

الحياة الشفافة

The Transparent Life

The good life is for the one who believes in Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) and does righteous good deeds based on his faith.

مَنْ عَمِلَ صَالِحًا مِّنْ ذَكَرٍ أَوْ أُنْثَىٰ وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ فَلَنُحْيِيَنَّهٗ حَيَاةً طَيِّبَةً

Whoever works righteousness, whether male or female, while he (or she) is a true believer (of Islamic Monotheism) verily, to him We will give a good life (in this world with respect, contentment and lawful provision), (Surah An Nahl 16:97)

What does it mean to live a transparent life?

The word الطيب من الصفاء و الوضوح (الطيب من الصفاء و الوضوح).

Transparency is an important value in all spheres of life. For example, at work, employees need to be transparent with their employers and vice versa. At the same time, to be transparent does not mean to be rude to others or expose ones faults- there should be a control. If one is extremely clear, it is dispraised because it can create more problems and issues.

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) made it clear to us.

وَاللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُم مِّنْ بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ شَيْئًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَارَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

And Allah has brought you out from the wombs of your mothers while you know nothing. And He gave you hearing, sight, and hearts that you might give thanks (to Allah). (Surah An Nahl 16:78)

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) made it very clear and transparent to us why He gave us the blessings of hearing, sight and hearts- they are for us to be grateful to Him. To be grateful for these blessings is to use them to do what pleases Him and not what displeases Him.

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) gave humans eloquence

خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ (3) عَلَّمَهُ الْبَيَانَ (4)

He created man. He taught him eloquent speech. (Surah Ar Rahman 55:3,4)

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) gave us this important characteristic to express and be transparent. People express what is hidden inside through different ways- by speech, drawing, actions, sign language and body language.

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) made our job clear to us

وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ

And I (Allah) created not the jinns and humans except they should worship Me (Alone).

Allah brought us in this life, gave us tools of eloquence and He made our job clear in our life which is to worship Him.

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) opened hearts to Islam

أَفَمَنْ شَرَحَ اللَّهُ صَدْرَهُ لِلْإِسْلَامِ فَهُوَ عَلَى نُورٍ مِّن رَّبِّهِ فَوَيْلٌ
لِّلْقَاسِيَةِ قُلُوبُهُم مِّن ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ أُولَئِكَ فِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

Is he whose breast Allah has opened to Islam, so that he is in light from His Lord (as he who is non-Muslim)? So, woe to those whose hearts are hardened against remembrance of Allah! They are in plain error! (Surah Az Zumar 23)

The one whose heart Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) opened to Islam, he will live a transparent life. The one who doesn't know his role in life, he is not clear. When one's heart is opened to Islam, the one who accepted it, he will have a clear and transparent life and he can see and understand things. On the other hand, the one whose heart is not opened to Islam, is stiff and not surrendering so he will not understand.

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) will recompense you with transparency on the Day of Judgement

يَوْمَئِذٍ يُؤْفِكِهِمُ اللَّهُ دِينَهُمُ الْحَقَّ وَيَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْحَقُّ الْمُبِينُ

On that Day Allah will pay them the recompense of their deeds in full, and they will know that Allah, He is the Manifest Truth. (Surah An Noor 25)

A single good deed will not be hidden. Your book of record will be very transparent- everything is recorded and not a single good deed is missing. The one who does a little bad deed will see it and one who does a single good deed will see it. On the Day of Judgment Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) will recompose them in full. On the Day of Judgment all will know that Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) is الحق المبين.

We need to be clear and transparent with Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) because He clarified everything to us and He knows everything- what we think and feel. He sees, hears and knows everything. The hypocrites are not transparent.

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) is the Truth

- His News is the Truth

He told us about Angels, Yajuj and Majuj- all the news He tells is the truth. He doesn't tell us what we don't need to know.

- His Speech is the Truth

There is no faults. Everything is so clear and transparent.

- His legislations and rules is the Truth

Everything Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) taught us from the Qur'an and Sunnah- about prayer, fasting, etc. is all truth.

- His Promises is the Truth

- The Meeting with Him is the Truth

ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْحَقُّ وَأَنَّ مَا يَدْعُونَ مِن دُونِهِ هُوَ الْبَاطِلُ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْكَبِيرُ

That is because Allah He is the Truth (the only True God of all that exists, Who has no partners or rivals with Him), and what they (the polytheists) invoke besides Him, it is Batil (falsehood) And verily, Allah He is the Most High, the Most Great.

