

Spreading

Islam

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Achieve Noble Character

Spreading Islam

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Table of Contents

[Acknowledgements](#)

[Compiler's Notes](#)

[Spreading Islam](#)

[Introduction](#)

[Passing on Correct Knowledge](#)

[Lead by Example](#)

[Simple Speech](#)

[Sincerity](#)

[Respect](#)

[Gentleness](#)

[Tolerant](#)

[Balance](#)

[Make things Easy](#)

[Gentle Persistence](#)

[Hope in Reward](#)

[Strong Evidence](#)

[Beautiful & Simple Presentation](#)

[Address Relevant Issues](#)

[Trustworthy](#)

[Systematic Approach](#)

[Understand the Limits](#)

[Patience](#)

[Useful Information](#)

[Conclusion](#)

[Over 400 Free eBooks on Good Character](#)

[Other ShaykhPod Media](#)

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Compiler's Notes

We have tried diligently to do justice in this volume however if there are any short falls found then the compiler is personally and solely responsible for them.

We accept the possibility of faults and shortcomings in an effort to complete such a difficult task. We might have unconsciously stumbled and committed errors for which we ask for indulgence and forgiveness of our readers and the drawing of our attention thereto will be appreciated. We earnestly invite constructive suggestions which can be made to ShaykhPod.Books@gmail.com.

Spreading Islam

Introduction

Spreading the word of Islam is a duty on all according to their knowledge and social influence. Chapter 3 Alee Imran, verse 110:

“You are the best nation produced [as an example] for mankind. You enjoin what is right and forbid what is wrong...”

Therefore, this book will discuss some of the noble characteristics required for a muslim to successfully spread the word of Islam correctly.

Implementing the lessons discussed will aid a Muslim to Achieve Noble Character. According to the Hadith found in Jami At Tirmidhi, number 2003, the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, has advised that the heaviest thing in the Scales of Judgment Day will be Noble Character. It is one of qualities of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, which Allah, the Exalted, complimented in Chapter 68 Al Qalam, Verse 4 of the Holy Quran:

“And indeed, you are of a great moral character.”

Therefore, it is a duty on all Muslims to gain and act on the teachings of the Holy Quran and the traditions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, in order to Achieve Noble Character.

Passing on Correct Knowledge

When spreading the awareness of Islam within society it is vital one ensures that the correct knowledge is passed on. Otherwise, as warned by the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, in a Hadith found in Sunan Ibn Majah, number 206, a person may not only get punished for passing on incorrect knowledge but that punishment will increase depending on how many people act on it. Unfortunately, this Hadith is very commonly overlooked resulting in the spread of unreliable and incorrect knowledge. The lack of correct knowledge can open the door to unbelief. For example, some people label everything they do not understand as innovation or polytheism. They even happily label muslims as apostates without realizing a Hadith found in Sahih Muslim, number 216. It clearly warns that if one falsely accuses a muslim of disbelief the accuser loses their faith. Ignorance is one of the weapons of the Devil and one can only avoid this trap by gaining correct knowledge from a reliable scholar before spreading it. Chapter 39 Az Zumar, verse 9:

“...Say, "Are those who know equal to those who do not know?"...”

Lead by Example

Those who spread the word of Islam must strive to first act on their knowledge. In the early days of Islam to attend a gathering of Islamic knowledge one had to journey for days but now countless lectures can be found online. Yet, ignorance of the correct path has only increased since the passing of the righteous predecessors. This is because some have acquired knowledge by memorizing verses of the Holy Quran and Hadiths of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, but have not used them to purify their character. Meaning, they did not act on their knowledge. Those who act like this will lose the power to affect the hearts of others through their advice. Some lecturers are like news bulletins that only provide information without stimulating others to act thereby failing in their duty to guide others through their God given knowledge. Non-muslims are mainly accepting Islam through their own research of Islam instead of observing a practical example of a successful muslim. One who desires to spread Islam must make it their priority to purify their character through knowledge. Chapter 61 As Saf, verse 3:

“Greatly hateful in the sight of Allah is that you say what you do not do.”

When one acts in this way then a little correct knowledge will have a massive impact on themselves and others. Whereas, those who reject this correct attitude may possess more knowledge but it will have no positive affect on anybody. This type of person has been described in the Holy Quran. Chapter 62 Al Jumu'ah, verse 5:

“...and then did not take it on (did not act on their knowledge) is like that of a donkey who carries volumes [of books]...”

