

PARADISE

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EDITORIAL

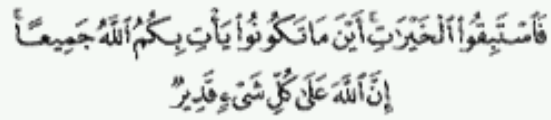
From *Al-Fawa'id*, pp 151-152

By: *Imam Ibn Al-Qayyim Al-Jawziyyah*

Your life in the present moment is in between the past and the future. So what has proceeded can be rectified by repentance, regret and seeking Allah's forgiveness. This is something that will neither tire you, nor cause you to toil as you would with strenuous labor. Rather it is an action of the heart. Then as regards the future, it can be corrected by withholding yourself from sins. And this abandonment is merely the leaving of something and to be at ease from it. This also is not action of the limbs, which requires you to strive and toil. Rather this is a firm resolve and intention of the heart - which will give rest to your body, heart and thoughts.

But then your attention must be directed to your life in the present, if you waste it, then you have wasted the opportunity to be of the fortunate and saved ones. If you look after it, then you will be successful and achieve rest, delight and ever-lasting bliss. However, looking after it is harder than that which comes before and after it, since guarding it involves keeping to that which is most befitting and beneficial for your soul, and that which will bring it success and well-being.

RACING TOWARDS GOODNESS



"For each there is a goal to which he is turned; then strive together (as in a race) towards all that is good. Wherever you are, Allah will bring you altogether. For Allah hath power over all things" 2-148

This verse came to direct the Muslim Ummah to not be worried and mislead by the claims of the unbelievers and hypocrites who have been trying to plant suspicion and uncertainty amongst the community of the believers. It is a direction from Allah (SWT) to the Muslim Ummah and a command to each Muslim to stand by their belief and have no doubts about the unique path and the special way that Allah (SWT) has prescribed for them.

It is telling the Muslims to be actively occupied and busy with what Allah (SWT) has ordained as good and to stay on the straight path without being diverted or paying attention to any of the false accusations or smear attacks that are spread by those who hate to see the Muslim Ummah prospering or even trying to succeed.

It is from Allah's wisdom to command us to strive, first together and then as in a race towards all that is good and blessed. To gain as much as we can of the goodness that pleases Allah (SWT) should be the ultimate goal that we all strive to achieve. The moment we get busy with that, all of our selfishness and ill feelings will vanish and there will be no time for rumors, backbiting, spying, and suspicious thoughts.

It is very clear from the verse that Allah (SWT) wants us to bear in mind and heart that what really counts on the Day when all of us are gathered in front of Him, is what good deeds we have done in our lives and He is going to reward us for them. To Him is our return and it is only He who has power over all things. By this, a Muslim should have peace of mind and his actions should be directed towards the pleasure of Allah without looking, or listening, or paying attention to those "road bumps" because after all who ever stays on the straight and clear path that Allah has laid down, will never be lost or mislead. May Allah always guide us all to His path and may Allah always give us the courage to admit our mistakes and ask for forgiveness.

Abu Omar

"The relationship of the believer with another believer is like (the bricks of) a building, each strengthens the other." The Prophet illustrated this by interlacing the fingers of both his hands. [Bukhari and Muslim]

Dawah Corner

Allah revealed the Qur'an, a beacon of light that cannot be extinguished. A methodology and way of life that is perfect in all respect. In it is strength that cannot be equaled or repelled. It is the foundation of Faith and the spring of knowledge. Allah Willed that the Qur'an be what quenches the thirst for knowledge. It is the delight of the people of wisdom. The Qur'an is the greatest cure for all ailments. The Qur'an is Allah's Rope that cannot be severed. It is the Wise reminder and the truly straight path. In the Qur'an are the parables of those who were before us, a prophesy of that which will be after us and a criterion to judge between us. It is Truth with certainty that was revealed to us. The one who lives according to its dictation will be **rewarded**. The one who judges according to it will be **just**. The one who calls to it is **on the straight path**. Allah raises and lowers people with it. The Qur'an, on the Day of Judgment, will intercede on behalf of those who recited it.

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "The one who reads a single letter from the Book of Allah will be rewarded with one Hasana (good deed). (Know that) A good deed is multiplied ten times over. I do not say Alif Lam Meem is one letter. Verily, Alif is on letter, Lam is one letter, Meem is one letter."

The Book of Allah to mankind's guidance, is like the soul in relation to the body. Therefore, he who abandons its recitation and does not act in accordance to its laws is in a state of spiritual death.

Allah, the Almighty, says:

"Is he who was dead (without Faith by ignorance and disbelief) and We gave him life (by Knowledge and Faith) and set for him a light (of Belief) whereby he can walk amongst men, like him who is in the darkness (of disbelief, polytheism and hypocrisy) from which he can never come out?" 6:122

A person without Qur'an is like a person without water, air and medicine. The Qur'an is a healing for the body and soul. Whenever life becomes hard and complicated the Light of the Qur'an will always brighten the way. It will be a source of solace and tranquility. It will be a defender to you when you are powerless and in need.

This Book was sent and revealed from above the seven Heavens so that it could be comprehended and implemented, it is not just to be recited while the heart is pre-occupied.

