

# Fearing Allah's Punishment



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All praise is for Allâh Who has mercy on whomever He wishes, and punishes whomever He wishes, and to Him you will return. I bear witness that there is no god worthy of worship except Allâh and I bear witness that Muhammad is the slave and Messenger of Allâh Who sent him with the guidance and true religion; may peace and blessings be upon him, his family and Companions. Allâh, the Most High, said:

﴿إِنَّ بَطْشَ رَبِّكَ لَشَدِيدٌ﴾

“Verily, (O Muhammad ﷺ) the Seizure (punishment) of your Lord is severe and painful.” (85:12)

And said:

﴿وَكَذَلِكَ أَخْذُ رَبِّكَ إِذَا أَخَذَ الْقُرَىٰ وَهِيَ ظَالِمَةٌ إِنَّ أَخْذَهُ أَلِيمٌ شَدِيدٌ ۝ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَةً لِّمَن خَافَ عَذَابَ الْآخِرَةِ ۚ ذَلِكَ يَوْمٌ مَّجْمُوعٌ لَّهُ النَّاسُ وَذَلِكَ يَوْمٌ مَّشْهُودٌ ۝ وَمَا نُؤَخِّرُهُ إِلَّا لِأَجَلٍ مُّعَدَّدٍ ۝ يَوْمَ يَأْتِ لَا تَكَلِّمُ نَفْسٌ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِهِ ۚ فَمِنْهُمْ سَقِيٌّ وَسَعِيدٌ﴾

“Such is the Seizure of your Lord when He seizes the (population of) towns while they are doing wrong. Verily, His Seizure is painful (and) severe. Indeed in that (there) is a sure lesson for those who fear the torment of the Hereafter. That is a Day whereon mankind will be gathered together, and that is a Day when all (the dwellers of the heavens and the earth) will be present. And We delay it only for a term (already) fixed. On the Day when it comes, no person shall speak except by His (Allâh's) Leave. Some among them will be wretched and (others) blessed.” (11:102-105)

Anas ؓ narrated that the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ had delivered a speech to them in which he said:

«لَوْ تَعْلَمُونَ مَا أَغْلَمَ لَضَحِكْتُمْ قَلِيلًا وَلَبَكَيْتُمْ كَثِيرًا.»

“If you only knew what I know, you would laugh little, yet weep a lot.”

Thereupon, the Companions of the Prophet ﷺ covered their faces and a sound of sobbing was heard. (*Agreed upon*)

Another narration states that the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ was told something about his Companions upon which he delivered a speech and said:

«عُرِضَتْ عَلَيَّ الْجَنَّةُ وَالنَّارُ فَلَمْ أَرَ كَالْيَوْمِ فِي الْخَيْرِ وَالشَّرِّ، لَوْ تَعَلَّمُونَ مَا أَعْلَمُ لَصَحِحْتُمْ قَلِيلًا وَلَبَكَيْتُمْ كَثِيرًا» .

“I was shown the Heavens and the Fire of Hell, thus I have not seen a day like this day in evil and in good. If you only knew what I know, you would laugh a little and weep a lot”

There had not been a day harder on the Companions of the Prophet ﷺ than that day. They then covered their heads and a sound of *Khaneen* (the sound of catching the breath while sobbing) was heard from them.

Al-Miqdad ؓ narrated that he heard the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ say:

«تُدْنَى الشَّمْسُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ مِنَ الْخَلْقِ حَتَّى تَكُونَ مِنْهُمْ لِمِقْدَارِ مِيلٍ - قَالَ سُلَيْمُ بْنُ عَامِرٍ الرَّائِي عَنِ الْمِقْدَادِ: فَوَاللَّهِ مَا أَدْرِي مَا يَعْنِي بِالْمِيلِ مَسَافَةَ الْأَرْضِ أَمْ الْمِيلَ الَّذِي يُكْحَلُ بِهِ الْعَيْنُ - فَيَكُونُ النَّاسُ عَلَى قَدْرِ أَعْمَالِهِمْ فِي الْعَرَقِ فَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يَكُونُ إِلَى كَعْبِيهِ وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يَكُونُ إِلَى رُكْبَتَيْهِ وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يَكُونُ إِلَى حَقْوَيْهِ وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يُلْجِمُهُ الْعَرَقُ إِلْجَامًا وَأَشَارَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ إِلَى فِيهِ» .

