

The Lit Cave

Surah Al Kahf

March 7, 2020

فَلَعَلَّكَ بَاخِعٌ نَفْسَكَ عَلَىٰ آثَارِهِمْ إِنْ لَمْ يُؤْمِنُوا بِهَذَا الْحَدِيثِ أَسَفًا - 18:6

Then perhaps you would kill yourself through grief over them, [O Muhammad], if they do not believe in this message, [and] out of sorrow.

In the beginning, Allah SWT says that this Quran was sent down to His slave Muhammad SAW, and he was eager and striving hard to spread it and get the people into the cave. And there are two warnings in here, a general warning, and a more specific one. He SAW is happy when people accept the invitation and sad when they reject it because he just had so much mercy.

In this ayah, Allah SWT telling him not to be sad about those who do not accept guidance, and it is fitna when we allow ourselves to feel sad for those who fall into fitna themselves. We destroy ourselves out of despair and grief when people don't listen to us, but we cannot guide everyone, only Allah SWT can. We should not over-react with any situation in our lives as well, we should be more discreet.

Nabi SAW's worry and sadness caused him to track these people and Allah SWT told him that with two warnings, their guidance was not up to him. Guidance is only in the Hands of Allah SWT. If we take things that are out of our ability, then it weakens us, so we should preserve our strength for other things.

إِنَّا جَعَلْنَا مَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ زِينَةً لَّهَا لِنَبْلُوهُمْ أَيُّهُمْ أَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا - 18:7

Indeed, We have made that which is on the earth adornment for it that We may test them [as to] which of them is best in deed.

In this ayah Allah SWT tells Nabi SAW about the value of the dunya. This dunya can be a big attraction, and it can distract people from taking the warnings coming to them. There are benefits in the dunya as well though. We can use the dunya as an opportunity to do good, to praise Allah SWT. This is the bright side of the dunya, so you don't have to shun it, or stay away from it. Everything on the earth is an adornment, a zeenah, it can be a trial and test for people to see who will do the most righteous deeds. Who will use all the things of the dunya as a bridge to

connect with people and Allah SWT to do ihsan. People will not distract or discourage us and we use the beauty of the dunya to motivate us to do the best deed we can.

وَأِنَّا لَجَاعِلُونَ مَا عَلَيْهَا صَعِيدًا جُرُزًا - 18:8

And indeed, We will make that which is upon it [into] a barren ground.

This is reminder that this whole dunya is temporary and will disappear one day so don't get distracted by it but use it to do amal salihan inshaAllah.