

Defeating Shaytan: Security Against Humanity's Greatest Enemy

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Shaytan As the Enemy

The Meaning of Iblis

- Linguistically, Iblīs comes from the word اَلْبَسَ, which means to lose hope.

وَيَوْمَ تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ يُبْلِسُ الْمُجْرِمُونَ ﴿١٢﴾

And the Day the Hour appears the criminals will be in despair. (30:12)

- Technically, Iblīs is the one who has no chance of receiving the mercy of Allah

وَإِذْ قُلْنَا لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ اسْجُدُوا لِآدَمَ فَسَجَدُوا إِلَّا إِبْلِيسَ أَبَىٰ وَاسْتَكْبَرَ وَكَانَ مِنَ الْكَافِرِينَ ﴿٣٤﴾

And [mention] when We said to the angels, "Prostrate before Adam"; so they prostrated, except for Iblees. He refused and was arrogant and became of the disbelievers. (2:34)

Iblis In the Quran

- Iblis is mentioned 11 times in the Quran
 - Surah Al-Baqarah (2:34)
 - Surah Al-Araaf (7:11)
 - Surah Al-Hijr (15:31, 15:32)
 - Surah Al-Israa (17:61)
 - Surah Al-Kahf (18:50)
 - Surah Taha (20:116)
 - Surah Al-Shu'ara (26:95)
 - Surah Al-Saba (34:20)
 - Surah Saad (38:74, 38:75)

Where the Enemy Began

وَإِذْ قَالَ رَبُّكَ لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ إِنِّي جَاعِلٌ فِي الْأَرْضِ خَلِيفَةً ۖ قَالُوا أَتَجْعَلُ فِيهَا مَن
يُفْسِدُ فِيهَا وَيَسْفِكُ الدِّمَاءَ وَنَحْنُ نُسَبِّحُ بِحَمْدِكَ وَنُقَدِّسُ لَكَ ۗ قَالَ إِنِّي أَعْلَمُ مَا
لَا تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٣٠﴾

‘Remember’ when your Lord said to the angels, “I am going to place a successive ‘human’ authority on earth.” They asked ‘Allah’, “Will You place in it someone who will spread corruption there and shed blood while we glorify Your praises and proclaim Your holiness?” Allah responded, “I know what you do not know.” (Surah Baqarah, 30)

The Prostration of the Angels

وَإِذْ قُلْنَا لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ اسْجُدُوا لِآدَمَ فَسَجَدُوا إِلَّا إِبْلِيسَ أَبَىٰ وَاسْتَكْبَرَ وَكَانَ مِنَ الْكَافِرِينَ ﴿٣٤﴾

And ‘remember’ when We said to the angels, “Prostrate before Adam,” so they all did—but not Iblîs, who refused and acted arrogantly, becoming unfaithful (Surah Baqarah, 34)

فَسَجَدَ الْمَلَائِكَةُ كُلُّهُمْ أَجْمَعُونَ ﴿٧٣﴾ إِلَّا إِبْلِيسَ اسْتَكْبَرَ وَكَانَ مِنَ الْكَافِرِينَ ﴿٧٤﴾

So the angels prostrated all together. But not Iblîs,¹ who acted arrogantly,² becoming unfaithful (Surah Saad, 73-74)

Iblis's Arrogance and Refusal

قَالَ مَا مَنَعَكَ أَلَّا تَسْجُدَ إِذْ أَمَرْتُكَ^ص قَالَ أَنَا خَيْرٌ مِّنْهُ خَلَقْتَنِي مِن نَّارٍ وَخَلَقْتَهُ
مِنْ طِينٍ ﴿١٢﴾

Allah asked, “What prevented you from prostrating when I commanded you?” He replied, “I am better than he is: You created me from fire and him from clay.” (Surah Araaf, 12)

