

## ***Spiritual Rewards Stated in Holy Qur'an***

### **Introduction:**

Sometimes, to some people, spiritual rewards seems rather abstract. It was therefore necessary to expand the meaning of spiritual rewards with appropriate quotations from the Holy Qur'an, into a condensed article, with material proofs that the terminology of spiritual rewards is not abstract but actual reality. In addition, the article has been written with some neutrality, so that not-Muslim readers will find the article reader-friendly, in linking quotations to the Holy Qur'an. This article has been restricted in size to 4 pages.

### **Discussions:**

- 1)** The Holy Qur'an, which is the last and final of all revealed scriptures, clearly certifies, that Almighty God records and takes into His fairest considerations, of all deeds and misdeeds by each person within humanity. Specific prescriptions, of all that need to be done and restrictions, which should not be done, are all stated throughout the Holy Qur'an and the Six Hadith (*Al-Sihah Al-Sittah*)<sup>1</sup>. Almighty God has promised to humanity that He will further increase good deeds, especially towards those who submitted themselves entirely to the service of Almighty God and also those who sincerely repented for their wrong doings. Accordingly, Almighty God is both Forgiving and Merciful. The Holy Qur'an states that Almighty God gives spiritual rewards according to peoples' deeds. Here are a few quotations to the point: **HQ4:40** *"Surely Allah does not wrong (anyone even by) the weight of an atom; and if it is a good deed, He multiplies it and gives from Himself a great reward."* **HQ5:9** *"Allah has promised to those who believe and do good deeds: For them is forgiveness and a mighty reward."* **HQ2:112** *"No, whoever submits himself entirely to Allah and he is the doer of good (to others), he has his reward from his Lord, and there is no fear for such nor shall they grieve."* **HQ4:134** *"Whoever desires the reward of this world — then with Allah is the reward of this world and the Hereafter. And Allah is ever Hearing, Seeing."* **HQ4:152** *"And those who believe in Allah and His messengers and make no distinction between any of them, to them He will grant their rewards. And Allah is ever Forgiving, Merciful."*
- 2)** It must be noted that Almighty God in all His fairness, both rewards for exactness in compliance and reprimands for those who choose to be non-

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<sup>1</sup> This refers to the Authentic Six Hadith: (1) Sahih Bukhari (2) Sahih Muslim (3) Sunan Al-Nasa'i (4) Sunan Abu Dawood (5) Jami Al-Trimidhi (6) Sunan Ibn Majah. Whilst there are various other Hadith, these six are regarded as best correct.

compliant. A most comparative example in daily life is traffic offence. For those who are fully compliant, they have nothing to worry about, as they are within the law. Whereas, those who choose to breach traffic laws will be taken to task by the police and the judiciary authorities of their country. Almighty God also rewards and reprimands according to peoples' performances. A few quotations: **HQ4:173** *"Then as for those who believe and do good, He will pay them fully their rewards and give them more out of His grace. And as for those who disdain and are proud, He will reprimand them with a painful reprimand, and they will find for themselves besides Allah no friend nor helper."* **HQ2:277** *"Those who believe and do good deeds and keep up prayer and give the due charity — their reward is with their Lord; and they have no fear, nor shall they grieve."*

- 3)** In Islam, the Holy Qur'an states that peoples' genders makes no difference and all people have equal expectations of their performances in being fully compliant to prescriptions in Islam. Peoples' gender differences are only materially visible in the human body format, whereas the soul is invisible and neutral without any gender distinction. It must also be noted that rewards shall also be equal, without any slanted bias to the gender of the human body. People will be rewarded regardless of gender, as materially evidenced and stated in the Holy Qur'an: **HQ16:97-98** *"Whoever does good, whether male or female, and is a believer, We shall certainly make him live a good life, and We shall certainly give them their reward for the best of what they did. So when you recite the Qur'an, seek refuge in Allah from the accursed devil."* **HQ3:195** *"So their Lord accepted their prayer, (saying): I will not let the work of any worker among you to be lost, whether male or female; each of you is as the other. So those who fled and were driven forth from their homes and persecuted in My way and who fought and were slain, I shall truly remove their evil and make them enter Gardens in which rivers flow — a reward from Allah. And with Allah is the best reward."*
- 4)** Since the creation of this planet Earth 4.9 billion years ago, and after the planet had reached climatic ambience to support all forms of vegetation, animal life and human life, Almighty God created and introduced Adam and Eve. From thereon, recognition of Almighty God as One became the required expectation. Accordingly, Almighty God created and recreated humanity on all continents. Islamic scriptures state that Almighty God sent over 124,000+ prophets<sup>2</sup> as His dedicated and sincere servants as His prophets. These prophets were placed in all mainstream communities, according to their levels of civilization, ethnicity

