



وَمَا كَانَ لِمُؤْمِنٍ وَلَا لِمُؤْمِنَةٍ إِذَا قَضَى اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَمْرًا أَنْ يَكُونَ لَهُمُ

الْخَيْرَةُ مِنْ أَمْرِهِمْ وَمَنْ يَعْصِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ ضَلَّ ضَلَالًا مُبِينًا.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

إِنْ أَصْلَقَ الْحَدِيثِ كِتَابُ اللَّهِ وَأَحْسَنَ الْهَدْيِ هَدْيِي مُحَمَّدٍ.

ISLAM COMMANDS US TO LIVE AS WE BELIEVE

Dear Muslims!

In the verse I have recited, Allah the Almighty states as follows: **“It is not for a believing man or woman—when Allah and His Messenger decree a matter—to have any other choice in that matter. Indeed, whoever disobeys Allah and His Messenger has clearly gone ‘far’ astray.”**¹

In the hadith I have read, the Prophet Muhammad (saw) says, **“The best discourse is Allah’s Book. The best guidance is that given by Muhammad (saw).”**²

Dear Believers!

According to our noble religion, Islam, the path that will lead a person to the truest, the best, and the most beautiful is the straight path shown by the Qur’an and the Sunnah. There is no other way that ensures a person’s peace and security. According to Islam, the owner of the religion is Allah. He (swt) is the One Who determines what and how we should believe and shows us the path that leads to happiness. As the two primary sources of Islam, the Qur’an and the Sunnah are inseparable. The authority to make rulings on any matter belongs to Allah and to the Messenger of Allah, to the extent that Allah permits. No one can consider his or her own opinions, thoughts, and ideologies to be superior to or more valuable than the rulings established by Allah and His Messenger. One cannot choose to accept some of these rulings and reject others according to his or her own opinion.

Dear Muslims!

The indicator of our submission to Allah is our faith (iman). Our acts of worship sustain our faith; and it is our good manners that complete it. Therefore, let us perform our acts of worship sincerely, bringing tranquility to our hearts, peace to

our souls, and blessings to our lives. Let us meticulously adhere to the halal (permissible) and haram (forbidden) boundaries prescribed by Islam. Let us strive to reflect Islamic ethics in all our words, attitudes, and behaviors.

Dear Believers!

When we abide by the principles set forth by Islam in every aspect of our lives, from family life to business dealings, from what we eat and drink to how we dress, we fulfill our duties to ourselves, our Lord (swt), and those around us. Therefore, we should uphold the rights of our spouses, children, parents, relatives, and neighbors. We should observe the sensitivity of halal in our trade, and not resort to what is haram in pursuit of greater profit. We should not victimize anyone with exorbitant price increases. We should stay away from practices such as usury, black marketeering, and hoarding, which are pieces of the fire of Hell. We should always embrace virtues such as justice, kindness, mercy, and honesty. We should further strengthen our unity, solidarity, and brotherhood. We should avoid all kinds of evils such as lying, gossiping, backbiting, slander, as well as immoral practices such as alcohol, gambling, adultery, and bribery. We should refrain from sins that nullify our good deeds, such as arrogance, hypocrisy, ostentation, and oppression, and we should also avoid violating the rights of individuals and the public, which incur significant accountability before Allah. We should gently remind, advise, and warn our children, families, relatives, neighbors, friends, and loved ones in a proper manner regarding all these matters. Because Allah the Almighty states,

“But ‘continue to’ remind.

For certainly reminders benefit the believers.”³

Then, peace will reign in our homes, prosperity will bless our incomes, and serenity will prevail in our community.

I would like to conclude the khutbah with the following supplication of the Prophet Muhammad (saw): **“O Changer of**

the hearts! Make my heart firm upon Your religion.”⁴

¹ Ahzab, 33/36.

² Nasa’i, ‘Eidayn, 22.

³ Dhariyat, 51/55.

⁴ Tirmidhi, Da’awat, 89.