



VISIONARY JOURNEY TO FIRDAOUS AL 'ALA

SURAH AL MU'MINOON


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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Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – All Notes

Date: August - September 2018 / Dhul Hijjah 1439 – Muharram 1440

Introduction

- The Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said to ask for the best which is firdaous al 'ala. A person shouldn't think that it's for a certain people and not reachable to all. Rather we should all ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for firdaous al 'ala.
- Surah Al Mu'minoon comes after Surah Al Hajj. Surah Al Hajj is a journey of the heart. After addressing the people in Surah Al Hajj, it ends with addressing the believers and what they need to do thus a person cannot go on a visionary journey without being focused.
- Firdaous is only mentioned twice in the Qur'an in Surah Al Kahf and Surah Al Mu'minoon. Al Firdaous is the highest level of paradise one can reach, it's in the middle of paradise, its ceiling is the Throne of Allah and all rivers source and gush forth from there. And its dwellers look at Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) in the beginning and end of the day, subhan Allah.
- As one goes up, the people don't serve him but he serves others. In Surah Al Kahf there is sacrifice and struggle in the deen, wealth, seeking knowledge, and position.
- Surah Al Mu'minoon is telling us about the characteristics of the believers and they know what to do because their vision is clear.



Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 1 to 11

- In the first part of the surah, it tells us about the clear vision they have, their mission to reach it, and it mentions the past and future of the human. The vision to reach al firdaous al 'ala is revealed to all, it's not a secret. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) tells us clearly what is the 'visionary journey' to reach it. Imagine what a waste to have the perfect plan with all details, motivations and obstacles and not act upon it, subhan Allah. It needs movement and action, not laziness, and Surah Al Hajj is pushing us towards this.
- Everyone has a place in paradise and the hellfire, the believers will inherit the place of the disbelievers in paradise. To inherit is to have more so the believers will take their places. They will abide in paradise forever and the delights of Firdaous are the most complete.
- How can one go to the highest level?

Surah Al Mu'minoon 1: (قَدْ أَفْلَحَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ) (Successful indeed are the believers.)

- Those who succeeded are the believers because belief is their capital and investment. They're working hard to increase their faith and not decrease it. (فلح) is one who digs, puts the seed, waters it, and constantly takes cares of it. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) adorn the faith in our hearts and increase it. Ameen. The Qur'an increases us in faith but we need belief first.

What are their characteristics?

الَّذِينَ هُمْ فِي صَلَاتِهِمْ خَاشِعُونَ



Those who offer their Salat (prayers) with all solemnity and full submissiveness.

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنِ اللَّغْوِ مُعْرِضُونَ

And those who turn away from Al-Laghwa (dirty, false, evil vain talk, falsehood, and all that Allah has forbidden).

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ لِلزَّكَاةِ فَاعِلُونَ

And those who pay the Zakat.

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ لِفُرُوجِهِمْ حَافِظُونَ

And those who guard their chastity (i.e. private parts, from illegal sexual acts)

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ لِأَمَانَاتِهِمْ وَعَهْدِهِمْ رَاعُونَ

Those who are faithfully true to their Amanat (all the duties which Allah has ordained, honesty, moral responsibility and trusts) and to their covenants;

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَلَى صَلَوَاتِهِمْ يُحَافِظُونَ

And those who strictly guard their (five compulsory congregational) Salawat (prayers) (at their fixed stated hours).

1. They have khushu' in their prayers.
2. They turn away from vain talk
3. They perform zakat
4. They guard their private parts
5. They guard their covenants
6. They guard their prayers



- Among these characteristics, the focus is the prayer. The one who's focused on his prayers will be focused in other parts of his life. Someone might think he needs to do other types of good to reach firdaous al 'ala thus neglecting the prayer, subhan Allah.
- They have khushu' in their heart, their heart is humble and tranquil before Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) so they're not turning. They also perfect their outer prayer by fulfilling its pillars and timings.
- They turn away from vain talk because they're focused and do not waste their time.
- They are always giving their zakat, and zakat is not limited to money alone, but they purify themselves when they're giving. A person cannot purify himself sitting alone; purification is with people. When a person is only taking then he's not purifying himself.
- They're always at the service of the people by contributing and giving and this purifies them.
- Characteristics 5, 6 and 7 are about chastity and honor. They guard their chastity and this includes lowering the gaze, covering and wearing hijab, and respecting oneself in dealings with the opposite gender.
- This doesn't mean a person suppresses himself from natural needs, but it's important it's fulfilled through the correct channel. If a person doesn't go through the correct channel then there are so many wrong channels.
- They take care of all they're entrusted with from responsibilities, body, deen, work, family and children. Those who want to go to firdaous al 'ala are not those who are neglecting themselves or others. They

guard the covenants by following the contracts they've signed and rules of the land they're living.

- And finally again they're constantly guarding their prayers. Then the past of the human being is mentioned, which we will have a look tomorrow in sha'a Allah.

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us inherit Firdaous Al 'Ala. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 2

Date: 01 September 2018 / 21 Dhul Hijjah 1439

Introduction

- Anything that's a target of the duniya, will only go down after being reached, but any target that's of the akhira will always be elevation.

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 12 to 16

وَلَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ سَلَالَةٍ مِّنْ طِينٍ

And indeed We created man (Adam) out of an extract of clay (water and earth).

ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نُطْفَةً فِي قَرَارٍ مَّكِينٍ

Thereafter We made him (the offspring of Adam) as a Nuffah (mixed drops of the male and female sexual discharge and lodged it) in a safe lodging (womb of the woman).

ثُمَّ خَلَقْنَا النُّطْفَةَ عَلَقَةً فَخَلَقْنَا الْعَلَقَةَ مُضْغَةً فَخَلَقْنَا الْمُضْغَةَ عِظَامًا فَكَسَوْنَا الْعِظَامَ لَحْمًا ثُمَّ أَنْشَأْنَاهُ خَلْقًا آخَرَ
فَتَبَارَكَ اللَّهُ أَحْسَنُ الْخَالِقِينَ



Then We made the Nuffah into a clot (a piece of thick coagulated blood), then We made the clot into a little lump of flesh, then We made out of that little lump of flesh bones, then We clothed the bones with flesh, and then We brought it forth as another creation. So Blessed is Allah, the Best of creators.

ثُمَّ إِنَّكُمْ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ لَمَيِّتُونَ

After that, surely, you will die.

ثُمَّ إِنَّكُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ تُبْعَثُونَ

Then (again), surely, you will be resurrected on the Day of Resurrection.

- The one who will go to firdaous al 'ala is not someone tough or difficult but made of clay. (سَلَالَةٍ) is a trace. So something little is taken from something greater, the human is a trace of clay from the greater clay of earth, subhan Allah.
- Clay can be molded, changed and upgraded. Despite having different colors and natures, all are humans and can change, but if a person wants to remain like a rock then this is against him.
- Then the offspring come from 'water' / semen drop. A person will take on qualities of whomever he mixes with. And the baby grows in an 'incubator', protected in the womb. Thus a person needs to be protected when growing. And the one who wants to reach firdaous al 'ala needs to be protected in order to grow and develop. But when there's corruption then this stuns the growth and development.
- Anyone struggling to go to firdaous needs to be protected, but it's important to see his origin. He survived in the struggle of coming into this life and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) accommodated him.



- After being water it goes to becoming a clot of blood in 40 days, this is a period of transition. Imagine in a year we are going through nine periods of 40 days transitions, subhan Allah. If a person wants to reach very fast, there are nine changes in a year, but sometimes a person is the same even as a year passes, subhan Allah.
- Then after becoming something attached, it becomes like a chewed piece of flesh. The features are not fully developed but there are traces of them.
- Then this piece of flesh covers the bones and this is a great change. This shows how much a person can be developed when he's away from bad influences.
- When the soul enters the body it becomes different and the Qur'an is like a soul, totally changing the person. So not only is it a physical change but a spiritual change.
- It's a big step to go from non-living to living after 3 rounds of 40 days. Blessed be Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) Who's the best of creators. We all want to be developed and to progress. We all like to see ourselves being changed gently and not abruptly. And with these constant changes then it can make someone reach firdaous al 'ala.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the Best of Creators so the believers don't depend on themselves but depend on Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to change them and 'create' them in the best way. To go to Firdaous is great but He's the One Who will change you from creation to creation to make you reach.
- Mentioning the process of creation to show us that the human has a great mission ahead of him which is to go to firdaous al 'ala.

- We only have this life to change but when we die then the nurturing ends and there's no more change after that, subhan Allah. When we know we can die any time then it's a great regret to not even try to make any change.
- One of the righteous predecessors was asked, 'if you have an extra hour, what would you do?'. He said I would do the max of what I'm able to do.
- The Day of Taghabun is when a person had time, resources and knew what he had to do, but didn't go it and that's a great regret.
- Two friends passed away, but one before Ramadan and the other after and the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said there's a big difference between them. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) prolong our lives in goodness.

