KING OF THE CASTLE

Preface:

In the preface, the author says that he doesn’t like to forget or ignore of any of the old thoughts because they had helped him understand the things which were new to him. (like we relate things to have an understanding)

When we have reached somewhere in life, like you’ve got matured enough then too you cannot remove the previous experiences youve had, because then, your wisdom is incomplete. Lets say uve made mistakes in you childhood but that makes you learn to not make those mistakes again so u cant let go of those experiences.

The author wouldn’t like to change what he had written long ago, because it clears the uncertainty of some people to some extent. He is still unsure about the book KING OF THE CASTLE ass to which shelf it belongs(history, religion, philosophy, which type of book is it), but he does say one thing about this book which needs to be said, FIHI MA FIHI (IN IT WHAT IS IN IT) (us mai hai jo us mai hai)

Intro:

If we travel in the past, would we question our sanity? Would you have trouble?

Answer to this is that it depends upon person to person and the time period for how long they are there. For instance, for a short period of time, u might not have any issues as you have some background about that time, you’ve studies history. But if you live there for longer amount of time, you’ll face many problems.

From our present position, we can say that people of that time missed many opportunities and couldn’t do much, but if we compare it, we are comparing different limitations, as the limitations today and at that time were different. So we cant really say that. Later he is talking about the horizontal tunnel of time. If someone's looking for some kind of freedom, the direction isn't horizontal, it’s vertical. In any span of time ( past present or future) what really matters is your relationship with the Truth.

He says in the era we live, we have taken things for granted as well. And to notice those things we will have to look at it through a different lens i.e. the eye of a critic.

We are slaves to our habits, our habits of feelings and thoughts. He says its not impossible to break our habits, because we are humans, have power of choosing what to do. We are responsible to choose and to break these habits.

concern with the the future of human race is uniquely modern phenomenon. There is a Hadith that narrates that just like the birds go out and get food for the day they come back in the evening satiated. Just like this, humans should trust Allah and have tawakkul in him that he will give us the rizq.

On one extreme you can be an optimist and one another, a pessimist. when you are an optimist and you get disappointed by reality then you become a pessimist so try taking the middle path. The author writes that our future belongs to Allah’s will and his will is an unchangeable gives a deterministic idea but he stated back that change is not impossible. A pre modern man didn't think about 10 years from their time. A simple believer focuses on the present more relative to past or future.

Heaven is a landscape where a child is blowing bubbles. Each bubble is like entire universe. (dunya). The bubble blows, for a short amount of time and then bursts and vanishes. So dunya is also like that, temporary. The bubbles reflect the outside world, but it is transparent at the same time, so to see outside more clearly, you may have a weak vision. For this, the prophets are showing us what we can see clearly. We may have a weak vision and may not be able to see outside the bubble but the prophets have shown us what is outside. If there is a bubble you can see the world reflected on it. This world reflects what lies outside and we begin to realise everything within is not more or less than a reflection of its own and has no existence.

Knowing about the hereafter is not necessary, we have made knowledge as an idol. We may have a weak vision and may not be able to see outside the bubble but the prophets have shown us what is outside. If there is a bubble you can see the world reflected on it. This world reflects what lies outside and we begin to realise everything within is not more or less than a reflection of its own and has no existence.

Aj kal, people don’t have that firm belief or knowledge bit they show their dogmatic opinions about a subject. Like they don’t know it but still pretend and continue to express their opinions. These days, ignorance and dogmatic opinions are really common. And the ignorance of religion today seems similar to the ignorance of nuclear physics in the last days.

One of the reasons he is dismissing modern thoughts is because modern people in today's world have dismissed everything that in the past wise and noble people have ever understood about human thinking. In older times people only have the belief that they love God. They didn’t need any arguments to prove it.

In the past, believer and non believers were recognized easily, but nowadays the line between them is blurred, as people now believe in something and don’t act according to it.

Truth is like deserted sun.. But today, in the modern age, truth or Real isn’t that scorching as the desert sun, its just there. it is there but you look at it like it's something abstract not dazzled by it.

A person joining in the sand but in a temporary world other matters are pressing and he is going towards those more important matters. People who are not taking religion seriously are in that bubble and can't see reality. Those critical existential questions ( why do we exist?)If we stop to think about these questions, No answers!! feel comfortable or we are drowning in this questions.

observe and belief in reality, belief in it being real, everything follows after it. giving example of priest or any religious leader. Most of the times we are just talking about the the do's and don'ts of the religion. because of modern age no one looks at reality or the sun as something that dazzles them or like they feel the need to do something about it. the feeling or emotion you have can lead you to do you something about it but people look at it as something abstract. If any religious leader would themselves be dazzled by the sun like they are entranced themselves it’d be possible that people would look up to them and realise on their own as well (reality) and then everything would follow.