

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

As you might recall, I am sharing with our friends the content of a sort of vision that the Promised Messiah's brother-in-law Dr Mir Mohammad Ishaq once saw when he was pondering over the subject of Allah's Forgiveness. He was being given a tour of what was going on in the afterlife. Last time, we stopped with his seeing the group of prophets. He was being accompanied by an angel named *Ghufran* who was showing him around. What we noticed furthermore was that he saw written at many places verses of the Holy Quran. So, we will continue from where we left off. He recounts:

“There was a special kindness being shown when it came to women. There was a general commandment that a woman who prays five times a day, fasts, protects her chastity and does not disobey her husband, can enter paradise from whichever door of the heaven she prefers. Then we went further and saw that the case of a person who had died during the time of the Holy Prophet^{sa} was being presented in the court. When he passed away, the Holy Prophet^{sa} also went out for his funeral prayers. Hazrat Umar^{ra} requested, “O prophet of Allah, this person was an open sinner and transgressor, please do not offer his funeral prayer.”

The Holy Prophet^{sa} enquired from those attending the funeral prayer, “Has anyone seen this person act upon any of the commandments of Islam?” People replied that on one occasion, he stood for guard duty at night.

The Holy Prophet^{sa} offered his funeral prayer, poured soil in his grave, looked at the grave of the deceased, and said, “O you who have died! Your friends think you are hell-bound, but I bear witness that you shall go to paradise. O Umar ibn Al-Khattab! Do not dig too deep into people's actions. *Generally*, observe if they were observant of Islam or not.”

Thus, the same act rewarded him the salvation in the Hereafter.

20. Similarly, there was a Muslim fighter who had fought in the way of Allah. His deeds were not sufficient to send him to heaven. Allah put his horse, horse's feed and even the horse's dung into the scale of his good deeds, until the scale of his good deeds became heavier than the scale of his wrongdoings and shortcomings and he raced towards paradise on his horse. Similarly, infinite people were forgiven because they were in love with prophets, saints and other holy figures. Even though their actions were not enough, but they were made the neighbors of their loved ones according to the hadith:

الْمَرْءُ مَعَ مَنْ أَحَبَّ

“A person will be with whom he loves.” [Sahih al-Bukhari, Kitab al-Adab]

21. I saw at another place that a group of people, who used to do *zikr* and *tasbih* of God, was being taken to paradise beneath the wings of the angels. There was another person walking behind them. *Ghufran* [the angel accompanying Hazrat Mir Sahib^{ra} in this vision] told me that the story of this person is very interesting.

“Once, Allah asked the angels, what did you see in the world today? The angels replied, ‘We saw a group of people in a mosque remembering you with love and devotion.’ Allah said, ‘Bear witness that I have forgiven them all.’ The angels said, ‘O Allah, there was a person in that gathering who did not come there for Your remembrance, but for a personal errand.’ Allah said, ‘Bear witness that I have forgiven him as well, for’

هُمْ الَّذِي لَا يَشْفِي جَلِيسُهُمْ

“These people [who remember Allah] are such that those who are in their company can never be unfortunate.”

The person walking behind is that same person.”

22. As we went further, *Ghufran* pointed towards a person who was walking around with the mantle of Allah’s forgiveness covering him. *Ghufran* informed me that the story of this person is also very interesting.

“This person migrated to Medina along with a noble companion of the Holy Prophet^{sa} at the time of the migration of the Holy Prophet^{sa}. He got sick in Medina and got so impatient that he slit his own wrists with an arrow, which caused so much bleeding that he eventually died. His friend, who was a companion, saw him in the dream that he was in a very good condition, but he had both his hands covered. His friend asked him, ‘What happened with you [at Judgment Day]?’

“He replied, ‘My Lord forgave me because I had migrated towards His Prophet^{sa}. But Allah also told me that He would not heal my hands which I had damaged.’ When this was mentioned to the Holy Prophet^{sa}, he prayed for him that:

اَللّٰهُمَّ وَلِيْدَيْهِ فَاغْفِرْ

‘O Allah, forgive his hands as well.’”

Ghufran informed me that he remained in his original condition, but today, due to this prayer, his hands completely function and now, he was going to paradise.

23. We went further and I learned of a person about whom Allah had ordered that He would call him to account personally. So, this person was brought in front of Allah's throne. Allah asked him, "Do you know that you committed (such-and-such) grave and heinous sins in the world?" He replied, "Yes, my Lord, I do." Every single muscle on his body was trembling with fear that now, there would be no place for him except hell. However, in that very moment, Allah the Almighty said, "I covered your sins while you were on earth so I will cover your sins today as well. Here, take the register of your good deeds, go towards the people whose accounts are being checked and leave the register of your sins with Us. Now be on your way; We shall take care of things from here."

24. Then, another case was presented in the court of Allah. A prisoner was brought with 99 huge registers of his actions. He was asked, "These are the registers of your deeds. If you dispute any of these, let Us know." He replied, "My Lord, whatever is mentioned in them is correct." He was asked, "Do you have any excuse," He replied, "No, my Lord." Allah replied, "We have one excuse from you, which is a great virtue. You will not be punished."

