

# The Lit Cave

Surah Al Kahf

April 9, 2020

Our faith is the cornerstone of our existence. No matter what we go through, we don't know what will happen in the future except that we know goodness will come after all this, because of our faith in the Quran. The Quran has no sad stories, only good, uplifting stories. The Names of Allah SWT give us too much hope as well. Both of these keep us connected to the rope of Allah, which we should never let go of, no matter what. After difficulties, when we are patiently waiting with gratitude, there will always be opening and there will be victory inshaAllah, and these will be the most beautiful moments for us!

أَمَّا السَّفِينَةُ فَكَانَتْ لِمَسَاكِينَ يَعْمَلُونَ فِي الْبَحْرِ فَأَرَدْتُ أَنْ أَعِيبَهَا وَكَانَ وَرَاءَهُمْ مَلِكٌ  
يَأْخُذُ كُلَّ سَفِينَةٍ غَصْبًا

As for the ship, it belonged to poor people working at sea. So I intended to cause a defect in it as there was after them a king who seized every [good] ship by force.

Khidr AS now provides the interpretation of everything that happens, starting with the ship. The main thing about the Qadr is it could be on an object or on people but the impact is always on the people involved in it. This impact will always be good. This qadr was to save them from a bigger trial. The first decree impacted the needy people who owned the ship, the second impacted the believing parents and the third impacted the two young orphan boys.

There are two sides to this story - the owner of the ship on one side, and the king on the other side who wants to take it from them by force. This owner is very poor and needy, and this ship is their means of earning at sea.

Khidr AS only mentions a ship, but does not mention that they were needy. If he had mentioned they were needy to Musa AS right in the beginning, then the reaction could be worse. When Allah SWT reveals things to us, it is sometimes in small amounts, we are not always able to see the whole picture and in this lies Allah's mercy. When Khidr AS explains making the defect to Musa AS, he attributes it to himself. This teaches us that we should attribute anything that appears negative we attribute to the means and when it is good, then we should attribute it Allah SWT alone.

The king was such that any ship that came in he would take it by force for his own use, his own benefit. The defect then was for the safety of the poor people, protecting their source of

livelihood. Everything in the Aqdar is good, and what seems bad to us is a form of protection and will always bring about bigger good.

Another important lesson in this is for us to always say alhamdulillah because we know only good will come our way from Allah SWT. So no matter what happens we should be patient and grateful and say alhamdulillah.