

# Fruits for the Week

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## TRIAL

Allah (SWT) says: *“Blessed be He in whose hands is dominion, and He over all things has power. He who created death and life that He may try which of you is best in deed, and He is the Exalted in might, Oft-Forgiving.”* (Al-Mulk:1-2)

Man is free in this world. God has not placed any curbs on him. But this freedom is for the purpose of putting man to the test, and is not meant to encourage him to lead a life of permissiveness, like animals, and then just pass away one day. Rather, the purpose is that man should lead a morally upright life of his own free will, thus demonstrating that he is of the highest moral character.

One who conducts himself in this manner should be reckoned as God’s special servant who, without any compulsion, chooses to be a man of principle; who, without being subjected to any external force, does, of his own free will, what his Lord desires. This liberty accorded to man gives him the opportunity to gain credit for being the most superior of all God’s creatures.

All the things in this world are God’s subjects. Stars and satellites rotate in space entirely at their Lord’s bidding. Trees, rivers, mountains, and all other such natural phenomena are functioning according to the unchangeable

ways of God laid down by Him in advance. Similarly, animals follow exactly those instincts instilled in their species as a matter of Divine will. Man is the only creature who has been given, exceptionally, the gift of power and freedom. God has given him not only the faculties implied in the eyes, the ears, the tongue, etc, but also has given him the judgment by which he can choose his way; and He has sent him prophets and revelations to show him the right and wrong.

This freedom has opened doors of two kinds for man, one leading to success and the other to failure. If, on receiving freedom, an individual becomes arrogant and insolent, it will mean that he fails the test.

But if on the other hand, he remains modest and humble, bowing to his Lord’s will on all occasions, then he makes the right use of his God-given freedom: he, without any compulsion, binds himself by divine principles. One who chooses this course will succeed in the test of freedom. He will be handsomely rewarded by God. Held to be the chosen servant of God, he will remain in an everlasting state of bliss and blessedness. Wallahu A’lam.

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