

Date: 10.11.2023

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ إِنَّا لَا نُضِيعُ أَجْرَ مَنْ أَحْسَنَ عَمَلًا.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَعَالَى يُحِبُّ إِذَا عَمِلَ أَحَدُكُمْ عَمَلًا أَنْ يُتَّقِنَهُ.

TO BE A BELIEVER WITH RESOLVE AND DILIGENCE

Honorable Muslims!

Our Prophet (saw) called on all humanity to believe in Allah (swt), Who is one, and worship Him alone. His call was not welcomed by the polytheists of Mecca. Worse, they turned against him (saw) and showed hostility to him. They subjected him to all kinds of cruelty and oppression. The Messenger of Allah (saw), however, persevered in his cause without faltering. He never lost his faith, resolve, or diligence. Because he had a cause. That cause was to remind human beings, the most valuable creature on earth, that they had not been left alone and that they had responsibilities.

Dear Believers!

The main reason for the troubles Muslims face today is that they cannot show enough resolve and efforts for the cause they believe in. It is also because they fail to attach the necessary importance to ethical, honest, principled and disciplined working habits for their cause. Our beloved Prophet (saw) says, “**Verily, Allah the Almighty loves for you to perfect a good deed when you perform it.**”¹

Dear Muslims!

As the ‘ummah of our beloved Prophet (saw), it is our duty to be believers with resolve and diligence for the cause of Islam. Resolve is the determination to adhere to the life-giving messages of Islam. It is the pursuit of the good and the beautiful through sincere intention. It is also the will to keep morale high and hope alive despite all difficulties. Diligence, on the other hand, is the pursuit of bringing to life what one has resolve for. It is the walk to the goal with patience after holding on to all material and spiritual means. It is always striving for the spread of good and benevolence. It is the ability to remain good and to make the good prevail despite the evil of the evil ones. It is not to deviate from the right and truth despite the oppression of the oppressors. It is never to be discouraged on this path and never to show weakness.

Dear Believers!

The Prophet Muhammad (saw) says, “**Allah does not like negligence and laxity.**”² For this reason, Muslims must never become lazy or complacent at any point in their life. They should not quit or give up the struggle. Being carefree, indifferent, and indolent do not befit believers. Muslims stay away from being lazy. They know that there is no gain without work, and there is no success without effort and the sweat of one’s brow.

Honorable Muslims!

One of our Prophet’s (saw) supplications is as follows: “**O Allah! I seek refuge with You from incapacity and laziness.**”³ As believers who wholeheartedly say “Amin!” to this supplication of the Prophet (saw), we are the ones who will save humanity from injustice and oppression with our resolve and diligence. We are the ones who will work for the peace and tranquility of humanity with the power we derive from our faith. With our resolve, diligence and efforts, the faces of all the oppressed, especially our brothers and sisters in Palestine, will smile, and sadness will be replaced by joy. It is because our faith imposes this duty on us; humanity expects it of us; and our history urges us to do it.

So, Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Let us intensify our efforts in the light of knowledge, wisdom, and science. Let us fulfill our responsibilities for the betterment of the world and the building of a secure future. Let us be diligent in everything we do, and let us strive to do the most sound, the most accurate, and the most beautiful of it. In fact, our glorious ancestors, revered martyrs and heroic veterans have made every effort to make these lands our homeland. They have achieved many successes. We commemorate each of them with mercy and gratitude. May their resting place be heaven, and their ranks high. Let us not forget that our Lord (swt) will never waste the efforts of any of His servants who work with resolve and diligence.

I would like to conclude this Friday’s khutbah with the meaning of Verse 30 of Surah al-Kahf, “**As for those who believe and do good, We certainly never deny the reward of those who are best in deeds.**”⁴

¹ Bayhaqi, Shu‘ab al-Iman, 4/334.

² Abu Dawud, Aqdiyyah, 28.

³ Muslim, Dhikr, 73.

⁴ Kahf, 18/30.