

# قسوة القلب

## HARDENING OF THE HEART

These notes are based on a previous course. Anything good is from Allah and any mistakes are from ourselves and the shaitan. May Allah forgive us.

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

## قسوة القلب

## HARDENING OF THE HEART

### COURSE EXCERPT

### LESSONS AND VALUES FROM SURAH AL HAJJ

Hardening of the heart (قسوة القلب)

#### In the Sunnah:

**Hadith: The Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said: ( إن أردت أن يلين قلبك ، فأطعم المسكين ، ) (وامسح رأس اليتيم and wipe the head of the orphan.) – Sahih Aj Jamie'e 1410, Authenticated by Al Albani as Hasan**

- If a person wants to soften the hardened heart then he should feed the needy and wipe the head of the orphan. Those who are weak in society should be shown care.

#### Some statements of the righteous predecessors:

- Malik ibn Dinar said there are four matters which make a person miserable: hardening of the heart, eyes which do not shed tears, greedy for the duniya, and thinking he'll live a long time.
- Every punishment is a means of purification except which is a punishment itself – hardening of the heart. The one who has

knowledge, always asking questions, thinking he's good and knows while others don't will lead to hardening of the heart.

- When a person gets full from eating then it will harden the heart and weaken the body.
- Remembering everything besides Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will lead to hardening of the heart.

### **Impacts of hardening of the heart:**

1. He will change words from their original meaning and purpose, even with the Qur'an, astaghfar Allah. He will use the Qur'an for his evil intentions and wrong understanding of it.
2. He will forget what he's been reminded as a consequence of hardening of the heart, it's a punishment for him.
3. Removal of blessings and befalling of afflictions.
4. The hardened heart is the weakest heart in faith. He may have knowledge and confidence in himself, but he has no feelings. In order for a heart to have faith, it needs to be soft.
5. Reason for misguidance. He will listen to all the good, but will only pick up on the bad and be in doubts.
6. Lack of motivation in worship; obedience is heavy on him and he takes the disobedience lightly.
7. Always in fear, awkward, unhappy, frowning and depressed. Someone who's so picky will not be happy because he's only

looking at the bad. The sound heart will be protected from only looking at the bad.

8. Repelling between the hardened and soft hearts
  9. Sign of misery
  10. Trait of oppressors, arrogant ones and tyrants
  11. Reason for entry into the hellfire; one of the reasons of the hellfire is to soften the hardened hearts. The hearts which are not humble to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) in the duniya, then the fire will take care of it. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) purify our hearts. Ameen.
- On the journey to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), a person is not only fears outer challenges but inner challenges as well. A person might think he's going on the journey but he's not as a result of his hard heart.

### **Signs (symptoms) of a hardened heart:**

1. Lock on the heart which doesn't get affected by the Qur'an. The best thing to be affected by is the Qur'an.
2. Dryness of the eyes, the eyes do not weep when being reminded of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and the Qur'an. Crying about scenes in general is not a sign of a soft heart, but tears shed as a result of the Qur'an.
3. Does not take a lesson from death; there's no effect on him.
4. Arrogant and the meaning of arrogance is not accepting the truth. He thinks he's right and everyone else is wrong; he humiliates others.
5. Careless of others

### Reasons for a hardened heart:

A person is not born with a hardened heart but he did things to reach this level. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) protect us. Ameen.

1. Heedlessness and not remembering Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)
2. Abundant sins
3. Careless about the obligations, it's not his main focus
4. Occupied with the duniya, competing for the duniya
5. Long hope, thinking he'll live for a long time
6. Excessive socializing, talking, eating and sleeping. A person should socialize with others for a good purpose
7. Lack of mercy towards others
8. Laziness and careless
9. Firm on his opinion and always arguing. Imam Ash Shafi'ee may Allah have mercy on him said arguing about the deen hardens the heart. It's not righteousness to argue about the deen. A person shouldn't use the Qur'an and Sunnah to attack others, but to reform oneself.
10. Innovation in the deen; doing something which the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) didn't do will cause hardening of the hearts
11. Oppression of the weak
12. Ego and arrogance

***May Allah make our hearts tender. Ameen.***

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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