

# ❧ THE KEY TO KNOWLEDGE ❧

## How to Understand Islaam Correctly

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#### Dars 19- `Aqeedah: The Pillars of Eemaan – Belief in the Last Day continued 02/04/2011

After praising Allaah and sending salaah and salaam upon His Messenger (sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam) and those who followed him, our Shaykh and teacher, Muhammad Al-Malki welcomed the students to today's class. We will continue dealing with: **Belief in the Last Day**

#### RECAP: THE SIGNS OF THE LAST DAY (علامات الساعة)

Previously it was mentioned that belief in the Last Day is a pillar of *eemaan* in the belief of Ahlus-Sunnah wal-Jamaa`ah and that no one can have correct *eemaan* without it. We mentioned the signs of the Hour and that it is part of believing in the Last Day. We said that the signs are of 3 types:

1. The **distant signs** which existed long ago - one of its main signs was the presence of the Messenger (sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam).
2. The **intermediate signs** – they are between the remote ones that came long ago and the major ones which have not yet come. Some of them have already occurred as in the Hadeeth of Jibreel where it mentions: *“the slave-girl will give birth to her mistress”* and it was explained as a slave girl would be enjoyed by her master and give birth to a baby girl who is taken away; then this daughter gains authority and purchases her mother as a slave but neither the mother nor the daughter realizes this.
3. The **major signs** which have not occurred as yet. The major signs are those which will exist just before the Hour. Once they begin to appear they will come fast, one after another. The people of knowledge summarized them as 10 main signs:
  1. The coming of the *Mahdee*. He is a man who will become a leader at a time when the earth will be covered with oppression and he will spread justice. He is from the descendants of the Rasoolullaah sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam. His name will be similar to the Prophet's name and his father's name is similar to the name of the Prophet's (sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam) father.
  2. The appearance of the Dajjaal i.e. the Antichrist. He will come with a number of trials such that no one will remain safe from them except those who have true and correct *eemaan*. Allaah Ta`aalaa allowed him to ... (unclear); two of the shayateen were caused to take the form of the deceased parents of a person and believing that they were his parents who were brought to life, they (the people) obeyed the Antichrist. However, the believers remained safe.

3. The descending of the Messiah - `Eesa ibn Maryam (`alayhimas-salaam). He will come and break the cross, kill the pigs and abolish the *jizyah*. He sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam will not accept from anyone a religion other than Islaam otherwise the individual will be killed.
4. The release of Ya`jooj and Ma`jooj (Gog and Magog). They are from the creation of Allaah Ta`aalaa and He knows best about them. Allaah mentioned part of their story when he told us about Dhul-Qarnayn in Sooratul-Kahf:

﴿ قَالُوا يٰذَا الْقَرْنَيْنِ اِنَّ يٰجُوجَ وَمَاجُوجَ مُفْسِدُونَ فِي الْاَرْضِ فَهَلْ نَجْعَلُ لَكَ خَرْجًا عَلٰى اَنْ تَجْعَلَ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَهُمْ سَدًّا

﴿ ٩٤ ۝ قَالَ مَا مَكَّنِّي فِيهِ رَبِّي خَيْرٌ فَاَعِينُوْنِي بِقُوَّةٍ اَجْعَلْ بَيْنَكُمْ وَبَيْنَهُمْ رَدْمًا ۝ ٩٥ ﴾

**They said: "O Dhul-Qarnain! Verily, Ya'jooj and Ma'jooj (Gog and Magog people) are doing great mischief in the land. Shall we then pay you a tribute in order that you might erect a barrier between us and them?" (95) He said: "That (wealth, authority and power) in which my Lord had established me is better (than your tribute). So help me with strength (of men), I will erect between you and them a barrier. (Al-Kahf 18:94-95)**

The Prophet sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam gave us some of their description; he said that their faces are like pieces of metal which have been flattened by a hammer, meaning that they (have flat faces and) resemble the people of China or eastern Europe like Kazakhstan etc. However, it is not correct to say that Gog and Magog are the people of China etc. They will pass by the lake Tabaria (Tiberius) in Jordon and drink it all at once.

