

First khutbah

My brothers and sisters, anyone who looks at the life of the Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, they will understand that as soon as he moved to al - Medina, different parts of the Sharia were being legislated. So within the first phase of his life in al - Medina, the adhan was legislated. And in Sha'ban when in the month we are in right now different rulings concerning the religion were being sent, such as changing of the Qibla from Bait al Maqdis, to Masjid al Haram in Makkah. And also in the second year after Hijra in this month Sha'ban, a command comes to the Believers like it has not been come before in our Sharia:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ

“O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting” al-Baqarah (The Cow) 2:183

‘Believers, upon you is ordained the siyam’, but also in surah al - Baqarah you will find many different ahkam being revealed during this period, so anyone who recites surah al - Baqarah they will find the word يَسْأَلُونَكَ being repeated many times, ‘they are asking you Oh Muhammad’, meaning the Companions, they are coming up to the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and asking him religious rulings and response to that Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى is sending down clarification on His Sharia.

So for instance, they say يَسْأَلُونَكَ عَنِ الْأَهْلِ, ‘they came to the Messenger of Allah asking about the new moons and the moon sighting and the establishment of every hijri month’, so Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى reveals to them revelation.



This is because my brothers and sisters, the Companions, they knew very well and we have this recorded in the Qur'an, that nobody can start an act of worship until they have knowledge before doing that act of worship.

My brother and sisters the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said in a hadith which is saheeh, he said:

الخيرُ عادةٌ , والشرُّ لَجَاجَةٌ

'A goodness in a person that he can find, he knows that he is upon goodness is when doing good deeds become easy for him.' والشرُّ لَجَاجَةٌ 'and the badness in a person, or a person knows that he's not upon goodness is when good deeds are presented to him, but he really doesn't want to do them. He has no real interest in doing them. He doesn't learn about them so that he can do it in the best possible manner.'

My brother and sisters, Ramadan is close and see where you are with this statement of the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

الخيرُ عادةٌ , والشرُّ لَجَاجَةٌ

Are you a person that likes goodness and accepts goodness and wants to learn more about goodness and goodness becomes easy for him? Or is it that you don't really have an interest in doing good deeds? Then in the same hadith, the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said:

وَمَنْ يَرِدِ اللهُ بِهِ خَيْرًا، يَفْقَهُهُ فِي الدِّينِ

'If you find goodness being something that comes to you easy, then this is a sign that you are upon goodness.' If you are too relaxed when it comes to doing good deeds or even worse you have no interest in doing them then this is a sign that that person doesn't have goodness and then the next statement from the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, 'if Allah wants good for you, He will teach you about the religion.'

This is why my brother and sisters, may Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى teach us, there is an agreement from the Ulema, that seeking knowledge before doing an act of worship is worship upon every single Muslim. Seeking knowledge before doing the act of worship itself, is watching upon every single Muslim. He said صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

طَلَبُ الْعِلْمِ فَرِيضَةٌ عَلَى كُلِّ مُسْلِمٍ

'Seeking knowledge is wajib. A religious obligation upon every single Muslim.' Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal رَحِمَهُ اللهُ was asked about this hadith, so he was asked, 'is seeking knowledge actually mandatory upon every single Muslim?' He replied:

نعم

Yes

لأمر دينك

‘Knowledge of your religion that you must learn’

وَمَا تَحْتَاجُ إِلَيْهِ

‘And whatever is needed for you to understand your religion’

مِنْ أَنْ يَنْبَغِيَ أَنْ تَعْلَمَهُ

‘So that that person will then know, what his religion wants from him so then he can do Allah ^{سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى} is obligated’

The famous Salaf, the famous alim from the Ulema of the Salaf, Abdullah ibn Mubarak ^{رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ} was asked a similar question as well, ‘are we supposed to seek knowledge?’ He said:

أن لا يقدم الرجل على الشيء

‘It is not permissible for a person to do an action’

إلا بعلم

‘Until he has knowledge’

يسأل ويتعلم

‘If he doesn’t know, he should ask, and he must learn before doing that act of worship’

From the Hanafi madhab, Ibn ‘Aabideen رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ he said:

وَفَرَضَ عَلَى كُلِّ مُكَلَّفٍ وَمُكَلَّفَةٍ

‘It is an obligation upon every accountable person male or female, بَعْدَ تَعَلُّمِهِ عِلْمَ الدِّينِ وَالْهُدَايَةِ, for them to learn, to know what the religion wants from them, to have hidayah and guidance and then they must act.’

Then he gives the example, so before a person performs the wudu he must learn how to make wudu and the ahkam and masa’il connected to wudu. Before a person performs the ghusl, he must learn what is the ghusl

Khutbah - Knowledge before fasting

Ustadh Ariff Olla

09/03/2023



and the akam and the masa'il connected to ghusl. And salat and as - siyaam, these are examples taken from Ibn 'Aabideen رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ. That's from the Hanafi madhab.

