

## **An Introduction to the Wombs of Life: Seize the Biggest Opportunities in Life!**

### **What Is Meant by 'Womb'—and Why Are Wombs the Biggest Opportunities in Life?**

When we hear the word “womb”, we typically think of the mother’s womb—a space where the embryo grows and our bodily organs develop. But interestingly, our lives are filled with other wombs as well—wombs that are opportunities that profoundly impact the growth and maturity of the human dimension of our existence or our heart. Do you know these biggest opportunities in life? Have you heard of their extraordinary effects? Why are they referred to as “wombs”?

To answer this, we must consider the function of a womb. In general, the role of a womb is to nurture and develop. A womb receives a being with potential abilities, cultivates those talents, and then prepares it for the next stage of existence.

After birth, we exit the mother’s womb and enter the second womb—the world. But within this world lie powerful wombs—precise and mathematical systems that are the biggest opportunities in life for self-improvement and evaluation. Despite the different wombs, the womb of the world has a more constructive power. Within which, we can make up for years of stagnation, compensate for past errors, and even leap decades ahead—sometimes in the span of a single hour— precede millions of others in spiritual progression.

These biggest opportunities in life include: the wombs of time, the wombs of place, and the character-based wombs, such as the nurturing womb of the mentor. In this lesson, we first revisit the womb-like essence of the world, and then explore the wombs of time, place, and nurturing womb of the mentor in greater detail.

### **The Womb-like Essence of the World**

In previous lessons, we discussed in depth the womb-like essence of the world. We said that the world is to the Hereafter what the mother's womb is to this world. Just as a mother's womb prepares a fetus over nine months for decades of life on earth, according to the living conditions of this world, so too does the world prepare us—over a finite lifetime—for an eternal existence, in line with the living conditions of the Hereafter. The heart, or the human dimension of our existence, is like the fetus, and the world acts as its womb—providing what it needs for a healthy birth into the Hereafter.

But as we discussed, not everyone experiences a healthy birth. We are only born healthy into the Hereafter if, first, we acknowledge the human dimension of our being. Second, we become familiar with the living conditions of the next world—what kind of journey lies ahead, and what tools we need. As a result, just as merely existing in the mother's womb does not guarantee a healthy birth, simply existing in the womb of the world does not guarantee a healthy birth into the Hereafter. Although this world is our only chance to shape our heart, not everyone takes proper advantage of these biggest opportunities in life.

God, in His grace and mercy, has placed other wombs within the womb of this world, allowing humans to traverse the path of evolution with greater speed and

power, thereby multiplying the world's constructive power many times over. Perhaps the best example in this regard is the difference between the speed of a car and that of an airplane. While a car travels at perhaps 100–150 km/h, a plane flies at 800–1000 km/h. A 13-hour car trip may take only an hour by plane. This example may not even be entirely suitable; for someone who, for instance, finds themselves in a womb of the time of *Laylat al-Qadr*, using this opportunity precisely and intelligently can allow them to atone for seventy years of sin in just a few seconds—this is almost like the speed of a rocket, not an airplane! We will continue by introducing these powerful wombs and their effects on the human soul.

### **The Wombs of Time: The Biggest Opportunities in Life for Spiritual Growth**

From a mathematical perspective, all hours are equal. One hour today is the same as one hour tomorrow. But in terms of the constructive power, sometimes are more valuable than others. For instance, the first eight weeks of fetal development are far more critical than later stages in shaping vital organs. These special times are known as **“the wombs of time.”**

One example of the wombs of time that have significant metaphysical effects on the soul is the womb of time of Friday. The night and day of Friday hold special importance among the days of the week; so much so that if someone performs a good deed or worship during these times, they receive double the worldly and eternal rewards compared to other days. The reason for this is that these hours possess unique spiritual capabilities and exert twice the normal influence on the human soul.

Throughout the day, nighttime and pre-dawn hours also have this special status compared to other times. The months of Rajab, Sha'ban, Ramadan, and the day and night of Arafah are other examples of these wombs of the time and biggest opportunities in life. The month of Rajab is an extremely powerful womb of time; it is referred to as the month of divine mercy. In this month, divine mercy, forgiveness, and blessings pour down upon our souls, preparing us for entry into even more powerful wombs of times, namely Sha'ban and Ramadan. The constructive power of Ramadan is even more than Rajab and Sha'ban; it is so important and impactful that even sleeping and breathing in it are considered acts of worship, and reciting a single verse from the Quran in this month carries the reward of reading the entire Quran! Within the womb of Ramadan lies another powerful womb called *Laylat al-Qadr* (the Night of Power), which is itself superior to a thousand months [1]—approximately equivalent to a natural human lifespan! This is an astonishing constructive power we have often heard about.

### **The Wombs of Place: Special Opportunities for Improvement**

The wombs of place are places with unique metaphysical properties that awaken our *fitrah* (innate nature) and human dimension and accelerate our progress toward acquiring a sound heart. These include the mosques, the Ka'bah, shrines of the Infallible Imams (Peace be upon them), Holy Sites, and husayniyyahs (mourning centers).

Many of us have experienced how entering a sacred space like the shrine of the *Ahl al-Bayt* (Peace be upon them) can change our feelings and thoughts, bringing us a greater sense of peace and closeness to God. This transformation is due to the

unique metaphysical qualities of these places and their influence on our hearts and souls; otherwise, all buildings are made of bricks and mortar and do not differ much in appearance. You may have heard stories of people going through transformation and repentance in the wombs of time, especially in the shrines of *the Ahl al-Bayt* (Peace be upon them), and perhaps you have experienced such a transformation yourself.

### **The Nurturing Womb of the Mentor: The Biggest Opportunities in Life**

Another powerful opportunity in life that greatly impacts our growth is utilizing the character-based wombs or the nurturing womb of the mentor. The nurturing womb of the mentor refers to taking advantage of the presence of educators and mentors who not only have complete mastery over the structure of the human soul and its governing rules but also have personally traversed this path and understand the twists and turns of the spiritual journey toward Allah.

The nurturing womb of the mentor can be even more powerful than the other two types. This is because a mentor organizes our thoughts, minds, and hearts while teaching us a practical and human way to live; thus, our growth within the nurturing womb of the mentor is much faster than under normal circumstances—just like learning an art such as painting under a skilled instructor allows us to progress significantly faster than if we were learning alone. We will discuss the nurturing womb of the mentor in more detail in the next lesson.

In this lesson, we talked about the amazing characteristics of the wombs and mentioned that utilizing the power of the womb of time, the womb of place and the nurturing womb of the mentor can compensate for all our setbacks and

weaknesses on the path toward human perfection. However, let's not forget this important point: to fully benefit from these wombs and the biggest opportunities in life, we must learn how to use them; just as we need to know how to drive a high-speed car to make full use of it—merely sitting in the car will not take us to our destination.

What are your thoughts on these wombs? Have you ever taken advantage of these biggest opportunities in life? If you have had a positive experience in this regard, please share it with us and other readers.

#### References

[1]. Quran, 97:3