Ameen. **Hadith:** (صلى الله عليه) عَنْ طَلْحَةَ بْنِ عُبَيْدِ اللَّهِ، أَنَّ رَجُلَيْنِ، مِنْ بَلِيٍّ قَدِمَا عَلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ - صلى الله عليه وسلم - وَكَانَ إِسْلَامُهُمَا جَمِيعًا فَكَانَ أَحَدُهُمَا أَشَدَّ اجْتِهَادًا مِنَ الْآخَرِ فَعَزَا الْمُجْتَهِدُ مِنْهُمَا فَاسْتَشْهَدَ ثُمَّ مَكَثَ الْآخَرَ بَعْدَهُ سَنَةً ثُمَّ تُوُفِّيَ . قَالَ طَلْحَةُ فَرَأَيْتُ فِي الْمَنَامِ بَيْنَنَا أَنَا عِنْدَ بَابِ الْجَنَّةِ إِذَا أَنَا بِهِمَا فَخَرَجَ خَارِجَ مِنَ الْجَنَّةِ فَأَذِنَ لِلَّذِي تُوُفِّيَ الْآخَرَ مِنْهُمَا ثُمَّ خَرَجَ فَأَذِنَ لِلَّذِي اسْتَشْهَدَ ثُمَّ رَجَعَ إِلَيَّ فَقَالَ ارْجِعْ فَإِنَّكَ لَمْ يَأْنِ لَكَ بَعْدُ . فَأَصْبَحَ طَلْحَةُ يُحَدِّثُ بِهِ النَّاسَ فَعَجِبُوا لِذَلِكَ فَبَلَغَ ذَلِكَ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ - صلى الله عليه وسلم - . وَحَدَّثُوهُ الْحَدِيثَ فَقَالَ " مِنْ أَىِّ ذَلِكَ تَعْجَبُونَ " فَقَالُوا يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ هَذَا كَانَ أَشَدَّ الرَّجُلَيْنِ اجْتِهَادًا ثُمَّ اسْتَشْهَدَ وَدَخَلَ هَذَا الْآخَرَ الْجَنَّةَ قَبْلَهُ . فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ - صلى الله عليه وسلم - " أَلَيْسَ قَدْ مَكَثَ هَذَا بَعْدَهُ سَنَةً " . قَالُوا بَلَى . قَالَ " وَأَدْرَكَ رَمَضَانَ فَصَامَهُ وَصَلَّى كَذَا وَكَذَا مِنْ سَجْدَةٍ فِي السَّنَةِ " . قَالُوا بَلَى قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ - صلى الله عليه وسلم - " فَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا أَبْعَدُ مِمَّا بَيْنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ " .

(It was narrated from Talhah bin 'Ubaidullah that two men from Bali came to the Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم). They had become Muslim together, but one of them used to strive harder than the other. The one who used to strive harder went out to fight and was martyred. The other one stayed for a year longer, then he passed away. Talhah said: "I saw in a dream that I was at the gate of Paradise and I saw them (those two men). Someone



came out of Paradise and admitted the one who had died last, then he came out and admitted the one who had been martyred. Then he came back to me and said: 'Go back, for your time has not yet come.'" The next morning, Talhah told the people of that and they were amazed. News of that reached the Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) and they told him the story. He said: "Why are you so amazed at that?" They said: "O Messenger of Allah, the first one was the one who strove harder, then he was martyred, but the other one was admitted to Paradise before him. The Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said: "Did he not stay behind for a year?" They said: "Yes." He said: "And did not Ramadan come and he fasted, and he offered such and such prayers during that year?" They said: "Yes." The Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said: "The difference between them is greater than the difference between heaven and earth.") - Sunan Ibn Majah 3925

- One day we will get off the train of life and get on board the train of barzakh but no one can move there, all are sitting only to see the result of their life, subhan Allah.
- Everyone will surely be resurrected on the Day of Judgement.

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us inherit Firdaous Al 'Ala and change us for the better. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 3

Date: 02 September 2018 / 22 Dhul Hijjah 1439

Introduction

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) tells us about the many scenes around us in the universe so that we know He made it all for us. When a person sees the facilities that have been set up for him then surely he has a great mission and goal ahead of him.

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 17 to 22

وَلَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا فَوْقَكُمْ سَبْعَ طَرَائِقَ وَمَا كُنَّا عَنِ الْخَلْقِ غَافِلِينَ

And indeed We have created above you seven heavens (one over the other), and We are never unaware of the creation.

وَأَنْزَلْنَا مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً بِقَدَرٍ فَأَسْكَنَّاهُ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَإِنَّا عَلَىٰ ذَهَابٍ بِهِ لَقَادِرُونَ

And We sent down from the sky water (rain) in (due) measure, and We gave it lodging in the earth, and verily, We are Able to take it away.

فَأَنْشَأْنَا لَكُمْ بِهِ جَنَّاتٍ مِّنْ نَّخِيلٍ وَأَعْنَابٍ لَّكُمْ فِيهَا فَوَاحِشٌ كَثِيرَةٌ وَمِنْهَا تَأْكُلُونَ

Then We brought forth for you therewith gardens of date-palms and grapes, wherein is much fruit for you, and whereof you eat.

وَشَجَرَةً تَخْرُجُ مِنْ طُورِ سَيْنَاءَ تَنْبُتُ بِالذَّهْنِ وَصَيْغٍ لِّالْكَلِيِّنَ

And a tree (olive) that springs forth from Mount Sinai, that grows (produces) oil, and (it is a) relish for the eaters.

وَإِنَّ لَكُمْ فِي الْأَنْعَامِ لَعِبْرَةً تَسْقِيكُمْ مِمَّا فِي بُطُونِهَا وَلَكُمْ فِيهَا مَنَافِعٌ كَثِيرَةٌ وَمِنْهَا تَأْكُلُونَ



And verily in the cattle there is indeed a lesson for you. We give you to drink (milk) of that which is in their bellies. And there are, in them, numerous (other) benefits for you, and of them you eat.

وَعَلَيْهَا وَعَلَى الْفُلْكِ تُحْمَلُونَ

And on them, and on ships you are carried.

- Surely above us is a ceiling, the seven heavens with one being above the other. (طَرَائِقَ) is like paths and ways. So no one can go to the 3rd heaven without going to the first and second. And at each heaven are keepers from angels who do not allow anything to enter without permission.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) didn't just create this universe for us and then left us. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is present and fully aware of all that's happening in it; He negates heedlessness from Himself.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) encompasses all that He creates and we have a big mission so we shouldn't be heedless of firdaous al 'ala. We should increase in faith and use what Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) gave us.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) sends down rain from the sky in a precise amount that is not too little or too much. And when it comes from the sky, pure not being touched by the hands of anyone. And this gives beauty and a glow to the surface of the earth, subhan Allah. Even the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) would let the rain fall on his skin and clothes since it has just come from the heavens.
- The rain also gets stored and settled in the earth like a reservoir and then it will come out at its time. This is similar to children who in the beginning a person is only speaking to them and speaking to them,

and then they will speak, and it comes out at the right time. Similar to a good heart when it takes in the knowledge then it comes out in actions and utterances. A person cannot go to paradise without believing in Allah (سبحانه وتعالى); those who succeeded are the ones who believed He created the heavens and brought down the rain in estimation. The believers are the ones who succeeded because they believed in Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and not in themselves.

- From the water there will be growth in plants and there can be no growth without something divine, just as the Qur'an is divine nourishment which makes us our faith grow.
- By the rain, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) made gardens of date-palms and grapes. Despite having different types of trees, the best are the date-palm and grapes both of which are sweet. The date-palm tree resembles the believer with every part of it being good and he doesn't need much water to survive so it's very satisfied and grateful, subhan Allah. It's not like other trees which require so much water but give little.
- The believer with whatever facility is given to him will use it to go to firdaous al 'ala. He will not say, 'until I have more money or until I have helpers at home'.
- When Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) mentions these trees, they're not only trees that are nice to look at but they're beneficial trees providing food to others. And similarly the believer is beneficial to others, his goodness not only surrounds him but it reaches others.
- And now a specific tree Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) mentions which is the olive tree, this reminds us of Surah An Noor which comes after Surah Al



Mu'minoon. The olive tree is a blessed tree which provides olive oil that's glowing and this lights up the lantern. There are people who give 'fruits' and people who give 'light'. The olive tree first came out from Mount Sinai and this is the place of the messengers. The olive tree grows with much essential oil and in addition, its color gives illumination and glow.

- After mentioning the plants, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) then mentions the cattle and our transport. And in the cattle are lessons for us; we shouldn't only think of the food or ride, but there's a lesson. Will they not see how the camel is created? **Surah Al Ghashiya 17: (أَفَلَا يَنْظُرُونَ إِلَى الْإِبِلِ كَيْفَ) خُلِقَتْ (Do they not look at the camels, how they are created?)**
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) subjected the cattle for us and made us to drink what's in their stomach, subhan Allah. From between blood and stool comes pure milk. And only Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) can protect the believers so they can bring out the best despite having 'bad' around them. And we can benefit from the leather, wool and fur of the cattle.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) also subjected the cattle and ships so we can be carried by them. If He didn't subject all of these facilities for us then we wouldn't be able to eat, drink, have light or even be transported. We have a great mission and future ahead of us but it can't be reached without faith and knowing that the facilities have all been set up by Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us inherit Firdaous Al 'Ala and increase us in faith. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 4

Date: 03 September 2018 / 23 Dhul Hijjah 1439

Introduction

- Our capital is our faith because when faith goes up then all other deeds will fall into place. In life we need to have a role model and that's part of our core success. The best role models are the messengers. Now we will see the story of Nuh (عليه السلام) and what his mission was in order to be among the successful ones.

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 23 to 27

وَلَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا نُوحًا إِلَىٰ قَوْمِهِ فَقَالَ يَا قَوْمِ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مَا لَكُمْ مِنْ إِلَهٍ غَيْرُهُ أَفَلَا تَتَّقُونَ

And indeed We sent Nuh (Noah) to his people, and he said: "O my people! Worship Allah! You have no other Ilah (God) but Him (Islamic Monotheism). Will you not then be afraid (of Him i.e. of His punishment because of worshipping others besides Him)?"

فَقَالَ الْمَلَأُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ قَوْمِهِ مَا هَذَا إِلَّا بَشَرٌ مِثْلُكُمْ يُرِيدُ أَنْ يَتَفَضَّلَ عَلَيْكُمْ وَلَوْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ لَأَنْزَلَ مَلَائِكَةً مَّا سَمِعْنَا بِهَذَا فِي آبَائِنَا الْأُولِينَ

But the chiefs of his people who disbelieved said: "He is no more than a human being like you, he seeks to make himself superior to you. Had Allah willed, He surely could have sent down angels. Never did we hear such a thing among our fathers of old.

