

The background of the image shows the interior of a mosque. In the foreground, an open book with Arabic text is resting on a stone surface. The book's pages are aged and yellowed. Above the book, several ornate, teardrop-shaped hanging lamps with intricate metalwork are illuminated, casting a warm, golden glow. The mosque's architecture features pointed arches and walls with intricate carvings. The overall atmosphere is serene and spiritual.

**Necessity of Worshipping Allah Alone
and an Explanation of its Meanings**

Necessity of Worshipping Allâh Alone, and an Explanation of its Meanings

All thanks and praises are due to Allâh, Who created the creation to worship Him Alone and ordained that He Alone be revered and obeyed. I hereby testify that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allâh, Alone without partners. I testify that Muhammad ﷺ is Allâh's slave and Messenger, who had the most perfect slavery to Allâh and fear of Him. Muhammad called to Allâh and performed *Jihâd* as it should be performed and stood in prayer until his feet were callous from prolonged standing in prayer. May Allâh's peace and blessings be on Muhammad, his progeny, his Companions and all those who followed His Guidance.

O people! Fear Allâh the Exalted and contemplate the reason behind your creation and what you were ordered to do. You were created to worship Allâh Alone without partners, and this you were commanded:

﴿ وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ ۝ مَا أُرِيدُ مِنْهُمْ مِنْ رِزْقٍ وَمَا أُرِيدُ أَنْ يُطْعَمُونِ ﴾

“And I (Allâh) created not the jinn and mankind except that they should worship Me (Alone). I seek not any provision from them (i.e., provision for themselves or for My creatures) nor do I ask that they should feed Me (i.e. feed themselves or My creatures).” (51:56,57)

﴿ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ ﴾

“O mankind! Worship your Lord (Allâh), Who created you and those who were before you so that you may become *Al-Muttaqûn* (the pious).”(2:21)

And:

﴿ وَمَا أُمِرُوا إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ الدِّينَ حُنَفَاءَ وَيُقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَيُؤْتُوا الزَّكَاةَ وَذَلِكَ

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“And they were commanded not, but that they should worship

Allâh, and worship none but Him Alone (abstaining from ascribing partners to Him), and perform *As-Salât* (*Iqâmat-as-Salât*) and give *Zakât*, and that is the right religion.” (98:5)

The word *Ebâdah* (worship) encompasses all of what Allâh likes and prefers of apparent and hidden actions and statements. Therefore, ‘*Ebâdah*’ entails all the slave’s actions, whether performed by the heart or body, and those pertaining to legal monetary transactions. Even matters of habit become acts of worship when preceded by a good intention. For instance, when one sleeps for the purpose of gathering his strength to fast or stand in *Qiyâm* (voluntary prayer) at night, sleep will become an act of worship. When one enjoys his wife sexually for the purpose of purifying himself and her from illegal sexual activities of all types, it will become an act of worship.

قَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: «وَفِي بُضْعِ أَحَدِكُمْ صَدَقَةٌ، قَالُوا يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ! أَيَأْتِي أَحَدُنَا شَهْوَتَهُ وَيَكُونُ لَهُ فِيهَا أَجْرٌ؟ قَالَ: أَرَأَيْتُمْ لَوْ وَضَعَهَا فِي حَرَامٍ أَكَانَ عَلَيْهِ وَزْرٌ؟ فَكَذَلِكَ إِذَا وَضَعَهَا فِي الْحَلَالِ كَانَ لَهُ أَجْرٌ».

“When one of you has sexual intercourse with his wife, he earns a *Sadaqah* (charity).” They said, “O Allâh’s Messenger! We enjoy our desires and also earn a reward?” He said, “Do you believe that if one satisfies his desire illegally, he would be earning a sin? Likewise, if he satisfies his desire legally, he earns a reward.”

Muslim narrated in the *Sahih* that Sa‘d رضى الله عنه said that the Prophet ﷺ said:

«إِنَّ نَفَقَتَكَ عَلَى عِيَالِكَ صَدَقَةٌ».

“Your spending on your children is a *Sadaqah* (charity).”

Furthermore, Imam Ahmad narrated that Al-Miqdam bin Ma‘di Karib رضى الله عنه said that the Prophet ﷺ said:

«مَا أَطْعَمْتَ نَفْسَكَ فَهُوَ لَكَ صَدَقَةٌ».

