## Stories from the Qur'an
### Series 38

# Peace Be Upon Ilyas

*The Stories of Prophets Ilyas, Idris, Alyasa‘ and Dhul-Kifl According to the Qur'an and Authentic Hadith*




**Hj Che Alim Hj Che Haron**
**AK (Kelantan)**
quranscience.my



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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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*The Stories of Prophets Ilyas, Idris, Alyasa‘ and Dhul-Kifl According to the Qur'an and Authentic Hadith*

أَتَدْعُونَ بَعْلًا وَتَذَرُونَ أَحْسَنَ ٱلْخَٰلِقِينَ

“Do you call upon Ba'l and leave the best of creators?.”

SURAH AS-SAFFAT 37:125

**HJ CHE ALIM HJ CHE HARON**

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All praise is due to Allah, the best of creators, who sent the prophets with one religion. Blessings and peace be upon the Messenger of Allah ﷺ, the seal of the prophets, who met his brothers the prophets on the night of the Ascension, and upon his family and his Companions.

This eBook is specially dedicated to my beloved wife,

**ZAHARAH MOHD LATIF**;

my dear children,

**MUHAMMAD HAFIZ, NOOR HAZWANI, ABDUL HAKIM, NOOR HIDAYAH, NOR AQILA** and **NOR ATIQAH**;

and my sons- and daughters-in-law,

**FAZILAH, MALEK, HANIN, FAIRIZAL** and **FIRWAN**.

May Allah make us sincere in tawhid, patient like Prophet Idris عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ and Prophet Dhul-Kifl عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ, and leave behind a good name like Prophet Ilyas عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ. May this knowledge be ‘ilmun yuntafa‘u bih, knowledge that brings benefit.

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## ABOUT THE COVER OF THIS EBOOK

The cover of this eBook does not depict any human being or animal. It shows the **scenery** of a **green mountain valley** with **morning light** shining on the peaks.

The scene symbolises the words of Allah about Prophet Idris عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ: ***"And We raised him to a high station"*** (19:57), and the enduring name of Prophet Ilyas عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ: ***"Peace upon Elias"*** (37:130). The Qur'an does not name the places of their mission, so the cover does not depict any actual place.

The cover does not depict any prophet. The **dark blue band** at the bottom, framed by **fine gold lines**, is where the author's name appears.

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*Colour guide: green box = verses of the Qur'an; gold box = Hadith; brown box = archaeological note; blue table = comparison. Underlined blue narrator names can be clicked to open the narrator's page on sunnah.com.*

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# PEACE BE UPON ILYAS

The Qur'an tells the stories of some prophets at length, and mentions others in only a few verses. This eBook gathers four prophets mentioned briefly: ***Ilyas*** عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ, ***Idris*** عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ, ***Alyasa'*** عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ and ***Dhul-Kifl*** عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ.

Though the verses are few, every word about them is praise from Allah — of ***tawhid***, ***truthfulness*** and ***patience***. We will hold only to what the Qur'an and authentic Hadith state. Tafsir Ibn Kathir 37:123

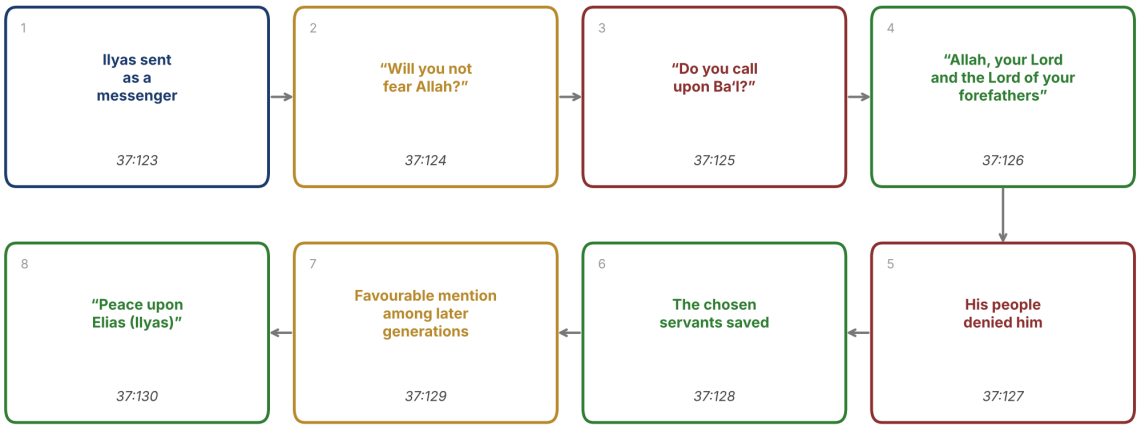



*Figure 1: The flow of the story of Prophet Ilyas according to Surah As-Saffat 37:123–130.*

*Note: The translation of the Qur'anic verses in this eBook is Sahih International, which renders Ilyas as "Elias" and Alyasa' as "Elisha". The grade of every Hadith is stated in the Hadith box, with a link to sunnah.com.*

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## ILYAS IS SENT

**SURAH AS-SAFFAT 37:123–126**

وَإِنَّ إِلْيَاسَ لَمِنَ ٱلْمُرْسَلِينَ ﴿١٢٣﴾

And indeed, Elias was from among the messengers.