إِنْ هُوَ إِلَّا رَجُلٌ بِهِ جِنَّةٌ فْتَرَبَّصُوا بِهِ حَتَّىٰ حِينٍ

"He is only a man in whom is madness, so wait for him a while."

قَالَ رَبِّ انصُرْنِي بِمَا كَذَّبُونَ

[Nuh (Noah)] said: "O my Lord! Help me because they deny me."

فَأَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْهِ أَنْ اصْنَعِ الْفُلَ بِأَعْيُنِنَا وَوَحْيِنَا فَإِذَا جَاءَ أَمْرُنَا وَفَارَ التَّنُّورُ فَاسْلُكْ فِيهَا مِنْ كُلِّ زَوْجَيْنِ اثْنَيْنِ وَأَهْلَكَ إِلَّا مَنْ سَبَقَ عَلَيْهِ الْقَوْلُ مِنْهُمْ وَلَا تُخَاطِبُنِي فِي الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا إِنَّهُمْ مُعْرِضُونَ

So We revealed to him (saying): "Construct the ship under Our Eyes and under Our Revelation (guidance). Then, when Our Command comes, and water gushes forth from the oven, take on board of each kind two (male and female), and your family, except those thereof against whom the Word has already gone forth. And address Me not in favour of those who have done wrong. Verily, they are to be drowned.

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) sent Nuh (عليه السلام) to his people and he's the first messenger. The universal mission of all the messengers and the people is to worship Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) alone because there are no gods besides Him. We need to have taqwa and not follow our desires by worshipping other gods.
- Nuh (عليه السلام) was calling his people for 950 years to this concept and this not only enforces the message but increases him in faith, subhan Allah. Its success to call the people for 950 years to worship Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) alone.
- What was the reaction of the disbelieving chiefs of the people? When Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) tells us the reaction of the disbelievers it also increases us in faith when we know how they react and then to see it.
- The rejection of the disbelievers is to not to attack the message and values because these are all nice and good, but they'll attack the

messenger. What do they do in order to not make others follow him? They'll say he's like you, he's not a messenger, and he's only inviting you to the deen in order to show he's better than you.

- They'll even say, if Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) wants to guide us then He'll bring angels because they know angels are a higher level than humans. And they'll say 'we've never heard of anything like this before' because they're happy with their comfort zone.
- When someone tells us about faith, there is always some distraction in the middle to try to stop us from hearing it so it's important that we're aware of people's influence. Also, if a person is a believer and someone tells him about faith, then he shouldn't react heedlessly and say 'I already know I need to worship Allah'. We need to accept and take the message when we're reminded of faith, even if we know it.
- What else did the chiefs say? They accused Nuh (عليه السلام) of not being sane. He's telling the people to worship Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) alone and they say he's crazy, subhan Allah. When we look at the person delivering the message and think 'they're crazy, they're doing it for position, they think they're better' then we won't accept the message and we will not increase in faith.
- The chiefs finally said 'just wait until he dies and his destruction comes', subhan Allah. This is what they ultimately want but they first fed the people with their doubts. Their mission is to divert people from their true mission in life which is to worship Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) alone. They want the people to follow blindly.
- As Nuh (عليه السلام) told the people, they rejected him even more. Nuh (عليه السلام) didn't defend himself but he made dua to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)

asking to be given victory because of what they belied. He doesn't want victory for himself because he's down or hurt, but for the sake of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), because they disbelieved in the message. Imagine someone is constantly telling you 'you're crazy' so surely you'll lose focus but the messengers are extremely focused on their vision and mission and they have values which ground them. It's important to put firdaous al 'ala in front of our eyes in order to remain focused.

- Next we will see how Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) dealt with Nuh (عليه السلام), How did he give him victory? Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) inspired Nuh (عليه السلام) and that's a great support. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is able to save him without anything but He inspired to him the means to salvation. For example, you have a vision to go to firdaous so Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will bring the means to you, but it's up to you if you will take it or not.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) supported him by given him a detailed process of what to do and this gives clarity which makes it easier to implement. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make our steps to firdaous easy and clear of all the tasks we need to do. Ameen.
- He inspired Nuh (عليه السلام) to:
 - Produce a ship, how? Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will teach him how to do it under His seeing, guidance and protection. Imagine a ship which has never existed before and one person is building it, subhan Allah. When a person truly believes in Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) then he will be guided on how to do it. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the One teaching us.



- The sign to ride the ship is when the oven floods with water. This is a strange sign but it's to make it distinct so it's not missed.
- When the sign is spotted then he's to take a pair from the animals, male and female. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is able to bring forth new animals but it's a task.
- Then he's to take 'his family' which are the believers. The one who see what you see and hear what you hear then these are 'family'. His son was not from his 'family' because he sees the mountain as saving him and not Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), subhan Allah. And Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) already knew who will be from his 'family'. He already knew that Nuh's son and wife will not be with him because He knew from before they didn't believe, but a situation happens to expose them. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us truthful. Ameen.
- Do not speak about someone who's transgressed or make intercession or wasta for him. Nuh (عليه السلام) is not to talk to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to save the transgressors because the decision is already made they'll drown.

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us inherit Firdaous Al 'Ala and make us from the truthful ones. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 5

Date: 04 September 2018 / 24 Dhul Hijjah 1439

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 28 to 33

فَإِذَا اسْتَوَيْتَ أَنْتَ وَمَنْ مَعَكَ عَلَى الْفُلِكِ فَقُلِ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي نَجَّانَا مِنَ الْقَوْمِ الظَّالِمِينَ

And when you have embarked on the ship, you and whoever is with you, then say: "All the praises and thanks be to Allah, Who has saved us from the people who are Zalimun (i.e. oppressors, wrong-doers, polytheists, those who join others in worship with Allah).

وَقُلِ رَبِّ أَنْزِلْنِي مُنْزَلًا مُبَارَكًا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الْمُنْزِلِينَ

And say: "My Lord! Cause me to land at a blessed landing-place, for You are the Best of those who bring to land."

إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لآيَاتٍ وَإِن كُنَّا لَمُبْتَلِينَ

Verily, in this [what We did as regards drowning of the people of Nuh (Noah)], there are indeed Ayat (proofs, evidence, lessons, signs, etc. for men to understand), for sure We are ever putting (men) to the test.

ثُمَّ أَنْشَأْنَا مِنْ بَعْدِهِمْ قَرْنًا آخَرِينَ

Then, after them, We created another generation.

فَأَرْسَلْنَا فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِنْهُمْ أَنْ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مَا لَكُمْ مِنْ إِلَهٍ غَيْرُهُ أَفَلَا تَتَّقُونَ

And We sent to them a Messenger from among themselves (saying): "Worship Allah! You have no other Ilah (God) but Him. Will you not then be afraid (of Him i.e. of His punishment because of worshipping others besides Him)?"

وَقَالَ الْمَلَأُ مِنَ قَوْمِهِ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَكَذَّبُوا بِلِقَاءِ الْآخِرَةِ وَأَتْرَفْنَاهُمْ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا مَا هَذَا إِلَّا بَشَرٌ مِثْلُكُمْ يَأْكُلُ مِمَّا تَأْكُلُونَ مِنْهُ وَيَشْرَبُ مِمَّا تَشْرَبُونَ



And the chiefs of his people who disbelieved and denied the Meeting in the Hereafter, and whom We had given the luxuries and comforts of this life, said: "He is no more than a human being like you, he eats of that which you eat, and drinks of what you drink.

- Belief and taqwa are the means to salvation and when Nuh (عليه السلام) and the believers are to reach land they're to praise Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) who saved them from the wrongdoing people. Alhamdulillah is the best dua and in any situation we should praise Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and attribute all blessings to Him. Nothing can be like being saved and safe from a calamity. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) save us from any action, attitudes and punishments of the wrong doing people. Ameen.
- A person might appreciate the means such as the ship or his mind for reaching safety but he needs to appreciate Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). No one wants to remain in the ship always, a person wants to reach land afterwards. Sometimes in life when we're going through so many fitnas as if we're on the ship, but that's better than to be with the wrong doing people or the mountain.
- Then a person wants to be stable and on 'land'. Nuh (عليه السلام) was inspired to say, 'my Rabb cause me to land in a place that's blessed and will grow'. No one wants to be in any trial all his life because he wants to save the belief he has. And when reaching land, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will have this land cleared and ready for the believers to dwell and grow.
- In this story of Nuh (عليه السلام) are ayat and surely He will test us. The test for belief is great and to be in the ship while in bad weather seems like a bad idea, but this is what Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) had commanded. Allah



(سبحانه وتعالى) gave them safety from an unlikely mean because it's their belief that will drive them to safety and not the ship, subhan Allah.

- Generations after Nuh (عليه السلام), disbelief reappeared again and it's said to be the next story mentioned is of Salih (عليه السلام) and the people of Thamud and Hud and the people of 'Aad whom both people focused on their dwellings.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) sent a messenger because there's a need for it and to bring them back to the essentials, back to (لا اله الا الله) because they've deviated. The people were focusing on their dwellings and duniya, though development is based on faith and knowledge. Any growth of the duniya will surely go down except if a person is growing with faith and knowledge.
- When a person is distracted from the main vision and goal which is (لا اله الا الله) then it leads to destruction. Sometimes a person is established and he forgets the main reason for true growth which is belief. The messenger is sent to bring people to make them focus again on their true capital.
- There are different types of people in society and each is focused on something but there's an overall focus for all which is firdaous al 'ala.
- The messenger faced the chiefs of his people and no matter how advanced they may be, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) described them with disbelief and belying. Disbelief is a barrier from focusing on the big picture and every person thinks the picture in his mind is the big picture, subhan Allah. Though to have a successful home or successful career is nothing compared to going to firdaous al 'ala.



