



Obedience and Love of the Messenger ﷺ

وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ فَأُولَئِكَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ
مِنَ النَّبِيِّينَ وَالصِّدِّيقِينَ وَالشُّهَدَاءِ وَالصَّالِحِينَ وَحَسُنَ
أُولَئِكَ رَفِيقًا ﴿٦٩﴾

"Whosoever obeys Allah and the Rasool will be in the company of those whom Allah has blessed - the Prophets, the truthful, the martyrs, and the righteous: What excellent companions they will be!"
(Surah An-Nisa, Ayaah 69)

All good actions by man bring benefits of one kind or another. It is natural for goodness to bear sweet fruits and fragrant flowers, on the other hand evil leads to harm and loss. The above verse is a commentary on this principle of goodness, which will bring enormous benefits. Qurtabi, the commentator gives an interesting background to this revelation. He reports from Aisha (r.a.) that one day a companion of the Prophet ﷺ called Thauban came to visit him. Usually Thauban was cheerful but today he looked miserable. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ enquired "What's the matter O Thauban?" He replied 'O Messenger of God whenever I am sad I come to visit you and that makes me happy, but now I worry that when I think about the hereafter, there you will be very near to Allah but I will be far away and I will be unable to even see you. It is this thought of separation which is worrying me.' The Messenger ﷺ said nothing and just then Jibreel ﷺ arrived with this Divine message: telling Thauban you need not worry if you truly love and obey God and His Messenger ﷺ then you will be with them. One of the most delightful pleasures of life is to be in the company of the people one loves; People like to be with their families, the beloved, relatives and friends. Here the Glorious Quran is giving the obedient servant the guarantee of being with four most noble groups of people:

- i. **The messengers:** these are people chosen by the Lord to deliver His message to humanity, they are the perfect human beings, the sinless and protected from evil. An embodiment of all virtues and goodness oozes from them.
- ii. **The Siddiqueen: The truthful:** These are people who have a clear conscience and when truth is presented they readily accept it. They have no difficulty in distinguishing right from wrong and good from bad. Many of the followers of the Prophet ﷺ had this quality but no one more so than Abu Bakr as-Siddique Akbar (the greatest Siddique) ﷺ. His love of Islam and the blessed Prophet ﷺ variously displayed and his ability to judge

between right and wrong illustrates the meaning of siddique. For example when the Messenger ﷺ presented Islam to him for the first time, Abu Bakr ﷺ immediately testified and became a Muslim. Similarly, when the Messenger ﷺ told the story of his miraculous night journey, Abu Bakr ﷺ was the first to believe him. The siddique is one who has the ability to see right and wrong.

- iii. **The Shuhada (single = Shaheed):** These are people who witness the truth and proclaim. Every Muslim is therefore a Shaheed for he/she bears witness to the truth of Allah. However, the technical meaning of shaheed is the one who sacrifices his life for the truth. The Ahadith speak about the greatness of the Shuhada, and how they will be honoured and blessed and taken into Paradise without reckoning.
- iv. **The righteous people:** Imam Razi says righteous are those who have the correct beliefs as well as good actions.

What a wonderful set of companions and what a great reward for loving and obeying the Messenger ﷺ

ONCE A BEDOUIN ASKED, "WHEN WILL THE FINAL DAY COME?" THE MESSENGER ﷺ REPLIED. "WHAT HAVE YOU PREPARED FOR IT?" THE BEDOUIN SAID, "I LOVE GOD AND HIS MESSENGER." UPON HEARING THIS SWEET REPLY THE PROPHET ﷺ SAID, "YOU WILL BE WITH THOSE WHOM YOU LOVE."