Excuses of Shaytan

قَالَ مَا مَنَعَكَ أَلَّا تَسْجُدَ إِذْ أَمَرْتُكَ^ط قَالَ أَنَا خَيْرٌ مِّنْهُ خَلَقْتَنِي مِن نَّارٍ وَخَلَقْتَهُ مِن طِينٍ ﴿١٢﴾

Allah asked, “What prevented you from prostrating when I commanded you?” He replied, “I am better than he is: You created me from fire and him from clay.” (Surah Araaf, 12)

قَالَ يَا إِبْلِيسُ مَا مَنَعَكَ أَنْ تَسْجُدَ لِمَا خَلَقْتُ بِإِيْدِي^ط أَسْتَكْبَرْتَ أَمْ كُنْتَ مِنَ الْعَالِينَ ﴿٧٥﴾
قَالَ أَنَا خَيْرٌ مِّنْهُ خَلَقْتَنِي مِن نَّارٍ وَخَلَقْتَهُ مِن طِينٍ ﴿٧٦﴾

Allah asked, “O Iblîs! What prevented you from prostrating to what I created with My Own Hands? Did you ‘just’ become proud? Or have you always been arrogant?”. He replied, “I am better than he is: You created me from fire and him from clay.” (Surah Saad, 75-76)

Shaytan Divulges His Plan

قَالَ فَاهْبِطْ مِنْهَا فَمَا يَكُونُ لَكَ أَنْ تَتَكَبَّرَ فِيهَا فَاخْرُجْ إِنَّكَ مِنَ الصَّاغِرِينَ ﴿١٣﴾ قَالَ أَنْظِرْنِي إِلَى
يَوْمٍ يُبْعَثُونَ ﴿١٤﴾ قَالَ إِنَّكَ مِنَ الْمُنظَرِينَ ﴿١٥﴾ قَالَ فِيمَا أُغْوَيْتَنِي لَأَقْعُدَنَّ لَهُمْ صِرَاطَكَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ
﴿١٦﴾ ثُمَّ لَا تَجِدُ أَكْثَرَهُمْ شَاكِرِينَ ﴿١٧﴾ قَالَ اخْرُجْ مِنْهَا مَذْذُومًا مَّدْحُورًا لَّمَنْ تَبِعَكَ مِنْهُمْ لَأَمْلَأَنَّ جَهَنَّمَ مِنْكُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ
﴿١٨﴾

Allah said, “Then get down from Paradise! It is not for you to be arrogant here. So get out! You are truly one of the disgraced.” (13) He appealed, “Then delay my end until the Day of their resurrection.” (14) Allah said, “You are delayed ‘until the appointed Day’.” (15) He said, “For leaving me to stray I will lie in ambush for them on Your Straight Path. (16) I will approach them from their front, their back, their right, their left, and then You will find most of them ungrateful.” (17) Allah said, “Get out of Paradise! You are disgraced and rejected! I will certainly fill up Hell with you and your followers all together.” (18)

We Have Been Warned

وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطَوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُبِينٌ ﴿١٦٨﴾ إِنَّمَا يَأْمُرُكُم بِالسُّوءِ وَالْفَحْشَاءِ
وَأَنْ تَقُولُوا عَلَى اللَّهِ مَا لَا تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿١٦٩﴾

And do not follow the footsteps of Satan. Indeed, he is to you a clear enemy. (168) He only orders you to evil and immorality and to say about Allah what you do not know. (169)

الشَّيْطَانُ يَعِدُكُمُ الْفَقْرَ وَيَأْمُرُكُم بِالْفَحْشَاءِ ۖ وَاللَّهُ يَعِدُكُم مَّغْفِرَةً مِّنْهُ وَفَضْلًا ۗ وَاللَّهُ
وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٢٦٨﴾

Satan threatens you with poverty and orders you to immorality, while Allah promises you forgiveness from Him and bounty. And Allah is all-Encompassing and Knowing. (268)

We Have Been Warned

وَيُرِيدُ الشَّيْطَانُ أَنْ يُضِلَّهُمْ ضَلَالًا بَعِيدًا ﴿٦٠﴾

And Satan wishes to lead them far astray. (60)

إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُ الشَّيْطَانُ أَنْ يُوقِعَ بَيْنَكُمُ الْعَدَاوَةَ وَالْبَغْضَاءَ فِي الْخَمْرِ وَالْمَيْسِرِ وَيَصُدَّكُمْ عَنْ
ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَعَنِ الصَّلَاةِ ۖ فَهَلْ أَنْتُمْ مُنْتَهُونَ ﴿٩١﴾

*Satan only wants to cause between you animosity and hatred through
intoxicants and gambling and to avert you from the remembrance of
Allah and from prayer. So will you not desist? (91)*

إِنَّهُ عَدُوٌّ مُضِلٌّ مُبِينٌ ﴿١٥﴾

Indeed, he is a manifest, misleading enemy. (15)

We Have Been Warned

عَنْ جَابِرٍ قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " إِنَّ إِبْلِيسَ يَضَعُ عَرْشَهُ عَلَى الْمَاءِ ثُمَّ يَبْعَثُ سَرَايَاهُ فَأَذْنَاهُمْ مِنْهُ مَنَزِلَةً أَعْظَمُهُمْ فِتْنَةً يَجِيءُ أَحَدُهُمْ فَيَقُولُ فَعَلْتُ كَذَا وَكَذَا فَيَقُولُ مَا صَنَعْتَ شَيْئًا قَالَ ثُمَّ يَجِيءُ أَحَدُهُمْ فَيَقُولُ مَا تَرَكْتُهُ حَتَّى فَرَّقْتُ بَيْنَهُ وَبَيْنَ امْرَأَتِهِ - قَالَ - فَيُذْنِيهِ مِنْهُ وَيَقُولُ نَعَمْ أَنْتَ " . قَالَ الْأَعْمَشُ أَرَاهُ قَالَ " فَيَلْتَزِمُهُ "

Jabir reported that Allah's Messenger SAW said: Iblis places his throne upon water; he then sends detachments (for creating dissension) ; the nearer to him in rank are those who are most notorious in creating dissension. One of them comes and says: "I did so and so." And he says: "You have done nothing." Then one amongst them comes and says: "I did not spare so and so until I sowed the seed of discord between a husband and a wife." The Satan goes near him and says: "You have done well." A'mash said: He then embraces him.

We Have Been Warned

عَنْ جَابِرٍ قَالَ قَالَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ إِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ قَدْ يَيْسَ أَنْ يَعْبُدَهُ الْمُصَلُّونَ
وَلَكِنْ فِي التَّحْرِيشِ بَيْنَهُمْ

Jabir reported: The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, “Verily, Satan has given up that those who pray will ever worship him, so rather he incites hateful discord between them.”

The Meaning of Talbis & Ghurur

The Meaning of Talbīs & Ghurūr

- Talbīs is to present falsehood in the image of the truth
- Ghurūr is a form of ignorance that causes you to believe falsehood to be the truth and bad to be good
- Iblīs influences people as much as possible and his influence depends on how alert, negligent, ignorant, and knowledgeable they are.
 - A man asked al-Ḥasan: Does Iblīs ever sleep? He answered: If he did, then we would find some rest
- The strongest chain a person is held captive by is ignorance. The chain of medium strength is that of lust and the weakest is that of negligence
- Al-Aʿmash said: A man who used to interact with the Jinn told me, “Nobody is tougher on us than a follower of the Sunnah. As for those who follow their lusts, we play with them easily.”

Each Human Has a Devil

عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ مَسْعُودٍ قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ مَا مِنْكُمْ مِنْ أَحَدٍ إِلَّا وَقَدْ وَكَّلَ بِهِ قَرِينُهُ مِنَ الْجِنِّ قَالُوا وَإِيَّاكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ قَالَ وَإِيَّايَ إِلَّا أَنَّ اللَّهَ أَعَانَنِي عَلَيْهِ فَأَسْلَمَ فَلَا يَأْمُرُنِي إِلَّا بِخَيْرٍ

Abdullah ibn Mas'ud reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Each one of you has a devil-companion from the jinn over him." They said, "Even you, O Messenger of Allah?" The Prophet said, "Even me, yet Allah helped me against him until he embraced Islam. He does not order me to do anything but good."

