|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **دولــة الإمـارات العـربية المتحـدة** |  | **الجمعة**: 29 شوال 1444هـ |
| الهيئة العامة للشؤون الإسلامية والأوقاف | **الموافق: 19/5/2023م** |

**Surah Maryam**

**First Khutbah**

All praises are due to Allah the One who has made the Quran a source of guidance for the one who is upright and who has revealed therein Surah Maryam. O Allah, our Lord, to You belongs all praise. We believe in You, Your Angels, Your Divine Books, Your Messengers, in the Last Day, and in Your Divine decree, both its good and the apparent bad. We testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except You, the uniquely One, who has no partners in His one-ness. And we testify that our Sayyid, Sayyiduna Muhammad is the slave of Allah and His Messenger. So, O Allah, send Your peace and blessings upon him and upon his family, his companions and whomsoever follows him in guidance until the Last Day.

**To Continue**: I advise you slaves of Allah and myself with the Taqwa of Allah and to reflect upon His Book, as Allah says: وَهَذَا كِتَابٌ أَنزَلْنَاهُ مُبَارَكٌ فَاتَّبِعُوهُ وَاتَّقُوا لَعَلَّكُمْ تُرْحَمُونَ

**And this [Qur'an] is a Book We have revealed [which is] blessed, so follow it and fear Allah that you may receive mercy.** [Qur'an: 6:155]

**O Believers:** Surah Maryam is a Meccan revelation which means it was revealed before the emigration of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) from Mecca to Medina. One of the noteworthy aspects of this Surah is how it details and contains evidences of the Omnipotent power of Allah and His Mercy. So, the Surah begins with how Sayyidina Zakarriyah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) supplicated to Allah in private and was given the glad tidings of a son despite his wife being in old age, as Allah begins the Surah saying:

**كهيعص\* ذِكْرُ رَحْمَتِ رَبِّكَ عَبْدَهُ زَكَرِيَّا\* إِذْ نَادَى رَبَّهُ نِدَاءً خَفِيًّا**

**Kaf, Ha, Ya, 'Ayn, Sad. [This is] a mention of the mercy of your Lord to His servant Zechariah. When he called to his Lord a private supplication.** [Qur'an :19:1-3]

Indeed, Allah hears our supplications, both those that we say out loud and those that remain silent within our hearts. So, Allah heard and answered the private supplication of Sayyidina Zakarriyah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) who said: **فَهَبْ لِي مِنْ لَدُنْكَ وَلِيًّا**

**So give me from Yourself an heir** [Qur'an :19:5]

So, Allah responded to the supplication and revealed to His Prophet the blessing of a child by saying:

**يَا زَكَرِيَّا إِنَّا نُبَشِّرُكَ بِغُلَامٍ اسْمُهُ يَحْيَى لَمْ نَجْعَلْ لَهُ مِنْ قَبْلُ سَمِيًّا**

**[He was told], "O Zechariah, indeed We give you good tidings of a boy whose name will be John. We have not assigned to any before [this] name."** [Qur'an :19:7]

The Scholars say the reference to such a child and his name not being assigned to anyone before was an allusion to the uniqueness of such a child. Part of this is how no woman had given birth to a child at such an old age. For in this example Allah created and gave them a child when both parents were in old age, when physiologically as per conventional means it would be near impossible for them to bear children. But their example was a sign of Allah's Qudra (His omnipotent Power) for those who reflect. After this the Surah moves on to signs that are even more amazing and evidences of Allah's Qudra or omnipotence that are even more wondrous and astounding. This is evident in the miracle of how Allah would create a child without there even being a father. This should instill complete certainty in the immensity and Qudra of Allah, indicating His pure ability to do what He wants, in the hearts of those who Allah has given insight. Hence, Allah narrates to us the story of Maryam, the Mother of Isa (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon them both). She was the pure saintly woman, who bore one of the greatest of the Prophets in the form of Prophet Isa (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) without any husband, given to her as a wondrous Lordly miracle. After this miracle, as the Qur'an notes she feared being blamed by her people, so she withdrew: **فَحَمَلَتْهُ فَانْتَبَذَتْ بِهِ مَكَانًا قَصِيًّا**

**So, she conceived him, and she withdrew with him to a remote place.** [Qur'an :19:22]

But she trusted in the revelation of her Lord, when He said to her: **فَكُلِي وَاشْرَبِي وَقَرِّي عَيْنًا فَإِمَّا تَرَيِنَّ مِنَ الْبَشَرِ أَحَدًا فَقُولِي إِنِّي نَذَرْتُ لِلرَّحْمَنِ صَوْمًا فَلَنْ أُكَلِّمَ الْيَوْمَ إِنْسِيًّا\* فَأَتَتْ بِهِ قَوْمَهَا تَحْمِلُهُ قَالُوا يَا مَرْيَمُ لَقَدْ جِئْتِ شَيْئًا فَرِيًّا\* يَا أُخْتَ هَارُونَ مَا كَانَ أَبُوكِ امْرَأَ سَوْءٍ وَمَا كَانَتْ أُمُّكِ بَغِيًّا\* فَأَشَارَتْ إِلَيْهِ**

**So eat and drink and be contented. And if you see from among humanity anyone, say, 'Indeed, I have vowed to the Most Merciful abstention, so I will not speak today to [any] man.' " Then she brought him to her people, carrying him. They said, "O Mary, you have certainly done a thing unprecedented. O sister of Aaron, your father was not a man of evil, nor was your mother unchaste." So, she pointed to him.** [Qur'an: 19:26-29]

