

Al-Qawlul Mufeed

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

Volume 6 Issue 8

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

August 2009

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

•When We Were in Ignorance: Exp of the Hadeeth of Hudhifah Saalih Al-Fawzaan \$6.00

•The Belief of the Muslim Sects, Jews, Christians..Regarding the Angels Muhammad ibn 'Abdil-Wahhaab al-'Aqeel \$13.00

Fasting and Praying in Ramadan (part 4)

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

In accordance with this, I encourage myself and you to pay attention to this affair, that the person should say, "Glory to Allah the Great" in the bowing position being conscious that he is following the order of Allah and His messenger ﷺ, following the order of Allah as He the Most High said, **Then glorify with praises the Name of your Lord, the Most Great. (Al-Waqi'ah 56:74)**

And following the order of the command of the messenger of Allah ﷺ when he specified this statement in this position of the prayer and in the prostration so that the individual can be in compliance with the order of Allah and following the messenger of Allah ﷺ according to his specifying the position in the prayer. Increase in glorifying Al-

lah in the bowing. The messenger ﷺ said, "Indeed I have prohibited you from reading the Quran while bowing or prostrating, as for the bowing then glorify your Lord in it and as for the prostration then strive hard in it with supplication and be assured so that you will be answered". And he ﷺ said, "The closest the servant is to his Lord is when he is prostrating". Pay attention to these great affairs and wise sacraments. Do not squander them from yourselves and do not make your prayer as if it is just movements that you perform for verily it is a connection with you and Allah. I ask Allah to aid you and I in actualizing this.

O brothers! Be devoted to performing the taraweeh. O leaders of the prayer! Fear Allah the Most High in yourselves and fear Allah the Most High regarding those behind you as you may not see another Ramadan

after this year so pray in the manner which the Muslims find tranquility, glorify Allah in your bowing and make much supplication in prostration. Pray the prayer which frees you of your obligation for you do not pray for yourselves rather you are praying for other than you and if you lead the people in the prayer then try hard to make your prayer in accordance with what has been related on the prophet ﷺ and beware of the Shaitan luring you into rushing in the bowing and prostration positions and recitation so that the people will increase in number behind you for the point is that the how is not your concern. I ask Allah to aid you in that which contains our guidance and goodness.

O Muslims! Praying in Ramadan is not restricted to a specific number of units in the prayer but the best number for any person to pray is 11 or 13 as our Imam and messenger of Allah Muhammad ﷺ

did. The mother of the believers Aisha رضي الله عنها, the most knowledgeable of the mothers of the believers regarding the condition of the prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم and was higher ranked than many of the men, was asked about the prayer of the prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم in Ramadan and she said, "He used not to exceed upon 11 units of prayer in the month of Ramadan and out of Ramadan and would pray 4 then he would pray 4 and then he would pray three all beautiful and lengthy". Her saying that he prayed 4 does not mean 4 with one tasleem as it has been authentically reported from her that he would pray 2 with one tasleem and that he would pray four and then rest then pray four and rest, both sets of four having 2 tasleems each. In accordance with this, the righteous predecessors that came before used to lengthen the taraweeh prayer and if they completed four units they would rest so as to re-energize for the remainder of the prayer and for this reason it was named 'taraweeh' as the people seek rest after every four units of prayer. Strive hard in these prayers and whoever prays more than this then he is not to be blamed, prohibited, or called an innovator for this affair is vast and all praise is for Allah. The prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم was asked about the night prayer and he said, "the night prayer is two by two and if you fear the coming of dawn then you are to pray one to close what you have prayed" and he did not specify a number rather he said to one of his companions when he said, "I ask you messenger of Allah to be in your company in paradise" and he صلى الله عليه وسلم said, "aid yourself by increasing in prostration". Thus the one who in-

creases upon 11 units or 13 units is not to be shamed, claimed to be astray, or made an innovator. The affair in totality is vast, and all praise is for Allah, and I am amazed at people who pray in the Holy Mosque of Makkah or the Prophet's Mosque and sit without praying after they have finished 5 sets and the Muslims are praying asking Allah the Mighty and Majestic while they are sitting cutting the rows and there is not one of those praying next to them preventing them. There are even some of them that have coffee and tea that sit and drink and perhaps converse with others are praying distracting the people. Verily they are in opposition to the way of the righteous predecessors for they loved joining and hated splitting. So I say to you brothers and hope that none of you do these fore mentioned things, do you not know that the leader of the believers Uthman ibn Affan رضي الله عنه the third to rule over the Muslims for 12 years prayed for 6 or 8 years in Mina 2 units then 2 units of 4 sets and then prayed 4 units with 4 sets and it was said to some of the companions that Uthman has completed or perfected which reached Abdullah ibn Masood رضي الله عنه who replied, "verily to Allah we belong and Him we return. I prayed behind the prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, Abu Bakr, and Umar رضي الله عنه and none of them exceeded 2 units and there are no 2 units more beloved to me than 4" and with this he used to pray with Uthman 4 units and he would exceed that with 2 units and Abdullah would see that as not being from the sunnah but he would pray behind him in Ramadan fearing to cause splitting and tribulation. So it was said to him, "O Abu Abdur-Rahman how

can you pray behind Uthman 4 units" and he replied, "Verily differing is evil". So be aware, O brothers, of this great statement that differing is evil. Likewise the prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم sent Muath ibn Jabal and Abu Musa Al-Ashari to Yemen and ordered them to obey one another and seek advice from one another which means that one obeys the other and does not oppose him and there is no doubt that joining is good so I advise those and hope that my speech reaches them to fear Allah the Mighty and Majestic and to follow the Imam and they will be upon goodness until they achieve what the prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said, "whoever stands with the Imam until he leaves, the reward of praying the entire night will be written for him". So I advise you Muslims to not neglect the taraweeh prayer by praying only 2 or 3 tasleems in this mosque or others wasting your time but if you enter a mosque and pray the night prayer and continue until the Imam finishes from the taraweeh prayer so that you may obtain this great reward having the reward of praying the entire night written for him. He will have this reward even if he is sleeping in his bed or enjoying the intimate company of his wife so all praise is for Allah the Lord of the Worlds. O Allah bless us with thanking you for your bounties and your perfect worship. O Allah bless us with thanking you for your bounties and your perfect worship. I say this and seek forgiveness with Allah for me, you, and all the Muslims from every sin. Seek forgiveness from Him for He is Oft-Forgiving Most Merciful.

Translated by
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