

When Allah had created the heavens and the earth, He said to the angels, "I will create a Khalifa on earth, someone to carry out my orders." They asked Allah, "Will you place someone on earth who will make mischief and shed blood, while we praise you and glorify your name?" And Allah said, "I know what you know not."

The Creation of Prophet Adam

So Allah created Prophet Adam (Alayhis-salam) out of clay, and taught him the names of all things. He placed the things before the angels and asked the angels to tell Him the names of them, but the angels answered, "You are the exalted, and we know nothing except what you have taught us." Allah then asked Adam (Alayhis-salam) the same question, and Adam (Alayhis-salam) was able to answer correctly.

Allah ordered the angels to bow down to Prophet Adam (Alayhis-salam) and they did so. But Iblis, or Shaitan, did not bow down. When Allah asked, "What kept you from bowing down when I commanded you?" Iblis answered, "I am better than he. I was created from fire while he was made from clay."

Upon hearing this response, Allah threw Shaitan out of paradise, but Shaitan vowed that he would lie in wait for Prophet Adam (Alayhis-salam) and his descendants, trying to divert them from the Straight Way. To which Allah replied, "If any of them follow you, Hell will I fill with you all."

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Meanwhile, Allah had created a wife, Hawa, for Prophet Adam (Alayhis-salam), and he told them to live in the garden of paradise, Jannah, but he warned them to stay away from one particular tree, lest it bring harm to them. Shaitan started whispering suggestions to Prophet Adam and Hawa (Alayhis-salam). He spoke in such a clever way that they were convinced he was only concerned for their well-being. He told them that the forbidden tree would make them immortal and that they would live forever like the angels if they ate from it. Shaitan spoke so convincingly that Adam and Hawa (Alayhis-salam) believed him. As soon as they tasted the tree, they realized that they were naked, and started trying to cover themselves with leaves from the garden, for it now seemed wrong to be uncovered.

Then Allah called to them, "Did I not tell you to stay away from that tree, and didn't I warn you that Shaitan was your sworn enemy?"

Prophet Adam & Hawa sent to earth

Prophet Adam and Hawa (Alayhis-salam) were immediately full of remorse and begged for forgiveness and mercy from Allah. Allah ordered them out of Jannah and sent them to live on earth. He said, "Therein shall you live, and therein shall you die, but from it you shall be taken out at last." Prophet Adam (Alayhis-salam) and his offspring began to live on earth according to Allah's command.

And so we are all the descendants of Prophet Adam and Hawa (Alayhis-salam), the first humans to be placed on earth. Here on earth we shall all live and die, and from here we shall all be made to return to Allah. It is our choice whether we shall be taken to Jannah or join the disobedient and deceitful Shaitan in Hell. Allah, in His infinite mercy, realizes that we will sometimes be led astray by Shaitan. Allah taught Prophet Adam (Alayhis-salam) some prayers for repentance and seeking pardon for wrongdoing.

Prophet Adam (Alayhis-salam) was the first prophet to bring Allah's message to mankind, so that we might know how to worship Allah and how to seek forgiveness for our mistakes. This message was completed to perfection by Allah through his last prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

The story of Prophet Adam (Alayhis-salam) can be found in the Quran, Surah 2, Ayat 30-37 and Surah 7, Ayat 10-27.