- The chiefs didn't want the people to look at the big picture but their small picture. Disbelief is to cover and they're covering their minds and the people's minds. They disbelieved in the akhira which is the true dwelling.
- To enjoy one's life with faith is light upon light, but they were given the duniya and disbelieved. When a person focuses on his duniya then without him realizing he disbelieves in the akhira because he's no longer thinking of the akhira, may Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) protect us. Ameen.
- Their goal is to be superior and best in the duniya though a person shouldn't forget his true vision. When the chiefs focus on the duniya then the people will focus on the duniya but if they focus on the akhira then the people will focus on the akhira.
- The chiefs will tell the people the messenger is someone like you, 'he eats and drinks like you, he's not an angel or someone exclusive', subhan Allah. The chiefs can either bring the people up or take them down. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us people who bring focus to the people and not distract them. Ameen.

What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Always praise Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) in all states
- Safety is a great blessing and this only comes with belief
- Don't get distracted with the duniya and the small picture in our head. There's a great and big vision which is firdaus al 'ala.
- Ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for the well-being at all times



May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us inherit Firdaous Al 'Ala and make us focus on the big picture. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 6

Date: 05 September 2018 / 25 Dhul Hijjah 1439

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 34 to 41

وَلَئِن أَطَعْتُمْ بَشَرًا مِّثْلُكُمْ إِنَّا لَنَٰخِسُونَ

"If you were to obey a human being like yourselves, then verily you indeed would be losers.

أَيَعِدُّكُمْ أَنكُمْ إِذَا مِتُّمْ وَكُنْتُمْ تُرَابًا وَعِظَامًا أَنْكُمْ مُّخْرَجُونَ

"Does he promise you that when you have died and have become dust and bones, you shall come out alive (resurrected)?

هِيَ هَيْهَاتَ هَيْهَاتَ لِمَا تُوعَدُونَ

"Far, very far is that which you are promised!

إِن هِيَ إِلَّا حَيَاتُنَا الدُّنْيَا نَمُوتُ وَنَحْيَا وَمَا نَحْنُ بِمَبْعُوثِينَ

"There is nothing but our life of this world! We die and we live! And we are not going to be resurrected!

إِن هُوَ إِلَّا رَجُلٌ افْتَرَىٰ عَلَى اللَّهِ كَذِبًا وَمَا نَحْنُ لَهُ بِمُؤْمِنِينَ

"He is only a man who has invented a lie against Allah, and we are not going to believe in him."

قَالَ رَبِّ انصُرْنِي بِمَا كَذَّبُونَ

He said: "O my Lord! Help me because they deny me."

قَالَ عَمَّا قَلِيلٍ لَيُصْبِحُنَّ نَادِمِينَ

(Allah) said: "In a little while, they are sure to be regretful."

فَأَحَدَتْهُمْ الصَّيْحَةُ بِالْحَقِّ فَجَعَلْنَاهُمْ غُرَاءَ ۗ فَبَعْدًا لِلْقَوْمِ الظَّالِمِينَ

So As-Saiyah (torment - awful cry) overtook them in truth (with justice), and We made them as rubbish of dead plants. So away with the people who are Zalimun (polytheists, wrong-doers, disbelievers in the Oneness of Allah, disobedient to His Messengers).

- After a pure generation of believers, a generation of disbelievers came about as a result of the duniya becoming their idol, subhan Allah.
- The chiefs continued to put down the messenger, they not only made him seem like someone normal, but they also put fear into the people if they followed him.
- They said 'if you follow someone normal like you then you're surely be losers'. Though the real loss is to not have followed the messengers. We need to have a role model in life and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) sent the messengers to us. It's not enough to have a book but someone who lives and acts by it. And our Creator is the One Who knows who are the role models for us so He chose the messengers.
- The believer is human, he eats and drinks, but he does it for a goal, for firdaous al 'ala. The disbeliever's eyes are looking at the duniya but



the believer's eyes are looking at paradise. The believer focuses on the message and not the one delivering it.

- The disbelievers further rejected the resurrection because they're looking at the human's ability and compared that to Allah's, astaghfar Allah. Surely the Creator can create again and the messengers need to tell the people about the Day of Judgement because all of us have a responsibility and surely there will be accountability.
- The chiefs even said to the people, 'it's so far away of what you've been promised' – referring of being promised to be resurrected. So they not only posed a question but answered it themselves. They said 'it's only this life, we'll die and we'll live, but we won't be resurrected'. They think there's no akhira because they can't logically think about it. Logic will be an obstacle to belief.
- They further accused the messenger and the way they did it is by posing questions. In general posing questions is a way of bringing focus and prioritizing, but they're doing it to mislead. They're not only distracted themselves but they're distracting others; they're misled and misleading others. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us guided and guiding others. Ameen.
- They rejected the message so what's the end of the one rejecting? They became absorbed in the duniya which lead to their ultimate destruction. And the very thing which destroyed them was a loud shout and wind.



- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) ends with saying 'away with the wrongdoers'. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) protect us from all types of dhulm and misleading others. Ameen.

What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Logic is an obstacle to belief
- Increase in faith and knowledge in order to not be deceived or misled
- Ask Allah to make us guided and guiding others
- Ask questions as a way of being focused and on track, and not for misguidance

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us inherit Firdaous Al 'Ala and make us focus on the big picture. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 8

Date: 07 September 2018 / 27 Dhul Hijjah 1439

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 42 to 49

ثُمَّ أَنْشَأْنَا مِنْ بَعْدِهِمْ قُرُونًا آخَرِينَ

Then, after them, We created other generations.

مَا تَسْبِقُ مِنْ أُمَّةٍ أَجَلَهَا وَمَا يَسْتَأْخِرُونَ

No nation can advance their term, nor can they delay it.

ثُمَّ أَرْسَلْنَا رُسُلَنَا تَتْرَىٰ ۖ كُلًّا مَّا جَاءَ أُمَّةً رَّسُولُهَا كَذَّبُوهُ ۖ فَاتَّبَعَنَا بَعْضُهُمْ بَعْضًا وَجَعَلْنَاهُمْ أَحَادِيثَ ۖ فَبُعْدًا لِّقَوْمٍ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ

Then We sent Our Messengers in succession. Every time there came to a nation their Messenger, they denied him; so We made them follow one another (to destruction), and We made them as Ahadith (the true stories for mankind to learn a lesson from them). So away with a people who believe not!

ثُمَّ أَرْسَلْنَا مُوسَىٰ وَأَخَاهُ هَارُونَ بِآيَاتِنَا وَسُلْطَانٍ مُّبِينٍ

Then We sent Musa (Moses) and his brother Harun (Aaron), with Our Ayat (proofs, evidence, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) and manifest authority,

إِلَىٰ فِرْعَوْنَ وَمَلَأَيْنَاهُ فَاسْتَكْبَرُوا وَكَانُوا قَوْمًا عَالِينَ

To Fir'aun (Pharaoh) and his chiefs, but they behaved insolently and they were people self-exalting (by disobeying their Lord, and exalting themselves over and above the Messenger of Allah).

فَقَالُوا أَنُؤْمِنُ لِبَشَرَيْنِ مِثْلِنَا وَقَوْمُهُمَا لَنَا عَابِدُونَ

They said: "Shall we believe in two men like ourselves, and their people are obedient to us with humility (and we use them to serve us as we like)."

فَكَذَّبُوهُمَا فَكَانُوا مِنَ الْمُهْلَكِينَ

So they denied them both [Musa (Moses) and Harun (Aaron)] and became of those who were destroyed.

وَلَقَدْ آتَيْنَا مُوسَىٰ الْكِتَابَ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَهْتَدُونَ

And indeed We gave Musa (Moses) the Scripture, that they may be guided.



- All of us have a time when we will leave this life; this is the way of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). And for those previous nations who were destroyed, it was already appointed that they would disappear at the same time and this is already decreed in the Preserved Tablet.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is sending messengers in order people are taken out from disbelief to belief. And He sends the messengers with ayat and miracles but there are those who disbelieved in them. And because they followed each other in disbelief, they followed each other in destruction as well, and became stories of the past.
- A believer needs to always increase his faith in order he reaches firdaous al 'ala. If he's always increasing his faith then he'll reach firdaous al 'ala. But if a person doesn't care for his faith then surely he won't reach firdaous, and if he's denying then he'll be a story of the past.
- A person might have done so much goodness and achievement in his life but then he disbelieved and denied so all he did in the past has no value. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) not make us into such stories and grant us a good end. Ameen.
- A person doesn't want to be a lesson for others and his story ends there, but a person wants his story to go on until firdaous al 'ala. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) never take us down. Ameen
- And Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) took them far away because of their disbelief. They built but they became a story of the past.
- Here we have an example of Firaoun and they are the last destroyed nation with a punishment taking all its people. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) sent Musa (عليه السلام) with clear evidence which goes to the heart and



overpowers it, subhan Allah. Musa (عليه السلام) brought signs in addition to a clear, overpowering sign can't be denied and this is the staff/stick, but Firaoun rejected it.

- A person doesn't want to go through an experience so he can become elevated, but by learning the Qur'an we go through different experiences without being in them. It's like being in a capsule while seeing it all, so a person is protected. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) never deprive us from the knowledge. Ameen.
- Firaoun and his chiefs saw the dominating ayah but they rejected it and this is from their arrogance. An atom of arrogance will not allow one to enter paradise because arrogance is the quality of the dwellers of the hellfire, astaghfar Allah.
- What made them reject the ayat? They think they're higher and better than the rest. A person needs to remember with whom he's dealing with and he's dealing with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- What was their statement which exposed the arrogance in their heart? They said, 'would we believe in two humans like us while their people are serving us', subhan Allah. Banu Israel were servants to the people of Firaoun.
- When the messengers are sent it's in order to guide the people, but they want someone from the sky to bring the message to them, but it's not about who's bringing the message but believing in the message. Because of their denial, they were among those who were destroyed.
- When the disbelief is cut-off then there's a book and curriculum which comes next. Musa (عليه السلام) was given the Tawrat after the destruction of Firaoun, and to have a divine book is mercy and guidance.

