

ALI 597: Spiritual Guidance from the life of Imam al-Hasan (a) Session One



What is the difference between being spiritual
and acting spiritual?



O servants of Allah, be God conscious, and know that he whoever is God conscious Allah paves his way of salvation and Allah will direct him in his affairs, prepare for his guidance, support him with proof, brighten his face, and achieve all his hopes with those who receive Allah's grace, among the Prophets, the truthful ones, the martyrs, and the virtuous. They are the best friends one can have.

Imam Hasan (a)

Tuhaf al-Uqul, p.232



وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مَخْرَجًا وَيَرْزُقْهُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَحْتَسِبُ

And whoever fears Allah - He will make for him a way out. And will provide for him from where he does not expect.

Sura Talaq, no.65, verses 2-3



مَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ فَأُولَئِكَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنَ
النَّبِيِّينَ وَالصَّادِقِينَ وَالشُّهَدَاءِ وَالصَّالِحِينَ وَحَسُنَ أُولَئِكَ رَفِيقًا

And whoever obeys Allah and the Messenger - those will be with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favor of the prophets, the steadfast affirmers of truth, the martyrs and the righteous. And excellent are those as companions.

Sura Nisaa, no.4, verse 69



Enduring Hardships

- In a peaceful and reasonable way
- Seeing the bigger picture
- Being involved in what really matters
- Gaining satisfaction from closeness to Allah



The hardship of Imam Hasan (a)

- 1) Muawiyah
- 2) Disloyal people around him
- 3) Ignorance
- 4) Materialism



Groups in Imam's army

- 1) Actual, loyal Shias – very few in number.
- 2) The Muhakkama, or the Khawarij.
- 3) Those interested in material gains
- 4) The Doubters
- 5) The tribal loyalists



Words of Imam Hasan (a)

I have not become one who bears malice to any Muslims, nor one who wishes evil or misfortune for him. Indeed what you dislike about unity is better for you than what you like about division. I see what is better for you, better than you see for yourselves. Therefore do not oppose my commands and do not reject my judgement. May God forgive both me and you, and may He guide me and you to that in which there is love and satisfaction.

Source: Kitab al-Irshad



Imam's response

- Preferring God's will over his own
- Sacrifice of succession
- Guiding the Ummah
- Disclosing the true enemies
- The Plan



Ironically, it was only after seeing the ugliness of Mu'awiyah's rule that many citizens awakened to the righteous demands for justice which Imam Hasan had called for. Imam Hasan's wise decisions were giving way for a mass revival, which would culminate years later.

Seerat al-A'imma by Sh. Ja'ar Subhani, pp.111-113



Selflessness

Imam Hasan (a) worked to support the truth and spread the mission of Allah, not to win victory for himself.

Imam was ready to grant his life for Allah. But he lived to lead a silent struggle. It was a silent martyrdom, paving the way for the martyrdom of Imam Husayn (a).

