

# Prophets in the Quran: An introduction

This is an introduction to a series on God’s Messengers and Prophets.

In Islam, all Messengers and Prophets hold a high and revered position. The Prophets are the best models humans may follow. They are the best humans ever walked on earth. They were sent to humanity to guide their people to the right path to God. The concept of prophethood holds a fundamental and central place in Islam. It serves as a testament to Allah’s mercy upon humanity. Muslims’ faith is not complete, if at all accepted by God if they do not truly believe in all of them. God, the Almighty, chose his Prophets to receive and convey His divine message from amongst the best in their people.

This series aims to delve into the lives of the prophets, as presented in the Quran and hadith (sayings of the Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, pbuh), offering insights into their missions, challenges, and the relevance of their stories today.

Allah (pronounced Al-Lah, with heavy (emphatic) L, is the name of God in Arabic and Aramaic) sent prophets to every nation, the Quran says, “**And We certainly sent into every nation a messenger, [saying], ‘Worship Allah and avoid Taghut (false gods).’**” [Quran 16: 36]

The Prophets’ primary mission was to call people to Tawheed (monotheism, the Oneness of God), guide them to righteousness, and

warn them of the consequences of disbelief. The Prophets were not merely spiritual leaders but also reformers and educators who addressed societal issues, corrected injustices, and instilled values of compassion, justice, and humility.

The Quran describes the universal message of prophethood in this verse, “**Indeed, We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], as We revealed to Noah and the prophets after him. And We revealed to Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, the Descendants [of Jacob], Jesus, Job, Jonah, Aaron, and Solomon, and to David We gave the Zabur.**” [Quran 4:163] where the Zabur is the book given to David (pbuh).

Muslims believe the faith of all Prophets is Islam. They were all sent with the message of Islam (monotheism) but given different rules and laws. The Quran was clear on this point. The Quran says about Noah, “**But if you turn away, then I have not asked you for any reward. My reward is only from Allah, and I have been commanded to be of the Muslims (those who submit to Allah).**” [Quran 10: 72].

For Abraham and Ishmael, the Quran says, “**127. And [mention] when Abraham and Ishmael were raising the foundations of the House [saying], ‘Our Lord, accept [this] from us. Indeed, You are the Hearing, the Knowing. 128. Our Lord, make us both Muslims (submissive)**



Guest Column

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**to You and [raise] from our descendants Muslim nations (submissive nations) to You. And show us our rites and accept our repentance. Indeed, You are the Accepting of Repentance, the Merciful.**” [Quran 2: 127-128].

The Quran tells when Jacob was dying he advised his sons: “**And Abraham instructed his sons and [so did] Jacob, [saying], ‘O my sons, indeed Allah has chosen for you this religion, so do not die except while you are Muslims [in submission to Him].’**” [Quran 2: 132]. All other prophets were mentioned declaring the same truth.

From Adam, the first prophet, to Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon all the Prophets), the last and final messenger, the stories of the Prophets highlight the continuity of Allah’s guidance. Each prophet was sent to a specific community, addressing their unique challenges while maintaining the consistent core message of monotheism.

Prophet Adam (pbuh), the father of humanity and the first recipient of divine revelation was taught by Allah directly. His story, including the test in Paradise and subsequent re-

pentance, teaches us about human fallibility and the boundless mercy of Allah. For the full story of Adam & Eve (pbuh) please read my articles (SNP 5/11, 5/18 2024).

Prophet Nuh (Noah, pbuh) faced the defiance of his people for 950 years, Nuh exemplifies patience and unwavering trust in Allah. His story reminds us of the consequences of rejecting divine guidance and the importance of perseverance in the face of adversity. The Quran says, “**He said, ‘O my people, I convey to you the messages of my Lord and advise you, and I know from Allah what you do not know.’**” [Quran 7:62]

Prophet Ibrahim’s (Abraham), pbuh, life is a testament to devotion and sacrifice. From his confrontation with idolatry to his readiness to sacrifice his son, Ishmael, his unwavering submission to Allah serves as a model of faith.

The Prophets were not only conveyors of divine messages but also exemplary teachers who practiced what they preached. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: “**The prophets are brothers in faith; their mothers are different, but their religion is one.**” This saying highlights the unity of their mission despite differing contexts.

