The hypocrites' lack of perception

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Taken from the works of Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

With regards to the hypocrites having their perception blinded by Allaah because of the sins they commit, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)¹ comments on the Qur'aanic aayah:

They seek to deceive Allaah and deceive those who believe. And they only deceive their own selves, whilst they do not realise.

[Soorah al Baqarah (the 2nd chapter) aayah 9]

And from (the benefits of the aayah) is that evil actions may blind (a person's) insight, so that the person does not perceive manifest and clear matters - as per His statement, He the Most High:

...whilst they laa yash'uroon (do not realise). [Soorah al Baqarah (the 2nd chapter) aayah 9]

Meaning they do not realise that they are deceiving their own selves.

And ash shu'oor (perception) is more specific than al 'ilm (knowledge); so it (perception) is knowledge of the subtle and slight matters.

And therefore it is said that it (ash shu'oor) is taken from ash sha'r (hair); and hair is something slight.

So those who seek to deceive Allaah, His Messenger and the believers – if they were to reflect with a true reflection, they would certainly come to know that they are deceiving their own selves. However they have no perception about that because Allaah, the Most High, has blinded their insight – and refuge is sought with Allaah – so they do not perceive this matter.

(Tafseer ul Qur'aan il Kareem 1/41 - 42 of Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)

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رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him