

Prophet Shu'ayb

LEVEL: BEGINNER

Shu'ayb (peace be upon him) is one of the prophets of Allah. He was sent by Allah to the people of Madyan, an Arab tribe that lived in a region called Madyan, near the Gulf of Aqaba in present-day Jordan. The Quran mentions the story of Shu'ayb (peace be upon him) in several chapters, including Al-A'raf, Hud, and Ash-Shu'ara.

The Beginning of the Mission:

The people of Madyan did not worship Allah; instead, they worshipped a tree called "Al-Aykah." They also engaged in bad deeds such as cheating in weights and measures, robbing travelers, not giving people their due rights, and spreading corruption in the land. Allah sent Shu'ayb (peace be upon him) to guide them and call them to worship Allah alone and abandon their evil actions.

Shu'ayb (peace be upon him) began his mission by reminding his people of Allah's blessings upon them and urging them to fear Allah, worship Him alone, stop cheating and deceit, and be honest and trustworthy. Allah Almighty says in the Quran:

"And to [the people of] Madyan [We sent] their brother Shu'ayb. He said, 'O my people, worship Allah; you have no deity other than Him. There has come to you clear evidence from your Lord. So fulfill the measure and weight and do not deprive people of their due and cause not corruption upon the earth after its reformation. That is better for you if you should be believers.'" (Al-A'raf: 85)

However, the people of Madyan rejected Shu'ayb's message and mocked him and his call. They accused him of sorcery and lying and threatened him with punishment and expulsion from the town. Shu'ayb (peace be upon him) continued to call them with kindness and patience, trying to convince them to leave their misguidance and follow the path of truth.

They said to him: "O Shu'ayb, does your prayer command you that we should leave what our forefathers worshipped or not do with our wealth what we please? Indeed, you are the forbearing, the discerning!" (Hud: 87)

Shu'ayb (peace be upon him) persisted in his mission and warned his people that if they did not repent and return to Allah, a severe punishment would befall them. He said to them: "And O my people, let not [your] dissension from me cause you to be struck by that similar to what struck the people of Noah or the people of Hud or the people of Salih. And the people of Lot are not from you far away." (Hud: 89)

But the people of Madyan did not take heed; they continued in their rejection and disbelief. They even challenged Shu'ayb to bring upon them the punishment he threatened them with if he was truthful.

Allah answered the prayer of Shu'ayb (peace be upon him) and commanded a punishment to be sent upon the people of Madyan. The punishment came in the form of a severe cry from the sky and a violent earthquake that shook the ground beneath them. Before that, Allah had sent them extreme heat for seven days, then a huge, cool cloud came, and they sought shade under it, but it turned into a blazing fire. They were all destroyed. The Quran mentions this punishment in the verse:

"So the earthquake seized them, and they became within their homes [corpses] fallen prone." (Al-A'raf: 91)

Shu'ayb (peace be upon him) and those who believed with him were saved from this punishment, fulfilling Allah's promise of victory and salvation for them. Allah Almighty says: "And when Our command came, We saved Shu'ayb and those who believed with him, by mercy from Us. And the shriek seized those who had wronged, and they became within their homes [corpses] fallen prone." (Hud: 94)

شُعَيْبٌ

عليه السلام

Shu'ayb

Activities

True or False:

- 1- The people of Madyan welcomed Shu'ayb's message and followed him immediately.
- 2- Prophet Shu'ayb warned the people of Madyan of a punishment similar to the one that struck the people of Noah, Hud, and Salih.
- 3- The punishment for the people of Madyan included extreme heat, a cool cloud that turned to fire, a shriek, and an earthquake.

Multiple Choice

1- To whom was Prophet Shu'ayb sent to guide?

- A) The people of Sodom
- B) The people of Madyan
- C) The people of Thamud
- D) The people of Egypt

2- What did the people of Madyan worship?

- A) The moon
- B) The sun
- C) A tree called "Al-Aykah"
- D) A golden calf

3- What was one of the main sins committed by the people of Madyan?

- A) Idol worship
- B) Cheating in weights and measures
- C) Forbidden relationships
- D) Gambling

Place the events in correct order:

- 1- Shu'ayb warned his people about the punishment.
- 2- Allah sent extreme heat for seven days as part of the punishment.
- 3- The people of Madyan gathered under a cool cloud that turned into blazing fire.
- 4- A violent earthquake and shriek destroyed the people of Madyan.

Fill-in-the-Blank:

The people of Madyan were known for cheating in _____ and measures. Prophet Shu'ayb reminded his people of Allah's blessings and encouraged them to be _____ and trustworthy. Allah destroyed the people of Madyan with a violent earthquake and a _____ from the sky.

Activities

Match the Terms

Madyan

A) The prophet sent to guide the people of Madyan.

Al-Aykah

B) The people to whom Prophet Shu'ayb was sent.

Shu'ayb

C) A loud cry that was part of the punishment on the people of Madyan.

The Shriek

D) The tree worshipped by the people of Madyan.

Answer the Questions

1-What message did Prophet Shu'ayb bring to the people of Madyan?

2-How did the people of Madyan respond to Shu'ayb's call to worship Allah and abandon their corrupt practices?

3- Describe the punishment Allah sent upon the people of Madyan for rejecting Shu'ayb's message.