



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## Nahj al-Balaghah

### Lesson 9

## The Creation of Human - Iblees

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The human is supposed to be the representative (caliph) of Allah on earth. Caliph (خليفة) is someone who acts on behalf of someone else (representative). Technically, everyone who lives by the rules of Allah, is His caliph.

«وَأَسْتَأْذِي اللَّهَ سُبْحَانَهُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَدِيْعَتَهُ لَدَيْهِمْ...»

“Then Allah asked the angels to fulfil their oath and to accomplish the pledge of His injunction to them by acknowledging Him through prostration to him (Adam).”

The reasons why the command was heavy on the angels:

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1. Prostrating to a piece of clay
2. This clay figure had some previously similars in the past who were not worthy in their eyes.
3. Having an intermediary in worshipping Allah.

Two primary views about Iblees (who did not obey Allah's command):

1. The common Sunni view: He was an angel by the name 'عزائيل' (dear to Allah for his worship) and when he disobeyed God, his name changed to 'ابليس' (despaired of Allah's mercy).
2. The common Shia view: He was a jinn who mingled with the angels.

Proofs:

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- Angels do not disobey God
- He has progeny
- The verse of Quran introduces him as a jinn

Possible reasons for Iblees's disobedience:

He used to worship God for a long time and expected more attention but someone as a blob of clay in his eyes suddenly becomes the center of all attention and they all have to prostrate to him ... (arrogance and jealousy)



Iblees's request: a long life till the day of resurrection  
Allah's answer: Yes, but till the fixed day

The views on the fixed day:

1. The Day of Judgement
2. After the reappearance by Imam Mahdi (A)

3. At the *Raj'ah* (return) by the Holy Prophet

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What made Adam (A) so special?

The *ahadith* indicate that the real reason was that he carried the light of the Holy Prophet and Ahl al-Bait (A) (That's why Iblees tried the most to mobilize people against them.)

Was Iblees doomed to be evil?

Iblees disobeyed God by free will and also, Allah did not deny him the chance to repent.

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