Allah says:

"(This is) a Book (Qur'an) which We have sent down to you, full of blessings that they may ponder over its Verses, and that men of understanding may remember." 38:29

He also says:

"Have they not pondered over the Word (of Allah) or has there come to them what had not come to their fathers of old?" 23:68

And

"Do they not then consider the Qur'an carefully? Had it been from other than Allah, they would surely have found therein much contradictions." 4:82

Don't forget your brothers and sisters in your prayers and your support.... Be one who cares... Send some money to express your love and compassion towards those who are suffering...

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

- c **Friday Halaqah at 7:00-8:30 p.m.:**
Two separate study circles for brothers and sisters.
- c **Sunday Halaqa at 10:00 a.m.:**
Qur'an and a general topic are discussed by the brothers.
- c **Qur'an Recitation Circle:**
Every night after Isha Prayer.
- c **Short Reminder:**
Every Monday and Wednesday after Isha Prayer.

Prayer Times at the Masjid

Fajr:	6:00 a.m.
Duhur:	12:15 p.m.
Asr:	3:00 p.m.
Maghrib:	Sunset
Isha:	7:30 p.m.
Jumu'a (Friday):	12:30 p.m.

"Allah will cover up on the Day of Resurrection the defects (faults) of the one who covers up the faults of the others in this world". [Muslim]



Muslimah...

HIC Sisters' Page
Editor: Sr. Zakiyyah Shakoore

A Woman Warrior in Islam

(Excerpted from the book 'The Ideal Muslimah' by Dr. Muhammad Ali Al Hashimi)

One of the most distinguished women who took part in the battle of Uhud, if not the most distinguished of them, was Nasibah bint Ka'b al-Maziniyyah, Umm 'Umarah (May Allah be pleased with her). At the beginning of the battle, she was bringing water and tending the wounded, as the other women were doing. When the battle was going in the favor of the Muslims, the archers disobeyed the command of the Prophet (saw), and this turned the victory into defeat, as the Qur'an described it:

**"Behold! You were climbing up the high ground, without even casting a side-glance at anyone,
And the Messenger in your rear was calling you back..." 3:153**

At this point, Nasibah went forward, with her sword unsheathed and her bow in her hand, to join the small group who were standing firm with the Prophet (saw), acting as a human shield to protect him from the arrows of the Mushrikin. Every time danger approached the Prophet (saw) she hastened to protect him. The Messenger of Allah (saw) noticed this, and later said, "Wherever I turned, to the left or the right, I saw her fighting for me." Her son 'Umarah also described what happened on that tremendous day: "On that day, I was wounded in my left hand. A man, who seemed to be as tall as a palm-tree struck me, then went away without pursuing me to finish me off. The blood began to flow copiously, so the Messenger of Allah (saw) told me, 'Bind up your wound.' My mother came to me, and she was wearing a waist-wrapper, which she had brought, for the purpose of wrapping wounds. She dressed my wound, whilst the Prophet (saw) was looking on. Then she told me, 'Get up, my son, and fight the people.'

The Prophet (saw) said, 'Who could bear what you are putting up with, O Umm 'Umarah?' She said: The man who had struck my son came by, and the Messenger of Allah (saw) said, 'This is the one who struck your son.' I intercepted him and hit him in the thigh, and he collapsed. I saw the Messenger of Allah (saw) smiling so broadly that I could see his back teeth. He (saw) said, 'You have taken your revenge, O Umm 'Umarah!' Then we struck him with our weapons until we killed him, and the Prophet (saw) said: 'Praise be to Allah (SWT), who granted you victory over him, gave you the satisfaction of taking revenge on your enemy, and let you see the vengeance for yourself.'" On this day, Nasibah herself received many wounds whilst she was fighting the people and striking their chests. The Prophet (saw) saw her, and called to her son, "Your mother! Your mother! See to her wounds, may Allah (SWT) bless you and your household! Your mother has fought better than so-and-so." When his mother heard what the Prophet (saw) said, she said, "Pray to Allah (SWT) that we may accompany you in Paradise." He said, "O Allah (SWT), make them my companions in Paradise." She said, "I do not care what befalls me in this world."

Umm 'Umarah's jihad was not confined to the battle of Uhud. She was also present on a number of other occasions, namely the treaty of 'Aqabah, Al-Hudaybiyah, Khaybar and Hunayn. Her heroic conduct at Hunayn was no less marvelous than her heroic conduct at Uhud. At the time of Abu Bakr's caliphate, she was present at Al-Yamamah where she fought brilliantly and received eleven wounds as well as losing her hand. It is no surprise that the Prophet (saw) gave her the good news that she would enter Paradise, and that she was later held in high esteem by the Khalifah Abu Bakr Al-Siddiq and his commander Khalid ibn Al-Walid and then by 'Umar ibn al-Khattab.

"It is He who sent to an illiterate people a messenger from amongst themselves, reciting to them His signs and purifying them and teaching them the Book and the wisdom even though before they were clearly in error." [Qur'an 62:2]

Selected Islamic Web Sites

c www.alminbar.net

Your source of hundreds of Friday *Khutbas* in Arabic. It provides both audio and written speeches of prominent Muslim scholars.

c www.al-sunnah.com

"A good site for Muslims. A great site for non-Muslims". It provides a lot of Islamic information in English and has links in many other languages.

Have you visited us Lately ??
www.huntsvilleislamiccenter.org

February Monthly Dinner
 Saturday
 February 3, 2001
 6:00 p.m.

From the Prophet's Last Sermon:

"All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over black nor a black has any superiority over white except by piety and good action.

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 1645 SPARKMAN DRIVE . HUNTSVILLE, AL 35816 . (256) 721-1712

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 Huntsville, AL 35816