

First khutbah

My brothers and sisters, Ramadan is ahead of us. May Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** allow us to reach it whilst we are upon eman and good health. For most Muslims this is a time that they look forward to. The Prophet **صَلَّى** **اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** said in a hadith which is reported by Imam Muslim, he said **صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ**:

فُتِّحَتْ أَبْوَابُ الرَّحْمَةِ

‘When Ramadan enters’

إِذَا كَانَ رَمَضَانُ فُتِّحَتْ

‘The doors of Allah’s Mercy are made wide open’

وَعُلِّقَتْ أَبْوَابُ جَهَنَّمَ

‘And the doors of his fire are closed and sealed shut’

In another narration which is reported by at - Tirmidhi, the Shayateen are chained up and a caller calls out.

In these coming days my brothers and sisters from above our heads, a caller will call out and he will say:



يُنَادِي مُنَادٍ : يَا بَاغِيَ الْخَيْرِ أَفِيلُ

‘Calling the people of goodness, those people who want goodness accepted, because the doors of Allah’s mercy have been made open. Run ahead and do good deeds because the doors of Allah’s Mercy have been made open’

وَيَا بَاغِيَ الشَّرِّ أَقْصِرُ

‘And those people who really aren’t interested, those people who have badness, a caller will call out and say’

أَقْصِرُ

‘At least for this one month, stop’

Then the caller continues and he says:

وَلِلَّهِ عِتْقَاءُ مِنَ النَّارِ

‘Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى has a large number of people that he is going to free in this coming month and that happens every single night’

Khutbah - Worried about Ramadan

Ustadh Ariff Olla

09/03/2023



So my brothers and sisters may Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** preserve you Muslims around the world look forward to Ramadan, but for some people and we can say even most Muslims who aren't practising, they are worried about Ramadan, because as humans we have limitations. So if you say you can't eat anymore, you can't drink anymore and you have to sacrifice your sleep in order to pray - this causes some Muslims to become worried, but listen to the advice of Ibn Taymiyyah **رَحِمَهُ اللهُ**, he says:

والمسلم الصادق

'For the truthful Muslim'

إذا عبد الله بما شرع

'If he worships Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** in a manner that he has legislated'

فتح الله عليه أنوار الهداية

'Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** will open up the lights of guidance'

How long will it take? He says, **فتح الله عليه أنوار الهداية**, 'Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** will open up the many doors of noor, of guidance':

فِي مَدَّة قَرِيبَةٍ

‘In a short space of time, in a matter of moments’

So my brothers and sisters, our lives will change all of a sudden because the advice of Ibn Taymiyyah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ is that if you wholeheartedly submit to Allah تَعَالَى and show truthfulness to Him, if you do this, Allah تَعَالَى will show you things that you didn't know about yourself. Allah تَعَالَى will it make you experience things that you didn't even know that existed and that were possible.

My brother and sister's fasting has been legislated for us to attain taqwa:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

“O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting as it was decreed upon those before you that you may become righteous” al-Baqarah (The Cow) 2:183

‘So that you may attain taqwa’

But look what Allah تَعَالَى says about the people of taqah, He says:

وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مَخْرَجًا

“And whoever fears Allah - He will make for him a way out” at-Talaq (Divorce) 65:2

For the people who have taqwa and have attained taqwa and they are attaining taqwa whilst they are fasting, Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى guarantees for them that He will make a path for them, meaning anyone who fasts with him eman and ihtisaab, anyone who first submitting to Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى and seeking His reward, anyone who fasts with sincerity, wanting Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى to be pleased with him in this month, then don't be worried. Leaving your food - don't be worried. Leaving your drink- don't be worried, because if you leave something for the sake of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى, Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى will replace it with what is better.

Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى also says:

وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ

‘The people who have taqwa, the one who has taqwa’

يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مِنْ أَمْرِهِ يُسْرًا

‘Whilst we are fasting, we want to attain taqwa’

In this ayah, Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** says, those people who want to attain taqwa by doing things which please Him and staying away from things which displease Him, Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** will not only give him a way out, but Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** will give him peace in all of his affairs. My brothers and sisters whilst you were fasting if you are attaining taqwa, there is a way out. Whilst you are fasting if you are attaining taqwa, there is ease.

