

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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Verses on Contemplation and Taking Lessons in the Glorious Qur'an

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, **“So take a lesson, O people of insight.”** I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger. May Allah’s Peace and Blessings be upon him, his Household, Companions and upon those who follow their path to the Day of Judgment.

Taking Lessons is one of the greatest characteristics of believers, and one of the peculiar qualities of pious people. Those who contemplate and take lessons are the people of insight and mindful hearts. The Almighty Allah says, **“There truly is a reminder in this for whoever has a heart, whoever listens attentively.”**

When contemplating the Glorious Qur'an, one finds that the Almighty Allah has urged us to use our minds in taking lessons, reflection and contemplation. This is a top priority , and even one of the highest acts of worship. The Almighty Allah said, **“So take a lesson, O people of insight.”** He (the Most High) also said, **“Say, ‘Look at what is in the heavens and on the earth.”** In another verse, Allah said, **“Have these**

people not travelled through the land with hearts to understand and ears to hear?"

Among things that the Glorious Qur'an called us to take lessons from is the sequence of day and night, and the differences between them, as this gives insights for mindful people. The Almighty Allah said. "Allah alternates the day and night. Surely in this is a lesson for people of insight." Allah also said, **"It is He who made the night and day follow each other- so anyone who wishes may be mindful or show gratitude."** In a Hadith Qudsi, Allah says, "In My Hands is [the authority of] all things and I alternate the night and the day."

When the following Qur'anic verse was revealed, **"There truly are signs in the creation of the heavens and earth, and in the alternation of night and day, for those with understanding,"** the Prophet (PBUH) said, "Woe is to those who read it but never contemplate."

Even in the bounties that Allah has put in the animal in order that human can benefit from, there are insights to think about. For example, the Almighty Allah showed us in the Qur'an that He (Glory be to him) creates for us milk which is a pure drink that comes out from the body of the animals that also include blood and waste. Allah said, **"In livestock, too, you have a lesson- We give you a drink from the contents of their bellies, between waste matter and blood, pure milk, sweet to the drinker."** Allah

also said, **“There is a lesson for you in livestock: We produce milk for you to drink from their bellies. And they have many other benefits: from them you may eat.”** This indicates the great wisdom and power of Allah, and His bounties over His creatures.

The Glorious Qur’an has urged us to think about and take lessons from the stories of Prophets, which include insights, lessons and admonitions. The Almighty Allah said, **“There is a lesson in the stories of such people for those who understand. This revelation is no fabrication: it is a confirmation of the truth of what was sent before it; an explanation of everything; a guide and a blessing for those who believe.”**

All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds; may Allah’s Peace and Blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), his companions and followers:

There is no doubt that the Glorious Qur’an is rich with verses that call for contemplating and taking lessons from the stories of previous nations and their punishment after they had disobeyed the commands of their Lord. The Almighty Allah said, **“Do they not draw a lesson from the many generations We destroyed before them, through whose dwelling places they now walk? There truly are signs in this for anyone with understanding.”** Allah also said, **“Have they not travelled through the**

land and seen how their predecessors met their end? They were mightier than them: they cultivated the earth more and built more upon it. Their own Messengers also came to them with clear signs: Allah did not wrong them; they wronged themselves.”

Allah also said, “The people of ‘Ad behaved arrogantly throughout the land without any right, saying, “Who could be stronger than us?” Did they not realize that Allah, who created them, was stronger than them?’ They continued to reject Our message.” About the people of Thamud, Allah said, **“As for Thamud, We gave them guidance but they preferred blindness, so they were struck by a blast of humiliating punishment for their misdeeds.”** Regarding the people of Lut who have been severely punished for their theological and behavioral deviations, Allah said, “We shall send a punishment from heaven down on the people of this town because they violate [Allah’s order]. We left some [of the town] there as a clear sign for those who use their reason.” Allah also said, **“And so when what We had ordained came about, We turned their town upside down and rained down stones of baked clay on it, layer upon layer, marked from your Lord. It is not far from the evildoers.”**

So, how much we need to think and contemplate to take lessons, as this strengthens faith, brings the love of Allah, and implants in our hearts fear from Allah and hope for His Mercy and Forgiveness!

We ask Allah to make us among the people of understanding and consideration, and We ask Him, the Almighty, to protect our country Egypt and all other countries of the worlds!