

RAMADAN

IMMERSION



Mufti Abdul
Rahman Waheed

- Allah informs us regarding the stages through which life will move.
 - In Surah Baqarah, Allah says:

وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ الْأَمْوَالِ
وَالْأَنْفُسِ وَالْثَّمَرَاتِ ۗ وَبَشِيرِ الصَّابِرِينَ

'And We will most certainly try you with somewhat of fear and hunger and loss of property and lives and fruits; and give good news to the patient'
(2:155)

- The **ل** and **ن** of emphasis are used in this ayah, meaning that being tested is something that will definitely happen.
 - These things are bound to happen in our lives, no matter what we do.
- Amwal here refers to routine earning rather than investments.
- We should ask Allah for Aafiya and when these times come we should respond in the way Allah wants us to respond.
 - The Prophet SAW said: The best thing that is given to a person after Iman is Aafiyah (ease).

عَنْ أَبِي قَتَادَةَ بْنِ رَبِيعٍ أَنَّهُ كَانَ يُحَدِّثُ أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ مَرَّ عَلَيْهِ بِجَنَازَةٍ فَقَالَ " مُسْتَرِيحٌ وَمُسْتَرَاخٌ مِنْهُ " . فَقَالُوا مَا الْمُسْتَرِيحُ وَمَا الْمُسْتَرَاخُ مِنْهُ قَالَ " الْعَبْدُ الْمُؤْمِنُ يَسْتَرِيحُ مِنْ نَصَبِ الدُّنْيَا وَأَذَاهَا وَالْعَبْدُ الْفَاجِرُ يَسْتَرِيحُ مِنْهُ الْعِبَادُ وَالْبِلَادُ وَالشَّجَرُ وَالِدَوَابُّ "

It was narrated from Abu Qatadah bin Rib'i that he narrated: "A funeral passed by the Messenger of Allah and he said: 'He is relieved and others are relieved of him.' They said: 'What does relieved mean and what does relieved of him mean?' He said: "The believing servant is relieved of the hardships and troubles of this world, and the people, the land, the trees and the animals are relieved of the immoral servant."

- When someone passes away, others are comforted based on what that person's personality was like.
- Allah will keep giving us opportunities to get closer to him and one of the ways to get closer to him is Sabr.
- The challenges of this world are constant, so we need to come to terms with this fact of life, accept it, and not be shocked when we are faced with these challenges.

Yaqeen - Conviction

- The stronger a person's conviction is in Allah, the easier it is to heal after loss.
- Healing after the loss of a person who passed away as a martyr is easy because we believe they have a honorable reward based on our conviction in the Ayaat Allah has revealed to us.

وَلَا تَقُولُوا لِمَنْ يُقْتَلُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتٌ ۚ بَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ وَلَكِنْ لَا تَشْعُرُونَ

And do not say of those who are killed in the cause of God, "Dead."
Rather, they are alive, but you do not perceive. (2:154)

- The Prophet SAW said:

"إِذَا أَرَادَ اللَّهُ بِعَبْدٍ خَيْرًا اسْتَعْمَلَهُ". فَقِيلَ كَيْفَ يَسْتَعْمَلُهُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ قَالَ
" يُؤَفِّقُهُ لِعَمَلٍ صَالِحٍ قَبْلَ الْمَوْتِ "

'Anas narrated that the Messenger of Allah (saw) said: "When Allah wants good for a slave, He puts him in action." It was said: "How does he put him in action O Messenger Of Allah?" He said: "By making him meet up with the righteous deeds before death."

- Allah enables them to do something good before they die.
 - This can be just before they pass away or a short while before.
- The first step to healing is to have a change of viewpoint
- The second step to healing is fortifying your conviction in Allah
- The Prophet SAW would often make the dua:

اللَّهُمَّ اقْسِمْ لَنَا مِنْ خَشْيَتِكَ مَا تَحُولُ بِهِ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَ مَعَاصِيكَ، وَمِنْ طَاعَتِكَ مَا تُبَلِّغُنَا بِهِ جَنَّتِكَ، وَمِنْ الْيَقِينِ مَا تَهْوُونَ بِهِ عَلَيْنَا مَصَائِبَ الدُّنْيَا

O Allah distribute amongst us such awe and fear of You that will be a means of intervening between us and Your disobedience; and grant us such obedience to You that will enable us to reach Your Paradise; and such conviction which will ease out upon us the afflictions of the world.

