

MODULE 5

Class Title: Du'a Rabbana Aatina Fidduniya Hasanah – parts 4 – Hell

(4th and 5th parts of a 5 lesson series)

Aim Of Lesson : To take heed from the description of Hell given in the Qur'an and ahadith

Category: Scripture/*aqeedah*

Class format: Power point presentation, narration & discussion

(Greeting to students) Assalam alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh

(*Ta'awwudh*) Aoodhubillahi min AsShaytanirRajeem

(Tasmiyah) Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem

(Du'a) Rabbish rahli sadri wayassirli amri wahlul uqdatum mil lisani yaf qahu qawli(Surah At Ta-Ha 20: Verse 25-28)

Slide 1:

Ok, today *InshaAllah* is the last class of the term. and I had actually made a request for having the last class with you all because I just feel this is it, this is it. Whatever we have talked about in the last so many years that you've been with us here, I just pray to Allah (swt) that you take everything with you and it remains with all of you for the rest of your lives. And that you benefit from it not just here in this world but in the hereafter as well! But the thing is that there is only so much we can do, we can just pass on the message to you. Tell you what the Qur'an says and the *hadith* says about leading your life in this world.

And you were very lucky that you actually got this opportunity of understanding the religion as much as you did here. May Allah (swt) give you more opportunities but the thing is, the actual thing is not just understanding it, but following it. And that is something that only you yourself can do, nobody else can do it.

I wanted this topic to be the last class because if this wouldn't make you reflect on your life, then nothing else will, nothing else will. Usually I have two classes on the 'Concept of Hell', but because of the holiday I compressed the whole thing into one class, right.

We all must seek Allah (swt)'s refuge from Hell and as we discuss the details and talk about people in Hell, please do say – *Allahumma la ja'alna minhum* – O Allah! (please) don't make us from among them.

Now there are certain things that are very, very graphic in it.... so why am I talking about it? Because Allah (swt) talked about it very openly in the Qur'an and *hadith*. And if Allah (swt) talks about *Jannah* and He gives detail of *Jannah* and then he talks about *Jahannum* and gives the details of *Jahannum* then I am nobody to say that, 'you know this is not for kids and teens'. The Qur'an is for everyone, it's for everyone, right.

Slides 2 & 3 :

We need to understand why Allah (swt) made Hell. The thing is, we see a lot of people around us disobeying Allah (swt) and they are very successful in their lives; they are very

happy, they are quiet content, no calamity coming on them from Allah (swt) and then there are certain people who are very obedient to Allah (swt) in pretty much all the aspects but then they are miserable and they are dejected and down trodden in the path.

Slides 4 & 5 :

But we have this firm faith that Allah (swt) is Just, He's not unfair. So how will He make sure that He gives reward to the obedient and punishment to the disobedient? We don't see it happening in this world, then when will it happen? And how will it happen?

That's where the concept of *Jannah* and *Jahannum* come in place. Because this world is not a place for reward or punishment and I'm sure this is something that has been ingrained in you for the last so many years that you have been with us, that in this world if you are happy or unhappy it does not prove anything, it does not reflect on your deeds; this is one thing we need to keep in mind.

Slide 6:

Allah (swt) says in the Qur'an ,

“Those in Hell will say to the Keepers of Hell “O keeper! Let your Lord make an end of us”.

(Surah Az Zukhruf 43: Verse 77)

Slide 7:

There are many things we have to do despite not liking them, for example we hate getting up early in the morning, nobody can like it, unless you are an early bird; but we do it, we get up in the morning for *fajr* we do it, why? Because there is a scare, there is a fear factor that if I do not do my *fajr* how will I please Allah (swt)? I will be committing a sin.

What happens when we get sick? We have to take very bitter medicines some times. Why do we do take them? Because we are scared that if we don't we're going to stay ill, or get worse. So there are a lot of things that we do out of fear. That's the human psyche, right.

Now likewise the scholars say that Allah (swt) created Hell to inject fear! That's the main purpose of creating Hell, right. Hell is created as a mercy from Allah (swt), as Allah (swt) injects fear in His creation that they might refrain from bad deeds. That's the whole idea of creating Hell.

Just like, if I were to show a stick to a small child and say ‘don't you dare do that.’ Why do I brandish the stick in front of the child? For him to get scared, I show the stick and say ‘don't you dare do it’ right. That is what exactly Allah (swt) is doing when He talks about Hell.

But I might just be showing the stick to the child with no intentions of hitting him, just to scare him, but Allah (swt) when He talks about Hell, He (swt) is very serious, He is very serious. It's just not that He's trying to scare us but eventually nothing is going to happen.

No, whatever He (swt) says in the Qur'an and conveys through *ahadith*, that's very much going to happen. Lets be absolutely clear about that.

