

ALI 583
Spiritual
Guidance
from the Life
of Bibi Fatima
(a)

Session One

Read and Reflect. What is an important message in this writing? Write your answers in the chat box.

The most important and relevant question for the awakened woman at this time is, 'Who am I?' ... The second question which arises from this, stems from the following reasoning. We are Muslims, women of a society who wish to make decisions through reason and choice, and relate them to a history, culture, religion and society which received its spirit and origins from Islam. A woman who is in this society wants to be herself.

From: Fatima is Fatima by Dr. Ali Shariati

The need for spiritual guides

A soul on a journey towards God is in a constant state of spiritual growth.

It needs the guidance of the people who have been through this process and have achieved success in it.

These role models can provide examples and advice for what to do at each stage.

إِنَّ ابْنَتِي فَاطِمَةَ مَلَأَ اللَّهُ قَلْبَهَا وَ جَوَارِحَهَا إِيمَانًا

My daughter Fátima, Allah has filled her heart and
her limbs with faith

Holy Prophet (s)

Bihar al-Anwar, v.43 p.46

يَقُولُ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ لِمَلَائِكَتِهِ يَا مَلَائِكَتِي انظُرُوا إِلَيَّ أُمَّتِي فَاطِمَةَ سَيِّدَةَ
إِمَائِي قَائِمَةً بَيْنَ يَدَيَّ تَرْتَعِدُ فَرَائِصُهَا مِنْ خِيفَتِي وَ قَدْ أَقْبَلَتْ بِقَلْبِهَا عَلَيَّ
عِبَادَتِي أَشْهَدُكُمْ أَنِّي قَدْ آمَنْتُ شِيعَتَهَا مِنَ النَّارِ

Allah says; [about Fatima] O my angels, look at my servant Fatima, the chief of all my female servants, standing in front of Me, her flesh trembles on account of My fear. She has turned to My worship with all her heart. I bear you to witness that I have secured her followers from the fire.

Holy Prophet (s), Bihar al-Anwar, v.73, p.172

Bibi Fatima (a) and Bibi Maryam (a)

وَإِذْ قَالَتِ الْمَلَائِكَةُ يَا مَرْيَمُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ اصْطَفَاكِ وَطَهَّرَكِ وَاصْطَفَاكِ
عَلَىٰ نِسَاءِ الْعَالَمِينَ

And when the angels said, ‘O Maryam, Allah has chosen you and purified you, and He has chosen you above the women of the world.

Sura Aale Imran, no.3, verses 42

كَلَّمَا دَخَلَ عَلَيْهَا زَكَرِيَّا الْمِحْرَابَ وَجَدَ عِنْدَهَا رِزْقًا ۚ قَالَ يَا
مَرْيَمُ أَنَّى لَكِ هَذَا ۗ قَالَتْ هُوَ مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ
يَرْزُقُ مَنْ يَشَاءُ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ

Whenever Zakariah visited her in the sanctuary, he would find provisions with her. He said, ‘O Maryam, from where does this come for you?’ She said, ‘It comes from Allah. Allah provides whomever He wishes without any reckoning

Sura Aale Imran, no.3, verse 37

Aspects of Bibi Fatima's spirituality

- 1) Her love for Allah
- 2) Her sincerity
- 3) Her attachment to the Quran

Her love for Allah

شَغَلَنِي عَنْ مَسْئَلَتِهِ لَذَّةَ خِدْمَتِهِ، لَا حَاجَةَ لِي غَيْرَ النَّظَرِ إِلَى وَجْهِهِ الْكَرِيمِ
فِي دَارِ السَّلَامِ

The sweetness of serving Him has occupied me from asking Him. I have no wish except to see His noble countenance in the abode of peace

Nahjul Hayat, Muhammad Dashti, p.99

Her sincerity

لِخَصْلَتَيْنِ خَصَّهَا اللَّهُ بِهِمَا إِنَّهَا وَرِثَتْ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ص وَنَسَلُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ص
مِنْهَا وَ لَمْ يَخُصَّهَا بِذَلِكَ إِلَّا بِفَضْلِ إِخْلَاصٍ عَرَفَهُ مِنْ نِيَّتِهَا

Allah singled her out for two special qualities. She inherited the Messenger of Allah and the progeny of the Messenger of Allah continued through her. Allah only chose her for this because of the extraordinary sincerity He knew she had in her intentions.

Bihar al-Anwar, v.43, p.37

مَنْ أَسْعَدَ إِلَى اللَّهِ خَالِصَ عِبَادَتِهِ أَهْبَطَ اللَّهُ إِلَيْهِ أَفْضَلَ مَصْلَحَتِهِ

Whosoever raises to Allah sincere acts of His worship, He will send down only what will be best for him

Bibi Fatima (a)

Bihar al-Anwar, v.68, p.184

Her attachment to the Quran

حَبَّبَ إِلَيَّ مِنْ دُنْيَاكُمْ ثَلَاثَ: تِلَاوَةَ كِتَابِ اللَّهِ ، وَالنَّظْرُ فِي وَجْهِ رَسُولِ
اللَّهِ، وَالْإِنْفَاقُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ

I love three things from this world, Recitation of the Book of Allah, looking at the face of the Messenger of Allah, and giving in the way of Allah

Bibi Fatima (a), Nahj al-Hayat v.1, p.271

Her response to revelation

إِنَّ جَهَنَّمَ لَمَوْعِدُهُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ لَهَا سَبْعَةُ أَبْوَابٍ لِكُلِّ بَابٍ مِنْهُمْ جُزْءٌ مَّقْسُومٌ

And indeed hell is the tryst of them all. It has seven gates, and to each gate belongs a separate portion of them

Sura Hijr, verses 43-44

الويل ثم الويل لمن دخل النار; Upon hearing this revelation she said;

لَا تَجْعَلُوا دُعَاءَ الرَّسُولِ بَيْنَكُمْ كَدُعَاءِ بَعْضِكُمْ بَعْضًا

Do not consider the Apostle's summons amongst you to be like your summoning one another.

Sura Nur, 24:63