

“What comes to you of good is from Allāh, but what comes to you of evil, is from yourself”

DISCLAIMER: This reminder was originally delivered in Arabic on Friday, 4th December 2009. 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.

Whenever the believer experiences something pleasant then he admits the bounty of Allah (SW) and praises Him for His blessings and guidance. On the other hand, whenever he comes across some adversity then he blames and accuses only himself as Allah says “What comes to you of good is from Allāh, but what comes to you of evil, [O man], is from yourself” [Al-Nisa 4:79]. This is the state of the believer, attributing every good and bounty to Allah (SW) as He is the possessor of blessings “And whatever you have of favour – it is from Allāh” [Al-Nahl 16:53] and attributing every bad that might harm him to himself.

Allah says “Whoever does righteousness, whether male or female, while he is a believer – We will surely cause him to live a good life, and We will surely give them their reward [in the Hereafter] according to the best of what they used to do.” [Al-Nahl 16:97] so obedience to Allah, being on the straight path, fearing Allah and being concisions of Him are the means to enjoy a good life in this life and best reward in the Hereafter. Ibn Abaas (may Allah be pleased with him) said: ‘Indeed, for a good act, there is brightness in the face, light in the heart, abundance in provision, strength in the body, and love in the hearts of creation. And indeed, for an evil act, there is blackness in the face, darkness in the heart, weakness in the body, lack in provision, and hatred in the hearts of creation’.

Whenever the early righteous generation faced difficulties in any of their affairs or suffered a decline in the work or trade, they used to go back and blame themselves! One of them would say: I might have sinned and did not fulfil Allah’s rights upon me. I must have been neglectful in regard to Allah or oppressed one of His slaves. I must have missed one of his obligatory worships or violated one of His sacred ordinances. After that, they used to go back to Allah repenting and seeking His forgiveness using the same words used by their father Adam and his wife when they were removed from Paradise “Our Lord, we have wronged ourselves, and if You do not forgive us and have mercy upon us, we will surely be among the losers.” [Al-Araaf 7:23]. It is admitting the sin, regretting, seeking forgiveness from Allah and His help to retain control over our lower self, asking for His mercy with complete certainty that there is no power or strength except with Allah’s help and mercy, otherwise we will surely be among the losers.

Oh Muslims, Every Muslim should ask him/her self: why did that bad happen to me? We should account ourselves and check our situation. We should always check our relationship and our connection with Allah Him and whether we fall sort in fulfilling His rights upon us. Then we should quickly treat our lower self with a sincere and truthful repentance to cure our hearts. Sins and bad deeds bring consequences upon the soul and the household. By committing them then slave becomes humiliated in the eyes of Allah “And he whom Allāh humiliates – for him there is no bestower of honour” [Al-Hajj 22:18]. Sins are evil for the individual; make them concerned, have dread in their hearts and afflicted by diseases. He is always disturbed and worried and his heart is always filled with fear and terror. He fears diseases, death, is uncertain about the future, looses the blessing and getting hit by feelings of anger that the world is unfair. That is all because of his sins and their effects – this is a result of him being away from Allah and His remembrance.

[If you are enjoying Allah’s bounties and blessings then take care of them as sins remove blessing. Protect Allah’s bounties and blessings with the obedience to the Lord of the servants as He can easily remove them from you]