

## Soofee's saying establishing fear and hope abandoning

Shaykh Aboo `Abd-al-Mu`iz `Alee Farkous al-Qoobee

Article taken and slightly adapted from: ferkous.com

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

**Question:** Honourable Shaykh, does the Muslim worship Allaah just because He is worthy of worship, or he worships Him out of hope of His paradise and out of fear of His hell?

**Answer:** All praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon whom Allaah sent as a mercy to the Worlds, upon his Family, his Companions and his Brothers until the Day of Resurrection.

Among the rights of Allaah سبحانه وتعالى upon His servants is to devote a sincere Tawheed (monotheism) and worship to Him. He asks His servants to supplicate and worship Him out fear of His hell and punishment, and out of want of His paradise and delight; Allaah تعالى says in Al-A'raaf Soorah:

وَادْعُوهُ خَوْفًا وَطَمَعًا

[and invoke Him with fear and hope]<sup>1</sup>

In fact, fear and hope are among the acts of worship that bring the servant nearer to Allaah سبحانه, as fearing Allaah drives him away from sins and prohibition, while hoping to access His paradise exhorts him to do good deeds and to carry out all that pleases Allaah. For this reason, Allaah praises His Prophet in al-Ambeeyaa' (The Prophets) Soorah by saying:

إِنَّهُمْ كَانُوا يُسَارِعُونَ فِي الْخَيْرَاتِ وَيَدْعُونَنَا رَغَبًا وَرَهَبًا وَكَانُوا لَنَا خَاشِعِينَ

[Verily, they used to hasten on to do good deeds, and they used to call on Us with hope and fear, and used to humble themselves before Us.]<sup>2</sup>

i.e. they want His paradise and fear His punishment. Allaah says also in al-Hajar Soorah:

نَبِّئْ عِبَادِي أَنِّي أَنَا الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ. وَأَنَّ عَذَابِي هُوَ الْعَذَابُ الْأَلِيمُ

[Declare (O Muhammad) unto My slaves, that truly, I am the Oft-Forgiving, the Most-Merciful. And that My Torment is indeed the most painful torment.]

Allaah تعالى said in Al-An'aam (The Beasts) Soorah addressing His Prophet:

<sup>1</sup> Soorah al-A'raaf [7:56]

<sup>2</sup> Soorah al-Ambeeyaa'[21:90]

## Soofee's saying establishing fear and hope abandoning

قُلْ إِنِّي أَخَافُ إِنْ عَصَيْتُ رَبِّي عَذَابَ يَوْمٍ عَظِيمٍ

[Say: "I fear, if I disobey my Lord, the torment of a Mighty Day."]<sup>3</sup>

This being said, the Soofees oppose these clear texts by their creed. They call people to devote a worship that is free from both fear of hell and hope in paradise. They rather consider that as Shirk (polytheism), as it is mentioned by some Soofee exegetes, who abandon the clear Qur'aanic and prophetic texts and the consensus of the nation and draw evidence from the saying of Raabi`a al-`Adawiyya who said, "O Allaah, if I worship You for the sake of entering Your paradise, deprive me of it. And if I worship You out of fear of Your hell, burn me therein". Also, they draw evidence from the saying of `Abdal-Ghani an-Naabulussi who said, "He who worships Allaah out of fear of His hell, he worships the hell indeed. And he who worships Allaah for the sake of paradise, he worships the idol indeed". We ask Allaah to protect us.

The perfect knowledge belongs to Allaah عَزَّ وَجَلَّ. Our last prayer is all praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon our Prophet, his Family, his Companions and Brothers till the Day of Resurrection.

Algiers, Rajab 18th, 1424H Corresponding to September 12th, 2003

---

<sup>3</sup> Soorah Al-An'aam [6:15]