

Welcome to ALI 398
Hadith of Abu Dhar - III
Session Two



Question for Reflection

Why is falsehood so attractive?

The parable of the life of this world is that of water which We send down from the sky. It mingles with the earth's vegetation from which humans and cattle eat. When the earth puts on its luster and is adorned, and its inhabitants think they have power over it, Our edict comes to it, by night or day, whereat We turn it into a mown field, as if it did not flourish the day before. Thus do We elaborate the signs for a people who reflect

Sura Yunus, Verse 24

فَاعْرِضْ عَنْ مَنْ تَوَلَّىٰ عَنْ ذِكْرِنَا وَلَمْ يُرِدْ إِلَّا
الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا ذَٰلِكَ مَبْلَغُهُمْ مِنَ الْعِلْمِ

So avoid those who turn away from
Our remembrance and desire nothing
but the life of the world. That is the
ultimate reach of their knowledge.

Sura Najm, 53,29

أَمْالٌ وَالْبُنُونَ زِينَةُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا ^{صَلِّ} وَالْبَاقِيَاتُ الصَّالِحَاتُ
خَيْرٌ عِنْدَ رَبِّكَ ثَوَابًا وَخَيْرٌ أَمْلاً

Wealth and children are an adornment
of the life of the world, but lasting
righteous deeds are better with your
Lord in reward and better in hope.

Sura Kahf, 18:46

Hadith

This world is a place for transit, not a place for stay. The people herein are of two categories. One is the man who sold away his self to his passions and thus ruined it, and the other is the man who purchased his self by control against his passions and freed it.

Imam Ali (a)

Nahjul Blaagha, hadith #133

Hadith of Me'raj

O Ahmad be careful of being like a child who when he sees bright colours of green and red he likes them and when he is given something that is sweet and sour he is distracted by it.

Bihar ul Anwar, Vol 77, pg 22

Why is Falsehood attractive

- It is a quick satisfaction
- It is easier to achieve
- Most people seem to be enjoying it

Fighting the attraction

1) Focusing on God and the goal of life. This can be done through:

a) Constant dhikr

b) Keeping busy in good deeds

c) Increased exposure to virtue and decreased exposure to falsehood

2) Being alert and God conscious

3) Meditating on results of deeds

Focusing on consequences of deeds

- Displeasure of Allah
- Barrier to growth towards perfection
- Lack of peace in the world
- Regret at the time of death

Know, O creatures of Allah, that, certainly, you and all the things of this world that you have are on the lines of those before you. They were of longer ages, had more populated houses and were of more lasting traces. Their voices have become silent, their movements have become stationary, their bodies have become rotten, their houses have become empty and their traces have been obliterated.

Their magnificent places and spread-out carpets were changed to stones, laid-in-blocks and cave-like dug out graves whose very foundation is based on ruins and whose construction has been made with soil. Their positions are contiguous, but those settled in them are like far flung strangers. They are among the people of their area but feel lonely, and they are free from work but still engaged.

Nahjul Balagha, Khutba #225