

# And they ask you about the Soul...

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# Objective



وَيَسْأَلُونَكَ عَنِ الرُّوحِ قُلِ الرُّوحُ مِنْ أَمْرِ رَبِّي وَمَا أُوتِيتُمْ مِنَ الْعِلْمِ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا

**[Shakir 17:85]** And they ask you about the soul. Say: The soul is one of the commands of my Lord, and you are not given aught of knowledge but a little.

# Parents as Role Models

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا قُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا وَقُودُهَا النَّاسُ  
وَالْحِجَارَةُ ...

**[Surah Tahrim 66:6]** O you who believe! Save yourselves and your families from a fire whose fuel is mankind and stones

# Parents as Role Models



Last week we learnt that the soul has been inspired to understand what is right and what is wrong and that Allah equates success and failure with the purity of the soul. But what do we really know about the Soul?

# Parents as Role Models



In Surah al-Israa' [17:85] Allah tells the Holy Prophet (S) to explain that the Soul is one of the commands of his Lord and we have not been given but a little knowledge of it. This is not because Allah wants to keep that knowledge away from us but that we do not have the capacity to understand. It should not surprise us that we cannot understand the Soul as it is a spiritual entity and our understanding comes from our experiences in the physical realm.

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Imam (A): "The Ruh is of the invisible world and emanates from Allah."

(Tafsir Nūr-uth-Thaqalayn, vol. 3, p. 215)

# Parents as Role Models



But we do know that the Soul is who I am and it is what will continue after death leaving behind the physical body (which I pay so much attention to) to be given a new body. We are also told that the Soul is the entity which connects me to Allah, it is my character and it was because of this Soul that the angels were given the order to do Sajdah to Prophet Adam (A):

فَإِذَا سَوَّيْتُهُ وَنَفَخْتُ فِيهِ مِنْ رُوحِي فَقَعُوا لَهُ سَاجِدِينَ

**Surah Hijr [15:29]** So when I have made him complete and breathed into him of My 'ruh', fall down making Sajdah to him.

# Parents as Role Models



- It is the Soul that differentiates us from animals, gives us superiority, nobility, character. In Hadith, the soul is what enables us to get higher than the angels, or lower than the animals
- To conclude, the word 'ruh' has been repeated 21 times in the Qur'an, and the true reality of the soul is beyond the understanding of man's knowledge which lies as one of the Divine secrets. Man's knowledge, with respect to it, is limited, minimal but it is who s/he is.

# Parents as Role Models



- The next question that arises is that if I have but little knowledge of my Soul how can I purify it, in order to be successful? Allah out of His love and Mercy tell us how to take care of the Soul and Purify it, by giving us the Shariah - everything that He has made Wajib is absolutely required for the Soul and those things that He has made Haraam are absolutely detrimental to the Soul.
- Therefore the purpose behind the Fiqh rulings is the Soul NOT the body, they may benefit the body but its purpose is for the Soul, to allow it to reach its potential.



# Parents as Role Models



- Practical steps:
- Know that my knowledge is limited and I have very little knowledge of myself/my Soul
- Ensure I support my children in doing (also myself) all the Wajibaats as the Soul requires this and stay away from all Muharamaat as the Soul will be damaged by these actions.
- Next time my child asks: 'why this ruling' I should remind him/her:
  - That instead of looking for the purpose of the ruling within the physical body (living in the physical world) realise the purpose of ruling is for their Soul
  - That Allah does not need for us to follow the laws, He has given us the laws for our benefit, for the growth of our Soul, for it to reach its potential.

# Feedback & Contact



- If you have any suggestions on content to cover or queries relating to any materials within these slides please email [admin@madressa.net](mailto:admin@madressa.net)
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