Simple Speech

It is also important when spreading the word of Islam to avoid unnecessary complicated terms and flowery speech. This challenges the tradition of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, who confirmed, in a Hadith found in Sahih Muslim, number 1167, that he was gifted with comprehensive speech. This means his words were to the point but contained an ocean's worth of knowledge. Similar to this attitude is when people purposely discuss less significant issues which can cause divisions in society. Some adopt this method in order to stand out from others but this is a misguided attitude as the duty of a muslim who spreads the word of Islam is to discuss more significant issues with the aim to strengthen society.

Sincerity

Those who desire to spread the word of Islam should never gain knowledge in order to defeat others in debates nor to make others feel unintelligent nor should one seek fame when fulfilling this duty. Otherwise, the knowledge that was meant to bring one closer to Allah, the Exalted, only causes them to act like a hypocrite who pretends to benefit others while only desiring fame. Those who act in this way without sincerely repenting have been warned of Hell. This is confirmed in a Hadith found in Sunan Ibn Majah, number 253.

Alcohol has been declared the mother of evil in a Hadith found in Sunan An Nasai, number 5669, as it opens the door to countless other sins. Similarly, the love for fame through spreading the word of Islam is the mother of evil for scholars. This attitude always leads to other sins such as, lying, backbiting, envy and hypocrisy. Because of their incorrect intention these people will never accept the truth from another as they fear the latter will gain more fame than them. This leads them to arguing against the truth by twisting the verses of the Holy Quran and the Hadiths of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, out of context. When one fails to adhere to the etiquettes of spreading the word of Islam Allah, the Exalted, removes the light of faith from their heart. Instead of their knowledge leading them towards light and the pleasure of Allah, the Exalted, it only leads them to darkness. The worse thing is that when the outside world observes these people they may well believe that this was the attitude of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, the Companions, may Allah be pleased with them all, and the righteous predecessors. Spreading this false belief to others will only lead to more difficulty for the person. This is one of the reasons why the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, once warned in a

Hadith found in Sunan Ibn Majah, number 256, that the worse parts of Hell will be reserved for those who used their knowledge of the Holy Quran for the sake of fame.

Unfortunately, some people seek compensation for their deeds from others whereas the Holy Prophets, peace be upon them, and the righteous never demanded compensation from people. They only desired to please Allah, the Exalted, and hoped in reward from Him alone. Chapter 26 Ash Shu'ara, verse 164:

“And I do not ask you for it any payment. My payment is only from the Lord of the worlds.”

One must always aim to please Allah, the Exalted. This intention alone will determine whether they receive reward or not from Allah, the Exalted. This has been confirmed in a Hadith found in Sahih Bukhari, number 1.

In fact, the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, once described the judgment of a person who dedicated his life to gaining and spreading knowledge in a Hadith found in Sahih Muslim, number 4923. As he desired compensation from people in the form of fame Allah, the Exalted, will declare that there is no reward for him in the hereafter because of his bad intention. The man will then be hurled into Hell.

Unfortunately, some not only intend for material benefit but also purposely offer advice which pleases people and withhold the advice which would displease them even though it is the truth. This is not considered spreading the word of Islam and will only lead to the wrath of Allah, the Exalted.

Respect

When discussing Islam with non-muslims one should always show respect and never result to insults. The only way people will understand the true peaceful message of Islam is if they observe the pleasant attitude of a muslim spreading the word of Islam. The evidence a muslim presents should be strong yet the language they use should be soft. Chapter 16 An Nahl, verse 125:

“Invite to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good instruction, and argue with them in a way that is best...”

The Holy Prophet Mosa, peace be upon him, requested the aid of his brother the Holy Prophet Haroon, peace be upon him, in order to spread the word of Allah, the Exalted, to Pharaoh and his people. He desired this as the Holy Prophet Haroon, peace be upon him, was more fluent and gentle in speech. If the Holy Prophet Mosa, peace be upon him, requested this specific quality then why do some today reject it when they try spreading the word of Islam? Chapter 28 Al Qasas, verse 34:

“And my brother Aaron is more fluent than me in tongue, so send him with me as support, verifying me. Indeed, I fear that they will deny me.”

When muslims adopt the opposite characteristic mentioned in the earlier verse it only tarnishes Islam's reputation and pushes people further away from Islam.