“Whatever you feed yourself, it is an act of charity from you.”

Also, Muslim narrated that Jabir رضى الله عنه said that the Prophet ﷺ said:

عَنْ جَابِرٍ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ ﷺ قَالَ: «مَا مِنْ مُسْلِمٍ يَغْرِسُ غَرْسًا إِلَّا كَانَ مَا أَكَلَ مِنْهُ لَهُ صَدَقَةٌ، وَمَا سُْرِقَ مِنْهُ لَهُ صَدَقَةٌ، وَمَا أَكَلَ السَّبْعُ مِنْهُ فَهُوَ لَهُ صَدَقَةٌ، وَلَا يَنْقُصُهُ أَحَدٌ إِلَّا كَانَ لَهُ صَدَقَةٌ». وَفِي رِوَايَةٍ لَهُ أَيْضًا: «فَلَا يَأْكُلُ مِنْهُ إِنْسَانٌ وَلَا دَابَّةٌ وَلَا طَائِرٌ إِلَّا كَانَ لَهُ صَدَقَةٌ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ».

“Whenever a Muslim plants a seed, then whatever of it is eaten earns him a *Sadaqah*, whatever is stolen from it earns him a *Sadaqah*, whatever beasts eat of it earns him a *Sadaqah* and whenever anyone takes from it, it earns him a *Sadaqah*.” In another narration from Jabir رضى الله عنه, the Prophet ﷺ said, “Whenever a human, animal or bird eats from it, he will earn a *Sadaqah* from it until the Day of Resurrection.”

O Allâh’s slaves! There are two types of ‘*Ebadah*’: the required and the recommended. Some of the necessary acts of worship are performed daily, such as the five daily prayers. Some acts of worship are performed weekly, such as the *Jumu‘ah* (Friday Prayer), while some others come once a year, such as fasting (the lunar month of) *Ramadhân* and paying *Zakât*. Some acts of worship are required once in a lifetime, such as the *Hajj* and ‘*Umrah*, for those who can afford the journey. As for the recommended acts of worship, they are not required within a fixed timeframe, such as the voluntary prayers after the compulsory prayers. Also included are voluntary acts of charity and fasting, except when there is a prohibition in performing any of these acts at a certain time or place. Remembering Allâh by *Dhikr* of the heart and tongue is among the recommended acts of worship at any time, for Allâh the Exalted said:

﴿ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ ذِكْرًا كَثِيرًا ۝ وَسَبِّحُوهُ بُكْرَةً وَأَصِيلًا ۝ ﴾

“O you who believe! Remember Allâh with much remembrance. And glorify His Praises morning and afternoon.”
(33:41,42)

﴿ فَإِذَا قُضِيَتِ الصَّلَاةُ فَانْتَشِرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَابْتَغُوا مِنْ فَضْلِ اللَّهِ وَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا ۝ ﴾

لَعَلَّكُمْ تَفْلِحُونَ ﴿١٠﴾

“Then when the (*Jumu‘ah*) *Salât* (prayer) is ended, you may disperse through the land, and seek the Bounty of Allâh (by working), and remember Allâh much, that you may be successful.” (62:10)

﴿إِنَّ فِي خَلْقِ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ لَآيَاتٍ لِّأُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ
○ الَّذِينَ يَذْكُرُونَ اللَّهَ قِيمًا لَوْ قَعُودًا وَعَلَىٰ جُنُوبِهِمْ﴾

“Verily, in the creation of the heavens and the earth, and in the alternation of night and day, there are indeed signs for men of understanding. Those who remember Allâh (always, and in prayers) standing, sitting, and lying down on their sides.” (3:190,191)

And:

﴿فَاذْكُرُونِي أَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لِي وَلَا تَكْفُرُونِ﴾

“Therefore remember Me (by praying, glorifying). I will remember you, and be grateful to Me (for My countless Favours on you) and never be ungrateful to Me.” (2:152)

Therefore, the life of a Muslim rarely has a moment without an act of worship to perform or utter. Verily, those who lose these precious moments, by not performing a type of worship, will have lost these moments on the Day of Resurrection.