“On the Day of Resurrection, the sun draws so near to the creatures (including people) that there would be left only a distance of a mile.” Suleim bin Aamir, the one who transmitted this *Hadith* from Al-Miqdad, said: “Well, I do not know what was meant by *Al-meel*; whether it was the mile of distance on land, or the small stick women use to apply kohl on their eyelids.” The Prophet continued, “...thus people will be covered

with their sweat according to their actions: some will be covered in sweat until their ankles; some will be covered up until their knees; some will be covered up to their waists; and some will be bridled with their sweat.” Then The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ pointed at his mouth. (*Muslim*)

Abu Hureirah ؓ narrated that the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ had said:

«إِنِّي أَرَى مَا لَا تَرَوْنَ وَأَسْمَعُ مَا لَا تَسْمَعُونَ أَطَّتِ السَّمَاءُ وَحَقَّ لَهَا أَنْ تَنْطَ، مَا فِيهَا مَوْضِعُ أَرْبَعِ أَصَابِعٍ إِلَّا وَمَلَكَ وَاضِعٌ جَبْهَتَهُ سَاجِدًا لِلَّهِ تَعَالَى، وَاللَّهُ لَوْ تَعَلَّمُونَ مَا أَعْلَمُ لَضَحِكْتُمْ قَلِيلًا وَلَبَكَيْتُمْ كَثِيرًا وَلَمَا تَلَدَّدْتُمْ بِالنِّسَاءِ عَلَى الْفُرُشِ، وَلَخَرَجْتُمْ إِلَى الصُّعَدَاتِ تَجَارُونَ إِلَى اللَّهِ سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى.»

“Verily, I see what you do not see. The heaven moaned (from being so loaded with angels), and it has the right to moan; there is not in it as much as the space of four-finger span but there is an angel prostrating before Allāh ﷻ. By Allāh if you only knew what I know, you would laugh little, yet cry a lot; you would never enjoy your wives in bed; and you would go out to the open roads eagerly asking Allāh ﷻ to help you.” (*At-Tirmidhi*)

Abu Baraza Fadhlah Bin Ubeid Al-Aslami ؓ said that the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ had said:

«لَا تَزُولُ قَدَمَا عَبْدٍ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ حَتَّى يُسْأَلَ عَنْ عُمُرِهِ فِيمَا أَفْنَاهُ، وَعَنْ عِلْمِهِ فِيمَا فَعَلَ فِيهِ، وَعَنْ مَالِهِ مِنْ أَيْنَ لَكُنْتَبَفُ، وَفِيمَ أَنْفَقَهُ، وَعَنْ جَسْمِهِ فِيمَا أَبْلَاهُ.»

“A person (slave of Allāh) will remain standing on the Day of Resurrection until he is questioned about his lifetime and how he passed it, his knowledge and what he did with it, his wealth and how he acquired it and in what way he spent it, and his body and how he wore it out.” (*At-Tirmidhi*)

‘Āishah رضى الله عنها said she heard the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ say:

«يُحْشَرُ النَّاسُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ حُفَاةَ عُرَاةٍ غُرْلًا» قُلْتُ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ الرَّجَالُ

وَالنِّسَاءُ جَمِيعًا يُنظَرُ بَعْضُهُمْ إِلَى بَعْضٍ؟ قَالَ: «يَاعَائِشَةُ! الأَمْرُ أَشَدُّ مِنْ أَنْ يُهِمَّهُمْ ذَلِكَ» وَفِي رِوَايَةٍ: «الأَمْرُ أَهَمُّ مِنْ أَنْ يُنظَرَ بَعْضُهُمْ إِلَى بَعْضٍ».

“The people would be gathered on the Day of Resurrection barefooted, nude, and uncircumcised.” I said: “O Allâh’s Messenger! Will the men and women be looking at one another?” Thereupon, the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ said: “O ‘Aishah! The matter would then be too serious for them to look at one another.” (Agreed upon)

Abu Hurairah ؓ narrated that the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ had said:

«مَنْ خَافَ أَدْلَجَ وَمَنْ أَدْلَجَ بَلَغَ الْمَنْزِلَ، أَلَا إِنَّ سِلْعَةَ اللَّهِ غَالِيَةٌ، أَلَا إِنَّ سِلْعَةَ اللَّهِ الْجَنَّةُ».

“He who is afraid (of the enemy) shall set out in the early part of the night, and he who sets out early arrives at his destination. Verily, Allâh’s commodity (reward) is precious. Verily, Allâh’s commodity is Paradise.”

Abu Hurairah ؓ also narrated that the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ recited:

﴿يَوْمَئِذٍ تُحَدِّثُ أَخْبَارَهَا﴾

“That Day it (the earth) will declare its information (about all that happened over it of good or evil).” (99:4)

And then said:

«أَتَدْرُونَ مَا أَخْبَارُهَا» قَالُوا: اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَعْلَمُ. قَالَ: «أَخْبَارُهَا أَنْ تَشْهَدَ عَلَى كُلِّ عَبْدٍ أَوْ أَمَةٍ بِمَا عَمِلَ عَلَى ظَهْرِهَا تَقُولُ: عَمِلْتَ كَذَا وَكَذَا فِي يَوْمٍ كَذَا وَكَذَا، فَهَذِهِ أَخْبَارُهَا».