Now from the Maliki madhab, Abdullah ibn Abdul-Bar رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ he said:

وَأَنَّ صَوْمَ رَمَضَانَ فَرَضٌ

'Fasting Ramadan is an obligation upon every single one of us'

وَيَلْزَمُهُ عِلْمٌ مَا يُفْسِدُ صَوْمَهُ , وَمَا لَا يَتِمُّ إِلَّا بِهِ،

He says رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ, 'a person must learn what it is that will complete for him his fasting. He must learn those things which would nullify his fasting and if fasting is wajib, then anything which is needed for you to complete what is fasting, also becomes wajib.'

And then we have Imam ash - Shafi رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ, he says:

لَا يَجُوزُ لَهُ أَنْ يُقَدِّمَ عَلَى فِعْلٍ

'It is not permissible for a person to start an action'

حَتَّىٰ يَعْلَمَ حُكْمَ اللَّهِ فِيهِ

‘Until he knows the rulings of Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** within them’

My brothers and sisters, knowledge before action is the Sirat al-Mustaqeem. In the greatest surah in the Qur’an we learn that knowledge without action or action without knowledge is not the Sirat al-Mustaqeem. Knowledge with action is the correct path and is the methodology. As for Action without knowledge such a person is blind and it’s easy for that person to become misguided. And as for knowledge without action then this is just darkness and the path of whom Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** has attained or these people have attained Allah’s **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** anger.

Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** tells us in the Qur’an:

وَلَا تَكُونُوا كَالَّذِينَ نَسُوا اللَّهَ

“And be not like those who forgot Allah” al-Hashr (Exile, Banishment) 59:19

‘Do not be like those people who forgot Allah and didn’t establish Allah’s **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** religion in themselves by learning.’

Khutbah - Knowledge before fasting

Ustadh Ariff Olla

09/03/2023



فَأَنسَاهُمْ أَنفُسَهُمْ , أُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ

“... so He made them forget themselves. Those are the defiantly disobedient” al-Hashr (Exile, Banishment) 59:19

Second Khutbah

My brothers and sisters, a person might feel that they have seen a Ramadan over and over and over and they know it all and that they don't need to seek ilm, but this is a mistake. My brothers and sisters seeking knowledge is one thing and revision of that knowledge is something else. We all need to be reminded and reminding benefits the Believers. Look at this statement of al - Hasan al - Basri رَحِمَهُ اللهُ he says:

إِذَا أَظْهَرَ النَّاسُ الْعِلْمَ

‘If knowledge appears, if knowledge appears amongst the Muslims’ but:

وَضَيَّعُوا الْعَمَلَ

‘They don't practise that knowledge anymore, or they think they've got enough knowledge’

وَتَحَابُّوا بِاللُّسُنِ،

‘And they start fighting one another with their tongues’

وَتَبَاغَضُوا بِالْقُلُوبِ،

‘And they start showing hatred to one another in their hearts’

وَتَقَطَّعُوا بِالْأَرْحَامِ،

‘and they start cutting ties of kinship and their relatives with one another’

لَعَنَهُمُ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ عِنْدَ ذَلِكَ،

‘The curse of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى the exalted and the glorified will be upon them within this’

فَأَصَمَّهُمْ وَأَعَمَّى أَبْصَارَهُمْ.

‘For some they will lose their hearing they will not be able to hear guidance and they will become blind -
they will not be able to see guidance’

Khutbah - Knowledge before fasting

Ustadh Ariff Olla

09/03/2023



It all started off with this advice from al - Hasan al - Basri رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ and this is our advice on how we should prepare for Ramadan by learning and revising and asking and reconnecting to ilm. He's saying here رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ when people leave off knowledge they will then not act, of course why would you act if you don't have knowledge and then on the tongues you will see enmity. Then in the hearts you will see hatred. Then you will see in your family ties cutting off - the curse of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى will be upon these people. These people will lose their hearing and they will become blind.

So the advice my brothers and sisters from the Ulema from the Salaf and our religion in general, learn, revise ask if you don't know, rectify your insides because through seeking knowledge your insides are being rectified. Seal your connections. Secure the rights of one another. Secure the rights of your Lord سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى so that Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى will not be angered with you, rather Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى will have mercy upon you and He will pardon you and He will show you to His way of guidance and acceptance.

As you learn and benefit from Ustadh Ariff Olla's jumu'ah sermons from which are these notes- don't keep it to yourself! Share & teach these notes - please do not edit or manipulate this content.

"One who guides to something good has a reward similar to that of its doer"- Saheeh Muslim vol.3, no.4665.