

SUMMER IMMERSION

THE MYSTERIES OF TRAILS AND TESTS



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SESSION 3

Benefit 8 - Joy over its benefits

- The author says “Experiencing joy at the onset of calamity because of the many benefits it contains.”
 - Joy means that one is happy because there are external pieces we are aware of:
 - A sign of love from Allah
 - A sign that Allah is pushing me outside the comfort zone
 - A sign that Allah won’t punish me in Akhirah
 - The Prophet (SAW) said, “His punishment for his sins and all his wrongdoings are brought forth in dunya.”
 - He (SAW) also said “A person of I’btilla stands in front of Allah with nothing.” There are no questions or reckoning.
 - A believer must never rush to understand the “Why”. The Prophet (SAW) would never say Why (a part of his sunnah). A sahabah came to the Prophet SAW and said “O messenger of Allah sometimes we experience thoughts and we are ashamed to acknowledge it or verbalize it. The Prophet responded “That is the true realization of Faith.”
 - The answer to the “Why” will always be a philosophical response, not a religious response.
 - Going through difficulty is a form of cleansing your sins.
 - The Prophet (SAW) said, "No fatigue, nor disease, nor sorrow, nor sadness, nor hurt, nor distress befalls a Muslim, even if it were the prick he receives from a thorn, but that Allah expiates some of his sins for that.

- “He is the One’ Who created death and life in order to test which of you is best in deeds” [67:2]
 - The more I’btıla - the more forgiveness. If you acknowledge I’btıla, it is a form of worship.
- Ibn Masud says “Truly amazing are the two destested ones: death and poverty!”
 - They showed joy because they are aware that there is no comparison between its hardship and its fruit and benefits.
 - They’re happy because they know the outcome!
 - “So, surely with hardship comes ease” [94:5]
 - And expiations of sins as mentioned earlier
 - Example - the heavy dose of sour and disgusting medicine, but you know the outcome - good health.
 - The Prophet (SAW) says “Allah tests you through Tribulation in order to refine you, just as you refine gold with fire.”
 - Ali (RA) said “ Do not become despondent at the onset of tribulation and do not rejoice at the onset of ease for gold is refined through fire and the righteous servant is refined through tribulation. You will not attain what you want except by leaving what you desire and you will not reach what you aspire to except through Sabr (patience).”

Benefit 9 - Being Grateful

- The author states, “
 - Nabi (SAW) said “The affairs of a believer is all good.”
 - This is special to only a believer. Only believer can see all good in their affairs
 - How can a believer see this always see goodness?
 - Prophet (SAW) said “If they’re hit by a calamity, they’re patience. If they experience a beautiful time, they were thankful.”

- Virtues Alhamdulillah
 - The Messenger of Allah says, "Allah says to the angels: Have you taken the life of My servant's child? They say yes. Allah says: Have you taken the fruit of his heart? They say yes. Allah says: What has My servant said? They say: **He has praised You** and said to Allah we belong and to Allah we return. Allah says: Build a house for My servant in Paradise and name it the House of Praise."
 - When you say Alhamdulillah, you are thanking and Praising Allah.
- Alhamdulillah vs Shukr
 - Shukr at times of ease.
 - Alhamdulillah is at all times.

Benefit 10 - Purification from Sin

- The Prophet (SAW) said," [A person of I'tila] he or she continue to live a life of struggle until they face Allah with no sins."
 - This is why Allah is embarrassed to hold these people accountable on the Day of Judgement.
 - Even Nuh (AS) will be questioned
 - Nuh AS will be called on the Day of Resurrection and he will say "Labbayk wa sa 'dayk – responding and at Your pleasure, O my Lord!" Then Allah will ask, "Did you convey the Message?" Nuh AS will say, "Yes." It will then be asked of his ummah, "Did he convey the Message?" They will say, "No warner came to us." Allah will ask Nuh AS, "Who will testify for you?" Nuh AS will say, "Muhammad SAW and his ummah." Prophet Muhammad SAW and his ummah will testify that Nuh AS did convey the Message, for that is the saying of the Almighty and Glorious: And thus we have made you a just community that you will be witnesses over the people and the Messenger will be a witness over you. (Qur'an 2:143)