

## Lesson 13: Divine Delegates

### Animals Are Divine Delegates

{ فَلَمَّا قَضَيْنَا عَلَيْهِ الْمَوْتَ مَا دَلَّهُمْ عَلَى مَوْتِهِ إِلَّا دَابَّةُ الْأَرْضِ تَأْكُلُ مِنْسَأَتَهُ فَلَمَّا خَرَّ تَبَيَّنَتِ الْجِنُّ أَنْ لَوْ كَانُوا يَعْلَمُونَ {  
الْغَيْبَ مَا لَبِثُوا فِي الْعَذَابِ الْمُهِينِ }

***And when We decreed that he should die, naught indicated to them that he was dead but the Beast of the Earth (termites) devouring his staff; and when he fell down, the jinn saw clearly that, had they only known the Unseen, they would not have continued in the humbling chastisement. (Seba 34: 14).***

Many times, in the Qur'an, the role and delegation given to animals has been demonstrated. As examples:

1. Part of a sacrificed cow (The Cow of Bani Israel) brought back to life a murdered man to bear witness as to who killed him.

{ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُكُمْ أَنْ تَذْبَحُوا بَقْرَةً }

***'God commands you to sacrifice a cow.'* (Al Baqarah 2:67)**

2. A spider that protected the Prophet while he was in the cave.

{ إِلَّا تَنْصُرُوهُ فَقَدْ نَصَرَهُ اللَّهُ }

***If you do not help him, yet God has helped him already (Al Tawba 9:40).***

3. A crow became the teacher of man.

{ فَبَعَثَ اللَّهُ غُرَابًا }

**Then God sent forth a raven (Al Maida 5:31).**

4. A hoopoe bird that was assigned to deliver the letter of Prophet Suliman (pbuh) to Queen Baqlis, the ruler of the Land of Seba:

{ أَذْهَبَ بِكِتَابِي هَذَا }

**Take this letter of mine. (An Naml 27:28).**

5. Small birds that were charged with the task of throwing stones upon the Army of the Elephant:

{ وَأَرْسَلَ عَلَيْهِمْ طَيْرًا أَبَابِيلَ }

**And He sent upon them birds in flights (Al Fil 105:3).**

6. A serpent, a means for truth for Prophet Moses(pbuh):

{ فَإِذَا هِيَ تُعَبِّانٌ مُبِينٌ }

**and behold, it was a serpent manifest. (Al A'raf 7: 107).**

7. A whale, commissioned to punishment for Prophet Yunus(pbuh):

{ فَأَلْتَقَمَهُ الْكُوتُ }

**Then the whale swallowed him down (As Saffat 37: 142).**

8. Termites, the means in which the death of Prophet Sulaiman (pbuh) was discovered:

{ دَابَّةٌ الْأَرْضِ تَأْكُلُ مِنْسَأَتَهُ }

**The Beast of the Earth devouring his staff. (Seba 34: 14).**

9. The dog, a companion of the people of the cave, was responsible for guarding them:

{وَكَلْبُهُمْ بَاسِطٌ ذِرَاعَيْهِ بِالْوَصِيدِ}

**and their dog 'stretching its paws on the threshold.**

**(Al Kahf 18: 18).**

10. Four birds (Peacock, pigeon, cock, and crow) provided contentment to Prophet Ibrahim(pbuh)

{فَخَذَّ أَرْبَعَةً مِّنَ الطَّيْرِ}

**Take four birds. (Al Baqarah 2:260).**

11. A donkey, the reason for certainty of Prophet Uzair(pbuh) in the Resurrection:

{وَانظُرْ إِلَى حِمَارِكَ}

**And look at thy donkey. (Al Baqarah 2:259).**

12. The camel, cow, and sheep in the Hajj Pilgrimage, become divine symbols:

{وَالْبُدْنَ جَعَلْنَاهَا لَكُمْ مِّنْ شَعَائِرِ اللَّهِ}

**And the beasts of sacrifice – We have appointed them for you as among God's waymarks (Al Hajj 22:36).**

13. Animals, become a means to know God:

{أَفَلَا يَنْظُرُونَ إِلَى الْإِبْلِ كَيْفَ خُلِقَتْ}

**What, do they not consider how the camel was created?**

**(Al Ghashiya 88: 17).**

14. Animals, become a means of a test to mankind:

{تَنَالُهُ أَيْدِيكُمْ وَرِمَاكُمُ}

**that your hands and lances attain (Al Maida 5:94).**

15. Animals, become the miracles of God:

{هَذِهِ نَاقَةُ اللَّهِ}

***This is the She-camel of God. (Al Araf 7:73).***

16. Animals, are a means of Divine anger and punishment:

{وَالْجَرَادَ وَالْقُمَّلَ وَالضَّفَادِعَ}

***The locusts, the lice and the frogs (Al Araf 7: 133).***

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