

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Concern with Beneficial Knowledge

From *al-‘Allāmah Aḥmad al-Najmī* (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)

Translated by Abū al-Ḥasan Mālik Ādam al-Akhḍar

SHAYKH AḤMAD AL-NAJMĪ (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) said concerning the response of the angels who question people in the grave:

((لا دریت))

“You did not know.”

This statement means that you did not search for that which would direct you to knowledge; you did not search for knowledge that would benefit you. Likewise, you did not read the Book of Allāh; instead, you were concerned with other things. So you received this punishment, due to lack of care for that which would avail you in your afterlife.

You see many people today greatly concerned with the newspaper, buying it every day and reading its contents. Perhaps a month goes by and one of them has not opened the Book of Allāh, has not read it, nor reflected upon it. We fear for this person, because this is considered neglect of the Book of Allāh and concern for that which is of no benefit or of little benefit. From Allāh we come and to Him we return. By Allāh, you would be amazed that if you gave one of them a book to read that would benefit him in his creed, that would strengthen his faith, perhaps he would take [the book] from you and toss it aside, not even looking in it. And perhaps he would not even take it from you or accept it.¹

Indeed I call on these individuals to concern themselves with the Book of Allāh, the *Sunnah* of the Messenger of Allāh (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ), and those things that will avail them in front of Allāh. [This is] better for them than news reports that will not benefit the worshipper in his afterlife whatsoever; rather, they are merely a distraction. And success is from Allāh.”²



¹ How much this reminds us of those today who spend almost every waking moment on social media, posting, scrolling, and liking pictures on Instagram, yet they do not have such concern for the study of Allāh’s Book. We seek refuge in Allāh (سُبْحَانَكَ وَعَالِي) from the evil of our own souls.

² *Faḥ al-Raḥīm al-Wadūd* (p. 227)