

Recompense Is According To Deeds, So Each Person Reaps What He Sows: **Happiness And Sadness Are Connected To Your Deeds**

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And all praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the worlds. And may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon the Messenger, his family, his Companions and true followers.

It is true that each person will reap what he sows and the recompense he receives is in accordance to his deeds. So righteous actions upon the Sunnah along with a sincere heart lead to a good end and an immense reward from Allah (عَزَّجَلَّ), sooner or later, and his reward is assured. Allah (سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى) stated:

مَنْ عَمِلَ صَالِحًا مِّنْ ذَكَرٍ أَوْ أُنْثَىٰ وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ فَلَنُحْيِيَنَّهٗ حَيَاةً طَيِّبَةً
وَلَنَجْزِيَنَّهُمْ أَجْرَهُمْ بِأَحْسَنِ مَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ

“Whoever works righteousness, whether male or female, while being a true believer, then verily We will give them a good [respectful] life [with contentment and lawful provision]. And We will surely give them their reward [in the Hereafter] according to the best of what they used to do.” (An-Nahl: 97)

As for those who wander in darkness without any concern for their duty to Allah and being righteous, then for them is a sad end. So, they too will reap what they sow.

وَمَنْ أَعْرَضَ عَن ذِكْرِي فَإِنَّ لَهُ مَعِيشَةً ضَنْكًا وَنَحْشُرُهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ
أَعْمَىٰ

“And whosoever turns away from My Reminder [by disobedience] verily, for him is a life of hardship, and We shall raise him up blind on the Day of Resurrection.” (Tāhā: 124)

So Allah (سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَىٰ) gives a good life and a good reward based upon righteous actions. And He (سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَىٰ) gives a hard life to the one who turns away from His remembrance and obedience. So the more a person turns away from the remembrance of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), the more hardships and afflictions he faces.

That is the case even if he has a life of worldly luxuries and comfort because in his heart, he is sad, lonely and depressed; and is constantly passing through states of grief and anguish, and ongoing difficulties without end. For this reason, you find many people always looking for a way out of their tormented feelings. So they turn to alcohol and drugs to help them forget their agonies. Or they turn to other amusements such as wine-bars, nightclubs, frivolous music, one-night stands and visiting prostitutes. These short-term pleasures are built

into irreligious and liberal societies to make people forget their miseries and inward emptiness.

They travel from place to place, never feeling settled no matter where they are, and they don't feel tranquil or at ease. Many don't even find comfort with their families so they spend much of their time away from them.

Ultimately, they are not comforted by wealth though it deceives them for a while, nor by jumping from one relationship to another, or by one drug-induced high to the next. They look for happiness that never comes to them and it remains illusive. So this empty feeling is the quick and early recompense for their unrighteous behaviour, ingratitude and disobedience to their Creator, Allah (سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى). And their punishment and torment in the Hereafter will be even more severe:

لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَعَذَابُ الْآخِرَةِ أَشَقُّ وَمَا لَهُمْ مِنَ اللَّهِ مِنْ وَاقٍ

“For them is torment in the life of this world. And verily, harder is the torment of the Hereafter. And they have no protector against Allah.” (Ar-Ra’d: 34)

Al-Imām Ibn Al-Qayyim (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) stated: “When reading the saying of Allah:

إِنَّ الْأَبْرَارَ لَفِي نَعِيمٍ
وَإِنَّ الْفُجَّارَ لَفِي جَحِيمٍ

“Indeed, the righteous will be in pleasure. And the wicked will be in Hell”¹, you should not imagine that this is specific only to the Hereafter. Indeed, the righteous are in happiness and pleasure in three places: in this life, in their graves and in the Hereafter. And the wicked ones are in a state of Hell in all three places.”

Additionally, from the evil effects of sins and disobedience are the afflictions that befall the earth and its people with respect to water shortages, extreme weather conditions such as severe storms, failure of crop and fruit, and the destruction of homes. Allah (عَزَّوَجَلَّ) stated in His Book:

ظَهَرَ الْفَسَادُ فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ بِمَا كَسَبَتْ أَيْدِي النَّاسِ لِيُذِيقَهُمْ بَعْضَ
الَّذِي عَمِلُوا لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْجِعُونَ

“Corruption has appeared throughout the land and sea because of what the hands of people have earned so He may let them taste a portion of the consequence of what they have done, so that perhaps they will return [to Islam].” (Ar-Rūm: 41) The more people engage in sins, the more Allah punishes them and afflicts them:

لِيُذِيقَهُمْ بَعْضَ الَّذِي عَمِلُوا

“So He may let them taste a portion of the consequence of what they have done...” So they only

¹ Al-Infītār: 13-14.

taste a portion of the consequences of their wicked deeds. And were Allah (سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى) to punish them with the totality of what they deserve, not an animal would have remained for them on earth for their benefit.

From the effects of the sins of people is that they are afflicted with earthquakes, floods, destructive winds and tornados. How many thousands upon thousands die each year in these "natural disasters" and how many more are left homeless and destitute? We seek refuge with Allah and His safety from such calamities.

لَا تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ حَتَّى يُقْبَضَ الْعِلْمُ، وَتَكْثُرَ الزَّلَازِلُ، وَيَتَقَارَبَ الزَّمَانُ،
وَتَظْهَرَ الْفِتْنُ، وَيَكْثُرَ الْهَرْجُ - وَهُوَ الْقَتْلُ الْقَتْلُ - حَتَّى يَكْثُرَ فِيكُمْ
الْمَالُ فِيَفِيضُ

The Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said, "The Hour will not be established until knowledge is taken away [by death of the scholars], **earthquakes will be very frequent**, time will pass quickly, afflictions will appear, murders will increase and money will be abundant amongst you."² He also said:

فِي هَذِهِ الْأُمَّةِ خَسْفٌ وَمَسْخٌ وَقَذْفٌ. فَقَالَ رَجُلٌ مِّنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ يَا
رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَمَتَى ذَاكَ قَالَ إِذَا ظَهَرَتِ الْفَيْنَاتُ وَالْمَعَارِفُ وَشُرِبَتِ
الْخُمُورُ

² Bukhari, no 1036.

The Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said: **“There will be in this ummah collapsing of the earth, transformation of people into animals and pelting of stones from the sky.”** He said that will be **“When singing-women, musical instruments and the consuming of alcohol becomes widespread.”**³

The Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said: **“There will be people from my Ummah who will make fornication, wearing silk, taking intoxicants and musical instruments permissible... Allah will destroy them during the night, causing the mountain to fall on them, transforming others into monkeys and pigs..”**⁴

From the evil effects of sins and disobedience of mankind is that Allah will withhold the rains. Allah (تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى) stated:

قُلْ أَرَأَيْتُمْ إِنْ أَصْبَحَ مَاؤُكُمْ غَوْرًا فَمَنْ يَأْتِيكُمْ بِمَاءٍ مَّعِينٍ

“Say, ‘Have you considered that if your water was to become sunken into the earth, then who could bring you flowing water?’” (Al-Mulk: 30)

From the evil effects of sins is that people are afflicted with chronic diseases that the physicians and hospitals cannot cure. And this is alongside the fact that Allah did not send a disease except that with it, He (تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى) sent its cure. However, when people disobey their Lord, then

³ Tirmidhī no. 2212, hasan.

⁴ Bukhārī no. 5590.

He (عَزَّوَجَلَّ) withholds from them knowledge of the remedy as a punishment.

Al-Imām Ibn Al-Qayyim (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) stated: *“From the evil effects of sins is that it leads to a shorter lifespan and the removal of blessings. So just as lifespan is extended by righteousness, then it is shortened by wicked deeds... So just as life is extended due to specific causes, it is also reduced due to specific causes. So Allah decrees whatever He wills with causes that He created that lead to their particular end result.”*⁵ Meaning that sins are a cause that lead to a shorter life for whomever Allah has willed.

From the evil effects of sins is that rulership ends up in the hands of evil-doers, tyrants and oppressors who gain authority over those who deserve them due to their sins. So this type of rulership is a punishment upon the people. Sinful nations are often afflicted with revolutions, wars, protests, imprisonment and loss of security and safety in their towns and villages. Allah (عَزَّوَجَلَّ) stated:

وَضَرَبَ اللهُ مَثَلًا قَرْيَةً كَانَتْ آمِنَةً مُطْمَئِنَّةً يَأْتِيهَا رِزْقُهَا رَغَدًا مِّنْ كُلِّ مَكَانٍ فَكَفَرَتْ بِأَنْعُمِ اللهِ فَأَذَاقَهَا اللهُ لِبَاسَ الْجُوعِ وَالْخَوْفِ بِمَا كَانُوا يَصْنَعُونَ

⁵ See Khutub Al-Minbariyyah, 2/142 of Shaikh Al-Fawzān.

“And Allah presents an example: a city which was safe and secure, its provision coming to it in abundance from every location. But its people denied the favours of Allah. So Allah made them taste the envelopment of hunger and fear for what they used to do.” (An-Nahl: 112)

So all of this is the result of ingratitude to Allah, not acknowledging His favours and turning away from His worship and obedience. It is the reason for the weakness of the Ummah and the Muslims. It is the reason why there is difficulties in our communities, among our relatives and families, between spouses and in our homes, and in our children. It is cause of dispute and differing between Muslims. So, by turning to Allah in worship and obedience, and following the Sunnah of the Prophet (ﷺ) precisely without innovations, Allah rewards them with an abundance of provision, and tranquility of the soul, even if their provision is little – and Paradise is for them in the Hereafter.

Look at the amount of sins Muslims are engaged in within their homes and outside on the streets. Look at the obligations that are abandoned and how many people are involved in major sins. Many Muslim homes don't even pray and they live on a knife-edge in terms of *ēmān*. Muslim women leave their homes without covering, without the Sharī'ah hijāb, displaying their adornments; and men and women flirt among each other, without shame and without fear of Allah.

If we do not stop this disregard for the commands of Allah (عَزَّوَجَلَّ) and we do not stop the toxic cultivation of the next generation, and we do not stop dealing in ribā and committing major sins, then the afflictions upon us as individuals and as an Ummah will only increase. So each person does whatever he is able to do in accordance to his strength. He should rectify firstly himself and his family, then others. And if he does not, then he should prepare for the calamities to increase! And when they strike, they encompass the sinner and those who did not enjoin the good and forbid the evil. Allah stated in His Book:

فَلَمَّا نَسُوا مَا ذُكِّرُوا بِهِ أَنْجَيْنَا الَّذِينَ يَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ السُّوءِ وَأَخَذْنَا الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا بِعَذَابٍ بَئِيسٍ بِمَا كَانُوا يَفْسُقُونَ

“So when they forgot the reminders that had been given to them, We rescued those who forbade evil, but We seized those who did wrong with a severe torment because they used to disobey Allah.” (Al-A’rāf: 165)

Let every Muslim know that they will reap the reward whatever they sow of deeds, sooner or later.

So fear Allah, O Muslims, and hasten to perform righteous deeds, and seek forgiveness for your sins, and hope for the reward from Allah for He is the Most Generous and Most Kind.

We ask Allah to grant us the success to worship Him, and obey Him as He deserves - we ask Him to forgive us

and show us His mercy. And all praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the worlds. And may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon the Messenger, his family, his Companions and true followers.