

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Surah Aal-e-'Imran

إِنَّ مَثَلَ عِيسَىٰ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ آدَمَ ۖ خَلَقَهُ مِنْ تُرَابٍ ثُمَّ قَالَ لَهُ كُنْ فَيَكُونُ ﴿٥٩﴾

59. The similitude of Jesus before Allah is as that of Adam; He created him from dust, then said to him: "Be". And he was.

After a description of the high position which Jesus occupies as a prophet, we have a repudiation of the dogma that he was Allah, or the son of Allah, or anything more than a man. If it is said that he was born without a human father, Adam was also so born. Indeed Adam was born without either a human father or mother. As far as our physical bodies are concerned they are mere dust. In Allah's sight Jesus was as dust just as Adam was or humanity is. The greatness of Jesus arose from the Divine command "Be": for after that he was - more than dust - a great spiritual leader and teacher.

The Noble Quran/Yusuf Ali

...He Who created Adam without a father or a mother is able to create `Isa, as well, without a father. If the claim is made that `Isa is Allah's son because he was created without a father, then the same claim befits Adam even more. However, since such a claim regarding Adam is obviously false, then making the same claim about `Isa is even more false.

Furthermore, by mentioning these facts, Allah emphasizes His ability, by creating Adam without a male or female, Hawa' from a male without a female, and `Isa from a mother without a father, compared to His creating the rest of creation from male and female.

Tafsir Ibn Kathir

This is evidence for the validity of using analogy. The comparison between `Isā and Ādam was based on the fact that, like Ādam, `Isā was created without a father not that he was created from dust. The one resembles the other, even if there is a great difference between them, in that single attribute. Ādam was created from dust and `Isā was not, and there is a difference between them in this respect. But the similarity between them was that they were both created without a father and because the basis of their creation was dust. Ādam was not created from dust itself, but the dust became mud and then clay, and then he was created from that. Similarly, `Isā went from one state to another and then became a human being without a father.

This āyah was revealed about the delegation of Najrān when they denied the words of the Prophet ﷺ: "‘Isā is the slave of Allah and His Word.’ They said, ‘Show us a slave created without a father!’ The Prophet ﷺ replied, ‘Ādam. Who was his father? Do you then wonder at Isā not having a father? Ādam had neither father nor mother.’ That is referred to by the words of Allah: ‘Every time they come to you with a difficult point, We bring you the truth and the best of explanations.’ (25:33)...

Tafsir Qurtubi

