

The Swine flu

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In the name of Allah Most Gracious Most Merciful.

Some of Allah's mercies upon His slaves and His kindness to them when He had them created were that He gave them a place as a refuge, and provided them with their needs. And gave them what benefits them, and prohibited what would be harmful to them. He also bestowed brains with which they can realize good and bad and what is of benefit and what is of harm to them. He sent down to them laws and regulations to guide them in their spiritual and worldly affairs.

Food is necessary for human life to continue. Allah in His mercy provided them with the food they need to sustain life in their bodies. He sent down His book to support life for their hearts. In His book He outlined in great details what He allowed them and what He prohibited for them. Chapter 6 (Al-An3am) contains much of the food related rulings. Transgression is not being obedient in following Allah's rules. Allah says: {And why wouldn't you eat anything upon which Allah's name was mentioned. And He had detailed out what He made prohibited for you, except what you had to. And many will go astray because they go by what pleases them without proper knowledge. Your lord is most aware about the transgressors} 6:119.

Following what would please by someone can be misguiding because it is following Satan without the needed knowledge. Satan made an oath to Allah that Satan would mislead the entire human race. Sensual desires are the widest door used by Satan to mislead because it is the weakest point for humans and the point of their, and inability to resist, and point of their mistakes. What brought our parents from the

Garden of Eden was the instinct and desire of eating from a tree which they thought will give them eternity in paradise. They desired eternity in paradise because of the enjoyable food and drink and good like they found in it.

The food and sexual desires is the most used tool by Satan to conquer the son of Adam. Satan's way of enticing humans into food and sexual disobediences is to take them gradually on step at a time until the son of Adam reached the ultimate sin. That is why Allah warned us from following Satan's steps. Allah repeated that warning at four different location of the Koran. Allah says: {you people, eat from what is in this earth, good and lawful. And do not follow the steps of Satan, for he is a clear enemy to you} 2:168.

The desire to eat is a more frequent tendency than the sexual desire. A human can do without intercourse but may not do without food and drink. It is thought that committing the sin of unlawfully fulfilling the desire of hunger is more likely than falling into the sin of unlawfully fulfilling the sexual desire. And hence there are more warnings in the Koran from following Satan's steps in unlawfully satisfying the hunger for food than for satisfying sex. It is Satan's steps that it entices people to eat some of prohibited food because it is available, or because it is cheaper, by imagining it is tastier, or just to try it out. All so they become used to it and their bodies grows on something which is bad and which is prohibited by Allah.

It is also among Satan's steps is to entice business people to do business and deal into such material and market it. And over take the statements which prohibit it by opposing them, or re-interpreting them, or finding a loophole round them just as the people of the book when they made lawful what Allah had prohibited for them through many types of tricks.

The pig is a bad and evil creature. Evil is tested through it. And Allah strongly prohibited it in four different verses in the Koran. Some scholars said: “there is an agreement that pig is prohibited in its entirety. Allah only mentioned its meat because mostly benefit from it is through that”. The scholar Ebn-Hazm (إبن حزم) said: “the scholars agreed that it is prohibited, there for none of it can be eaten”. The scholar Qutada Sadosi (قتادة السدوسي) went to an extreme when he said: “this who eats the flesh of the pig is offered to repent. If he does then that is fine, else he should be executed”. The messenger (ppbu) said: {The time of resurrection shall not take place before the son of Mariam is brought down amongst you a just ruler, and he shall destroy the cross, and shall kill the pig, and imposes the tax on the non-believers}.

The scholar Bayhki (البیهقي) classified this strong opinion regarding the pig when he said: “the class: the pig is a worst state than the dog”. While the Shafi-ee (الشافعي) said: “because Allah called it as polluted, impure or sinful”. The messenger (ppbu) said: {Allah prohibited alcoholic drinks and the money that comes from it, and the dead animals and the money which comes from it, and the pig and the money which comes from it}.

