

KHUTBA

Friday, 9. October 09

Let us accept Allah's will

Jabir Ibn Abdullah, May Allah be pleased with him, said: The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) was keen to teach us Istikharah in all aspect of our lives as keen as he was to teach us sura of Qur'an.

Istikharah: To ask guidance from Allah.

Listen and feel these nice words from the Istikhara prayer "O Allah, I ask you to help and guide me with your knowledge and power because you know but I don't, you can but I can't, and you know what will happen in the future.

These statements clearly show and describe the Greatness and the unlimited power of the creator, who is Allah, and the weakness and the vulnerability of the creatures, the human beings. While Allah is able to do what he wants, our abilities are limited with our weaknesses and lack of knowledge. As a proof, go back and think, how many things and situations in our lives we have judged with our limited knowledge as a disaster and wished if it had never happened, yet it has been proven as blessing?

How many things we did not want to happen and when it happened we wish if it happens every day?

Here are some well known examples:

You know the story of Prophet Josef. He used to live a very nice and peaceful childhood surrounded by the care and love and of his father. Suddenly, everything has changed due to his brother's conspiracy. He was left alone in a well and later became slave and suffered from obsession.

How would an average human look at and feel about this?

Definitely all of us will be sympathized and feel this child is poor and what happened to him is unfair. Then look how this has turned out, he became prophet and the Governor and the controller of all Egypt wealth.

Then ask yourself, would that happen to him if he continue with his nice and easy life? If he has not suffered and has not met these hurdles in his way? The answer is definitely no.

Now let us review another example, Prophet Moses:

He grew up under Pharaohs (the King of Egypt at that time) protection, enjoying a lot of privileges and luxury. Only after a while, things changed. People were conspiring to kill him and he was forced to escape and leave Egypt in state of fear towards the land of Madyan .

How would humans look at this? Most likely they will tell that Moses did not do well for himself. He left the luxury and exposed himself to unnecessary troubles.

But look how it turned out! He became a prophet, not only that but one of the top five prophets and was given the unique honor and privilege of talking directly to God.

How would the luxury he left compare to what he gained later? The answer is definitely nothing.

Now look at the story of Prophet Moses with Al-Khidr. They were in the boat and he scuttled it. That has led Prophet Moses, looking at the situation from a human perspective, to say **"Have you scuttled it in order to drown those human on it? Truly a strange thing has you done!"** Alkahf 71.

He did not see the benefit those people will gain from Al/Khidr action until he was told ***“there was after them a certain king who seized on every boat by force”*** Alkahf 79.

So by Al-khidr action, the King will not be interested in the boat anymore.

Also when Al-khidr killed a boy, Moses said ***“Have you slain an innocent person who had slain none?”*** Alkahf 74. Prophet Moses look at it from a human perspective again. He could only see how this boy’s parents will be sad and how will they suffer without him. But the answer came to explain the situation ***“his parents were people of Faith, and we feared that he would grieve them by obstinate rebellion and ingratitude (to God and man). So we desired that their Lord would give them in exchange (a son) better in purity (of conduct) and closer in affection”*** Alkahf 80-81.

Now let us move forward to look at the early time of Islam. When Muslims were sneaking to escape from Makkah to go to Madinah leaving everything behind them, their homes, their money, and their families. They don’t have anything but their faith.

Then look at the consequences. The same people have later changed the history on the earth. They have restored the human values and have participated in establishing the Islamic rule that has establish the right concepts of Justice, love , peace, and forgiveness.

Then look at the same people when they wanted to do Umrah but they were not allowed by non Muslims to enter Makkah. They are now in “alhodaibiah” (place near Makkah) waiting the results of the negotiations. The results are now revealed and they were told the details of the agreement. It has been decided that they have to go back and come for Umrah next year, without weapons and they will be allowed to be in Makkah then only for three days. They looked at it from a human perspective and they thought that it was not a fair deal. That what has led Omar Ibn alkhatab to ask prophet Mohammad (PBUH) “Aren’t we on the right track and they aren’t” The prophet answered “yes” then he asked “then why do we accept the obsession and unfair agreement”? The prophet said “I am the Messenger of God; I do not disobey him” hinting that this is by the will of God.

Then look what was the consequence of following the God’s will. One year later, Muslims were in Makkah establishing the Islamic community there. Prophet Mohammad breaking the statues and reciting ***“Truth has (now) arrived, and Falsehood perished: for Falsehood is (by its nature) bound to perish”*** Al-Isra’ 81.

The last example is the Roman, Persian and other nations whom where defeated by Muslims. At the start, they felt very bitter that they were defeated. However, after they came to know Islam and what nice concepts and principles that it offer, they were very pleased for the change because they knew that this is the way to the best life as well as to heaven.

Dear Brothers and sisters:

Many similar examples can be found if we look closely in our lives. It happened and will continue to happen as long as we are still alive. We need to have the faith in Allah and let him decide for us and guide us to the best for us. Yes we can meet hurdles, pain, problems or any other obstacles in our lives but that is for our best for sure ***“it is possible that ye dislike a thing which is good for you, and that ye love a thing which is bad for you. But God knows, and you know not”*** Al Baqarah 216.

We can loose our money, children, health or any other thing but that is for good. We need to train our self to accept this fact. We should accept every trouble as we accept the happiness, the pain as we accept the pleasure the bad as we accept the good. We should have strong faith in God and know that after bad come good and after darkness there is light. These hurdles and problems is to clean you from sins and make you a better Muslim as well as a better human.

So, let us accept Allah's will.

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