إِذْ قَالَ لِقَوْمِهِۦٓ أَلَا تَتَّقُونَ ﴿١٢٤﴾

When he said to his people, "Will you not fear Allah?"

أَتَدْعُونَ بَعْلًا وَتَذَرُونَ أَحْسَنَ ٱلْخَٰلِقِينَ ﴿١٢٥﴾

Do you call upon Ba'l and leave the best of creators?

ٱللَّهَ رَبَّكُمْ وَرَبَّ ءَابَآئِكُمُ ٱلْأَوَّلِينَ ﴿١٢٦﴾

Allah, your Lord and the Lord of your first forefathers.

*Translation: Sahih International* — quran.com/37:123-126

### COMMENTARY ON VERSES 37:123–126 — THE CALL OF A MESSENGER

**First: A messenger.** ***"And indeed, Elias was from among the messengers"***. Prophet Ilyas عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ is also mentioned in the list of righteous prophets (6:85). Tafsir Ibn Kathir 37:123

**Second: A call to God-consciousness.** ***"Will you not fear Allah?"*** The call of the prophets begins with the same thing: fear of Allah.

**Third: Reminding them of their roots.** ***"Allah, your Lord and the Lord of your first forefathers"***. Allah is not a foreign god; He is the Lord of their own forefathers.

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# "DO YOU CALL UPON BA'L?"

## LEAVING THE BEST OF CREATORS

**First: A question that shakes the mind.** ***"Do you call upon Ba'l and leave the best of creators?"*** They worshipped a man-made idol and abandoned Allah who created them. Tafsir Ibn Kathir 37:125

**Second: The greatest sin.** The Messenger of Allah ﷺ explained that setting up a rival to Allah, while He created us, is the greatest sin:

**HADITH — SAHIH AL-BUKHARI, NO. 4477**

حَدَّثَنِي عُثْمَانُ بْنُ أَبِي شَيْبَةَ، حَدَّثَنَا جَرِيرٌ، عَنْ مَنْصُورٍ، عَنْ أَبِي وَائِلٍ، عَنْ عَمْرِو بْنِ شُرَحْبِيلَ، عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ، قَالَ سَأَلْتُ النَّبِيَّ صلى الله عليه وسلم أَىُّ الذَّنْبِ أَعْظَمُ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ قَالَ « أَنْ تَجْعَلَ لِلَّهِ نِدًّا وَهْوَ خَلَقَكَ ». قُلْتُ إِنَّ ذَلِكَ لَعَظِيمٌ، قُلْتُ ثُمَّ أَىٌّ قَالَ « وَأَنْ تَقْتُلَ وَلَدَكَ تَخَافُ أَنْ يَطْعَمَ مَعَكَ ». قُلْتُ ثُمَّ أَىٌّ قَالَ « أَنْ تُزَانِيَ حَلِيلَةَ جَارِكَ ».

**TRANSLATION:**

'Abdullah (ibn Mas'ud) رضى الله عنه said: I asked the Prophet ﷺ: Which sin is the greatest in the sight of Allah? He said: **"That you set up a rival to Allah while He created you."** I said: That is indeed great. Then what? He said: **"That you kill your child fearing he will eat with you."** I said: Then what? He said: **"That you commit adultery with your neighbour's wife."**

**CHAIN OF NARRATION:** Narrated by Imam al-Bukhari: from 'Uthman ibn Abi Shaibah, from Jarir ibn 'Abd al-Hamid, from Mansur ibn al-Mu'tamir, from Abu Wa'il Shaqiq ibn Salamah, from 'Amr ibn Shurahbil, from 'Abdullah ibn Mas'ud رضى الله عنه.

**REFERENCE:** Narrated by Imam al-Bukhari in Sahih al-Bukhari, Book of Tafsir, chapter: {Then do not set up rivals to Allah}, Hadith No. 4477. Also narrated by Muslim (No. 86).

**GRADE:** SAHIH — contained in Sahih al-Bukhari, the most authentic book of Hadith after the Qur'an by consensus of the Hadith scholars.

*Source:* https://sunnah.com/bukhari:4477

## DENIED, YET HIS NAME ENDURES

**SURAH AS-SAFFAT 37:127–132**

فَكَذَّبُوهُ فَإِنَّهُمْ لَمُحْضَرُونَ ﴿١٢٧﴾

And they denied him, so indeed, they will be brought [for punishment].

إِلَّا عِبَادَ ٱللَّهِ ٱلْمُخْلَصِينَ ﴿١٢٨﴾

Except the chosen servants of Allah.

وَتَرَكْنَا عَلَيْهِ فِى ٱلْءَاخِرِينَ ﴿١٢٩﴾

And We left for him [favorable mention] among later generations.

سَلَٰمٌ عَلَىٰٓ إِلْ يَاسِينَ ﴿١٣٠﴾

Peace upon Elias.

