

Lesson 9: ALLAH ﷻ THE GUIDE

We have learned that we were created to worship Allah ﷻ. He has placed us on this earth to test whether we will obey Him or not. As tools for his test, He has given us intelligence to recognize good from bad. In addition, He has given us guidance in the form of instincts that guide our conscience. Allah ﷻ has also provided us with the guidance of the Quran and the example of His Prophet ﷺ to show us how to use our instincts and intelligence. His angels serve to carry out his orders and help us in ways we don't know and can't see. Truly, He has given us every chance for success in this test.

Allah ﷻ has given us the ability to look after ourselves. Similarly, He created animals with special survival instincts. An instinct is a form of guidance inside every living thing. Who teaches a duckling how to swim? Who teaches a little bird how to fly? Who teaches a baby how to drink milk? All of these instincts necessary for survival are present at birth. Remarkably, no one taught them these inborn behaviors. A scientist may call this phenomenon “nature”, but as Muslims, we know that Allah ﷻ has created every creature certain innate characteristics that enable it to survive and grow.

Allah ﷻ also gave us special guidance through His prophets ﷺ. Their mission was to teach their people to use their intelligence and wisdom in the service of Allah ﷻ. The prophets ﷺ defined good and bad behavior, as Allah ﷻ revealed it to them. Their lives are examples that we must follow.

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is called *Khatim-an-Nabiyyin*, “the Seal of the Prophets”. We know that he is the final prophet (*Al-Ahzab 33:40*). No other prophet or messenger will come after him. His message is a complete one; one that will last forever. This complete and final guidance to all mankind is the Quran. In it, we find answers to all the questions of life. If we study the Quran with open minds and hearts, we are bound to find the keys to success in this life and in the Hereafter. As stated in the Quran, we are blessed that Allah ﷻ is *Al-Hadi*, “The Guide”.