What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Every ayah is customized for you so it's important to accept it
- Look at the message and not the one delivering it
- Ask Allah to remain firm on the knowledge

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us inherit Firdaous Al 'Ala and grant us a good end. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 8

Date: 07 September 2018 / 27 Dhul Hijjah 1439

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 50 to 56

وَجَعَلْنَا ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ وَأُمَّهُ آيَةً وَآوَيْنَاهُمَا إِلَى رَبْوَةٍ ذَاتِ قَرَارٍ وَمَعِينٍ

And We made the son of Maryam (Mary) and his mother as a sign, and We gave them refuge on high ground, a place of rest, security and flowing streams.

يَا أَيُّهَا الرُّسُلُ كُلُوا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ وَاعْمَلُوا صَالِحًا إِنِّي بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ عَلِيمٌ

O (you) Messengers! Eat of the Tayyibat [all kinds of Halal foods which Allah has made lawful (meat of slaughtered eatable animals, milk

products, fats, vegetables, fruits, etc.] and do righteous deeds. Verily! I am Well-Acquainted with what you do.

وَإِنَّ هَذِهِ أُمَّتُكُمْ أُمَّةً وَاحِدَةً وَأَنَا رَبُّكُمْ فَاتَّقُونِ

And verily this your religion (of Islamic Monotheism) is one religion, and I am your Lord, so fear (keep your duty to) Me.

فَتَقَطَّعُوا أَمْرَهُم بَيْنَهُمْ زُبُرًا كُلُّ حِزْبٍ بِمَا لَدَيْهِمْ فَرِحُونَ

But they (men) have broken their religion among them into sects, each group rejoicing in what is with it (as its beliefs).

فَذَرَهُمْ فِي عَمْرَتِهِمْ حَتَّىٰ حِينٍ

So leave them in their error for a time.

أَيَحْسَبُونَ أَنَّمَا نُمِدُّهُمْ بِهِ مِنْ مَّالٍ وَبَنِينَ

Do they think that in wealth and children with which We enlarge them

نُسَارِعُ لَهُمْ فِي الْخَيْرَاتِ بَلْ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ

We hasten unto them with good things. Nay, [it is a Fitnah (trial) in this worldly life so that they will have no share of good things in the Hereafter] but they perceive not.

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) made Eisa (عليه السلام) and Maryam (عليها السلام) as ayat themselves, subhan Allah, for this reason they became idolized. Maryam (عليها السلام) had her child without a father and Eisa (عليه السلام) could speak as a baby and had different miracles of healing the blind and bringing the dead back to life by Allah's permission, though he's not a god.

- They were both accommodated in a high ground which is when Maryam (عليها السلام) gave birth to Eisa (عليه السلام). Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) granted them peace, rest and tranquility in this place and there were flowing streams.
- Then Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) gives a command to all the messengers about eating. In other places the Qur'an, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) also addresses the people and believer with regards to eating. In **Surah Al Baqarah 168: (يا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ كُلُوا مِمَّا فِي الْأَرْضِ حَلَالًا طَيِّبًا وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطَوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ ۚ إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُبِينٌ) (He [Shaitan (Satan)] commands you only what is evil and Fahsha (sinful), and that you should say against Allah what you know not.)** – Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) addresses all the people to eat **lawfully because the one who doesn't then he will follow the footsteps of the shaitan. And in Surah Al Baqarah 172: (يا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُلُوا مِن طَيِّبَاتِ مَا رَزَقْنَاكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لِلَّهِ إِن كُنتُمْ إِيَّاهُ تَعْبُدُونَ) (O you who believe (in the Oneness of Allah - Islamic Monotheism)! Eat of the lawful things that We have provided you with, and be grateful to Allah, if it is indeed He Whom you worship.)** – Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) addresses the believers to eat what's good and be grateful.
- As for the messengers, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) tells them to eat what's lawful, good and pure and do good deeds. The believers do not eat in order to indulge and have a good life but in order to do good deeds and continue on their mission. One not only eats for his body but in order it reform his heart as well.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the All-Knower of whatever we do. When we eat good then we'll produce good.



- All of the messengers came for the same message, they have One Lord and One Path, and the believers complete each other; they are not separate. The task of all is to have taqwa, but it's the disbelievers who cause division amongst themselves.
- And even among the disbelievers there's division between them. If everyone truly followed the messengers then there would be no division within the followers. Surah Al Mu'minoon is teaching us to stay together on belief and not disbelief because this causes separation.
- And when they're divided, each group is rejoicing with their deen and knowledge because they think they're right and everyone else is wrong; this is not the attitude of the believer.
- We need to follow the way of the messengers and take in what's good from food, speech, hearing and looking so what comes out is good.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) tells the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) to leave those who think they're good while they're doing wrong, leave them until the punishment befalls them. We don't want to be someone who thinks he's climbing but he's not. There are people who think they're doing good but they're not. It's important to remain behind the messengers.
- Someone who always thinks he's right while everyone is wrong is someone to be left alone. Someone who thinks he's right can't be addressed. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) protect us from being in this deception. Ameen.
- Someone who's not following the messengers, but thinks he's right is in complete deception. What makes him think like this? He sees his duniya and thinks he's being elevated. When Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)

provides them with wealth and children then this is not a sign of growth. Real growth is when a person increases in faith, good deeds, and knowledge.

What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Eat what's lawful and good in order to continue worshipping Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)
- Follow the messengers
- Increase in faith, good deeds and knowledge in order to be away from division

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us inherit Firdaous Al 'Ala and follow the messengers. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 9

Date: 08 September 2018 / 28 Dhul Hijjah 1439

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 57 to 62

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ هُمْ مِنْ خَشْيَةِ رَبِّهِمْ مُشْفِقُونَ

Verily those who live in awe for fear of their Lord;

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ بِآيَاتِ رَبِّهِمْ يُؤْمِنُونَ

And those who believe in the Ayat (proofs, evidence, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) of their Lord;

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ بِرَبِّهِمْ لَا يُشْرِكُونَ

And those who join not anyone (in worship) as partners with their Lord;

وَالَّذِينَ يُؤْتُونَ مَا آتَوْا وَقَلُوبُهُمْ وَجِلَةٌ أَنَّهُمْ إِلَىٰ رَبِّهِمْ رَاجِعُونَ

And those who give that (their charity) which they give (and also do other good deeds) with their hearts full of fear (whether their alms and charities have been accepted or not), because they are sure to return to their Lord (for reckoning).

أُولَٰئِكَ يُسَارِعُونَ فِي الْخَيْرَاتِ وَهُمْ لَهَا سَابِقُونَ

It is these who hasten in the good deeds, and they are foremost in them [e.g. offering the compulsory Salat (prayers) in their (early) stated, fixed times and so on].

وَلَا نُكَلِّفُ نَفْسًا إِلَّا وُسْعَهَا ۗ وَلَدَيْنَا كِتَابٌ يَنْطِقُ بِالْحَقِّ ۗ وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ

And We task not any person except according to his capacity, and with Us is a Record which speaks the truth, and they will not be wronged.

- The believers level of success is very high because they reached firdaous al 'ala. Today we will go inside the hearts of the believers who reached. It's not about running from the outside and getting tired while not reaching paradise. We need to see what are the actions of the heart that's making the believers run.



- The believer is someone running towards Allah's pleasure while being afraid, unlike the disbeliever who feels secure with what he has and is even rejoicing.
- The believers are (مشفقون) which comes from (شفق) which is the redness in the sky as the sun sets before it becomes dark. They don't make themselves as if they're miskeen and want people to pity them or feel sorry for themselves, but they are in that state in front of their Rabb as a result of fearing Him. They know Who is their Rabb and so they have this feeling towards Him.
- Why do they feel sorry for themselves in front of their Rabb? They're afraid their deeds won't be accepted, they're afraid of their sins, they're afraid if He's no pleased with them.
- What charges their faith? The ayat of their Rabb which they constantly believe in. It's important that we use everything as ayat. When they pass by any ayat, they take them and accept all ayat of nurturing. This makes them reach firdaous al 'ala. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) nurtures everyone to go to firdaous al a'a, but there are those who take the nurturing and those who don't. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us accept the nurturing. Ameen.
- They don't commit any type shirk, not minor or major, nor hidden or apparent. They're constantly purifying their heart from shirk. Shirk is looking at someone else with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to appreciate your work or to submit your work to someone else, astaghfar Allah. Only Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the One giving us so everything we give has to be for Him.



- No matter how high they reach, they do not forget the fundamental and essential lesson which reaches every level: DO NOT COMMIT SHIRK.
- A person needs to be giving and not always receiving and the more one gives, the more he's purified. And their contribution is not limited to money, but giving advice, giving manners, and doing good deeds.
- Successful people are not the ones rejoicing and only taking from the people, but the ones giving and are full of feelings towards Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). And the one who are always recharging their faith with the ayat and purifying themselves from shirk. Successful people are humble, down to earth and need Allah's names. They don't say 'I don't need to learn Surah Al Fatiha or Al Ikhlas', they know that even if they learn it again, it will be an addition to their faith. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us like them. Ameen.
- They're afraid their deeds will not save them because they know Allah's greatness. They know He's worthy of the best but they cannot give it, so they feel disappointed in themselves, but that doesn't stop them from giving. They know Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is in no need of their deeds, but they're in need of doing it.
- When they give, they have feelings, devotions, hope and fear towards Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) because they know they're returning back to Him. As a result, it makes them hasten to the good. All their wishes and all they want is directed to one goal. When a person runs towards one goal then he will put all his efforts towards it and their goal is Allah's pleasure.



