

Fruits for the Week

24 December 2004

Freely Distributed by the Islamic Union of Hong Kong
7th Floor, 40 Oi Kwan Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
E-mail: iuhk@netvigator.com

Tel: 2575 2218
Fax: 2834 5409

Website: <http://home.netvigator.com/~iuhk/>

AKHIRAH (HEREAFTER)

Man is an eternal creature. However, his life span has been divided by Allah into two parts. A very tiny part of it has been placed in this world, while all of the remainder has been placed in the Hereafter. The present world is the world of action, while the world of the Hereafter is the place for reaping the harvest of actions. This present world is imperfect, but the world of the Hereafter is perfect in every respect. The Hereafter is a limitless world where all things have been provided in their ideal state.

Allah has placed His heaven — full of all kinds of blessings — in the world of the Hereafter. Those who prove to be God-fearing and pious in this world will enter into that world to find the gates of heaven eternally open for them.

But, those who are oblivious of God in this present world or who opt for the path of contumacy in regard to God's matters, are criminals in God's eyes. All such people will be deprived of the blessings of the Hereafter.

God is invisible in this present world, and appear in all His power and majesty only in the world of the Hereafter. Then all human beings will bow low before Him. But at that time, surrendering will be of no avail. Acceptance of God and self-abnegation is

desirable only while God is still invisible. Surrendering before God after seeing Him in the Hereafter will not benefit anyone.

Death is not the end of a person's life. It is only the beginning of the next stage of life. Death is that interim stage when man leaves this temporary world of today for the eternal world of tomorrow. He goes out of the temporary accommodation of the world to enter the eternal resting place of the Hereafter. The coming of this stage in the Hereafter is the greatest certainty in one's life. No one can save himself from this fate in the Hereafter.

The subject of death scares everyone because we do not know much about it. Moreover, we do not know much about the life in the grave, or even the whole life after death. We do know that we are to die and we are to be buried in the grave, but very few of us want to discuss the details of what type of life is to be there. People are afraid to talk about it because of ignorance and because of the unseen to come or because they do not prepare themselves for that life to come. May Allah (SWT) save us from the torment of the grave and punishment in the Hereafter. Wallahu A'lam.

Prepared by Br. Muhaemin Karim, Dawah Worker, IUHK