

On fear of Allah the Almighty

First Sermon

All praise is due to Allah. To His Supreme Dominance all the faces are humbled, to His Sublime Status all the foreheads are submitted, and for fear of Him all the eyes are filled with tears. I bear witness that there is no deity save Allah, having no associates. I also bear witness that our Master Muhammad is the Servant of Allah and His Messenger. He is the Imam of the pious. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, his pure blessed family and companions, and all those who follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

As to what follows,

I urge you, **O servants of Allah**, and myself to be aware that you are asked to obey Him, the Most Exalted, in line with His orders: “**and fear Allah and know that you will meet Him. And give good tidings to the believers.**” (Al-Baqara: ٢٢٣).

Dear Muslims,

Please know that fear of Allah, the Almighty, is a great principle of Islam to which a lofty status has been attributed. Allah, the Most Exalted, orders us to fear him as evidenced in this Aya, “**and be afraid of [only] Me.**” (Al-Baqara: ٤٠). Obedience to Allah is the fruit of piety. It was narrated that Urwa ibn Az-Zubai said in this regard, “Piety is to fear Allah.” Amongst the great merits of being conscious of Allah is that it is conducive to guide Muslims to perfect their actions and be devoted to good deeds. It was narrated that a man once asked the Prophet pbuh, “O Allah's Messenger pbuh! What is Ihsan (i.e. perfection or Benevolence)?” He pbuh said, “Ihsan is to worship Allah as if you see Him, and if you do not achieve this state of devotion, then (take it for granted that) Allah sees you.”

On the same matter, one of the righteous ancestors said, “When Allah, the Most Gracious, wants good for His servant, He guides his heart to righteousness so that he fears Him unseen.” Allah, the Exalted is He, praises those who are mindful of Him even when they are unseen. He says, “**who fear their Lord unseen, while they are of the Hour apprehensive.**” (Al-Anbiyaa: ٤٩). That is: those who fear Allah in their hearts and when they are alone with themselves. Those are worried about the Day of Judgment and, hence, they prepare for it by being as much obedient to Allah as could be.

Glad tidings, then, to those who achieve such a state of devotion for they will, by Allah’s favour, attain His forgiveness and rewards. The Most Sublime says, “**indeed, those who fear their Lord unseen will have forgiveness and great reward.**” (Al-Mulk: ١٢).

Amongst the great rewards that they will reap is that Allah, the Most High, will protect them under His shade on the Day of Resurrection. In the following Hadith, the Messenger of Allah pbuh mentions seven types of people those who will gain such gracious status and find refuge with Allah. Those combine the qualities of fear of Allah, consciousness of Him and being devoted to His obedience. He pbuh said, “Seven (people) will be shaded by Allah by His Shade on the Day of Resurrection when there will be no shade except His Shade. (They will be), ...a young man who has been brought up in the worship of Allah, a man whose heart is attached to mosques (offers his compulsory congregational prayers in the mosque), a man who gives in charity so secretly that his left hand does not know what his right hand has given, a man who remembers Allah in seclusion and his eyes are then flooded with tears, and (finally) a man who is called by a charming lady of noble birth to commit illegal sexual intercourse with her, and he says, ‘I am afraid of Allah’.”

All of those people possess the qualities that Allah, the Almighty, praised in this Aya, **“but as for he who feared the position of his Lord and prevented the soul from [unlawful] inclination. Then indeed, Paradise will be [his] refuge.”** (An-Naziat: ٤١-٤١).

Thus, those who obey Allah and are mindful of the things that He has banned, will, by His grace, win Paradise as their perpetual dwelling as per Allah’s promise to them. The Almighty says, **“and Paradise will be brought near to the righteous, not far. [It will be said], ‘This is what you were promised - for every returner [to Allah] and keeper [of His covenant]. Who feared the Most Merciful unseen and came with a heart returning [in repentance]. Enter it in peace. This is the Day of Eternity.’ They will have whatever they wish therein, and with Us is more.”** (Qaf: ٣١-٣٥).

