

Chapter – 72

Repentance

(توبہ)

❖ إِلَّا الَّذِينَ تَابُوا مِنْ بَعْدِ ذَلِكَ وَأَصْلَحُوا فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ -

Except those who repent (apologize) thereafter and reformed themselves, then indeed Allah is Forgiving and Merciful. (03:89)

❖ وَلَيْسَتِ التَّوْبَةُ لِلَّذِينَ يَعْمَلُونَ السَّيِّئَاتِ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا حَضَرَ أَحَدَهُمُ

الْمَوْتُ قَالَ إِنِّي تُبْتُ الْآنَ وَلَا الَّذِينَ يَمُوتُونَ وَهُمْ كُفَّارًا أُولَٰئِكَ

أَعْتَدْنَا لَهُمْ عَذَابًا أَلِيمًا-

And repentance is not for those who constantly commit sins; until death approaches to one of them, (and) he says, “I repent now”; and nor of those who die as disbelievers; for them, We have kept prepared a painful punishment. (04:18)

Dear People! What repentance is? ---- Regretting on previous misdeeds, and for future determining that in my belief and acts I will not oppose to God. If this point is not achieved, your repentance is not genuine nor is finding the right path. Remember that after doing any sin, at the time of your repentance you should feel modesty and your heart should feel a sort of dejection. In fact, that is the main thing which wipes off all your sins. Repentance is virtually based on this understanding.

It is our belief that sins may be forgiven by repentance. By the intercession of prophets and friends of God, sins may also be forgiven. Repentance means, regrets on previous sins, and determination for obeying to God's orders in future. It is very significant thing.

Look! In our body, other than the visible parts, heart (feelings) and soul are also present. It is obvious that when opposite powers work, the dominating power will show the affect distinctly and the dominated power will not be noticeable. Therefore repentance's effect will cover and eliminate the sins, and it will be substituted by goodness. This is all dependent on the power of repentance.

We also believe on intercession or recommendation. The sinner loves for the sake of God (الْحُبُّ فِي اللَّهِ) with the person who helps him by his intercession. Is it not the act of heart? Will this love be ineffective? No, Never! Certainly, it will appear in the form of intercession by the Noble Prophet and different friends of God, and ultimately be prominent by God in the form His Mercy.

Look! When the slave (عبد) refers to God, Allah سبحانه و تعالی also gives him His response by His Kindness.

- What more could be gained through repentance ----?
 1. **Forgiveness** (مغفرة): Covering up of the whole sins, and for future hiding up of all evils.
 2. **Pardoning** (عفو): Blot out the entire sins.

The word مغفرة means concealing the sins, whereas عفو means erasing of sins in such way that no stain remains. God says:

وَهُوَ الَّذِي يَقْبَلُ التَّوْبَةَ عَنْ عِبَادِهِ وَيَعْفُو عَنِ السَّيِّئَاتِ

{And it is He who accepts repentance from His servants and pardon misdeeds. (42:25)}

3. **Exchange** (تبدیل): Replacement of sins with goodness. God says:

فَأُولَئِكَ يُبَدِّلُ اللَّهُ سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ حَسَنَاتٍ

{For them Allah will replace their deeds with good. (25:70)}

But, all the above mentioned things are related to Allah's Right (حقوق الله). God never forgives the Rights of Mankind (حقوق العباد). Allah's kindness is widespread. The heart of the slave of God is very narrow and he forgives with great difficulty.

That slave who does his repentance in front of God with all his truth, God forgives him in a special way. For this, a place will be shown to him. -- He will ask to God, My Lord! To whom this place is

meant for? God will tell him; this place will be given to that fellow who will forgive his brother. The slave of God will say, “I forgive my brother.” Then he will be awarded that place. ---- After this, sinner’s brother will also be bestowed the same place by the grace of God.

Dear People! ‘Sin’ and above it ‘Insistence’, is very bad thing. We are human beings (بشر); we are mischievous (به شر). Mischief is permanently attached with us. The Entity who has forgiven your grandfather Adam’s repentance, He will also accept your repentance as well. ---- But if you will turn away from Him, He will also avert you. Remember! Regretting on sins is the ‘essential of slavery’.

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