Everything you go through in your journey of life is to show you that He is the Truth. Anyone else they invoke other than Him is fake.

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) is Al Mubeen

He is the Truth and He is the Most Clear. Our lives will be transparent when we believe in Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) - الحق المبين. Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) makes the way of guidance clear to His slave. He created us and made our way clear to us. He did not neglect us. He sent us messengers to show us the way. The one who obeys the messengers will enter paradise and one who disobeys the messengers will enter Hellfire.

Sometimes people indulge in unnecessary details while neglecting main issues under guise of transparency. For example, a servant broke something in the house and instead of confessing, she goes on an on speaking about something else, neglecting the main issue. This is not real transparency. A person may go into details of unimportant matters, using it as a trick to hide what is actually important. Excessive use of social media, sharing unnecessary and irrelevant details of ones' life like when he woke up, what he ate, what he did, where he went... all of this is a waste of time and not real transparency.

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) made the righteous good deeds clear to us
Not only did Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) make the way of guidance clear, He also made it clear to us what are the deeds that can take us to Paradise. He told us the good deeds and its reward- good manners is heavy on the scale, prayer is light, fasting is a guard. Everything is so clear so we will not be lost about what we should do.

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) gave us a clear timetable- there is day and night, 5 daily prayers, morning evening supplications, remembrance for sleeping and waking up. He also gave us a weekly timetable- the Friday congregational prayer, reading Surah Al Kahf, sending blessings on the Prophet (ﷺ), making dua in the last hour of Friday. He also made clear to us the seasonal worships like Ramadan, Dhul Hijjah, Muharram, sacred months. Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) made our life transparent, telling us our job and what exactly we need to do. He did not leave us to do whatever we want to do. He made everything clear for us.

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) made the sins clear for us to abstain from it.
He told us adultery, drinking alcohol, dealing with riba, backbiting, thinking bad, spying, slandering- are all bad deeds. He tells us in details from the sins of the heart like showing off and thinking bad to sins of the tongue and limbs. Imagine a friend tells you all the good things but does not tell you the things that are harmful to you. Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) is making everything clear to us in detail



This is a good clear life like a crystal. Transparency is not in knowing the secrets of others but real transparency is to know our main task in life. This way one will not be occupied with unnecessary matters.

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) is Al Haqq Al Mubeen

He sent down His Book

تِلْكَ آيَاتُ الْكِتَابِ الْمُبِينِ

These are the Verses of the manifest Book [this Quran, which was promised by Allah in the Taurat (Torah) and the Injeel (Gospel), makes things clear]. (Surat Ash-Shu'ara' 26:2)

The Qur'an is clear. Even if one doesn't understand the language, believe in Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) that the Qur'an is clear. The only reason for not understanding is because I am not clear with Him and not repenting to Him. Two people may listen to the same ayat, one will understand it and the other does not. Understanding is because of the one listening and not about the Qur'an itself. Be clear and transparent with Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) and He will make His ayat clear for you.

If one is clear, honest, and has a crystal clear heart with Allah (سبحانه و تعالی), then His ayat will be clear to you. The clarity of the Qur'an gives you clarity to live in life.

How to be transparent with Allah (سبحانه و تعالی)?

Make your intention only for
Allah (سبحانه و تعالی)

and think good about Him
and clear out all the doubts.

These two matters makes you very clear with Allah (سبحانه و تعالی). In addition, polish your crystal clear heart with repentance. When we buy a diamond ornament from the shop it will be shiny but with time it loses its shine and it needs to be polished constantly. Our heart is like a clear crystal that needs the polishing of repentance. The children have clear crystal hearts so they quickly absorb and understand matters, but with time the smoke of doubts can make it lose its shine.

If there is no transparency, I will not see the truth so I cannot understand the Qur'an nor can I understand life. If the intention is not for Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) and if one is thinking bad, he cannot be transparent and he cannot shine like a crystal.