إِنَّا كَذَٰلِكَ نَجْزِى ٱلْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿١٣١﴾

Indeed, We thus reward the doers of good.

إِنَّهُۥ مِنْ عِبَادِنَا ٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ ﴿١٣٢﴾

Indeed, he was of Our believing servants.

*Translation: Sahih International* — quran.com/37:127-132

### COMMENTARY ON VERSES 37:127–132 — TWO OUTCOMES

**First: A people who denied.** ***"And they denied him, so indeed, they will be brought [for punishment]" — "Except the chosen servants of Allah"***. Tafsir Ibn Kathir 37:127

**Second: A name that endures.** ***"And We left for him [favorable mention] among later generations"***: ***"Peace upon Elias"***. His people rejected him, but his name is mentioned with peace until the Day of Resurrection.

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# IDRIS: RAISED TO A HIGH STATION

**SURAH MARYAM 19:56–57**

وَٱذۡكُرۡ فِي ٱلۡكِتَٰبِ إِدۡرِيسَۚ إِنَّهُۥ كَانَ صِدِّيقٗا نَّبِيّٗا ٥٦

And mention in the Book, Idrees. Indeed, he was a man of truth and a prophet.

وَرَفَعۡنَٰهُ مَكَانًا عَلِيّٗا ٥٧

And We raised him to a high station.

*Translation: Sahih International* — quran.com/19:56-57

## COMMENTARY ON VERSES 19:56–57 — TRUTHFUL AND EXALTED

**First: A man of truth.** ***"Indeed, he was a man of truth and a prophet"***. Allah praised Prophet Idris عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ with the quality of ***siddiq*** — truthful in word and faith. Tafsir Ibn Kathir 19:56

**Second: Raised to a high station.** ***"And We raised him to a high station"***. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ met Prophet Idris عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ in the fourth heaven on the night of the Ascension, and Anas رضى الله عنه narrated him reciting this verse:

**HADITH — SAHIH MUSLIM, NO. 162**

حَدَّثَنَا شَيْبَانُ بْنُ فَرُّوخَ، حَدَّثَنَا حَمَّادُ بْنُ سَلَمَةَ، حَدَّثَنَا ثَابِتٌ الْبُنَانِيُّ، عَنْ أَنَسِ بْنِ مَالِكٍ، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم قَالَ « أُتِيتُ بِالْبُرَاقِ - وَهُوَ دَابَّةٌ أَبْيَضُ طَوِيلٌ فَوْقَ الْحِمَارِ وَدُونَ الْبَغْلِ يَضَعُ حَافِرَهُ عِنْدَ مُنْتَهَى طَرْفِهِ - قَالَ فَرَكِبْتُهُ حَتَّى أَتَيْتُ بَيْتَ الْمَقْدِسِ - قَالَ - فَرَبَطْتُهُ بِالْحَلْقَةِ الَّتِي يَرْبِطُ بِهِ الأَنْبِيَاءُ - قَالَ - ثُمَّ دَخَلْتُ الْمَسْجِدَ فَصَلَّيْتُ فِيهِ رَكْعَتَيْنِ ثُمَّ خَرَجْتُ فَجَاءَنِي جِبْرِيلُ - عَلَيْهِ السَّلاَمُ - بِإِنَاءٍ مِنْ خَمْرٍ وَإِنَاءٍ مِنْ لَبَنٍ فَاخْتَرْتُ اللَّبَنَ فَقَالَ جِبْرِيلُ صلى الله عليه وسلم اخْتَرْتَ الْفِطْرَةَ. ثُمَّ عَرَجَ بِنَا إِلَى السَّمَاءِ فَاسْتَفْتَحَ جِبْرِيلُ فَقِيلَ مَنْ أَنْتَ قَالَ جِبْرِيلُ. قِيلَ وَمَنْ مَعَكَ قَالَ مُحَمَّدٌ. قِيلَ وَقَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ قَالَ قَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ. فَفُتِحَ لَنَا فَإِذَا أَنَا بِآدَمَ فَرَحَّبَ بِي وَدَعَا لِي بِخَيْرٍ. ثُمَّ عَرَجَ بِنَا إِلَى السَّمَاءِ الثَّانِيَةِ فَاسْتَفْتَحَ جِبْرِيلُ عَلَيْهِ السَّلاَمُ. فَقِيلَ مَنْ أَنْتَ قَالَ جِبْرِيلُ. قِيلَ وَمَنْ مَعَكَ قَالَ

