

Ramadan Immersion



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What it means to be Jannah-driven

- It is important to be Jannah-driven. The one who is Jannah-driven is most likely to earn the rahmah of Allah.
- During the month of Ramadan, the doors of Jannah are more accessible than any other time outside of it.
 - Abu Hurairah reported Allah's messenger (ﷺ) as saying,

"إِذَا كَانَ أَوَّلُ لَيْلَةٍ مِنْ شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ صُفِّدَتِ الشَّيَاطِينُ وَمَرَدَةُ الْجِنِّ وَغُلِّقَتْ أَبْوَابُ النَّارِ فَلَمْ يُفْتَحْ مِنْهَا بَابٌ وَبُيِّنَتْ أَبْوَابُ الْجَنَّةِ فَلَمْ يُغْلَقْ مِنْهَا بَابٌ وَيُنَادِي مُنَادٍ: يَا بَاغِيَ الْخَيْرِ أَقْبِلْ وَيَا بَاغِيَ الشَّرِّ أَقْصِرْ وَلِلَّهِ عُتَقَاءُ مِنَ النَّارِ وَذَلِكَ كُلُّ لَيْلَةٍ."

"When the first night of Ramadan comes the devils and the rebellious jinn are chained, the gates of hell are locked and not one of them is opened; the gates of paradise are opened and not one of them is locked, and a crier calls, 'You who desire what is good, come forward, and you who desire evil refrain.' Some are freed from hell by God, and that happens every night." (Sunan al-Tirmidhi)

- Jannah is a place where we will experience wellness in every area of our life, and we will be protected from any form of difficulty and harm.
- Jannah is a place of being alive; we will never perish. We are safe from the sadness and anxiety of leaving it and from watching the people we love leave us.
- Jannah is a place where we will stay youthful; we will never age and remain in a state of youthfulness.

- Jannah is a place of blessings; it is free of deprivation. Contrary to the dunya where we are deprived from the things we wish for the most.
- Jannah is for those who inherited it because of the good that they do. Part of the good actions include making tawbah. Thus, Jannah is for the tawwabin; those who repent.
- Jannah is also inherited by people of righteousness. Righteousness is a result of redemption, and redemption is a result of repentance.
- Jannah is special because it is prepared by Allah. This is what makes it valuable; it will never compare to anything we have witnessed in the dunya.

◦ Narrated Abu Hurairah: the Prophet (ﷺ) said,

" قَالَ اللَّهُ أَعَدَدْتُ لِعِبَادِي الصَّالِحِينَ مَا لَا عَيْنٌ رَأَتْ، وَلَا أُذُنٌ سَمِعَتْ، وَلَا خَطَرَ عَلَى قَلْبٍ بَشَرٍ ."

"Allah said, 'I have prepared for My righteous slaves (such excellent things) as no eye has ever seen, nor an ear has ever heard nor a human heart can ever think of.' "
(Sahih al-Bukhari)

◦ Abu Hurairah reported: I said, "What is Paradise built from?"
The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said,

لَبِنَةٌ مِنْ فِضَّةٍ وَلَبِنَةٌ مِنْ ذَهَبٍ وَمِلَاطُهَا الْمِسْكُ الْأَذْفَرُ وَحَصْبَاؤُهَا اللُّؤْلُؤُ وَالْيَاقُوتُ وَتُرْبَتُهَا الزَّعْفَرَانُ مَنْ دَخَلَهَا يَنْعَمُ وَلَا يَيْأَسُ وَيَخْلُدُ وَلَا يَمُوتُ لَا تَبْلَى ثِيَابُهُمْ وَلَا يَفْنَى شَبَابُهُمْ

"Bricks of silver and gold, its mortar is musk of strong fragrance, its pebbles are pearls and rubies, and its soil is saffron. Whoever enters it will enjoy bliss without despair and eternity without death. Their clothes will not fade, nor will their youth expire." (Sunan al-Tirmidhi)

- Jannah has never been far from us. It is simply our mistakes and shortcomings that distances us from it.
- Ibn Mas'ud reported: The Prophet (ﷺ) said,

" الجنة أقرب إلى أحدكم من شراك نعله، والنار مثل ذلك "

"Jannah is nearer to anyone of you than your shoe-lace, and so is the (Hell) Fire".
(Sahih al-Bukhari)

