

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ ، نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ
شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ
لَهُ، وَمَنْ يُضِلِّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ. وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ
لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ.

All Praise be to **اللَّهِ** .

We praise him and ask him for help and forgiveness. We ask him for protection from the evilness within ourselves and from our own bad deeds. Whom-so-ever God guides to the truth no one can lead astray, and whom-so-ever He leaves misguided, no one has the power to guide.

I testify that there is no God but **اللَّهِ** to whom there is no partner and I testify that Muhammad **ﷺ** is his servant and messenger

وَأَنْتَقُوا يَوْمًا تُرْجَعُونَ فِيهِ إِلَى اللَّهِ ثُمَّ تُوَفَّى كُلُّ نَفْسٍ مَّا كَسَبَتْ
وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ ﴿٢٨١﴾

“And guard yourselves from the Day when you shall be brought back to Allah. Then every soul shall be paid what it has earned, and none shall be dealt with unjustly” (S2, A281)



إِنَّ الَّذِينَ لَا يَرْجُونَ لِقَاءَنَا وَرَضُوا بِالْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَاطْمَأَنُّوا
بِهَا وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنْ آيَاتِنَا غَافِلُونَ ﴿٧﴾ أُولَٰئِكَ مَا لَهُمْ النَّارُ
بِمَا كَانُوا يَكْسِبُونَ ﴿٨﴾

“And those who do not rest their hope in meeting Allah, and are content with this worldly life and feel secure with it, and those who are neglectful of Our signs. Their shelter will be the Fire because of what they have earned” (S10, A7-8)

Dear brothers and sisters, ASA.

I have recently come across these two ayahs from Surat Younoss, Surat number 10, ayahs 7 and 8. As we read through the translation, these ayahs define for us a type of people who have grown to become content with this worldly life, the life of Dunia.

وَرَضُوا بِالْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا *And are content with this worldly life*

It also defines them as feeling secure within this life.

وَاطْمَأَنُّوا بِهَا *And feel secure with it*

And defines them as those who are oblivious to the signs of their Lord.

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنْ آيَاتِنَا غَافِلُونَ *And those who are neglectful of Our signs*

But then we are warned that these are the ones that will end up suffering the torment of hell fire by what they earn.

أُولَئِكَ مَا لَهُمْ مِنَ النَّارِ

Their shelter will be the Fire

When one looks closely at these two ayahs, we do end up realizing that there is a defined sequence of events with a clear ultimate outcome. Allah is teaching us through these two ayahs as to one of the paths that can ultimately lead to the fire of hell. As Muslims, we believe that Allah is the Creator. We also believe that Allah(SWT) is fully aware of our makeup and we also believe that the Quran is sent as our guidance.

هَذَا بَيَانٌ لِلنَّاسِ وَهُدًى وَمَوْعِظَةٌ لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ ﴿١٣٨﴾

“This is a clear declaration for people, and guidance and an admonition for those who guard themselves, {Al-Mutaqeen}” (S3, A138)

Brothers and sisters, this cannot be any clearer. Allah in his infinite Mercy and Wisdom has sent down His revelations for us and the Quran must be our guide. If we do not feel guided by the Quran, then we need to ask ourselves some serious questions:

- Are we reading the Quran enough?
- Are we contemplating the meanings in this Holy Book?
- Are we giving this guide enough of our time?
- Should we decide to save ourselves, what are we to use as our manual for this life other than the Quran?

The Holy Quran has mentioned many times and described for us those who will be punished on the Day of Judgment. If we are clever enough, every time we come across a mention of those who will face the torment of hell, we need to stop at such an ayah and we need to spend some time understanding how these people came to their ultimate fate. By knowing that, we can only hope to save ourselves.

These two ayahs give us one such example. We therefore need to understand this sequence and by doing so, we can, ISA, plan to avoid falling into this pitfall. Let us therefore go through them again:

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ لَا يَرْجُونَ لِقَاءَنَا وَرَضُوا بِالْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَاطْمَأَنَّنُوا
بِهَا وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنْ آيَاتِنَا غَافِلُونَ ﴿٧﴾ أُولَٰئِكَ مَا لَهُمْ النَّارُ
بِمَا كَانُوا يَكْسِبُونَ ﴿٨﴾

“And those who do not rest their hope in meeting Allah, and are content with this worldly life and feel secure with it, and those who are neglectful of Our signs. Their shelter will be the Fire because of what they have earned” (S10, A7-8)

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ لَا يَرْجُونَ لِقَاءَنَا

And those who do not rest their hope in meeting Allah

Allah(SWT) defines for us a type of people by describing them as “those who have placed no hope in meeting Allah”.

Who would do such a thing? What type of person is he or she that places no hope in meeting Allah(SWT)?

One such person would be someone who does not believe in the existence of Allah altogether and naturally they have no hope in meeting Allah. Another such person would be someone who believes in a concept of a “creator” but does not believe in a day of judgment, and therefore will not put their hopes on meeting their “creator”. As Muslims, we are very clear that these two types clearly do not define us. We, the Muslims, do believe in Allah and do believe in the Day of Judgment. However, before we feel too comfortable, we as Muslims can fall into this category, the category of those who do not place hope in meeting Allah, **by simply choosing to ignore this fact.** There are many Muslims who have ignored the fact that we will ultimately return to their creator. That is where we need to learn our lesson.

There are Muslims who willfully ignore the fact that they will meet Allah on one day, and as such they do not prepare forwards to this inevitable meeting. In doing so, they too will lose hope in meeting Allah.

