

KHUTBA

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Worshipping during the period of turmoil

Dear Muslims,

Allah created us, gave us great blessings and created everything in the earth and made it serve for our favor. After all, he only demanded us to worship him as the only God and follow his orders and guidance. That is the main reason for which we were created and the only task we were given. To fulfill this task, we have to worship by our hearts, souls and organs. We have to worship by acts, feel it and enjoy it by our hearts and spirits. We have to worship in good and bad times, easy and difficult situation and when it is stable as well as when there is chaos (turmoil). Essentially, the best worships are that delivered at the difficult times, when the atmosphere and the situation make it difficult to worship. That is what Prophet Mohamed said in "Hadith" reported by Ma'qil Ibn Yasar: **"Worshipping during the period of widespread turmoil is like emigration towards me"**. This includes the time of wars, fear, social, economical and religious chaos ...etc. Note the expression **'like emigration towards me'**, it is known that the emigration for religious reasons or for religion sake is very valuable and results in a great rewards. Similarly, at a lower scale, worships when people are inattentive to it, such as praying in the night and fasting during normal days, are of great rewards.

Indeed, the great rewards are given to great achievements and great people. That is why we get great rewards if we worship during period of confusions. Yes, because it is a great achievement. Only true Muslims who have strong faith are capable to do it; only they are capable to persist in their worships and continue doing them regardless what happens around them. They got the great rewards for their great faith and patience. The prophet said **"Ahead of you are days which will require endurance, in which showing endurance will be like grasping live coals. The one who acts rightly during that period will have the reward of fifty men who act as he does"**. Narrated by Al-Tirmithy

(Lit is such a Light) in houses, which God hath permitted to be raised to honour; for the celebration, in them, of His name: In them is He glorified in the mornings and in the evenings, (again and again),* By men whom neither traffic nor merchandise can divert from the Remembrance of God, nor from regular Prayer, nor from the practice of regular Charity: Their (only) fear is for the Day when hearts and eyes will be transformed (in a world wholly new)*038 That God may reward them according to the best of their deeds, and add even more for them out of His Grace: for God doth provide for those whom He will, without measure)
Al-Nur 36-38

Prophet Mohamed also said **"when Allah gathered people (in the Judgment Day), a voice will be heard saying: People will know who deserve to be honored. Those who were never diverted by traffic or merchandise from the Remembrance of God should show up. After they have shown up, they are taken to paradise while the rest will remain to be judged"**. Narrated by Al-Nasa'i

Then how to do that? What will help us to persist in worships?

- First of all ask and seek help from Allah. Pray for him to save you from being diverted from his way.
- Do your worships, especially prayers, in the best way you can and at its exact time.
- Make sure to have at least one thing you do for Allah continuously, preferably without anyone knowing about it. This can be a page of Quran you read daily, sadaqah, help you provide to people (to handicapped for instance) ...etc. The most important thing that you don't get any benefit out of it. The intension of the act should be purely to get rewards from Allah.
- Choose the right company and friends. Remember that the "rotten apple spoils his companion".
- Consult the scholars and the trusted people in your life and religious matters when you are confused.
- Favor your religion and your religion obligations over your desires.
- Remember that Satan is taking you gradually to his way. He starts dragging you to his way stepwise. For instance if you are good Muslim and doing extra prayers "nafl", he will start by first minimizing the numbers of these extra prayers. Slowly he will lead you to stop it. Then he will try to make you unstable in your obligatory five prayers, possibly leading you to leave them. So **DO NOT FOLLOW HIS FOOTSTEPS. (O ye who believe! follow not Satan's footsteps: if any will follow the footsteps of Satan, he will (but) command what is shameful and wrong: and were it not for the grace and mercy of God on you, not one of you would ever have been pure: but God doth purify whom He pleases: and God is One Who hears and knows (all things)).Al-Nur 21.**
- Try to be away from things that distract you and take you away from your religion.

Dear Muslims,

Being in a non Muslim country, we are more prone to be distracted from our worships. We need to help each other to follow these guidelines and to keep in the right track. Let us provide, help, advice and provide guidance to each other. Let us provide good pictures for Muslims. Let us help each other to be good humans by being good Muslims.

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