



## As Jibrīl (peace be upon him) was sitting with the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) he heard a creak from above

'Abdullāh ibn 'Abbās (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: As Jibrīl (peace be upon him) was sitting with the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) he heard a creak from above. So he raised his head and said: "That is a gate in the heavens that was opened today; it had never been opened before today." An angel descended from it. He said: "That is an angel that descended to earth; he had never descended before, but today." He [the angel] offered the greeting of peace and said: "Have glad tidings with two lights that have been given to you, which none of the prophets were given before you: Sūrat al-Fātihah and the concluding verses of Sūrat al-Baqarah. You will not read one letter of them, but you will be given it."

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by Muslim]

Ibn 'Abbās (may Allah be pleased with him) said: "As Jibrīl(peace be upon him) was sitting with the Prophet, he heard a creak"; a strong sound, like the sound made by breaking wood. '...from above', meaning: from the direction of Heaven or from above his head. It is also said that he heard a sound like that of a door. So he raised his head and Jibrīl said that this was a gate in the lowest Heaven that had just opened on that day; it had never been opened before. An angel descended from it; from that gate. 'He' (Jibrīl) said that this was an angel who was descending to earth for the first time on that day, and he had never come down before. The fact that the two lights were restricted to these two items, and not to other things, indicates their great virtue and that they have a special merit that does not exist in other things. The descending angel offered the greeting of peace and said: 'Have glad tidings with two lights.' He called them two lights, because each one of them is an independent light that accompanies those who recite them. It could also be because each one guides to the straight path by encouraging the reciter to ponder and reflect on their meanings. The first light is Sūrat al-Fātihah and the second is the last two verses of Sūrat al-Baqarah. Whenever someone from this Ummah recites them with faith, Allah, the Almighty, will answer their requests and supplications. "...lights that have been given to you..." are lights that you were exclusively granted, as no other prophet was granted them before.

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