Each Prophet used wisdom and gentleness in their approach, meeting people at their level of understanding. For example, Prophet Musa (Moses)

pbuh, showed immense courage and reliance on Allah when confronting the Pharaoh, emphasizing the importance of standing firm against tyranny. Prophet Isa (Jesus) pbuh, demonstrated compassion and humility, teaching love, forgiveness, and reliance on Allah’s guidance.

The Quran presents the stories of prophets as lessons for believers. Allah says: “**There was certainly, in their stories, a lesson for those of understanding. Never was it [the Quran] a narration invented, but a confirmation of what was before it and a detailed explanation of all things and guidance and mercy for a people who believe.**” [Quran 12: 111]

Some of the key lessons we learn from the Prophets’ stories include:

— Patience in adversity: The story of Prophet Ayyub (Job, pbuh) exemplifies patience through immense suffering, teaching us to trust Allah’s wisdom. The Quran says, “**Indeed, We found him patient, an excellent servant. Indeed, he was one repeatedly turning back [to Allah].**” [Quran 38: 44]

— Reliance on God: Prophet Yunus (Jonah, pbuh) turned to Allah in the darkest of moments, and his story illustrates the power of sincere repentance. The Quran says, “**And [mention] the man of the fish when he went off in anger and thought that We would not decree anything upon him. And he called out within the dark-**

**nesses, ‘There is no deity except You; exalted are You. Indeed, I have been of (one of) the wrongdoers.’”** [Quran 21: 87]

— Commitment to justice: Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) exemplified justice, even when dealing with enemies, fulfilling his role as the seal of the prophets and mercy to all worlds. The Quran says, “**And We have not sent you, [O Muhammad], except as a mercy to the worlds.**” [Quran 21: 107]

The lives of the Prophets are not merely historical accounts; they offer timeless principles applicable to modern challenges. Their unwavering commitment to truth, compassion for humanity, and resilience during trials inspire believers to uphold these values in their own lives.

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) advised his followers to emulate the qualities of earlier prophets: “**I am the nearest of all the people to Isa, the son of Mary, in this world and the Hereafter. The prophets are paternal brothers; their mothers are different, but their religion is one.**”

This series will delve into the lives and missions of the prophets as mentioned in the Qur’an and Hadith, and explore their significance in Islamic belief and practice. Each article, which could be expanded on many parts, will focus on a specific prophet.

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More information: [icstillwater.org/education/school/](http://icstillwater.org/education/school/)

## Millions mark Mexico’s Virgin of Guadalupe Day but calls for a truce in drug violence unheeded

MEXICO CITY – Millions of faithful gathered to mark Mexico’s Virgin of Guadalupe Day, honoring the country’s patron saint. But calls by the Roman Catholic Church for a truce in Mexico’s ongoing cartel violence apparently went unheeded as more dead bodies were found in the country on Thursday.

Enormous crowds gathered early in the day, singing the traditional Mexican birthday song “Las mañanitas” at Mexico City’s Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe to honor the virgin on the 493rd anniversary of her apparition in 1531.

Mariachi bands and traditional dance groups were also present at the basilica, which has a mix of modern and colonial-era architecture.

María Luisa Vázquez Mendoza, a 33-year-old homemaker, walked for 16 hours from the neighboring State of Mexico to visit the basilica on the capital’s north side and give thanks “for another year of life, and that my family is

alright.”

“You feel joy in your heart when you see the gates of the basilica so close,” said Vázquez Mendoza. “Your body relaxes completely. You don’t feel pain or tiredness anymore.”

Earlier this week, the Mexican Council of Bishops wrote an editorial calling for “a halt to the armed violence and hostile statements.”

“In a country where violence has left painful wounds in families and polarization among

the public, this is a proposal to reflect, and act in favor of reconciliation and human dignity,” the council wrote on a church website, Desde la Fe.

But in the north-central state of Guanajuato — which has the highest number of homicides of any of Mexico’s 32 states — the day was possibly even more violent than usual.

Police and prosecutors said a total of 15 dead bodies were found on the streets in various cities in Guanajuato, warning the death

toll may be higher.

Over 11 million worshippers had visited the Basilica in the days leading up to the annual celebration of Mexico’s patroness, authorities said.