Thalab al-Khushni (ثعلبة الحشني) asked the messenger (ppbu) once about the reuse of common utensils with neighbours of people of the book. They cook the ham in the saucepans, and drink wine in the glass or cups. The messenger (ppbu) said: {if you can find other utensils then use it, and if there are no other utensils then wash them thoroughly with the water, then eat and drink}.

It is been established medically as well as according to Islamic law that the type and frequency of the food consumed and the frequency

and length of time a human interacts and coexists with an animal, both have an effect on the individual human behavior and morals. The messenger (ppbu) said: {pride and posturing are in the people who use the horse, and tranquility is in those who have the lamb}. The scholars say “what one feeds on becomes eventually part of them. This who feeds will develop part of the characteristics and morals through what they feed on. Pig has the characteristic of being glutton. Consequently it was prohibited so human does not develop such a character”

Along the same line the scholar Ebn-Khaldoon (إبن خلدون) said: “Arabs ate the flesh of the camel and they developed its toughness. And the Turks ate the flesh of the hourse, and they developed its courage. And the French (Europeans) ate the flesh of the pig and they developed the lack of jealousy towards their women”

At recent history, many dangerous diseases and plagues have struck humans. Not so long ago we heard of the foot and mouth decease effecting lamb, and the Mad-cow disease, then the bird’s flu. Many researchers showed that cause of the birds flu were pigs which incubated the virus until it was spread through birds, and then most recently the swine flu.

The pig is prohibited according to Moses laws and the text is in the original Torah. Jews prohibit the pig. The Christians from the east, their books state that the people at Jesus time did not eat the pig. Eating the pig was introduced after the times of Jesus (pbu). Some of their priests now are calling towards the re-prohibition of eating pig and they call to destroy it.

The western medical research showed that the pig is a suitable environment to more than 400 infectious diseases. And it can be

carrier of 57 of them which can be transmitted to human. It is their arrogance and the commercial and financial benefit makes them through evil advertising victimize and capture the innocent and unaware of the people. But now they are reaping the benefits that arrogance. And they can be the reason where the entire humanity is drawn into a deep pit only God knows its consequences. If the swine flu spreads then it would be the plague epidemic of the modern times. Some officials have stated that thousands may perish in Europe because of the swine flu. The International Health Organization decided a few days ago to increase the level of emergency to level 5. It is one level away from declaring a state of international epidemic. Forty two years ago there was an outbreak of this virus in China and it was responsible for the death of one million people round the world. Only ninety years ago the Spanish influenza virus killed almost one hundred million people world wide. That explains the fear of the possible consequences of the spread of the swine flu amongst people.

Such frequent plagues and diseases feared by humans are indication of their weakness and inability in the face of the will of the Lord.

Allah says:

{Allah has soldiers of the heavens and the earth. Allah is the Honorable; the Wise} 48:7.

{So you would know that Allah is able to do anything; And that Allah has knowledge about everything} 65:12.

{and only He who knows the soldiers of your Lord} 74:31.

This also indicates that rejection of Allah's law means disaster sooner or later. And Allah does not wrong His slaves, He only reward them based on their deeds. Allah say: {Allah never wrongs people not a bit, but people wrong against them selves} 10:44

{for that we punish them for what they disbelieve, Is it not that we only punish this who constantly disbelieve} 34:17

{and any disaster that befalls you is for what you earned with your own hands. And He pardons so many} 42:30.

Those who are arrogant on this earth against the laws of Allah, have fought against those who follow Allah's laws. They made people deviate off the laws of Allah. The rest of people kept silent towards the transgression they are witnessing except for the few, Allah care in a big way about His limits and prohibitions. There is great fear from consecutive punishments which may leave nothing or nobody. We ask Allah's protection from Allah's fury, and we ask Him gentleness and kindness with His slaves. We ask Him to spare them his early punishment. There is no strength except through Him. And there is no refuge from Him except to Him, And no protection from Him except by Him. Allah says: {All powers are to Allah. And Allah is extreme with his punishment} 2:165.