

In our past meeting, we talked about some reflections on Surat Al-Asr, and in it Allah Almighty swore a great oath and said “By the (Asr) time, Mankind is in loss.” Wal Asr Inna Al-Insana lafi Khosr.

The reason for the loss is that every human being is a matter of time and has an end: Whenever time passes, part of his time passes, so we are walking toward the end point, no doubt. The passage of time consumes us little by little until we reach the end.

Allah swt excluded certain people from that loss and said: “except for those who believed and did righteous deeds, and recommended truth, and recommended patience” These are the four pillars of survival. You can survive this loss with these four pillars. It is worthy of us to understand these pillars and think about them, asking Allah Almighty to save us:

The first pillar is faith (Iman) (when Allah said: “except for those who believed”) and the second pillar are good deeds (and did righteous deeds). Faith has six foundations upon which it can be established, and there is no faith without them, which are: Faith in Allah, His angels, His books, His Messengers, the Last Day, and by destiny; its good and its evil. It was mentioned in several verses in the Holy Qur’an, separately and in combination. Allah Almighty said in surat Al-Bakara: “Righteousness is not that you turn your faces toward the east or west, but righteousness is he who believes in Allah, the Last Day, the Angels, the Book and the Prophets.”

And in the Sunnah there is a hadith that Gabriel when asked: “Inform me about faith”, he said: “You believe in Allah, His angels, His books, His messengers, and the Last Day, and you believe in destiny its good and its bad. He said: You have told the truth.

Then, the Prophet said: O Omar, do you know who the questioner was? Omar said: Allah and His Messenger know best. He said: It is Gabriel who has come to you to teach you your religion. Narrated by Muslim.

These are the foundations of faith, which are the condition for accepting actions. Neither obedience nor actions are accepted in this world and the hereafter, unless the servant achieves faith in these six principles. If he denies it or denies part of it, he has fallen out of faith, and his obedience is returned to him. Allah swt said in surat Al-Ma’eda:” And whoever disbelieves in faith-indeed his work has become worthless and in the hereafter, he will be among the losers.”

We derive faith and take it from its original source in the Qur’an and Sunnah. Faith is totally built on what is stated in the Qur’an and Sunnah, both of them are revelations from Allah and we must receive what is stated in them with full acceptance.

Allah swt opens His Noble Book after Surah Al-Fatihah with this aya in surat Al-Bakara saying:” Alif Lam Meem. This is the Book about which there is no doubt. A guidance for the righteous. Those who believe in the unseen and perform prayer and spend of what We have provided them...” We do not know this

unseen with certainty except what was stated in the Qur'an and what the Messenger of Allah pbuh has told us. With full recognition that Sharia law is complete and that everything in it is true and just. Allah swt said in surat Al-Anaam: " And the word of your Lord has been completed in truth and justice. No one can alter His word. And He is the Hearing, the Knowing."

Everything that is reported in the Qur'an and Sunnah is completely truthful. All the rulings mentioned in the Qur'an and Sunnah are complete justice. The origin of these principles is faith (Iman) in Allah Almighty. Faith in Allah Almighty is the top of all success. The books were not sent down or the messengers were sent except in order to establish faith and fasten it in the souls.

Faith in Allah swt is the gift from Allah to His faithful servants. Allah said in surat Al-Hujurat:" ... but Allah has endeared faith to you and beautified it in your hearts and made you hate disbelief, immorality and disobedience. These are the rightly guided ones."

Faith cannot be achieved except with knowledge. Allah Almighty said to His Prophet in surat Mohamed:" Know that there is no god but Allah"

The most important thing that a person must know is the knowledge of his Lord Almighty and to have faith in Him with certainty, and this must be based on all his affairs, regardless of their extent and whatever these affairs may be. The servant's happiness, perfection, and success in this world and the

hereafter depend on his knowledge of his Lord and his faith in Allah Almighty:

Faith in Allah swt is the firm belief that Allah is the Lord and the Owner of everything and that He alone is the Creator He is the Ruler of the entire universe, and He alone is worthy of worship, without any partner. Any deity other than Him is invalid, and worship of this deity is invalid, and He, the Almighty, is characterized by the attributes of perfection and described with Majestical characters as being free from all shortcomings and defects.

