

AVOID FRUITLESS HABITS
21 RABIUL AKHIR 1443H/ NOVEMBER 26, 2021M

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا.
مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يُضِلِّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ
صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Let us all increase our devotion towards Allah the Almighty by performing all that He has decreed and abstaining from all that He has prohibited. Hopefully, we will be blessed in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Let us ponder Allah the Almighty's words in the Quran in Chapter 25 (*Surah Al-Furqan*) verse (*ayat*) 23:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَقَدِمْنَا إِلَىٰ مَا عَمِلُوا مِنْ عَمَلٍ فَجَعَلْنَاهُ هَبَاءً مَنْثُورًا ﴿٢٣﴾

Which means: “and We shall turn to the deeds they have done and scatter them like dust.”

This verse warns that there will be people whose deeds are in vain when they meet Allah the Almighty in the hereafter.

Those are the people who perform a lot of good deeds such as praying, fasting, paying *zakat* etc. but also commit immoral acts or are cruel to others. What is most unfortunate, their good deeds are rejected because of their sins or cruel acts such as taking the property of others, treachery, backbiting, swearing, slandering, etc. especially the sins that are spread or shared on social media.

These are the acts that lead to destitute/deficiency (of deeds) as the Prophet (peace be upon him [PBUH]) said in a *Hadith* narrated by Imam Muslim which means:

“Do you know who is poor?” They (the Companions of the Holy Prophet) said: “A poor man amongst us is one who has neither dirham with him nor wealth.” He (the Holy Prophet) said: “The poor of my Umma would be he who would come on the Day of Resurrection with prayers and fasts and Zakat but (he would find himself bankrupt on that day as he would have exhausted his funds of virtues) since he hurled abuses upon others, brought calumny against others and unlawfully consumed the wealth of others and shed the blood of others and beat others, and his virtues would be credited to the account of one (who suffered at his hand). And if his good deeds fall short to clear the account, then his victims’ sins would be entered in (his account) and he would be thrown in the Hell-Fire.”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In addition, people also become poor (in the Hereafter) for taking the property of others through forbidden means such as bribing, stealing, cheating, snatching, robbing, etc. Therefore, refrain from any form of manipulation and

violence against others so that we do not become poor in the Hereafter. Allah the Almighty mentioned in the Quran in Chapter 50 (*Surah Qaf*), verse (*ayat*) 18:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

مَا يَلْفِظُ مِنْ قَوْلٍ إِلَّا لَدَيْهِ رَقِيبٌ عَتِيدٌ ﴿١٨﴾

Which means: he does not utter a single word without an ever-present watcher.

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ، أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ فَيَا فَوْزَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ وَيَا نَجَاةَ التَّائِبِينَ.