

Importance of having hearts conscious of God

Friday Khutbah (25/1/2008) delivered by Shaykh Muhammad Taher

DISCLAIMER: This reminder was originally delivered in Arabic. Any meanings lost in translation are not to be attributed to the speaker as reminders are translated by volunteers. The mosque has no official translator and volunteers often have no formal qualifications to translate on the day. Please forgive any errors as they are from our human weakness and any right guidance is from God

Oh Muslims, Fear God as He should be feared (or be mindful of God as He should be constantly on mind in whatever you do). There is no good in this life or the hereafter except with the fear of God which he directed the people of the book and Muslims in all times to.

"To God belongs all things in the heavens and on earth. Indeed we have directed the People of the Book before you, and you (O' Muslims) to fear God. But if you deny Him, lo! to God belong all things in the heavens and on earth, and God is free of all wants, worthy of all praise " (an Nisa 4:131)

Having the fear of God the doors of heavens open with the blessings of God "If the people of the towns had but believed and been mindful/feared God, We would have showered them with (all kinds of) blessings from the heavens and earth; but they rejected (the truth), and so We punished them for their misdeeds" (al Araaf 7:96)

Disbelieving in God and what come with it from sins is the reason for every evil, calamity and disasters in this world. God takes away his bounties and blessings when people don't appreciate those blessings and divert from the orders of God.

" Whatever misfortune befalls you, it is because of what your own hands have done, and for many (of them) He grants forgiveness." (ash Shura 42:30)

"Because God would never change a favour He had conferred on a people unless they changed what was within themselves/in their (own) souls." (al Anfal 8:53)

Oh brothers and sisters - the disasters, drought, famines and floods that we see today are a normal consequence of our detachment from God, our indulgence in what God has prohibited for us, our negligence towards the limits drawn for us by our lord and living in this life as if we will be immortal and as if we will never be accounted for this on the Day of Judgement!

"Mischief/ Corruption has flourished on land and sea as a result of people's actions, and He will make them taste some of the consequences of their own actions so that they may turn back (from Evil)." (ar Roum 30:41)

But even with our sins and disobedience God, the Almighty, is the most Merciful and He, the Almighty, knows what is best for us and because of this mercy he tests us with hardships as a reminder for us so we don't exaggerate in disobedience but instead we do

go back to Him - "We sent messengers before you to many communities, and We afflicted them with suffering and adversity, that they might learn humility. If only they had learnt humility when suffering came from Us! On the contrary their hearts became hardened, and Satan made their (sinful) acts seem alluring to them." (al An'am 6:42-43)

God, the Almighty, wants us to repent to him, remain in a state of humility and remember that our affairs are between His hands - "Is it not the Time for the Believers that in a state of humility, their hearts should engage in the remembrance of God and in the Truth which has been revealed (to them), and not to be like those who received the Scripture before them, whose time was extended but their hearts grew hard? For many among them were rebellious transgressors." (al Hadeed 57:16)

Oh Muslims,

We will be in great danger if we reach the greatest of punishments which God can leave us to - that is not feeling our disobediences and not caring about our sins - the point when the hearts die "But when they forgot the warning they had received, We opened to them the gates to everything for them, until, in the midst of their revelling in what We had given, on a sudden, We called them to account, and they were in despair" (al An'am 6:44)

We raise our hands to God, we complain to Him only, we ask Him to remove the hardships that our community (our Ummah) is living in and to unite our world.