The truth of faith includes three pillars: The belief of the heart, the words of the tongue, and the actions of the limbs. Al-Shafi'i said: "The consensus among the Companions and Followers, and those after them whom we reached say: Faith is a word, an action, and an intention. None of the three is separated from the others.

Faith can only be achieved with complete certainty and complete belief in everything that is stated in the Book and the Sunnah, because they are both revelations from Allah swt, and it is obligatory for the Muslims to receive them by acceptance, and submission without hesitation or doubt. Doubt and hesitation are not part of faith, however the perfection of faith lies in certainty and submission. Allah says in surat Al-Hujurat:" The believers are those who believe in Allah and His messenger and did not doubt and strived with their money and lives for

the sake of Allah. These are the truthful.” They have no bit of doubt or hesitation.

The Messenger pbuh said:” I bear witness that there is no god but Allah and that I am the Messenger of Allah. Servants of Allah who meet Allah without doubting Him will enter paradise.” So, the prophet pbuh stipulated that there should be no doubt, meaning complete certainty.

So Faith in Allah swt is built on two principles: A basis related to knowledge and a basis related to action. These two principles are interconnected and must be together in order for the servant to be a true believer. Allah said in surat Al-Hujurat: “The Bedouins said “ We have believed”. Say “You have not yet believed but say instead:” We are muslims” for faith has not entered your hearts. And if you obey Allah and His messenger, He will not deprive you from any of your deeds. Indeed, Allah is Forgiving and Merciful”.

Al-Hasan Al-Basri said: “Faith is neither wishful thinking nor arrogance, but it is what is settled in the heart, and confirmed by action and work. And there were some people who left this world and had no work; And they said: We expect all good from Allah but they lied. If they thought well, they would have done well.”

As for the “actions” principle of faith in Allah swt, it is the duty of a Muslim to get to worship Allah the Almighty and obey Him and comply with His commands with what He prescribed in His Book and the sunna of His Prophet.

The “knowledge” principle is the monotheism of Allah in His names, attributes, actions, and rulings. The second is the “actions” principle, which is the unification of Allah swt with the actions of His servants, such as fasting, charity, hajj, vows, enjoining good and forbidding evil, and other acts of obedience.

In both matters, complete devotion to Allah Almighty is necessary. Both foundations and principles are monotheism by knowledge and monotheism by actions. Their explanation came in the Holy Qur’an in Surahs Al-Ikhlās and Al-Kāfirūn: Say Allah is One. Allah is Unique. He does not beget (does not give birth) nor is He begotten (not born) And there is nothing comparable to Him”. And “Say O disbelievers. I do not worship what you worship. Neither are you worshipping what I worship. Nor am I worshipping what you worship, and neither are you worshipping what I worship. You have your religion and I have my religion.

In the hadith on the authority of Jabir bin Abdullah, that a man got up and prayed the two rak’ahs of Fajr, and recited In the first Kol ya ayoha Al-Kāferoon, until the Surah ended, and the Prophet pbuh said, “This is a servant who knew his Lord, and in the second he recited: Kol howa Allahu Ahad until the surah ended, and the Messenger, pbuh said: “This is a servant, who believed in Allah. In the first Surah Al-Kāfirūn, the actions aspect is the sincerity of worship to Allah alone without associating anyone else in all His worship, Also, Allah Almighty said in surat Al-Bayyina: “And they were not commanded except to worship Allah and be sincere to Him in religion,

perform prayers (salat) and pay charity (zakat) and that is the religion of value” and said in surat al-Zumur: “Indeed to Allah belongs the pure religion” and we read in each prayer” And it is You we worship and you who we seek help” Iyyaka Na3budu was Iyyaka nasta3een.

This was regarding the actions aspect, which is sincerity in worshipping Allah and following up with the teachings of the messenger pbuh.