مُحَمَّدٌ. قِيلَ وَقَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ قَالَ قَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ. فَفُتِحَ لَنَا فَإِذَا أَنَا بِابْنَىِ الْخَالَةِ عِيسَى ابْنِ مَرْيَمَ وَيَحْيَى بْنِ زَكَرِيَّاءَ صَلَوَاتُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِمَا فَرَحَّبَا وَدَعَوَا لِي بِخَيْرٍ. ثُمَّ عَرَجَ بِي إِلَى السَّمَاءِ الثَّالِثَةِ فَاسْتَفْتَحَ جِبْرِيلُ. فَقِيلَ مَنْ أَنْتَ قَالَ جِبْرِيلُ. قِيلَ وَمَنْ مَعَكَ قَالَ مُحَمَّدٌ صلى الله عليه وسلم. قِيلَ وَقَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ قَالَ قَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ. فَفُتِحَ لَنَا فَإِذَا أَنَا بِيُوسُفَ صلى الله عليه وسلم إِذَا هُوَ قَدْ أُعْطِيَ شَطْرَ الْحُسْنِ فَرَحَّبَ وَدَعَا لِي بِخَيْرٍ. ثُمَّ عَرَجَ بِنَا إِلَى السَّمَاءِ الرَّابِعَةِ فَاسْتَفْتَحَ جِبْرِيلُ - عَلَيْهِ السَّلاَمُ - قِيلَ مَنْ هَذَا قَالَ جِبْرِيلُ. قِيلَ وَمَنْ مَعَكَ قَالَ مُحَمَّدٌ. قَالَ وَقَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ قَالَ قَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ. فَفُتِحَ لَنَا فَإِذَا أَنَا بِإِدْرِيسَ فَرَحَّبَ وَدَعَا لِي بِخَيْرٍ قَالَ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ { وَرَفَعْنَاهُ مَكَانًا عَلِيًّا} ثُمَّ عَرَجَ بِنَا إِلَى السَّمَاءِ الْخَامِسَةِ فَاسْتَفْتَحَ جِبْرِيلُ. قِيلَ مَنْ هَذَا قَالَ جِبْرِيلُ. قِيلَ وَمَنْ مَعَكَ قَالَ مُحَمَّدٌ. قِيلَ وَقَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ قَالَ قَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ. فَفُتِحَ لَنَا فَإِذَا أَنَا بِهَارُونَ صلى الله عليه وسلم فَرَحَّبَ وَدَعَا لِي بِخَيْرٍ. ثُمَّ عَرَجَ بِنَا إِلَى السَّمَاءِ السَّادِسَةِ فَاسْتَفْتَحَ جِبْرِيلُ عَلَيْهِ السَّلاَمُ. قِيلَ مَنْ هَذَا قَالَ جِبْرِيلُ. قِيلَ وَمَنْ مَعَكَ قَالَ مُحَمَّدٌ. قِيلَ وَقَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ قَالَ قَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ. فَفُتِحَ لَنَا فَإِذَا أَنَا بِمُوسَى صلى الله عليه وسلم فَرَحَّبَ وَدَعَا لِي بِخَيْرٍ. ثُمَّ عَرَجَ بِنَا إِلَى السَّمَاءِ السَّابِعَةِ فَاسْتَفْتَحَ جِبْرِيلُ فَقِيلَ مَنْ هَذَا قَالَ جِبْرِيلُ. قِيلَ وَمَنْ مَعَكَ قَالَ مُحَمَّدٌ صلى الله عليه وسلم. قِيلَ وَقَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ قَالَ قَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ. فَفُتِحَ لَنَا فَإِذَا أَنَا بِإِبْرَاهِيمَ صلى الله عليه وسلم مُسْنِدًا ظَهْرَهُ إِلَى الْبَيْتِ الْمَعْمُورِ وَإِذَا هُوَ يَدْخُلُهُ كُلَّ يَوْمٍ سَبْعُونَ أَلْفَ مَلَكٍ لاَ يَعُودُونَ إِلَيْهِ ثُمَّ ذَهَبَ بِي إِلَى السِّدْرَةِ الْمُنْتَهَى وَإِذَا وَرَقُهَا كَآذَانِ الْفِيَلَةِ وَإِذَا ثَمَرُهَا كَالْقِلاَلِ - قَالَ - فَلَمَّا غَشِيَهَا مِنْ أَمْرِ اللَّهِ مَا غَشِيَ تَغَيَّرَتْ فَمَا أَحَدٌ مِنْ خَلْقِ اللَّهِ يَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ يَنْعَتَهَا مِنْ حُسْنِهَا. فَأَوْحَى اللَّهُ إِلَيَّ مَا أَوْحَى فَفَرَضَ عَلَيَّ خَمْسِينَ صَلاَةً فِي كُلِّ يَوْمٍ وَلَيْلَةٍ فَنَزَلْتُ إِلَى مُوسَى صلى الله عليه وسلم فَقَالَ مَا فَرَضَ رَبُّكَ عَلَى أُمَّتِكَ قُلْتُ خَمْسِينَ صَلاَةً. قَالَ ارْجِعْ إِلَى رَبِّكَ فَاسْأَلْهُ التَّخْفِيفَ فَإِنَّ أُمَّتَكَ لاَ يُطِيقُونَ ذَلِكَ فَإِنِّي قَدْ بَلَوْتُ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَخَبَرْتُهُمْ. قَالَ فَرَجَعْتُ إِلَى رَبِّي فَقُلْتُ يَا رَبِّ خَفِّفْ عَلَى أُمَّتِي. فَحَطَّ عَنِّي خَمْسًا فَرَجَعْتُ إِلَى مُوسَى فَقُلْتُ حَطَّ عَنِّي خَمْسًا. قَالَ إِنَّ أُمَّتَكَ لاَ يُطِيقُونَ ذَلِكَ فَارْجِعْ إِلَى رَبِّكَ فَاسْأَلْهُ التَّخْفِيفَ. - قَالَ - فَلَمْ أَزَلْ أَرْجِعُ بَيْنَ رَبِّي تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى وَبَيْنَ مُوسَى - عَلَيْهِ السَّلاَمُ

