

Be Conscious of Allāh Wherever You Are

First Khutbah

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ , نَحْمَدُهُ , وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ , وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا , مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ , وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ , وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

Verily, all praise is for Allah. We praise Him, we seek His assistance and we ask for His forgiveness. And we seek refuge in Him from the evils of our selves. Whoever Allah guides, none can misguide. Whoever He misguides, none can guide. And I bear witness that there is no deity other than Allah and I bear witness that Mohammad is His servant and messenger.

(يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ) [آل

عمران:102]

Al Imran(3) 102 : O you who believe! Fear Allah as He should be feared, and die not except in a state of Islam.

Oh Believers:

Allāh favored the Islamic Community by sending his honorable Prophet ﷺ. For he was sincere, genuine, trustworthy and conveyed the message and fulfilled the trust and counselled the community and truly strived in the way of Allāh until he passed. He ﷺ did not leave any good except that he guided to it, and any evil except that he warned of it.

And from the complete advice, thorough clarification and perfect instruction of the Prophet ﷺ is that he would use short phrases, few and

easy to understand words that would contain great meanings and comprehensive guidance. And from his ﷺ comprehensive and concise speech is what related by Abu Dhar that he ﷺ said:

اتَّقِ اللَّهَ حَيْثُمَا كُنْتَ وَأَتَّبِعِ السَّيِّئَةَ الْحَسَنَةَ تَمْحُهَا وَخَالِقِ النَّاسَ بِخُلُقٍ حَسَنٍ

Be conscious of Allāh wherever you are, and follow a bad deed with a good deed and it will erase it, and treat people well with good character. [At Tirmidhī (1987), Aḥmad (21392) Grade: Ḥasan]

Reflect on this great hadith with a few phrases and limited words. The Prophet ﷺ combined all good in it, he combined the good of this world and the hereafter. And whoever fulfills this hadith and achieves its objectives, has realized goodness from all its doors and attained success from its widest path.

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Be conscious of Allāh wherever you are, and follow a bad deed with a good deed and it will erase it, and treat people well with good character.

They are three short sentences but they contain the foundations of conduct; your conduct with Allāh, your conduct with yourself and your conduct with others.

As far as your conduct with Allāh Almighty, its basis and pillar is consciousness of Allāh. To be mindful of Allāh in private and in public, and while alone and in front of others, and in what you say and in what you do, and during the day and during the night, and at all times.

Be conscious of Allāh wherever you are.

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For Allāh Almighty sees you wherever you are. No secret is hidden from Him on the earth or in the heavens. For Him, the unseen is witnessed. And for Him, the secret is manifest. No secret is hidden from Him. Allāh the Almighty sees, from above seven heavens, the crawling of a black ant on a dull black rock on a dark night. And He the Almighty sees every one of its parts and its smallest features. His knowledge encompasses everything. And He keeps account of all things by numbers.

Be conscious of Allāh wherever you are by placing between you and what you fear from Allāh's wrath and punishment a precautionary measure that safeguards you. And this is only done by carrying out Allāh's commands and refraining from His prohibitions. For this reason, perhaps the best of what defines consciousness of Allāh is the words of Ṭalq bin Ḥabib, may Allāh have mercy on him, who said that consciousness of Allāh is to act in obedience of Allāh upon light from Allāh, hoping for Allāh's reward and to leave disobedience of Allāh upon light from Allāh fearing Allāh's punishment.

No matter how guarded and how great the believer's desire to realize consciousness of Allāh, he will fall into some misdeeds and sins. So the Prophet ﷺ said:

كُلُّ بَنِي آدَمَ خَطَّاءٌ وَخَيْرُ الْخَطَّائِينَ التَّوَّابُونَ

All the children of Adam are sinners, and the best sinners are those who repent. [Tirmithi (2499) Sunan Ibn Majah (4251), Grade: Ḥasan]

Since the affair of the believer is like that, the Prophet ﷺ said advising:

وَأَتْبِعِ السَّيِّئَةَ الْحَسَنَةَ تَمْحُهَا

And follow a bad deed with a good deed and it will erase it.

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So look at this great favor and blessing from the Lord, the Creator. For the sins erase the bad deeds.

And follow a bad deed with a good deed and it will erase it.

And this is the meaning of Allāh's words in the Noble Qurān:

أَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ طَرَفِي النَّهَارِ وَزُلْفًا مِنَ اللَّيْلِ إِنَّ الْحَسَنَاتِ يُذْهِبْنَ السَّيِّئَاتِ ذَلِكَ ذِكْرَى
لِلَّذَاكِرِينَ-هود: 114

Hud (11) 114: And establish prayer at the two ends of the day and at the approach of the night. Indeed, good deeds do away with misdeeds. That is a reminder for those who remember.

