

Prophet Saleh

LEVEL: BEGINNER

The people of Thamud lived in a place called Al-Hijr, which falls nowadays on the borders between Saudi Arabia and Jordan. Allah gave the people of Thamud an abundance of food, well springs, palm trees and gardens. One of the most amazing things about Thamud is that they built their homes in the mountains. They had a good life and Allah gave them all that they needed. The people of Thamud worshipped idols, not Allah.

Allah sent Prophet Saleh

Allah wanted to guide the people of Thamud to Islam and for that mission, Allah sent Prophet Saleh to teach his people about Allah. Saleh called his people to Allah and told them to believe in Allah and worship Him alone and repent from the sin of worshipping idols. Saleh told his people that Allah promised that they will go to Jannah if they believe in Allah. He also warned them that if they disobey Allah, they will go to the fire.

The Response

The people of Thamud did not accept what Saleh called them for. They said to Saleh: We used to respect you, how come you want us to stop worshipping idols? We found our forefathers worshipping them. We think you are suffering from a magic spell. Another group said that Saleh is no more than a liar.

The Miracle

One day, while Saleh was calling his people to Islam, they said to him: Can your god do anything? Saleh said: yes. They said: We need proof from Allah that you are telling the truth and not lying. Saleh asked: What do you want as proof? They said: We want you to bring us a huge, red, pregnant camel. Saleh asked: If Allah makes this happen, do you promise that you will stop worshiping idols and worship Allah alone? They all promised and agreed.

Saleh asked Allah for the camel that his people want. Suddenly a huge, pregnant, red, camel cracked the rock and came out. Everyone was astonished from the greatness of this miracle. Saleh was waiting for his people to accept Islam, but only some of the believed him. Most of people broke their promise and still did not believe.

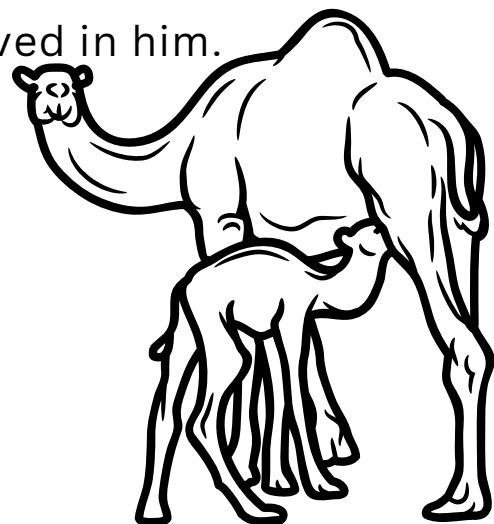
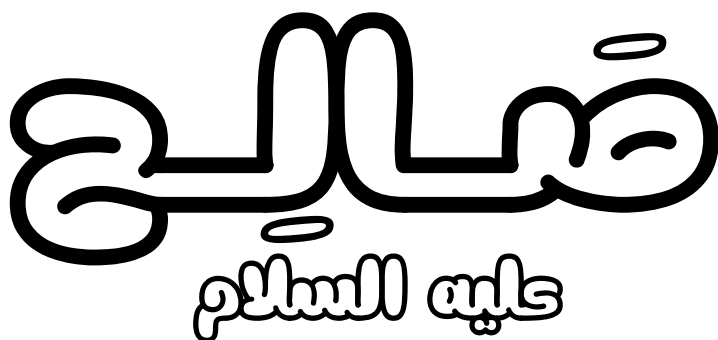
The camel

Saleh told his people to be kind to the camel and let it eat and drink, otherwise Allah will punish them. Shortly, the camel gave birth to a baby camel. The camel was huge and would eat and drink in one day what all the other camels together would eat and drink. The people of Thamud did not like the camel and decided to kill it. Nine men, with the approval of everyone, waited for the camel and its baby while they were coming back from grazing and killed the mother and the baby camel.

The Punishment

Saleh was very angry when he found out about what happened to the camels. Saleh told his people to get ready for the severe punishment that Allah promised them if they hurt the camel. They waited one day after the other and at the fourth day they took their weapons, swords, and spears and raised their armies to fight against Allah's power. An earthquake shook the land from underneath them and they fell to their knees, then Allah sent an loud cry from the sky that scared them and ripped their hearts out of their chests. All of the people of Thamud fell dead.

Allah saved Saleh and the people who believed in him.



Activities

True or False:

- 1- The people of Thamud lived in a place called Al-Hijr, near the present-day border between Saudi Arabia and Jordan.
- 2- The people of Thamud worshipped Allah and followed Prophet Saleh.
- 3- Allah sent Prophet Saleh to guide the people of Thamud to Islam.
- 4- The people of Thamud immediately believed in Prophet Saleh after seeing the miracle of the camel.
- 5- An earthquake and a loud cry from the sky destroyed the people of Thamud.

Multiple Choice

1- Where did the people of Thamud live?

- A) Egypt
- B) Al-Hijr, near the border between Saudi Arabia and Jordan
- C) Mecca
- D) Medina

2- What miracle did the people of Thamud request from Prophet Saleh?

- A) A red camel that could fly
- B) A huge, red, pregnant camel that came out of a rock
- C) A golden statue that could speak
- D) A tree that grew food overnight

3- How did the people of Thamud react to the miracle of the camel?

- A) They all immediately believed in Allah.
- B) Some believed, but most broke their promise and continued to disbelieve.
- C) They rejoiced and worshipped Allah.
- D) They asked for more miracles.

4- Who was saved from the punishment of Allah?

- A) Only Prophet Saleh
- B) Prophet Saleh and those who believed
- C) The entire tribe of Thamud
- D) No one

Activities

Fill-in-the-Blank:

The people of Thamud lived in _____ on the border of _____ and _____. Prophet Saleh called his people to worship _____ alone and to leave worshipping _____. They asked Prophet Saleh to bring them a _____ as proof of his prophethood. When the people of Thamud killed the camel, Allah sent an _____ and a _____ from the sky to destroy them. Allah saved _____ and those who _____ in him.

Answer the Questions

1-Why did Allah send Prophet Saleh to the people of Thamud?

2- Describe the miracle that Allah sent to the people of Thamud as a sign.

3- How did the people of Thamud respond to Prophet Saleh's message to worship Allah alone?

4- What punishment did Allah send to the people of Thamud for killing the camel?