



A STORY TO READ ALOUD

The Story of Prophet Adam (AS)

آدم

The very first human, taught the names of all things by Allah.

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The Story of Prophet Adam (AS)

“Then Adam received [some] words from his Lord, and He accepted his repentance. Indeed, it is He who is the Accepting of repentance, the Merciful.”

Surah al-Baqarah · 2:37

Come with me. Today, we're going on a journey... far, far away... and long, long ago. We're going back before the world you know... before there were any people at all, any cities, any footprints in the sand... to the very beginning of everything.

And here we are. All around you is soft light... and a deep, gentle stillness. The angels of Allah are gathered close. And a command is about to ring out, a command like nothing that has ever been heard before.

Bow down... before Adam.

And all that light begins to bow. Every angel, lowering, before the very first human being. Every single one... but one. One stands stiff. And proud. And will not bend.

Who is he? And what will his refusal mean... for the very first family, and for all of us who come after?

To understand that... we have to wind all the way back, back before Adam had taken even his very first breath. This is the story of Prophet Adam... ‘alayhi salām.

Before there were cities... before there were ships on the sea... before there was a single footprint anywhere in the sand...

there was light. And stillness. And the angels of Allah.

The angels were made of light. They loved Allah. They obeyed Allah. They never grew tired... and they never turned away.

And one day... Allah told them something. A secret about what was coming next.

He said... I am going to place upon the earth... one who will live there... and care for it.

A new kind of creation. Not made of light, like the angels. But made... from the earth itself.

The angels wondered softly. They asked... would this one bring harm? Would this one spill blood upon the earth?

And Allah answered them with words they would never forget.



A Secret Among the Angels

I know... that which you do not know.

And the angels grew quiet. For Allah knows... and they did not. And that... was enough.

It is enough for us, too, little one. When we do not understand... Allah understands. And He is kind.

So Allah began to create the very first human being.

He shaped him... from the earth. From soft clay... gathered from every part of the land.

Dark soil... and pale sand... and red dust... all of it, mixed together.

And that is why, to this very day... from Adam come people of every color. Every shade of the earth. All of us... from one father, one beginning.

And when he was ready... Allah gave him life, by His command. His chest rose... with the very first breath.

His name... was Adam, ‘alayhi salām. The first of all people. Our very first father.

Then Allah taught Adam something wonderful. Something He had not given to anyone before.

He taught him the names. The names of all things, knowledge the angels had not been given.

The name of the mountain... and the name of the bird. The name of the river... and the name of the falling rain. The name of the star... and the name of the sea.

Every single thing... Adam learned what it was called.

And then Allah turned to the angels. And gently... He asked them the names too.

But the angels... did not know.



The Names of Everything

They bowed their heads. And they said... Glory be to You. We have no knowledge... except what You have taught us.

Then Adam spoke. Softly... one by one... he said the names. All of them. Just as Allah had taught him.

And the angels saw... that Allah had given this small creature of clay... a beautiful gift.

The gift of knowing. The gift of learning. The gift of a mind... that could understand.

I wonder, little one... what it felt like... to be the very first to learn.

Then Allah gave a command.

He told the angels... Bow down before Adam.

A bow of honor. A bow of respect... for the one Allah had chosen.

And the angels bowed. Every single one of them. All that light... lowering... before the first human being.

But there was someone else there that day. Someone who was not an angel at all.

His name was Iblīs.

He was from the jinn. Made long ago... from a smokeless fire.

And when the command came... when every angel bowed... Iblīs would not.

He stood. Stiff. And proud.

He looked down at Adam, made of soft clay... and he looked at himself, made of fire... and his pride rose up in him.

He said... I am better than him. You created me from fire... and You created him from clay.



The One Who Would Not Bow

Oh, little one. Do you hear it? That... was the very first pride. The first time anyone ever thought himself too good... to obey.

Iblīs was not tricked. He was not forced. He chose. He chose his pride... over the command of his Lord.

And so he turned away... from the mercy of Allah. By his own choosing.

But Adam... Adam was gentle. And Adam was grateful. And Allah had something beautiful waiting for him.

Allah gave Adam a home in a beautiful Garden.

And in that Garden... Adam was not alone. Allah created for him a companion. Someone to share his days. His wife... Hawwa.

Imagine it with me, little one.

A Garden with no night that frightens. And no cold that hurts. And no hunger... and no fear.