- Jannah is a place of external beauty. Nevertheless, it is a place of internal beauty as well. And its inhabitants will keep increasing in their beauty.
 - Narrated Abu Hurairah: The Prophet (ﷺ) said,

أَوَّلُ زُمْرَةٍ تَدْخُلُ الْجَنَّةَ عَلَى صُورَةِ الْقَمَرِ لَيْلَةَ الْبَدْرِ، وَالَّذِينَ عَلَى آثَارِهِمْ كَأَحْسَنِ كَوْكَبٍ دُرِّيٍّ فِي السَّمَاءِ إِضَاءَةً، قُلُوبُهُمْ عَلَى قَلْبِ رَجُلٍ وَاحِدٍ، لَا تَبَاغُضَ بَيْنَهُمْ وَلَا تَحَاسَدٌ، لِكُلِّ أَمْرٍ زَوْجَتَانِ مِنَ الْخُورِ الْعَيْنِ، يُرَى مَخْ سَوْقُهُنَّ مِنْ وَرَاءِ الْعَظْمِ وَاللَّحْمِ."

"The first batch (of people) who will enter Paradise will be (glittering) like the full moon, and the batch next to them will be (glittering) like the most brilliant star in the sky. Their hearts will be as if the heart of a single man, for they will have neither enmity nor jealousy amongst themselves; everyone will have two wives from the houris, (who will be so beautiful, pure and transparent that) the marrow of the bones of their legs will be seen through the bones and the flesh." (Sahih al-Bukhari)

- Anas bin Malik reported that Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said:

إِنَّ فِي الْجَنَّةِ لَسُوقًا يَأْتُونَهَا كُلَّ جُمُعَةٍ فَتَهْبُ رِيحُ الشَّمَالِ فَتَحْثُو فِي وُجُوهِهِمْ وَثِيَابِهِمْ فَيَزْدَادُونَ حُسْنًا وَجَمَالًا فَيَرْجِعُونَ إِلَى أَهْلِيهِمْ وَقَدْ اِزْدَادُوا حُسْنًا وَجَمَالًا فَيَقُولُ لَهُمْ أَهْلُهُمْ وَاللَّهِ لَقَدْ اِزْدَدْتُمْ بَعْدَنَا حُسْنًا وَجَمَالًا . فَيَقُولُونَ وَأَنْتُمْ وَاللَّهِ لَقَدْ اِزْدَدْتُمْ بَعْدَنَا حُسْنًا وَجَمَالًا ."

In Paradise there is a street to which they would come every Friday. The north wind will blow and would scatter fragrance on their faces and on their clothes and would add to their beauty and loveliness, and then they would go back to their family after having an added lustre to their beauty and loveliness, and their family would say to them: By Allah, you have been increased in beauty and loveliness after leaving us, and they would say: By Allah, you have also increased in beauty and loveliness after us. (Sahih Muslim)

- Jannah is a place where some of the inconveniences of this world and things that are humiliating for us will be taken away from us.
 - Abu Hurairah narrated that Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said:

"إِنَّ أَوَّلَ زُمْرَةٍ يَدْخُلُونَ الْجَنَّةَ عَلَى صُورَةِ الْقَمَرِ لَيْلَةَ الْبَدْرِ وَالَّذِينَ يُلُونَهُمْ عَلَى أَشَدِّ كَوَكَبٍ دُرِّيٍّ فِي السَّمَاءِ إِضَاءَةً لَا يَبُولُونَ وَلَا يَتَغَوَّطُونَ وَلَا يَمْتَخِطُونَ وَلَا يَتَفْلُونَ أَمْشَاطُهُمُ الذَّهَبُ وَرَشْحُهُمُ الْمِسْكُ وَمَجَامِرُهُمُ الْأَلُوَّةُ وَأَزْوَاجُهُمُ الْحُورُ الْعِينُ أَخْلَقَهُمْ عَلَى خَلْقِ رَجُلٍ وَاحِدٍ عَلَى صُورَةِ أَبِيهِمْ آدَمَ سِتُونَ ذِرَاعًا فِي السَّمَاءِ ."

