories of those of the

past."



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"And bear in mind that your wealth *and possessions* and your children are but an test *for you*." (8:28)

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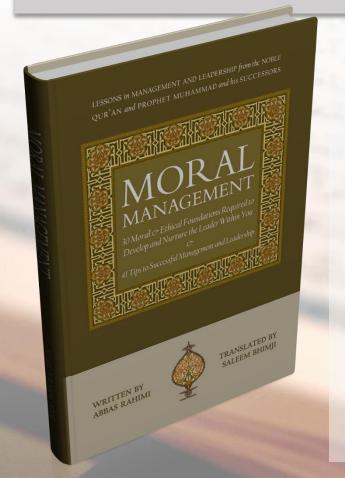
وَقَالَ لَهُمْ نَبِيُّهُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ قَدْ بَعَثَ لَكُمْ طَالُوتَ مَلِكًا قَالُوا أَنَى يَكُونُ لَهُ الْمُلْكُ عَلَيْنَا وَنَحْنُ أَحَقُّ بِالْمُلْكِ مِنْهُ وَلَمْ يُؤْتَ سَعَةً مِنْ الْمَالِ قَالَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ اصْطَفَاهُ عَلَيْهُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ عَلَيْكُمْ وَزَادَهُ بَسْطَةً فِي الْعِلْمِ وَاللَّهُ يُؤْتِي مُلْكَهُ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ

"And their Prophet said to them, 'Verily, Allah has appointed Tālūt (Saul) to be a controlling authority over you.'

They, *his people*, said: 'How can he have governance over us, whereas we are better entitled to control than he, and **he has not been given abundance of wealth**?' He, *their Prophet of God*, replied, 'Surely, Allah has chosen him above you and **He has given him a vast deal of knowledge and bodily strength**.' And Allah gives His sovereignty to whom He wills, for Allah is All-Embracing, All-Knowing." (2:282)

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Some traditions from the Infallibles on the issue of leadership as taken from "Moral Management"

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"A person who seeks leadership while one does not have the right to do so *because he does not have the credentials* will be deprived of the obedience *of the people.*"

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إِقْبَلِ الْحَقَّ مِمَّنْ أَتَاكَ بِهِ صَغِيراً أَوْ كَبِيراً وَ إِنْ كَانَ بَغِيضاً وَارْدُدِ الْبَاطِلَ عَلى مَنْ جَاءَ بِهِ صَغِيراً أَوْ كَبِيراً وَ إِنْ كَانَ حَبِيباً

"Accept the truth regardless of who it comes from – a young person or an old person – even if the person is your adversary; and reject falsehood no matter who it comes from – a young person or an old person – even if the person is a close friend."

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Part Eight: Verses Fourteen & Fifteen

لاَ تَنْقُضَنَّ سُنَّةً صَالِحَةً عُمِلَ بِهَا وَ اجْتَمَعَتِ الأُلْفَةُ عَلَيْهَا وَ صَلْحَتِ الرَّعِيَّةُ عَلَيْهَا

"As a leader, do not oppose a righteous practice which has

been acted upon before you took over or has become familiar

and accepted practice among the people."

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"Entrusting the leadership to a person who is inferior and inexperienced leads to dissolution and failure."