Indeed, obedience to Allah and fearing Him are one’s path for cherishing the eternal blessings of Paradise. About them, the Almighty says, **“and they will approach one another, inquiring of each other. They will say, ‘Indeed, we were previously among our people fearful [of displeasing Allah]. So Allah conferred favour upon us and protected us from the punishment of the Scorching Fire’.”** (At-Toor: ٢٥-٢٧).

That is: we feared Allah in this world, were conscious of His punishment and devoted to His obedience. Thus, Allah, the Almighty, bestowed upon us His favour and protected us from the punishment we have feared of.

Therefore, whoever is mindful of Allah in this world, he will get refuge with Him at the Day of Judgment. When the Prophet pbuh talked to people about Allah, the Most Exalted, he said, **“Allah says, ‘by My Might, I shall not bring two fears together upon a servant, nor shall I bring together two securities upon him. If he fears me in this world, he shall have no fear in the next; and if he feels secure from me in this world, then he shall have no security in the next’.”**

It is, then, a great success for those who fear their Lord and attain the great reward that Allah promises when he says, **“their reward with Allah will be gardens of perpetual residence beneath which rivers flow, wherein they will abide forever, Allah being pleased with them and they with Him. That is for whoever has feared his Lord.”** (Al-Bayyina: ٨).

O Servants of Allah,

Being conscious of Allah is conducive to boost our self-observation in our private and public matters, at work and in our dealings and relationships with one another. Allah, the Almighty, emphasised in many places in the Quran the need for His servants to be mindful of their actions always. This way, they will be aware of all their inner desires and whims and thereby control them. Allah says, **“and know that Allah knows what is within yourselves, so beware of Him.”** (Al-Baqara: ٢٣٥). He also says, **“indeed Allah is ever, over you, an Observer.”** (An-Nisaa: ١).

Those who observe themselves will also reflect on and understand Allah’s saying, **“and He is with you wherever you are. And Allah , of what you do, is Seeing.”** (Al-Hadid: ٤). This means that Allah is watching over you always and seeing what you do. He equally knows all that His servants do. He hears what they say and sees where they are. He is well acquainted about their secrets and private conversations.

Thus, being heedful of Allah will, definitely, urge us to seek perfection in all our affairs. As such, we will only say and do all that earns us Allah’s satisfaction and benefits us in this world and the next. This is because we will be wide aware that Allah, the Most Exalted **“knows that which deceives the eyes and what the breasts conceal.”** (Ghafir: ١٩).

One of the righteous people said in this regard, “Make a pact with yourself in three (areas): when you do something, remember that Allah sees you, and when you speak, remember that Allah hears you, and when you are silent, remember

Allah's knowledge of your inner (thoughts, feelings and being).”

With this in mind, we beseech Allah to guide us all to obey You and obey Your Messenger Muhammad pbuh and obey those You have commanded us to obey in line with Your orders: “**O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you.**” (An-Nisaa: ٥٩).

May Allah direct us all to the blessings of the Glorious Quran and the Sunna of His Messenger pbuh.

I say this and ask Allah for forgiveness for me and you, so invoke Him for forgiveness, for He is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Second Sermon

All praise is due to Allah, the Lords of the Worlds. I bear witness that there is no deity save Allah, having no associates. I also bear witness that our Master Muhammad is the servant of Allah and His Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon our Master Muhammad, his pure family, companions, and all those who follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

As to what follows,

Please be aware, **O Servants of Allah that** you are asked to obey Allah and be steadfast on obeying Him, hoping for his sublime satisfaction. You should also strive to enroot the principle of fearing Allah and observing Him in the hearts and minds of you children, advising them the same way that Luqman Al Hakeem (the wise) advised his son. He said, “**O my son! Indeed if wrong should be the weight of a mustard seed and should be within a rock or [anywhere] in the heavens or in the earth, Allah will bring it forth. Indeed, Allah is Subtle and Acquainted.**” (Luqman: ١٦).