O Muslims! All acts of *‘Ebadah* are called as such and benefit those who perform them if they are performed in sincerity to Allâh Alone without *Shirk* (associating others with Allâh in worship), and without *Riyâ’* (showing off and seeking fame). Allâh the exalted said:

﴿فَاعْبُدِ اللَّهَ مُخْلِصًا لَهُ الدِّينَ ○ أَلَا لِلَّهِ الدِّينُ الْخَالِصُ﴾

“So worship Allâh (Alone) by doing religious deeds sincerely for Allâh’s sake only. Surely, the religion (i.e., the worship and the obedience) is for Allâh only.” (39:2,3)

﴿وَمَا أُمِرُوا إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ الدِّينَ حُنَفَاءَ وَيُقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَيُؤْتُوا الزَّكَاةَ وَذَلِكَ

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“And they were commanded not, but that they should worship Allâh, and worship none but Him Alone, and perform *As-Salât* and give *Zakât*, and that is the right religion.” (98:5)

﴿ فَوَيْلٌ لِلصَّالِيْنَ ۝ الَّذِيْنَ هُمْ عَنْ صَلَاتِهِمْ سَاهُوْنَ ۝ الَّذِيْنَ هُمْ يُرَاءُوْنَ

۝ وَيَمْنَعُوْنَ الْمَاعُوْنَ ﴾

“So woe unto those performers of *Salât* (prayers) (hypocrites). Those who delay their *Salât* (prayer from their stated fixed times). Those who do good deeds only to be seen (of men). And withhold *Al-Mâ'ûn* (small kindnesses like salt, sugar, water).” (107:4-7)

And:

﴿ فَمَنْ كَانَ يَرْجُوا لِقَاءَ رَبِّهِ فَلْيَعْمَلْ عَمَلًا صَالِحًا وَلَا يُشْرِكْ بِعِبَادَةِ رَبِّهِ أَحَدًا ﴾

“So whoever hopes for the Meeting with his Lord, let him work righteousness and associate none as a partner in the worship of his Lord.” (18:110)

Also, the Prophet ﷺ said in a *Hadith*:

يَقُولُ اللهُ تَعَالَى : «أَنَا أَغْنَى الشُّرَكَاءِ عَنِ الشُّرْكِ ، مَنْ عَمِلَ عَمَلًا أَشْرَكَ مَعِيَ فِيهِ غَيْرِي تَرَكْتُهُ وَشِرْكُهُ» .

“Allâh the Exalted said, ‘I am the Most Rich from needing associates. Whoever performs a deed in which he associated others with Me in worship, I will discard him and his *Shirk*.’”

And just as sincerity is a condition in accepting any act of worship, it is also necessary to imitate the *Sunnah* of the Prophet ﷺ in any act of worship. The Prophet ﷺ said:

قال ﷺ : «مَنْ عَمِلَ عَمَلًا لَيْسَ عَلَيْهِ أَمْرُنَا فَهُوَ رَدٌّ» .

“Whoever performs an act that does not conform to our matter (the Qur’ân and *Sunnah*), then his act is rejected (or it is an act of reversion).”

O Muslims! Worshipping Allâh is the first necessary requirement from the slave, for it is Allâh's right that comes before any other right. Allâh the Exalted said:

﴿ وَأَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَلَا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا ﴾

“Worship Allâh and join none with Him (in worship); and do good to parents.” (4:36)

And:

﴿ وَقَضَىٰ رَبُّكَ أَلَّا تَعْبُدُوا إِلَّا إِيَّاهُ وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا ﴾

“And your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him. And that you be dutiful to your parents.” (17:23)

There are many other *Āyât* on this subject. Moreover, Mu‘adh رضى الله عنه narrated:

أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ ﷺ قَالَ: «يَا مُعَاذُ أَتَدْرِي مَا حَقُّ اللَّهِ عَلَى الْعِبَادِ وَمَا حَقُّ الْعِبَادِ عَلَى اللَّهِ؟ قُلْتُ: اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَعْلَمُ، قَالَ: فَإِنَّ حَقَّ اللَّهِ عَلَى الْعِبَادِ أَنْ يَعْبُدُوهُ وَلَا يُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا وَحَقُّ الْعِبَادِ عَلَى اللَّهِ أَنْ لَا يُعَذِّبَ مَنْ لَا يُشْرِكُ بِهِ شَيْئًا».

“The Prophet ﷺ said, ‘O Mu‘adh! Do you know Allâh's right on the slaves and the slaves' right on Allâh?’ I said, ‘Allâh and His Messenger know best.’ He said, ‘Verily, Allâh's right on the slaves is that they worship Him Alone and associate none with Him in worship. The right of the slaves on Allâh is that He does not torment any who associates none with Him in worship.’”