Gentleness

The beauty of Islam is found in gentleness. This has been advised by the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, in many Hadiths such as the one found in Sunan Ibn Majah, number 3689. The Holy Quran even mentions that the Companions, may Allah be pleased with them all, constantly lovingly accompanied the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, because of his gentleness and soft nature. Chapter 3 Alee Imran, verse 159:

“So by mercy from Allah, [O Muhammad], you were lenient with them. And if you had been rude [in speech] and harsh in heart, they would have disbanded from about you...”

The Arabs were infamous for being harsh hearted but due to the Holy Prophet Muhammad's, peace and blessings be upon him, soft temperament their tough hearts melted and thus they adopted this quality and became beacons to guide the rest of mankind. This is why the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, warned in a Hadith found in Sunan Abu Dawud, number 4809, that the one who is deprived of gentleness is deprived of good. Chapter 3 Alee Imran, verse 103:

“...And remember the favor of Allah upon you - when you were enemies and He brought your hearts together and you became, by His favor, brothers...”

This is a clear message to those who desire to spread the word of Islam. They must possess a gentle constructive mind set rather than a harsh destructive one. They should unite people and strive to benefit others rather than spreading controversy within society. A good example of this is seen in one's attitude towards their children. The parents that showed a gentle nature towards their children had a greater positive impact on them than the parents who adopted a harsh temperament. Often some push people further away from Islam with their harsh attitude and this completely challenges the traditions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. For example, once an uneducated Bedouin urinated in the Mosque of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. When the Companions, may Allah be pleased with them all, desired to punish him the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, forbade them and gently explained to the Bedouin the etiquettes of being in a Mosque. This incident is mentioned in a Hadith found in Sunan Ibn Majah, number 529. This soft approach affected the man in a positive way.

This important characteristic is also mentioned in many places of the Holy Quran. For example, even though Pharaoh claimed to be the highest Lord yet Allah, the Exalted, commanded the Holy Prophet Mosa and the Holy Prophet Haroon, peace be upon them both, to invite Pharaoh towards guidance using gentle and kind speech. Chapter 79 An Naziat, verse 24:

“And said, “I am your most exalted lord.””

and Chapter 20 Taha, verses 43-44:

“Go, both of you, to Pharaoh. Indeed, he has transgressed. And speak to him with gentle speech that perhaps he may be reminded or fear [Allah].”

Children and even animals understand the language of gentleness. So how can an adult not be guided correctly if one adopts this characteristic when inviting them towards Islam and good? This is why the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, once advised in a Hadith found in Sahih Muslim, number 6601, that Allah, the Exalted, is kind and gentle according to His infinite dignity and likes the creation to act softly with each other. Unfortunately, many who spread the word of Islam have adopted the incorrect belief that being gentle is a sign of weakness. This is nothing but a ploy of the Devil as he desires to lead mankind away from Islam.

Tolerant

Another key aspect of spreading the word of Islam is being approachable and tolerant to the behaviour of others. It is common sense to know that when things are explained gently those that desire to better themselves will accept it. Whereas, if anger and frustration are adopted people will only turn away from good advice.

The one who adopts this correct attitude will understand the nature of people and thus treat them accordingly which is more beneficial than treating everybody in the same way.

Balance

Muslims who desire to spread the word of Islam should not scare people by constantly mentioning terrible things like Hell but instead show a balanced approach whereby they treat people according to their attitude. For example, if a person is in a state of fear and thus close to giving up hope on the infinite mercy of Allah, the Exalted, they should be treated with hope. Conversely, if one is drowned in heedlessness they should be taken out of this state through the fear of Allah, the Exalted.

Make things Easy

It is important to make things easy and simple for people rather than showing others Islam is a burdensome religion to follow. This was advised by the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, in a Hadith found in Sahih Bukhari, number 6125. This is why the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, declared in a Hadith found in Imam Bukhari's, Adab Al Mufrad, number 43, that he was sent with a simple and easy religion. People who spread the word of Islam often incorrectly complicate Islam whereas the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, simplified it.

Gentle Persistence

The one who desires to spread the word of Islam should strive to frequently remind others of good. People can become heedless quickly therefore, reminding them consistently is important. Chapter 28 Al Qasas, verse 51:

“And We have [repeatedly] conveyed to them the word [i.e., the Qur’ān] that they might be reminded.”

