

# Universal Nurturing

## Day 18

1440 رمضان 18  
23.5.19



التربية  
العالمية

Every ayah is nurturing, and brings the best from us. It is elevation, taking us to a higher level.

Allah shows us our faults, so that we can cover them with taqwa; this is التخلية, purification. Then you can fill the place in your heart with acts of worship of the

heart; this is التخلية, beautification.

Balqis was the queen of the kingdom of Saba', and they worshipped the sun. The shaitan beautified this action in their eyes, and this stopped them from seeing the light of truth. The hudhud understood that they had been trapped into worshipping the sun. They were misguided, but Allah can change anyone. So He brought a series of decrees, at the end of which, Balqis uttered the words of truth. She submitted to رب العالمين. She admitted the crime of shirk. Sulayman عليه السلام was the means of her guidance. Allah nurtured Balqis in different ways.

Her story begins when the hudhud flew past Saba', and saw them worshipping the sun. He told Sulayman عليه السلام about them, and he wrote a letter to Balqis, inviting them to submit to Allah. This letter began the chain of changes. Sometimes even a word can trigger change.

Balqis conferred with her ministers, and decided to appease Sulayman عليه السلام by sending him a gift, but this offended him, and he sent it back, and decided to send his army to the land of Saba'. He wanted to drive them out in humiliation. So Balqis decided to show their submission by going to him herself.

Months were needed for them to reach Jerusalem, so Sulayman عليه السلام thought of a tactic, and he asked his chiefs, jinn and human, if they could bring the throne of Balqis to him before she reached him. One powerful jinn professed to bring it before Sulayman left his place. But another chief, an angel or a scholar, who had knowledge of the greatest name of Allah, said he could bring the throne in the blink of an eye. When this happened, Sulayman recognized the test of gratitude.

Balqis needed to be taken out of her corrupt environment so that she could see truth, and this whole situation brought Sulayman عليه السلام closer to Allah. Sulayman عليه السلام had her distinctive throne disguised, because he wanted to test her intelligence. Why was she worshipping the sun? Was she deficient in intelligence, and belief in the unseen? So she was asked isn't this your throne, and she answered very cleverly that seemed like it, because she wasn't sure.

The next test was for her courage. Sulayman عليه السلام had a crystal palace, with the floor also made of crystal, under which there was flowing water. She was invited to enter. When she saw the floor, it seemed as if it was water, so she lifted her hem to save it from getting wet, and her shin was exposed. This showed her level of courage, she went forward into the unknown, but she took precautions.

Her fitrah was covered with shirk, but it was alive, so she recognized the truth, and submitted to Allah. Allah is the Nurturer and Reformer. He nurtures His slaves in different ways and decrees in order to make them move forward.

وَصَدَّهَا مَا كَانَتْ تَعْبُدُ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ إِنَّهَا كَانَتْ مِنْ قَوْمٍ كَافِرِينَ  
And that which she was worshipping other than Allah had averted her [from submission to Him]. Indeed, she was from a disbelieving people."

قِيلَ لَهَا ادْخُلِي الصَّرْحَ فَلَمَّا رَأَتْهُ حَسِبَتْهُ لُجَّةً وَكَشَفَتْ عَنْ سَاقَيْهَا قَالَ إِنَّهُ صَرْحٌ مُّمَرَّدٌ مِنْ قَوَارِيرَ قَالَتْ رَبِّ إِنِّي ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي وَأَسْلَمْتُ مَعَ سُلَيْمَانَ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

She was told, "Enter the palace." But when she saw it, she thought it was a body of water and uncovered her shins [to wade through]. He said, "Indeed, it is a palace [whose floor is] made smooth with glass." She said, "My Lord, indeed I have wronged myself, and I submit with Solomon to Allah, Lord of the worlds."

سورة النمل

27:43-44