

- L24

Topic: **The excellence of learning and teaching from the point of view of the sages and the ancient holy books**

- Question: why did God prioritize piety over the others? Answer: **Piety and knowledge are tied together and inter-related**. It is unimaginable to have piety without knowledge. Similarly, It is impossible to fear God (be pious) without knowledge.
- ✓ **Bible:** In the 17<sup>th</sup> book God says;
  - **Woe to the person who hears of knowledge and does not pursue it.** How is he prepared to be raised with the ignorant and sit with them in hell fire?
  - Pursue knowledge and learn it **even if it doesn't bring you any apparent benefit**, prosperity, station or freedom from wants but it will save you from misfortunes, lowliness, poverty and harm.
  - Don't say since I won't be able to abide by what I learn therefore it is better not to learn, **rather say I hope I will become knowledgeable and abide by it.**
  - God has given scholars a high station, excellence and superiority over all other creatures but His messengers. **Their superiority is like the sun over the stars, the next world compared to this and His greatness compared over the universe.**
  - Jesus said; if someone is decorated with knowledge and conforms his behavior to his knowledge then he is **mentioned with greatness in the skies.**
- ✓ **The words of sages**
  - **Abu Dhar Ghafari:**
    - Learning a chapter of knowledge is better than a thousand cycles of recommended prayers.
    - If someone dies while in pursuit of knowledge, he is considered **as a martyr** who has lost his life in the path of God.
  - **Wahab Ibn Manibbah:**
    - Knowledge is a source for many privileges. It gives a base person esteem, an abject person fame, a person without social position majesty and an ailing person health.