The Devil Flows Like Blood

عَنْ عَلِيٍّ بْنِ حُسَيْنٍ أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ أَتَتْهُ صَفِيَّةُ بِنْتُ حُيٍّ فَلَمَّا رَجَعَتْ انْطَلَقَ مَعَهَا فَمَرَّ بِهِ رَجُلَانِ مِنَ الْأَنْصَارِ فَدَعَاهُمَا فَقَالَ " إِنَّمَا هِيَ صَفِيَّةُ ". قَالَا سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ. قَالَ " إِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ يَجْرِي مِنْ ابْنِ آدَمَ فَجَرَى الدَّم "

Narrated `Ali bin Husain: Safiya bint (daughter of) Huyai came to the Prophet (in the mosque), and when she returned (home), the Prophet accompanied her.

It happened that two men from the Ansar passed by them and the Prophet called them saying, "She is Safiya!" those two men said, "Subhan Allah!" The Prophet SAW said, "Satan circulates in the human body as blood does."

Seeking Protection From the Shaytan

Duas for Protection

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

I seek refuge with Allah against the Satan, the outcast.

رَبِّ أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ هَمَزَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ وَأَعُوذُ بِكَ رَبِّ أَنْ يَحْضُرُونِ

My Lord! I seek refuge with You from the whisperings of the devils. And I seek refuge with You, My Lord, lest they may attend (or come near) me.

أَعُوذُ بِكَلِمَاتِ اللَّهِ التَّامَّاتِ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ

I seek refuge in the Perfect Words of Allah from the evil of what He has created.

Duas for Protection

أَعُوذُ بِكَلِمَاتِ اللَّهِ التَّامَّةِ مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْطَانٍ وَهَامَّةٍ وَمِنْ كُلِّ عَيْنٍ لَامَّةٍ

I seek refuge with Allah's perfect words from every devil, poisonous creature, and every evil eye.

أَعُوذُ بِكَلِمَاتِ اللَّهِ التَّامَّاتِ الَّتِي لَا يُجَاوِزُهُنَّ بَرٌّ وَلَا فَاجِرٌ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ وَبَرّاً وَذَرّاً
وَمِنْ شَرِّ مَا يَنْزِلُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ وَمِنْ شَرِّ مَا يَعْرُجُ فِيهَا وَمِنْ شَرِّ مَا ذَرَأَ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَمِنْ شَرِّ
مَا يَخْرُجُ مِنْهَا وَمِنْ شَرِّ فِتَنِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ وَمِنْ شَرِّ كُلِّ طَارِقٍ إِلَّا طَارِقاً يَطْرُقُ بِخَيْرٍ يَا
رَحْمَنُ

I seek refuge in the Perfect Words of Allah -which neither the upright nor the corrupt may overcome -from the evil of what He created, of what He made, and of what He scattered, from the evil of what descends from the heavens, and of what rises up to them, from the evil of what He scattered in the earth, and of what emerges from it, from the evil trials of night and day, and from the evil of every night visitor, except the night visitor who comes with good. O Merciful One.