Just like students who revise their notes repeatedly in order to reinforce its knowledge into their minds one will benefit from being frequently reminded of the true word of Islam. One should not just offer good advice once and then give up. Repeating good words is like continuous drops of water which with time penetrates the toughest of structures. This is the tradition of Allah, the Exalted, and all the Holy Prophets, peace be upon them all. For example, Allah, the Exalted, only needed to command muslims to establish the obligatory prayers once yet He has done it many times throughout the Holy Quran.

The Holy Prophet Nuh, peace be upon him, spent approximately 950 years continuously spreading the word of faith to his people. Chapter 29 Al Ankabut, verse 14:

“And We certainly sent Noah to his people, and he remained among them a thousand years minus fifty years...”

The Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, used every moment to spread the word of Islam and even in his last moments advised the Companions, may Allah be pleased with them all, to adhere to Islamic teachings. This has been recorded in a Hadith found in Sunan Ibn Majah, number 2697. Therefore, one should adopt this attitude and not fall prey to the whisperings of the Devil by giving up offering advice after a few occasions. The duty of a muslim who invites others to Islam is to do it consistently but whether this effects the hearts of the people is out of their control.

But it is important to stress there is a difference between being regular and hounding others. A muslim should not constantly command others to good as this can become overbearing and burdensome for others. In fact, the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, refrained from giving too many lectures as he did not want the Companions, may Allah be pleased with them all, becoming bored and overburdened. This is why the Companion, Abdullah Bin Masood, may Allah be pleased with him, only gave lectures on Thursdays even though he was requested to give more. This is confirmed in a Hadith found in Sahih Muslim, number 7127.

Hope in Reward

In addition, one should never believe their efforts are only rewarded if others listen and act on their advice. This is false as Allah, the Exalted, rewards based on one's intention and efforts not the outcome of an action. This is confirmed in a Hadith found in Sahih Bukhari, number 1.

Strong Evidence

An important condition for spreading the word of Islam is that one must provide others with strong evidence to support their views. This is only possible when they possess the correct knowledge. One's proof must be taken from the Holy Quran and the Hadiths of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. For example, when the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, invited his relatives to embrace Islam he used his 40 years amongst them as proof that he was speaking the truth. This evidence was undeniable even by the non-muslims. This incident is recorded in a Hadith found in Sahih Bukhari, number 4553. Only the arrogance of some prevented them from submitting to the truth. Chapter 10 Yunus, verse 16:

"...for I had remained among you a lifetime before it. Then will you not reason?"

Beautiful & Simple Presentation

The presentation of knowledge is also very important as one needs to show others the beauty and ease of Islam rather than painting a picture of difficulty. This has been advised by the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, in a Hadith found in Sahih Bukhari, number 6125. Chapter 2 Al Baqarah, verse 185:

“...Allah intends for you ease and does not intend for you hardship...”

One should never be flowery in their speech and utter nonsense concealed in beautiful words. But none the less the combination of wisdom and presentation are required to attract the hearts of mankind just like the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, and the Companions, may Allah be pleased with them, did. An example of this is recorded in a Hadith found in Sunan Ibn Majah, number 42.

Address Relevant Issues

Unfortunately, some of those who spread the word of Islam have become heedless. They dedicate most of their time debating over small issues which are not even connected to the obligatory duties or to the traditions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. Instead of addressing the 21st century issues muslims are now facing they discuss obscure and irrelevant issues so that they appear unique. Their teachings encourage uneducated muslims to argue over these issues convincing them this is the path to salvation.

Trustworthy

In order to correctly spread the word of Islam one must be trustworthy. The Holy Quran specifically mentions how the Holy Prophets, peace be upon them all, declared that they were trustworthy and only desired the benefit of others. For example, Chapter 26 Ash Shu'ara, verses 161-162:

"When their brother Lot said to them, "Will you not fear Allah? Indeed, I am to you a trustworthy messenger."

As mentioned earlier in a previous chapter when the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, announced Prophethood the people all agreed that he was trustworthy even though many went back on their own words and denied him. This is mentioned in Tafsir Ibn Kathir, Volume 10, Pages 622-623.

Systematic Approach

In the Holy Quran Allah, the Exalted, advises the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, to begin spreading the word of Islam from his relatives. This is another important aspect of spreading the word of Islam. One should always begin with relatives and then move forward to the other members of society. Due to a person's close bonds and familiarity with their relatives advising them will have more of an affect than advising strangers. In fact, if each person concentrated on their own relatives advising non relatives would only be required on a few occasions. Chapter 26 Ash Shu'ara, verse 214:

“And warn, [O Muhammad], your closest kindred.”

