

Ashre Zaynabiyya 1435
Lecture 8, Sunday 22nd December 2013
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ASIDE:

20:17 – 20:18

Musa volunteers additional information about his staff.

Reason why he prolonged the response because he was conversing with his beloved. When you are conversing with someone you love you prolong the conversation because he wanted to continue talking to his beloved.

Clarification about Hadith on Softness in Parenting given in yesterdays session.

- Results when soft approaches are used are more than when harsh approaches are used.
- Yes sometimes this doesn't make sense because we feel that its important to use the 'stick'
- Western scholarship is evolving and being updated all the time. We need to supplement western ideas with a firm understanding from our Aimmah.
- This continuous development happens in all sciences, not just social sciences.
- For example up until a few years ago Medical Scientists would say that the appendix was redundant and doesn't have a purpose.
- A few years ago at Duke University they discovered the function of the appendix – It harvests the bacteria that help in digestion.
- This is the way science progresses – through trial, error and development.
- Don't dismiss these – Imam Ali: Wisdom and knowledge is the lost property of the believer, grab it wherever you find it even from a non believer.
- But we should base our lives on Quran and Aimmah. Their prescription is soft approaches to raising children.

Looking at the importance of children.

Prophet Musa asked God: 'In all your creations who do you love the most?'

The reply: 'The thing I love most about the creation is the children, because they reflect the innocence with which the human being comes into this world. I have created them from my fitrah and created them to believe in my tawheed.'

Many ahadith from the Prophet:

1. Bring joy and happiness to the children. Etc (find out this)
2. As for those parents who work hard and focus their energies on teaching their children Quran, those parents will receive a summons by Allah (SWT) and they will be made to wear garments of honour which will be so bright that others in Jannah will light up even more than they already are.
3. Make sure as parents you cultivate three qualities in the hearts of your children, love of Prophet, love of family of the Prophet (which is direct result of love of Allah (SWT)) and love of reading the Quran.
4. Invest in this process of upbringing, especially familiarity of Quran and role models.

There are many criticisms against Islam

Many criticisms against Islam however responses are very emotional. We need to respond academically. They may be ignorant and haven't been exposed to proper responses.

Bill gates example.

- Battles of Prophet were in defence and for peacekeeping.
- Verse 191 onwards, moderation etc.

Treatment of Women in Islam:

4:1:

O people! be careful of (your duty to) your Lord, Who created you from a single being and created its mate of the same (kind) and spread from these two, many men and women; and be careful of (your duty to) Allah, by Whom you demand one of another (your rights), and (to) the ties of relationship; surely Allah ever watches over you. [Shakir]

Hadith in Sahih Muslim – Prophet has said that Bibi Hawa was created from the ribs of Prophet Adam.

Connotation of this hadith is bad and they use this together with 4:1.

How do we respond?

Return to the sources:

- A man came to 5th Imam and asked "From what did Allah (SWT) create Bibi Hawa?"
- He replied by asking "What do people say?"
- The man said: "They say she was created from the ribs of man."
- "Those who spread this type of information are liars"
- "Are you trying to suggest that Allah was running short of building materials and so used the ribs of Adam?"
- The Quran says in 15:26 that Humans have been created from mud.

So where has this come from? Judeo Christian doctrine.

In genesis it says that Eve was created because Adam was lonely and thus Eve was created from the rib of Adam.

- TED Talk (Leslie Hazleton) says gender egalitarianism in Quran is great.
- The bible does not include women in the discourse.
- Most definitive verse showing equal opportunities for both genders:

33:35

Surely the men who submit and the women who submit, and the believing men and the believing women, and the obeying men and the obeying women, and the truthful men and the truthful women, and the patient men and the patient women and the humble men and the humble women, and the almsgiving men and the almsgiving women, and the fasting men and the fasting women, and the men who guard their private parts and the women who guard, and the men who remember Allah much and the women who remember-- Allah has prepared for them forgiveness and a mighty reward.

Spiritually both genders are the same but obviously rights, responsibilities and characteristics have appropriate differences.

What we need is for our brothers and especially our sisters to come forward and speak out against these arguments.

8th Imam – narrated on the authority of the Prophet (Kafi): No doubt when it comes to His servants He is very forgiving and compassionate. However some of His servants are given a greater share and Allah (SWT) leans towards giving this extra share to female servants.

Prophet (SAW) – Does it not please you to know how enviable you are? From the moment of conception to delivery it is equivalent to the thawab of fasting all day and praying in the night. After you deliver your baby, when you breast feed your baby, for every drop that goes into the mouth Allah (SWT) rights for you a good deed. If your baby disturbs you and keeps you awake at night Allah (SWT) gives you the reward of freeing seventy slaves in the way of Allah (SWT).