- For our desires, we don't think twice about doing it for example buying the clothes we want or food we want, but to do something for Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) we need to think twice? Subhan Allah.
- Any opportunity for good then they will just do it; the believers are foremost in doing good deeds as if they're in it, subhan Allah. They're not doing good deeds after someone drags them to it.
- We might see someone physically running to good deeds but he's not running because his heart is still. Before the running of the limbs there's the running of the heart, and what makes it run? Because they fear Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and think bad of themselves.
- And Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will not burden anyone beyond his capacity. And at every stage of our life, our good deeds change as a result of a decree which brings out new types of good deeds, subhan Allah.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has The Preserved Tablet which utters with truth. All the actions of the people are already recorded before it's even done.

What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Do not commit shirk at every stage of our life
- Know Who's Allah and have feelings towards Him
- Run to the good deeds but with feelings
- Accept the ayat and nurturing that's coming to you

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us inherit Firdaous Al 'Ala and help us apply what we learned. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala



Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 10

Date: 09 September 2018 / 29 Dhul Hijjah 1439

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 63 to 70

بَلْ قُلُوبُهُمْ فِي غَمْرَةٍ مِّنْ هَٰذَا وَلَهُمْ أَعْمَالٌ مِّنْ دُونِ ذَٰلِكَ هُمْ لَهَا عَامِلُونَ

Nay, but their hearts are covered from (understanding) this (the Qur'an), and they have other (evil) deeds, besides, which they are doing.

حَتَّىٰ إِذَا أَخَذْنَا مُتْرَفِيهِم بِالْعَذَابِ إِذَا هُمْ يَجْأَرُونَ

Until when We seize those of them who lead a luxurious life with punishment: behold they make humble invocation with a loud voice.

لَا تَجْأَرُوا الْيَوْمَ بِإِنِّكُمْ مِنَّا لَا تُنصَرُونَ

Invoke not loudly this day! Certainly you shall not be helped by Us.

فَدَكَانَتْ آيَاتِي تُتْلَىٰ عَلَيْكُمْ فَكُنْتُمْ عَلَىٰ أَعْقَابِكُمْ تُنصِرُونَ

Indeed My Verses used to be recited to you, but you used to turn back on your heels (denying them, and refusing with hatred to listen to them).

مُسْتَكْبِرِينَ بِهِ سَامِرًا تَهْجُرُونَ

In pride (they - Quraish pagans and polytheists of Makkah used to feel proud that they are the dwellers of Makkah sanctuary - Haram), talking evil about it (the Qur'an) by night.

أَفَلَمْ يَدَّبَّرُوا الْقَوْلَ أَمْ جَاءَهُمْ مَا لَمْ يَأْتِ آبَاءَهُمُ الْأَوَّلِينَ

Have they not pondered over the Word (of Allah, i.e. what is sent down to the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم), or has there come to them what had not come to their fathers of old?

أَمْ لَمْ يَعْرِفُوا رَسُولَهُمْ فَهُمْ لَهُ مُنْكَرُونَ

Or is it that they did not recognize their Messenger (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) so they deny him?

أَمْ يَقُولُونَ بِهِ جِنَّةٌ بَلْ جَاءَهُم بِالْحَقِّ وَأَكْثَرُهُم لِلْحَقِّ كَارِهُونَ

Or say they: There is madness in him? Nay, but he brought them the truth [i.e. Tauhid: Worshipping Allah Alone in all aspects, the Qur'an and the religion of Islam], but most of them (the disbelievers) are averse to the truth.

- After having mentioned the hearts of the believers, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) now mentions the hearts of the disbelievers. Their hearts are in the middle of ignorance, transgression, heedlessness and rejection, may Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make our hearts to submit so that we're away from this. Ameen. As a result of being caught in the middle of these qualities, the Qur'an doesn't reach them, and it doesn't enter their hearts, astaghfar Allah.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) gives them respite until they perform the deeds which are already decreed for them based on their heart. They will continue doing their deeds until Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) seizes them with punishment. Who are they? (مُتْرَفِيهِمْ) – those whose hearts are rejecting belief, their hearts are rejoicing in the duniya, they're focused on



indulging in the duniya. When the punishment comes to them, then they will scream and shout. They didn't struggle in this life as a result they will face the punishment and scream like a bull screaming, subhan Allah.

- It will be said to them 'don't scream today, you will not be able to help yourself'; there will be no use then. What caused them to be away from guidance?
- Allah's ayat were being recited upon them but they didn't accept them or act upon them, rather they turned back on their heels, meaning they fell back, astaghfar Allah. The believer is the one who's benefitting from the universal signs and the Qur'an thus moving forward but the disbeliever is not benefitting from the universal signs nor the Qur'an so he's falling back.
- As they turn away from the truth, they think they're greater than the Qur'an. And a group of them gather together at night, talking badly about the Qur'an, or even the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم). So they accompany each other and make it a subject of their entertainment at night, astaghfar Allah.
- What's preventing them from belief despite having a clear Book and Messenger? Reflecting and pondering upon the Qur'an; not doing taddabur prevents them from faith. When a person ponders upon the Qur'an then surely he'll believe, but they're not pondering upon it. And another reason is something came to them which didn't come to their forefathers. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) wants to upgrade us with faith and Qur'an, but they don't want it because it didn't come to their forefathers, subhan Allah.

- Another reason that's preventing them from belief is because they belied the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) and they've convinced themselves the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) is mad, subhan Allah. They have known the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) for forty years and they know he's the best of people.
- Why are they doing all of this? Because truth has come to them and they hate it, subhan Allah. Everything goes back to feelings.
- There's nothing better than the truth and the believers are living for the truth, longing for it and climbing for it and the truth is (لا اله الا الله).

What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Pondering upon the Qur'an
- Take the ayat as nurturing
- Ask Allah to always keep you firm on the truth

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) not make the duniya our greatest concern and the peak of our knowledge. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 11

Date: 10 September 2018 / 30 Dhul Hijjah 1439

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 71 to 76

وَلَوْ اتَّبَعَ الْحَقُّ أَهْوَاءَهُمْ لَفَسَدَتِ السَّمَاوَاتُ وَالْأَرْضُ وَمَنْ فِيهِنَّ ۚ بَلْ أَتَيْنَاهُمْ بِذِكْرِهِمْ فَهُمْ عَنْ ذِكْرِهِمْ مُعْرِضُونَ

And if the truth had been in accordance with their desires, verily, the heavens and the earth, and whosoever is therein would have been corrupted! Nay, We have brought them their reminder, but they turn away from their reminder.

أَمْ تَسْأَلُهُمْ خَرْجًا فَخَرَّاجُ رَبِّكَ خَيْرٌ طَّ وَهُوَ خَيْرُ الرَّازِقِينَ

Or is it that you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) ask them for some wages? But the recompense of your Lord is better, and He is the Best of those who give sustenance.

وَإِنَّكَ لَتَدْعُوهُمْ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ

And certainly, you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) call them to the Straight Path (true religion - Islamic Monotheism).

وَإِنَّ الَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْآخِرَةِ عَنِ الصِّرَاطِ لَنَّاكِبُونَ

And verily, those who believe not in the Hereafter are indeed deviating far astray from the Path (true religion - Islamic Monotheism).

وَلَوْ رَحِمْنَاهُمْ وَكَشَفْنَا مَا بِهِمْ مِّنْ ضُرٍّ لَّلَجُوا فِي طُغْيَانِهِمْ يَعْمَهُونَ

And though We had mercy on them and removed the distress which is on them, still they would obstinately persist in their transgression, wandering blindly.

وَلَقَدْ أَخَذْنَاهُم بِالْعُدَابِ فَمَا اسْتَكَانُوا لِرَبِّهِمْ وَمَا يَتَضَرَّعُونَ

And indeed We seized them with punishment, but they humbled not themselves to their Lord, nor did they invoke (Allah) with submission to Him.



- The believers love the truth whether it's in line with their desires or not. If the foundation of anything is based on people's desires and not truth then it will not last.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the One Who decided what's truth, yet they're rejecting reminders from the Qur'an. The disbelievers are drowning in their disbelief and they're not only attaching to the duniya, but they're insulting the truth and its people.
- We need to submit and believe Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the Best Providers. And what the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) is calling them upon is the Straight Path because it's easy for the followers to follow. In these ayat we find all the reasons which make the people believe or disbelieve.
- As for those who don't believe in the hereafter then they will be deviated from the Straight Path.
- When the disbelievers face a difficulty, they call upon Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and He responds and protects them, why? Because He's The Most Merciful, yet they will continue in their disbelief and transgression.
- The believer knows Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) all the time and not only in times of difficulty. And when the disbelievers are taken in punishment, they do not invoke Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) nor do they submit to Him. And this shows disbelief is not normal because the normal response to punishment is to be humbled. They're being punished yet they feel confident, subhan Allah. Unlike the believers whom even with their good deeds, they are in need of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to accept their good deeds.

What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Pondering the Qur'an
- Believe in the hereafter
- Be humble

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) not make the duniya our greatest concern and the peak of our knowledge. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaus Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 12

Date: 11 September 2018 / 01 Muharram 1440

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 77 to 89

حَتَّىٰ إِذَا فَتَحْنَا عَلَيْهِم بَابًا ذَا عَذَابٍ شَدِيدٍ إِذَا هُمْ فِيهِ مُبْسُوتُونَ

Until, when We open for them the gate of severe punishment, then lo! they will be plunged into destruction with deep regrets, sorrows and in despair.