After this step the Holy Quran advises one to spread the word of Islam within their local society. Chapter 42 Ash Shuraa, verse 7:

“And thus We have revealed to you an Arabic Quran that you may warn the Mother of Cities [i.e., Mecca] and those around it...”

The final step is to invite mankind on a national level towards Islam. Chapter 34 Saba, verse 28:

“And We have not sent you except comprehensively to mankind as a bringer of good tidings and a warner...”

Allah, the Exalted, commanded the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, to adopt this gradual process so therefore, each muslim who undertakes this task should also adopt this method.

Understand the Limits

The Holy Quran teaches mankind that certain people are so drowned in the material world no advice will penetrate their veiled hearts. The Holy Quran describes how this group of people possesses hearts harder than rocks. Chapter 2 Al Baqarah, verse 74:

“Then your hearts became hardened after that, being like stones or even harder...”

At this point those who desire to spread the word of Islam should separate from this type of person and instead concentrate on others. But it is important to note, even in this case a muslim should always demonstrate good character towards the sinful as they can repent at anytime. Chapter 25 Al Furqan, verse 63:

“...and when the ignorant address them [harshly], they say [words of] peace.”

Similarly, in another verse of the Holy Quran Allah, the Exalted, advises that when a limit is reached it is best to separate and leave the stubborn and misguided people to their false beliefs. A day will undoubtedly come

when Allah, the Exalted, will inform mankind who was rightly guided and who was lost in darkness. Chapter 28 Al Qasas, verse 55:

“And when they hear ill speech, they turn away from it and say, “For us are our deeds, and for you are your deeds. Peace will be upon you; we seek not the ignorant.””

Muslims should never get depressed and confused when their good advice does not affect others. In some cases, these people are drowned in sins to such an extent their heart becomes veiled. This veil prevents the good advice affecting them in a positive way. A Hadith found in Sunan Ibn Majah, number 4244, explains how a sin causes a black spot to be etched onto the spiritual heart. The more one sins the more their spiritual heart becomes engrossed by this darkness. Chapter 83 Al Mutaffifin, verse 14:

“No! Rather, the stain has covered their hearts of that which they were earning.”

This is similar to another verse where Allah, the Exalted, declares that their ears, eyes and hearts have been veiled from the truth and they therefore cannot be guided to the truth. Chapter 2 Al Baqarah, verse 7:

“Allah has set a seal upon their hearts and upon their hearing, and over their vision is a veil...”

The fault does not lie with the message of Islam but in the hearts of the misguided. Just like the fault lies in the eyes of a blind person and not the bright Sun. Unfortunately, this stubborn attitude has become a widespread problem within society. Some of these people believe in Islam yet have closed their hearts and minds to the teachings of the Holy Quran and Hadiths of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. They refuse to accept any good advice which would benefit them in both worlds.

Those who choose to spread the word of Islam should understand that there are two types of mind-sets people can adopt. The first is when someone makes their mind up beforehand about an issue and then searches and accepts only those things which support their predetermined belief. Whereas, the correct attitude is to live with an open mind by searching and accepting strong evidence regarding different issues. The first mentality will only cause problems from a personal level right up to a national level. Unfortunately, this is how some aspects of the media work. They predetermine the information they would like to publish, find bits of weak supporting evidence and then blow it out of proportion for the world to see. Those spreading the word of Islam should avoid the first type of people and instead concentrate on inviting the second group towards the truth.

Patience

Whenever one invites others towards Islam, commands good and forbids evil they will be challenging the heedless lifestyle of many others which will inspire them to resist the truth anyway they can. The major reason all the past nations rejected their Holy Prophets, peace be upon them, was due to this very reason. They could not abandon their lifestyles and characteristics and in defense of them were prepared to wage war against Allah, the Exalted, and their Holy Prophet, peace be upon him. When one takes up this important duty they must be prepared to face many hardships caused by others including their own relatives. The Holy Prophets, peace be upon them, are the most beloved to Allah, the Exalted, yet they encountered countless difficulties from their nations. One only needs to study the Holy Quran and the Hadiths of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, to observe this fact. For example, the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, once declared in a Hadith found in Jami At Tirmidhi, number 2472, that no one in creation had been persecuted in the path of Allah, the Exalted, more than him.

