

FAITH BEGETS BOON IN LIVELIHOOD

A believer is always blessed with the boons and bounties of Allah, whether, it is his life-span or his body or his food and drink or his assets and properties. An episode is related to Hadrat Nudhar Bin Haris (*RadhiAllahu Anhu*), who, came to the Prophet (*sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) while still not embracing Islam, and asked him to feed him. The Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) then milked seven of his goats one after the other and the visitor drank all their milk. Then he called him to the faith and he embraced it. Then the Prophet (*sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) rubbed his hand over his chest. Next morning, the Prophet (*sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) milked one goat and gave its milk to Nudhar Bin Haris (*RadhiAllahu Anhu*) to drink. He took it but could not finish it all. The Prophet (*sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) said what happened? Take some more. He replied by that entity Who has sent you with truth I am fully satiated and I cannot drink any more. The Prophet (*sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) then commented: Yesterday you had seven intestines but today you have only one intestine (Ahmad). Undoubtedly, true to the saying of the Prophet (*sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam*)

« يَأْكُلُ الْمُسْلِمُ فِي مَعَى وَاحِدٍ، وَالْكَافِرُ يَأْكُلُ فِي سَبْعَةِ أَمْعَاءٍ » (متفق عليه).

(Translation of meaning) A believer eats to fill up only one intestine while a disbeliever eats to fill up seven intestines (Al-Bukhari & Muslim).

Faith is a Source of Well-being of the Individual and Society: When a Muslim becomes able to understand the requirements of the faith, then it is reflected not only in his personal conduct, but in all spheres of his life and activity. He treats his neighbours fairly. Far from being a source of trouble for others, he himself removes inconveniences and hurdles from the way of others. He becomes obedient to his parents. He becomes sympathetic towards the orphans and the destitute. He shies away from doing what has been prohibited by Allah the Almighty and becomes repentant if he becomes lax in the performance of what has been commanded by Allah the Almighty. In sum, his whole life becomes an epitome of bliss and well-being. Similarly, when the whole society adapts its life to the teachings of the Quran, carries out what has been commanded by Allah the Almighty and desists from whatever has been prohibited by Him such a society is rewarded the blessings and beneficences of Allah. It lives free from all fears and anxieties and in perfect peace and security. So Allah has declared:

﴿ وَلَوْ أَنَّ أَهْلَ الْقُرَىٰ ءَامَنُوا وَاتَّقَوْا لَفَتَحْنَا عَلَيْهِم بَرَكَاتٍ مِّنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَلَٰكِن كَذَّبُوا فَأَخَذْنَاهُم بِمَا كَانُوا يَكْسِبُونَ ﴿٩٦﴾ الأعراف: ٩٦ ﴾

(Translation of meaning) [“And if the people of the settlements had believed and kept from evil, surely We should have opened for them blessings from the heavens and from the earth. But [unto every messenger they gave the lie, and so We seized them on account of what they used to earn” (Al-A’raf: 96)].

Allah is the caretaker and guide of the believers. He keeps them under his surveillance out of benevolence. He keeps them in His vicinity and aids and supports them in all their affairs. Allah has pronounced:

﴿ اللَّهُ وَلِيُّ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا يُخْرِجُهُم مِّنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ ﴿٢٥٧﴾ البقرة: ٢٥٧ ﴾

(Translation of meaning) [“Allah is the Protecting Friend of those who believe. He bringeth them out of darkness into light.” (Al-Baqarah: 257)].

In another place He proclaimed:

﴿ أَلَا إِنَّ أَوْلِيَاءَ اللَّهِ لَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ ﴿٦٢﴾ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَكَانُوا يَتَّقُونَ ﴿٦٣﴾ يونس: ٦٢ - ٦٣ ﴾

(Translation of meaning) [“Lo! verily the friends of Allah are (those) on whom fear (cometh) not, nor do they grieve? (62) Those who believe and keep their duty (to Allah).” (Yunus: 62-63)].

