

Story #509 (Tape #16, 1974)

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elderly man

Location: Belekçe Han Kavağı köyü,
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The [?]Koranic Hızır - All

Once when Moses went to consult with Allah in a thousand or more words, he said, "O Allah, teach me science and theology."

Allah ordered him, "Go and become a companion of Hızır."

After that, Moses went to become a companion of Hızır. Hızır warned him, however, "You will not be able to tolerate the things

I do. Although I shall permit you to become my companion, you never to interfere in the things that I do."

Once after that, while traveling together, they boarded a ship. After they had gone on board, Hızır began to bore a hole in the bottom of the ship.

Moses said, "Look at him! He is boring a hole in the ship that we ourselves have boarded. Now the water will enter through that hole you will sink us in the sea!"

Hızır said, "Did I not tell you that you would not be able to tolerate the things I did? I told you that you could not really be a companion to me. Do not meddle in what I do. If you meddle once more, I shall leave you."

After a while they left the ship and, walking along, they came to an old house. This was in a village where no one would accept

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them as guests. Then they had gone to this old house. Moses looked and saw that its wall was bent. Hızır rubbed the wall and it grew straight. When he had done that, Moses said, "Although these villagers do not accept us as guests and did not give us food to eat, you are now straightening the wall of this old house.

Hızır responded, "See here! I told you that you would not be able to tolerate the things that I would do and that you would thus not be a companion to me, but you nevertheless became my companion. If you talk like this just once more, I shall leave you."

Then they came again to the shore of the sea, where they saw several children playing. Hızır grabbed one of the children by the arm, threw him on the ground, and killed him. Prophet Moses said, "You have now become a murderer. Why did you kill this child? What was his fault?"

"Since this is the way it is, we must now separate," said Hızır. "This is the third time. This is the third time that you have meddled in my affairs." He had indeed warned him [Moses], and he had said to him, "If you three times cannot bear things that I do and therefore talk about them, we shall separate."

This time Moses said, "If you wish to separate yourself from me, I shall not leave you unless you first explain to me the reasons for these things and what they mean."

Hızır said, "I first bored a hole in the ship according to Allah's command. That ship belongs to seven orphans. Now that there

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is a war in progress, the government is taking away from their owners all private ships. If it took away this ship, the seven orphans would lose their source of bread. I put that ship in bad condition by Allah's orders so that it would not be taken from these orphans. They can repair that hole with some tar, and the ship will still be able to earn for them their bread."

"Very well, but then why did you straighten up the bent wall?" asked Moses

"That wall belongs to seven orphans. Their father apparently buried a treasure in its foundation while building it. If the wall had collapsed, the treasure would have been exposed, and people would have taken it away. That is why I straightened the wall."

right, but why did you then kill the child?" asked Moses.

for the child," said Hızır, "he was going to disbelieve his parents' religion when he grew up. He would have adopted another religion and in so doing, he would have caused his father great suffering. That is why I did that--by Allah's orders. I grabbed him and threw him to the ground. Allah had said, 'His time of death has come, and you will kill him.' And so I killed him."

Then they separated. That is all.