Then we read from the ayah:

وَرَضُوا بِالْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا

And are content with this worldly life

And they are content with the life of this Dunia. This is a very interesting concept. Allah is coining for us those who do not place hope in meeting Him with those whose ambitions are limited to this life, the life of this Dunia. Does this make sense? Probably it does. If you have no concept of a creator and no concept of a hereafter, inevitably you will come to believe that this life is all you have. This should make absolute sense for us Muslims.

However, I honestly believe that there is a graver twist for us Muslims in these words. I also see the concept that it is inevitable that for those who end up behaving as if this life is all that they care for and is all that they want, even if they are Muslims, then inevitably, they will gradually lose the hope of meeting Allah. Even if they are Muslims.

This is where the lesson is for us Muslims. If a person does not believe in the hereafter, then this is the only life they will be interested in. On the other hand, a Muslim who becomes very much interested in this life, he or she will inevitably lose sight of the hereafter.

So what happens next:

وَأَطْمَأَنُّوا بِهَا

And feel secure with it

Those who chose to be content with the life of Dunia will gradually develop a sense of security. **This is the grave warning.** When one feels secure, it means that they are less concerned and less worried; they become complacent. When one is secure, it is inevitable that they no longer plan forwards in the same manner. Why should they; they feel, after all, secure. But Allah(SWT) quickly tells us that this is only a false sense of security, because the ayah ends by stating:

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنْ آيَاتِنَا غَافِلُونَ

And those who are neglectful of Our signs

And those who are probably oblivious to Our signs. Is it starting to make sense to us? To not have hope in meeting Allah; to accept the comforts of the life of Dunia and be content with them; to have a sense of security; this can only mean one thing; you are oblivious to the signs that Allah has placed for you.

This is one of the questions that I keep asking myself; what are these signs that these people are oblivious to. Am I oblivious to them as well? If so, I am in deep trouble. This is again a serious question. Allah is telling us that by being oblivious to these signs, we are in real danger. We are in danger of falling in love with this Dunia to the extent that we no longer put our hopes in meeting Allah.

One of the things we must do as Muslims is to keep looking for these signs. We must actively seek and understand the signs of Allah(SWT). Creation and evolution are both signs from Allah. As Muslims we see them both and we do not have to ignore one or the other. There are millions upon millions of signs that can only lead us back to Allah. For us to ignore them all can only mean that we are truly and totally blinded by our love and devotion to this life. I am quite sure that a Muslim who seeks to understand the signs of Allah will not let this Dunia take over him to the extent that they no longer wish to meet Allah(SWT).

Having said all, should this worry us at all? Should we worry about not wanting to meet Allah? Well, the answer lies straight away in the next ayah:

أُولَئِكَ مَا لَهُمْ مِنَ النَّارِ

Their shelter will be the Fire

For those, there sheltering abode is the fire of hell. If that is the case, then yes, I need to be worried. We all need to be worried. Just imagine that. The Arabic word for abode used here is “shelter”. What a terrible thought when one realizes that their only shelter is the fire of hell. The final twist then comes, and it tells us the reason why this will be the case:

بِمَا كَانُوا يَكْسِبُونَ

Because of what they have earned

Because of what they have been earning. Allah(SWT) is telling us very clearly that it is not the fact that we placed no hope in meeting Him that will put us directly in hell fire. It is not the “love

of “Dunia” that will put us directly in hell fire either. People will end up in the fire of hell as a consequence of what they have earned.

That is where we have to go back to the beginning of the first ayah to make full sense of this lesson from Allah. By ignoring Allah, by loving this Dunia and by making it our secure and lovely home and by ignoring the signs of Allah, we will ultimately deviate from the straight path and we will ultimately transgress. The love of this Dunia demands greed, the love of this Dunia demands selfishness, it demands taking and not giving, it demands fulfilling all your dreams without considering the dreams of others, it demands living for today, and so on and so forth.

Do we see it now brothers and sisters. A simple lesson. To love this life of Dunia, to the extent that this is where you feel your security lies, this can only lead you away from the path to Allah and put you on the path to the fire of hell.

أقول قولي هذا وأستغفر الله لي و لكم

2nd Khutbah:

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ ثُمَّ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ . الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شَرِّهِ
أَنْفُسِنَا وَسَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا . أَمَا بَعْدُ :

Brothers and sisters, Allah wants us to enjoy this life, but not at the expense of the hereafter. Allah wants us to enjoy both. We need to be guided by Allah, and it is only through His guide that we can progress safely and securely. Allah(SWT) describes the one who is guided by Allah as one who walks with a shining light ahead of him that makes him progress with confidence and with security.

أَوْ مَن كَانَ مَيِّتًا فَأَحْيَيْنَاهُ وَجَعَلْنَا لَهُ نُورًا يَمْشِي
بِهِ فِي النَّاسِ كَمَن مَّثَلَهُ فِي الظُّلْمَاتِ لَيْسَ بِخَارِجٍ
مِّنْهَا

“Can he who was dead, and to whom We gave life, and set for him a shining light whereby he can walk amongst people, be compared to the one who is in the depths of darkness, from which he can never emerge“ (S6, A122)

The message for today is clear. Get closer to the Holy Quran. Do not close your eyes and hearts to the signs of Allah. We need to better our understanding of Islam and edge towards Allah, and hopefully Allah(SWT) will bring us back to life and guide us like those who have been blessed with the guiding light. We end this Khutbah with a familiar warning:

وَاتَّقُوا يَوْمًا تُرْجَعُونَ فِيهِ إِلَى اللَّهِ ثُمَّ تُوَفَّى كُلُّ نَفْسٍ مَّا كَسَبَتْ
وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ ﴿٢٨١﴾

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