

SUMMER IMMERSION DEFEATING SHAYTAN



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Affect on Youth

- Shaytan has different strategies for different categories of people
- Shaytan makes youth compare themselves to others
 - Ex: Yusuf's brothers compared themselves to him
- Shaytan makes youth think they have a lot of time
 - This gives a sense of complacency
- However, we never know when we will die - tawba can never wait
- Also, certain sins can become habits and lifestyles that become hard to get rid of
- Yusuf's brothers thought the same thing:

أَقْتُلُوا يُوسُفَ أَوِ اُطْرِحُوهُ أَرْضًا يَخْلُ لَكُمْ وَجْهُ أَيِّكُمْ وَتَكُونُوا مِنْ بَعْدِهِ قَوْمًا صَلِحِينَ

Kill Joseph or cast him out to some (distant) land so that our father's attention will be only ours, then after that you may (repent and) become righteous people!"

- Allah will not change people until they themselves take initiative to change themselves
- Allah will always accept tawba
- It's easier to change when you're younger
- A young person who commits to Allah is not the same as someone who commits once they're old
 - Allah loves youth who worship Him, and they are amongst the seven under Allah's shade
- Shaytan works harder at the youth

Opposite Gender Attraction

- The Prophet (SAW) said that this world is very attractive, and Allah put you in this world as an ambassador. So be careful with how you act. Be aware of dunya, and be aware of women.
- Glancing at something attractive is from the arrows of Shaytan (Hadith)

Self Obsession

- We can't lose ourselves in self obsession
- Shaytan makes us care too much about the way we look or what people will think of us

Companionship

- Don't allow technology to become your greatest companion
- Instead, find good people to spend time with

Importance of Mentorship

- It's important for youth to have a spiritual mentor
 - Male or female (with boundaries)
 - Be direct
 - Seek advice and don't decide things all own your own
 - This prevents Shaytan's influence
 - The Prophet (SAW) is our role model
 - They need to be a well wisher for you

Effect on Religious People

- He will make religious people prideful
- The worst type of arrogance is arrogance in religion
- Ghazali says that a sin that makes one feel regretful is better than a good deed that makes one arrogant
- You're supposed to believe you're right for doing righteous things, but not that you're better than others

- Nobody's allowed to look down on other people
- Righteous people can also become over conscious of their 'ibadah
 - It's not virtuous to be extreme
 - The sunnah is balanced
 - Shaytan gets people even through religion
- Not everything that feels good is spirituality
 - Spirituality is knowing your obligations and fulfilling that role