

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ وَأَخْشَوْا يَوْمًا لَا يَجْزِي وَالِدٌ عَنْ
وَلَدِهِ وَلَا مَوْلُودٌ هُوَ جَارٍ عَنِ وَالِدِهِ شَيْئًا...
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
أَكْثَرُهُمْ لِلْمَوْتِ ذِكْرًا وَأَحْسَنُهُمْ لِمَا بَعْدَهُ اسْتِعْدَادًا أَوْلَيْكَ
الْأَكْيَاسُ.

JUDGMENT DAY AND SENSE OF GIVING AN ACCOUNT

Honorable Muslims!

One day, a companion from the Ansar came, greeted our Prophet (saw), and said, “O Messenger of Allah! Which of the believers is best?” Our Prophet (saw) replied, “**The one who has the best manners among them.**” The companion asked again, “Which of them is wisest?” Thereupon, the Gracious Prophet (saw) said, “**The wisest is the one who remembers death the most and is best in preparing for it.**”¹

Dear Believers!

Allah the Almighty has bestowed two lives upon human. The first one is the world of trial in which we live. Upon death, life in this world ends and the afterlife begins. Death never means the end of existence; rather, it is the first gateway to eternal life. Death is a passage from which there is no return. After that time, it will no longer be possible to return to the world and do good deeds, no matter how much one wishes to do so. In this respect, it is stated in the Holy Qur’an as follows: “**When death comes to one of them, he says, ‘My Lord! Send me back that I might do righteousness in that which I left behind.’ No! It is only a word he is saying...**”²

Dear Muslims!

The Hour will come, the life we live in this world will come to an end and, the eternal afterlife will start. People will rise from the dead, gather at the place of resurrection, and the trial balance will be set up through the will of the divine might. That day is the day of reckoning.

On that day, all intentions and deeds, whether implicit or explicit, good or evil, will be disclosed and all humanity will hear the following address:

إِقْرَأْ كِتَابَكَ كَفَىٰ بِنَفْسِكَ الْيَوْمَ عَلَيْكَ حَسِيبًا

“Read your record! Sufficient is yourself against you this Day as accountant!”³

On that day, our mouth will be muted, and instead our limbs will speak. Our Lord (swt) informs us of this truth as follows:

الْيَوْمَ نَخِيمُ عَلَىٰ أَفْوَاهِهِمْ وَتُكَلِّمُنَا أَيْدِيهِمْ وَتَشْهَدُ أَرْجُلُهُمْ بِمَا كَانُوا يَكْسِبُونَ

“That Day, We will seal over their mouths, and their hands will speak to Us, and their feet will testify about what they used to earn.”⁴

That day, no one will be oppressed, but only get their reward for what they have done. No one shall move until they are asked about their life and what they did with it, about their youth and what they wore it out in, about their wealth and how they earned it and spent it upon, and what they did with what they knew.⁵

Dear Believers!

What suits a believer who believes in Allah and in the Judgment Day is to review their own accounts before they are brought into account. Believers should view this world not as a place of play and fun, but as a place to obtain the pleasure of our Lord (swt). We should never deviate from the perfectly straight path of Islam, from the guidance of the Holy Qur’an, and from our Prophet’s (saw) sunnah. We need to scrupulously obey the limits established by Allah (swt) and to observe the dividing line between halal and haram. We should also stay away from tendencies and behaviors that disturb human nature, from alcohol and addiction that dull the mind, from fornication and immorality that corrupt families and the society, and from gambling that destroys homes. We shouldn’t forget that every deed is being recorded and we will give an account for all our deeds when the day comes. I would like to conclude this Friday’s khutbah with the following verse: “**O humankind! Fear your Lord. Fear a Day when no father will avail his son, nor will a son avail his father at all. Indeed, the promise of Allah is truth. So let not the worldly life delude you.**”⁶

¹ Ibn Majah, Zuhd, 31.

² Mu’minun, 23/99-100.

³ Isra, 17/14.

⁴ Ya-Sin, 36/65.

⁵ Tirmidhi, Sifat al-Qiyamah, 1.

⁶ Luqman, 31/33.