Allah is the Supporter of the Believers: Allah comes to the aid and support of the believers as He did in the Battle of Badr. Allah declared:

﴿ وَلَقَدْ نَصَرَكُمُ اللَّهُ بِبَدْرٍ وَأَنْتُمْ أَذِلَّةٌ فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ ﴿١٢٣﴾ آل عمران: ١٢٣ ﴾

(Translation of meaning) [“Allah had already given you the victory at Badr, when ye were contemptible. So observe your duty to Allah in order that ye may be thankful” (Aal Imran: 123)].

Allah the Almighty has given a commitment to come the aid and support of his apostles according to His word in the holy Quran:

﴿ إِنَّا لَنَنْصُرُ رُسُلَنَا وَالَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَيَوْمَ يَقُومُ الْأَشْهَادُ ﴾ غافر: ٥١

(Translation of meaning) [“Lo! We verily do help Our messengers and those who believe, in the life of the world and on the day when the witnesses arise” (Ghafir: 51)].

Faith will Protect the Believers from the Horrors of Doomsday: Allah the Almighty Has proclaimed:

﴿ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ سَبَقَتْ لَهُمْ مِنَّا الْحُسْنَىٰ أُولَٰئِكَ عَنْهَا مُبْعَدُونَ ﴿١٠١﴾ لَا يَسْمَعُونَ حَسِيسَهَا وَهُمْ فِي مَا أُشْتَهَتْ أَنفُسُهُمْ خَالِدُونَ ﴿١٠٢﴾ لَا يَحْزَنُهُمُ الْفَزَعُ الْأَكْبَرُ وَتَتَلَقَّيْهُمْ الْمَلَائِكَةُ هَذَا يَوْمُكُمْ الَّذِي كُنْتُمْ تُوعَدُونَ ﴿١٠٣﴾ ﴾ الأنبياء: ١٠١ - ١٠٣

(Translation of meaning) [“Lo! Those unto whom kindness has gone forth before from Us, they will be far removed from thence. They will not hear the slightest sound thereof, while they abide in that which their souls desire. The Supreme Horror will not grieve them, and the angels will welcome them, [saying]: This is your Day which ye were promised” (Al-Anbiya: 101-103)].

Allah will Cover up the Sins of the Believers on the Day of Judgment: On the Last Day Allah will present the believers their deeds and inform them of their wrongdoing in a way that others will not be able to know them. Then he will forgive them their sins and order them to be admitted to the Paradise.

Only Believers shall Drink from Kauthar on the Day of Judgment: The believers shall quench their thirst of the *Kauthar* [the Pool of Abundance]. On that day there will be no other source for drinking. The water of this pool shall be whiter than milk, its taste sweeter than honey and it shall be more aromatic than the musk. Anybody who drank of it once shall never become thirsty again.

Only Believers Destined to be Lodged in Paradise: Allah the Almighty has proclaimed:

﴿ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ كَانَتْ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتُ الْفِرْدَوْسِ نُزُلًا ﴿١٠٧﴾ ﴾ الكهف: ١٠٧

(Translation of meaning) [“Lo! Those who believe and do good works, heirs are the Gardens of Paradise for welcome” (Al-Kahf: 107)].

Allah Almighty further proclaimed:

﴿وَأَزَلَفَتْ الْجَنَّةُ لِلْمُنْفِقِينَ غَيْرَ بَعِيدٍ ۖ هَذَا مَا تُوعَدُونَ لِكُلِّ أَوَّابٍ حَفِيفٍ ۖ مَن خَشِيَ الرَّحْمَنَ الْغَيْبَ وَجَاءَ بِقَلْبٍ مُّنِيبٍ ۖ ادْخُلُوهَا بِسَلَامٍ ۚ ذَٰلِكَ يَوْمُ الْخُلُودِ ۚ هُمْ مَا يَشَاءُونَ فِيهَا وَلَدَيْنَا مَزِيدٌ ۝﴾ ق: ٣١ - ٣٥

(Translation of meaning) [“And the Garden is brought nigh for those who kept from evil, no longer distant. [And it is said] That is that ye were promised. [It is for every penitent and heedful one. Who feareth the Benevolent in secret and cometh with a contrite heart. Enter it in peace. This is the day of immortality. There they have all they desire, and there is more with Us” (Qaf: 31-35)].

