

## ﴿ TAFSEER ﴾

### *Nida'aatul Quran Lil Insi Wal Jan*

Shaykh Muhammad Al-Malki (*hafidhahullaah*)

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{Introduction and Tafseer of Al-Baqarah 2:21}

#### **INTRODUCTION**

After praising Allaah and sending the salaam and salaams on the Messenger of Allaah – our leader Muhammad, his family, companions and followers in goodness to the Last Day, our teacher welcomed the dear brothers and sisters to a new session from the sessions of knowledge. In this class, at every level, we meet to study what Allaah mentioned in His Book, al-Qur'aan from the *Nidaa'aatin Qur'aaniyyah* and what was mentioned in the tafseer by the scholars of knowledge concerning it. We named this dars *Nidaa'aatul-Qur'aan lil-Insi wal-Jaan* (The vocative calling of the Qur'aan to mankind and Jinn). Our class today is in Tafseer, but it is more specifically dealing with the Aayaat of *Nidaa'a* which are mentioned in the Qur'aan. The *nidaa'aat* (vocative callings) in the Qur'aan are categorized into seven (7) types/forms. It came in the form of the singular pronoun in two calls:

1. يَا أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ *Yaa ayyuhan-Nabiyyu* (O you Prophet!)
2. يَا أَيُّهَا الرَّسُولُ *Yaa ayyuhar-Rasuulu* (O you Messenger!)

It also comes in the plural form in five calls:

1. يَا أَيُّهَا الرُّسُلُ *Yaa ayyuhar-Rusul* (O you Messengers!)
2. يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا *Yaa ayyuhalladheena aamanuu* (O you who believe!)
3. يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا *Yaa ayyuhalladheena kafiruu* (O you who disbelieve!)
4. يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ *Yaa ayyuhan-naas* (O you mankind!)
5. يَا مَعْشَرَ الْجِنِّ وَالْإِنْسِ *Yaa ma`sharal-jinni wal-ins* (O you jinn and mankind!)

#### **OH YOU MANKIND!** (يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ)

The first call mentioned in the Qur'aan is the call that is directed to the jinn and mankind. (Shaykh Malki requests from the students to write these down as they will be in the quiz). The first call is, "O you mankind" (يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ). It is found in the Qur'aan twenty times. The first time is in aayah 21 of Suurah Al-Baqarah (2/21). The next time is in aayah 168 of the same suurah (2/168). It is in the first

aayah of Suurah An-Nisaa' (4/1) as well as aayah 170 (4/170) and 174 (4/174). It is found once in Suurah Al-A`raaf in aayah 158 (7/158). It is found in 4 places in Suurah Yunus: (10/23), (10/27), (10/104) and 10/108) and in 4 aayaat of Suurah Hajj: (22/1), (22/5), (22/49) and (22/73). It is found once in Suurah An-Naml (27/16) and once in Suurah Luqmaan (31/33). In Suurah Faatir it is in 3 aayaat: and in Suurah Hujuraat it is in one aayah (49/13).

These aayaat contain a call to mankind and the word used here (*An-Naas* - mankind) is used to direct the call to those who are mature and are told to choose the righteousness from amongst the jinn and mankind. It does not necessarily mean that when Allaah Ta`Aalaa calls to Bani Aadam that this is special to the children of Aadam, but it is a call directed to all of mankind and jinn.

We are going to go through the calls of the Qur'aan based on their order in the Qur'aan and not based on their types. We are not going to move from one place to another searching for the call of each type. We will start from Suurah Al-Faatihah to Suurah An-Naas; from the beginning to the end of the Qur'aan and whatever call we find we are going to emphasize and speak about the guidance in it and whatsoever rulings it contains in shaa'Allaah. The first aayah that we mention is Suurah Al-Baqarah 2/21:

﴿ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ ﴿٢١﴾ الَّذِي جَعَلَ لَكُمْ الْأَرْضَ فِرَاشًا وَالسَّمَاءَ بِنَاءً وَأَنْزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَأَخْرَجَ بِهِ مِنَ الثَّمَرَاتِ رِزْقًا لَكُمْ فَلَا تَجْعَلُوا لِلَّهِ أَنْدَادًا وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٢٢﴾ وَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ فِي رَيْبٍ مِمَّا نَزَّلْنَا عَلَىٰ عَبْدِنَا فَأْتُوا بِسُورَةٍ مِثْلِهِ ۖ وَادْعُوا شُهَدَاءَكُمْ مِمَّنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ ﴿٢٣﴾ فَإِنْ لَمْ تَفْعَلُوا وَلَنْ تَفْعَلُوا فَاتَّقُوا النَّارَ الَّتِي وَقُودُهَا النَّاسُ وَالْحِجَارَةُ أُعِدَّتْ لِلْكَافِرِينَ ﴿٢٤﴾ ﴾

