69842 - He committed a sin and his conscience is troubling him

the question

A young man is saying that he committed some sins and repented to Allaah, but there is a sin for which his conscience is still troubling him, which is that he committed zina with a virgin. Now he is asking what he should do. He cannot marry her. This matter is causing him psychological pain and a hard life. What do you think?.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

What we think is that if a person repents from any sin, Allaah accepts his repentance, because Allaah has mentioned the major sins (interpretation of the meaning):

“And those who invoke not any other ilaah (god) along with Allaah,” – this is shirk – “ nor kill such person as Allaah has forbidden, except for just cause,” – this is murder – “nor commit illegal sexual intercourse” – this is immorality, transgression against Allaah, against other people and against their honour. Then Allaah says:

–– and whoever does this shall receive the punishment.

69. The torment will be doubled to him on the Day of Resurrection, and he will abide therein in disgrace;

70. Except those who repent and believe (in Islamic Monotheism), and do righteous deeds; for those, Allaah will change their sins into good deeds, and Allaah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful”

[al-Furqaan 25:68-70]

A person must repent sincerely, fulfilling all the five well known conditions of repentance, which are regret, giving up the sin, resolving never to go back to it in the future, sincerity, which is the

basic requirement, and repenting before the time for repentance is over. If these five conditions are met then this is sincere repentance, by means of which Allaah erases all sins that came before, even zina.

With regard to the woman with whom you committed zina, if she did that willingly, then she will be questioned about that herself. If she was forced, then the one who forced her has to repent to Allaah from that. If he is able to ask her forgiveness, then let him do so, otherwise let him pray a great deal for forgiveness for her, and Allaah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

With regard to the loss of her virginity as the result of this zina, she is going to be faced with a serious problem, because if someone proposes marriage to her on the basis that she is a virgin, he will find out on the wedding night that she is not. If she tells people that she has lost her virginity, then tongues will wag and she will bring shame upon her family. If she keeps quiet about it, then she will be deceiving her future husband. But I hope that this young woman's repentance will be sincere; if it is sincere then Allaah will give her a way out.

With regard to him saying in the question that he cannot marry her, I do not know why. If they have both repented and he can marry her, that is good. If that is not possible, then Allaah will give her a way out so long as her repentance is sincere, because Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

"And whosoever fears Allaah and keeps his duty to Him, He will make a way for him to get out (from every difficulty)"

[al-Talaaq 65:2]

This is general in meaning. And Allaah also says (interpretation of the meaning):

"And He it is Who accepts repentance from His slaves, and forgives sins, and He knows what you do"

[al-Shoora 42:25]