The 3 Quls

عن عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ خُبَيْبٍ أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ لَهُ قُلْ فَقُلْتُ
مَا أَقُولُ قَالَ قُلْ قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ وَالْمُعَوِّذَتَيْنِ يَعْنِي الْفَلَقَ وَالنَّاسَ حِينَ تُمَسِّي
وَتُصْبِحُ ثَلَاثَ مَرَّاتٍ تَكْفِيكَ مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ

Abdullah ibn Khubayb reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Speak." I said, "What should I say?" The Prophet said, "Say: He is Allah, the One, (112:1) and the two chapters of refuge, al-Falaq and al-Nas, every evening and morning three times. They will be enough for you against everything." (Sunan al-Tirmidhi)

The Protection of Ayah al- Kursi

وَقَالَ عُمَانُ بْنُ الْهَيْثَمِ أَبُو عَمْرِو حَدَّثَنَا عَوْفٌ عَنْ مُحَمَّدِ بْنِ سِيرِينَ عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - قَالَ وَكَلَنِي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ بِحِفْظِ زَكَاةِ رَمَضَانَ فَأَتَانِي آتٍ فَجَعَلَ يَحْثُو مِنَ الطَّعَامِ فَأَخَذْتُهُ وَقُلْتُ وَاللَّهِ لَا أَرْفَعَنَّكَ إِلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ. قَالَ إِنِّي مُحْتَاجٌ وَعَلَى عِيَالٍ وَلِي حَاجَةٌ شَدِيدَةٌ. قَالَ فَخَلَّيْتُ عَنْهُ فَأَصْبَحْتُ فَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " يَا أَبَا هُرَيْرَةَ مَا فَعَلَ أَسِيرُكَ الْبَارِحَةَ ". قَالَ قُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ شَكَأَ حَاجَةٌ شَدِيدَةٌ وَعِيَالًا فَرَحِمْتُهُ فَخَلَّيْتُ سَبِيلَهُ. قَالَ " أَمَّا إِنَّهُ قَدْ كَذَبَكَ وَسَيَعُودُ ". فَعَرَفْتُ أَنَّهُ سَيَعُودُ لِقَوْلِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ إِنَّهُ سَيَعُودُ. فَرَصَدْتُهُ فَجَاءَ يَحْثُو مِنَ الطَّعَامِ فَأَخَذْتُهُ فَقُلْتُ لَا أَرْفَعَنَّكَ إِلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ. قَالَ دَعْنِي فَإِنِّي مُحْتَاجٌ وَعَلَى عِيَالٍ لَا أَعُودُ فَرَحِمْتُهُ فَخَلَّيْتُ سَبِيلَهُ فَأَصْبَحْتُ فَقَالَ لِي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " يَا أَبَا هُرَيْرَةَ مَا فَعَلَ أَسِيرُكَ ". قُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ شَكَأَ حَاجَةٌ شَدِيدَةٌ وَعِيَالًا فَرَحِمْتُهُ فَخَلَّيْتُ سَبِيلَهُ. قَالَ " أَمَّا إِنَّهُ قَدْ كَذَبَكَ وَسَيَعُودُ ". فَرَصَدْتُهُ الثَّالِثَةَ فَجَاءَ يَحْثُو مِنَ الطَّعَامِ فَأَخَذْتُهُ فَقُلْتُ لَا أَرْفَعَنَّكَ إِلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ وَهَذَا آخِرُ ثَلَاثِ مَرَّاتٍ أَتَيْتُكَ تَزْعُمُ لَا تَعُودُ ثُمَّ تَعُودُ. قَالَ دَعْنِي أَعْلِمَكَ كَلِمَاتٍ يَنْفَعُكَ اللَّهُ بِهَا. قُلْتُ مَا هُوَ قَالَ إِذَا أُوْتِيَ إِلَى فِرَاشِكَ فَاقْرَأْ آيَةَ الْكُرْسِيِّ {اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ} حَتَّى تَخْتِمَ الْآيَةَ فَإِنَّكَ لَنْ يَزَالَ عَلَيْكَ مِنَ اللَّهِ حَافِظٌ وَلَا يَقْرَبَنَّكَ شَيْطَانٌ حَتَّى تُصْبِحَ. فَخَلَّيْتُ سَبِيلَهُ فَأَصْبَحْتُ فَقَالَ لِي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " مَا فَعَلَ أَسِيرُكَ الْبَارِحَةَ ". قُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ زَعَمَ أَنَّهُ يُعَلِّمُنِي كَلِمَاتٍ يَنْفَعُنِي اللَّهُ بِهَا فَخَلَّيْتُ سَبِيلَهُ. قَالَ " مَا هِيَ ". قُلْتُ قَالَ لِي إِذَا أُوْتِيَ إِلَى فِرَاشِكَ فَاقْرَأْ آيَةَ الْكُرْسِيِّ مِنْ أَوَّلِهَا حَتَّى تَخْتِمَ {اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ} وَقَالَ لِي لَنْ يَزَالَ عَلَيْكَ مِنَ اللَّهِ حَافِظٌ وَلَا يَقْرَبَنَّكَ شَيْطَانٌ حَتَّى تُصْبِحَ وَكَانُوا أَحْرَصَ شَيْءٍ عَلَى الْخَيْرِ. فَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " أَمَّا إِنَّهُ قَدْ صَدَقَكَ وَهُوَ كَذُوبٌ تَعْلَمُ مَنْ تُخَاطَبُ مِنْذُ ثَلَاثِ لَيَالٍ يَا أَبَا هُرَيْرَةَ ". قَالَ لَا. قَالَ " ذَاكَ شَيْطَانٌ ".

