

SUPPLICATIONS AND IT BENEFITS

Sh. Haatim - 9th Rabi Al Aakhir 1416

Dear Brothers and Sister! Know that supplication is the greatest kind of worship. The Prophet Sallallahu' Alayhi Wasallam said, 'Supplication is worshipping.' Then he read in S. Ghaafir: (40:60)

“And your Rabb said: "Invoke Me, i.e. ask Me for anything and I will respond to your invocations. Verily! Those who scorn My worship by not invoking Me and do not believe in My Oneness, they will surely enter Hell in humiliation.”

Allah Ta'aala ordered us to supplicate to Him in a lot of Verses in the Qur'an, and He promised to reward us accordingly. He praised His Prophets when He said in S. Al Anbiyaa: (21:90)

“Verily! They used to hasten on to do good deeds, and they used call on Us with hope and fear, and used to humble themselves before Us.”

Allah Ta'aala also told us that He is near us and He responds to our supplications. In S. Al Baqarah Allah says to His Prophet, Sallallahu' Alayhi Wasallam: (2:186)

"And when My slave O Muhammad, Sallallahu' Alayhi Wasallam, asks concerning Me, then answer them, I am indeed near to them by My knowledge. I respond to the invocations of the supplicant when he calls on Me, without any mediator or intercessor. So let them obey Me and believe in Me, so they may be led aright."

Allah Ta'aala ordered us to supplicate to Him especially when we are in distress or hardship, and He said that He is the Only One Who responds to the distressed one who is suffering and He will relieve him. In S. An Naml Allah says: (27:62)

"Is He not better than your gods, Who responds to the distressed one, when he calls Him, and Who removes the evil, and makes you inheritors of the earth?"

Allah Ta'aala criticized the ones who does not supplicate to Him when hardship befalls him. He says in S. Al A'raaf: (7:94)

"And We sent no Prophet unto any town and they denied him, but We seized its people with suffering from extreme poverty or loss of wealth, and loss of health and calamities, so that they might humiliate themselves and repent to Allah."

This is because Allah is Merciful even though He is independent of His creation. He orders them to invoke Him, because they are in need. Allah says in S. Faatir: (35:15)

"O Mankind! It is you who stand in need of Allah, but Allah is Rich - Free of all wants and needs, Worthy of all praise."

In Hadeeth Qudsi Allah says: "O My servants, all of you are astray except for those I have guided, so seek guidance of Me and I shall guide you. O My servants! All of you are hungry except for those I have fed, so seek food of Me and I shall feed you. O My servants, all of you are naked except for those I have clothed, so seek clothing of Me and I shall clothe you. O My servants you sin by night and by day, and I forgive all sins, so seek forgiveness and I shall forgive you."

Dear Brothers and Sisters! Know, that in order for Allah to respond to your supplications, (you should consider that) there are conditions for you to follow. Allah promises to respond to our supplications and He will not break His promise, but there is some things which will hinder your supplications from being answered. Some of these hindrances are:

1. Disobeying some of Allah's orders, by committing the Haraam. By doing this, it will take you further away from Allah, and if you ask Allah, then He will not respond. The Prophet Sallallaahu 'Alayhi Wasallam said, "Remember Allah in good times, and He will remember you in the bad times." By fearing and obeying Allah in the good times, Allah will relieve you when you are suffering." Now, there are many examples regarding this issue, but for the sake of the time factor, I will only mention the story of Yoonus 'Alayhi Salaam. Allah says in S. As Saffaat: (37:143-144)

"Had he not been of them who glorify Allah. He would have indeed remained in the belly of the fish till the Day of Resurrection."

2. Eating, drinking and wearing the Haraam. A Hadeeth described someone who eats, drinks and wears the Haraam, and then he raises his hands and says, 'O Allah! O Allah!' How can Allah respond to such a person. In comparison in another Hadeeth it mentions that by eating the Halaal, Allah will respond to your supplications.

3. Not being sincere in your supplication. Allah says in S. Ghaafir: (40:14) So, call you, O Muhammad, Sallallaahu 'Alayhi Wasallam, and the believers upon Allah, making your worship pure for Him Alone and by doing religious deeds sincerely for Allah's sake only and not to show off and not to set up rivals with Him in worship.

