

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
أَيَحْسَبُ الْإِنْسَانُ أَنْ يُتْرَكَ سُدًى.
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
...إِنَّ أَحَبَّ الْعَمَلِ إِلَى اللَّهِ أَذْوَمُهُ وَإِنْ قَلَّ.

PEOPLE ATTAIN TRANQUILITY THROUGH WORSHIP

Honorable Muslims!

Every being in the universe has been created for a specific purpose. Among all beings, human beings, endowed with reason and free will, hold a distinguished position and have been sent to this world for a noble purpose. Allah the Almighty has informed us of this matter with the verse: **“Do people think they will be left without purpose?”**¹

Dear Believers!

Worship is to observe the commands and prohibitions of Islam with sincere intention. It is to show gratitude for the countless blessings bestowed by our Almighty Lord. Worship is the manifestation of faith in one's life. It is a shield that protects people from evil and a guide that leads to tranquility and happiness.

Esteemed Muslims!

Acts of worship bring goodness and benevolence not only to the individual but to the entire society. Indeed, prayer protects a person from indecency, sins, and wrongdoing. However, if a believer continues to violate the commands and prohibitions of Allah the Almighty, and causes harm to their family, neighbors, and others despite performing prayer, they must review the sincerity of their prayers. Zakat reminds a person to share, to support those in need, and to purify oneself from miserliness and laziness. Muslims who do not distance themselves from selfishness, miserliness, greed, envy, wastefulness, usury, pride, and arrogance have not truly grasped the essence of zakat. If Hajj reminds people that they are equal before Allah the Almighty like the teeth of a comb, and brings to mind tawhid and unity of Allah, divine knowledge and wisdom, the Day of Gathering, and the Reckoning, then its purpose has

been fulfilled. Fasting teaches people piety and patience. If believers persist in lying, backbiting and gossip, and in violating the rights of individuals and the public, then, as indicated in the hadith, they are left with nothing from their fast except hunger and thirst.²

Dear Believers!

Acts of worship are not limited to a specific time or place. Spreading love, respect, compassion, and mercy among ourselves, and striving to establish goodness upon the earth, are also forms of worship. Fulfilling our responsibilities toward family members, treating them with compassion and mercy, and bringing joy to orphans and those in need are also acts of worship. Earning our livelihood through halal means and spending it in halal ways are also acts of worship. Working and being productive, being beneficial to our country, our nation, and all of humanity, are also acts of worship. Even removing a small obstacle from the road that causes harm to others is an act of worship.

Dear Muslims!

For Muslims, a life without worship is unimaginable. Worshipping our Almighty Lord, Who declares, **“Say, ‘O Prophet,’ ‘You ‘all’ would not ‘even’ matter to my Lord were it not for your faith ‘in Him’.”**³, seeking His pleasure and attaining His love is the greatest of all gains for us. In accordance with the hadith of the Noble Messenger (saw), **“...The most beloved deeds to Allah are those that are consistent, even if small,”**⁴ how valuable a gain it is to make our lifetime meaningful through acts of worship and righteous deeds, and in return, to attain the abode of the Hereafter. Instilling the habit of worship in our children with a smiling face and gentle speech is the most precious legacy we can leave them.

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with our Prophet's (saw) following supplication: **“O Allah! Help me to remember You, to give thanks to You, and to worship You in the best manner!”**⁵

¹ Qiyamah, 75/36.

² Bukhari, Sawm, 8; Ibn Majah, Siyam, 21.

³ Furqan, 25/77.

⁴ Abu Dawud, Tawawwu', 27.

⁵ Abu Dawud, Witr, 26; Nasa'i, Sahw, 60.

