

Allah SWT says in Surah Al Imran Ayah 40:

قَالَ رَبِّ أُنَّى يَكُونُ لِي غُلَامٌ وَقَدْ بَلَغَنِي الْكِبَرَ وَأَمْرَاتِي عَاقِرٌ قَالَ كَذَلِكَ اللَّهُ يَفْعَلُ مَا يَشَاءُ

He said, "My Lord, how will I have a boy when I have reached old age and my wife is barren?" The angel said, "Such is Allah ; He does what He wills."

Allah SWT says in Surah Mariyam Ayah 8:

قَالَ رَبِّ أُنَّى يَكُونُ لِي غُلَامٌ وَكَانَتِ امْرَأَتِي عَاقِرًا وَقَدْ بَلَغْتُ مِنَ الْكِبَرِ عِتِيًّا

He said, "My Lord, how will I have a boy when my wife has been barren and I have reached extreme old age?"

These two Ayahs talk about Zakariya (عليه السلام)

1. The two situations with respect to his old age and his wife being barren were reversed in the two ayas. Is there a significance to the reversal of the two situations?

2. Why did Zakariya (عليه السلام) requested from Allah SWT to make for him a sign?

Oh Allah Make for me a sign. قَالَ رَبِّ اجْعَلْ لِي آيَةً

AssalamuAlaikum Alaikum,

This was a tougher question to ponder about than others. Our community members have done a good job researching the answer Alhamdulillah.

Answer the question 14.

Allah SWT says in Surah Al Imran. هُنَالِكَ دَعَا زَكَرِيَّا رَبَّهُ قَالَ رَبِّ هَبْ لِي مِنْ لَدُنْكَ ذُرِّيَّةً طَيِّبَةً إِنَّكَ سَمِيعُ الدُّعَاءِ

At that, Zechariah called upon his Lord, saying, "My Lord, grant me from Yourself a good offspring. Indeed, You are the Hearer of supplication

In Surah Mariam, Allah SWT says: شَاذُ نَادَى رَبَّهُ نِدَاءً خَفِيًّا When he called to his Lord a private application.

Notice, Zakaria AS makes the dua in Surah Mariam in private, so he said she was barren first. In surah Al Imran, the Ayah does not indicate that he makes his dua in private, and most likely in public, so he says the fault was his first. Out many reasons that people may say why it was reversed, but the one that stands out is that he does not want to blame his wife in public and so he takes the blame with his old age first. This is as of respect to her feelings.

Also this is an indication that Zakaria AS did not just make one dua, but made several dua's at different times and maybe different places.

Zakaria AS did not want to wait until his wife starts to show pregnancy after three or four months, he wanted a sign to know that his wife became pregnant so he can start thanking Allah SWT right away. This is a true sincerity in his worship to Allah SWT.