5. A man from Abyssinia (Ethiopia) called Dhus-Suwaikatayn<sup>1</sup> - some say that he is a ruler/leader, and he called in an army and will demolish the Ka`bah and rob it of its treasure which is inside.
6. The Smoke that will come down from the heavens at the end of the time as mentioned in Soorah Ad-Dukhaan<sup>2</sup>.
7. The raising up of the Qur'aan from the earth to the heavens such that not a single line will be left in books and not a word will be left in the chests.
8. The rising of the sun from the West instead of the East.
9. Emergence of the beast from amongst the creation; it is an animal which speaks and puts a brand/sign on the noses of the people. It speaks to the people because they disbelieved in the signs of the Oneness of Allaah and the (word unclear) that Allaah Ta`aalaa sent<sup>3</sup>.
10. A great fire that comes from Aden in Yemen and pushes the people to where they will be resurrected. We ask Allaah to protect us.

<sup>1</sup> literally: one with two lean legs

<sup>2</sup> Ad-Dukhaan 44:10 - {Then wait you for the Day when the sky will bring forth a visible smoke.}

<sup>3</sup> Al-Naml 27:82 - {And when the Word (of torment) is fulfilled against them, We shall bring out from the earth a beast to them, which will speak to them because mankind believed not with certainty in Our Aayaat (Verses of the Qur'aan and Prophet Muhammad [sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam]).}

## THE BARZAKH (البرزخ)

Between these signs and the occurrence of the Hour is a life called *Al-Barzakh*. It is the life that comes right after the worldly life and starts by the death of each person whether the person is buried or not.

**Question:** Is this life is specifically for mankind or is it for all those who die from amongst mankind, jinn, animals and all other creations besides the angels?

**Answer:** This is a special life but not only for mankind alone, but for mankind and jinn.

This is proven by what is narrated in Saheeh Muslim on the authority of Anas ibn Maalik (radhiyallaahu `anhu), who said, "The Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam) said, **'If you were not (to abandon) the burying of the dead (in the grave), I would have certainly supplicated Allaah that He should make you listen to some of the torment of the grave.'**"

Although this is directed to the children of Adam it is general to the jinn and mankind. This has been clarified by what Imaam Al-Bukhaaree reported in his Saheeh on the authority of Anas ibn Maalik (radhiyallaahu `anhu) that that Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam) said, **"When (Allaah's) slave is put in his grave and his companions return and he even hears their footsteps ..."** at the end of the hadeeth it mentions that when the hypocrite or disbeliever is questioned by the angel he will be hit with a metal hammer such that, **"he will send such a cry that everything near to him will hear, except Jinn and mankind."**<sup>4</sup> As it mentions that neither jinn nor mankind will hear the cry, it means that they both will be punished in the grave.

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<sup>4</sup> The entire hadeeth is as follows: Allaah's Apostle said, "When (Allaah's) slave is put in his grave and his companions return and he even hears their footsteps, two angels come to him and make him sit and ask, 'What did you use to say about this man (i.e. Muhammad)?' The faithful believer will say, 'I testify that he is Allaah's slave and His Apostle.' Then they will say to him, 'Look at your place in the Hellfire; Allaah has given you a place in Paradise instead of it.' So he will see both his places." (Qatadah said, "We were informed that his grave would be made spacious." Then Qatadah went back to the narration of Anas who said,) "Whereas a hypocrite or a non-believer will be asked, 'What did you use to say about this man?' He will reply, 'I do not know; but I used to say what the people used to say.' So they will say to him, 'Neither did you know nor did you take the guidance (by reciting the Qur'aan).' Then he will be hit with an iron hammers once, that he will send such a cry as everything near to him will hear, except Jinn and human beings." [Saheeh Al-Bukhaaree, The Book of Funerals]

