

THE KEY TO KNOWLEDGE

How to Understand Islaam Correctly

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Dars 25- `Aqeedah: The Pillars of Eemaan – Belief in the Last Day - REVISION 07/05/2011

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 which will be a **revision** of the 5th pillar of *eemaan* (faith): **Belief in the Last Day**.

NAMES OF THE LAST DAY

Believing the Last Day is an important topic. Allaah Ta`Aalaa named those who disbelieve in it “*kuffaar*” and He Ta`Aalaa said that they are in the Fire. We said that the Last Day is (inclusive of) the Day of Judgment and the Day of Resurrection which occurs before the Judgment. People are going to be resurrected from their graves when the angel Israfeel blows the horn for the second time. That Day is the longest Day ever known. Allaah Ta`Aalaa called it by many different names in the Qur’aan; from amongst them are:

- ¹ يوم الدين - Yawmud-Deen
- ² يوم الفصل - Yawmul-Fasl
- ³ يوم القيامة - Yawmul-Qiyaamah
- ⁴ يوم الحشر - Yawmul-Hashr
- ⁵ يوم التغابن - Yawmut-Taghaabun
- ⁶ يوم التناد - Yawmut-Tanaad
- يوم المعاد - Yawmul-Ma`aad

It is called the Last Day because there is no other day after it. After it life will be either: happiness and no sadness i.e. in the Jannah, or sadness and no happiness i.e. in the Fire. The sun will be rolled up, smashed and thrown into the Fire, and the heavens and the earth will be changed to something that suits the life of that Day that Allaah Ta`Aalaa creates.

THE SCALE (الميزان)

On that Day the scale will set up for weighing everything even the amount of an atom's weight of the good deeds and eemaan (belief); not only that, rather the people themselves will also be weighed.

¹ Al-Faatihah 1:4, Al-Hijr 15:35, Ash-Shu`araa' 26:82, As-Saafaat 37:20, Saad 38:78, Al-Infitaar 82:15,17,18 and 2 others

² As-Saafaat 37:21, Ad-Dukhaan 44:40, Al-Mursalaat 77:14,38, An-Naba' 78:17

³ Al-Baqarah 2:113,174,212, Aal-`Imraan 3:55,77,161,180,185,194, Al-Qalam 68:39, Al-Qiyaamah 75:6 and 49 others

⁴ Al-Hashr 59:2

⁵ At-Taghaabun 64:9

⁶ Ghaafir 40:32

THE PARADISE AND THE FIRE (الجنة والنار)

On that Day, people are going to go to either the Jannah or the Fire. These have already been created and there are many verses in the Qur'aan and ahaadeeth that prove this. In a hadeeth Qudsi it is mentioned that *Allaah created the Paradise and the Fire and they argued with one another. The Paradise said to the Fire, "I am better than you because I am the land of Mercy of Allaah and He is only going to let good people enter into me." The Fire responded saying, "I am better than you because I am the Punishment of Allaah and Allaah Ta`Aalaa is going to punish with me all those who disbelieved in Him and disobeyed Him. Allaah Ta`Aalaa then said, "Verily each one of you will have creatures to fill it."* (Recorded in Al-Bukhaaree and Muslim with a different wording)⁷

The Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) told us that he was shown the Paradise and the Fire and that most of the residents of the Paradise were those who were poor in this worldly life and were patient believers, whilst the majority of the residents of the Hellfire were women – those women who disbelieved and disobeyed the Messengers. It is not only because they are women but because the women outnumber the men as may be seen in the population today and every day. The women are more than the men and as the Prophet (Sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) said, *"At the end of time there would be one man responsible for fifty women in his family."* That means that the women are fifty times more than the men. Of course the majority of men and women are *kuffaar* and since the majority of mankind is female this is why the majority of people seen in the Fire are from amongst the females. Allaah Ta`Aalaa told us in the Qur'aan,

يُثَبِّتُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا بِالْقَوْلِ الثَّابِتِ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ وَيُضِلُّ اللَّهُ
الظَّالِمِينَ وَيَفْعَلُ اللَّهُ مَا يَشَاءُ

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 wrongdoers, etc.), and Allaah does what He wills. (Ibraaheem 14:27)

The "word that stands firm" refers to the answer that will be given (by the believers) to the angels that come to the grave i.e. Munkar and Nakeer who will ask everyone from amongst mankind three questions. Each person will have to answer these questions; those who don't will be hit with a hammer that will drive him into the depths of the earth and then they will be brought up again.