Slides 8:

Now we come to know that they will say 'O Lord we've seen and heard, so send us back, we will do righteous deeds'. (The Qur'an 32:12)

You see, the moment we will die all our doubts about our religion will be very clear. Today we have a lot of doubts 'Oh I don't know if *pardah* (hijab/covering) is a compulsory thing or not.' 'I don't know if Islam is the real religion of God ...' we have a lot of doubts in our minds, some have a lot of doubts, there are some who have fewer doubts but we do have doubts.

But the moment we die everything will be black and white and the reality will become very, very clear to us. And obviously when you are very clear about the truth then you'd wish you'd come back to this life.

You'd say, 'I wish I had known this, with this clarity I would not have committed any sin.'

Slide 9:

Allah (swt) is telling this very same thing to us today, that you're going to regret it and you are going to ask Me and request to Me that 'let me just go back' but obviously, there is no turning back after you die! And Allah (swt) will not speak to them on dooms day (Surah Al Baqarah 2: Verses 174-176)

Slide 10:

There are seven gates of hell meaning there will be seven degrees of hell in which people will enter according to their deeds

(Surah Al Hjr: Verse 44)

Slide 11:

If a stone is dropped in hell then it will take seventy years before it reaches its depth.

(Hadith in Muslim)

Slide 12;

"Hell fire is black as tar and dark as night." (Bayhaqi)

Usually when we think of fire we have those bright red colours in our mind, when we think about fire and a volcano, we have this image of brightness, but there won't be any brightness in Hell fire, it's going to be very, very dark, extremely dark.

Now I need to imagine for myself and you need to imagine for yourself that if this happens to me and if I were to be seized and caged in a box and thrown in Hell Fire forever, think about it how painful it's going to be, how painful.

Slide 13:

Blazing Fire. The blazing fire of Hell is fueled "with men and stones."

"...fear the Fire whose fuel is men and stones,- which is prepared for those who reject Faith" (Surah Al Baqarah 2: Verse24).

Slide 14:

"...Enough is Hell for a burning fire. Those who reject Our Signs, We shall soon cast into the Fire. As often as their skins are roasted through, We shall change them for fresh skins, that they may taste the penalty. For Allah is Exalted in Power, Wise" (4:55-56).

Slide 15:

"But he whose balance (of good deeds) is found to be light, will have his home in a (bottomless) Pit. And what will explain to you what this is? A Fire blazing fiercely!" (101:8-11).

Slide 16:

Tree of Zaqqum

Whereas the rewards of Heaven include plentiful, fresh fruits and milk, the inhabitants of Hell will eat from the Tree of Zaqqum. The Quran describes it:

"Is that the better entertainment or the Tree of Zaqqum? For We have truly made it (as) a trial for the wrong-doers. It is a tree that springs out of the bottom of Hell-Fire. The shoots of its fruit-stalks are like the heads of devils. Truly they will eat thereof and fill their bellies therewith. Then on top of that they will be given a mixture made of boiling water. Then shall their return be to the (Blazing) Fire" (37:62-68).

"Verily, the tree of deadly fruit will be the food of the sinful. Like molten lead will it boil in the belly, like the boiling of burning despair" (44:43-46).

Slides 17:

No Second Chances

When they are dragged into Hell-Fire, many people will instantly regret the choices they made in their lives, and will beg for another chance. The Quran warns such people:

"As to those who reject Faith: if they had everything on earth, and twice repeated, to give as ransom for the penalty of the Day of Judgment, it would never be accepted of them. Theirs

would be a grievous penalty. Their wish will be to get out of the Fire, but never will they get out. Their penalty will be one that endures" (5:36-37).

Can you feel the level of disappointment where every time you might feel 'I'm at the edge of the Hell and I can actually escape'? You think you will be able to escape, but we're talking about Allah (swt) and we're talking about Allah (swt)'s orders, we wouldn't be able to escape!

Slides 18:

Have you ever seen anyone who has been burnt? And how painful it seems, have you ever put your finger in something that is boiling? How hot and painful it is and we are talking about the worldly heat of water or oil or the fire.

Slide 19:

Boiling Water

Normally water brings relief and puts out a fire. The water in Hell, though, is different.

"...Those who deny (their Lord), for them will be cut out a garment of Fire. Over their heads will be poured out boiling water. With it will be scalded what is within their bodies, as well as (their) skins. In addition there will be maces of iron (to punish) them. Every time they wish to get away therefrom, from anguish, they will be forced back, and (it will be said), "Taste the Penalty of Burning!" (22:19-22).

"In front of such a one is Hell, and he is given, for drink, boiling fetid water" (14:16).

"In its midst and in the midst of boiling hot water will they wander round!" (55:44). Slide 37:

Slide 20:

We hear a lot of jokes about Hell, 'Oh we're going to have the whole of Bollywood and the whole of Hollywood in Hell and the *goras* (white people) are going to be there and pretty women are going to be there.'