My brothers and sisters, may Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** guide us all, has given us a religion of guidance. This shouldn't be a religion which causes worries and stress and anxieties, rather it's a religion which brings about relaxation and contentment. Don't have bad thoughts of your Lord before Ramadan and if you have bad thoughts of your Lord, it could mean that you won't be able to benefit from Ramadan in the way that you should. Don't think for yourself that you won't be able to do it, no! Tell yourself that, 'I am a grateful, truthful, pious servant in front of Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى**, wanting to attain taqwa. I know full well that if I was to submit to Him, Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** will make a way for me. I know that Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** will exchange for me, my sacrifices with ease and Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** will open up for this person, the doors of lights of guidance, noor and goodness and guidance, in a short period of time whilst he is fasting for the sake of Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى**.

Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** tells us:

يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ بِكُمْ الْيُسْرَ

'He doesn't want difficulty for you from your fasting'

Second khutbah

My brothers and sisters, one of the best ways you can prepare for worship, is by having knowledge. Imam al-Bukhari رَحِمَهُ اللهُ in his Saheeh, has a chapter, Bab: al-Ilm, Qabl al-Qawli wa Amal: chapter that knowledge should come before actions and statements and he brings ayats and he brings evidences and we also have a piece of evidence in an event that took place in the life of the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. In Bukhari and Muslim on the authority of Anas bin Malik رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ, he said, ‘we were sitting with the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and a bedouin came inside the Masjid - a person who doesn't live in the city. This person has no experience of coming to the Masjid a great deal, because he lives outside, he lives in the village. This man, he came into the Masjid, he lifted up his garment, he exposed his awrah and his private parts and he began to urinate in the Masjid of the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, in the presence of the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in the presence of the Companions in the Rawdah, which is a piece of Jannah, which will be lifted. My brothers and sisters in this, we learn that those people who don't spend time in frequenting the Masjid, they will not have the correct knowledge and the etiquettes of attending the Masjid.

In this coming month, my brothers and sisters we are going to spend more time in the Masjid and one of the lessons that we learn from this hadith is that this person doesn't prepare with knowledge. If this person doesn't prepare with akhlaaq, he will not be able to present himself in act of worship in the best possible manner, therefore my brother and sisters, don't be like this person who urinated in the Masjid, prepare for yourselves in standing in front of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى in the Masjid. Prepare for yourselves in completing the obligation of Ramadan with knowledge before actions. Also from the adaab of standing in front of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى and from the etiquettes of meeting Ramadan.

My brothers and sisters, this month can change your life and from the ways that you can prepare is to make tawbah to Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى. Admit to Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى your mistakes. Admit to Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى that

you need His assistance. Admit to Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** your poverty in front of your Master because tawbah my brothers and sisters cleans the slate and purifies the heart. Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** tells us from the Qur'an:

فَاسْتَغْفِرُوا لِذُنُوبِهِمْ وَمَنْ يَغْفِرِ الذُّنُوبَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَلَمْ يُصِرُّوا عَلَىٰ مَا فَعَلُوا وَهُمْ يَعْلَمُونَ

“...seek forgiveness for their sins - and who can forgive sins except Allah ? - and [who] do not persist in what they have done while they know” al-Imran (The Family of Imran, The House of Imran) 3:135

Tawbah my brothers and sisters makes the heart softer. Tawbah my brothers and sisters creates optimism and connects a person to the mercy of Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** and through tawbah my brothers and sisters, a person's bad deeds actually turn into good ones. Any badness that you have inside of yourself will be removed and it will become easier for you to come with goodness and the deed itself will be replaced with something which is good.

Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** tells us:

أَلَمْ يَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ يَقْبَلُ التَّوْبَةَ عَنْ عِبَادِهِ

“Do they not know that it is Allah who accepts repentance from His servants” at-Taubah

(Repentance) 9:104

Khutbah - Worried about Ramadan

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09/03/2023



My brothers and sisters, may Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** help us all and make us see Ramadan in a manner that He is pleased with us with, now is the time to change. Don't be worried. This month is a month of great deal of khayr and baraqah and optimism. Recognize that you are fasting for something which Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** will reward Himself Subhan. Fasting which will make you a better person. Fasting that if you leave something for the sake of Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى**, Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** will give you our way out and make ease for you in all of your affairs. He will reward you. He will expiate for you your sins. He will teach you to stay away from your enemy, the Shaytan. He will help you attain taqwa. He will help you for your deeds to enter into His mercy and his Rahma, his Jannah and for the people of emam and taqwa in the akhira, there is no other reward except for Allah's **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** Jannah.

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