



STUDY GUIDE

LECTURE: **THE FINAL EXAM IS HERE —
ARE WE READY TO PASS OR FAIL?**

DELIVERED: SUNDAY MARCH 22 2026

KEYNOTE:
REGIONAL STUDENT MINISTER
RODNEY MUHAMMAD

SUMMARY

Student In The Ministry Joseph Muhammad, who sets the tone with a heartfelt prayer and a deep reminder of our purpose: submission to Allah, self-reflection, and moral refinement. He emphasizes the importance of *sacrifice, discipline, and self-improvement*, highlighting that true growth requires rising above emotional reactions and striving toward the thinking of God.

Joseph Muhammad further explores the essential principles of **time, truth, and patience**, teaching that mastering these elements allows us to control our emotions and avoid destructive behavior. He reminds us that without discipline, we risk becoming like a “cracked atom,” capable of harm when not properly guided.

The lecture then transitions to **Student Regional Minister Rodney Muhammad**, who delivers a profound and thought-provoking message on spiritual evolution, discipline, and divine guidance. He explains the importance of *strong law, obedience, and structure* in transforming individuals and communities.

Rodney Muhammad challenges the audience to move beyond ritualistic religion and embrace true understanding, exposing how traditions without knowledge can mislead entire generations. He highlights the significance of the teachings of the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad and the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan as a divine program for restoration and self-development.

A key theme of his message is the concept of **cycles and testing**. He explains that we are entering a new cycle after decades of spiritual work and that we are now facing an **“open book exam” — a test of understanding, not memorization**.

He warns that this is not a graded test, but a **pass or fail moment**, urging believers to truly live the teachings rather than simply repeat them.

Together, these speakers deliver a unified message:

- Master your emotions
- Embrace discipline and sacrifice
- Seek truth and patience
- Apply the teachings in real life
- Prepare for the test of this time

■ Study Guide – Student In The Ministry Joseph Muhammad (7 Q&A)

1. **What is the purpose of the opening prayer?**
The prayer establishes submission to Allah, acknowledges human faults, and seeks guidance toward righteous character and moral excellence.
2. **Why does Allah send messengers or prophets?**
Because humanity strays from righteousness, and divine guidance is needed before destruction occurs.
3. **What role does sacrifice play in spiritual growth?**
Sacrifice involves doing what is necessary—even when uncomfortable—to grow spiritually and discipline oneself.
4. **What are the three key principles discussed from Surah Al-Asr?**
Time, truth, and patience.

5. **How is “patience” defined in the lecture?**

The ability to endure difficulty calmly without reacting emotionally or violently.

6. **What does “rising above emotion” mean?**

Controlling emotional reactions instead of being controlled by them, allowing for wise and calculated decisions.

7. **What is meant by the “cracked atom” analogy?**

A person without emotional control can become destructive, just like a split atom releases massive destructive energy.

■ **Study Guide – Student Regional Minister Rodney Muhammad (12 Q&A)**

1. **Why is it important not to distinguish between prophets?**

Because they all represent the same truth from Allah and should be respected equally.

2. **What does it mean that the “Son of Man must be lifted”?**

It implies that divine power raises a man with knowledge, wisdom, and authority for a specific mission.

3. **What role does “strong law” play in the teachings?**

Strong law provides discipline, structure, and accountability necessary for transformation.

4. **What is the danger of living without discipline?**

It leads to a “wild” lifestyle without order, making true growth and civilization impossible.

5. **What criticism is made about religious rituals?**

Rituals without understanding or transformation are empty and do not lead to true spiritual growth.

6. **Why did Elijah Muhammad emphasize fasting in December?**

To counter the influence and distractions of materialism tied to holidays like Christmas.

7. **What does it mean that people grow up as “polytheists”?**

Children often idolize parents or worldly figures before being taught the reality of one God.

8. **What is the significance of the “new cycle” mentioned?**

It marks a transition into a new phase of spiritual development and testing after decades of preparation.

9. **What kind of test are believers facing now?**

An “open book exam” where understanding and application matter more than memorization.

10. **Why is the test described as “pass or fail”?**

Because it measures true obedience and application, not partial effort or knowledge.

11. **What analogy is used about the emergency room vs. terminal ward?**

The mosque should function like an emergency room—actively saving lives—not a place where people are left to decline.

12. **What is the core message about self-reliance?**

We cannot rely on those who caused our condition to fix it; we must follow divine guidance to restore ourselves.