The famous writer Mark Twain said: "I will take Heaven for climate and Hell for society!" Poor man had no clue what he was talking about.

It's not going to be that simple that we'll sit and look around here and there to pass away our time, No. Along with other pains you are going to feel and suffer the pain of loneliness as well.

That pain of loneliness is also going to be there forever. Try someday to spend the whole day in your room with no entertainment, nothing, just keep sitting, I'm not even talking about torturing yourself or anything of that sort, just keep sitting in the room and see how crazy you go. Sometimes when you're ill and you're in bed you feel like, you know you become so

cranky and impolite with everyone because you just hate it. Here we're talking about forever, being alone.

Slide 21:

Allah (swt) talks about punishing the hypocrites a lot. Who are the hypocrites? They are not non-Muslims, they are the Muslims who say '*la ilaha illallah*' but they are not practicing Muslims, they feel that the commands of Allah (swt) are very, very difficult.

So they feel that just because they have said their *kalimah* they are going to qualify for *Jannah*? that's not going to happen. They will be hurled into the lowest level of Hell where they will stay locked forever, they will be there forever. (Qur'an 4:145) Again, think about it, being thrown at the bottom of the Hell Fire, think about that.

Slide 21:

And then fire will be closed around them having no opening from anywhere, all around they're going to feel the heat and the fire. And this fire is not going to make things bright for you; you'll just feel the excruciating heat of this fire.

In a hadith (saying of the Prophet) the Prophet ﷺ (peace be upon him) said that the heat of the Hellfire is multiplied 70 times compared to the fire of this world (Bukhari). Try dipping a finger into the kitchen stove just once and feel the pain it brings, and then imagine a fire 70 times hotter burning your whole body. Indeed as the Prophet of Allah ﷺ said that after a few moments in Hellfire, all the pleasures of this world we had will be utterly forgotten.
[Muslim]

Slide 23-24:

Ok now who are eligible for Hell?

According to the Qur'an, The following are some of the categories of people who will enter Hellfire, although there are more:

1. Disbelievers
2. Hypocrites
3. Arrogant Rejecters of truth
4. Sinners and Criminals
5. The Unjust
6. The ones who transgress the limits set by Allah
7. Tyrants
8. Murderers

9. Those who persecute the believers
10. Those who prefer the world and neglect the hereafter
11. Those who commit suicide
12. Everyone who is cruel, proud and arrogant
13. The one who is treacherous
14. The traitor
15. One who has a habit of abusing people and using obscene language
16. The one who doesn't pray, and also the one who doesn't pray on time

Slides 25:

All of us should be aware that our books open with Allah (swt) the moment you get your periods (i.e. when you reach puberty). The angels start writing the good deeds and the bad deeds and if there is any way of erasing your bad deeds, it is by doing *tawbah*.

Slides 26:

Changing a Habit takes time but we must start working on them now.

Slide 27;

Now there are certain misconceptions regarding *tawbah*. What are these misconceptions?

‘It’s too late I’ve already committed a lot of mistakes’ but you know what? It doesn’t matter.

Slide 28;

It all can be cleansed by honest *tawbah*! You can sit here, take a minute, half a minute, a second to do *tawbah* for whatever wrong things that you’ve already done and your books will be absolutely clean. But for that you have to make sure that the *tawbah* that you do is from the bottom of your heart. That’s very important.

(Hadith reference for teacher: The Prophet (pbuh) said: “All the children of Adam constantly err, but the best of those who constantly err are those who constantly repent.” [Tirmidhi, Ibn Majah, Ahmad, Hakim])

Slide 29:

Another misconception is that, ‘My sins are too big’. Doesn’t matter what you’ve done. You don’t have to discuss it with anyone in order for Allah (swt) to forgive, all you have to do is go home, say two *rakats salah* and ask Allah (swt) for forgiveness with the promise that you’re not going to repeat them.

Slide 30:

And then we must understand that your weeping here will always help. But not in Hell, no matter how much you weep there it wouldn't help. So if you want to weep, it should be here in order to do *tawbah*. So let's just make our books clean and clear.

(Hadith reference for teacher: "O son of Adam, as long as you call upon Me and put your hope in Me, I have forgiven you for what you have done and I do not mind. O son of Adam, if your sins were to reach the clouds of the sky and then you would seek My forgiveness, I would forgive you. O son of Adam, if you were to come to Me with sins that are close to filling the earth and then you would meet Me without ascribing any partners with Me, I would certainly bring to you forgiveness close to filling it." [Tirmidhi])

Slide 31:

Another misconception is what, 'I'll do *tawbah* when I'm sure that I'm strong enough'. I know everything now, I'm graduating I know but there are couple of things that I need to do after that, when I feel I'm absolutely ready for it then I'm going to do *tawbah*.

