

Chapter – 11

Spiritual World

(عالم ارواح)

❖ *What Is Spirit or Soul (روح)?*

In connection with the spirit Quran says:

وَيَسْأَلُونَكَ عَنِ الرُّوحِ قُلِ الرُّوحُ مِنْ أَمْرِ رَبِّي وَمَا أُوتِيتُمْ مِنَ الْعِلْمِ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا

{They ask you concerning the soul; say, “The soul is an entity by the command of my Lord, and you have not received knowledge except a little. (17:85)}

Soul may generally be defined by saying that, “the main source of life, knowledge and power and the nucleus of all these items” is soul. If human being is considered as “matter” then how could its moving capability be there? Certainly, in a material body the “Intension of Movement” must have come from any “non-material” thing. And this is his soul or spirit. This human spirit, which is not a material item, rules on the body of human being. Whenever it likes and whatsoever it likes, the soul can take out work. The soul knows all about the “Spiritual World” but later his perpetual involvement with the “Material World” creates lack of concentration and forgetfulness in it.

Every particle has its partial soul. Allah (SWT) says in Quran:

وَإِنْ مِنْ شَيْءٍ إِلَّا يُسَبِّحُ بِحَمْدِهِ وَلَكِنْ لَا تَفْقَهُونَ تَسْبِيحَهُمْ

{And there is not a thing that does not proclaim His purity with praise but you do not understand their proclamation of purity. (17:44)}

Particles create a sort of combined situation in things. And with their combination a peculiar environment is created and ultimately a specific soul is associated with it. As this disposition of nature creates specific arrangement in particles, similar to this the soul of the thing rules on the spirit of the particles.

When particles of minerals and atoms of their molecules get together, then a mineralogical nature develops on them. And for a particular maneuver a specific spirit is attached. For example: Iron, Gold, and Sulfur that are totally different in properties, nature and its managing spirit.

Similarly, when various botanical elements come together, then a botanical nature develops and ultimately a specific botanical soul is associated with it. And then the botanical spirit starts ruling on them. The botanical nature, effects, properties, parts and the various members, all behave different to the minerals. For example: the trees of Mangos, Guavas and Apples etc., as they have variety of taste, growth and productivity.

❖ *Spiritual World:*

Among all the creations of Allah (SWT), Spiritual World is the first. The Spiritual World is also called as Dominion World (عالم ملكوت) and Power World (عالم امر). This Spiritual World is free from shape, weight, time and space. The birth of souls and its reaching to the height of superiority is not ‘gradual’ but it is ‘at once’. For this God says:

وَمَا أَمْرُنَا إِلَّا وَاحِدَةٌ كَلَمْحٍ بِالْبَصَرِ

{And Our command is only a fleeting one – like the batting of an eyelid. (54:50)}

Souls, in fact, work under the Order of “Be” (كُنْ) but these are not Creatures (مخلوق). On the other hand, Bodies and Creatures are all New Emergence.

Creation has two meanings:

1. Innovations (احداث)
2. New Emergence (حادث)

The Innovations, no matter they are created at once or gradually, are Living Creatures. It means they are included in both Spiritual world and Material World. Such creations are analogous with persons, names and attributes. Therefore the names and attributes of God are ‘other than creatures’ (غير مخلوق), whereas spirits and bodies are creatures (مخلوق). New emerging creations are always gradual. This includes only Material World.

Soul or Spirit has seven (7) attributes in it:

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| 1 Life (حيات) | 4 Knowledge (علم) |
| 2 Hearing (سماعت) | 5 Sight (بصارت) |
| 3 Capability (قدرت) | 6 Intension (اراده) |
| 7 Speech (كلام) | |

As much as the spirit descends, the other attributes will be produced. These seven attributes exist in angels as well. As far as soul is concerned, Human beings are similar to angels but angels do not descend.

Angels live both in Spiritual World and Celestial World. This way they do not have shapes and faces. All angels are always busy in prayers. They do not have much relation with the management of this Universe.

However, there are a few angels who are deputed on some special management affairs. Out of them, there are four well-known angels who are engaged by the God for some special matters. Their names are Jabriel (the Messenger of God's Revelations), Mikael (the angel related with growing & delivering food), Izrael (the angel of death) and Israfeel (the angel related with resurrection after death) ---- (Peace be upon them).

There are angels who are always with humans. Some of them write good deeds and sins of people. They are called Kiraman Katibin (honorable recorders). Two angels meet us in the world of grave, they are Munkar and Nakir.