According to a Prophetic tradition, the bounties provided in the Paradise will be such as nobody ever heard about them and nobody could ever imagine them (Al-Bukhari & Muslim).

The Believers shall sight Allah the Almighty on the Last Day: As narrated through Hadrat Abu Hurairah (*RadhiAllahu Anhu*), some persons asked the Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*)

عن أبي هريرة قال: قال أناس: يا رسول الله هل نرى ربنا يوم القيامة؟ فقال: «هل تضارون في الشمس ليس دونها سحاب» قالوا: لا يا رسول الله، قال: «هل تضارون في القمر ليلة البدر ليس دونه سحاب» قالوا: لا يا رسول الله، قال: «فإنكم ترونه يوم القيامة كذلك» (متفق عليه)

(Translation of meaning) Whether we will see Allah Almighty on the Day of Judgment? He asked back: Do you have any doubt about moon on the night of the fourteenth when the sky is clear? The folk replied no O Messenger of Allah. He asked again: Do you have any doubt about the sun in daytime when there are no clouds? They replied never. Then he said you will observe Allah Almighty like that (Al-Bukhari & Muslim).

It is in another tradition that the Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) said that:

” إِذَا دَخَلَ أَهْلُ الْجَنَّةِ الْجَنَّةَ، قَالَ: يَقُولُ اللَّهُ تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى: تُرِيدُونَ شَيْئًا أَزِيدُكُمْ؟ فَيَقُولُونَ: أَلَمْ تُبَيِّضْ وُجُوهَنَا؟ أَلَمْ تُدْخِلْنَا الْجَنَّةَ، وَتُنَجِّنَا مِنَ النَّارِ؟ قَالَ: فَيَكْشِفُ الْحِجَابَ، فَمَا أُعْطُوا شَيْئًا أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِمْ مِنَ النَّظَرِ إِلَى رَبِّهِمْ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ ”، (مسلم).

(Translation of meaning) When the inmates of Paradise will be lodged in Paradise Allah will inquire: Do you want anything more? They will say O Allah did not you bless us with success and lodged us in Paradise and deliver us

from Hell? At that Allah will unveil Himself and the vision of Allah will be the greatest of the bounties of Allah the Almighty for them.

The Pleasure of Allah will be reserved for Believers only: The Messenger of Allah (*sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) declared:

" إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَقُولُ لِأَهْلِ الْجَنَّةِ: يَا أَهْلَ الْجَنَّةِ، فَيَقُولُونَ: لَبَّيْكَ رَبَّنَا وَسَعْدَيْكَ وَالْخَيْرُ فِي يَدَيْكَ، فَيَقُولُ: هَلْ رَضِيتُمْ؟ فَيَقُولُونَ: وَمَا لَنَا لَا نَرْضَىٰ يَا رَبُّ وَقَدْ أُعْطِينَنَا مَا لَمْ تُعْطِ أَحَدًا مِنْ خَلْقِكَ، فَيَقُولُ: أَلَا أُعْطِيكُمْ أَفْضَلَ مِنْ ذَلِكَ، فَيَقُولُونَ: يَا رَبُّ وَآيُ شَيْءٍ أَفْضَلُ مِنْ ذَلِكَ، فَيَقُولُ: أَجَلٌ عَلَيْكُمْ رِضْوَانِي فَلَا أَسْخَطُ عَلَيْكُمْ بَعْدَهُ أَبَدًا " (متفق عليه).

(Translation of meaning) Allah will call the people of Paradise: O the inmates of the Paradise! The inmates will say: We are present O our Lord! O the source of all good and blessing, we are present. Allah then will inquire: Are you happy here? The inmates will reply yes, our Lord, you have granted us, what you did not grant to others. Allah will then say: Should I not grant you something better than all this? Today I grant you the testimony of my pleasure. I shall never become displeased with you after this (Al-Bukhari & Muslim).

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