

KHUTBAH

Friday 18.06.10.

English

Love of Allah

Dear Muslims,

Love is one of the greatest blessings that Allah gives to people. Throughout their life, people want to be with those who they love, rely on, and are close to. Many of Allah's blessings and their true meanings can only be found in an environment where true love and friendship exist. For example, a person who is enjoying a magnificent view naturally wants to share his feelings of awe and happiness with someone whom he loves. In the same way, the most magnificent feast or the most beautifully furnished house may not seem very attractive if you are alone. Allah has created people in such a way that they enjoy being loved and loving others, and are pleased with friendships and closeness. To be with those who live by the Qur'an's morals, and to have fulfilling friendships and love with them is, for each believer, more enjoyable than many other blessings.

The true source of love in the believers' hearts is their profound love of Allah. Believers love Allah greatly and, at every moment, strive to gain His love and good pleasure. That is because they appreciate the blessings that He gave them.

Allah has created everything from nothing. While a person was still in a state of "nothingness," Allah granted him or her life as a blessing. Our Lord, the Most Merciful, the Most Gracious, and the possessor of infinite mercy, has provided everything for His servants: a vast variety of foods, fruits, and flowers; lovely creatures and landscapes in which we take pleasure; and all other things, from the Sun to water, from the air we breathe to the vitamins we need. He created all of this perfectly on our world, and maintains it in absolute safety. Believers who think about the blessings bestowed upon them, who are aware that He can do all things and is the sole sovereign of the universe, the Creator of everything in the best possible form, will feel their love for Allah strengthen. Those who love and fear Allah, and hold Him in awe, will faithfully observe the boundaries that He has established for humanity, show great sensibility when implementing His rules, and do their best to win His good pleasure, love, mercy, and Paradise

Love of Allah is of two types:

Obligatory; and that is the degree of love that leads one to desire and like to follow the orders of his Lord and abandon what upsets Him.

"Say: If it be that your fathers, your sons, your brothers, your mates, or your kindred; the wealth that ye have gained; the commerce in which ye fear a decline: or the dwellings in which ye delight - are dearer to you than God, or His Apostle, or the striving in His cause;- then wait until God brings about His decision: and God guides not the rebellious." Al-Tawbah 24.

Selective; and that is a higher degree that brings one very close to Allah. It makes his heart filled and busy with this love to the extent that it is not concerned with anything more than being with Allah by worshipping and remembrance (thikr in Arabic).

Love of Allah is the origin and the core of worshipping and worship. The true believer should always favor Allah's wills than his own desires. So how can we attain the love of Allah? Here are some guidelines:

- 1- Obeying Allah's orders and avoid doing sins.
- 2- Continuous remembrance of Allah (Thikr).

- 3- Reciting and listening to Quran. Abdullah bin masud said: Once, Allah's Apostle said to me, "*Recite (of the Qur'an) for me,*" I said, "Shall I recite it to you although it had been revealed to you?" He said, "*I like to hear (the Qur'an) from others.*" So I recited Surat-an-Nisa' till I reached: "How (will it be) then when We bring from each nation a witness, and We bring you (O Muhammad) as a witness against these people?" Then he said, "*Stop!*" And behold, his eyes were overflowing with tears." **Narrated by Al-Bukhari .**
- 4- Obeying and following prophet Mohamed. "***Say, if ye do love Allah, follow me: Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. For Allah is the Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful***" ***Al-'Imran 31.***

Dear Muslims,

Love of Allah is honor you can't claim without having it reflected in your acts and behaviors. That is what Christian and Jew did. For that reason Allah challenged them in Quran "***(Both) the Jews and the Christians say: "We are sons of God, and His beloved." Say: "Why then doth He punish you for your sins? Nay, ye are but men,- of the men He hath created: He forgiveth whom He pleaseth, and He punisheth whom He pleaseth: and to God belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between: and unto Him is the final goal (of all)"***" **Al-Ma'idah 18.**

The person who loves for the sake of Allah is not only loved by Allah but also by the inhabitants of the earth as well as the heavens. On the other hand, those who are hated by Allah are also hated by the inhabitants of the earth and the heavens. It must be borne in mind that they alone remain popular in this world who are righteous by nature - who strictly maintain the distinction between the lawful and the unlawful. But those, whose nature is defected by constant sins, cease to distinguish between right and wrong and lose their credibility. They generally hate the pious persons for the reason that every category of people loves and likes people of its own kind

Abu Hurairah (May Allah be pleased with him) reported: The Prophet (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) said, *(When Allah loves a slave, calls out Jibril and says: 'I love so-and-so; so love him'. Then Jibril loves him. After that he (Jibril) announces to the inhabitants of heavens that Allah loves so-and-so; so love him; and the inhabitants of the heavens (the angels) also love him and then make people on earth love him".)* **Narrated by Al-Bukhari and Muslim.**

We ask Allah to grant us His love, surround us with His mercy and forgive our sins.

Amen