



مدارج السالكين

PATH OF THE TRAVELLER

All praises are due to Allah. Anything good is from Allah and any mistakes are from ourselves and the shaitan. May Allah forgive us.



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

مدارج السالكين PATH OF THE TRAVELLER

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PATH OF THE TRAVELLER (مدارج السالكين)
YOU ALONE WE WORSHIP AND YOU ALONE
WE ASK FOR HELP (إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ)

SURAH AT TARIQ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

1

وَالسَّمَاءِ وَالطَّارِقِ

By the sky and the night comer -

2

وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا الطَّارِقُ

And what can make you know what is the night
comer?

3

النَّجْمُ الثَّاقِبُ

It is the piercing star -

4

إِنَّ كُلَّ نَفْسٍ لَّمَّا عَلَيْهَا حَافِظٌ

There is no soul but that it has over it a protector.

5

فَلْيَنْظُرِ الْإِنْسَانُ مِمَّ خُلِقَ

So let man observe from what he was created.

6

خُلِقَ مِنْ مَّاءٍ دَافِقٍ

He was created from a fluid, ejected,

7

يَخْرُجُ مِنْ بَيْنِ الصُّلْبِ وَالتَّرَائِبِ

Emerging from between the backbone and the ribs.

8

إِنَّهُ عَلَى رَجْعِهِ لَقَادِرٌ

Indeed, Allah, to return him [to life], is Able.

9

يَوْمَ تُبْلَى السَّرَائِرُ

The Day when secrets will be put on trial,

10

فَمَا لَهُ مِنْ قُوَّةٍ وَلَا نَاصِرٍ

Then man will have no power or any helper.

11

وَالسَّمَاءِ ذَاتِ الرَّجْعِ

By the sky which returns [rain]

12

وَالْأَرْضِ ذَاتِ الصَّدْعِ

And [by] the earth which cracks open,

13

إِنَّهُ لَقَوْلٌ فَصْلٌ

Indeed, the Qur'an is a decisive statement,

14

وَمَا هُوَ بِالْهَزْلِ

And it is not amusement.

15

إِنَّهُمْ يَكِيدُونَ كَيْدًا

Indeed, they are planning a plan,

16

وَأَكِيدُ كَيْدًا

But I am planning a plan.

17

فَمَهْلِكُ الْكَافِرِينَ أَهْلَهُمْ رُؤِيدًا

So allow time for the disbelievers. Leave them awhile.

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is Al Jameel (The Most Beautiful), He is As Sitteer (The Concealer) and we ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to conceal our faults and beautify us. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is Al Batin – He is The Hidden and He sees all that we hide inside and outside. And He is As Samad – The Most Solid – and He can handle our weaknesses and secrets. We may be concealing shirk, disbelief or ingratitude.
- Sometimes there can be something hammering and piercing inside us for years, but surely Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) knows it and He can remove it.
- Only Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) can handle us and there is no one like Him, He is The All-Hearer, The All-

Seer. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is At Tawwaab and He accepts our repentance, He stretches His Hands to return and repent to Him. And in the way to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), there is truth and falsehood. Falsehood can be hammering and constant, but its effect is not good.

- A question that comes across is to distinguish between the whisper of the shaitan, the whisper of the nafs or nurturing from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). And in the path of the traveler to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), we are following the decree of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and we want to remain on the Straight Path. We want to witness (لا إله إلا الله) and to witness that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is (قائم بالقسط) (maintaining the creation in justice). We do not

want to move based on the “pierced” thoughts we have inside us.

- If there is a thought that is constantly hammering and drilling us, then it will just push us and make us gush like water. It will only be an outer reaction, but it does not reform our heart.
- For example, we may be rude to our children and we do not think anything of it because we assume, “I’m their mother, they’ll love me anyways”. We act as if we guarantee them, though nothing is granted. But what is important is to repent to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and go back to tawheed. And at the same time, we do not want that we end up becoming so conscious and fearful of others that we end up falling into shirk because this is not the solution

either. We have to go to what is solid and fixed and that is (لا إله إلا الله).

- Only Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) knows what is hidden within us and we will be tested with it. And it keeps coming and it splits us, but we ourselves need to go back to tawheed and no shirk. The decisive statement is what Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and the Prophet (ﷺ) said.
- The “piercing” thoughts makes us overreact, so we need to seek forgiveness.
- And when we gush forth and react, we need to return back to tawheed because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) knows what secrets we hide. It is all to purify us.
- The behavior of people and their actions is not decisive because they can do different things.

But what is decisive is Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and He knows what is inside our heart. We want to move on with (لا إله إلا الله) and not move on with the “piercing” thought and justify our sins.

