QURAAN: AYATUL KURSI

Preview It!

Ayatul Kursi is the 255th ayah of Suratul Baqarah. Authentic hadith describe ayatul kursi as “the greatest ayah in the Book of Allah.” (Tafsir Ibn Kathir)

In this lesson, we hope to accomplish the following:

- Learn the virtues of this ayah
- Learn the messages/meaning of this ayah
  - More specifically:
    - What happens if we recite this ayah and the greatness of this ayah
    - What happens when we use the greatest Name of Allah in supplications
    - The Greatness of Allah as compared to ourselves
    - Why we should worship only Allah
    - The limitations of man’s powers and knowledge

- Memorize this ayah
- Apply the principles and instructions of this ayah to your daily life

Learn It!

Read the tafsir for this ayah (Tafsir Ibn Kathir, pages 21-29) or a digital copy (the sections pertaining to this ayah only).
These are words that you encountered in your reading. Define each word *(as used in the reading)* and use it in a sentence.

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1. The greatest ayah in the Quraan is:
   
   In Arabic: ____________________________

   In English: ____________________________

2. According to narrations in this reading, why should one recite ayatul kursi before going to bed?

   ______________________________________

   ______________________________________

3. Describe, in your own words, the story behind one of the two narrations in this lesson related to the reciting of ayatul kursi at night.

   ______________________________________

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Continue on the back of this sheet if necessary
4. What is the greatest Name of Allah:
   In Arabic: ________________________________
   In English: ________________________________

   Copy the Arabic text of the hadith which says this:
   __________________________________________

   How do we say the term "greatest Name of Allah" in Arabic?
   __________________________________________

   What does Al Hayyul mean:
   __________________________________________

   What does Al Qayyum mean:
   __________________________________________

5. No one will be able to intercede for another on the Day of Judgment except one who receives ____________________________ from Allah.
   Who has been given permission by Allah to intercede for others on the Day of Judgment?

6. What is the “Kursi?” ________________________________ and where is it? ________________________________
Understand It!

1. Why is Allah the only One who has the right to be worshipped?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2. Name some qualities/facts of man that are listed in this ayah that Allah does NOT possess:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Apply It!

Using an Ayatul Kursi recitation tracker (make one), make a mark daily for every day that you recite ayatul kursi before bedtime this week.

Think About It!

Maryam’s mom had a busy day. First she washed clothes, then she prepared breakfast. Next, she washed the windows and vacuumed the carpet. Next, she took the kids to school, and then went to exercise at the women’s gym. After that, she went grocery shopping. Next, she went to Arabic class and then came home and started dinner. When the kids got home from school, she helped them with their homework. Later, she washed the dinner dishes, and listened to an Islamic lecture on the computer and took notes. Finally, she read some Quraan before she went to bed (and recited ayatul kursi).

How do you think Maryam’s mother felt at the end of the day?
Ponder: If at the end of a hectic day, we are “pooped” and want to sleep, wonder at how Allah, who “sustains and protects all that exists” every second of every day (for over 6 billion people and all the rest of the elements of the alameen, (seen and unseen) NEVER feels fatigue or sleeps. How powerful is that! And all this is easy for Him!

Remember that you worship, pray to and ask of this Being, the One with all this Power and all His amazing qualities. He is capable of anything and everything. So should we not be intensely obedient, and thankful to Him? (as well as love Him above everything else?)

2

Albert Einstein was a German-born American physicist and Nobel laureate, best known as the creator of the special and general theories of relativity and for his bold hypothesis concerning the particle nature of light. He is perhaps the most well-known scientist of the 20th century. With his brilliant theoretical work, he single-handedly revolutionized 20th-century physics and opened up many new branches of scientific research.

There is scarcely any important fundamental idea in modern physics whose origin does not trace back at least in part to Einstein.

(From a tribute article): With the death of Albert Einstein, a life in the service of science and humanity which was as rich and fruitful as any in the whole history of our culture has come to an end. Mankind will always be indebted to Einstein for the removal of the obstacles to our outlook which were involved in the primitive notions of absolute space and time. He gave us a world picture with a unity and harmony surpassing the boldest dreams of the past.

The same spirit that characterized Einstein's unique scientific achievements also marked his attitude in all human relations. Notwithstanding the increasing reverence which people everywhere felt for his attainments and character, he behaved with unchanging natural modesty and expressed himself with a subtle and charming humor. He was always prepared to help people in difficulties of any kind, and to him, who himself had experienced the evils of racial prejudice, the promotion of understanding among nations was a foremost endeavor. His earnest admonitions on the responsibility involved in our rapidly growing mastery
of the forces of nature will surely help to meet the challenge to civilization in the proper spirit.

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Albert Einstein is considered a genius, his knowledge surpassing that of the majority of the people in the world of his time. His work is responsible for a great deal of what we know in the field of physical science today.

Did Einstein know when the Hour would come? Did he know the other four things of which no one knows except Allah? Did he know what every single organism was doing at any given time? What was in their breasts (their secrets and feelings)?

No! He was one of the most intelligent beings on this earth, yet his knowledge did not encompass even a fraction of Allah’s Knowledge. His knowledge was limited and he was only able to attain as much knowledge as Allah willed.

Memorize It!

Memorize ayatul kursi.

Tasks:

☐ Set a realistic deadline as to when you think you could have this ayah memorized by: ______________________________

☐ Set up a daily time (the same time each day) to memorize the ayah ______________________________

☐ Set up a specified number of times that you will practice reciting it in each session: _______________

☐ Find a qari (CD, audio, real live) and listen to him recite in each session before striking off on your own.
Weigh It!

1

We know that Allah is aware of everything. List five things in your life today or life in general, that you can never know.

1)
2)
3)
4)
5)

2

Think about some of the most fantastic feats in history of man. Note five.

1)
2)
3)
4)
5)

Though great to man, these matters are insignificant before Allah. “Verily His Command, when He intends a thing, is only that He says to it, “Be!” – and it is!” Think about the sort of effort (by man) that went into the feats that you listed and that they were insignificant to Allah in terms of effort.
Establish It!

- Create a daily journal template page (on the computer) which lists all the Islamic accomplishments that you want to carry out each day (make all prayers on time, say duaas) and include the reciting of ayatul kursi on it. (also include a spot to look at what you did during the day (the good and bad deeds)

- Each night before you go to bed, fill in a copy of your journal page (keep them in a notebook or binder), by checking off what you did on your list, each day. By reflecting upon your day, you can see where you need to improve.

- Also, remember to use the greatest Name of Allah in your daily duaas.

Wrap It Up!

After completing this lesson, you should:

- Know Ayatul Kursi by heart
- Know why you should recite ayatul kursi each night.
- Use the greatest Name of Allah in supplications to Him
- Be able to reflect regularly on man’s limited knowledge and power even when you hear about the great accomplishments of mankind through the daily news, etc.
- Understand why we should obey only Allah (and want to). You should remember that Allah is nothing like us, that He never tires or goes to sleep but is always watching us (so stay away from things that are forbidden or disliked by Allah as He always sees us; these things NEVER go unnoticed).

End of Lesson