## THE PLEASURE AND PUNISHMENT IN THE GRAVE

Allaah Ta`aala says in Soorah Al-An`aam, aayah 93:

﴿... وَلَوْ تَرَىٰ إِذِ الظَّالِمُونَ فِي غَمَرَاتِ الْمَوْتِ وَالْمَلَائِكَةُ بَاسِطُوا أَيْدِيهِمْ أَخْرَجُوا أَنفُسَكُمْ أَيُّومَ تُجْرُونَ عَذَابَ الْهَوْنِ بِمَا كُنْتُمْ تَقُولُونَ عَلَى اللَّهِ غَيْرَ الْحَقِّ وَكُنْتُمْ عَنْ آيَاتِهِ تَسْتَكْبِرُونَ﴾

... And if you could but see (O Muhammad sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) when the Zaalimoon (polytheists and wrong doers) are in the agonies of death, while the angels are stretching forth their hands (saying): "Deliver your souls! This day you shall be recompensed with the torment of degradation because of what you used to utter against Allaah other than the truth. And you used to reject His Ayaat (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) with disrespect!"

Ibnul-Qayyim said of this aayah that it is a speech directed to them at the time of their death and the ones who tell him that are the angels and they are honest; and if it is to be said in the dunyaa then it would not have been proper to say "this day you shall be recompensed". That is why it is said that death and the grave are the first stages of Akhirah. I ask Allaah's protection.

We need to pay attention and be careful; listen attentively to these verses. Allaah Azza wa Jall said regarding the punishment of the grave,

﴿فَوَقَّهُ اللَّهُ سَيِّئَاتِ مَا مَكُرُوا وَحَاقَ بِثَالِ فِرْعَوْنَ سُوءُ الْعَذَابِ ﴿٤٥﴾ النَّارُ يُعْرَضُونَ عَلَيْهَا غُدُوًّا وَعَشِيًّا وَيَوْمَ تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ أَدْخِلُوا آلَ فِرْعَوْنَ أَشَدَّ الْعَذَابِ ﴿٤٦﴾﴾

So Allaah saved him (Moosa `alayhis salaam) from the evils that they plotted (against him), while an evil torment encompassed Fir`aun's (Pharaoh) people. (46) The Fire; they are exposed to it, morning and afternoon, and on the Day when the Hour will be established (it will be said to the angels):

"Cause Fir`aun's (Pharaoh) people to enter the severest torment!" (Ghaafir 40:45-46)

Here, "morning and afternoon" refers to the life of *barzakh* - the life of the grave - the life that is between the life of the dunyaa and the hereafter as mentioned previously. In this ayah, Allaah mentioned the two torments: the one in the grave and the one in hereafter. May Allaah save us on that day on which nothing will benefit anyone except one who comes with pure heart, pure eemaan and good deeds; aameen. Allaah said,

﴿فَذَرَهُمْ حَتَّىٰ يُلَاقُوا يَوْمَهُمُ الَّذِي فِيهِ يُصْعَقُونَ ﴿٤٥﴾ يَوْمَ لَا يُغْنِي عَنْهُمْ كَيْدُهُمْ شَيْئًا وَلَا هُمْ يُنصَرُونَ ﴿٤٦﴾﴾

So leave them alone till they meet their Day, in which they will sink into a fainting (with horror). (45) The Day when their plotting shall not avail them at all nor will they be helped (i.e. they will receive their torment in Hell). (At-Toor 52:45-46)

This will be in the life of Barzakh and on the Day of Resurrection. May Allaah Ta`aalaa protect us all. Aameen. Allaah Ta`aalaa said,

﴿ يَثْبُتُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا بِالْقَوْلِ الثَّابِتِ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ ﴾

Allaah will keep firm those who believe, with the word that stands firm in this world (i.e. they will keep on worshipping Allaah Alone and none else), and in the Hereafter. And Allaah will cause to go astray those who are Zaalimoon (polytheists and wrong doers), and Allaah does what He wills.