Allaah also said about Fir`aun and his people:

⁷ The Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) said, *"Paradise and the Fire (Hell) argued, and the Fire (Hell) said, 'I have been given the privilege of receiving the arrogant and the tyrants.' Paradise said, 'What is the matter with me? Why do only the weak and the humble among the people enter me?' On that, Allaah said to Paradise. 'You are My Mercy which I bestow on whoever I wish of my servants.' Then Allaah said to the (Hell) Fire, 'You are my (means of) punishment by which I punish whoever I wish of my slaves. And each of you will have its fill'."* (This is the wording in Al-Bukhaaree)

﴿ فَوَقَّهٗ اللَّهُ سَيِّئَاتِ مَا مَكَرُوا وَحَاقَ بِآلِ فِرْعَوْنَ سُوءُ الْعَذَابِ ﴿٤٥﴾ النَّارُ يُعْرَضُونَ

عَلَيْهَا غُدُوًّا وَعَشِيًّا وَيَوْمَ تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ أَدْخِلُوا آلَ فِرْعَوْنَ أَشَدَّ الْعَذَابِ ﴿٤٦﴾

So Allaah saved him from the evils that they plotted (against him), while an evil torment encompassed Fir`aun's (Pharaoh) people. [45] 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)

The family of Fir`aun are surrounded by what they used in the worldly life of disbelief and saying that Fir`aun is the Lord. While they are in the grave the Fire is presented to them twice: once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

THE PATH (الصراط)

On the Day there will be the Path which is built over the Jahannam (Hellfire). It is as thin as a strand of hair and sharp as a sword; on it there are hooks and beneath it is the Fire. As mentioned before, all the heat found today, whether the heat from the sun, volcanoes, factories, electricity, chemical reactions, wood, gas, oil and whatever other types of fire or heat that we find today, when it is all gathered together it is only one part of the sixty or seventy parts of the Hellfire which is the original source of all fire ever known.

This Path will lead from the plain/land where the people are all resurrected and gathered together - from Aadam (`alayhis salaam) to the last man. They will all be naked and barefoot and no one will be worried about the other as everyone will be worried only about his/her own self.

THE GATHERING (الحشر)

The people will be standing for a very long time – only standing and never sitting – and the sun is going to be very close to them – only a mile away. Their sweat will reach a height based on their deeds - everyone different from the other. Some will be in sweat up to the heels, others to the ankles, the shins, knees, thighs, waist, chests, shoulders, and mouth.

THE INTERCESSION (الشفاعة)

On that day they wish that Allaah Ta`Aalaa begins the Judgment but they cannot speak to Allaah so they go to pious people. They go only the prophets, to the major ones from amongst them beginning with their father Aadam (`alayhis-salaam) who would say: "No, I am not for it, I am someone who committed a sin so I don't feel that I can do it." So they would go to Nooh (`alayhis-salaam) who would say the same thing so then they go to Ibraaheem, then to Moosaa then `Eesaa (`alayhimus-salaam) and all would apologize, saying that they cannot because it was not for them. That is only because as Allaah Ta`Aalaa said to the Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam):

﴿...عَسَىٰ أَنْ يَبْعَثَكَ رَبُّكَ مَقَامًا مَّحْمُودًا﴾

... It may be that your Lord will raise you to **Maqaam Mahmood (a station of praise and glory, i.e., the honour of intercession on the Day of Resurrection)**. (Al-Israa' 17:79)

This *Maqaaman-Mahmoodaa* is the intercession for the reckoning/judgment to start and it is only for the Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam).

