Responding to one rejecting advice and stating Tagwaa is in heart

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Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al-'Uthaymeen [May Allaah have mercy upon him]

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[Source: Al-Liga' Ash-Shahryy 5.]

بسُمِ ٱللهِ ٱلرَّحْمَنُ ٱلرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

How to respond to someone who rejects advice and says that Tagwaa¹ is in the heart

Question: "A questioner says: When some people, may Allaah guide us and them, have something by way of sins and then advice is brought forward to them, they point with their hands towards their heart and say: "What is the most important is this." With what do we refute these types of people?"

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al-'Uthaymeen [May Allaah have mercy upon him]: "This which some people do, that when advice is presented to them they say: "Taqwaa is here!", is a statement which is true because the Prophet, may peace and blessings be upon him, said: "Taqwaa is here!", and pointed to his chest. He said it three times. "Taqwaa is here! Taqwaa is here!" However the one who said "Taqwaa is here!" is the (same) one who said:

["Verily in the body there is a piece of flesh which, if it is sound, the entire body will be sound, but if it is corrupt the entire body will be corrupt."]²

So based upon this; the corruption on the outer is an indication for the corruption on the inside. And we say to the one who says: "Taqwaa is here", we say that if Taqwaa is in what is here, then that what we see from the outwardly actions would be Taqwaa. Because if the heart has Taqwaa, then it is a must that the limbs have Taqwaa (too), due to the statement of the Prophet, may peace and blessings be upon him:

["If it is sound, the (entire) body will be sound, but if it is corrupt the (entire) body will be corrupt."]

And by that we will have made his argument null and void, and say that: if you are truthful in that your heart has Tagwaa, then the limbs would also have Tagwaa. Yes."

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¹ Piety, awareness and fear of Allaah.

² Bukhaaree and Muslim.

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السؤال

سائل يقول: بعض الناس هدانا الله وإياهم إذا كان عنده بعض المعاصي ثم تقدم إليه بالنصيحة أشار بيده إلى قلبه، فقال: أهم شيء هذا، فبماذا نرد على مثل هذا الصنف من الناس؟

الجواب

هذا الذي يفعله بعض الناس إذا أُلقيت إليه النصيحة قال: التقوى ها هنا، كلام حق؛

لأن النبي صل الله عليه وآله وسلم قال: التقوى هاهنا وأشار إلى صدره. قالها ثلاث مرات. التقوى هاهنا. التقوى هاهنا ، ولكن الذي قال: التقوى ها هنا هو الذي قال: ألا وإن في الجسد مضغة إذا صلحت صلح الجسد كله، وإذا فسدت فسد الجسد كله. وعلى هذا فإن فساد الظاهر يدل على فساد الباطن، ونقول لهذا الذي قال: التقوى ها هنا. نقول: لو كان ما ها هنا فيه تقوى لكان ما نراه من الأعمال الظاهرة تقوى؛ لأنه إذا اتقى القلب لا بد أن تتقي الجوارح، لقول النبي عليه الصلاة والسلام: إذا صلحت صلح الجسد، وإذا فسدت فسد الجسد. وبذلك نبطل حجته ونقول: لو كنت صادقاً أن قلبك متق لاتقت الجوارح. نعم

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