Regarding the knowledge aspect in Surat Al-Ikhlās, it contains a comprehensive definition, as Allah Almighty told us about Himself. That is why the Messenger pbuh said about the man who read it: “This is a servant who believed in his Lord”. In order for us to taste faith, we must live by it and live by faith in Allah swt practically in our lives with actions. This is the meaning of the hadith of the Messenger pbuh,: “He who accepted Allah as his Lord and Islam as his religion and Mohamed as a prophet has tasted the taste of faith.”

The true believer must live the faith in the mosque, in the market, at home, in the street, at work, and in his dealings with his family, neighbors, and friends, and in his materialistic and moral dealings. This is what the hadith of the prophet pbuh: “By Allah, he does not believe, by Allah he does not believe, by Allah he does not believe.” They said, “Who is that, O Messenger?” He said, “A neighbor who is not safe from his neighbors’ harms.” How could you truly believe in Allah while you worship Him in the mosque and then disobey Him at work

or in your behavior with others? Do you not know that he is watching you? Allah said in surat Ghafir:” He knows the dishonesty in the eyes and what the chests hide.”

How can you truly be a believer when you disobey Allah and falsely claim that cheating people is provision “Rizk” or deceiving people is a skill or lying is beatification? Be as the messenger of Allah pbuh. When Aisha was asked about the prophet’s manners and behavior, she said his behavior was the behavior of the Quran. Keep your eyes on Allah, who sees you, and be certain Allah is able, Allah is your provider, Allah is just, Allah is Merciful and capable of everything.

A man from the Ansar is leading the prayer in Qeba’a Mosque, and every time he opens with a sura recited to them in prayer He reads, Kol howa Allahu Ahad. until he finished it, then he would recite another surah along with it, and he would do this every rak'ah, and his companions spoke to him and said: “You open with this surah, it will be sufficient for you to recite it, or you leave it, and you recite another. He said: I will not leave it. If you like me to lead the prayer that way, I will and if you do not like me to lead that way I can stop leading. They thought that he was one of the best of them, but they disliked that anyone else should lead them. They told the Prophet the news, and he said: “O so-and-so, what prevents you from fulfilling your companions request? and what makes you adhere to this Surah in Every rak'ah “He said: I love the surah.” The prophet pbuh said: Your love to this surah made you enter janna. If you



visualize how loving this surah admitted this man to janna just by loving the attributes of Allah swt and loving His names, knowing them, and experiencing faith. This shows that the knowledge of Allah swt is the greatest reasons to enter janna so long a person has knowledge of Allah swt and His names and attributes, that person is closer to obedience and farther from sins “Your love to this surah made you enter janna.”

And in the hadith: “Allah swt has ninety-nine names, whoever knows them enters janna.” This is because the more you know about the Almighty, the more you will fear Him, obey Him, and stay away from disobeying Him. And stay away from His anger. Allah swt said in surat Fatir:” The knowledgeable among His servants are those who fear Allah

One of the righteous people said, advising the scholars: “Whoever knows Allah the most, is most fearful of Him.” " It has been proven in the hadith that Surat Al-Ikhlās, which is Kol howa Allāu Ahad is equivalent to one third of the Qur’an. The prophet pbuh said: “Can’t one of you recite Kol howa Allāhu Ahad three times in a night, for it is equivalent to a third of the Qur’an. “And that is only because It includes the attribute of the Most Merciful.

Also, in the hadith, that Ayat Al-Kursi (Allah La Ilaha illa howa Al-Hayy Al-Kayoum...) is the greatest of the verses of the Holy Quran. It was reported on the authority of Ubayy ibn Ka'b that The Messenger of Allah asked him and said, “O Abu Al-Mundhir, do you know which aya from the Book of Allah is to

you the greatest? He said: I said: Allah La Ilaha illa howa Al-Hayy Al-Kayoum. He said: He hit my chest and said: By Allah, may your knowledge be blessed, Aba Al-Mundhir.

This aya is defining Allah swt and calling to worship Him. It included five of His names and more than twenty of the attributes of Allah swt.

Faith in Allah swt has many fruits that the believing servant will obtain if he is sincere in faith.

We will continue the fruits of faith in our next meeting inshallah Istaghfir Allah lee wa lakom min kol thanb. Inaho howa al ghafoor arraheem.