- حَتَّى قَالَ يَا مُحَمَّدُ إِنَّهُنَّ خَمْسُ صَلَوَاتٍ كُلَّ يَوْمٍ وَلَيْلَةٍ لِكُلِّ صَلاَةٍ عَشْرٌ فَذَلِكَ خَمْسُونَ صَلاَةً. وَمَنْ هَمَّ بِحَسَنَةٍ فَلَمْ يَعْمَلْهَا كُتِبَتْ لَهُ حَسَنَةً فَإِنْ عَمِلَهَا كُتِبَتْ لَهُ عَشْرًا وَمَنْ هَمَّ بِسَيِّئَةٍ فَلَمْ يَعْمَلْهَا لَمْ تُكْتَبْ شَيْئًا فَإِنْ عَمِلَهَا كُتِبَتْ سَيِّئَةً وَاحِدَةً - قَالَ - فَنَزَلْتُ حَتَّى انْتَهَيْتُ إِلَى مُوسَى صلى الله عليه وسلم فَأَخْبَرْتُهُ فَقَالَ ارْجِعْ إِلَى رَبِّكَ فَاسْأَلْهُ التَّخْفِيفَ. فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم فَقُلْتُ قَدْ رَجَعْتُ إِلَى رَبِّي حَتَّى اسْتَحْيَيْتُ مِنْهُ ».

**TRANSLATION:**

Anas ibn Malik رضى الله عنه narrated that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ described the Night Journey and Ascension. Among what he said: **"...Then we were taken up to the fourth heaven. Jibril asked for it to be opened. It was said: Who is this? He said: Jibril. It was said: Who is with you? He said: Muhammad. It was said: Has he been sent for? He said: He has been sent for. It was opened for us, and there I found Idris. He welcomed me and prayed for good for me."** Allah, Mighty and Majestic, said: **{And We raised him to a high station}.** (The Arabic text above is the full Hadith of the Night Journey and Ascension; this translation quotes the part relating to Prophet Idris عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ.)

**CHAIN OF NARRATION:** Narrated by Imam Muslim: from Shaiban ibn Farrukh, from Hammad ibn Salamah, from Thabit al-Bunani, from Anas ibn Malik رضى الله عنه.

**REFERENCE:** Narrated by Imam Muslim in Sahih Muslim, Book of Faith, chapter on the Night Journey of the Messenger of Allah ﷺ to the heavens and the obligation of prayer, Hadith No. 162.

**GRADE:** SAHIH — contained in Sahih Muslim, the second most authentic book of Hadith after Sahih al-Bukhari.

*Source:* https://sunnah.com/muslim:162a

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# ALYASA‘ AND DHUL-KIFL

**SURAH AL-ANBIYA’ 21:85–86**

وَإِسۡمَٰعِيلَ وَإِدۡرِيسَ وَذَا ٱلۡكِفۡلِۖ كُلّٞ مِّنَ ٱلصَّٰبِرِينَ ٨٥

And [mention] Ishmael and Idrees and Dhul-Kifl; all were of the patient.

وَأَدۡخَلۡنَٰهُمۡ فِي رَحۡمَتِنَآۖ إِنَّهُم مِّنَ ٱلصَّٰلِحِينَ ٨٦

And We admitted them into Our mercy. Indeed, they were of the righteous.

*Translation: Sahih International — quran.com/21:85-86*

**SURAH SAD 38:48**

وَٱذۡكُرۡ إِسۡمَٰعِيلَ وَٱلۡيَسَعَ وَذَا ٱلۡكِفۡلِۖ وَكُلّٞ مِّنَ ٱلۡأَخۡيَارِ ٤٨

And remember Ishmael, Elisha and Dhul-Kifl, and all are among the outstanding.

*Translation: Sahih International — quran.com/38:48*

## COMMENTARY ON VERSES 21:85–86 AND 38:48 — PATIENT AND CHOSEN

**First: All were patient.** ***“And [mention] Ishmael and Idrees and Dhul-Kifl; all were of the patient”***. The Qur’an does not tell of their trials, but it praises their patience. Tafsir Ibn Kathir 21:85

**Second: Among the outstanding.** ***“And remember Ishmael, Elisha and Dhul-Kifl, and all are among the outstanding”***. Prophet Alyasa‘ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ and Prophet Dhul-Kifl عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ were chosen by Allah among the best of people. Tafsir Ibn Kathir 38:48