**O mankind! Worship your Lord (Allaah), Who created you and those who were before you so that you may become *Al-Muttaqun*. (21) Who has made the earth a resting place for you, and the sky as a canopy, and sent down water (rain) from the sky and brought forth therewith fruits as a provision for you. Then do not set up rivals unto Allaah (in worship) while you know (that He Alone has the right to be worshipped). (22) And if you (Arab pagans, Jews, and Christians) are in doubt concerning that which We have sent down (i.e. the Qur'aan) to Our slave (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم), then produce a Surah (chapter) of the like thereof and call your witnesses (supporters and helpers) besides Allaah, if you are truthful. (23) But if you do it not, and you can never do it, then fear the Fire (Hell) whose fuel is men and stones, prepared for the disbelievers. [Al-Baqarah 2:21-24]**

## THE EXPLANATION

In these aayaat, Allaah Subhaanahu wa ta'Aalaa is directing the call to all of mankind - the jinn and mankind. Allaah says, يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمُ (O mankind - Worship your Lord!). This is the first command in the Qur'aan: **O mankind! Worship your Lord (Allaah), Who created you and those who were before you so that you may become righteous.** So Allaah Ta'Aalaa commanded in this aayah and the command here means that it is mandatory to do what Allaah Ta'Aalaa calls for.

**Worship your Lord (Allaah)**, means that there is no one who should be worshipped but Allaah. Why do we say (it means) that Allaah Ta'Aalaa is the only One to be worshipped and none else? That is because just as this aayah contains the command to worship Allaah, it also contains the meaning of singling out Allaah Ta'Aalaa in Godhood as He Allaah Ta'Aalaa told us in this aayah particularly that He is the only Lord: **Worship your Lord (Allaah), the one who created you** means worship not any others - you worship none but Him Alone. Someone may ask: "What is the meaning of worship?" The answer to this is from Shaykhul-Islaam Ibn Taymiyyah (rahimahullaah) who said: *It is everything that Allaah Ta'Aalaa likes from the sayings and the actions - the hidden and the apparent.* So *Du'aa* (supplication) is `Ibaadah (worship) and *Salaat* (prayer) is `Ibaadah, *Zakaat* (giving out charity) is `Ibaadah, *Siyaam* (fasting) is `Ibaadah, *Hajj* (pilgrimage) is `Ibaadah, *Dhabah* (slaughtering) is `Ibaadah, *Nadhar* (vowing) is `Ibaadah. *Khawf* (fear) and *Rajaa'* (hope) are `Ibaadah. All of these are worship and must not be given to anyone else but Allaah `Azza wa Jal.

Allaah Ta'Aalaa introduced Himself to us in this aayah as the One that we should worship alone and He also told us in this aayah the right of His to be worshipped: that He is the One who created us and those before us. **O mankind! Worship your Lord (Allaah)** and who is that Lord? He is that one **Who created you and those who were before you ...** If there was any other creator besides Allaah Ta'Aalaa then he would complain and reject this call from Allaah Ta'Aalaa in the Qur'aan, where He said that He is the One Who created us and those before us. That other creator - if there was another creator, might have come and said to Allaah, "Why did you claim that you created them and those before them?", whilst the other one was the one that created those before us. Since there is no one who has complained or has proven other than that fact and reality, then we come to know that there is no one other than Allaah who can create. He is the One Who created us and those before us. He created jinn and mankind, angels, the animals, birds and fish, trees and water, mountains, sun, moon, and stars - everything in this whole universe is created by Allaah and there is none else but Him.

**So that you may become righteous ...** Here the word for "become righteous" is definite. There is no doubt but rather it is to affirm that if you worship Allaah alone, Allaah Ta'Aalaa will provide you righteousness. *Tattaquun* تَتَّقُونَ comes from *taqwaa* تَقْوَى. *At-Taqwaa* means to put a barrier or protection between you and the punishment of Allaah. And as `Alee ibn Abi Taalib (Radhiyallaahu `anhu) explained it and identified it by saying: *At-Taqwaa is fearing Allaah the greatest, acting upon the guidance of*

revelation, finding the sufficiency with the little of what Allaah provides you of the sustenance and by getting ready for the day when you leave this world. So taqwa is to put a barrier between you and the punishment of Allaah by doing what you are commanded to do and by abandoning and avoiding what has been made forbidden to you and that Allaah is not to be worshipped except with what he explained on the tongues of His messengers. After the Qur'aan was sent down, Allaah must not be worshipped except with what He had revealed to Muhammad (Salallaahu`alayhi wasallam) of the Qur'aan and the Sunnah. The proof for this is in Suurah Aali `Imraan 3/31:

