

Prophet Hud

LEVEL: BEGINNER

After the Great Flood, all idols were destroyed, and Prophet Nuh and the believers lived peacefully on earth, worshipping Allah alone. However, after Nuh's passing, some people reverted to idol worship. This new group was known as the people of 'Aad, who settled in southern Yemen in an area called Al-Ahqaf (the Sand Hills). The 'Aad were known for their physical strength, massive power, and towering height, which made them unique among the people of their time. They built grand houses with towering pillars, symbolizing their might. However, this strength and wealth led them to arrogance, and they forgot that Allah was the true source of their power. They boasted, "Who is stronger than us?" and began worshipping idols, believing these false gods could grant them power and security.

To guide the people of 'Aad back to the right path, Allah sent Prophet Hud. Hud began his mission by explaining to his people that Allah had sent him to save them from idol worship. He declared that Allah is One and that they should worship Him alone, reminding them that he was merely a messenger delivering Allah's message with honesty and sincerity. However, the 'Aad were proud and defiant. They mocked Hud, calling him a fool and accusing him of lying. "No one can tell us what to do," they said. "We are strong and powerful." Hud persisted, repeatedly calling them to Allah and warning them of divine punishment if they continued their disbelief. Yet, the people of 'Aad remained stubborn. They challenged Hud, saying, "If there is any punishment, let your god send it. We are not afraid; we are the most powerful."

Allah describes their arrogance in the Qur'an: "But the chiefs of his people—who disbelieved, denied the meeting 'with Allah' in the Hereafter, and were spoiled by the worldly luxuries We had provided for them—said 'to the masses', 'This is only a human like you. He eats what you eat and drinks what you drink. And if you obey a man like yourselves, you would certainly be losers. Does he promise you that once you are dead and reduced to dust and bones, you will be brought forth alive? Impossible, simply impossible is what you are promised! There is nothing beyond our worldly life. We die, others are born, and none will be resurrected. He is no more than a man who has fabricated a lie about Allah, and we will never believe in him.'"

Seeing their defiance, Hud warned them of the consequences, saying, "Since you have said this, you have placed yourselves in great danger." Then Hud called upon Allah: "My Lord, support me because they have denied me." Allah responded, reassuring Hud that soon they would be regretful.

The Punishment of 'Aad

As a warning, Allah withheld rain from the people of 'Aad for three years. Without rain, their crops withered, their animals suffered, and food became scarce. Despite these hardships, the people of 'Aad remained arrogant and continued in their disbelief, refusing to turn to Hud or to abandon their idols. Finally, a massive dark cloud appeared in the sky. Believing it would bring long-awaited rain, the people of 'Aad rejoiced, gathering outside with their buckets and pots, eagerly awaiting the downpour. But Allah declared, "It is not what you think it is. It is the punishment you deserve."

Suddenly, a fierce, icy wind descended upon them. The wind was so powerful that it lifted people into the air, smashing them to the ground with terrifying force. This punishment continued relentlessly for seven nights and eight days, sweeping away everything in its path. By the end, all the disbelievers among the people of 'Aad had perished. Allah, in His mercy, saved Hud and the believers, sparing them from the devastating punishment that befell their people.

Activities

True or False:

- 1- The people of 'Aad lived in the northern part of Yemen.
- 2- Prophet Hud was sent to guide the people of 'Aad back to the worship of Allah alone.
- 3- The people of 'Aad were humble and acknowledged that Allah was the source of their strength.
- 4- Allah withheld rain from the people of 'Aad for five years before sending a stronger punishment.
- 5- Allah saved only Hud and the believers when He sent the punishment on the people of 'Aad.

Multiple Choice

1- Where did the people of 'Aad live?

- A) Al-Ahqaf (the Sand Hills) in southern Yemen
- B) Near the Euphrates River
- C) In the Arabian Desert
- D) In the mountains of Lebanon

2- What did the people of 'Aad pride themselves on?

- A) Their knowledge and wisdom
- B) Their wealth and trade
- C) Their strength, power, and tall stature
- D) Their humility and simplicity

3- How did the people of 'Aad respond when they saw the dark cloud in the sky?

- A) They feared that it was a punishment from Allah.
- B) They celebrated, thinking it would bring rain.
- C) They ran away to the mountains.
- D) They prayed to Allah for forgiveness.

4- How long did the strong wind punishment last?

- A) Three days and nights
- B) Seven nights and eight days
- C) Forty days
- D) One month

Activities

Fill-in-the-Blank:

Prophet Hud was sent by Allah to guide the people of _____.
The people of 'Aad were known for their strong _____ and _____ stature.

Allah sent a _____ to the people of 'Aad after they rejected Prophet Hud's message.

The punishment lasted for _____ nights and _____ days.

Allah saved _____ and the _____ from the punishment.

Answer the Questions

1-Describe the physical characteristics of the people of 'Aad.

2- What did Prophet Hud teach the people of 'Aad about worship?

3- How did the people of 'Aad react to Prophet Hud's message?

4- What was the response of the people of 'Aad when Prophet Hud warned them about Allah's punishment?

5- What did the people of 'Aad think the dark cloud in the sky would bring?