

## FIVE OBSTACLES OF ATTAINING PURIFICATION

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ وَكَفَى وَسَلَامٌ عَلَىٰ عِبَادِهِ الَّذِينَ اصْطَفَىٰ أَمَا بَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الْخَبِيرِ الرَّحِيمِ

فَالْهَبْهَا فُجُورَهَا وَتَقْوَاهَا (الشَّحَسَاءُ)

“Then He showed him what is wrong for him and what is right for him”

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّكَ رَبِّ الْعِزَّةِ عَمَّا يَصِفُونَ وَسَلَامٌ عَلَى الْمُرْسَلِينَ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَبَارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ

### Human Being is Mixture of Attributes

Allah Subhanahu Wa Taala created human being is mixtures of attributes to test them for the reward of akhirat .The whole purpose of deen e Islam is that a person should learn how to reduce their bad attributes and develop good attributes.

### Mistake In Self Diagnosis

Many times we try to come closer to Allah but we think that we don't have enough good attributes. Because when we look at the level of our deen we look at our failure in taqwa, failure in ha'iyah, failure in Ibadat, failure in decency, so we make mistake and diagnose ourselves that we don't have enough good attributes. So gradually we give up.

### Shaytan Brings us Down

*Shaytan* brings us down and stop us making progress and effort in deen. And then we lose whatever deen we have. So now that is why we need to have experts who diagnose us and guide us timely. The reality is that It's

not true that we don't have passion, it's not true that we don't have *discipline*, it's not true that we don't have strength. It is not true that we do not have consistency. We have all of those attributes.

### **We Use All Good Attributes for Dunya**

The mistake that we make is that we use all the good attributes for dunya instead of deen. Now if you look we are doing fine in our career, job, business, school or university. You will find that we have passion of hobbies, sports and other things. You'll see that we are dynamic and hardworking but we are using all these attributes for dunya. Although every human being will have some level of laziness, ghaflat or mistake because we are human being but when it comes to our career, education job or business we allow ourselves almost to zero ghaflat. So where did this ghaflat part comes out, it came out in our deen.

### **Direct Our Good Attributes Towards the Deen**

We should direct our good attributes towards the deen and this is the teaching of many of our experts and they taught us how to do so. Today I will talk about one saying of a wise friend of Allah Subhanahu Wa Taala. He said that there are five obstacles in attaining purification.

#### **Five Obstacles to Attain Purification**

##### **First Obstacle: Person Chooses Ease Over Hardship.**

We choose hardship in dunya because we know that without taking hardship we will not be successful in this dunya. Competitive career, demanding job, challenging busniss are usually rewarding. So we choose

a more ambitious path and more difficult path which requires us to put more effort and take hardship. When it comes to deen, we choose ease. There is a proverb in American English that this person always takes an easy way out. Remember that wise friend of Allah told that to attain purification we should choose the hardship over ease. But a lot of time we have habit to take the easy way out and miss jamat, delay our pray. Taking hardship does not mean that the deen is difficult or impossible but it is just like in this world if you want entertainment, accomplishment, achievement or success you'll have to take hardship and you have to apply your good attributes for those achievements. Allah Subhanahu wa Taala loves if we sacrifice.

### **Second Obstacle: Person Chooses Rest Over Exertion.**

لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِي كَبَدٍ (البلد)

*“Verily, We have created man in toil”*

For any hard task one has to exert himself. If we decided to take challenge for big achievement in dunya we need to exert. Most of parents prepare their child from its childhood so he should be successful in future. For deen we believe inshallah every thing will be ok in akharat we do not need to exert in dunya. For example we go all the way to *Makkah Mukarrama* and we make one *tawaf* and we feel now it's okay I should rest. We forget it is a great chance to exert and earn more reward because here reward multiply. On the other hand when there is a chance to earn more money in a business we do exert unlimited. We wake ourselves up in early morning and exert all day long. All of our exertion goes towards dunya. If we do so then we lose our purity. Purification requires exertion. Taqwa requires *mujahidah*. *Mujahidah* means effort in our *ibadat*. Most people think that *nafal ibadat* is optional. It is very difficult to get purification without doing *nafil ibadat*. For example there is a saying of