“Do you know what its news is?” They said: “Allâh and His Messenger know best.” He said: “(Its news is that it shall testify against every man and woman regarding that which they did on its back, saying: You did this and this on such and such day. That will be its information.” (At-Tirmidhi)

Adi bin Hatim ؓ narrated that the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ said:

«مَا مِنْكُمْ مِنْ أَحَدٍ إِلَّا سَيَكْلُمُهُ رَبُّهُ لَيْسَ بَيْنَهُ وَبَيْنَهُ تَرْجُمَانٌ، فَيَنْظُرُ أَيَمَنَ مِنْهُ فَلَا يَرَى إِلَّا مَا قَدَّمَ، وَيَنْظُرُ أَشْأَمَ مِنْهُ فَلَا يَرَى إِلَّا مَا قَدَّمَ، وَيَنْظُرُ بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ فَلَا يَرَى إِلَّا النَّارَ تَلْقَاءَ وَجْهِهِ، فَاتَّقُوا النَّارَ وَلَوْ بِشِقِّ تَمْرَةٍ.»

“None of you will be resurrected but that his Lord will speak to him without an interpreter between them. He would look at his right and see nothing but the deeds he had set forward. He would look at his left and see nothing but again the deeds he had set forward. He would further look in front of him, yet see nothing but the Fire of Hell in his face. So protect yourselves from the Fire, even by (giving in charity) half a date.” (*Agreed upon*)

Samurah Bin Jundub ؓ said that the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ had said:

«مِنْهُمْ مَنْ تَأْخُذُهُ النَّارُ إِلَى كَعْبِيهِ وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ تَأْخُذُهُ إِلَى حُجْرَتِهِ وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ تَأْخُذُهُ إِلَى تَرْقُوتِهِ.»

“There will be some to whose ankle the fire will reach, some to whose knees it will reach, some to whose waist the fire will reach, and some to whose collarbone the fire will reach.”

Nu‘man bin Bashir ؓ narrated that the the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ said:

«إِنَّ أَهْوَنَ أَهْلِ النَّارِ عَذَابًا يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ لَرَجُلٌ يُوَضَعُ فِي أَحْمَصِ قَدَمَيْهِ جَمْرَتَانِ يَغْلِي مِنْهُمَا دِمَاغُهُ، مَا يَرَى أَنَّ أَحَدًا أَشَدَّ مِنْهُ عَذَابًا وَإِنَّهُ لَأَهْوَنُهُمْ عَذَابًا.»

“The inhabitant of Hell who will have the lightest punishment will be he who has two sandal straps of fire from which his brain will bubble like a pot, and he will think that no one is having a more severe punishment than he, although his is the lightest punishment.” (*Agreed upon*)

Ibn Umar ؓ narrated that the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ had said:

«يَقُومُ النَّاسُ لِرَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ حَتَّىٰ يَغِيبَ أَحَدُهُمْ فِي رَشْحِهِ إِلَىٰ أَنْصَافِ أذُنَيْهِ».

“The people would stand before Allâh, the Lord of the worlds, while each of them would be submerged in his sweat up to the middle of his ears.”

Allâh ﷻ says:

﴿الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَلِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْ تَخْشَعَ قُلُوبُهُمْ لِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَمَا نَزَلَ مِنَ الْحَقِّ وَلَا يَكُونُوا كَالَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ مِنْ قَبْلُ فَطَالَ عَلَيْهِمُ الْأَمَدُ فَقَسَتْ قُلُوبُهُمْ وَكَثِيرٌ مِنْهُمْ فَاسِقُونَ﴾

“Has not the time come for the hearts of those who believe (in the Oneness of Allâh — Islâmic Monotheism) to be affected by Allâh’s Reminder (this Qur’ân), and that which has been revealed of the truth, lest they become as those who received the Scripture [the Taurât (Torah) and the Injeel (Gospel)] before (i.e. Jews and Christians), and the term was prolonged for them and so their hearts were hardened? And many of them were *Fâsiqûn* (the rebellious, the disobedient to Allâh).” (57:16)

May Allâh ﷻ bless us all with His Book and benefit us with its *Āyat* and wisdom. By this, I conclude my speech and ask Allâh ﷻ to forgive all of our wrongdoing. So seek His forgiveness as He is the All-Forgiving Most Merciful.