

Al-Qawlul Mufeed

T b e B e n e f i c i a l W o r d

Volume 6 Issue 4

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

April 2009

Indeed all Praises are for Allah alone. We praise Him, seek His assistance, and seek His forgiveness. And we seek refuge in Him from the evil of our own selves and the evil consequences of our actions. Whomever Allah guides, there is no one to lead him astray, and whomever is lead astray, there is no guide for him. I testify that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah, who is alone without any partner, and I testify that Muhammad is His slave and final messenger. To proceed:

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Growing the Beard (part 2)

A Friday sermon by,
The Great Scholar Shaikh
Muhammad Salih
Al-Uthaimen
(رحمه الله)

It is not for a believer, man or woman, when Allah and His Messenger have decreed a matter that they should have any option in their decision. And whoever disobeys Allah and His Messenger, he has indeed strayed in a plain error. (Al-Ahzab 33:36)

O Brother Muslims, that which is obligatory upon the believer is to execute the orders of the messenger of Allah ﷺ and to beware of the punishment in this life and the next for Allah the Most High said,

And let those who oppose the Messenger's (Muhammad ﷺ) commandment (i.e. his Sunnah legal ways, orders, acts of worship, statements, etc.) (among the sects) beware, lest some Fitnah (disbelief, trials, afflictions, earthquakes,

killings, overpowered by a tyrant, etc.) befall them or a painful torment be inflicted on them. (An-Nur 24:63)

Imam Ahmad said, "Do you know what the fitnah is? The fitnah is polytheism." It is feared that if he rejects some of his statements then some deviance will fall into his heart and he will be destroyed for sin wants disbelief and the sinner slowly descends to disbelief, level at a time, so he is slack with these sins and then with that which is great and then greater until he reaches disbelief and hatred of the truth and he does not evil realize it.

O Muslim brothers, we know people who shave their beards and they are very religious, praying in congregation, doing good deeds, and performing pious acts and they are thanked for what they are doing but the clean garment should not be

soiled by anything and for that reason I invite you all to act in accordance with the order of the prophet ﷺ and I invite those brothers specifically who are not lacking except in this from what we know so that they may complete and perfect their faith and their manners.

O Muslims, persistence upon sin and being negligent about it is a major sin as the people of knowledge have said so rush to ridding yourselves of sin and transgression and rush to sincere repentance to your Lord. Rush to doing that which your prophet ﷺ has ordered you with like growing your beard and trimming your mustache and being different from the enemies of Allah. Some of the people of knowledge have been quoted regarding the prohibition of shaving the beard and the obligation of growing it so whoever does not do it then he is sinning but the doors of repentance are open and

all praise is to Allah. It is possible that the person is better after repentance then before it.

O brother Muslims, this command is easy with a truthful intentions and sincere repentance so what is easier than a person leaving what he is used to if he his intention is sincerely for Allah. O Allah, we ask you to grant us sincere repentance. O Allah forgive us and pardon us O Lord of the worlds. O Allah guide our brothers, those that are negligent regarding some sins, guide them to the truth and keep them from sin O Lord of the Worlds.

O brothers there are some people who abandon those that they see who shave their beards and do not greet them with salaam and this is incorrect because shaving the beard is a sin without a doubt but this sinner is sill a believer and it is not permissible to abandon a believer for more than three days as the prophet ﷺ said, "it is not permissible for the Muslims to abandon his brother for more than three days and when they meet this one turns away from that one and that one turns away from this one and the best of them is who begins with the greeting of peace". Abandoning the sinner is correct if it contains some benefit such as the sinner repenting from his sin and feeling shameful in front of people as this is a cure but if abandoning him will not benefit in anyway and may possibly cause harm or damage like running him away from good people then it is not permissible to abandon him. Greet him with peace for he is your brother in Allah's religion and give him advice, perhaps a sincere

word will benefit him which is something tried and true. O Allah make us brothers in your religion, cooperating with one another upon piety and righteousness and preventing one another from evil for You are the Most Generous Most Noble. All praise is for the Lord of the Worlds and may peace and blessings be upon our prophet Muhammad, upon his family and companions.

Muslim brothers, some of the people that shave their beards use two excuses. The first is when they say that if they were to leave their beard to grow they would have a reaction causing itchiness where the hair grows. Our answer to this, this is a very common occurrence and if you were to be patient and let your beard grow a bit then this itchiness would go away with the permission of Allah and patience with this is from patience with facing difficulty in Allah's religion. The second excuse is the statement, if I leave my beard my friends will disgrace and shame me, so we say that this characteristic that they are disgracing you for is a blessing and it is following the practice of the prophet ﷺ so be patient and pay them no mind. Be patient for the good end and reward is for the God-fearing as Allah the Mighty and Majestic said,

Of mankind are some who say: "We believe in Allah," but if they are made to suffer for the sake of Allah, they consider the trial of mankind as Allah's punishment, and if victory comes from your Lord, (the hypocrites) will say: "Verily! We were with you (helping you)." (Al-'Ankabut 29:10)

Brothers, it is a must that the you be patient with that which you face of difficulty and harm from people due to your obedience to Allah for you will be rewarded in two aspects, the first, your patience upon Allah's obedience and the second you being patient with the harm that you face from the people due to your religion.

O Allah we ask you to aid us in your remembrance, thanks, and perfect worship. Know that the best speech is the book of Allah and the finest guidance is that of Muhammad ﷺ, the worst of affairs are newly invented for every newly invented affair in the religion is an innovation and every innovation is a going astray. Come together and join upon the guidance of Allah's messenger ﷺ for it is the best of guidance and do not be divided in Allah's religion as Allah the Most High said to His propher ﷺ,

Verily, those who divide their religion and break up into sects (all kinds of religious sects), you (O Muhammad ﷺ) have no concern in them in the least. Their affair is only with Allah, Who then will tell them what they used to do. (Al-An'am 6:159)

Brothers, increase in sending salutations of peace and blessing upon your prophet ﷺ and Allah will increase your reward for whoever sends his salutations upon the prophet once then Allah blesses him 10 times over. O Allah, may peace and blessings be upon your servant and messenger Muhammad.

Translated by Eesa John Starling