

Chapter – 91

Religion is Effortless

(الَّذِينَ يُسِّرُونَ)

❖ يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ بِكُمُ الْيُسْرَ وَلَا يُرِيدُ بِكُمُ الْعُسْرَ -

*Allah desires ease for you,
and does not desire hardship for you. (02:185)*

❖ لَا يُكَلِّفُ اللَّهُ نَفْسًا إِلَّا وُسْعَهَا -

*Allah does not burden you anyone,
except with something within its capacity. (02:286)*

Dear People! Belief is different thing and act or execution is different. Disbeliever is a rebellion and one who does bad deeds is criminal. Punishment for both cannot be the same. The person with good faith would ultimately be out of his punishment. --- Nonetheless, faith and certainty on the following items is essential:

أَمَنْتُ بِاللَّهِ وَ مَلَائِكَتِهِ وَ كُتُبِهِ وَ رُسُلِهِ وَ الْيَوْمِ وَ الْآخِرِ وَ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرِهِ وَ شَرِّهِ مِنَ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى
وَ الْبَعْثِ بَعْدَ الْمَوْتِ

(I have firm belief on Allah تَعَالَى و سبحانه, His angels, His books, His Messengers and on the Day of Judgment & Hereinafter, have faith on all good and bad from God, and have faith on rebirth after death.)

Even then this religion is so easy that whoever accepts and says the following Testimonial Kalimah (كلمة الشهادة) he will go to Heaven.

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

(There is no god except Allah, Muhammad is His Messenger)

When Allah has given a feasible order and with your ignorance or laziness if you would say it is difficult, it will be unwise. We offer prayers and other worships then we ask for forgiveness and accept our weaknesses. We never put blame on God that He gives us burden more than our capacity. We never initiate false debates, because accepting defeat is virtually our victory.

❖ Now we look at some of the facilities given by Islam:

Look! **تيمم** (dry cleaning) is a big facility. If water is not available or not permissible due to sickness or for any other reason; you just have intension for Tayummum and then rub both palms on a dry wall and then brush them on whole of your face. Rub on your palms on dry wall second time and brush hands up to elbows. --- If once proper **وضو** (ablution) has been done and if you wear socks then the whole day **مسح** (dry wipe off) on feet would be enough. For a traveller, Masah is permitted for three days.

Every prayer should be offered at its due time. Few Companions of the Prophet used to offer one prayer at its last time and the next prayer at its beginning time. This is called **جمع صوری** (simulated combination). In fact, in this situation, both prayers were offered in their own times, there is no combining the two at one time.

However, during Hajj, Prophet Muhammad **صلى الله عليه وسلم** did combine two prayers in the time of the former (**جمع تقديم**) as well as did combine two prayers in the time of the latter (**جمع تاخير**) for Zohar, Asr and Maghrib prayers. For me, instead of leaving the prayer it is better to offer the prayer as per sayings of any one Imam. This person would not be considered as **تارك الصلوة** (the man who gives up prayer) nor disobedient or misguided. I prefer **جمع صلاتين** (combining the two prayers) instead of leaving the prayer. However, I would definitely say that, ‘requirement’ is different thing and ‘laziness’ is different. In some wars the Prophet has also offered all five prayers at one time. Look! Soldier should be at his position is a “requirement”.

During journey, Islam gives us a facility to offer only two units of Salaah instead of four. If you do not have time to offer Sunnah prayers at least you should not leave the obligatory prayers. So Quran says:

أَنْ تَقْصُرُوا مِنَ الصَّلَاةِ

{It is no sin for you to curtail some of your obligatory prayers.

{(04:101)}

During prayers it is essential for women to cover right from head to toe. But, if man has put his full dress it is very good, but for him if his lower body is covered it is acceptable, because for a man, covering from bellybutton to toe is enough. ---- I was having a friend. When he used to offer prayers he was habituated to wear Indian long jacket (شیروانی), a turban at his head, and feet covered with socks. And he would say “I am going in the audience of God and I would like to do this special care for Him”.

If people become sick or feel pain in their legs and they are unable to stand or cannot offer prostration, they can sit down on ground or on chair whichever is convenient. In case of extreme illness even the symbolic worship is also permitted. Anyways, obligation has to be fulfilled in any ways.

For me, the recitation of Quran should not be disregarded, no matter the meanings are clear are not. The words of Quran have blessings. If your pronunciation of words is not very correct no problem. But at least attempt to do and exert to do something. Never keep yourself away from worships.

As regards fasting, it is said that if somebody is sick then for two times, morning and evening, he should offer food for poor. Afterwards when he feels better and re-energised he should fast **قضا** (the omitted one). If someone is too old that he cannot fast at all, then if he offers food for two times to poor would be acceptable.

Once a Christian wrote from Lahore, that North and South Poles have ‘six months day’ and ‘six months night’, and nobody can live in that environment. Whether Islam’s Orders are such that these are not applicable all over the world ----?

I replied him with the following humble answers:

1. Fasting is not specific to Islam. It is obligatory with Jews and Christians, rather with Hindus too. So, whatever your answer to this question would be, my answer would also be the same.
2. Those places where people are not settled, thinking to apply such orders is unrealistic.
3. When one thing is not available then for that it is ordered to go for the closest thing of it. For instance; one very old lady who has no menstruation, her three periods would change into three months. With this formula if there are six month’s day and six month’s night, even then from 24 hours you consider the first 12

hours as a ‘day’ and the second 12 hours as a ‘night’. Similar to this, timings for the prayers and fasting may also be managed.

4. Quran says:

فَمَنْ شَهِدَ مِنْكُمُ الشَّهْرَ فَلْيَصُمْهُ

{So whosoever among you witness this month, he must fast
(02:185)}

When there is no month of Ramazan so there is no fasting as well. Look! When you make ablution, basically it requires face, the two hands and the two legs. But if one hand or one leg is cut accidentally then its washing also does not remain.

In Islam, money has to remain in circulation. Islam also stress for charity to poor. Zakath is obligatory for only rich persons and it is given to poor only. This obligation is not being executed, so Muslims are in very bad conditions. If this obligation is properly implemented then there would be no need of donations.

Islam also insists on writing ‘will’. If sons are alive then grandsons and maternal grandsons are neglected. There is nothing else to resist helping them if there is ‘will’ for them. It is an order that one third share may be given to these neglected persons through ‘will’.

The important thing is to remember God. Obedience for His Orders is essential. Whoever has His thoughts in their hearts, he will definitely do something for His worship. If there is no intension, then for them there are thousands of excuses.
