

Chapter: 15

حَبِيبٌ خَلِيلٌ

The Almighty God has endowed some of the Prophets with certain qualities. For example, Allah sent Hazrat Adam as His Caliph on earth. And his title is "صفي الله" means he is the chosen bondman of God. Prophet Noah had seen a huge flood due to the Divine Punishment. Therefore, he is called "نجى الله" i.e. who was protected by Allah. Hazrat Ibrahim is the first Prophet whom Allah called ابو الانبياء (father of prophets), his title is "خليل الله", means the friend of Allah. For Prophet Musa it was said in the Holy Quran, وَكَلَّمَهُ رَبُّهُ, means his Lord spoke to him, so his title is "كليم الله", means who talked to God. The title of Hazrat Isa is "روح الله", means the Spirit of Allah. Because according to Quran, Prophet Isa is the son of Maryum bint Imran who became a virgin mother. And Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) who is also known as the "First of the Prophets" as well as the "Last of the Prophets", his title is "حبيب الله", means the beloved of Allah.

حَبِيبٌ means, beloved, very lovely and very dear. This word is derived from love. Love is a passion that is infused in human beings by nature. According to Sufis the basic reason of Adam's creation is love. Love is the cause of his being Caliphate.

دردِ دل کے واسطے پیدا کیا انسان کو
 ورنہ طاعت کے لیے کچھ کم نہ تھے کروبیان

{ Man has been created for the sake of love
 Otherwise, there were nothing short of His obedience}

The Almighty God loves each of His creations. This love is common to all. But when He has a special love for his bondmen, then He makes him His beloved. As there is a Hadith Qudsi:

"My bondman keeps getting close to me through non-obligatory prayers until I make him beloved. So, when I make him beloved, I become his hearing of what he hears and I become his sight of what he sees, and I become his tongue of what he speaks".

اولیاء اللہ (the Saints / the friends of Allah) are the beloved bondmen of the Almighty God. Such a beloved that Allah sometimes makes wonders appear through them. This is the situation of a Saint. Now if we think over this love for the Prophets, then imagine what could not be bestowed to them by the Almighty God. And when the Noble Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) becomes the **Beloved** of the Almighty, then Allah opens the doors of His special mercy for him, even granting him the status of "رحمت للعالمین" (Mercy for the Universe).

خلیل is also included among the names of the Noble Prophet. Its general meaning is "**Special Friend**". Imam Suyuti has distinguished "this friendship to the one that cuts from all sides and turns towards the Almighty God". The Prophet Ibrahim was called "**Khalil**" because he had the pure love for Allah.

In the hadith of Sahih Muslim, the Noble Prophet said: "Surely Allah has made me His خلیل in the same way as He made Prophet Ibrahim his Khalil". And more than that, as stated in the hadith of Tirmizi, he is also the **beloved** of

Allah as well. The Noble Prophet (PBUH) said: "I am **حبيب** (the Beloved) of Allah and I do not say it with any pride".

There is a hadith narrated by 'Amr bin Qais in which the Noble Prophet said:

"I have come to this world (from all the prophets) very last, but I will be the very first on the Day of Resurrection and I say this without any pride. Prophet Ibrahim is **Khalil** and Prophet Musa is **Popular** with Allah, while I am **حبيب** (the Beloved) of Allah".

Most of the religious scholars say that the level of love is higher than friendship. Hence, the "**Glory of Love**" has more virtue than the "**Glory of Friendship**".

تم **حبيب** کبریا ہو، تم تجلی خدا ہو
تمہیہ جاں مری فدا ہو، کیا کہوں میں تم کہ کیا ہو

{You are Allah's **Beloved**, you are the magnificence of God
I sacrifice my life for you, I cannot say what really you are!}

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