What is earned from sincerity?



Sincerity is a great power bestowed upon true believers to enable them to earn eternal blessings, both in this world and the hereafter. As Bediuzzaman said, "it is the most important principle in works pertaining to the hereafter in particular; it is the greatest strength, and the firmest point of support, and the highest quality, and the purest worship." There is not a doubt that the greatest of the blessings bestowed upon man, either in this world or the next, is Allah's consent.

The secret of acquiring Allah's consent and approbation lies in sincerity. Allah announces in the subsequent verse the good news to those who fear Allah that the noblest recompense in the hereafter is His good pleasure:

Say, "Shall I tell you of something better than that?" Those who do their duty will have Gardens with their Lord, with rivers flowing under them, remaining in them timelessly, for ever, and purified wives, and the Pleasure of Allah. Allah sees His servants. (Surah Al 'Imran: 15)

This is the ultimate goal of the effort expended by the true believers during their worldly life.

In many of His verses, our Lord gives the glad tidings to the sincere believers, who believe in Allah and the Day of Judgment, who do good deeds to approach closer unto to Allah and obtain the prayers and good wishes of His Messenger (saas), that they will finally acquire Allah's consent and gain entry into Paradise. The related verses state:

> And among the desert Arabs there are some who believe in Allah and the Last Day and regard what they



give as something which will bring them nearer to Allah and to the prayers of the Messenger. It does indeed bring them near. Allah will admit them into His mercy. Allah is Ever-Forgiving, Most Merciful. The forerunners-the first of the Muhajirun [those who emigrated from Mecca and settled in Medina] and the Ansar [the inhabitants of Medina who had accepted Islam]-and those who have followed them in doing good: Allah is pleased with them and they are pleased with Him. He has prepared Gardens for them with rivers flowing under them, remaining in them timelessly, for ever and ever. That is the great victory. (Surat at-Tawba: 99-100)

And the Garden will be brought up close to those who do their duty, not far away: "This is what you were promised. It is for every careful penitent: those who fear the All-Merciful in the Unseen and come with a contrite heart." (Surah Qaf: 31-33)

Anyone, male or female, who does right actions and is a believer, will enter the Garden. They will not be wronged by so much as the tiniest speck. (Surat an-Nisa': 124)

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