



# A Lesson about Rearing Faithful Children

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

"We will unite the faithful with their children"

By the Mount and a inscribed book on an unfurled scroll,  
By the visited house, by the raised sky,  
By the overflowing ocean;  
Your Lord's punishment will take place.  
No one can ward it off.  
On the day when heaven sways to and fro  
And the mountains move about,  
Woe that day to the deniers who play at frivolous games;  
The day they are shoved roughly into the fire of hell!  
This is the fire you denied! So is this magic?  
Or is it that you do not see? Roast in it...

The people who have Taqwa will be in gardens of delight,  
Savouring what their Lord has given them...  
Eat and drink with relish for what you did.  
They will recline on couches arranged in rows and will marry them  
to dark eyed maidens.  
And will unite those who had iman with their offspring;  
Who followed them in iman.  
And we will not undervalue their own actions in any way.  
Every man is in pledge for what he earned,

The Noble Quran: (At-Tur Ayaat 1-19)

Translation by Abdul Haq & Aishah Bewley

**Commentary:** The fundamental belief in Akhirah is described and people are reminded to prepare themselves for this inevitable event. The surah opens in a customary manner, five oaths are taken; the mount, the Divine book, the house of Allah, the lofty sky and the mighty oceans. Then the preposition is presented; "your Lord's punishment will take place". Ayaat 7-18 draw our attention to the horrific punishment: how torturing and pain inflicting it will be. The cause of this Divine wrath is simply man's own carelessness, ingratitude and turning away from his Benevolent Lord. Ayah 19 and onwards turn to the successful and the happy people of paradise. Their food, drink and lifestyle will be elegant, a consequence of their good work. However, what is very interesting here is that the people of paradise will not be deprived of the company of their offspring's and loved ones. But the condition is that the offspring must be at least people of Iman. They must have faith! Abdullah Yusuf Ali makes a comment at this, he says "though the loved poured out by Prophets, ancestors, descendants, or good men and women, will secure for their loved ones the enjoyment of their society, it is an indispensable condition that the loved ones should also have shown their faith and their goodness in deeds.

Each individual is responsible for his conduct. In the kingdom of heaven there is no boasting of ancestors or friends. But it is part of the satisfaction of the good ones who poured out their love that those who were in anyway worthy to receive their love should also be admitted to their society. The Quran is making it amply clear to the believers that if they want to enjoy the company of their offspring they must ensure that their off springs have faith. How can we ensure this? In a post modern, consumer and liberal society this becomes a huge challenge for parents particularly if there are no Islamic Institutions. This is why the Muslim community should establish schools to ensure that Muslim children receive Islamic education and remain as people of faith. Otherwise on the day of judgement:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
فَلْيَنْظُرِ الْإِنْسَانُ إِلَى طَعَامِهِ ۚ أَنَا صَبَبْنَا الْمَاءَ صَبًّا ۚ ثُمَّ شَقَقْنَا الْأَرْضَ شَقًّا ۚ

" the day when a man will flee from his brother and his mother and his father and his wife and his children."  
(Surah Abasa: Ayaat 34-36)

Well organised Mosques, Quality Muslim schools and colleges are the most positive way forward if we wish to be united with other beloved ones on the day of Judgement.