

# SUMMER IMMERSION

## THE MYSTERIES OF TRAILS AND TESTS



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### Benefit 15 - Continued

وَلَنَبْلُونَكُم بِشَنِّعٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ الْأُمْوَالِ وَالْأَنْفُسِ وَالثَّمَرَاتِ وَبَشِّرُ الصَّابِرِينَ [2:155] We will certainly test you with a touch of fear and famine and loss of property, life, and crops. Give good news to those who patiently endure

- A default in a muslims life is i'btila.
- But when one expects this life to be a life of ease, upon experiencing hurdles, Shukur is taken away.
- Khawf is a form of I'btila that you're rewarded for.
- Patience is the key to success, but it's incredibly difficult. Hence why Allah talks about these people

لَتُبْلَوْنَ فِي أَمْوَالِكُمْ وَأَنْفُسِكُمْ وَلَتَسْمَعُنَّ مِنَ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ وَمِنَ الَّذِينَ أَشْرَكُوا  
أَنَّهُمْ كَثِيرٌ وَإِنْ تَصْبِرُوا وَتَتَقْوُا فَإِنَّ ذَلِكَ مِنْ عَزْمِ الْأُمُورِ

[3:186] - You 'believers' will surely be tested in your wealth and yourselves,<sup>1</sup> and you will certainly hear many hurtful words from those who were given the Scripture before you and 'from' the polytheists. But if you are patient and mindful 'of Allah'—surely this is a resolve to aspire to.

- When Allah speaks about the Muhajireen and Ansar, you then understand that these people were selected for a reason. They were unstoppable and firm on religion.
- They were strangers in their own land, their wealth was all gone.

إِذْ جَاءُوكُم مِّنْ فَوْقِكُمْ وَمِنْ أَسْفَلَ مِنْكُمْ وَإِذْ رَأَيْتِ أَلْأَبْصَرُ وَبَلَغَتِ الْقُلُوبُ الْحَنَاجِرَ وَتَطَنَّبُونَ بِاللَّهِ  
الظَّنُونَا

[33:10] "Remember<sup>1</sup> when they came at you from east and west,<sup>1</sup> when your eyes grew wild<sup>2</sup> 'in horror'<sup>1</sup> and your hearts jumped into your throats, and you entertained 'conflicting' thoughts about Allah"

هُنَالِكَ أَبْتُلَى الْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَزُلْزِلُوا زِلْزَالًا شَدِيدًا

[33:11] - Then and there the believers were put to the test and were violently shaken

- They would live in a constant state of fear. They would be forced to tie rocks to their stomachs out of severe hunger and the Prophet (SAW) never satisfied his stomach for two consecutive days.
  - These are all I'btila. This book is preparing us for these moments that we will endure.
  - The Prophet could ask Allah for anything and had power with Allah, however he still had to endure I'btila.
    - The Prophet (SAW) said "The example of a believer is like that of a plant, the wind is always making it lean one direction and then another, in the same way, the believer is always afflicted with trial." [Bukhari 5644 and Muslim 2809]
- War'a vs Zuhud.
  - War'a is to create a wall between you and haram.
  - Zuhud to minimize yourself with Halal because it can take you away from Allah - Allah loves these people
    - The Prophet (SAW) was asked, " Teach me an action that Allah will love me and the people will love me." He (SAW) responded, "Minimize your attachment towards dunya, Allah will love you."

## Benefit 16 - The pleasure of Allah

- When one is able to control oneself throughout this life, one attains Rida
  - Rida - Opposite of displeasure and malcontent. Al-Jurjani said it referred to the joy of the heart at the occurrence of the decree. Ibn Al-Qayyim said it is "Tranquility of the heart in the face of vicissitudes of the decree and the firm knowledge that it has in Allah would only that which is good for it."

- Ibn Rajab said Rida is recommended whereas Sabr is obligatory.
  - Rida vs Sabr
    - Sabr - to restrain one's soul from feeling and displaying displeasure or malcontent coupled with sensing the pain of what has befallen him and the desire to see it removed.
    - Rida - Expansion of the heart to what has befallen it, its total acceptance of the divine decree and its not desiring to not see it removed. Rida lessens pain due to certainty (Yaqeen) and cognizance (ma'rifah) that has taken root in the heart. As Rida strengthens, it's possible that the person no longer feels the pain at all.
  - Gaining Allah's pleasure is greater than Jannah

وَرِضْوَنٌ مِّنْ أَنْ لَّهِ أَكْبَرُ

[9:72] - And Allah's good pleasure is even greater.

- I.e greater than the gardens of paradise
- When the u'lama would talk about, they say "If it weren't for seeing Allah on the day of qiyama, we would've worked for Jannah."
  - Looking at Jannah and thinking of all the castles and rewards is a narrow point of view. The ultimate prize is to see Allah, being with him, and hearing him grant his pleasure to his servants.

We ask Allah that he forgives us and gives us well-being in this world and hereafter. May Allah grant us the accord to enact that which He loves and is pleased with. Peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammed (SAW), his family and companions. Allah is sufficient for us and what an excellent disposer of our affairs is He.