

For Fast 10

Chapter 7

125 They said: Surely to our Lord do we return.

126 And you (Pharaoh) take revenge on us only because we believed in the messages of our Lord when they came to us. Our Lord, pour out on us patience and cause us to die in submission (to You)!

Note: The speakers here are the ‘enchanters’ brought in by the Pharaoh to compete against Moses. When they failed against him, they openly declared their acceptance of “the Lord of the worlds, the Lord of Moses and Aaron” (7:121-122). Pharaoh was furious and threatened to crucify them. This is how they responded to him, and prayed to God.

The golden calf:

149 And when they repented and saw that they had gone astray, they said: If our Lord have not mercy on us and forgive us, we shall certainly be losers.

Note: After the Israelites had been liberated from Pharaoh’s tyranny, having crossed the Red Sea, they set up a golden calf for worship when Moses was not present. This is their prayer when they realized and admitted their error after he returned.

151 (Moses) said: My Lord, forgive me and my brother, and admit us to Your mercy, and You are the most Merciful of those who show mercy.

Note: Even though neither Moses nor his brother Aaron were guilty, yet Moses asked forgiveness from God for both of them. He calls upon God as “the most Merciful of those who show mercy” — there is no one who can show more mercy than God!

155 Will You destroy us for what the foolish among us have done? It is only Your trial. You cause to perish by it whom You please and guide whom You please. You are our Protector, so forgive us and have mercy on us, and You are the Best of those who forgive.

156 And ordain for us good in this world’s life and in the Hereafter, for surely we turn to You.

Note: This is again Moses, addressing God. His followers had committed wrongful acts and God was going to punish them in this world. Just as Moses was afraid that his nation as a whole would be punished for the misdeeds of their foolish ones, today Muslims as a whole are facing the consequences of the actions of the misguided ones among them.

205 And remember your Lord within yourself humbly and fearing, and in a voice not loud, in the morning and the evening, and do not be one of the heedless.

Note: Remembrance here means both within regular prayer and remembering God outside of prayer. “Within yourself” means that the remembrance should be with the accompaniment of the heart, entertaining feelings of humility and awe. The voice “not loud” means one shouldn’t be shouting, and not that the remembrance should be utterly silent.