Prophet Mohammed ﷺ that the most beloved people to Allah Subhanahu wa Taala is that person who travels in a group who reaches its destination and everybody else in the group is tired and goes to sleep after *Isha* prayer but that person even though he is tired and fatigued from the journey and in the heart he wants to sleep yet gets up and does *nafil ibadat* and chooses to exertion over the rest. According to this hadith this person becomes the beloved of Allah Subhanahu wa Taala. And when a person becomes a beloved of Allah Subhanahu wa Taala then Allah Subhanahu wa Taala bestows taqwa upon him. Hazrat babo jee told that purification is *qasbi* not *wahbi*. So the *nafil* attracts taqwa. But we think Allah wants me to rest and wants me to take easy. Allah has permitted us to do things with ease but imagine how much Allah will give get pleased if we exert to please him.

### Third Obstacle: Person Choose Pride Over Humility

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ أَنْتُمُ الْفُقَرَاءُ إِلَى اللَّهِ (فاطر ٥١)

“O mankind! it is you who stand in need of Allah

Person who humiliate himself is best in the sight of Allah, person who pride himself is worst in the sight of Allah. If a person considered ordinary among others but if he is considered special in the sight of Allah he would be consider as best among all people. Humility is a very special and rare attribute these days. We always want recognition, position and appreciation. we undermine our fellow Muslim, harbor ill feeling about others and undercut for the sake of position and prestige. It is so wide spread illness in our society even it prevails among the religious people.

We compete and under cut each other but purification requires *ikhlas* which means sincerity and truth full ness. The understanding of sincerity means a well-wisher to others. Muhammad ﷺ said that none of you will truly attain perfection in *eman* unless he becomes well-wishers of

others. A student should help other student, A colleague should help other at work, a brother or a sibling should put every other member in front of him and prefers the family over himself then you can imagine who much we can enjoy in the society. Hazrat Adam got prestige and position in the court of Allah. Now shaytan did not like it, he thinks all prestige and position belongs to him so Allah rejected him.

#### **Fourth Obstacle: Person Choose Idle Talk Over Silence.**

مَا يَلْفِظُ مِنْ قَوْلٍ إِلَّا لَدَيْهِ رَقِيبٌ عَتِيدٌ (ق ١٨)

*“Not a word does he (or she) utter, but there is a watcher by him ready (to record it)”*

One of the *fazool* things that we do engage in useless talk. this is also mentioned in Quran, that we should refrain from such acts to become a successful believer. More we speak chances are we will make mistake and the tongue will utter sin and this idle and vein talk is mostly about dunya. There is no such talk which is about Allah. So talk about dunya is like engaging in pointless talk and is over engaged in dunya. Anyone who is overly engaged in dunya will lose purification. So choose to talk less and choose silence and stay quite. This helps to stay away from sin full talk, backbiting, slender, rumor, gossip, lies and exaggeration. You will see that some people appear to have skill of silence for the benefits of dunya but not for deen. They use this good attribute for the benefit of dunya not for deen. The wise tongue is only used in office, university and work place. But it is not available in masjid. This tongue has no control for friends and family.

#### **Fifth Obstacle: Person Choose Dunya Over Akhirat**

وَمَنْ أَرَادَ الْآخِرَةَ وَسَعَىٰ لَهَا سَعْيَهَا وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ فَأُولَٰئِكَ كَانَ سَعْيُهُمْ مَشْكُورًا (بنی اسرائیل ٣٥)

*“And whoever desires the Hereafter and strives for it, with the necessary effort due for it while he is a believer, then such are the ones whose striving shall be appreciated, thanked and rewarded”*

One has to choose akhirat over dunya because we came to this world to have a good end because the only reason we are given life by Allah is to prepare ourselves for a better end. This is a golden great opportunity to earn all eternal pleasure. The opportunity of life is offered to us to have good end. If we blow this opportunity then everything else mean nothing.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ (ال عمران ٤٤)

*“O you who believe! Fear Allah as He should be feared, and die not except in a state of Islam with complete submission to Allah”*

### Conclusion

We have mixture of attributes if we use these attributes for Akharat we will develop our personality which also will benefit us for Dunya. For example if we love Allah we develop a character to love, so we will love the makhlok of Allah. If we develop fear of Allah, we will restrain ourselves to harm the makhlok of Allah. Oh Allah grant us hassanat of Dunya and Akharat.

وَ آخِرُ دَعْوَانَا أَنِ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