(Ibraaheem 14:27)

The Tafseer of this ayah came from the Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam) from Baraa' ibn `Aazib (radhiyallaahu `anhu) in the Saheehayn and the books of Sunan, that Rasoolullaah (sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam) said, *"When a Muslim is questioned in his grave, he will testify that none has the right to be worshipped but Allaah and that Muhammad is Allaah's Apostle, and that is what is meant by Allaah's Statement:- "Allaah will keep firm those who believe with a Word that stands firm in this world and in the Hereafter." (Ibraaheem 14.27)"*

And in another hadeeth it mentions that the Messenger of Allaah sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam said, *"This verse: 'Allaah grants steadfastness to those who believe with firm word,' was revealed in connection with the torment of the grave. It would be said to him: 'Who is your Lord?' And he would say: 'Allaah is my Lord and Muhammad is my Prophet (sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam)', and that is (what is implied) by the words of Allaah, the Exalted: 'Allaah keeps steadfast those who believe with firm word in this world and in the Hereafter'."*

Ibn Abbaas said, "The (word unclear) in the grave says, 'Who is your lord?' and 'What is your religion?' and 'Who is your Prophet?' and 'in the Aakhirah is the like.'

Allaah Ta`aalaa says,

﴿ وَمِنْ وَرَائِهِمْ بَرْزَخٌ إِلَى يَوْمِ يُبْعَثُونَ ﴾

... and behind them is Barzakh (a barrier) until the Day when they will be resurrected.

(Al-Mu'minoon 23:100)

This is why the 3<sup>rd</sup> khaleefah of Rasoolullaah sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam, `Uthmaan ibn `Affaan (radhiyallaahu `anhu) would cry whenever the *qabr* (grave) was mentioned. He was asked, "Why are you crying?" He replied, "Why do I cry? Because the grave is the first stage of the Hereafter... (words unclear).

When Ibn Mas`ood (radhiyallaahu `anhu) was in the process of death he was crying and they asked him, "You cry and you are the companion of Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam)?" He said, "Why shouldn't I cry and I am don't know if I am going to be taken to the Jannah or the Fire."

If those people said this then what about us! Our sins are huge and our good deeds are very little and the angels are writing and the shayateen are so happy.

Dear brothers and sisters, the speech is too long and the deeds are too little. So let us stop here. May Allaah Ta`aala wake us from our sleep to worship Him in reality and seriously and not to play and joke like we are doing today. Let us be honest with ourselves and let us ask ourselves the question that Rasoolullaah sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam asked a man when he asked "When is the hour?" and he sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam turned away and did not answer him. The man asked, "When is the hour?" and he sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam turned away again and the third time he (sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam) said, **"Where is the one asking about the hour?"** The man said, "I, yaa Rasoolullaah." He (sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam) asked him, **"What have you prepared for it?"**

What have we prepared for it?

Have we prepared for it prayer at night whilst the people are sleeping?

Have we prepared for it fasting in the day whilst the people are eating?

Have we prepared for it (word unclear) for ourselves?

Have we prepared for it a grateful and dutiful response to our parents?

Have we prepared for it what pleases Allaah or do we just beautify our deeds for ourselves?

We convince ourselves that we are pious people but Allaah Ta`aala knows best about us. Let us all fear Allaah and let us all work together to please Allaah.

Inshaa' Allaah we will continue tomorrow.

I ask Allaah to make our deeds all sincerely for Him and upon the way of Rasoolullaah sallallaahu`alayhi wa sallam, and to avoid making any of it for anyone or anything other than Him subhannahu wa Ta`aala.

*We now end by praising Allaah and sending salaah and salaam upon the Messenger of Allaah.*

**❧END OF DARS NINETEEN❧**