

# EPISODE 8

Allah Turns Their Sins Into Good Deeds

عِبَادَ الرَّحْمَنِ

# Servants of The Most Merciful



"Multiplied for him is the punishment on the Day of Resurrection, and he will abide therein humiliated - Except for those who repent, believe and do righteous work. For them Allah will replace their evil deeds with good. And ever is Allah Forgiving and Merciful." (25:69-70)

يُضَاعَفْ لَهُ الْعَذَابُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَيَخْلُدُ فِيهِ مُهَانًا - إِلَّا مَنْ تَابَ وَآمَنَ وَعَمِلَ عَمَلًا صَالِحًا فَأُولَئِكَ يُبَدِّلُ اللَّهُ سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ حَسَنَاتٍ ۗ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ غَفُورًا رَحِيمًا



## 1 What does this verse introduce about the 'Ibad ar-Rahman'?



- The previous verses mentioned the three worst major sins: *shirk*, murder, and *zina*.
- Allah immediately follows them up with these verses of *rahmah*, offering amnesty even after the worst of deeds.
- These verses discuss **how** the 'Ibad ar-Rahman' repent from sins and seek the mercy of Allah.

## 2 Why is repentance (tawba) mentioned before belief (amana)?



- Allah removes **all** sins, major and minor, through repentance.
- In order to repent, you must first accept Islam. After repentance, belief in Islam is manifested in the hearts and actions.
  - Islam is an external reality we accept in order to repent.
  - Iman* is an internal reality that manifests when belief penetrates the heart.
- Every sin finds a solution in belief:
  - The recourse for *shirk* is *tawheed* (monotheism).
  - The recourse for abandonment of *salah* is to establish *salah*.
  - The recourse for *zina* (adultery) is a life of chastity.

## 3 What does it mean that Allah exchanges sins for good deeds?

The 'Ibad ar-Rahman' are not people who are sinless. They are people who take their slip-ups and turn them into a greater commitment to Allah.



GOOD DEED 10X  
SIN 1X



- When a person commits to belief and repents, any good deed from their past will be preserved, while any sin they committed will be purged.
  - After that, each deed will be rewarded 10x up to 700x, and each sin penalized only once, unless Allah forgives those, too.
- The mark of sincere *tawba* is whether you have turned the page that Allah has erased and refilled it with good. Follow up a bad deed with a good deed immediately.
  - There is reward in such a change of direction because the same faculties you used to sin are now dedicated to doing good.

## 4 How much rahmah does Allah have with the believers?



"A man from my nation will be called before all of creation on the Day of Resurrection, and ninety-nine scrolls [of his sins] will be spread out for him, each one extending as far as the eye can see. Then Allah will say: 'Do you deny anything of this?' He will say: 'No, O Lord.' Then He will say: 'Apart from that, do you have any good deeds?' The terrified man will say, 'No.' (Allah) will say: 'Indeed, you have good deeds with Us, and you will not be treated unjustly this Day.' Then a card will be brought out on which is written [the shahadah]. He will say: 'O Lord, what is this card compared with these scrolls?' He will say: 'You will not be treated unjustly.' Then the scrolls will be placed in one side of the Balance and the card in the other. The scrolls will go up [be light] and the card will [weigh heavily]."

- Sunan Ibn Majah 4300

- This is the value of believing that there is no God but Allah, and that Muhammad ﷺ is His messenger.
  - When it comes to Allah's *rahmah*, your *shahada* is heavier than all the rest of your five pillars and all your deeds.
- Most of the companions of the Prophet ﷺ had committed major sins before becoming Muslim, yet they had great hope in the *rahmah* of Allah.
  - Your amnesty is already with Allah; you only need to repent and strive to replace bad habits with good habits.
- Allah is absolutely unmatched in His mercy.
  - This and similar hadiths describe mercy for major sins. For those with only minor sins, Allah's mercy will be boundless.

## 5 How do we become 'Ibad ar-Rahman' who repent and believe?



"Remember Allah wherever you are, and follow up a bad deed with a good deed, and treat the people with the best of character."

[Sunan al-Tirmidhi 1987]



**THINK** No matter how far I'll sink, *la ilaha illa Allah* is the heaviest card on the Day of Judgement. I cannot allow low faith to become no faith. No sin is too large to seek His forgiveness.



**REFLECT** Do I recognize Allah as the All-Forgiving, Most Merciful? What do I do after I sin? Do I immediately follow it up with repentance and good deeds in the same area I committed sin? How can I replace my bad habits with good ones?



**REMEMBER** Allah is so generous and merciful that in His mercy, He replaces your sins with *hasanat* and wipes them away as if they were never there.



**ACT** Be mindful of Allah, wherever you are. Avoid sins, but know that every human sins. Repent to Allah often, and when you slip, follow it up with good.