4. To make supplication while your heart shows negligence. There is a Hadeeth that mentions that, Allah does not accept the supplication from a negligent heart.

5. Enjoining the right and forbidding the wrong. A Hadeeth mentions that the Prophet Sallallaahu 'Alayhi Wasallam orders us to enjoin the right and forbid the wrong otherwise Allah will send a punishment, and if you supplicate, there will be no response.

Imam Ibn Al Qayyim said, 'Supplication is one of the strongest reasons in repelling trouble or misfortune, and obtaining the required. Its effect may be retarded either because of its weakness, because it is a supplication disliked by Allah due to it being

harmful to believers, or because of his negligent heart, his desertion of Allah and his haste in performing it.'

Imam Ibn Al Qayyim also said that supplication is one of the most beneficial treatments for curing diseases to the body. It is the enemy of misfortune and it is the believers' weapon as it is narrated by Al Haakim from a Hadeeth by 'Alee ibn Abee Taalib, Radiya Allahu 'Anhu, that the Prophet, Sallallaahu 'Alayhi Wasallam said, "Supplication is the believers weapon, the pillar of the religion and the light in the heavens and the earth."

So fear Allah, dear beloved Brothers and Sisters, and insist upon repeating your supplication to your Rabb. In Hadeeth narrated by Aa'isha, Radiya Allahu 'Anha, it says that indeed Allah loves the believer who insists in his/her supplication.

My dear Brothers and Sisters, the supplication is one of the greatest forms of worship, because, it indicates humbleness and modesty, to have a soft heart, to have the desire of what Allah has to offer, the fear of the Most High and testifying your deficiency and need of Allah. Desertion of supplications indicates pride and arrogance and hardens the heart as it is a protest against Allah and a reason for entering the Hell-fire. Allah Most High says in S. Ghaafir: (40:60)

"And your Rabb said: 'Invoke Me, i.e. ask Me for anything and I will respond to your invocations. Verily! Those who scorn My worship by not invoking Me and do not believe in My Oneness, they will surely enter Hell in humiliation.'" (40:60)

As the supplication is a reason for entering Paradise, Allah says in S. At Toor: (52:25-28) "And some of them draw near to others, questioning, saying: 'Aforetime, we were afraid with our families from the punishment of Allah. But Allah has been gracious to us, and has saved us from the Torment of the Fire. Verily! We used to invoke Him before. Verily! He is 'Al Barr' - the Most Subtle, Kind, Courteous and Generous - the Most Merciful.'"

Brothers and Sisters, increase your supplication to Allah and be sincere in your religion. Allah Most High Says in S. Al A'raaf: (7:55-56)

"Invoke your Rabb with humility and in secret. He likes not the aggressors. And do not mischief on the earth, after it has been set in order, and invoke him with fear and hope. Surely Allah's mercy is ever near unto the good-doers."

In the second Khutbah the noble Sheikh said:

My dear Brothers and Sisters, there are reasons, that if a servant complies with it, then his supplications would be fulfilled. Imam Ibn Al Qayyim gives it as such: Your heart must accompany your supplication, it must concentrate on what you wished for and it should co-coincide with the six times of acceptance during each day. The times of acceptance are:

1. The final third of the night.
2. Near or at the Adhaan.
3. Between the Adhaan and the Iqaamat.
4. After the five obligatory prayers.
5. When the Imam walks up to the Mimbar on Friday Jumu'ah prayers till the prayer ends.
6. The final hour of Asr Salaah on a Friday.

When you supplicate, fear Allah, be submissive, humble and sincere. You should face the Qibla and be in a state of Tahaara. Raise your hands, and start by praising and complimenting Allah. Then send Salaat and Salaams on the Prophet, Sallallaahu 'Alayhi Wasallam, and repent by asking forgiveness and insist on the subject wished for. Supplicate with interest and fear implores by using His Names and Attributes. This supplication could never be refused especially if some of the Prophet's supplications are used or the supplication contains the greatest name of Allah.

My dear Brothers and Sisters, the supplication relieves the sorrow, succors the grief, brings victory over enemies. So Increase your supplications for yourselves and fellow Muslims. Know that the supplication of the oppressed is answerable. So beware of oppression. The Prophet Sallallaahu 'Alayhi Wasallam said, 'Beware of the supplication of the oppressed, since there is no barrier between it and Allah.'