



Commentary on the Book Sincere Counsel to the Students of Sacred Knowledge- Part 13¹

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Text: “Chapter Twelve: The Lives of Our Pious Predecessors”²

Commentary: “High Aspirations, that is, high ambitions. If the children have high aspirations.

The Prophet (ﷺ) said:

مَنْهُمَانِ لَا يَشْبَعَانِ: مَنْهُومٌ فِي عِلْمٍ لَا يَشْبَعُ ، وَمَنْهُومٌ فِي دُنْيَا لَا يَشْبَعُ

Two types of people do not satiate: one who is seeking knowledge does not satiate and one who is seeking the worldly life does not satiate [Saheeh Musnad no. 49]

Whoever's intention, purpose, and resolve is knowledge. Then Allah will grant him an amount of it. Verily actions are based on intentions between less and more. Whoever's aspiration is low, he will become humiliated by not having concern for knowledge and religion. This is in accordance to his level and the resolve will be in accordance to the aspiration.”

Text: “...I have acquainted myself with the lives of the Tabi'un and those after them and found the most complete of them to be four: Sa'eed ibn al-Mussayyib...”

Commentary: “These four have [word unclear]. Imam Ahmad bin hanbal (may Allah have mercy upon him) was named the Imam of Ahlus-Sunnah wal-Jama'ah of his time. Sufyan ath-Thauri was called Hujjah (proof). Some of them said: if Sufyan was to be assessed in reliability, then it would be said he is reliable, reliable, reliable until his breath would stop! He was Shaikhul-Islaam of his time. Ibn al-Mubaraak was Shaikhul Islaam of his time even though he was earlier”

¹ The following is a translation and transcription of the fifteenth tape of the Shaikh's commentary. The original tape can be found here:

http://www.sh-yahia.net/nwe_sounds/durus/Gesture%20to%20the%20liver%20advice%20boy/015.mp3

² The English translation of the text is based on the translation of the book *Sincere Counsel To the Students of Sacred Knowledge* printed by Dar as-Sunnah Publishers

Text: “...These were only men but they had high ambitions and determination which we are lacking...”

Commentary: “They were men. It does not mean they were not humans. Rather they had aspirations to support the religion of Allah, so Allah raised them in knowledge. [Allah says]:

يَرْفَعُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ دَرَجَاتٍ وَاللَّهُ

Allah will exalt in degree those of you who believe, and those who have been granted knowledge [58:11]”

Text: “...Many of our predecessors were highly motivated, and if you wish to learn about them just read through *Sifat al-Safwa*...”

Commentary “*Sifat-us-Safwab* is that of Imam Ibn al-Jawzi (may Allah have mercy upon him) in which he mentioned a group of the Salaf. However it is not safe from the affairs of the Sufiyyah. *Siftatus-Safwab* is a book which mentions the biographies of the righteous; however, he mentions a group from the Sufis. The conclusion is that Ibn al-Jawzi (may Allah have mercy upon him) mixed up [affairs] despite being upon good. Yes”

Text: “ ...Sa'id...”

Commentary: “Sa'id bin Jubair was a Tabi'i. They say: Uwais al-Qarni is the leader of the Tabi'een in worship. This is based on a Hadith and narration from Abu Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) [Muslim no. 2542]

What he means is that he is advising his son to take these [four] as an example after taking the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) as an example. Look at the aspirations of these Imams and their biographies. Is this understood, O my son?

Likes of Imam Ahmad, Sufyan ath-Thawri, likewise Ibn al-Mubarak before that, Sa'id al-Musayyib, Hasan al-Basri (may Allah have mercy upon them). Look at their biographies, look at *Tabtheeb al-Kamal*, *Siyar 'Alam an-Nubala*, or read *Tabtheeb at-Tabtheeb* as an abridgment. Every time someone reads their biographies, he increases in Emaan and he will strengthen in knowledge, good, and guidance. Their likes in good and righteousness are many. [Allah says]:

وَلِنِكَ الدِّينَ هَدَى اللَّهُ فَبِهَدَاهُمْ أَقْتَدَهُ

They are those whom Allah had guided. So follow their guidance [6:90]

And Allah says:

وَاتَّبِعْ سَبِيلَ مَنْ أَنَابَ إِلَيَّ

And follow the path of him who turns to Me in repentance [31:15]

Text: “ ... I have dedicated a whole book for each one of them....”

Commentary: “Yes Ahmad bin Hanbal has a separate volume and I believe he has written a biography for each one of the four in a separate book”

Text: “...Chapter Thirteen: Memorisation is Your Actual Capital..my son you are aware that I have written a hundred books....”

Commentary: “Imam Ibn al-Jawzi (may Allah have mercy upon him) is directing his son to his books. Some children do not know the books written by their father, how many books their father wrote. If you tested some of them to mention five books their father wrote, he would not know due to his heedlessness. Imam Ibn al-Jawzi (may Allah have mercy upon him) is directing his son to his books and saying: “O my son! I have written one hundred books”. He is directing his son to his books”

Text: “...Tafsir al-Kabir...”

Commentary: “I do not know this Tafsir”

Text: “...al-Tarikh which is twenty volumes as well...”

Commentary: “Tareekh al-Kabir is called *al-Muntadham*”

Text: “...You should focus on memorising, for memorisation is your main capital and using what you memorised is your profit....”

Commentary:

الثالثان وهما التمام *** فاحفظ فكل حافظ إمام

Two thirds and they are complete
Memorize for every memorizer is an Imam

Amr bin Akhtab (may Allah be pleased with him) said:

فَاعْلَمْنَا أَحْفَظْنَا

The most learned amongst us is one who remembers them well [Saheeh Muslim no. 2892]

If a person wants knowledge, he begins with the texts which are memorized and memorizes a good portion of them in different sciences. He begins with the Quran [Allah says]:

كِتَابٌ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ إِلَيْكَ مُبَارَكٌ

(This is) a Book (the Quran) which We have sent down to you, full of blessings [38:29]

Along with perfecting it and its Tajweed. Likewise concern for Hadith and great portion of Hadith. The least amount being *Riyaadh as-Salibeen* if not Saheeh Muslim and *Sabeeh Bukhari*. Likewise comprehensive texts like Tahawiyah, the poem of 'Amriti in Usool for it is easy, the poem on *Waraqaat*, likewise *ar-Rahabiyyah*, and likewise in the science of Hadith if he is able to memorize *Qasab as-Sukkar* or *Bayqooniyyah*, like this”

Text: “...Beware of just having theoretical knowledge without putting it into action, for those who accompany the rulers and associate with worldly people have turned their backs to enacting their knowledge which in turn has deprived them of the blessings and benefit it can bring...”

Commentary: That is the one who fulfills the covenant of Allah, Allah will fulfill it for him. Whoever establishes the Legislation of Allah, Allah will establish Him. Whoever obeys Allah, He will honor him”

***** End of the fifteenth tape *****