



Clouds of Thought

Winter Series 2018-2019 – Class #3

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Cloud of Thought – Where's your provision?

- As mentioned before, our goal is one, we need to have a companion with us, but for every travel there's provision that's needed. We're travelers in this life, travelling from one decree to another, travelling from one station to another, from the life of this duniya to the life of the hereafter.

Hadith: عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ عُمَرَ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا - قَالَ أَخَذَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ بِمَنْكِبِي فَقَالَ " كُنْ فِي الدُّنْيَا كَأَنَّكَ غَرِيبٌ، أَوْ عَابِرٌ (سَبِيلٍ) " (Abdullah bin `Umar said, "Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) took hold of my shoulder and said, 'Be in this world as if you were a stranger or a traveler.'") - Sahih al-Bukhari 6416

- No one can change the fact that they're a traveler in this life, so where's your provision? The journey to Allah (ﷻ) requires provision, and it's not a provision of feet, but a provision of heart and feelings.
- How can we get that provision? Whatever Allah (ﷻ) has given us in this life then we use it for the akhira. We shouldn't think 'I don't have anything'; whatever we have, we're to use it for the akhira.
- Most people are deceived by the duniya, and if the duniya becomes our provision then it will harden our hearts. How can we climb up if our hearts are hardened and heavy? Subhan Allah. If we want to go to the top, then we need a light, soft and gentle heart.
- If our heart is hardened, then our enemy can easily overpower and distract us.
- Ibn Al Jawzi said: 'strange is the person who lived and died without getting ready or taking provision. Strange is the one who knew he's going to the grave but didn't prepare for the journey after it', subhan Allah.
- It's important to know that travelling to Allah (ﷻ) has many blessings, fortunes and treasures.
- Allah (ﷻ) wants us to be at the top and to reach to Firdaus Al 'Ala. And He will give us tangible and intangible blessings because we know where we want to go.
- Allah (ﷻ) will shower many mercies upon the one who's heading towards Him.
- **Surah Ghafir 7:** الَّذِينَ يَحْمِلُونَ الْعَرْشَ وَمَنْ حَوْلَهُ يُسَبِّحُونَ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّهِمْ وَيُؤْمِنُونَ بِهِ وَيَسْتَغْفِرُونَ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا رَبَّنَا وَسِعْتَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ رَحْمَةً (Those (angels) who bear the Throne (of Allah) and



those around it glorify the praises of their Lord, and believe in Him, and ask forgiveness for those who believe (in the Oneness of Allah) (saying): "Our Lord! You comprehend all things in mercy and knowledge, so forgive those who repent and follow Your Way, and save them from the torment of the blazing Fire!) – the angels understand that Allah (ﷻ) encompasses everything by His mercy and knowledge.

What should we pack for our journey?

1. **Tawheed and faith:** anyone who has faith and believes in Allah's Oneness and makes Him One in everything then this journey will be the most beautiful journey. Faith gives protection and comfort, nothing can disturb or irritate the person. As a result of having tawheed and faith, there will be blessings upon the person and he will taste the sweetness of faith. It's not only a feeling but a taste that a person doesn't want it to go away. A person will be guided on this journey as a result of his faith. Ibn Al Qayyim said the greatest provision in this journey is not only knowing about Allah (ﷻ) but to taste and have feelings of faith which is what we all want. May Allah (ﷻ) grant us these feelings. Ameen.

- **Surah Al Hujurat 7: (وَإِذْ أَخَذْنَا مِنَ النَّبِيِّينَ الْوَعْدَ أَنْ يَأْتِيَكُمُ الرَّسُولُ فَقُولُوا هُوَ الْحَقُّ وَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ مِنْ أَتَائِدِهِمْ فَسَيَكْفُرُوا بِكُمْ فَأُثِمُوا خِلَابًا (And know that among you there is the Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم). If he were to obey you (i.e. follow your opinions and desires) in much of the matter, you would surely be in trouble. But Allah has endeared the Faith to you and has beautified it in your hearts, and has made disbelief, wickedness and disobedience (to Allah and His Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم) hateful to you. Such are they who are the rightly guided.)**

2. **Certainty – yaqeen:** we need to be certain of what we believe in. Why do we need yaqeen? Because we're travelling at night, and there are valleys, hooks, and thieves.
 - If a person doesn't have the lamps of certainty, whose oil is lit with humility, then a person will be stopped from continuing his way to Allah (ﷻ).
 - When a person has yaqeen then he will have a glow and shine, even if he's walking in the darkest night.
3. **Ikhlas:** the main purpose of the journey is to reach ikhlas. A person will not be worthy to be on the journey if there's no ikhlas. The journey to the top needs to be pure and sincere and ikhlas keeps a person going to the top.
 - When Iblis swore by the might of Allah (ﷻ) to mislead the people, he knew he couldn't mislead the mukhliseen.
 - **Surah Saad 82-83:**



قَالَ فَبِعِزَّتِكَ لأَعْوِيَنَّهُم أَجْمَعِينَ

[Iblis (Satan)] said: "By Your Might, then I will surely mislead them all,

إِلَّا عِبَادَكَ مِنْهُمُ الْمُخْلِصِينَ

"Except Your chosen slaves amongst them (i.e. faithful, obedient, true believers of Islamic Monotheism)."

- The one who will reach the top is the sincere one, because if there's no ikhlas then any situation will make the person turn backwards.

People on the path are of three types:

- The one who knew the path and took it (الراشد). May Allah (ﷻ) make us among them. Ameen.
 - The one who's misguided (الضال)
 - The one who knew the way but took the wrong path and misled others (الغاوي)
4. **Secret deed:** sometimes we go through difficulty in our journey, and we need a good deed which no one knows about to use to continue on the journey.
 5. **Patience:** it's important to be patient on the path and not complain because verily victory is with patience.

How do we apply what we learned and change for the better?

- Be sincere and have taweed

May Allah (ﷻ) make us among the guided ones who reach. Ameen.