The Prophets and Messengers, and before them the angels and after them Allaah Ta`Aalaa, will intercede for people who Allaah Ta`Aalaa permits. This is because intercession cannot happen except with three conditions:

1. Allaah Ta`Aalaa is pleased with the intercessor himself.
2. Allaah Ta`Aalaa is pleased with the one for whom intercession is being sought.
3. Permission from Allaah Ta`Aalaa for the intercession to take place.

Two types of intercession exist:

1. The **permissible or legitimate intercession** which is sought through the proper way. This is one of four things:
 - a. Interceding to Allaah by His Names and Attributes.
 - b. Interceding to Him by one's best deeds.
 - c. Interceding to Him by the supplication of someone who is pious, alive and present.
 - d. Not mentioned.
2. The **false intercession** which is interceding through non-permissible ways. This is like interceding through graves and the pious people buried in the graves, or by asking Allaah Ta`Aalaa "by a grave" thinking that it has special right with Allaah Ta`Aalaa such that if anyone asks Allaah by it or near it, his request would be fulfilled. This is also false intercession.

THE LAKE (الحوض)

On that Day there will only be one single Lake on that land – the Lake of Muhammad (Sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam). It is only visited by the believers - those who never associated anything with Allaah in worship and never innovated anything in the religion; they used to worship Allaah on the way of Rasoolullaah (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam). They are those who passed the three questions of the graves: (1) Who is Your Lord? (2) What do you say about this man sent amongst you (Muhammad-sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam)? (3) What is your religion? (I.e. they are the ones who were successful).

These questions will be asked of every person in the grave by the two angels of the grave as each grave has two angels, one is called Munkar and the other is Nakeer, just as each man has two angels accompanying him; one called Raqeeb and the other Ateed. Likewise, Allaah Ta`Aalaa mentioned the names of two angels in sooratul-Baqarah aayah 102 with regards to magic: Haaroot and Maaroot.

THE SIGNS PRIOR TO THE DAY OF RESURRECTION (علامات الساعة)

There are signs that will exist and be seen prior to the Day of Resurrection. Some of the `Ulamaa' put five of the major signs into one word as an acronym. The word is **Mad`eet** (مدعيط) and represents:

<p>طلوع الشمس من مغربها</p> <p><i>Tuloo`ash-shams min maghribihaa</i> (Rising of the sun from the West)</p>	<p>يأجوج ومأجوج</p> <p><i>Ya`jooj wa Ma`jooj</i> (Gog and Magog)</p>	<p>عيسى</p> <p><i>`Eesaa</i> (`alaihi salaam)</p>	<p>دجال</p> <p><i>Dajjaal</i></p>	<p>مهدي</p> <p><i>Mahdee</i></p>
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YA`JOOJ, MA`JOOJ AND THE BEAST

Ya`jooj and Ma`jooj (Gog and Magog) are a creation that has already been created. Allaah Ta`Aalaa told us their story in Soorah Al-Kahf.⁸ Dhul-Qarnayn built a dam between them and the people and whenever they try to break through they fail because they say, "Tomorrow we will continue" and they forget to say, "Inshaa' Allaah". So when they return the next day they find that the hole that they made has been sealed. They will continue like this until Allaah Ta`Aalaa permits; then they will remember and say "Inshaa' Allaah" so they will return the next day and find the hole as they left it. They will resume working on it until they are able to exit from that place. Then they will go across the earth and drink the whole of Lake Tabaria (between Jordan and Syria) in one go.

There will be a creature which looks like an animal that is very hairy; it carries a stick that will brand people on their noses – the believers. It will speak to the people telling them that there were people who used to say, "لا إله إلا الله" (*Laa ilaaha ill-Allaah*).

