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Last Day 17 – What happens to the disbeliever's soul after death?

Based on the works of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan (حفظه الله)

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

QUESTION: What happens to the disbeliever's soul after death?

ANSWER:

Muhammad (may perfect peace and security be upon him) told us about the person who dies having rejected Tawheed and the Truth which has come to him or her:

And as for the kaafir (and in one version of the hadeeth – the faajir, the wicked sinful person) when he is departing from this world and going on to the Hereafter, then angels descend upon him from the Heaven – angels who are severe and stern with black faces, having sack-cloths from the Fire.

So they will sit at a distance from him that the sight can reach, and then the Angel of Death will come until he sits by his head and says:

O foul and filthy soul! Come out to the Wrath of Allaah and His Anger!

So it (his soul) will scatter throughout his body. So he will drag it out, just as a pronged roasting-fork with many prongs is pulled through wet wool. The veins and tendons will be torn along with it.

And he will be cursed by every angel between the Heaven and the Earth and by every angel in the Heaven. The gates of the Heaven will be locked. There will not be any inhabitants of any gate except that they make supplication to Allaah that his soul should not ascend from their direction.

So he will take it (the soul) and when he takes it, he will not leave it in his hand even for the blink of an eye – until he places it in that sack-cloth. And there will come out from him a smell like the worst stench of the foulest corpse rotting upon the earth.

So they will take it up, and they will not pass by any group of angels except that they say:

What is this foul spirit?

So they will say:

So and so, the son of so and so.

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...mentioning the worst names which he used to be called in this world, until they reach the lowest heaven, and request is made for him that it be opened but it will not be opened for him.

Then he (may perfect peace and security be upon him) recited:

'The gates of the Heaven will not be opened for them (the disbelievers) nor will they enter Paradise until a camel passes through the eye of a needle.'

So he (may perfect peace and security be upon him) said:

So Allah, the Mighty and Majestic will say:

Write his record in sijjeen (the lowest earth)!

Then it will be said:

Return My Servant to the Earth because I have promised them that from it I created you, and to it I shall return you and from it I will bring you out another time.

So his spirit will be thrown down from the Heaven until it lands in his body. Then he (may perfect peace and security be upon him) recited:

'And whoever commits shirk along with Allaah, then it is as if he had fallen down from the Heaven and been snatched by birds – or the wind had carried him and thrown him in a far off place.'

(Continued in Last Day 18 – Fire and Brimstone?)