- And right feelings are when we accept the nurturing, return to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and so this splits the heart.
- And when we have tawheed then we can benefit from (قَوْلٌ فَصْلٌ) (decisive statement (the Qur'an)). Sometimes we may be told (قَوْلٌ فَصْلٌ) (decisive statement (the Qur'an)), but we do not focus on our inside by purifying it from shirk, so we still have fear inside.
- Finally, we do not want to go into the phase of plot where we try to hide ourselves, manipulate ourselves and start to overthink.

SURAH AT TARIQ 15 TO 17

15

إِنَّهُمْ يَكِيدُونَ كَيْدًا

Indeed, they are planning a plan,

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فَمَهِّلِ الْكَافِرِينَ أَمْهَلُهُمْ رُوَيْدًا

So allow time for the disbelievers. Leave them
awhile.

◉ We want good input so that we move with
security and not to move with fear.

SURAH AN NOOR 55

وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَيَسْتَخْلِفَنَّهُمْ فِي
الْأَرْضِ كَمَا اسْتَخْلَفَ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ وَلَيُمَكِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ دِينَهُمُ الَّذِي

ارْتَضَى لَهُمْ وَلَيُبَدِّلَنَّهُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا يَعْبُدُونَنِي لَا
يُشْرِكُونَ بِي شَيْئًا وَمَنْ كَفَرَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ

Allah has promised those who have believed
among you and done righteous deeds that He

will surely grant them succession [to authority] upon the earth just as He granted it to those before them and that He will surely establish for them [therein] their religion which He has preferred for them and that He will surely substitute for them, after their fear, security, [for] they worship Me, not associating anything with Me. But whoever disbelieves after that - then those are the defiantly disobedient.

- Falsehood makes us over-react, just as the piercings, but the truth splits falsehood, just like the rain falling from the sky down on the earth. It splits the earth and brings forth vegetation, and this is natural nurturing.

SURAH AL HASHR 21

لَوْ أَنزَلْنَاهُ هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ عَلَىٰ جَبَلٍ لَّرَأَيْتَهُ خَاشِعًا مُّتَصَدِّعًا مِّنْ خَشْيَةِ اللَّهِ ۚ وَتِلْكَ الْأَمْثَالُ نَضْرِبُهَا لِلنَّاسِ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ

If We had sent down this Qur'an upon a mountain, you would have seen it humbled and coming apart from fear of Allah. And these

examples We present to the people that perhaps they will give thought.

- If the Qur'an were to come down on a mountain, it will be humble and splitting, not piercing and overflowing.
- The decree from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is (قَوْلٌ فَصْلٌ) (decisive statement (the Qur'an)), but the comments of others is not (قَوْلٌ فَصْلٌ) (decisive statement (the Qur'an)). If we take people's comments as (قَوْلٌ فَصْلٌ) (decisive statement (the Qur'an)), then we will take on another path, we will just be in fear.
- For something to crack from inside is different than when it overflows from the outside. We want our heart to be split with belief in Allah

(سبحانه وتعالى) and feelings for him, and not to overflow from the outside with anger or tears.

ALLAH FORGIVES ALL SINS

وعن أنس ، رضي الله عنه قال: "سمعت رسول الله ، صلى الله عليه وسلم يقول: "قال الله تعالى: يا ابن آدم، إنك ما دعوتني ورجوتني غفرت لك على ما كان منك ولا أبالي، يا ابن آدم، لو بلغت ذنوبك عنان السماء، ثم استغفرتني غفرت لك ، يا ابن آدم، إنك لو أتيتني بقراب الأرض خطايا، ثم لقيتني لا تشرك به شيئاً، لأتيتك بقرابها مغفرة"

Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said, "Allah, the Exalted, has said: 'O son of Adam, I forgive you as long as you pray to Me and hope for My forgiveness, whatever sins you have committed. O son of 'Adam, I do not care if your sins reach the height of the heaven, then you ask for my forgiveness, I would forgive you. O son of 'Adam, if you come to Me with an earth load of sins, and meet Me associating nothing to Me, I

would match it with an earth load of forgiveness."¹

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) says in the divine hadith that if we come to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) with an earth load of sins, and do not associate with Him, He will expiate all our sins below shirk.
- We are here in this life and the decrees we go through are not for us, but for Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) in order to love Him, believe in Him and single Him out in worship.
- We want constant reminders and constant purification from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

ALLAH LAUGHS AT TWO PEOPLE

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ. "إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَضْحَكُ إِلَى رَجُلَيْنِ يَقْتُلُ أَحَدُهُمَا الْآخَرَ كِلَاهُمَا دَخَلَ الْجَنَّةَ

¹ Riyadh As Saliheen, At Tirmidhi, Book 1, Hadith 442

يُقَاتِلُ هَذَا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَيُسْتَشْهِدُ ثُمَّ يَتُوبُ اللَّهُ عَلَى قَاتِلِهِ
فَيُسْلِمُ فَيُقَاتِلُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَيُسْتَشْهِدُ " .

"The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: 'Allah will laugh at two persons- one of them kills the other, and both of them enter Paradise, for the first one fought in the cause of Allah and was martyred, then his killer repented to Allah and became Muslim, then he also fought in the cause of Allah and was martyred.'"²

○ Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) laughs at two people with one who killed the other in this life, the disbeliever killed the believer, so Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) admitted the believer to paradise and while in this life, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) guided the disbeliever and he believed. And this shows the importance of belief.

○ There is so much disbelief and shirk because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is so kind. He does not threaten

² Sunan Ibn Majah 191

with withholding food or drink, but still brings guidance to everyone. And when anyone returns to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), He will be His Loving Companion.

- When we see the faults of each other then it is good for (لا إله إلا الله) because if we see everyone as perfect then we will attach to others or ourselves, and not Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

ALLAH WILL MAKE THE PATH TO PARADISE EASY FOR THE SEEKER OF KNOWLEDGE

فَإِنِّي سَمِعْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَقُولُ " مَنْ
سَلَكَ طَرِيقًا يَطْلُبُ فِيهِ عِلْمًا سَلَكَ اللَّهُ بِهِ طَرِيقًا مِنْ طُرُقِ
الْجَنَّةِ

He said: I heard the Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) say: If anyone travels on a road in search of knowledge, Allah will cause him to travel on one of the roads of Paradise.³

³ Sunan Abi Dawud 3641, Authenticated by Al Albani as Sahih

- Knowledge makes our life easier because we understand the nurturing of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), and this in turn makes the path easy to paradise.
- In conclusion, when truth comes, the outlet is when the heart cracks. And when falsehood comes, the outlet is the outer with limbs, so the inner is not reformed.

ALLAH AL MUHAYMIN (المهيمن) - THE DOMINATOR

- Allah Al Muhaymin is the Dominator. He should dominate our thoughts, actions on our path to Him.
- This quality can appear in people but this is a dispraised quality. When Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)

dominates us, it is to make us better, for tawheed, to return to Him in honor.

- But when domination is by others, our own selves or our own thoughts it is dispraised and is does not honor us. It belittles us, brings us down, brings sickness of the heart from shirk, disbelief and also brings out bad reactions from outside.
- We want to return back to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) - He is the One dominating us in our lives.
- This Names appears once in Surah Al Hashr -

SURAH AL HASHR 23

هُوَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْمَلِكُ الْقُدُّوسُ السَّلَامُ الْمُؤْمِنُ الْمُهَيْمِنُ
الْعَزِيزُ الْجَبَّارُ الْمُتَكَبِّرُ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ

He is Allah , other than whom there is no deity, the Sovereign, the Pure, the Perfection, the Bestower of Faith, the Overseer, the Exalted in Might, the Compeller, the Superior. Exalted is Allah above whatever they associate with Him.

- Many of the Names in this ayah are where we end up associating with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). We take someone else to dominate us and this is shirk.

SURAH AL MAEDA 48

وَمُهَيِّمًا عَلَيْهِ

and as a criterion over it.

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) also tells us that the Qur'an dominates all other Books and words. The Qur'an is (قَوْلٌ فَصْلٌ) (decisive statement (the Qur'an)). We want to take the Qur'an with strength and not take it as a joke or leave it behind. This will keep our identity as the slave of Allah. Any other kind of domination can take away our reality, make us lose our identity and ourselves. But the Words of Allah elevates us.

- The domination of Allah over the disbelievers is when He sees and watches over them.
- But for the believers, Allah Al Muhaymin dominates them to know Him, to elevate them, to help them to maintain their state of returning back as a slave to Him.
- We want Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to dominate us and His Words to be the Words that fill our hearts.

MAY ALLAH PURIFY US AND MAKE US RETURN TO HIM IN
TAWHEED. AMEEN.

REFERENCES

1. مدارج السالكين - ابن القيم

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

LISTEN TO THE CLASS – FOR WOMEN

<https://vimeopro.com/markazalsalam/path-of-the-traveller>

TO REQUEST ACCESS TO THE RECORDING:

<https://markazalsalam.com/recordings-notes>

CLASS NOTES FOR WOMEN AND MEN

FOR STUDENTS OF KNOWLEDGE, TEACHERS AND DA'EES IN ENGLISH

<https://t.me/markazalsalampublicationsENG>

FOR STUDENTS OF KNOWLEDGE, TEACHERS AND DA'EES IN ARABIC

<https://t.me/markazalsalampublicationsAR>

FOR CHILDREN CLASS NOTES

<https://t.me/dropletsofdew>

FOR BEGINNERS TO ISLAM

<https://t.me/truthfulentry>