Worshipping Allâh Alone is required from all those responsible adults, from the time he or she reaches the age of adolescence, until they die. Allâh the exalted said:

﴿ وَأَعْبُدْ رَبَّكَ حَتَّىٰ يَأْتِيَكَ الْيَقِينُ ﴾

“And worship your Lord until there comes unto you the certainty (i.e., death).” (15:99)

And He said about ‘Esa (Jesus), peace be upon him:

﴿ وَأَوْصِنِي بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالزَّكَاةِ مَا دُمْتُ حَيًّا ﴾

“And has enjoined on me *Salât* (prayer), and *Zakât*, as long as I live.” (19:31)

O slaves of Allâh! He who does not worship Allâh will become Satan’s slave, just as Allâh the exalted said:

﴿ أَلَمْ أَعْهَدْ إِلَيْكُمْ يَا بَنِي آدَمَ أَنْ لَا تَعْبُدُوا الشَّيْطَانَ إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُبِينٌ ۚ وَأَنْ أَعْبُدُونِي هَذَا صِرَاطٌ مُسْتَقِيمٌ ﴾

“Did I not command you, O Children of Adam, that you should not worship *Shaitân* (Satan). Verily, he is a plain enemy to you. And that you should worship Me. That is the Straight Path.” (36:60,61)

He who does not worship Allâh worships his own lusts and desires.

﴿ أَفَرَأَيْتَ مَنْ أَخَذَ إِلَهُهُ هَوْنَهُ وَأَضَلَّهُ اللَّهُ عَلَىٰ عِلْمٍ ﴾

“Have you seen him who takes his own lust (vain desires) as his *ilâh* (god)? And Allâh knowing (him as such), left him astray.” (45:23)

He who does not worship Allâh, worships the life of this world:

قَالَ ﷺ : «تَعِسَ عَبْدُ الْخَمِيصَةِ، تَعِسَ عَبْدُ الْخَمِيلَةِ، إِنْ أُعْطِيَ رَضِيَ وَإِنْ لَمْ يُعْطَ لَمْ يَرْضَ».

“Miserable is the slave of the *Khamisah*, miserable is the slave of the *Khamilah* (types of clothes): If he is given, he is pleased, but if he is deprived, he is not pleased.”

Worshipping Allâh Alone without partners gains the slaves dominance on the earth and immunity from all types of fears in this life and the Hereafter.

﴿ وَعَدَّ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَيَسْتَخْلِفَنَّهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ كَمَا اسْتَخْلَفَ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ وَلَيُمَكِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ دِينَهُمُ الَّذِي ارْتَضَىٰ لَهُمْ وَلَيُبَدِّلَنَّهُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا يَعْبُدُونَنِي لَا يُشْرِكُونَ بِي شَيْئًا وَمَنْ كَفَرَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ

الْفَاسِقُونَ ﴿

“Allâh has promised those among you who believe and do righteous good deeds, that He will certainly grant them succession to (the present rulers) in the land, as He granted it to those before them, and that He will grant them the authority to practice their religion which He has chosen for them (i.e., Islâm). And He will surely give them in exchange a safe security after their fear (provided) they (believers) worship Me and do not associate anything (in worship) with Me. But whoever disbelieved after this, they are the *Fâsiqûn* (rebellious, disobedient to Allâh).” (24:55)

Dear Muslim, you give a promise to Allâh in every *Rak‘ah* in your prayer, when you read Allâh’s statement:

﴿إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ﴾

“You (Alone) we worship, and You (Alone) we ask for help (for each and everything).” (1:5)

That you would worship Him Alone and seek His help Alone. Consequently:

﴿وَأَوْفُوا بِعَهْدِ اللَّهِ إِذَا عَاهَدْتُمْ﴾

“And fulfil the Covenant of Allâh when you have covenanted.” (16:91)

May Allâh direct us all to the blessings of the Glorious Qur’ân and benefit us in whatever is in it of the *Âyat* and Wise *Dhikr*. I say this and ask Allâh the Great and the Most Honored for forgiveness for me, you and all Muslims for every sin. Invoke Him for forgiveness, for He is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.¹

¹ *Al-Khutab Al-Minbariyyah*, by Shaikh Salih Al-Fozan, vol. 2, p. 13