Then, a piece of paper was presented on which it was written:

أَشْهَدُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَ أَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

"I bear witness that there is no God except Allah, and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah."

It was commanded to put this sheet in the scale of his good deeds and when this sheet of paper was put with his good deeds, the scales of goodness lowered against the other side with heavy registers of sins and that person went running towards paradise, repeating the words:

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ، الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ

"All praise belongs to Allah; All praise belongs to Allah."

25. Then we turned our attention to another side and we heard a caller making an announcement on behalf of Allah the Almighty:

أَيْنَ الَّذِي كَانَتْ تَتَجَافَى جُنُوبُهُمْ عَنِ الْمَضَاجِعِ

"Where are those who used to separate their bodies from their beds at night in the remembrance of their Lord?"

Upon hearing this, many such people stood up and gathered at one place and it was announced that all of them were forgiven without any judgment.

26. Then, a third case was presented in the special court of Allah. A man was brought forward and an order was decreed by Allah to read out all of his smaller sins and errors and ask him whether he had committed these sins, but not to present the graver sins. Upon hearing these smaller sins, the man replied, “Yes, my Lord. I have made all of these mistakes. How can I lie about this truth?” At the same time, the person was thinking fearfully in his heart that these were only his smaller sins.

He asked himself what would happen when his more severe sins would be read out aloud. While he was still in his thoughts, Allah said, “Go, We have forgiven you and given you one good deed for each of your sins.” Hearing this the person lost all his faculties due to happiness and blurted out, “O my Lord, these were only my small sins. The major sins have not been recited yet; those should also be presented before You.” When the audience heard this, they all started laughing. The person, obviously embarrassed, went towards paradise and was covered in the mantle of God’s forgiveness by one of the angels.

27. I also saw that those who were already punished for their crimes on earth were being treated with extra compassion and kindness. For example, there was a person who had committed a grave sin, so he himself went to his ruler and said, “I have committed this sin. I am terribly regretful and have asked Allah for forgiveness, but I would rather face the punishment in this life than face the punishment of the Hereafter.” On this, he was stoned to death. When this person was brought in front of Allah on the Day of Judgement, Allah said to him, “O My servant! We are very pleased with your repentance. If your regret and repentance was distributed to an entire city, we would have forgiven all of them.”

28. There was also a case of a very cruel ruler who had wronged many of his subjects. All of his oppressed subjects were present to look at the punishment that was about to be dealt to him, but when they heard that this person had truly repented from his sins in his last days and had migrated to Medina and died there, they all said that they forgave all of his trespasses against them and beseeched Allah to do the same. Hence, that person also went to paradise with a smile on his face.

29. Millions of people were being forgiven because those who were wronged by them were being recompensed by Allah manifold and in return, these wronged souls were forgiving their transgressors and seeking forgiveness for them and in this manner, they – both the wronged and the wrongdoers – were being forgiven. Many people who did not have enough good deeds were being forgiven because their parents were happy with them and they were absorbing God’s grace under the rule:

“The pleasure of Allah lies in the pleasure of the parents.”

30. The most astounding example for me was that of two persons. Two people were standing to one side, waiting to be dragged to hell, when they saw a forgiven person entering paradise. One of the hell-bound man said to him, “Dear brother! Do you recognise me? I am the person who gave you water on one occasion at such-and-such place.” The second one added, “You must remember me also, brother. I filled up your container with water so that you could perform ablution. Now, look at us, you are going to heaven and we are going to hell.” This melted the heart of the forgiven person and he started praying for them to Allah, the Most Merciful, there and then. It was ordered to take both of them to paradise with him as well.

31. We were still engrossed in these scenes when all of a sudden, we heard some commotion coming from hell. It was reported [to Allah] that two people were causing all this noise. It was ordered to bring the two in front of Allah. Once presented, they were asked, “Why are you making so much noise?” They replied, “O our Lord! We are burning. We cannot bear this pain and punishment. Please have mercy on us.” Allah said, “Alright, go back to your places in hell. We shall make a decision about you later.” One of them returned back, but the other stood there and said, “O my Lord, did you take me out of hell only so that you could put me back?” This caused everyone to laugh. Allah the Almighty ordered, “Alright then, go, O impatient one. We have forgiven you and your friend.”

While we should all take lessons from this experience and never despair of Allah’s Forgiveness, we should also bear in mind that Allah is also “severe in punishment” as we can read in the Holy Quran. Therefore, we should not be too bold and think that we can do whatever we like but Allah will forgive us anyhow. If we do so, we misunderstand Allah’s teachings. It is expected of us that we stay away from sins as best as we can and never despair of Allah’s Forgiveness. Moreover, although many of these incidents are written in one way or other in the books of hadith yet no one can be sure and certain of how Allah will deal with him or her. We should bear this well in mind and not try to test Allah, so to say. May Allah forgive us all by His Grace. Ameen.