608 - What Will Women Get in Jannah?

the question

I am a firm believer in the Quran and Allah. Thank Allah my faith and trust in Him grows each day. My concern is this: the Quran mentions over and over the blessings of Heaven. It repeatedly mentions beautiful, pure maidens as a bounty of Heaven. People often say Islam is a male dominance religion.
Why is there no mention of rewards for women?

Summary of answer

Allah promised those who do good deeds, be they men or women, if they believe in Allah and His Messenger (peace and blessings be upon him), that He will make them live a good life in this world and they will be rewarded in the Hereafter.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

All address to men in the Quran is address to women

Since you believe in Allah and His Book, you must know that {and not one will thy Lord treat with injustice}, Verse 49, Surat al-Kahf, or the Cave, and {Allah is never unjust in the least degree: if there is any good (done), He doubles it, and gives from His Own Self a great reward}, Verse 40, Surat an-Nisa, or the Women. (Translation of the meanings)

Allah has meant this Law of Islam (Shari'ah) for both men and women. All address to men in the Quran is address to women as well, and all rules affecting men affect women as well unless evidence is established that one of them is meant and not the other as in the rules relating to

Jihad (fighting for Islam), menstruation, custodianship, rule etc.

The evidence that women are included in Verses of the Quran in the male gender is a Hadith by ‘Aishah who said that the Prophet (may peace and blessings be upon him) was asked about a man who sees traces of semen but does not remember having any dream of a sexual nature. The Prophet (may peace and blessings be upon him) said: "Such a man should perform the Ghusl (ritual bath).”

He was also asked of a man who remembers a dream of a sexual nature but sees no traces of semen. He said: "Such a man does not have to perform the Ghusl (ritual bath). Umm Salim said "A woman may have the same experience. Does she have to perform the Ghusl (ritual bath)?" The Prophet (may peace and blessings be upon him) said: "Yes, there is no difference in this between man and woman." (Narrated by Abu Dawud, at-Tirmidhi 113 and others. The last phrase is in Sahih al-Jami’ under No. 2333)

What will women get in Jannah?

With respect to rewards in the Hereafter and what women have in Heaven , we include a number of Verses and Hadiths as follows:

Umm Salamah said: "O Messenger of Allah. I did not hear a Verse in the Quran regarding the Hijrah (migration with the Prophet) of women." Then was revealed the Verse: {And their Lord has accepted of them, and answered them: Never will I suffer to be lost the work of any of you, be he male or female: ye are members, one of another: those who have left their homes, and were driven out therefrom, and suffered harm in My cause, and fought and were slain, verily I will blot out from them their inequities, and admit them into gardens with rivers flowing beneath; ... A reward from Allah, and from Allah is the best of rewards.}, Verse 195, Surat al-Imran, or the Family (translation of the meaning). The Hadith was narrated by at-Tirmidhi under No. 3023.

Ibn Kathir (may Allah have mercy on him) said the Verse {fastajaba lahum rabbuhum} means Allah replied to their queries ... and the Verse {anni la udi’u ‘amala ‘amilin minkum min thakarin aw untha} is an explanation of the reply meaning that good deeds will not be lost or ignored. All

men and women will have the just reward for their deeds. The Verse {ba'dukum min ba'd} means you will be treated equally with respect to rewards .

{If any do deeds of righteousness, be they male or female, and have faith, they will enter Heaven, and not the least injustice will be done to them.}, Verse 124, Surat an-Nisa, or the Women (translation of the meaning).

In explanation of this Verse, Ibn Kathir (may Allah have mercy on him) said the Verse shows Allah's kindness, generosity and mercy in accepting the good deeds of all people, men and women, provided that they believe, in allowing them into Heaven and in not decreasing rewards for their good deeds, not even in the least.

{Whoever works righteousness, man or woman, and has faith, verily, to him will we give a life that is good and pure, and we will bestow on such their reward according to the best of actions.}, Verse 97, Surat an-Nahl, or the Bees (translation of the meaning).

Ibn Kathir (may Allah have mercy on him) said this is a promise by Allah, the Exalted, to those who do good deeds i.e. deeds acceptable to Allah in which a Muslim follows the rules set in the Book of Allah, the Exalted, and the Sunnah of His Prophet (may peace and blessings be upon him), be they men or women, if they believe in Allah and His Messenger (may peace and blessings be upon him), that He will make them live a good life in this world and will be rewarded in the Hereafter. A good life would include all types of comfort.

{He that makes evil will not be requited but by the like thereof; and he that makes a righteous deed whether man or woman and is a believer, such will enter the garden (of bliss): therein will they have abundance without measure.}, Verse 40, Surat al-Muminun, or the believers (translation of the meaning).

Finally; Dear Sister, here is a Hadith that will dispel any doubt you may have with respect to the mentioning of women:

Umm Umarah al-Ansariyyah said that she went to the Prophet (may peace and blessings be upon

him) and said to Him: "I feel that everything is for men. Women are not mentioned as having anything. Then was revealed the Verse (translation of the meaning): {For Muslim men and women, for believing men and women etc}, Verse 35, Surat al-Ahzab, or the Confederates. The Hadith is narrated by at-Tirmidhi under No. 3211, and is in Sahih at-Tirmidhi under No. 2565.

In the collection of Hadiths of Imam Ahmad was narrated the Hadith that Umm Salamah (may Allah be pleased with her) said: "I said "O Messenger (may peace and blessings be upon him) of Allah. Why aren't we mentioned in the Quran in an equal footing with men?" Then; I was surprised to hear Him call one day from the pulpit: "O people." As I was combing my hair at the moment, I wrapped it up and came close to the door and stood there listening to him say: "Allah, Mighty and Sublime be He, revealed that (in meaning) {For Muslim men and women; for believing men and women; for devout men and women, for true men and women; for men and women who are patient and constant; for men and women who humble themselves; for men and women who give in charity; for men and women who fast; for men and women who guard their chastity; and for men and women who engage much in Allah's remembrance, for them has Allah prepared forgiveness and great reward.} Verse 35, Surat al-Ahzab, or the Confederates.

We ask Allah to give us all the ability to show sincerity in words and deeds and to continue as well-established Muslims.

For more, please see these answers: 114050 , 96598 and 96619 .

And Allah knows best.