

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

Today I will be reading some extracts from the writings of Hazrat Masih Maood(as) where he talks about devotion to Allah. He says:

“It is vitally important that people ~~should~~ dedicate their lives for the sake of God. I have read in some of the newspapers that such and such an Arya has dedicated his life for the Arya Samaj (a religious Hindu Organization) or such and such a priest (Padre) has dedicated his life for the Mission. It surprises me very much to see that ~~the~~ Muslims do not dedicate their lives for the service of Islam and for the sake of God. Look at the days of the Holy Prophet, *sallallahu alaihi wa sallam*, and you will be able to realise how the lives were dedicated to the service of Islam.

You should remember that this is not a bargain of loss; it is altogether profitable. I wish that ~~the~~ Muslims could know how dedication of life for the sake of God is beneficial and profitable. Does ~~the~~ one who dedicates his life, lose it? Not at all. *Falahoo ajrohoo inda Rabbihee wa la khaufun alaihim wa la hum yahzagoon*. It is God Himself who grants the reward of this act of dedication. It sets a man free from all ~~the~~ sorrows and griefs. It surprises me to note that despite the fact that everybody wants to be relieved of the sorrows and griefs of life, ~~why~~ ~~the~~ people do not pay attention to this recipe which has been often tried and found satisfactory. This prescription has been tried during the past 1300 years. Has it not proved effective? Is it not because of this, that the Companions of the Holy Prophet, *sallallahu alaihi wa, sallam*, became the inheritors of eternal life. Why should people shun this recipe now?

The fact is that people are unaware of the reality and sweet taste of dedication of life. Were they to get even an iota of it, they would rush to it with great and unending hopes.

I am fully experienced in this matter and with the grace of God I have enjoyed its sweet taste. My ambition is that after my dedication of life, when I die I should be given another life and that also I should dedicate and this process should continue, with an increased zeal on my part.” (Malfoozat Vol. II, p. 99-100)

He says further:

“I am well experienced in this matter (dedication of life for the cause of God the Almighty). Even if I am told by God that this dedication will bring no reward to me and it will not avail me anything, it simply is not possible that I should stop serving Islam. I therefore take it as a duty of mine that I should urge the members of my Jamaat - and it should be like a will of mine, whether they act according to it, or they don't - that if they are looking for salvation, they should dedicate their lives for the cause of God. Let everyone strive hard to reach the stage where he can say that his life, his death, his sacrifices, his prayers are all for the sake of God. His soul should cry out like that of Hazrat Ibrahim, peace be on him.

Aslamto Ii Rabbi! Aalameen

I have submitted myself to the Lord of the worlds

Unless a man is annihilated in God and unless he is dead in Him (prepared to die for His cause) he cannot have a new life. You who are with me can observe and realise that I take the aim of my life to be dedicated for God's sake. You should consider your lives and find out as to how many of you like this act of mine and how many of you like to dedicate your lives.” (Malfoozaat Vol. II, p. 100)

He says further:

“Let people understand what Hell is. One Hell is that which God has promised (to the wrongdoers) and the other one is this life itself, if it is not lived for God's sake. God does not take upon Himself the Guardianship of such a person and He does not act to save him from difficulties and provide him with comforts. Do not think that wealth, position, honour, and large number of children can provide anyone with real comfort, contentment and the peace of mind, nor these things can give a life of paradise. The contentment, satisfaction and peace of mind which are a bliss of the paradise cannot be had through these things; they can be had only through living and dying in God. This was the Will of all the Prophets, especially Hazrat Ibrahim and Hazrat Yaqub (Jacob), peace be on them.

Their Will was:

La tamootunna ilia wa antum Muslimoon

"You should die in the state of being Muslims".

Worldly pleasures produce impure greed and add to the thirst for more. It is like the person who is a victim of the disease of thirst; the thirst does not get quenched and the disease eventually proves fatal. Thus, the fire of desires, ambitions and regret is also connected with the fire of the Hell; it does not let man rest but rather gives him a sort of confusion and excitement.