It was narrated from Ibn Mas'ud that a man came to the Prophet ﷺ asking about the expiation of kissing a woman who was not lawful for him. Then Allāh revealed the verse:

أَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ طَرَفِي النَّهَارِ وَزُلْفًا مِنَ اللَّيْلِ إِنَّ الْحَسَنَاتِ يُذْهِبْنَ السَّيِّئَاتِ ذَلِكَ ذِكْرَى لِلَّذَاكِرِينَ ،
فَقَالَ الرَّجُلُ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ أَلِي هَذَا؟ قَالَ: لِكُلِّمِجِ أُمَّتِي كُلِّهِمْ.

Hud (11) 114: And establish prayer at the two ends of the day and at the approach of the night. Indeed, good deeds do away with misdeeds. That is a reminder for those who remember. The man said, O Messenger of Allāh, is this (the Verse) just for me? He said: It is for all my community. [Bukharī (526), Muslim (4687)]

So following a bad deed with a good deed erases it. And this is from Allāh's great favor. For this reason, the believer should be eager, persistent and diligent in performing many good deeds and acts of obedience. Because they, by the permission of Allāh, do away with the misdeeds. And the greatest of good deeds that erases bad deeds is repentance. For repentance is a great act of obedience. And the accepted

repentance removes all that is before it. And Allāh accepts the repentance of those who repent no matter how great the sin and how big the misdeed. For whoever repents, Allāh accepts his repentance. Allāh Almighty said:

قُلْ يَا عِبَادِيَ الَّذِينَ أَسْرَفُوا عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِهِمْ لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِن رَّحْمَةِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا-

الزمر: 53

Az Zumar (39) 53: Say, "O My servants who have transgressed against themselves [by sinning], do not despair of the mercy of Allāh. Indeed, Allāh forgives all sins.

That is repent to Allāh and turn to Him, for he forgives the sins no matter how great. For there is no sin too big for him to forgive, and there is no request too big for Him to fulfill. For He is the Forgiving, the Merciful, the Most Generous. For that reason, attention to the good deeds is a great matter and noble aim so that they do away with the sins, raise the ranks and raise one's status in this world and in the hereafter.

And good deeds are purification from the filth and dirt of sins. Ibn Qayim, may Allāh forgive him, said that in this worldly life there are three rivers that purify whoever cleanses in them, and they are the erasing good deeds and the genuine repentance and the expiating afflictions. So whoever cleanses through them in this worldly life will be purified by them. Or otherwise, Allāh will purify them on the Day of Resurrection in the river of Hell. We ask Allāh for relief from that.

And in this hadith narrated by Abu Dhar, may Allāh be pleased with him, the Prophet ﷺ clarified how the dealings between people should be by saying:

وَخَالِقِ النَّاسِ بِخُلُقِ حَسَنِ

And treat people well with good character.

That is, treat them with good treatment, high character and generous manners. And the standard for that and the entirety of it is to treat people in a manner that you would like them to treat you. For this is the entirety of good character. For that reason the Prophet ﷺ said:

لَا يُؤْمِنُ أَحَدُكُمْ حَتَّىٰ يُحِبَّ لِأَخِيهِ مَا يُحِبُّ لِنَفْسِهِ

None of you believes until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself. [Jami` at-Tirmidhi (2515), Grade: Saḥih]

So consider the way that you would like to be treated and treat others in that manner. For this is the summation of good character. For none of us wants to be treated with rudeness and roughness. And none of us is willing to be cheated, betrayed or tricked. And none of us wants to be treated with lies, deceit, and the like. So good character is to not want something for people that you do not want for yourself. And for this reason, some scholars said in defining good character that is refraining from harming and generous giving. Refraining from harming people by not harming or injuring them in any way. Not injuring them by words or actions. And generous giving by using good phrases and beautiful words and good treatment that you would like to receive.

And the closest people on the Day of Resurrection in rank to the Prophet ﷺ are those with the best of character. The Prophet ﷺ said:

إِنَّمَا بُعِثْتُ لِأَتَمِّمَ صَالِحَ الْأَخْلَاقِ

I was sent to perfect good character. [The Authentic Series (Albani) 45, Grade Saḥih]

And the Prophet ﷺ said:

خَيْرُكُمْ خَيْرُكُمْ لِأَهْلِهِ وَأَنَا خَيْرُكُمْ لِأَهْلِي

The best of you is the best to his family, and I am the best to my family.

[Ṣaḥīḥ Al Tirmithī (Albani) 3895, Grade Ṣaḥīḥ]

And there are many Hadiths with this meaning.