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<sup>2</sup> Hadith Musnad Ahmad (Hadith No 21257).

and language differences. In addition, subsequent prophets continued to preach and spread the absolute recognition of Almighty God as One. From historical perception, the largest numbers of prophets were of Hebrew descent. There was a division from the descendants of the Hebrew patriarch Prophet Abraham. From his second son Isaac, they were followed by many prophets of Israelite descent as the Twelve Tribes of Israel. From Israelites descended Jews and Christians; and finally only one prophet came from his first and elder son Ishmael, in the Ishmaelite descent: He was Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*). Servants of Almighty God stated in the Torah, the Bible and the Qur'an were rewarded. A few quotations: **HQ6:84-88** *"Allah has promised to those who believe and do good deeds: For them is forgiveness and a mighty reward, and Zacharias and John and Jesus and Elias; each one (of them) was of the righteous, and Ishmael and Elisha and Jonah and Lot; and each one (of them) We made to excel the people; and some of their fathers and their descendants and their brethren. And We chose them and guided them to the right way. This is Allah's guidance with which He guides whom He pleases of His servants. And if they had set up partners (with Him), all that they did would have been fruitless."* **HQ53:31** *"And Allah's is whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth, that He may reward those who do evil for what they do, and reward those who do good with goodness."*

- 5) There are in the main, three streams of people from religious perspective. First stream are those who believe in and accept Almighty God as One without any other consideration whatsoever as an associate to Almighty God; they believe purely in One God, the Almighty. The second stream are those who state that they accept as God but at the same time, these people include their worship of others as variable descriptions of associate gods. The third stream are those who would be widely classified as pagans, idolaters and polytheists. Consequently, the second and third streams were largely responsible in persecution of those victims in the first stream, who sincerely believed and accepted Almighty God as One without any other consideration. The Holy Qur'an reassures everybody in this world, that Almighty God rewards His followers who were persecuted on their claims of One God. A few quotations: **HQ4:100** *"And whoever flees in Allah's way, he will find in the earth many a place of escape and abundant resources. And whoever goes forth from his home fleeing to Allah and His Messenger, then death overtakes him, his reward is indeed with Allah. And Allah is ever Forgiving, Merciful."* **HQ98:8** *"Their reward is with their Lord: Gardens of perpetuity in which rivers flow, abiding in them forever. Allah is well pleased with them and they are well pleased with Him. That is for him who fears his Lord."*

- 6) The ultimate stage of receiving rewards from Almighty God is after material death of the human body, subsequently on Judgement Day. Spiritual rewards are to be paid off on Day of Resurrection. A few quotations: **HQ3:185** *“Every soul must taste of death. And you will be paid your reward fully only on the day of Resurrection. Then whoever is removed far from the Fire and is made to enter the Garden, he indeed attains the object. And the life of this world is nothing but a provision of vanities.”* **HQ40:17** *“This day every soul is rewarded for what it has earned. No injustice this day! Surely Allah is Swift in Reckoning.”*
- 7) The Pilgrimage to Mecca is definite opportunity for repentances and rewards: **HQ2:158** *“The Safa and the Marwah are truly among the signs of Allah; so whoever makes a pilgrimage to the House or pays a visit (to it), there is no blame on him if he goes round them. And whoever does good spontaneously — surely Allah is Bountiful in rewarding, Knowing.”* The Safa and Marwah are two hills near Mecca. When men perform Pilgrimage to Mecca, they are required to run between these hills seven times. Women however, are required to walk the same route. This is in replication of the experiences of Hazra, second wife of Prophet Abraham, as she panicked in searching for food and water for herself and her infant son Ishmael. In those days, that location was open desert.

### **Conclusions:**

- a) The Holy Qur’an states that Almighty God spiritually rewards according to peoples’ deeds. The higher the deeds, the higher the spiritual rewards. Even the least and simplest deeds and misdeeds are given recognition by Almighty God. The reprimand for misdeeds will be executed first and the spiritual rewards for deeds will follow thereafter. Almighty God both reprimands and rewards according to peoples’ performance in compliance.
- b) As the sole and supreme Judge, Almighty God will decided on the scope of reprimands and rewards. People will be reprimanded and spiritually rewarded regardless of one’s gender.
- c) All prophets as servants of Almighty God as stated in the Torah, Holy Bible and Holy Qur’an were all rewarded by Almighty God. Almighty God rewards His followers persecuted on their loyal claims of stating Him as One God. There were many persecutions against Muslim believers by other ethnicities, which did not recognise Almighty God as One.
- d) Spiritual rewards will be finally paid off on Day of Resurrection after the Great Judgement at which Almighty God will be the single Judge.
- e) Pilgrimage to Mecca is spiritually rewarded with forgiveness of past sins of both genders, provided the pilgrims perform the Hajj with open and frank repentances and with utmost sincerity.

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