According to church tradition, in 1531, the dark-skinned virgin appeared to the Indigenous peasant Juan Diego and her image was imprinted on his cloak, which is on display inside the church. Juan Diego was made a saint in 2002 by Pope John Paul II.

—AP

# Worship at the church of your choice this week

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.



Isaiah 9:6

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JB Bond, Senior Pastor

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Worship Service .....8:30 a.m.  
G.R.O.W. Groups .....9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service .....11:00 a.m.  
Kids' Church .....11:20 a.m.

**Tuesdays**  
Cornerstone @ The Union (RM 297).....7:30 p.m.

**Wednesdays**  
Stillwater Bible Institute .....6:30 p.m.  
Impact Youth .....6:30 p.m.  
Bible Kids .....6:30 p.m.

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Sunday School - 9:30  
Sunday AM Worship - 10:30  
Sunday PM Family Service - 6:00  
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701 S. DUNCAN • 405-372-5212  
**SUNDAY**  
Bible Study • 9:30am  
Worship Service • 11:00am  
**WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES**  
Begin at 6:00pm  
Watch our worship service on Facebook  
[www.fbcstillwater.org](http://www.fbcstillwater.org)

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

[www.fumcstw.org](http://www.fumcstw.org)  
**400 W. 7th • 372-5854**

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**  
Worship .....8:30am & 11:10am  
Sunday School .....10:00am  
Closer Walk.....10 am Family Life Center

**UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH**

4th & Knoblock • 372-2744

**Sunday School**  
9 am  
**Worship Service**  
8 am & 10:30 am

**GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH**

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Expository Preaching

**CHURCH SERVICES**  
Sunday .....10:30am  
Thursday .....7:30pm

**723 E. 17th**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

524 S. Duncan • 405-372-5580  
[www.stillwaterfpc.org](http://www.stillwaterfpc.org)

**Sunday Worship**  
  
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. - in person, online  
On KSPI radio AM 780 & FM 94.3  
and the Stillwater FPC Facebook page

**SUNNYBROOK CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

421 E. Richmond Rd. | sunnybrookcc.org

**SUNDAY SERVICES**  
8:15 AM | 9:45 AM | 11:15 AM

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**      **KIDS CHURCH**  
9:45 AM - Student, College & Adult      All Services

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT CHURCH**  
6:30 PM - Kids, Students & Adult Studies

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[stillwatercoc.org](http://stillwatercoc.org)

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**SUNDAY**  
Meeting Times  
Bible Study.....9:30 AM  
Worship.....10:30 AM  
Bible Study.....5:00 PM

**WEDNESDAY**  
Bible study.....7:00 PM

821 N. DUCK • 372-7439

**Southside Baptist Church of Stillwater**

1223 S. Perkins Rd.  
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**SUNDAY SCHOOL** 9:45 AM  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP** 11 AM & 6 PM  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**YOUTH & ADULT BIBLE STUDY** 6:30

Paul Hutchison - Pastor  
Address - 1223 S. Perkins Rd.  
Phone: 405-372-2411  
Email: [southsidestillwater@gmail.com](mailto:southsidestillwater@gmail.com)

**The Islamic Society of Stillwater**

**616 N. Washington St.**  
**Friday (Weekly) Prayers**  
1:40 PM - 2:10 PM  
**For Daily Prayer Times**  
[www.icstillwater.org](http://www.icstillwater.org)

**St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church**

711 N. Country Club Rd.

**Sunday Mass**  
8:30 | 11:15 a.m.  
1 p.m. (en español)  
**Tue & Thu Mass**  
12:10 p.m.  
**Wednesday Mass**  
12:10 p.m.  
6 p.m. (en español)

**Friday Mass**  
12:10 p.m.  
**Saturday Mass**  
9 a.m. | 5 p.m. (Vigil Mass)  
**Confessions**  
Tues-Fri | 11:30-12 p.m.  
Wednesday | 5 p.m.  
Saturday | 9:45-11 a.m.

**405-372-6886**    [www.sfxstillwater.org](http://www.sfxstillwater.org)

**Zion Lutheran Church - LCMS**

Sunday - 8:00, 10:30 AM

[www.zionlutheranstw.org](http://www.zionlutheranstw.org)

**John E. Wackler, Pastor**  
**504 S. Knoblock • 372-3703**