THE THREE TYPES OF SIGNS OF THE HOUR

These signs, as we said before, are of three types⁹; many from the first two types already occurred while the third type will occur just before the Hour. The first of them are called the **minor** signs (*sughraa*) which began when Rasoolullaah (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) was sent as he said: **"The time of my advent and the Hour are like this. (And he pointed with his index and middle fingers)."**¹⁰ We have seen many of the **middle** signs of the Hour as mentioned in the Hadeeth of Jibreel. For example, as we see today, the barefoot almost-naked people living in the desert as shepherds now competing in constructing lofty towers and buildings etc. The far or **major** signs of the Hour begin with the (appearance of the) Mahdee then the Dajjaal then `Eesaa ibn Maryam, the smoke etc.

There will be one very important incident just prior to the Hour and it is that Allaah Ta`Aalaa will raise two things from the earth: (1) The Qur'aan and (2) Knowledge. There will be no Qur'aan left – neither

⁸ Soorah Al-Kahf 18: 93-99

⁹ The minor (*sughraa*), the intermediate and the major (*kubraa*)

¹⁰ The wording in Saheeh Al-Bukhaaree is on the authority of Sahl bin Sa`d who said: "I saw Allaah's Apostle pointing with his index and middle fingers, saying. 'The time of my Advent and the hour are like these two fingers.' The Great Catastrophe will overwhelm everything."

in books nor in the chests; it will all be taken to the Heavens. Likewise, `ilm (knowledge) will be raised; Rasoolullaah (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) said what means, *Allaah will not raise the knowledge from the chest of the people such that they will awake without `ilm. Rather, Allaah Ta`Aalaa will cause the people of knowledge to die and when they die the people will look for someone to give them `ilm and fataawa and they will take people who only claim that they are `ulamaa'*.¹¹

Look what is happening today - the `Ulamaa' are decreasing – they are dying. Since the last four major imaams: Ibn Baaz, Al-Albaani, Al-`Uthaymeen and Muqbil (Rahimahumullaah), we have not seen anyone who can fill the space they left vacant. We see that since then the gate of *fitan* is fully and wide opened and coming like a hurricane that carries every type of destruction with it as we see day after day.

CONCLUSION

Ikhwaan, we have to get ready for that Day by seeking knowledge, implementing it, spreading it, and in all that we have to work on how to improve and increase our *eemaan* by the ways that the Rasool (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) said. This includes for example, optional fasts and salaah, being dutiful to your parents, your children, your neighbors and the Muslims, seeking knowledge, visiting ill people, visiting the graves, the men praying in the masaajid especially the Fajr salaah and waiting until 10-15 minutes after sunrise and then praying two rak`ah. These are the ways to improve your *eemaan*, your understanding, and your implementation of the Deen. If you want the `ilm you have to build your *eemaan* so the *eemaan* will maintain the `ilm that you build. Allaah says:

﴿...وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَيُعَلِّمُكُمُ اللَّهُ...﴾

... So be afraid of Allaah; and Allaah teaches you... (Al-Baqarah 2:282)

And in another aayah Allaah says:

﴿...إِنَّمَا يَخْشَى اللَّهَ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ الْعُلَمَاءُ...﴾

... it is only those who have knowledge among His slaves that fear Allaah...(Al-Faatir 35:28)

The first aayah means that as a result of the fearing (*taqwa*) which comes through your deeds, especially the optional deeds, Allaah will increase you in `ilm; and (from the second aayah) with this `ilm, your *eemaan* and fearing Allaah (*taqwa*) will be protected and built up more and more.

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

﴿END OF DARS TWENTY-FIVE﴾

¹¹ "Verily, Allaah does not take away knowledge by snatching it from the people, but He takes it away by taking away (the lives of) the religious scholars till none of the scholars remain alive. Then the people will take ignorant ones as their leaders; when asked to deliver religious verdicts they will issue them without knowledge, the result being that they will go astray and will lead others astray." [Al-Bukhaaree and Muslim]