﴿ قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ ﴾

Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم to mankind): "If you (really) love Allaah then follow me (i.e. accept Islaamic Monotheism, follow the Qur'aan and the Sunnah), Allaah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allaah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful." [Aali `Imraan 3:31]

He is the One Who has made the earth a resting place for you, and the sky as a canopy, and sent down water (rain) from the sky and brought forth therewith fruits as a provision for you. Then do not set up rivals unto Allaah (in worship) while you know (that He Alone has the right to be worshipped). In this aayah, Allaah `Azza wa Jal clarifies to us that it is not permissible for anyone to worship Allaah [and at the same time] worship others besides Him. Allaah Ta`Aalaa must be singled out in Godhood (Al-Uluhiyyah) as He is singled out in Lordship (Ar-Rubuubiyyah). There is no one who can claim to be the creator of all these things but Allaah as He mentioned these things to us: creating us, creating the earth and making it to settle, and creating the heavens and making them like a canopy or ceiling. The earth settled and remained that way since the time that Allaah created it and the plants from around it – there is no life in any of them, and the sky is raised high without any pillars to support it. There are not any cracks to be seen on it although it has been there remaining for a long, long time. The stars are scattered in the sky to give it beauty at night and also to give guidance for those traveling, whether sailing or crossing the land - even pilots and astronauts and others. At the same time they are used as shooting stars to shoot the Shayateen. He sends down water as it is mentioned in other aayaat as "fresh", "blessed", "nice" ... and with it Allaah Ta`Aalaa gives life to the earth and the insects, birds, animals, mankind and jinn. As Allaah says in Suurah Al-Waaqi`ah:

﴿ أَفَرَأَيْتُمُ الْمَاءَ الَّذِي تَشْرَبُونَ ﴿٦٨﴾ أَنْتُمْ أَنْزَلْتُمُوهُ مِنَ الْمُزْنِ أَمْ نَحْنُ الْمُنزِلُونَ ﴿٦٩﴾ لَوْ نَشَاءُ جَعَلْنَاهُ

﴿ أَجَاًا فَلَوْلَا تَشْكُرُونَ ﴾

Then tell Me about the water that you drink. (68) Is it you who cause it from the rain-clouds to come down, or are We the Causer of it to come down? (69) If We willed, We verily could make it salt (and undrinkable): why then do you not give thanks (to Allaah)? [Al-Waaqi`ah 56:68-70]

Continuing with Suurah Al-Baqarah ...and brought forth therewith fruits as a provision for you... And Allaah says in Suurah Al-Waaqi`ah:

﴿ أَفَرَأَيْتُمْ مَا تَحْرُثُونَ ﴿٦٣﴾ ءَأَنْتُمْ تَزْرَعُونَهُ ۖ أَمْ نَحْنُ الزَّارِعُونَ ﴿٦٤﴾ لَوْ نَشَاءُ لَجَعَلْنَاهُ حُطَامًا

﴿ فَظَلْتُمْ تَفَكَّهُونَ ﴿٦٥﴾ إِنَّا لَمُعْرِمُونَ ﴿٦٦﴾ بَلْ نَحْنُ مُحْرِمُونَ ﴿٦٧﴾ ﴾

**Then tell Me about the seed that you sow in the ground. (63) Is it you that make it grow, or are We the Grower? (64) Were it Our Will, We could crumble it to dry pieces, and you would be regretful (or left in wonderment) (65) (Saying): "We are indeed Mughramun (i.e. ruined or have lost the money without any profit, or are punished by the loss of all that we spend for cultivation)! (66) "Nay, but we are deprived!" [Al-**

Waaqi`ah 56:63-67]

So Allaah Ta`Aalaa is reminding us of the grace that He has bestowed on us so that we might take the reminder from it and return back to Allaah and worship none but Him. This is a call from Allaah Ta`Aalaa to all of mankind and jinn and to all of creation to turn back to Allaah and to worship none but Him. And they are signs and indications of His Godhood which is not for any other. We ask Allaah to make us and you upon the goodness of the acknowledgement of the Lordship of Allaah and upon the goodness of the implementation of the slavery before Allaah and the singling out Allaah alone in His Lordship and Godhood and in the goodness of the reward from Him Ta`Aalaa to us all. And Allaah Knows Best – May the salaam and salaam be upon our Prophet Muhammad.

✧ End of Class One ✧