أَقُولُ مَا تَسْمَعُونَ وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

I say what you have heard and I seek forgiveness from Allah for me and you from every sin. So seek forgiveness from Him, Verily He is Oft-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Second Khutbah

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ، وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

All praise is to Allah, and peace and blessings upon the Messenger of Allah, and I bear witness that there is no deity other than Allah and I bear witness that Mohammad is His slave and messenger.

Oh people:

Be conscious of Allāh. For consciousness of Allāh is the instruction of Allāh to the first and last of His creation. Allāh Almighty said:

وَلَقَدْ وَصَّيْنَا الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ وَإِيَّاكُمْ أَنْ اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ-النساء: 131

An Nisa (4) 131: And We have instructed those who were given the Scripture before you and yourselves to be conscious of Allāh.

And it is the instruction of the Prophet ﷺ to his community. And it is the instruction of the righteous predecessors to one another. And when a man told the Leader of the Faithful ‘Umar bin Al Khaṭāb, may Allāh be pleased

with him, to be conscious of Allāh. He replied, there is no good in you if you do not say that. And there is no good in us if we do not accept that. And the consciousness of Allāh is the best thing to live with in this worldly life. And consciousness of Allāh is the best provision for the Day of Resurrection. Allāh Almighty said:

وَتَزَوَّدُوا فَإِنَّ خَيْرَ الزَّادِ التَّقْوَى-البقرة 197

Al Baqarah (2) 197: **And take provisions, but indeed, the best provision is consciousness of Allāh.**

We ask Allāh Almighty to grant us consciousness of Allāh in private and in public. And to favor us with a genuine repentance. And to guide us to performing good deeds and acts of obedience. Indeed Allāh is All Hearing Answering.

هَذَا وَصَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى نَبِيِّكُمْ كَمَا أَمَرَكُمْ بِذَلِكَ رَبُّكُمْ , فَقَالَ

I conclude with this and send prayers of blessings and peace upon your Prophet as your Lord commanded:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا

Al Ahzaab (33) 56: Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace.

اللَّهُمَّ اهْدِنَا فِيمَنْ هَدَيْتَ وَعَافِنَا فِيمَنْ عَافَيْتَ وَتَوَلَّنَا فِيمَنْ تَوَلَّيْتَ وَبَارِكْ لَنَا فِيمَا
أَعْطَيْتَ وَقِنَا شَرَّ مَا قَضَيْتَ إِنَّكَ تَقْضِي وَلَا يُقْضَى عَلَيْكَ وَإِنَّهُ لَا يَذُلُّ مَنْ وَالَيْتَ
تَبَارَكْتَ رَبَّنَا وَتَعَالَيْتَ

O Allah, guide us with those whom You have guided, grant us well-being among those You have granted well-being, be an ally to us along with those whom You are an ally to, and bless what You have bestowed upon us, and save us from the evil of what You have decreed. For verily You decree and none can decree over You. He whom You support can never be humiliated. Glory is to You, our Lord, You are Blessed and Exalted.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ مِنَ الْخَيْرِ كُلِّهِ عَاجِلِهِ وَآجِلِهِ مَا عَلِمْنَا مِنْهُ وَمَا لَمْ نَعْلَمْ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ الشَّرِّ كُلِّهِ عَاجِلِهِ وَآجِلِهِ مَا عَلِمْنَا مِنْهُ وَمَا لَمْ نَعْلَمْ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ خَيْرِ مَا سَأَلَكَ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا عَاذَ بِهِ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ الْجَنَّةَ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَسْأَلُكَ أَنْ تَجْعَلَ كُلَّ قَضَاءٍ قَضَيْتَهُ لَنَا خَيْرًا

O Allah, We ask You for all that is good, in this world and in the Hereafter, what we know and what we do not know. O Allah, we seek refuge with You from all evil, in this world and in the Hereafter, what we know and what we do not know. O Allah, we ask You for the good that Your servant and Prophet has asked You for, and we seek refuge with You from the evil from which Your servant and Prophet sought refuge. O Allah, we ask You for Paradise and for that which brings one closer to it, in word and deed, and we seek refuge in You from Hell and from that which brings one closer to it, in word and deed. And we ask You to make every decree that You decree concerning us good.

عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى وَيَنْهَى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ
وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ، يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ

Servants of Allah. Indeed, Allah orders justice and good conduct and giving to relatives and forbids immorality and bad conduct and oppression. He admonishes you that perhaps you will be reminded.

أذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا يَزِدْكُمْ وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا يُغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاتَّقُوا يَجْعَلْ
لَكُمْ مِنْ أَمْرِكُمْ مَخْرَجًا ، وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ

Remember Allah, the Great - He will remember you. Thank Him for His favors - He will increase you therein. And seek forgiveness from Him - He will forgive you. And be conscious of Him - He will provide you a way out of difficult matters. And, establish the prayer.