The (members of the) first group which would get into Paradise will have their faces as bright as stars in the sky. They would neither pass water, nor void excrement, nor will they suffer from catarrh, nor will they spit, and their combs would be made of gold, and their sweat will be musk, the fuel of their brazier will be aloes, and their wives will be large-eyed maidens and their form would be alike as one single person after the form of their father (Adam) sixty cubits tall. (Sahih Muslim)

- All of these are rewards Allah has in store for the inhabitants of Jannah. Thus, we do not repent out of the fear of Allah's punishment but rather our yearning and desire of the Jannah Allah has prepared for us.
- Jannah erases that which came before it; it undoes any traumas, all the trials and tribulations that we faced in the dunya.
 - Anas ibn Malik reported: The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said,

يُؤْتَى بِأَنْعَمِ أَهْلِ الدُّنْيَا مِنْ أَهْلِ النَّارِ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ فَيُصْبَغُ فِي النَّارِ صَبْغَةً ثُمَّ يُقَالُ يَا ابْنَ آدَمَ هَلْ رَأَيْتَ خَيْرًا قَطُّ هَلْ مَرَّ بِكَ نَعِيمٌ قَطُّ فَيَقُولُ لَا وَاللَّهِ يَا رَبِّ وَيُؤْتَى بِأَشَدِّ النَّاسِ بُؤْسًا فِي الدُّنْيَا مِنْ أَهْلِ الْجَنَّةِ فَيُصْبَغُ صَبْغَةً فِي الْجَنَّةِ فَيُقَالُ لَهُ يَا ابْنَ آدَمَ هَلْ رَأَيْتَ بُؤْسًا قَطُّ هَلْ مَرَّ بِكَ شِدَّةٌ قَطُّ فَيَقُولُ لَا وَاللَّهِ يَا رَبِّ مَا مَرَّ بِي بُؤْسٌ قَطُّ وَلَا رَأَيْتُ شِدَّةً قَطُّ

"The most privileged people in the world among the people of Hellfire will come on the Day of Resurrection to be dipped in Hellfire, then it will be said: O son of Adam, did you see any good? Did you get any blessing? He will say: No, by Allah, my Lord!

Then, the most miserable people in the world among the people of Paradise will come on the Day of Resurrection to be dipped in Paradise, then it will be said: O son of Adam, did you see any hardship? Did you have any distress? He will say: No, by Allah, my Lord! I did not once see hardship or distress." (Sahih Muslim)

- The greatest reward in Jannah is being able to see Allah; we will gain His companionship in Jannah as well as the Prophet's companionship.

- Ibn Mas'ud reported: A man came to Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) and said, "O Messenger of Allah! What do you think of a man who loves some people but does not go any nearer to their position?" He (ﷺ) replied,

"المرء مع من أحب"

"A man will be with those whom he loves". (Al-Bukhari and Muslim)

- The inhabitants of Jannah will be able to gaze upon Allah, depending on the different levels of Jannah they attained. Some will see Allah once a week, twice a day or anytime they wish.
- These levels are an indication that the earlier we repent and rectify our state, the sooner we can begin building our journey to Jannah.
 - Abu Hurairah reported: The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said,

أَتَضَامُونَ فِي رُؤْيَا الْقَمَرِ لَيْلَةَ الْبَدْرِ وَتَضَامُونَ فِي رُؤْيَا الشَّمْسِ قَالُوا لَا قَالَ فَإِنَّكُمْ سَتَرُونَ رَبَّكُمْ كَمَا تَرُونَ الْقَمَرَ لَيْلَةَ الْبَدْرِ لَا تَضَامُونَ فِي رُؤْيَا

"Do you overlook a crowd to see the full moon? Do you overlook a crowd to see the sun?" They said no. The Prophet said, "Verily, you will see your Lord just as you see the full moon and you will not need to overlook a crowd to see him." (Sunan al-Tirmidhi)

- The light of Jannah is a created light, an attribute of Allah, not the uncreated light that is an attribute of Him.
- Attaining Jannah is the ultimate triumph. Nevertheless, full success is not attainable without repentance.
 - Allah said:

وَتُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا أَيُّهَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ

Turn to Allah in repentance all together, O believers, so that you may be successful. (24:31)

- We should repent to Allah with full sincerity and urgency, instead of repenting out of convenience. This indicates our desperation in recognizing Allah's mercy, and without it we acknowledge that we will be losers.
 - This was the supplication the prophets made:

رَبَّنَا ظَلَمْنَا أَنْفُسَنَا وَإِنْ لَمْ تَغْفِرْ لَنَا وَتَرْحَمْنَا لَنَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ

Our Lord! We have wronged ourselves. If You do not forgive us and have mercy on us, we will certainly be losers.