**Third: Patience is the best gift.** The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said about patience:

**HADITH — SAHIH AL-BUKHARI, NO. 1469**

حَدَّثَنَا عَبْدُ اللَّهِ بْنُ يُوسُفَ، أَخْبَرَنَا مَالِكٌ، عَنِ ابْنِ شِهَابٍ، عَنْ عَطَاءِ بْنِ يَزِيدَ اللَّيْثِيِّ، عَنْ أَبِي سَعِيدٍ الخُدْرِيِّ ـ رضى الله عنه ـ أَنَّ نَاسًا مِنَ الأَنْصَارِ سَأَلُوا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم فَأَعْطَاهُمْ، ثُمَّ سَأَلُوهُ فَأَعْطَاهُمْ، حَتَّى نَفِدَ مَا عِنْدَهُ فَقَالَ « مَا يَكُونُ

عِنْدِي مِنْ خَيْرٍ فَلَنْ أَدَّخِرَهُ عَنْكُمْ، وَمَنْ يَسْتَعْفِفْ يُعِفَّهُ اللَّهُ، وَمَنْ يَسْتَغْنِ يُغْنِهِ اللَّهُ، وَمَنْ يَتَصَبَّرْ يُصَبِّرْهُ اللَّهُ، وَمَا أُعْطِيَ أَحَدٌ عَطَاءً خَيْرًا وَأَوْسَعَ مِنَ الصَّبْرِ ».

**TRANSLATION:**

Abu Sa'id al-Khudri رضى الله عنه narrated that some of the Ansar asked the Messenger of Allah ﷺ and he gave them; then they asked him again and he gave them, until what he had was finished. He said: **"Whatever good I have, I will not withhold it from you. Whoever seeks to be chaste, Allah will keep him chaste. Whoever seeks to be self-sufficient, Allah will make him self-sufficient. Whoever strives to be patient, Allah will make him patient. And no one is given a gift better and more vast than patience."**

**CHAIN OF NARRATION:** Narrated by Imam al-Bukhari: from 'Abdullah ibn Yusuf, from Malik ibn Anas, from Ibn Shihab az-Zuhri, from 'Ata' ibn Yazid al-Laithi, from Abu Sa'id al-Khudri رضى الله عنه.

**REFERENCE:** Narrated by Imam al-Bukhari in Sahih al-Bukhari, Book of Zakah, chapter on abstaining from begging, Hadith No. 1469. Also narrated by Muslim (No. 1053).

**GRADE:** SAHIH — contained in Sahih al-Bukhari, the most authentic book of Hadith after the Qur'an by consensus of the Hadith scholars.

*Source:* https://sunnah.com/bukhari:1469

## BROTHERS IN ONE RELIGION

**SURAH AL-AN'AM 6:85–86**

وَزَكَرِيَّا وَيَحْيَىٰ وَعِيسَىٰ وَإِلْيَاسَ ۖ كُلٌّ مِّنَ ٱلصَّٰلِحِينَ ﴿٨٥﴾

And Zechariah and John and Jesus and Elias - and all were of the righteous.

وَإِسْمَٰعِيلَ وَٱلْيَسَعَ وَيُونُسَ وَلُوطًا ۚ وَكُلًّا فَضَّلْنَا عَلَى ٱلْعَٰلَمِينَ ﴿٨٦﴾

And Ishmael and Elisha and Jonah and Lot - and all [of them] We preferred over the worlds.

*Translation: Sahih International* — quran.com/6:85-86

### COMMENTARY ON VERSES 6:85–86 — ONE LINEAGE, ONE RELIGION

**First: In the list of prophets.** Prophet Ilyas عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ and Prophet Alyasa' عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ are mentioned in a long list of prophets (6:83–86): ***"and all [of them] We preferred over the worlds"***. Tafsir Ibn Kathir 6:85

**Second: One religion.** The prophets differed in time and place, but their religion was one: tawhid of Allah. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

**HADITH — SAHIH AL-BUKHARI, NO. 3443**

حَدَّثَنَا مُحَمَّدُ بْنُ سِنَانٍ، حَدَّثَنَا فُلَيْحُ بْنُ سُلَيْمَانَ، حَدَّثَنَا هِلاَلُ بْنُ عَلِيٍّ، عَنْ عَبْدِ الرَّحْمَنِ بْنِ أَبِي عَمْرَةَ، عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم « أَنَا أَوْلَى النَّاسِ بِعِيسَى ابْنِ مَرْيَمَ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالآخِرَةِ، وَالأَنْبِيَاءُ إِخْوَةٌ لِعَلاَّتٍ، أُمَّهَاتُهُمْ شَتَّى، وَدِينُهُمْ وَاحِدٌ ».

**TRANSLATION:**

Abu Hurayrah رضى الله عنه said: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: **"I am the closest of people to 'Isa son of Maryam in this world and the Hereafter. The prophets are paternal brothers; their mothers are different, but their religion is one."**

**CHAIN OF NARRATION:** Narrated by Imam al-Bukhari: from Muhammad ibn Sinan, from Fulaih ibn Sulaiman, from Hilal ibn 'Ali, from 'Abd ar-Rahman ibn Abi 'Amrah, from Abu Hurairah رضى الله عنه.