Rivers... running soft and clear. Fruit... hanging low and sweet. And leaves... whispering... in a warm and gentle air.

Allah told them... Live here. Be at peace. Eat from wherever you wish... freely.

Only one thing. Just one.

Do not go near... this one tree.

One tree. In a whole Garden full of trees. That was all He asked.

But Iblīs had not forgotten his pride. And now... quietly... he came whispering.

He whispered to Adam and Hawwa. Soft words. Sweet words. Words that were not true.



The Garden and the Whisper

He told them the tree would let them live forever. He swore to them... again and again... that he only wished them well.

And the whisper went on. And on. And on.

The way a whisper does... when you know you should not be listening.

Until... slowly... they forgot. They forgot the one thing Allah had asked of them.

And they ate... from the tree.

And the moment they did... everything changed.

A quiet feeling came over them both. A feeling of... oh. What have we done.

And they reached for the soft leaves of the Garden... and began to cover themselves... gentle and ashamed.

They had slipped. They had made a mistake. The very first mistake.

Now, little one... listen closely to what happened next. For this... is the most important part of all.

Adam did not run away. Adam did not hide. Adam did not blame anyone else.

He turned... straight back... to Allah.

And Allah, in His mercy... taught Adam some words. Gentle words. Words to carry his sorrow home.

And Adam and Hawwa raised their hands. And together... they said...

Rabbanā ẓalamnā anfusanā... wa in lam taghfir lanā wa tarḥamnā... lanakūnanna mina-l-khāsirīn.



The Words That Brought Him Home

Our Lord... we have wronged ourselves. And if You do not forgive us... and have mercy on us... we will surely be among the lost.

And Allah... the Most Merciful... heard them.

He forgave Adam. He turned to him... with mercy and with love.

The mistake was lifted away... like a footprint... smoothed gently from the sand.

Then Allah sent Adam and Hawwa to live upon the earth. The earth that had been waiting for them... all along.

And He made them a promise. A promise for Adam... and for all of his children.

For you, little one. And for me.

He said... Guidance will come to you from Me. And whoever follows My guidance... will have no fear... and will not grieve.

Guidance would come. Prophets would come. Words from Allah would come... to show the way home.

So the very first story of people... is a story about coming back.

A slip... and a sorry... and a Lord who forgives.

And now... slowly... the rivers run soft and far away... the leaves grow still... and we leave that first Garden, and the long-ago beginning of everything, behind. We travel back home. To right here. Right now.

But carry Adam with you, wherever you go. He was the very first person, and he made the very first mistake. And then he showed us the most important thing anyone can ever learn. He did not run. He did not hide. He did not blame anyone else. He turned straight back to Allah and said he was sorry... and Allah, the Most Merciful, forgave him completely. So whenever you slip, and everyone slips, remember what our first father learned: you can always, always turn back. Allah hears you. He cares for you. He is near.

So carry Adam's own words with you, the very words Allah taught him to say. They mean... our Lord, we have wronged ourselves; if You do not forgive us and have mercy on us, we will surely be lost.

Rabbanā ẓalamnā anfusanā wa in lam taghfir lanā wa tarḥamnā lanakūnanna mina-l-khāsirīn.

Talk about it

Read a question aloud and let your child answer before you show the choices. Then ask: what would you have done?

1. What did Allah shape Prophet Adam from?

- a. Soft clay
- b. Smokeless fire
- c. Pure light

2. Why would Iblis not bow before Prophet Adam?

- a. He was too proud
- b. He did not hear
- c. He was asleep

3. Who did Allah teach all the names?

- a. Prophet Adam
- b. The angels
- c. Iblis the jinn

4. In Prophet Adam's story, what did Iblis whisper?

- a. Eat and live forever
- b. Build a great ship
- c. Follow the stars

5. Who would not bow before Prophet Adam?

- a. Iblis the jinn
- b. All the angels
- c. Another jinn

6. In Prophet Adam's story, which dua keeps whispers away?

- a. Audhu billah
- b. Rabbi zidni ilma
- c. Hasbunallah

Answers: 1a, 2a, 3a, 4a, 5a, 6a



Hear this story

Read it again online, or listen to it narrated in the Sukun Kids app.

sukunkids.app/stories/adam

Sukun Kids: stories of the prophets for Muslim children, narrated for bedtime.

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