The Prize awaiting the shahid

Allah says[1]:

{Gardens of perpetual residence; they will enter them with whoever were righteous among their fathers, their spouses and their descendants. And the angels will enter upon them from every gate, [saying], "Peace [i.e., security] be upon you for what you patiently endured. And excellent is the final home} [ar-Ra`d: 23-24].

Jannah is different from dunyā in four areas:

1 This world is temporary and akhira is permanent.

Allah says about dunyā: [mata `al ghuroor].
And Allah says about Jannah: {the afterlife is better and everlasting}.

2 There's a difference in quantity.

3 There's a different in quality.

4 Everything in dunyā is contaminated and everything in ākhira is pure.

Dunyā is temporary and ākhira is permanent. How long are you going to live in dunyā? I was watching the news strip on al-Jazeera and it said the oldest man in the world has passed away in Japan at the age of one hundred and fourteen. That's the oldest. One hundred and fourteen. How long will you live in ākhira? Infinity. Now if we want to make a ratio of dunyā to ākhira, what do you do to make a ratio? You divide dunyā on ākhira. So 114 divided by infinity, what's the answer?
Math tells us that it's zero. Nothing. There isn't even a ratio! But Rasūlullāh صلی الله عليه وسلم was more generous than that. He said, "if this world was worth the wing of a mosquito..." but then you can notice that Rasūlullāh صلی الله عليه وسلم said one wing so the mosquito can't even fly! He didn't even say two wings. So dunyā is nothing. Worthless.

In Paradise, everything is clean. Everything is pure. There's no call to nature or sweating. Our bodies will come in a different form. Life therein is infinite. There's no time pressure. The people of Paradise are free to do what they like, whenever they like and for as long as they like. One of them could recline on his throne for forty years talking to his wife.

Subhān'Allāh, when you think of this concept of time, because there's no time limit in ākhira - since it's infinite, eternal - if you come out of your mansion for example and see a flower that you like, you could sit there for ten years watching it! You don't have any appointments! You don't have any work to do! You could sit there for a hundred years if you want. There's no time pressure whatsoever, so it's quite a difficult concept to think about. And when you carry it further, you can even think about things like spending an entire year with Muhammad صلی الله عليه وسلم; he would give you that time. If you want for example, you were reading in history and there were somethings you wanted to clarify about Umar bin al-Khattab, you can go and meet him and spend an entire month with him to discuss what happened. There's no time pressure, so there's no reason that this offer would be turned down. If they are busy for the first billion years, you can meet them after that.

There's no time pressure whatsoever and that's why Ibn al-Qayyim mentioned somethings about jannah saying that a man would sleep with his wife for eighty years! He mentioned that it's in a hadīth but it might be a weak hadīth; but all these things are possible because there's no time pressure whatsoever; you're free to do whatever you want. You are given four rivers, you can then
go and spend an entire summer on these rivers enjoying its beauty because there's no limit. Our minds in dunyā are incapable of thinking outside the box when it comes to time... It's infinity, it never stops, it keeps on going. The Energizer bunny would die and you're still alive in jannah!

Nothing stands between you and this enjoyment except dying as a **shahid**.

Footnote:

[1]The following is a transcript taken from Shaykh Anwar's series on Mashari al-Ashwaq (CD 3).

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