The Messengers and warners are clear

قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّمَا أَنَا لَكُمْ نَذِيرٌ مُّبِينٌ

Say (O Muhammad SAW): "O mankind! I am (sent) to you only as a plain warner."
(Surah Al Hajj 22:49)

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) commanded the Prophet (ﷺ) to say this and make it clear that he is a warner to us. In his first speech to the public he called all his people and clearly told them- "If I warn you behind this mountain there is an army ready to attack you, will you believe me?". They said for sure we will believe you even if we don't see it because you are the truthful one. He tested them first. Then the Prophet (ﷺ) told them- "I am a plain Warner to you before a severe punishment."

The first meeting between Jibreel and the Prophet (ﷺ) was straight, clear and to the point- "Read!". This is real transparency because it is setting up the transparency. Transparency is to say important things to the point, clearly but gently- this is how to hit the bullseye. Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) is Al Mubeen, His messengers are clear and His message is clear. It is important to warn people because we don't know what can happen tomorrow.

لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ قَدْ تَبَيَّنَ الرُّشْدُ مِنَ الْغَيِّ فَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِالطَّاغُوتِ
وَيُؤْمِن بِاللَّهِ فَقَدِ اسْتَمْسَكَ بِالْعُرْوَةِ الْوُثْقَىٰ لَا انفِصَامَ لَهَا وَاللَّهُ
سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ

There is no compulsion in religion. Verily, the Right Path has become distinct from the wrong path. Whoever disbelieves in Taghut and believes in Allah, then he has grasped the most trustworthy handhold that will never break. And Allah is All-Hearer, All-Knower.
(Surah Al Baqarah 2:256)

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) made the guidance and clear path so clear to us- there is no compulsion. Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) makes this so clear for us. You cannot force religion on others. We need to feel it, then adopt and practice it and then it will show on you. Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) makes it clear who are the believers and the successful ones. The one who negates the idols and affirms the Oneness of Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) is the one who is really holding on to the rope of Allah (سبحانه و تعالی).

What is the impact of everything being clear in life?

We need to be transparent not for our own selves but for the Pleasure of Allah (سبحانه و تعالی).

- لعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ in order that you may understand

كَذَٰلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ آيَاتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ

Thus Allah makes clear His Ayat (Laws) to you, in order that you may understand.
(Surah Al Baqarah 2:242)

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) made His ayat clear for us to understand. We want to transparent in order for all to understand. The Prophet (ﷺ) made it clear to the sahaba when they saw him in the night with his wife and clarified to them because shaithan flows in the veins of the people.

- لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَفَكَّرُونَ in order that you may give thought

يَسْأَلُونَكَ عَنِ الْخَمْرِ وَالْمَيْسِرِ قُلْ فِيهِمَا إِثْمٌ كَبِيرٌ وَمَنَافِعُ لِلنَّاسِ
وَإِثْمُهُمَا أَكْبَرُ مِنْ نَفْعِهِمَا وَيَسْأَلُونَكَ مَاذَا يُنْفِقُونَ قُلِ الْعَفْوَ
كَذَٰلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ الْآيَاتِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَفَكَّرُونَ

They ask you (O Muhammad SAW) concerning alcoholic drink and gambling. Say: "In them is a great sin, and (some) benefit for men, but the sin of them is greater than their benefit." And they ask you what they ought to spend. Say: "That which is beyond your needs." Thus Allah makes clear to you His Laws in order that you may give thought." (Surah Al Baqarah 2:219)

- لَعَلَّهُمْ يَتَّقُونَ that they may be cautious

أَجَلَ لَكُمْ لَيْلَةَ الصَّيَامِ الرَّفْتُ إِلَى نِسَائِكُمْ هُنَّ لِبَاسٌ لَكُمْ وَأَنْتُمْ لِبَاسٌ لَهُنَّ عَلِمَ اللَّهُ أَنْكُمْ كُنْتُمْ تَخْتَانُونَ أَنْفُسَكُمْ فَتَابَ عَلَيْكُمْ وَعَفَا عَنْكُمْ فَالآنَ بَاشِرُوهُنَّ وَابْتَغُوا مَا كَتَبَ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ وَكُلُوا وَاشْرَبُوا حَتَّى يَتَبَيَّنَ لَكُمُ الْخَيْطُ الْأَبْيَضُ مِنَ الْخَيْطِ الْأَسْوَدِ مِنَ الْفَجْرِ ثُمَّ أَتِمُّوا الصَّيَامَ إِلَى اللَّيْلِ وَلَا تُبَاشِرُوهُنَّ وَأَنْتُمْ عَاكِفُونَ فِي الْمَسَاجِدِ تِلْكَ حُدُودُ اللَّهِ فَلَا تَقْرَبُوهَا كَذَلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ آيَاتِهِ لِلنَّاسِ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَتَّقُونَ

It is made lawful for you to have sexual relations with your wives on the night of As-Saum (the fasts). They are Libas [i.e. body cover, or screen, or Sakan, (i.e. you enjoy the pleasure of living with her - as in Verse 7:189) Tafsir At-Tabari], for you and you are the same for them. Allah knows that you used to deceive yourselves, so He turned to you (accepted your repentance) and forgave you. So now have sexual relations with them and seek that which Allah has ordained for you (offspring), and eat and drink until the white thread (light) of dawn appears to you distinct from the black thread (darkness of night), then complete your Saum (fast) till the nightfall. And do not have sexual relations with them (your wives) while you are in l'tikaf (i.e. confining oneself in a mosque for prayers and invocations leaving the worldly activities) in the mosques. These are the limits (set) by Allah, so approach them not. Thus does Allah make clear His Ayat (proofs, evidences, lessons, signs, revelations, verses, laws, legal and illegal things, Allah's set limits, orders, etc.) to mankind that they may become Al-Muttaqun (Surah Al Baqarah 2:187)

Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) made it clear to the people in order to make us cautious and pious. If Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) will not make it clear to me, be careful, there is danger here- then how can I be cautious about it? Allah told us details of shaithan, dajjal and so much evil in order for us to be cautious about it.

- لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ that you may be guided

وَاعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا وَاذْكُرُوا نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ إِذْ كُنْتُمْ أَعْدَاءً فَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِكُمْ فَأَصْبَحْتُمْ بِنِعْمَتِهِ إِخْوَانًا وَكُنْتُمْ عَلَى شَفَا حُفْرَةٍ مِنَ النَّارِ فَأَنْقَذَكُمْ مِنْهَا كَذَلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ آيَاتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ

And hold fast, all of you together, to the Rope of Allah (i.e. this Quran), and be not divided among yourselves, and remember Allah's Favour on you, for you were enemies one to another but He joined your hearts together, so that, by His Grace, you became brethren (in Islamic Faith), and you were on the brink of a pit of Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus Allah makes His Ayat (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc..) clear to you, that you may be guided. (Surah Ale Imran 3:103)

- لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ that you may be grateful

لَا يُؤَاخِذُكُمُ اللَّهُ بِاللَّغْوِ فِي أَيْمَانِكُمْ وَلَكِنْ يُؤَاخِذُكُمْ بِمَا عَقَّدْتُمُ
الْأَيْمَانَ فَكَفَّارَتُهُ إِطْعَامُ عَشْرَةِ مَسَاكِينَ مِنْ أَوْسَطِ مَا تُطْعَمُونَ
أَهْلِيكُمْ أَوْ كِسْوَتُهُمْ أَوْ تَحْرِيرُ رَقَبَةٍ فَمَنْ لَمْ يَجِدْ فَصِيَامُ ثَلَاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ
ذَلِكَ كَفَّارَةٌ أَيْمَانِكُمْ إِذَا حَلَفْتُمْ وَاحْفَظُوا أَيْمَانَكُمْ كَذَلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ
لَكُمْ آيَاتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

Allah will not punish you for what is unintentional in your oaths, but He will punish you for your deliberate oaths; for its expiation (a deliberate oath) feed ten Masakin (poor persons), on a scale of the average of that with which you feed your own families; or clothe them; or manumit a slave. But whosoever cannot afford (that), then he should fast for three days. That is the expiation for the oaths when you have sworn. And protect your oaths (i.e. do not swear much). Thus Allah make clear to you His Ayat (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) that you may be grateful. (Surah Al Maeda 3:89)

Be transparent with Allah (سبحانه و تعالی) and He will make everything clear to us.

اللهم أرنا الحق حقا و أرزقنا اتباعه
وأرنا الباطل باطلا و أرزقنا اجتنابه

O Allah, show us the truth as it is
and make us to follow it
and show us the falsehood as it is
and make us to abstain from it
Ameen.