Truly, it is such a beneficial advice that people should follow. This is because, on the Day of Judgment, people will be accountable towards Allah, the Almighty, for all their acts,

good or evil. So whoever does an atom's weight of good will see it, and whoever does an atom's weight of evil will see it. The Most Compassionate says, **“and We place the scales of justice for the Day of Resurrection, so no soul will be treated unjustly at all. And if there is [even] the weight of a mustard seed, We will bring it forth. And sufficient are We as accountant.”** (Al-Anbiyaa: ٤٧).

Ultimately, when one observes his Lord, hoping for His mercy and fearing from His punishment, he will, by Allah’s favour, attain the great rewards that He promises in this Aya, **“but for he who has feared the position of his Lord are two gardens.”** (Ar-Rahman: ٤٦).

Let us, therefore, reflect and decide whether or not we are amongst those who fear Allah and are mindful of Him in words and deeds. Let us also think and decide if we are nurturing such values in the minds of our children or not.

That is said, please bear in mind that you are instructed to invoke peace and blessings on the Prophet pbuh. The Messenger of Allah pbuh said, “for everyone who invokes a blessing on me will receive ten blessings from Allah.”

O Allah, please confer Your blessings and grant peace upon our Prophet Muhammad pbuh, his family and all of the companions.

O Allah, we seek Your favour to make us amongst those who fear You and are devoted to Your obedience and accept our righteous acts, O Lord of the Words.

May Allah have mercy on the honourable martyrs of our country and those of the coalition and gather them with the righteous. May Allah make their dwelling with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favour of the prophets and the steadfast affirmers of truth, O the Most Gracious the Most Forgiving.

O Allah, please grant the best reward for the families of the martyrs and offer them patience and solace. May Allah grant

victory to the soldiers of the Arab Coalition who gathered to restore the rights to their owners. O Lord, please be by their side and guide the Yemeni people to everything that is good. O Allah, make them rally for the word of truth and legitimacy, and bless them with welfare and stability, O the Most Generous. May Allah be pleased with the Rightly Guided Caliphs: Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali, and all of the Companions.

O Allah, may we ask You for all that is good, in this world and in the Hereafter. O Allah, we seek Your grace to admit us, our parents, whoever has done a favour to us and all Muslims to Your Paradise.

May Allah grant success and continued health and care to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan. May Allah also ensure success to his Vice-President, trustworthy Crown Prince and his brothers, Their Highnesses the Rulers of the Emirates.

O Allah, please forgive all of the Muslims, men and women, living and dead. May Allah have mercy on Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the Late UAE Sheikhs. O Lord, forgive and show mercy on our parents, relatives and whoever has done a favour to us.

May Allah accept from all those who pay Zakat, compensate for them and bless their provisions.

O Allah, we pray to You to grant Your forgiveness and reward to who built this mosque and to his or her parents as well as to anyone who gave to this mosque.

O Allah, we also supplicate to You to forgive whoever built a mosque where Your name is remembered or donated a Waqf that goes for the best interest of Your servants or the benefit of their offspring.

O Allah, make this gathering one of compassion, and our dispersion after it one that is infallible. O Allah, do not let anyone amongst us be deprived or desperate.

We pray to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds, to protect the UAE against any of temptations, both apparent and hidden, and continue blessing the UAE with safety and security.

Our Lord, give us in this world that which is good and in the Hereafter that which is good, and save us from the torment of the Fire.

O 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.” (An-Nahl: ٩٠).

Remember Allah and He will remember you. Be grateful of His benevolence and He will increase His blessings to you. Allah says, **“and establish prayer. Indeed, prayer prohibits immorality and wrongdoing, and the remembrance of Allah is greater. And Allah knows that which you do.”** (Al-Ankaboot: ٤٥).