**REFERENCE:** Narrated by Imam al-Bukhari in Sahih al-Bukhari, Book of the Prophets, Hadith No. 3443. Also narrated by Muslim (No. 2365).

**GRADE:** SAHIH — contained in Sahih al-Bukhari, the most authentic book of Hadith after the Qur'an by consensus of the Hadith scholars.

*Source:* https://sunnah.com/bukhari:3443

## WHAT THE QUR'AN DOES NOT TELL

Because the verses about these four prophets are brief, many outside stories have been added about them. Guided by Sahih al-Bukhari 4485 (Series 1), we add no outside details.

### POPULAR STORIES AND WHAT REVELATION STATES

| THE POPULAR STORY | WHAT THE QUR'AN AND AUTHENTIC HADITH STATE |
|---|---|
| Prophet Ilyas is still alive and meets al-Khidr every Hajj season. | No authentic Hadith. The Qur'an only says his name was left among later generations (37:129–130). |
| The people of Prophet Ilyas lived in Baalbek, Lebanon. | The Qur'an does not name the place. It is the view of some commentators based on the idol's name "Ba'l". |
| Prophet Idris was the first to write with a pen and sew clothes. | Not established by authentic Hadith. |
| Prophet Idris was raised to heaven alive, and his soul was taken in the fourth heaven. | A report of Ka'b al-Ahbar (Israiliyyat). Authentic Hadith only states that he was in the fourth heaven on the night of the Ascension (Sahih Muslim 162). |
| Prophet Alyasa' was the successor of Prophet Ilyas. | Not mentioned in the Qur'an or authentic Hadith. |
| Dhul-Kifl was not a prophet, or he was "al-Kifl" who repented from sin. | The Qur'an mentions him with the prophets (21:85; 38:48). The report about "al-Kifl" has a weak chain. |

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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTE

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTE: THE WORSHIP OF BA'L IN THE LEVANT

Clay tablets found at **Ugarit (Ras Shamra, Syria)**, dated around **1300–1100 BC**, contain a mythological cycle about **Ba'l**, the storm god worshipped in the Levant. Echoes of this myth have also been traced in an ancient Arabian inscription (Al-Jallad, 2015). This agrees with the Qur'an naming that idol (37:125).

**Claim not included.** The claim that the people of Prophet Ilyas عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ lived in Baalbek, or that any Ba'l site was the place of his mission, is **not included** — Ba'l worship was widespread, and the Qur'an does not name the place of that people.

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# A GOOD NAME THAT ENDURES

Four prophets, only a few verses — yet every verse is praise: ***a messenger calling to tawhid***, ***a man of truth***, ***the patient*** and ***the outstanding***.

| | What Allah Says About Them | Praised Qualities |
|---|---|---|
| Ilyas | "From among the messengers"; called to tawhid (37:123–126) | A believing servant (37:132); righteous (6:85) |
| Idris | "A man of truth and a prophet"; raised to a high station (19:56–57) | Truthful and patient (21:85) |
| Alyasa' (Elisha) | Preferred over the worlds (6:86) | Among the outstanding (38:48) |
| Dhul-Kifl | Mentioned with the prophets (21:85; 38:48) | Of the patient (21:85) |
| All prophets | "Their religion is one" (Sahih al-Bukhari 3443) | Tawhid of Allah |

*Figure 2: What Allah says about Prophets Ilyas, Idris, Alyasa' and Dhul-Kifl, and their praised qualities.*

## LESSONS FROM THIS STORY

**First: The call of the prophets begins with God-consciousness and tawhid.** (37:124–126).

**Second: Shirk is the greatest sin.** (37:125; Sahih al-Bukhari 4477).

**Third: Allah preserves the name of the sincere.** (37:129–130).

**Fourth: Truthfulness raises one's rank.** (19:56–57; Sahih Muslim 162).

**Fifth: Patience is the most vast of gifts.** (21:85; Sahih al-Bukhari 1469).

**Sixth: All prophets are brothers in one religion.** (6:85–86; Sahih al-Bukhari 3443).

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### CONCLUSION

We do not know much about their lives, but we know what matters most: Allah was pleased with them and preserved their names. Every time we read ***"Peace upon Elias"***, we learn that what endures is not fame, but sincerity. Amin.

In sha Allah, the series **Stories from the Qur'an** will continue with the next story — with the same method: the Qur'an, authentic Hadith, and solid archaeological findings only.

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**SURAH AL-BAQARAH 2:261**

مَّثَلُ ٱلَّذِينَ يُنفِقُونَ أَمۡوَٰلَهُمۡ فِي سَبِيلِ ٱللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ حَبَّةٍ أَنۢبَتَتۡ سَبۡعَ سَنَابِلَ فِي كُلِّ سُنۢبُلَةٖ مِّاْئَةُ حَبَّةٖۗ وَٱللَّهُ يُضَٰعِفُ لِمَن يَشَآءُۚ وَٱللَّهُ وَٰسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ ٢٦١

The example of those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah is like a seed [of grain] which grows seven spikes; in each spike is a hundred grains. And Allah multiplies [His reward] for whom He wills. And Allah is all-Encompassing and Knowing.