- A person may have lots of people around to comfort them after a loss, but if they have no conviction, this support will be worthless. Whereas if a person has no one, but they have conviction in Allah, they will heal easily.
- After the Battle of Uhud, Umm Harithah RA came looking for her son, but she found out that he passed away. She came to the Prophet SAW crying and she asked him to tell her where her son was. She said, "If he is in a place where he is going through difficulty, then the world will see how much I cry. But, if he is in a better place, then I will be patient and I will seek the reward with Allah." The Prophet SAW replied, "Have you gone mad? Are you asking if he is in one Jannah? Allah has blessed him with multiple Jannahs and Allah has given him the best in the akhirah." She turned around and said, "Congratulations O my son, congratulations O my son."
 - She went from such a low to such happiness because of her conviction in the words of the Prophet SAW.
- Luqman said to his son, "Action is not possible without conviction and whoever's conviction becomes weak, then his actions start to become weak."
- Hasan Al-Basri said, "It is from the weakness of conviction that you have more reliance in what you have compared to what Allah has in His hands."
- Khaled ibn Ma'daan said, "Learn and study yaqeen just like how you study Quran until you get to the point where you can recognize it."

- Hasan Al-Basri said, "A person doesn't develop firm conviction in Jannah and Jahnnam, and Akhirah and death, except that he becomes humbled and consistent in his actions until death reaches him."
- The angel of death came to Prophet Ibrahim to take his soul. Ibrahim AS said to the angel of death, "Have you ever seen a friend taking the soul of his own friend?" The angel went back to Allah and Allah told the angel to say, "Have you ever seen a friend who does not want to meet his friend?" The angel of death returned and relayed this message and Ibrahim AS said, "Take my soul."
- Abu Dardaa RA said, "There is no gift that my brother gives me that is better than saying Salam. Of all the things that reached me of good news, the thing that I get the happiest for is when I find out that my brother passed away."
 - This is because he knows that he is taken care of in Paradise, that he is saved from the difficulties of this world, and that he passed the test of this life.
- Abdullah ibn Masud RA said, "Death is better for both the pious soul and the sinning soul. If he was a righteous person, what Allah has is much better for the righteous people. And if he was a sinner, then Allah said:

وَلَا يَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا أَنَّنا نُمَلِّئُهُمْ خَيْرًا لِّأَنفُسِهِمْ ۗ إِنَّمَا نُمَلِّئُهُمْ لِيُزَادُوا إِثْمًا وَلَهُمْ عَذَابٌ مُّهِينٌ

Those who disbelieve should not assume that We respite them for their own good. In fact, We only respite them so that they may increase in sinfulness. A humiliating torment awaits them." (3:178)

- The Prophet SAW said:

إِنَّ مَثَلَ الْمُؤْمِنِ فِي الدُّنْيَا كَمَثَلِ الْجَنِينِ فِي بَطْنِ أُمِّهِ إِذَا خَرَجَ مِنْ بَطْنِهَا
بَكَى عَلَى مَخْرَجِهِ حَتَّى إِذَا رَأَى الضُّوْءَ وَرَضِعَ لَمْ يُحِبَّ أَنْ يَرْجِعَ إِلَى مَكَانِهِ
وَكَذَلِكَ الْمُؤْمِنُ يَخْرُجُ مِنَ الْمَوْتِ فَإِذَا مَضَى إِلَى رَبِّهِ لَمْ يُحِبَّ أَنْ يَرْجِعَ
إِلَى الدُّنْيَا كَمَا لَمْ يُحِبَّ الْجَنِينُ أَنْ يَرْجِعَ إِلَى بَطْنِ أُمِّهِ

Sulaim ibn 'Amir al-Khabā'izī reported from the Prophet: The likeness of the believer in this world is like the fetus in the womb of its mother: when it comes out of the womb it cries, and then when it sees the light and suckles, it does not wish to go back to the womb. In the same way the believer is adverse to death, but when he goes to his Lord he does not want to come back to this world in the same way that the fetus does not want to go back to the womb of its mother.

- He SAW also said:

مَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ مِنْ نَفْسٍ تَمُوتُ وَلَهَا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ خَيْرٌ تُحِبُّ أَنْ تَرْجِعَ إِلَيْكُمْ
وَلَهَا نَعِيمٌ الدُّنْيَا وَمَا فِيهَا

Ubad ibn Samitt reported that the Prophet said, "There is no soul on the earth that dies and receives what Allah has of goodness, then wishes to return back to you even if it could have the kingdom of this world."

- In one instance, the Prophet SAW was looking at the angel of death and the angel of death was standing next to a man from the Ansar. The Prophet SAW said to the angel, "Be kind to my companion. He is a believer." The angel of death said, "Be content and make this be a means of the coolness of your eyes and know that I treat every believer with kindness."