

Husainan Lectures on Importance of Good Qualities in as-Sahab Video

Khalid bin Abdul Rahman al-Husainan
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[Please note: Images may have been removed from this document. Page numbers have been added.]

Khalid bin Abdul Rahman al-Husainan discussed the importance of having good manners and qualities in the eighth episode of his latest series of video lectures produced by al-Qaeda's media arm, as-Sahab for the holy month of Ramadan.

The 23 minute, 53 second video was posted on jihadist forums on July 27, 2012. In the lecture, Husainan AKA Abu Zeid al-Kuwaiti explained that Islamic rituals alone will not merit Muslims a place in Paradise, but it is essential that they demonstrate good qualities with others. The rituals, such as prayer, giving charity, and doing pilgrimage to Mecca, are rather "training exercises" for Muslims to improve their character and qualities.

Following is a summary of the lecture and translation of selected excerpts:

"As-Sahab
"1432
"Department of Studies and Preaching
"Presents
"Ramadan Lessons
"Eighth Lesson
"The Importance of Good Qualities
"By the Preaching Sheikh Khalid al-Husainan (Abu Zeid al-Kuwaiti), may Allah Protect Him"

Husainan opens his lecture by arguing that Islam organized the relation of man with his Creator, with animals, with other people and relatives, and with everyone and everything, and what is needed to be discussed is the importance of good qualities and manners for the believers. He then cites the Prophet Muhammad as saying, "I was sent to perfect good qualities," and asks the viewer to imagine a society that is full of lies and hatred and bad qualities. He says that no one can live there and there wouldn't be mercy and love.

The Prophet Muhammad said that the "most perfect believers" are the ones with the most perfect qualities and manners, and not the ones who have titles and certificates, but those with qualities. This, Husainan explains, is how Allah loves people. Then, Muhammad said, "The best of you is the best to his women." Some Muslims live a dichotomous life: outside the home, a Muslim man is very polite and smiling and says nice things, but at home he is different, for he is like a frowning lion and he is tough and he doesn't smile. So, Muhammad warned about this, because Allah knows what people hide.

Husainan gives additional Hadiths from Muhammad, that the heaviest thing on the scale of people on the Day of Judgment is good qualities, and that Allah guarantees an abode in Paradise to those with good qualities.

Good qualities are important for the Muslims, because all the rituals are done in order to improve their qualities and manners, and are not merely as acts of worship. The rituals, rather, are training exercises for people to improve their good qualities. He says, for example, that prayers stop people from committing vice and bad deeds, as mentioned in the Qur'an, since they get one accustomed to discipline. Thus, prayers are practical training for one to improve one's qualities.

Similarly, giving zakat, the obligatory charity, makes the Muslim merciful and sympathetic towards poor people, and helps him get rid of his selfishness and desires and enables him to cleanse himself. Also, fasting is a form of training to improve his qualities, because while fasting he cannot curse or get angry. The same applies to hajj, the pilgrimage, for it teaches the Muslim patience and discipline and to control his anger.

Husainan says that these rituals aren't just a connection with Allah, but they are also a way to improve the Muslims' qualities. Some people are good in prayers and rituals, but they don't treat people nicely and they don't have good qualities, even though such qualities should come hand in hand with the rituals and the prayers, as mentioned in the Qur'an many times over. When Allah describes the good believers, He starts with their good qualities first and then He mentions their acts of worship and rituals.

He points out that in mosques, one can see people praying and doing good deeds, but when they come out of the mosque they turn into devils. Some others, he says, have good qualities and don't pray and worship, so the Muslim must become someone with good qualities and good actions.

Husainan then gives another Hadith from Muhammad, that a woman who prays and worships often and harms her neighbors goes to the hellfire, but a woman who didn't pray much and didn't worship often is going to Paradise.

As a last example, he cites Muhammad as saying that the bankrupt is he who comes on the Day of Judgment with having done a lot of prayers, fasting, and other rituals, but he cursed this person and hit that person and shed the blood of that person. Then, people will take from his good deeds, and when they are finished he will take from their bad deeds, and then the person will end up in the hellfire.

Muslims, he says, need to be practical as Muhammad raised his Companions to be, and though people have the habit to learn and collect tapes and books, this is not the point, for they need to implement this knowledge.

Husainan continues:

"Imagine if we implement the Hadith of the Prophet, Allah's peace and prayer be upon him, when he said: 'Love for your brother what you love for yourself.' Imagine if we apply this Hadith in our lives, like someone would block someone else's vehicle in the street using their own vehicle. Well, if they don't like others to block his car, then why would he do that to others? This is an example. We listen to the Hadith, but then, when the time comes to implement them, we should be practical and implement them as the Prophet, Allah's peace and prayer be upon him, raised the Companions to do."

He concludes by asking Allah to guide the Muslims to have good qualities and good deeds, and to take away from them the bad qualities and the bad deeds, as Muhammad used to supplicate.

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