Slide 32:

Well *shaytaan* is basically trying 'delaying tactics' on you and nothing else. It's a warning sign, *shaytaan* is stopping you from doing what Allah (swt) wants you to do.

Slide 33 & 34:

Another misconception is, 'Allah (swt) is very forgiving don't you worry'. Do you actually find Allah (swt) very forgiving when He talks about the punishments of Hell fire? He's very forgiving, He's *ArRahman* (The All Compassionate) *ArRahim* (The All Merciful) but He is not always forgiving – He (swt) is also *Al Qahhar* (The Subduer) and *Al Haseeb* (The Accounter). If He was always forgiving, then we don't have any problem do we? Everyone does whatever they want and in the end its happy ending for all? He (swt) is also *Al Aadil* (The Just).

Slide 35:

There is another misconception, 'Very few die at my age'. Well do you think it's worth taking the risk that you're going to live till 60 years and I'm going to do *tawbah* before I die.

Well Allah (swt) talks about some people who will beg for another chance to go back.

"And those who followed would say: 'If only We had one more chance...' Thus will Allah show them (the fruits of) their deeds as (nothing but) regrets. Nor will there be a way for them out of the Fire" (Surah Al Baqarah 2: Verse 167)

And for all we know we might be one of them, who died suddenly and did not get an opportunity to do *tawbah*, they are the ones who are going to beg Allah (swt) to send them back. So that's a big chance that you're taking if you feel that.

Slides 36 -38:

So the thing is that the world is a transit lounge for us, this is not the final destination, but do you have a set destination. Where do you want to go? There are two gates; gate to Heaven and gate to Hell, where do you think you are heading towards.

Are we sitting near the right departure gate? And what is going to tell us that we're sitting near the right departure gate, what is going to tell us? Our actions, our lifestyle is going to tell us today where we are sitting. Are we sitting near the departure gate of Hell, or we are sitting near the departure gate of *Jannah*. You will just need to look at your life and you have an idea.

And are you putting the right stuff in your suit case, are you preparing in the right manner? What are you preparing for?

People who are going to a very cold place, their packing is done accordingly. People who are travelling to hotter places their packing is very different, right.

Slides 39-42:

So what kind of preparation are you doing? Or maybe your suitcase is just empty, maybe you're just not preparing at all!

You need to just question yourself. And few things will have to go out of the suitcase, no matter how dear they are to us, they have to go out of the suitcase, why? Because Allah (swt) does not like them, it's as simple as that. And a few have to be added in, and what is that thing?

The Qur'an and the *hadith*. If you want to sit near the departure gate to *Jannah*, you will have to pack the Qur'an and *hadith* in your suitcase. And how do you pack it? Your deeds are going to show you what you've packed for your departure because the thing is, we don't know our departure time. That's the only difference between the departure that we have at the airports here in this world and the departure that we're going to have from this world.

Slides 43-46:

We don't know the departure time, so we have to be ready for it all the time, we have to be ready. So the thing is, this is the time to pack smartly, this is the time. This is the time to think about it, so may Allah (swt) help us, guide us and make us think in a manner that can change our lives towards *jannah* right.

And with this *Alhamdulillah* we end our classes. May Allah (swt) give you the wisdom and *hikmah* to save yourself from the Fire of Hell and earn His mercy.

I know it's very tough for all of you, the kind of challenges that are outside, you know you have to very, very strong, your level of *emaan* has to be very high to deal with the pressures of this world.

May Allah (swt) give you the strength today and stop you and help you from procrastinating on certain things because this is like serious business. We really don't know how long we're going to stay in this world, so please let's just take half a minute and make a *du'a* for ourselves and make certain resolutions and promises to ourselves and with Allah (swt)'s help - stick to them, *inshaallah*.

Du'a for end of a gathering) *Subhana Rabbika Rabbul Izzati 'amma yasifun wasalamun 'alalmursaleen, walhamdulillahi Rabbil 'alameen*

(Parting salutation to students) *Assalam alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh*

Reference for Teachers:

- "Hell-fire" Its torments and denizens by Ali hasan Abdul Hameed, International Islamic publishing house, DAR IBN HAZM.
- <http://www.suhaibwebb.com/personaldvlp/purification-heart/description-of-hellfire/>

Quranic Verses on Hell in the Qur'an

- 1.Surah Al Anam ,6:27
- 2.Surah Al A'raaf, 7:38-39
- 3.Surah Al Mominoon, 23:104-108
- 4.Surah Furqan ,25:13-14
- 5.Surah Al Ahzaab 33:66-68
- 6.Surah Fatir ,35:36-37
- 7.Surah Mulk ,67:6-11