We should reflect on her certainty in her Lord. At this juncture, facing such an accusation, she remained silent, remained true to her vow, but trusted in her Lord and instead she pointed to her child. She trusted in her Lord, in His power to exonerate her through the means He chooses, and this happened. So, when the accusers said:

**قَالُوا كَيْفَ نُكَلِّمُ مَنْ كَانَ فِي الْمَهْدِ صَبِيًّا**

**They said, "How can we speak to one who is in the cradle a child?"** [Qur'an:19:29]

Allah made her child speak miraculously, for He is the One who makes everything speak. So, He said:

**إِنِّي عَبْدُ اللَّهِ آتَانِيَ الْكِتَابَ وَجَعَلَنِي نَبِيًّا**

**[Jesus] said, "Indeed, I am the servant of Allah. He has given me the Scripture and made me a prophet.** [Qur'an:19:30]

So, through this miracle Allah proved the innocence of Maryam with regards to their allegations, by her own baby son defending her innocence. And Allah made her and her son a sign for the entirety of creation. O Allah, make us worshipers of You, of those who reflect upon Your signs, and grant us success in obeying You. And bless us with devotion to You, and accept all of us for Your obedience and bless us with obedience towards Your Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and obedience towards those whom You have ordered us to show obedience towards, in accordance with Your saying: **يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِي الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ**

**O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you.** [Qur'an: 4:59]

I say this and I seek forgiveness for myself and for you, so seek His forgiveness, indeed He is the most forgiving, most Merciful.

**Second Khutbah**

All praises are due to Allah, the uniquely One. And may peace and blessings be upon our Sayyid, Sayyiduna Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and upon all of his companions. I advise you slaves of Allah and myself with the Taqwa of Allah, so have Taqwa of Him.

**O Believers who reflect upon the Book of Allah**: Surah Maryam presented to us a number of values that the Prophets (peace and blessings be upon them all) were all characterized and adorned by. So, for example, the Surah mentions the Prophet Ibrahim (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his piety and sense of responsibility in sincere counsel towards a person in the role of his father. It also mentions Prophet Ismail (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his sincerity in his promise, also mentioning his encouraging of his own family in their devotion to their Lord. It also mentions the Prophet Musa (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his sincerity to his Lord. Likewise, it mentions a number of Prophets and their followers, who all had devotion to their Lord, so He promised them Paradise when He says: **جَنَّاتِ عَدْنٍ ‌الَّتِي ‌وَعَدَ ‌الرَّحْمَنُ عِبَادَهُ بِالْغَيْبِ إِنَّهُ كَانَ وَعْدُهُ مَأْتِيًّا**

**[Therein are] gardens of perpetual residence which the Most Merciful has promised His servants in the unseen. Indeed, His promise has ever been coming.** [Qur'an:19:61]

Further encouraging the people to worship Him, Allah commands us in His saying: **رَبُّ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا فَاعْبُدْهُ وَاصْطَبِرْ لِعِبَادَتِهِ هَلْ تَعْلَمُ لَهُ سَمِيًّا**

**Lord of the heavens and the earth and whatever is between them - so worship Him and have patience for His worship. Do you know of any similarity to Him?"** [Qur'an:19:65]

He tells us that whoever resolves to take the path of guidance, Allah will increase their guidance, as Allah says:

**وَيَزِيدُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ اهْتَدَوْا هُدًى**

**And Allah increases those who were guided, in guidance** [Qur'an:19:76]

We ask that Allah guides the believers to the way of guidance and that He fills their hearts with affection and love, as Allah says: **إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ سَيَجْعَلُ لَهُمُ الرَّحْمَنُ وُدًّا**

**Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds - the Most Merciful will appoint for them affection.** [Qur'an:19:96]

All of this is glad tidings for the believers, those who read the Book of Allah, and who reflect upon its meanings. Reflecting upon the omnipotent power of the Creator, who seek to embody the character of the Prophets and to emulate their devotion to their Lord. So, O Allah, we ask You for a firm sense of certainty, for the ability to do righteous deeds. We ask You O Possessor of all Majesty and Honor that You admit us into Paradise.

O Allah, You are the Possessor of Peace, and from You is all Peace, and to You is all Peace, so enter us into the ultimate Abode of Peace.

And with this we ask that You send Your prayers and blessings upon all of the Prophets and Messengers, especially on the seal of them, our master, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad.

O Allah send Your peace and blessings upon him, and upon his family, his companions, all of them. And send your blessings upon the righteous and rightly guided Khulafa: Sayyiduna Abu Bakr, Sayyiduna Umar, Sayyiduna Uthman and Sayyiduna Ali, and upon all of the companions and those of the righteous who come after them, may Allah be pleased with them all.

O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to the Vice-President and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates and guide them to all that which is good and what pleases You.

O Allah, bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed and the other late UAE Sheikhs who have passed on to Your mercy. We ask you to admit them into Paradise by Your grace.

O Allah have mercy on those martyred for Your sake, and grant them intercession for their people, and grant their families patience and a great reward. And have mercy, our Lord, upon all of the believers, the living and the dead. Believers, remember Allah and He will remember you, forget Him not, lest you be forgotten. Be grateful for your blessings and you will be increased therein. So, stand up for prayer.