وَهُوَ الَّذِي أَنشَأَ لَكُمُ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَارَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ ۗ قَلِيلًا مَّا تَشْكُرُونَ

It is He Who has created for you (the sense of) hearing (ears), eyes (sight), and hearts (understanding). Little thanks you give.

وَهُوَ الَّذِي ذَرَأَكُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَإِلَيْهِ تُحْشَرُونَ

And it is He Who has created you on the earth, and to Him you shall be gathered back.

وَهُوَ الَّذِي يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ وَلَهُ اخْتِلَافُ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ ۗ أَفَلَا تَعْقِلُونَ

And it is He Who gives life and causes death, and His is the alternation of night and day. Will you not then understand?

بَلْ قَالُوا مِثْلَ مَا قَالَ الْأَوَّلُونَ

Nay, but they say the like of what the men of old said.

قَالُوا إِذَا مِتْنَا وَكُنَّا تُرَابًا وَعِظَامًا أَإِنَّا لَمَبْعُوثُونَ

They said: "When we are dead and have become dust and bones, shall we be resurrected indeed?"

لَقَدْ وَعَدْنَا نَحْنُ وَآبَاؤُنَا هَذَا مِنْ قَبْلُ إِنْ هَذَا إِلَّا أَسَاطِيرُ الْأَوَّلِينَ

"Verily, this we have been promised - we and our fathers before (us)! This is only the tales of the ancients!"

قُلْ لِّمَنْ الْأَرْضُ وَمَنْ فِيهَا إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ

Say: "Whose is the earth and whosoever is therein? If you know!"

سَيَقُولُونَ لِلَّهِ قُلْ أَفَلَا تَذَكَّرُونَ

They will say: "It is Allah's!" Say: "Will you not then remember?"

قُلْ مَنْ رَبُّ السَّمَاوَاتِ السَّبْعِ وَرَبُّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ

Say: "Who is (the) Lord of the seven heavens, and (the) Lord of the Great Throne?"

سَيَقُولُونَ لِلَّهِ قُلْ أَفَلَا تَتَّقُونَ

They will say: "Allah." Say: "Will you not then fear Allah (believe in His Oneness, obey Him, believe in the Resurrection and Recompense for every good or bad deed)?"

قُلْ مَنْ بِيَدِهِ مَلَكُوتُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُوَ يُجِيرُ وَلَا يُجَارُ عَلَيْهِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ



Say "In Whose Hand is the sovereignty of everything (i.e. treasures of each and everything)? And He protects (all), while against Whom there is no protector, (i.e. if Allah saves anyone none can punish or harm him, and if Allah punishes or harms anyone none can save him), if you know?"

سَيَقُولُونَ لِلَّهِ قُلْ فَأَنَّى تُسْحَرُونَ

They will say: "(All that belongs) to Allah." Say: "How then are you deceived and turn away from the truth?"

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the One Who constructed for us hearing and seeing so we may benefit and hearts in order we believe, and this clearly makes us distinct from the animals and cattle.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the One Who scattered us on the earth, but in the end we'll be gathered alone on the Day of Judgement in order we are recompensed for what we did.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the One Who gives life and causes death, and He's the One Who causes the alternation of the day and night. These actions cannot be done by anyone except Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), so will we not understand?
- Though those who disbelieved continued to say what people from before used to say. They said, 'if we're dead and are dust and bones then how can we be resurrected?'. We should be using our mind to increase in faith and not judge Allah's ability. They continue to say 'people talk about it though it's just a story of the past'. If it's a story and legend of the past then how can it be that this life is perfect and precise? Subhan Allah.

- It can't be that we will not be brought back to life with all that we've been given and tested with. Imagine a school that prepares posters, tables, curriculum and sets up the classroom and in the end there's no test; it would be totally unacceptable. And similarly, in this life, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has brought all the ayat around to us in order we believe and we'll be tested for our belief.
- When they're asked, 'to whom does the earth belong to and all that's in it?'. They will say 'Allah', if they know this then why didn't they believe.
- And when they're asked, 'Who's the Lord of the seven heavens and great throne?'. They will say 'Allah', but if this is the case then why don't they have taqwa? Subhan Allah. When a person knows Who's Allah Ar Rabb then he will have taqwa.
- Then say to them, 'in Whose Hands is the Dominion and He protects while no one protects Him?'. They will say, 'Allah' then are they bewitched from believing?

What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Don't use our mind to judge Allah's ability
- Do not make claims of truth without acting on it

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) grant us faith with actions. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 13

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 90 to 98

بَلْ أَتَيْنَاهُم بِالْحَقِّ وَإِنَّهُمْ لَكَاذِبُونَ

Nay, but We have brought them the truth (Islamic Monotheism), and verily, they (disbelievers) are liars.

مَا اتَّخَذَ اللَّهُ مِنْ وَلَدٍ وَمَا كَانَ مَعَهُ مِنْ إِلَهٍ إِذَا أَذْهَبَ كُلُّ إِلَهٍ بِمَا خَلَقَ وَلَعَلَّ بَعْضُهُمْ عَلَىٰ بَعْضٍ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ عَمَّا يُصِفُونَ

No son (or offspring) did Allah beget, nor is there any ilah (god) along with Him. (If there had been many gods), then each god would have taken away what he had created, and some would have tried to overcome others! Glorified be Allah above all that they attribute to Him!

عَالِمِ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ فَتَعَالَىٰ عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ

All-Knower of the unseen and the seen! Exalted be He over all that they associate as partners to Him!

قُلْ رَبِّ إِمَّا تُرِيئَنِي مَا يُوعَدُونَ

Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم): "My Lord! If You would show me that with which they are threatened (torment),

رَبِّ فَلَا تَجْعَلْنِي فِي الْقَوْمِ الظَّالِمِينَ

"My Lord! Then (save me from Your punishment), put me not amongst the people who are the Zalimun (polytheists and wrong-doers)."

وَإِنَّا عَلَىٰ أَنْ نُرِيكَ مَا نَعِدُهُمْ لَقَادِرُونَ



And indeed We are Able to show you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) that with which We have threatened them.

ادْفَعْ بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ السَّيِّئَةِ ۗ نَحْنُ أَعْلَمُ بِمَا يَصِفُونَ

Repel evil with that which is better. We are Best-Acquainted with the things they utter.

وَقُلْ رَبِّ أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ هَمَزَاتِ الشَّيَاطِينِ

And say: "My Lord! I seek refuge with You from the whisperings (suggestions) of the Shayatin (devils).

وَأَعُوذُ بِكَ رَبَّ أَنْ يَحْضُرُونِ

"And I seek refuge with You, My Lord! lest they should come near me."

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) brought the truth to the disbelievers, and there is truthfulness in the news and justice in His legislation. What is the reason for their disbelief? They're liars themselves. Because they don't believe in the resurrection, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) brings forth logical evidence. Surely He didn't take a son nor is there another god because had there been another god then each would take what he created. And looking at this perfectly operating universe, it's not possible to have two gods, but only One. Despite all this, a believer doesn't need logical proof but believes in the news which Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) brings forth.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) negates all imperfection from Himself and all of which they're ascribing. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the All-Knower of the Unseen and Apparent. He's above all of which they're associating with.



- They've been promised to be punished as a result of their lies despite evidence being shown to them. Though the believers who submitted are promised of glad tidings. And whenever the believers hear of punishment, they ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to protect them because when the punishment comes, it can include everybody. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) protect us and save us from any punishment. Ameen.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is able to make us see the punishment but He delays it and when it's delayed, there's wisdom behind it, even though they deserve the punishment. Eventually the punishment befell the disbelievers while in battle and not in Makkah while the believers were there.
- A person should push away the evil with good and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) knows of what they're ascribing. As for the shayateen, a person seeks refuge with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) from their evil and their presence.

What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Believe in the ayat
- Ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) protection from the punishment and from the presence of the shayateen

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) save us from the punishment. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 14

Date: 13 September 2018 / 03 Muharram 1440

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 99 to 108

حَتَّىٰ إِذَا جَاءَ أَحَدَهُمُ الْمَوْتُ قَالَ رَبِّ ارْجِعُونِ

Until, when death comes to one of them (those who join partners with Allah), he says: "My Lord! Send me back,

لَعَلِّي أَعْمَلُ صَالِحًا فِيمَا تَرَكْتُ ۚ كَلَّا ۚ إِنَّهَا كَلِمَةٌ هُوَ قَائِلُهَا وَمِنْ وَرَائِهِمْ بَرْزَخٌ إِلَىٰ يَوْمِ يُبْعَثُونَ

"So that I may do good in that which I have left behind!" No! It is but a word that he speaks; and behind them is Barzakh (a barrier) until the Day when they will be resurrected.

فَإِذَا نُفِخَ فِي الصُّورِ فَلَا أَنْسَابَ بَيْنَهُمْ يَوْمَئِذٍ وَلَا يَتَسَاءَلُونَ

Then, when the Trumpet is blown, there will be no kinship among them that Day, nor will they ask of one another.

فَمَنْ ثَقُلَتْ مَوَازِينُهُ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

Then, those whose scales (of good deeds) are heavy, they are the successful.

وَمَنْ خَفَّتْ مَوَازِينُهُ فَأُولَٰئِكَ الَّذِينَ خَسِرُوا أَنفُسَهُمْ فِي جَهَنَّمَ خَالِدُونَ

And those whose scales (of good deeds) are light, they are those who lose their ownelves, in Hell will they abide.

تَلْفَحُ وُجُوهُهُمُ النَّارُ وَهُمْ فِيهَا كَالِحُونَ

The Fire will burn their faces, and therein they will grin, with displaced lips (disfigured).

أَلَمْ تَكُنْ آيَاتِي تُتْلَىٰ عَلَيْكُمْ فَكُنْتُمْ بِهَا تُكَذِّبُونَ

"Were not My Verses (this Qur'an) recited to you, and then you used to deny them?"

