

Chapter: 6

بَشِيرٌ نَذِيرٌ

The basic concept of Islam is "توحيد" (the Oneness of God) and "نبوت" (the Prophethood). Another concept of it, is the thought of "آخرة" (the Hereafter). For this, It has been informed that one day the Hour will come and this world will be completely wrapped up. On the Day of Resurrection, all human beings will be gathered. All will be taken into account. Then all the believers and the doers of good will be bestowed a world in which they will live forever. This is called "Paradise". In the same way, there will be a place for the disbelievers and the wicked people, which is called "Hell". The Almighty God says:

قُلِ اللَّهُ يُحْيِيكُمْ ثُمَّ يُمِيتُكُمْ ثُمَّ يَجْمَعُكُمْ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ
لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ

{Proclaim! It is Allah who gives you life, then will give you death, then will gather you all on the Day of Resurrection in which there is no doubt, but most people do not know (45:26)}

How the Day of Resurrection will occur? In this connection Allah says:

إِذَا زُلْزِلَتِ الْأَرْضُ زِلْزَالَهَا ، وَأَخْرَجَتِ الْأَرْضُ أَثْقَالَهَا ،
وَقَالَ الْإِنْسَانُ مَا لَهَا ، يَوْمَئِذٍ تُحَدِّثُ أَخْبَارَهَا

{When the earth is shaken with its appointed tremor.
And the earth throws out its burdens.
And man says, "What has happened to it?"
On the day earth will narrate its news (99:01to04)}

And the following Verses of Quran indicate all about the "Judgment".

يَوْمَئِذٍ يَصُدُّرُ النَّاسُ أَشْتَاتًا لَّيْرًا أَعْمَالَهُمْ -

فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ خَيْرًا يَرَهُ - وَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ شَرًّا يَرَهُ

{On that day men will return towards their Lord, in different categories, in order to be shown their deeds. So whoever does a good deed equal to the weight of the minutest particle, will see it. And whoever does an evil deed equal to the weight of the minutest particle, will see it (99:06to08)}

The Holy Quran in another place says about Death, Resurrection, Heaven and Hell as below:

كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَائِقَةُ الْمَوْتِ وَإِنَّمَا تُوَفَّقُونَ أُجُورَكُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

فَمَنْ رُزِحَ عَنِ النَّارِ وَأُدْخِلَ الْجَنَّةَ فَقَدْ فَازَ وَمَا الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا إِلَّا مَتَاعُ الْغُرُورِ

{Every soul must taste death; and only on the Day of Resurrection will you be fully recomposed; so the one who is saved from the fire and is admitted into Paradise - he is undoubtedly successful; and the life of this world is just the enjoyment of delusion (03:185)}

In the Hereafter, there will be Paradise for the believers and those who do good deeds, and Hell for the evildoers. It is difficult to compare this world with the present world. Because the Almighty God says:

يَوْمَ تُبَدَّلُ الْأَرْضُ غَيْرَ الْأَرْضِ وَالسَّمَاوَاتُ

{On the day when the earth will be changed to other than this earth and heavens (14:48)}

The Noble Prophet said that: "Allah said, 'I have prepared for my pious worshipers such things as no eye has ever seen, no ear has ever heard of, and nobody has ever thought of.'" (Sahih al-Bukhari Hadith:4439, 4440 and Sahih Muslim Hadith:2825)

According to a Sahih al-Bukhari Hadith to which 'Abdullah bin Qais narrates that: "The Prophet (PBUH) said that the two Paradises will be such that their vessels and everything therein will be made of silver. And the two

Paradises will be such that their vessels and all that is therein will be of gold. And between the people and, the fact that they will be able to see their Lord in the Paradise of Eden, Allah will have nothing on His face except a Cover of Glory."

My mentor, Hazrat Abdul Qadir Siddiqui, has mentioned four types of good Muslims in his Tafseer of Quran. He says that everyone's paradise will be different according to their deeds. These four Paradises are:

1. Worshipper's (عابد وزاهد) Paradise 2. Lover's (عاشق) Paradise

3. Knowledgeable's (عارف) Paradise

4. Perfect Human Being's (عبدالله) Paradise

And then the respected mentor has presented a heart-warming imaginary view of these Paradises. For details, see Chapter-75 of "Hasilat Tafseer-e-Siddiqui", entitled "Heaven and Hell". (Note: This book is available on this website).

The outlines of Hell that are presented in Quran illustrate that it will be a furnace of fire, fueled by evil people. The people of Hell will get pus and hot water to drink. Their food will be زقوم (thorny tree). They will remain in heat and smoke but death will not come to them. It is said that there will be seven categories of Hell and each of them will have a different kind of torment.

Remember that the religion of Islam offers a special concept of the "آخرة" (Hereafter). Therein is **good tidings and happy news for the righteous people**, and **warning and horrific news for the wicked people**. The Noble Prophet's names of **بشیر** and **نذیر** are related to the conveying, on behalf of the Almighty God, the glad tidings of Paradise and warnings of

Hell to his Ummah. There are many Verses in the Holy Quran about this. As Allah says in one place:

إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ بِالْحَقِّ بَشِيرًا وَنَذِيرًا وَإِن مِّنْ أُمَّةٍ إِلَّا خَلَا فِيهَا نَذِيرٌ

{And O dear Prophet! We have indeed sent you with the Truth, giving glad tidings and heralding warnings; and there was no nation but that there had passed within it a warner (35:24)}

Allah also says in another place:

وَبِالْحَقِّ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ وَبِالْحَقِّ نَزَلَ وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا مُبَشِّرًا وَنَذِيرًا

{And We sent down the Quran with the truth, and it has come down only for the truth; and We did not send you except as a Herald of glad tidings and warnings (17:105)}

----- Ö -----

Siddiqui Publications