

Has Allah fixed who will enter paradise and hell?

By: Khurshid Imam

وَلَقَدْ ذَرَأْنَا لِجَهَنَّمَ كَثِيرًا مِّنَ الْجِنِّ وَالإِنسِ لَهُمْ قُلُوبٌ لَّا يَفْقَهُونَ بِهَا وَلَهُمْ أَعْيُنٌ لَّا يُبْصِرُونَ بِهَا وَلَهُمْ آدَانٌ لَّا يَسْمَعُونَ بِهَا أُولَئِكَ كَالْأَنْعَامِ بَلْ هُمْ أَضَلُّ أُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْغَافِلُونَ

“And We have certainly created for Hell many of the jinn and mankind. They have hearts with which they do not understand, they have eyes with which they do not see, and they have ears with which they do not hear. Those are like livestock; rather, they are more astray. It is they who are the heedless” Quuran 7:179

Questioner: Allah says he has already created some jinn and mankind for hell, den how could you say that the particular *Sahih* narration is contradictory with the Qur'an?

Answer: Let us read next few Ayah from Surah Al-A'raf:

180 - And Allah's are the best names, therefore call on Him thereby, and leave alone those who violate the sanctity of His names; they shall be recompensed for what they did.

181 - And of those whom We have created are a people who guide with the truth and thereby they do justice.

182 - And (as to) those who reject Our communications, We draw them near (to destruction) by degrees from whence they know not.

Where does the ayah says that Allah has already decided who will enter paradise and hell?

The ayah quoted i.e 7:179 is saying that Jinn and mankind will enter hell fire. And immediately Allah answers the reason. What is concluded from the ayah directly contradicts with the ayah itself.

Ayah gives the 'reason' why people will enter hell. The reason is:

1. They do not use their faculties for understanding / pondering.
2. Their approach is that of blind faith [Which is the case with most of Muslims and non Muslims]
3. Due to their own actions these people will enter Hell.

Allah has said in this ayah that hell is meant for jinns and human beings and one of the reasons is that they do not use their aql / common sense / faculties.

In fact, next 3 ayah also carry the same view that the actions of an individual alone will take him / her to paradise/hell. It is not Allah who has 'fixed' actions of human beings. Kindly read next three ayah:

7:180 - "...they shall be recompensed for what they did"

7:181 - "And of those whom We have created are a people who guide with the truth and thereby they do justice"

7:182 - "And (as to) those who reject Our communications, We draw them near (to destruction) by degrees from whence they know not."

Nowhere Quran says that it is Allah who has already 'fixed' who will enter paradise/hell. What Allah has prefixed are His 'LAWS' that will lead to the path of guidance or mis-guidance.