قَالُوا رَبَّنَا غَلَبَتْ عَلَيْنَا شِقْوَتُنَا وَكُنَّا قَوْمًا ضَالِّينَ

They will say: "Our Lord! Our wretchedness overcame us, and we were (an) erring people.

رَبَّنَا أَخْرِجْنَا مِنْهَا فَإِنْ عُدْنَا فَإِنَّا ظَالِمُونَ

"Our Lord! Bring us out of this. If ever we return (to evil), then indeed we shall be Zalimun: (polytheists, oppressors, unjust, and wrong-doers)."

قَالَ احْسَبُوا فِيهَا وَلَا تُكَلِّمُونِ

He (Allah) will say: "Remain you in it with ignominy! And speak you not to Me!"

- When the agony of death comes to the one who failed in life, he will regret and say, 'my Lord let me return back'. He will see the evil of his deeds and his final destination. At the time of his death is when he 'wakes up', unlike the believer who had feelings throughout his life.
- This should remind us when we wake-up in the morning, it's another chance for us to do good. Faith is knowledge and actions, and not just information. The successful ones are the ones who are full of feelings, they believe, and for this reason they do not delay in doing goods.
- In this life, there's still a chance to return back but at the time of death there's no return. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) had decided no one will come back to the earth after dying.



- Despite them saying, 'I'll go back and do good', Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) says 'it's just a word they're saying'; it's just a claim.
- After death and before the Day of Judgement is the barzakh, either there will be delight or punishment.
- When the Trumpet is blown there will be no relation between anyone. All the means and connections are cut-off, and no one will ask about the other. Everyone will flee from his parents, spouses and children on the Day of Judgment because no one cares for the other due to the fear on that Day.
- It's important we put the presence of the Day of Judgment in front of us because the moment there's absence of it then the person will transgress and cross his boundaries.
- Anyone who's weight is light then he's lost himself and his family. Life for the disbelievers in the hereafter is forever failure and regret. It's important that we ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to increase us in faith and purify us.
- Their faces will be burned first, astaghfar Allah, and the fire will go to the rest of their body and limbs. These details are to make us aware there's a real hellfire ahead.
- What will be said to them? 'Were Allah's ayat not recited upon you?'. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) brought universal and legislated ayat to them but they disbelieved in them.
- After hearing this they say, 'our wretchedness has overcome us' – they admit to their transgression. Wretchedness and misery come as a result of not doing what one is supposed to. They left what benefitted them and did what harmed them and confess they were misguided.

- All of their feelings come while they're in the hellfire, but it's too late then, subhan Allah. They call on Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) then but not in life.
- They request to be taken out and admit to their wrong, but Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) knows they're liars. He'll say to them (اخْسُؤُوا) – these are the worst words one can hear from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), astaghfar Allah. When the Most Merciful says 'do not talk to me again' then this is the worse. Even the word (اخْسُؤُوا) is said to dogs. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us to never hear this. Ameen.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) gave them many chances but they're the ones who disbelieved.

What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Put the akhira in front of us
- Belief in the ayat
- Have a present heart with feelings while still alive

May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) increase us in faith. Ameen.



Visionary Journey to Firdaous Al 'Ala

Gems from Surah Al Mu'minoon – Day 15

Date: 14 September 2018 / 04 Muharram 1440

Surah Al Mu'minoon Ayat 109 to 118

إِنَّهُ كَانَ فَرِيقٌ مِّنْ عِبَادِي يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا آمَنَّا فَاغْفِرْ لَنَا وَارْحَمْنَا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرَّاحِمِينَ

Verily there was a party of My slaves, who used to say: "Our Lord! We believe, so forgive us, and have mercy on us, for You are the Best of all who show mercy!"

فَاتَّخَذْتُمُوهُمْ سِخْرِيًّا حَتَّىٰ أَنْسَوَكُمُ ذِكْرِي وَكُنْتُمْ مِنْهُمْ تَضَحَكُونَ

But you took them for a laughing stock, so much so that they made you forget My Remembrance while you used to laugh at them!

إِنِّي جَزَيْتُهُمُ الْيَوْمَ بِمَا صَبَرُوا أَنَّهُمْ هُمُ الْفَائِزُونَ

Verily I have rewarded them this Day for their patience: they are indeed the ones that are successful.

قَالَ كَمْ لَبِئْتُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ عَدَدَ سِنِينَ

He (Allah) will say: "What number of years did you stay on earth?"

قَالُوا لَبِئْنَا يَوْمًا أَوْ بَعْضَ يَوْمٍ فَاسْأَلِ الْعَادِينَ

They will say: "We stayed a day or part of a day. Ask of those who keep account."

قَالَ إِنْ لَبِئْتُمْ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا لَّوْ أَنْتُمْ كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ

He (Allah) will say: "You stayed not but a little, if you had only known!

أَفَحَسِبْتُمْ أَنَّمَا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ عَبَثًا وَأَنْتُمْ إِلَيْنَا لَا تُرْجَعُونَ

"Did you think that We had created you in play (without any purpose), and that you would not be brought back to Us?"

فَتَعَالَى اللَّهُ الْمَلِكُ الْحَقُّ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ رَبُّ الْعَرْشِ الْكَرِيمِ



So Exalted be Allah, the True King: La ilaha illa Huwa (none has the right to be worshipped but He), the Lord of the Supreme Throne!

وَمَنْ يَدْعُ مَعَ اللَّهِ إِلَهًا آخَرَ لَا بُرْهَانَ لَهُ بِهِ فَإِنَّمَا حِسَابُهُ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِ إِنَّهُ لَا يُفْلِحُ الْكَافِرُونَ

And whoever invokes (or worships), besides Allah, any other ilah (god), of whom he has no proof; then his reckoning is only with his Lord. Surely! Al-Kafirun (the disbelievers in Allah and in the Oneness of Allah, polytheists, pagans, idolaters) will not be successful.

وَقُلْ رَبِّ اغْفِرْ وَارْحَمْ وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرَّاحِمِينَ

And say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم): "My Lord! Forgive and have mercy, for You are the Best of those who show mercy!"

- In life it's not about when or how we start but it's about how we end. Towards the end of the Surah is the dua of the believers.
- In life the believers would make dua and the disbelievers would make fun of them, until they forgot Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) thus depriving themselves of mercy, subhan Allah.
- In general we need to worry about ourselves and increase our faith, not mock or humiliate others. As for the disbelievers, their focus is only others and engaging in matters which makes them forget Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- There's a group of Allah's Slaves who would say (رَبَّنَا آمَنَّا فَاغْفِرْ لَنَا وَارْحَمْنَا) ("Our Lord! We believe, so forgive us, and have mercy on us, for You are the Best of all who show mercy!"). Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) doesn't speak to the disbelievers because of what they did to the believers. And this shows the more one believes, the more position and protection He will have from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).



- The believers are asking for forgiveness and mercy; they ask for forgiveness in order to be protected from the hellfire and mercy to bring all the good deeds and enter firdaous.
- There are three matters:
 - Heart (القلب): belief
 - Tongue (اللسان): making dua
 - Limbs / deeds (الجوارح الأعمال): Allah's action which is making it easy for the believers to act and do good deeds
- In between belief and deeds, the believers are making dua and this is what bothers the disbelievers, subhan Allah. They made the believers a subject of mockery, targeted them and irritated them, though the believers are only focusing on themselves.
- If we make fun of anyone then we will only harm ourselves in the end because it will cause us to forget Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). The believers are constantly in the mind of the disbelievers and this makes the disbelievers forget Allah's remembrance.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will reward the believers for what they were patient on from worships, obedience and from the mockery of the disbelievers.
- The believers will not insult, harm or scold the people and when they hear harm from others then they're patient.
- The disbelievers will be asked how long they stayed on earth, and they will say 'we stayed for a day or some days'. They wasted their life making fun of the believers and this will only cause more regret.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) then tells them, 'you stayed only for a little if you only knew'. It's not about how long a person stayed in this life but what he

did with his time. A person might have lived twenty years and reached an achievement of sixty years, while the people of Nuh (عليه السلام) were there for more than 950 and didn't achieve anything.

- Do they think they were created in vain? If they didn't get that they were not created in vain, then they will know it on the Day of Judgment. As for the believers, it will be not be a shock for them on the Day of Judgement because they already knew they were not created in vain, but to worship Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- On the Day of Judgement, all questions will be answered, all mysteries will be solved and everything will be known. Exalted is Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – The King The Truth – Whom the disbelievers insulted His wisdom, astaghfar Allah.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the Lord of the Honorable Throne and we are all under Allah's nurturing, though the disbelievers didn't accept the nurturing so they are in the hellfire while the believers were happy to receive the nurturing.
- The Throne is the greatest creation and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is taking care of it, so what about anything else below it? Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) reforms the believers to be believers and attain firdaous al 'ala.
- There should be no shirk inside and no shirk outside. There's no proof to invoke anything besides Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and He will account those who did it. No one can account them except their Rabb, so it's important we focus on ourselves.
- The final ayah is a special command to the Prophet Mohammed (صلى الله عليه وسلم) who is the leader of the believers. He's to say, 'My Rabb, forgive, have mercy and You're the best of those who show mercy'.



The final part of Surah Al Mu'minoon is connecting us to the mercy of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

- The believers are full of feelings towards Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and not wasting their time arguing with people. They don't depend on themselves but depend on Allah The Most Merciful.

What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Make dua to Allah asking him: Our Rabb forgive us and have mercy on us for You are the best who show mercy.
- Focus on yourself and do not mock others
- The believer is one who believes, makes dua and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) helps him to do good deeds.

This is the end of Surah Al Mu'minoon. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) accept from us, help us to apply what we learned, and grant us firdaous al 'ala. May Allah forgive us, have mercy on us, verily He is the best of those who show mercy. Ameen.

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