

WHY ALWAYS ME?

The main maqsad or purpose of the human being in this life is to submit to the will and decree of Allah Almighty and worship Him from his first breath to his last.

Allah Almighty through His immense wisdom has decreed the people to be tried and tested in various ways in order to make us better and stronger Muslims. The point where you overcome a test successfully, you are not the same anymore, you are now better prepared for further challenges, you have stronger belief in Allah and more hopeful of success.

Going through suffering and hardship makes us normal and draws us closer to Allah. As an Imam I am frequently asked by people who are going through difficulties in life ‘why does Allah give us trials?.

It is always important for us believers to remind each other of the divine wisdom of calamities and misfortunes in life. Everyone, in various capacities, goes through difficulties in life.

Firstly: Misfortunes and calamities are from the sunan (practice) of Allah in the universe for which every person is inflicted with, Allah says:

وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ الْأَمْوَالِ وَالْأَنْفُسِ وَالنَّمَرَاتِ وَبَشِيرٍ الْأَصَابِيرِينَ

And We will surely test you with some fear and hunger, and with paucity of wealth and lives and crops; and give glad tidings to those who patiently endure. –

Secondly: The purpose of misfortune and calamity is not necessarily for revenge, punishment or humiliation:

وَأَمَّا إِذَا مَا ابْتَلَاهُ فَقَدَرَ عَلَيْهِ رِزْقَهُ فَيَقُولُ رَبِّي أَهَانَنِ

And if He tests him and restricts his livelihood – thereupon he says, “My Lord has degraded me!”

How does Allah test us?

Allah tests some people with poverty, others with emotional distress, others with illness, and yet others with prosperity and fame. How come prosperity is a test? When things are going well, we tend to forget about Allah and the Hereafter, and death, and as a result we may lose the most precious thing to be a believer.

What to do when Allah tests us?

Allah said in the Quran: O People who Believe! Seek help from patience and prayer; indeed Allah is with those who patiently endure.

The moment a trial strikes you, remember to be patient. If it’s difficult to be patient, then pretend to be patient, and the pretense will soon turn real. The best way to do it is to just keep silent and pray to Allah for patience.

Written by : Maulana Azmatullah Najmi

