

1

Ayyub(AS) is mentioned in the Quran in:

Al Baqarah: 163

Al An'am : 84

Al Anbiya : 83

Saad : 41 - 44

2

1) Ayyub (AS), a Prophet who was known for his patience, sabr.

2) All the prophets in the Quran are mentioned with their nations except Ayyub (AS) who is mentioned without a nation, not for his dawah but for his excellent quality of Sabr.

3) So much was his patience, sabr at the time of distress that it was known as the Sabr - e - Ayyub. He became a symbol of patience.

3

4) What is Sabr? Sabr or patience is to accept what is happening to you be it trouble or delay. Sabr is at the first sign of trouble, you cannot scream, bang your head, stomp your feet, throw things and then say okay - I'll be patient now.

5) As soon as you hear something bad, something you don't like or you get hurt - immediately you should have sabr and say, "inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon, Allahumma ajirni fi musibati waqlif li qairam minha." - Verily everything belongs to Allah and verily to Him is our return. O Allah reward me for this calamity and replace it with something better.

4

6) Ayyub(AS) was always remembering Allah and he was a grateful, thankful slave. He never complained.

7) We all have to face trials and tests in this life and the people who are most tested are the prophets and then the righteous among the people. As our Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) mentioned, "Most severe of the people to be put to trial are the Prophets then the righteous and then the likes." And said: "A man is put to trial according to the strength of his religion, if he was strong in his religion, his trial is increased." (Musnad Ahmad)

5

8) Ayyub(AS) was a wealthy man who owned all kinds of wealth. He owned countless cattle, sheep, slaves, servants etc. He had vast lands and property. He also had many children. He was a very Allah fearing man, who constantly worshipped Allah, gave lots of charity, did a lot of dhikr and istighfaar.

9) Allah wanted to test Ayyub (AS) and all of these blessings were taken away from Ayyub (AS). He was also inflicted with a very bad disease upon his body, no part of his body was intact or healthy except his heart and tongue, with which he remembered Allah.

6

10) First his wealth was taken away but he still continued praising and remembering Allah, saying it belonged to Allah and it was given to me only temporarily. His children all died, still he did not complain or lose his patience - to Allah they belonged and to Him they returned. His body was affected with sores, wounds, diseases still he did not complain. His illness continued for so long that all his friends deserted him and all his relatives forsaked him, except his wife. He was removed from the town and thrown outside near the dumps. He suffered in this way for seven years and a few months.

7

11) His wife was very patient along with him and took care of him. She went to work as a house help and earned wages to take care of her husband.

12) She asked her husband to make dua, and he asked her, "How long were we happy and rich and well?"; she said, '80 years', then he replied, 'can't I take this pain for 7 years then when Allaah had kept me happy for so many years?' Saying this he would be patient and keep quiet.

8

13) She worked this way till the townspeople refused to employ her thinking she will bring her husbands infection with her. So she went to the rich women of the town, and sold her plait, and she got food for her husband. He asked her from where he got the food and she replied that she had offered her services to the people.

9

14) The following day again nobody wanted to employ her, so she sold her other plait. When she brought the food to Ayyub(AS) he asked her from where and swore that he would not eat till she tells him, so she removed her scarf and upon seeing this Ayyub(AS) made the dua to Allah, "Harm has inflicted me and You are the most Merciful."

15) Allah thus asked him to strike his foot from wherein he took a bath and drank from it, thus curing him of his disease.

10

16) He had taken a oath that he would hit his wife a 100 lashes, some say for selling her plaits some say because she listened to Shytaan who came in the disguise of a Doctor and advised some medicines for Ayyub(AS), and she asked him to take it, but Ayyub(AS) knew that it was Shytaan.

17) So Allah had mercy on Ayyub(AS) and his wife(who served him, took care of him), and asked Ayyub(AS) to make a bundle of grass and to strike her lightly with it; thus fulfilling the oath.

11

18) When Allah released Ayyub(AS) from his affliction, he rained on him golden locusts from the sky. Ayyub(AS) started gathering them with his hands and putting them in his clothes. It was said to him : 'O Ayyub! Do you not feel sated? He said: 'O Allah! Who will feel sated from Your Mercy?'" (Musnad Ahmad)