

And They are Certain of the Hereafter

November 23, 2017

Surah Kahf, especially the first ten ayaat, is protection against Dajjal. Today, we will look at combining Surah Kahf with the chapter of softening the heart.

Why do we need the heart to be soft?. If the heart is hard, then we don't do amal because we don't believe in the aakhirah. It is attached to the dunya and its desires. We then use our time and health for dunya instead of the aakhirah.

We should be in the dunya like a stranger or a traveler and what prevents this? We think we're going to live for a long time. When we reach the age of 60, then we have no excuse. We must know the difference between right from wrong from the experience we've had.

Also, it is in human nature that the older we grow, we become more attached to the dunya and we have greater hope that our lives will be longer. We have to struggle to do that which is contrary to our nature, otherwise we find ourselves more attached to the dunya. We have to struggle against ourselves to do good, and not assume that we have a lot of time left.

Success is knowledge to understand and reminders. These two things together are like a sword and will cut through love for the dunya. Without reminders, and only knowledge, it is easy to lose ourselves in dunya again.

When Bukhari placed this chapter here, scholars looked for a connection between reaching the age of 60 and the knowledge of right and wrong. He also placed a chapter about doing deeds for the sake of Allah SWT.

The first hadith is where Nabi SAW said that:

1. Anyone who comes on the Day of Judgement who said laa ilaha il Allah
2. Seeking the pleasure of Allah SWT
3. Hellfire will be forbidden on him

This hadith is about the virtues of la ilaha il Allah. It might be that when someone reaches 60, he might lose hope. This hadith is about hope, that if you say laa ilaha il Allah, sincerely for the sake of Allah SWT, then you will enter Jannah. It doesn't talk about deeds like fasting, praying and so on but just speech, just saying laa ilaha il Allah!

The best dhikr is laa ilaha il Allah, so heavy on the scale, and shaytan makes it hard for us to say it. He will make us say things with less reward of course! Even in the morning/evening adhkaar, we often overlook saying laa ilaha il Allah wahdahu la shareeka lahu, la hul mulk wa hua ala kulli shai'in qadeer. If we make ourselves repeat this often, then it will be easy for us to

say it at the time of death, inshaAllah. The Hellfire will be forbidden from even touching us, not just being in it forever.

The next hadith is about when someone close dies. Nabi SAW said there is no reward for this person who loses someone close to him, his children, or someone he loves, then it is like a wakeup call and if this person stays patient then there will be paradise for him. And of course, this is for the mumins, the believers.

Allah SWT, in this case, makes the believer remember the akhirah. He tries to be content and pleased with Allah SWT, and he is being patient. This reminder will be strongest right after the death, but then with time, it reduces. There might be reminders of their relationship everywhere, but he remains patient. Allah SWT will then give him paradise.

Death close to us is the biggest reminder to bring us back on track, to seeking Allah's Pleasure. Allah SWT is The Most Merciful and He doesn't want to be angry with us, He wants our attachment to Him. We should increase our good deeds, and do them because we want to do it for the sake of Allah SWT. There will be people who will be dragged to paradise through difficult decrees but we should willingly pray, and fast and do good deeds for His Love and Pleasure and paradise, inshaAllah.