The Protection of Ayah al- Kursi

Narrated Abu Huraira: Allah's Messenger SAW deputed me to keep Sadaqat of Ramadan. A comer came and started taking handfuls of the foodstuff(of the sadaqa). I took hold of him and said, "By Allah, I will take you to Allah's Messenger SAW." He said, "I am needy and have many dependents, and I am in great need." I released him, and in the morning Allah's Messenger SAW asked me, "What did your prisoner do yesterday?" I said, "O Allah's Messenger! The person complained of being needy and of having many dependents, so, I pitied him and let him go." Allah's Messenger SAW said, "Indeed, he told you a lie and he will be coming again." I believed that he would show up again as Allah's Messenger SAW had told me that he would return. So, I waited for him watchfully. When he (showed up and) started stealing handfuls of foodstuff, I caught hold of him again and said, "I will definitely take you to Allah's Messenger. He said, "Leave me, for I am very needy and have many dependents. I promise I will not come back again." I pitied him and let him go. In the morning Allah's Messenger SAW asked me, "What did your prisoner do." I replied, "O Allah's Messenger! He complained of his great need and of too many dependents, so I took pity on him and set him free." Allah's Apostle said, "Verily, he told you a lie and he will return." I waited for him attentively for the third time, and when he (came and) started stealing handfuls of the foodstuff, I caught hold of him and said, "I will surely take you to Allah's Messenger SAW as it is the third time you promise not to return, yet you break your promise and come." He said, "(Forgive me and) I will teach you some words with which Allah will benefit you." I asked, "What are they?" He replied, "Whenever you go to bed, recite "Ayat-al-Kursi"-- 'Allahu la ilaha illa huwa-l-Haiy-ul Qaiyum' till you finish the whole verse. (If you do so), Allah will appoint a guard for you who will stay with you and no satan will come near you till morning. " So, I released him. In the morning, Allah's Apostle asked, "What did your prisoner do yesterday?" I replied, "He claimed that he would teach me some words by which Allah will benefit me, so I let him go." Allah's Messenger SAW asked, "What are they?" I replied, "He said to me, 'Whenever you go to bed, recite Ayat-al-Kursi from the beginning to the end ---- Allahu la ilaha illa huwa-l-Haiy-ul-Qaiyum----.' He further said to me, '(If you do so), Allah will appoint a guard for you who will stay with you, and no satan will come near you till morning.' (Abu Huraira or another sub-narrator) added that they (the companions) were very keen to do good deeds. The Prophet SAW said, "He really spoke the truth, although he is an absolute liar. Do you know whom you were talking to, these three nights, O Abu Huraira?" Abu Huraira said, "No." He said, "It was Satan."