

Al-Qawlul Mufeed

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Indeed all Praises are for Allāh 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 Allāh 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 Allāh, who is alone without any partner, and I testify that Muhammad is His slave and final messenger. To proceed:

What's New in the Bookstore

•Fundamentals of the Salafee Methodology - An Islaamic Manual for Reform (2nd ed.) Imaam Muhammad Naasirud-Deen al-Albaanee \$19

•The Reality of Shi'ism Muhibbudeen al-Khateeb 'Abdul-'Azeez bin Baaz \$9.00

•A Warning from Wastefulness & Extravagance \$6.00

•How to Protect Yourself From the Fitnah of the Women Majdi Ibn Atiyah Mahmood \$11.00

Fasting and Praying in Ramadan (part 1)

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

All praise is for Allah, we seek His aid and forgiveness, and we seek refuge in Allah from the evil of our souls and sinful deeds. Whoever Allah guides there is none to lead him astray and whoever Allah allows to stray there is none to guide him. I bear witness that there is no deity worshipped in truth other than Allah, who is alone and without partner and I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and messenger may peace and blessings be upon him, his family, companions and followers in perfection until the last day. As to what proceeds;

O people fear Allah the most High, your Lord and thank Him for His blessings upon you from this season of goodness and blessing, what He has granted you from virtue and honor, for you are the best nation brought from mankind. Thank Allah for this and glorify these seasons and recognize their importance and position with obedience, pious acts and refraining from sin and transgression, for these seasons

have been made to forgive your evil deeds and increase your good deeds, to raise your position, and to energize you in doing righteous actions. Servants of Allah, there has shaded us a noble month, a season of great reward, a month where the good deeds are multiplied and the evil deeds are greater, a month wherein the first part is mercy, the second is forgiveness, and the third is freedom from the fire. We ask Allah to include all of us in His mercy, forgiveness, and freeing from the fire. This is the month of Ramadan in which Allah the Mighty and Majestic chose to reveal the Quran, the book which He sent down to mankind,

"a guidance for mankind and clear proofs for the guidance and the criterion (between right and wrong)." (Al-Baqarah 2:185)

Allah has made fasting during its day obligatory and praying in its night voluntary. Whoever fasts this month with faith, counting on the reward from Allah then Allah will forgive him what has proceeded of sin. Likewise whoever prays having faith in Allah and

counting on His reward, Allah will forgive him from what has proceeded of sin and whoever performs Umrah in this month his reward will be that of Hajj. In this month the doors of paradise are opened, the goods deeds are increased, the doors of the fire are locked and evil deeds of those who believe are decreased. (Al-Bukhari & Muslim) On the authority of Abu Hurairah ؓ, the Prophet ﷺ said, Allah the Mighty and Majestic said, "every deed of the son of Adam is for him except fasting for it is for Me and I reward for it", and in another narration, "he leaves his food, drink, and desires for My sake". Fasting is a shield, it is a barrier from sin and the fire, so if someone is fasting then he is not to be obscene nor shout and if someone curses him or fights with him, he is to say, 'I am fasting' and is not to respond to the issue, he is to say 'I am fasting, I am fasting'. By the one whose hand Muhammad's soul is in, the breath of the one fasting is better with Allah than the scent of Musk. The fasting person has two times of happiness, happiness when he breaks his fast and happiness when he

meets his Lord. As for the happiness when he breaks his fast then he is happy by eating food from what Allah has bestowed upon him of that which He made permissible and the blessing of Allah of completing a day of fasting from the obligations of Islam. As for the happiness when he meets his Lord, may Allah make us of those who are happy when they meet their Lord, then he is happy with what Allah has prepared for him of reward and victory in the place of peace. In Al-Bukhari the prophet ﷺ said, "In paradise there is a door called Ar-Rayaan, the people who fast will enter from it and no one else will enter from it, so if they enter it will be locked and will not open for others". O Allah, make us from those that enter that door! O Allah, make us from those that enter that door! O Allah, make us from those that enter that door and those who you are pleased with! O Lord of the worlds! Likewise the prophet ﷺ said, "three people will not have their supplication rejected; the one fasting until he breaks his fast, the just leader, and the oppressed, Allah raises it above the clouds and the doors of the heavens are opened for it and the Lord, the Mighty and Majestic, says, 'by My Might and Majesty I will aid you even after some time'".

O Muslims, how many are in the graveyards wishing to reach the month of Ramadan and they don't see it? How many people are on the verge of reaching it but never do? How many people reach its beginning but never see its end. Verily the fixed time and ages are in the hand of Allah and this life is the place of cultivation for the next life and the next life is the final destination and abode. O brothers, do not let this life effect the next life thusly losing this world and the next

rather let the next life effect this world as Allah the Mighty and Majestic said,

"Nay, you prefer the life of this world; Although the Hereafter is better and more lasting." (Al-A'la 87:17)

O Muslims, the days and nights of Ramadan are numbered so take advantage of them by increasing in worship, prayer, reciting the Quran, the remembrance of Allah, being benevolent to the creation monetarily and physically, being forgiving, and overlooking anyone who does wrong to you for Allah is forgiving and loves forgiveness. O brothers, seek to increase in four actions, two of which you will please your Lord and two you cannot do without. As for the two which will please your Lord then they are witnessing that there is no deity worshipped in truth other than Allah and seeking His forgiveness. And as for the two which you cannot do without then they are you asking Allah for paradise and seeking refuge with Him for the fire. There is no deity worshipped in truth except Allah, we ask Allah for forgiveness and repent to Him, we ask for the paradise and seek refuge from the fire. O Muslims, safeguard your fast from that which nullifies it. Safeguard it from false vain speech, acting by it, and ignorance for whoever does not leave false speech and acting by it and ignorance then Allah is not in need of him to leave his food and drink. Servants of Allah, do you think that Allah has prohibited eating, drinking, and sexual intercourse during the day of Ramadan, do you think that He has prohibited all of that to constrict and punish you with hunger, thirst, and abstention from women? No, by Allah! He has done so for that which is much greater and loftier which is none other than taqwa or fear of Allah

the Mighty and Majestic so listen to your Lord the Most High,

"O you who believe! Observing As-Saum (the fasting) is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become Al-Muttaqûn (the pious - see V.2:2)." (Al-Baqarah 2:183)

This is the wisdom behind the obligation of fasting upon the servants, so that they fear Allah the Mighty and Majestic. Listen to what I have read to you from the statement of the Prophet ﷺ, "whoever does not leave false and vain speech, acting by it, and ignorance then Allah has no need for him to leave his food and drink" meaning that Allah does not want from us to leave off food and drink (alone) but He wants us to leave false vain speech, acting by it, and ignorance. False vain speech is every impermissible word such as cursing, lying, backbiting, slandering, and obscenity. So have some dignity and do not make the days you fast and the days you do not fast the same. As for acting by it then this is doing every impermissible act such as cheating, betrayal in buying and selling, usury and interest. Safeguard your fast, may Allah have mercy on you, from listening to music. Do not be deceived from what some stations contain of programs that are designed to draw the Muslims away from worship and place them in that which is impermissible. Stay away from all of this and do not listen to it. Be aware of this great loss.

To Be Continued...

Translated by
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