Let my friends never lose sight of the fact that one should not be so engrossed in the love of wealth and wives and children that he becomes excited, overjoyed and maniac to the extent that it becomes a curtain between himself and God Almighty. It is for this reason that wealth and children are said to be a trial. They also prepare a Hell for man and when he is removed away from them, he is very much perturbed and that is how

Narullahil Mooqadatullati tatta-lia alal af-ida

"The fire lighted by God that will appear in the hearts"

manifests itself. The fire that burns away the heart of man as roasted meat and makes it darker than burnt charcoal is nothing but the love of someone other than God Almighty." (Malfoozat Vol. II, p. 101)

He says further:

"It is very true that one should look to what is said and not to who has said it. If a man looks to who has said it, he might be deprived of the acceptance of the truth, and more than that, the seed of pride would begin to generate within him. If he is a seeker after truth, why should he pick holes in others. The preacher might pick any point for himself; what have you to do with it. Your object is to find out the truth. Of course, sometimes, preachers talk of irrelevant things and while preaching, they do not restrain themselves to what is expedient or to what can cure the disease (moral or religious) of listeners. They continue talking about their point from various angles. If they had looked at the Holy Prophet, *sallallaho alaihi wa sallam*, they would have learnt a very good method of preaching. A man came to the Holy Prophet *sallallaho alaihi wa sallam*, and asked him what was the best virtue. The Holy Prophet answered: Charity. Another came and asked the same question and he answered: serving one's parents. A third person came and asked him the same question and he told him something else. The question would be the same but the answer differed. Some people have stumbled at this point. Christians have raised a lot of objections about these things. But the ignorant people have not pondered over the blessed method of the Holy Prophet, *sallallaho alaihi wa sallam*. The point underlying this method is that the answer used to be relevant to the condition of the questioner. The best virtue for the person who is niggardly is that he should get rid of these habits and the best virtue for the one who was not serving his

parents was to serve his parents. He needed this kind of teaching to make him a better person - to serve his parents.

Just as it is very essential that the physician should make a good diagnosis of his patient it is also necessary for a preacher to study people well. But the pity of it is that insight and knowledge are not given to anyone except to divine preachers. That is why in spite of the fact that there are thousands of preachers going about, the morals of the country are going down. All sorts of weaknesses - moral and those connected with the faith - are penetrating people. (Malfoozat Vol. II, p. 105)

Speaking of the importance of the Holy Quran he said:

“Had we not possessed the Holy Quran and only the Hadees collections had been there to base our faith and belief on them, we would not have been able to face the people of other faiths and we would have been very much ashamed of it. When I pondered over the word 'Quran' it dawned on me that this blessed word was very prophetic. The prophecy is that the only book worth reading is the Holy Quran, and a time will come when other books will also be there but still this will be the only book worth reading and it is only through this book that the honour of Islam will be retrieved and the falsehood will be eradicated; all other books will deserve to be put aside.

The word 'Furqan' also denotes the same thing: That it is a book that makes distinction between truth and falsehood. No book of Hadees or any other book is of the same standard of excellence as the Holy Quran. That being the case, you should leave all other books and study the Holy Quran day and night. Faithless is the person who does not pay heed to the Holy Quran while he continues pouring on other books. The members of my Jamaat should study the Holy Quran intensively and they should ponder over it very sincerely. They should abandon being engrossed with the Hadees collections. It is very sad

that people do not pay as much heed to the Holy Quran as they do to the Hadees. Now, you should take the weapon of the Holy Quran in your hand; victory will be yours. No darkness can face this Light.

(Malfoozat Vol. II p. 122)

Recently I read something from Imam Ghazzali who lived in the eleventh century almost 800 years before the Promised Messiah. He said that the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw) said “Whoever has been given the Holy Quran and thinks that anyone has been given something better he has degraded what Allah has exalted.” Unfortunately, people do not give much importance to the Holy Quran and they are not eager to learn its wisdom and they content themselves to what they are told or to what they hear. But from what we have understood, it is the duty of each man and woman to do his or her best to try to understand what has been said in the Holy Quran. So, we should all reflect on all these extracts and wonder how far we are doing our best to better understand this holy book that Allah has sent for our guidance. May Allah help each one amongst us so that we fulfill our duties to Allah and to mankind in the best possible way. Incha Allah.