



Mudhakkirah al-Hadeeth an-Nabawee

by Rabee Bin Haadee Umayr al-Madkhalee

Trans. Abu Naasir Abid Zargar

The Effect of the Knowledge and Guidance, which Muhammad came with, on the different types of people

From Abu Musaa al-Asharee (radiallaahu anhu), from the Prophet (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) who said:

“The example of guidance and knowledge with which Allaah has sent me is like abundant rain falling on the earth, some of which was fertile soil that absorbed rain-water and brought forth vegetation and grass in abundance. (And) another portion of it was hard and held the rain-water and Allaah benefited the people with it and they utilised it for drinking, making their animals drink from it and to irrigate the land for cultivation. (And) a portion of it was barren which could neither hold the water nor bring forth vegetation (then that land gave no benefits).

The first is the example of the person who comprehends Allaah’s religion and benefits (from the knowledge) which Allaah has revealed through me and learns and then teaches it to others. (The last example is that of a) person who does not care for it and does not accept Allaah’s guidance which I have been sent with (he is like that barren land.)”

Reported by al-Bukhaaree¹, Muslim² and Ahmad³.

The Reporter of the Hadeeth

Abu Musaa al-Asharee, Abdullaah bin Qais bin Saleem bin Hadaar, the famous Companion. He emigrated to Makkah, then to Ethiopia and then to Madinah. The Prophet (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) sent him as an envoy to Yemen.

¹ Hadeeth no. 79.

² Hadeeth no. 15, 2282.

³ 4/399.

He was brave, scholarly and active. Umar bin al-Khataab placed him in charge of Kufah and Basrah. He conquered al-Ahwaaz, Asbahaan and numerous other cities.

He died in the year 50 A.H., may Allaah be pleased with him.

A Clarification of this Example

The Prophet (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) put forth a similitude between that which he came with from the deen and between the rain which comes to the people while they are in need of it. This was the state of the people before he was sent. So just as the rain gives life to the dead land then similarly revelation from Allaah gives life to the dead hearts.

He, the Most High, said:

“Is he who was dead (without Faith) and We gave him life (by knowledge and Faith) and set for him a light (of belief) whereby he can walk amongst men – like him who is in darkness (of disbelief) from which he can never come out?” [al-An’aam:122]

So the ‘light’ mentioned here is the light of revelation and the ‘darkness’ is the darkness of ignorance, disbelief and misguidance.

Then he (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) likened those who hear that which he came with to the differing types of earth upon which the rain falls:

- 1) So amongst them is the scholar, the one who does good deeds and teaches others. His status is like the good earth which absorbed (rain) so it benefited itself and produced plantation which benefited others.
- 2) Amongst them is the one who gathers knowledge and strives hard in attaining it but he does not act on its recommended deeds or that which he gathers does not benefit him except that he conveys it to others. His status is like the earth upon which the water lingers, so the people take benefit from it, and he indicated this in his saying: *“May Allaah illuminate a man who heard my speech, then memorised it, then conveyed it just as he had heard it.”*
- 3) And amongst them is the one who listens to knowledge but does not memorise it nor acts upon it nor conveys it to others. Then his status is like

the swampy or smooth earth which cannot accept water or it spoils the water for others.

He (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) linked the first two praised groups due to the benefit that is derived from both of them. And he singled out the third blameworthy group due to the lack of benefit from it.

So it is obligatory upon you, O Muslim brother, to seek the prophetic knowledge and act upon it, May Allaah elevate you with it.

He, the Most High, said:

“Allaah will exalt in degree those of you who believe, and those who have been granted knowledge.” [al-Mujaadilah:11]

“Say: Are those who know equal to those who know not?” [az-Zumar:9]

And it is obligatory upon you is to act upon it and give dawah to it. He, the Most High, said:

“And who is better in speech than he who invites to Allaah’s religion and does righteous good deeds and says: “I am one of the Muslims.”[Fussilat:33]

So strive to be from the first type, those who accept the light which Muhammad (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) came with, so that it illuminates and gives life to your heart, since a correct and good life cannot be attained except by it.

And take every precaution against being from the third type, the one who does not accept the guidance of Allaah, and is not raised by it to an elevated status.

The Benefits of the Hadeeth

- 1) The excellence of the guidance and knowledge which the Messenger (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) came with. It is nothing but the Qur’aan and the Sunnah and their effects upon the life of mankind.
- 2) The difference between the people with regard to their willingness to accept or reject that which the Messenger (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) came with. This shows that people are of different compositions.

- 3) The excellence of knowledge, teaching and spreading of good amongst the people.
- 4) The consequence of rejecting what the Messenger of Allaah (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) came with from the Book and the Sunnah. And this rejection is an indication of the wicked composition of these people and their insignificance with Allaah and in the sight of Islaam.