*Translation: Sahih International — quran.com/2:261*

**SURAH SABA' 34:39**

قُلۡ إِنَّ رَبِّي يَبۡسُطُ ٱلرِّزۡقَ لِمَن يَشَآءُ مِنۡ عِبَادِهِۦ وَيَقۡدِرُ لَهُۥۚ وَمَآ أَنفَقۡتُم مِّن شَيۡءٖ فَهُوَ يُخۡلِفُهُۥۖ وَهُوَ خَيۡرُ ٱلرَّٰزِقِينَ ٣٩

Say, "Indeed, my Lord extends provision for whom He wills of His servants and restricts [it] for him. But whatever thing you spend [in His cause] - He will compensate it; and He is the best of providers."

*Translation: Sahih International — quran.com/34:39*

**HADITH — SAHIH MUSLIM, NO. 2588**

حَدَّثَنَا يَحْيَى بْنُ أَيُّوبَ، وَقُتَيْبَةُ، وَابْنُ، حُجْرٍ قَالُوا حَدَّثَنَا إِسْمَاعِيلُ، - وَهُوَ ابْنُ جَعْفَرٍ - عَنِ الْعَلاَءِ، عَنْ أَبِيهِ، عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، عَنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم قَالَ « مَا نَقَصَتْ صَدَقَةٌ مِنْ مَالٍ وَمَا زَادَ اللَّهُ عَبْدًا بِعَفْوٍ إِلاَّ عِزًّا وَمَا تَوَاضَعَ أَحَدٌ لِلَّهِ إِلاَّ رَفَعَهُ اللَّهُ ».

**TRANSLATION:**

Abu Hurayrah رضى الله عنه narrated that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: "Charity does not decrease wealth.

Allah does not increase a servant who forgives except in honour. And no one humbles himself for the sake of Allah except that Allah raises him in rank."

**CHAIN OF NARRATION:** Narrated by Imam Muslim: from Yahya bin Ayyub, Qutaibah bin Sa'id and 'Ali bin Hujr, from Isma'il bin Ja'far, from al-'Ala' bin 'Abd al-Rahman, from his father 'Abd al-Rahman bin Ya'qub, from Abu Hurayrah رضى الله عنه .

**REFERENCE:** Narrated by Imam Muslim in Sahih Muslim, Book of Virtue, Good Manners and Joining the Ties of Kinship (Kitab al-Birr wa al-Silah wa al-Adab), chapter on the encouragement of forgiveness and humility, Hadith No. 2588.

**GRADE:** SAHIH — contained in Sahih Muslim.

*Source:* https://sunnah.com/muslim:2588

**HADITH — SAHIH MUSLIM, NO. 1631**

حَدَّثَنَا يَحْيَى بْنُ أَيُّوبَ، وَقُتَيْبَةُ، - يَعْنِي ابْنَ سَعِيدٍ - وَابْنُ حُجْرٍ قَالُوا حَدَّثَنَا إِسْمَاعِيلُ، - هُوَ ابْنُ جَعْفَرٍ - عَنِ الْعَلاَءِ، عَنْ أَبِيهِ، عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم قَالَ « إِذَا مَاتَ الإِنْسَانُ انْقَطَعَ عَنْهُ عَمَلُهُ إِلاَّ مِنْ ثَلاَثَةٍ إِلاَّ مِنْ صَدَقَةٍ جَارِيَةٍ أَوْ عِلْمٍ يُنْتَفَعُ بِهِ أَوْ وَلَدٍ صَالِحٍ يَدْعُو لَهُ ».

**TRANSLATION:**

Abu Hurayrah رضى الله عنه narrated that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: "When a person dies, his deeds come to an end except for three: an ongoing charity, knowledge that is benefited from, or a righteous child who prays for him."

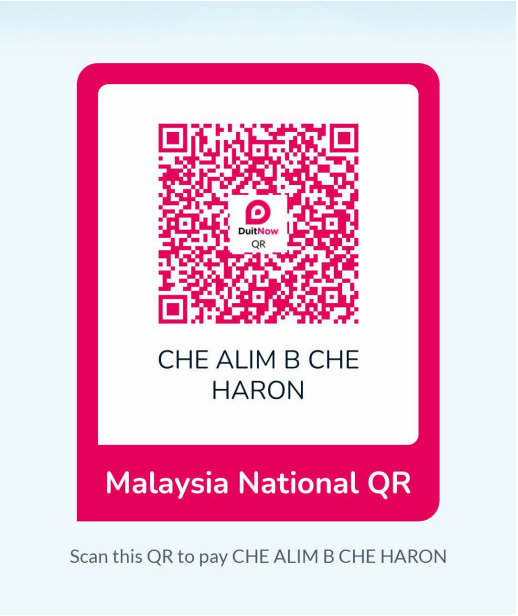
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**GRADE:** SAHIH — contained in Sahih Muslim.

*Source:* https://sunnah.com/muslim:1631

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