In cases like this one's response to the bad attitude of others should be educated, respectful and gentle. An example of this is found in chapter 19 Maryam, verses 46-47:

"[His father] said, "Have you no desire for my gods, O Abraham? If you do not desist, I will surely stone you, so avoid me a prolonged time." [Abraham] said, "Peace [i.e., safety] will be upon you. I will ask forgiveness for you of my Lord. Indeed, He is ever gracious to me."

Here the kind and respectful response of the Holy Prophet Ibrahim, peace be upon him, to the harsh attitude of his elder is discussed.

In most cases, a person must possess a character flaw if they claim to get along with everyone. Due to the differences within the members of society a person will never get along with everyone. They will always be one or more that disagree with their mentality, life style and advice. This diversity will lead to tension and occasionally problems. But if a person is liked by everyone then in most cases it shows they have adopted the mentality of the hypocrites by being two-faced. If the Holy Prophets, peace be upon them, were not loved by all how can a normal person achieve this status? This is the reason one should not believe in propaganda as the group that were mistreated the most in this way were the Holy Prophets, peace be upon them. This is confirmed in a Hadith found in Sunan Ibn Majah, number 4023.

For example, the Holy Prophet Mosa, peace be upon him, was once falsely accused of illegal relations by a shameless woman. She was enticed into slandering him by the enemy of Allah, the Exalted, Quraon. When she accused the Holy Prophet Mosa, peace be upon him, publically during a religious gathering he interrogated her. When she observed his reaction she immediately retracted her accusation and admitted the truth. As a result Allah, the Exalted, destroyed Quraon by commanding the Earth to swallow him and his great treasury. This incident has been recorded in Imam Dhahabi's, The Major Sins, Pages 166-167. Chapter 28 Al Qasas, verse 81:

“And We caused the earth to swallow him and his home...”

The Holy Prophets, peace be upon them, were slandered on many occasions but they remained steadfast on their mission until they were granted victory by Allah, the Exalted. When Allah, the Exalted, decides to complete a task like aiding the one who spreads the true word of faith the entire creation combined cannot stop Him.

Muslims must accept that they too will face hardships when spreading the word of Islam. Therefore, they must follow in the footsteps of the Holy Prophets, peace be upon them, by remaining steadfast in the face of difficulties. This was the attitude of the Companions, may Allah be pleased with them, and the righteous predecessors. If one desires to join them in the next world they must adopt this attitude also.

Useful Information

Unfortunately, some have abandoned warning mankind of the mistakes of the past nations and how they were destroyed as a result of them. Instead, they inflate the concept of wishful thinking in respect to the mercy of Allah, the Exalted, by telling stories about saints without teaching the audience how to follow in their footsteps and achieve sainthood. These inviters to Islam give the false impression salvation lies in attending a weekly religious gathering and only declaring one's love for Allah, the Exalted, the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, and the saints through words without supporting it with action. They adopt this behavior as they believe becoming a popular speaker is more important than fulfilling the tradition of all the Holy Prophets, peace be upon them. Chapter 74 Al Muddaththir, verses 1-2:

“O you who covers himself [with a garment]. Arise and warn.”

Every Islamic discourse should deliver a concise and useful message. Unfortunately, some only attend gatherings which are composed of storytelling with no real purpose and meaning. These gatherings are only held in order to please the masses with flowery but meaningless speech. Some lecturers incorrectly believe they must provide their listeners with hours' worth of information in order to achieve success. But they fail to realize a few good words which inspire the audience towards improvement is much better. A gathering is only useful when the audience leaves with the sincere intention to reform themselves. But this requires the one who

desires to spread the word of faith to turn away from the incorrect attitude of searching for new ideas and concepts before acting on the basics.

Conclusion

To conclude, it is important for muslims especially, those who desire to spread the word of Islam, to adopt the correct characteristics required, many of which have been discussed in this book, in order to spread the true teachings of Islam to the world. The most important of them being to act on the teachings of Islam before preaching to others. This will cause the hearts of the people to turn towards Islam so that the purpose of Islam can be fulfilled namely, to spread love and right guidance to humanity so that they can journey safely from this world to the gates of Paradise. Chapter 29 Al Ankabut, verse 69:

“And those who strive for Us - We will surely guide them to Our ways...”

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