



AN ADEQUATE TREASURE FOR THE SEEKER OF THE HEREAFTER

Chapter: Prophetic Narrations on the Excellence and Reward of Prayer



Class Resource

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Chapter: Prophetic Narrations on the Excellence and Reward of Prayer

Focus: “Prophetic Narrations on the Excellence of the Five Daily Prayers”

[1] / [1]: Umar Ibn al-Khattaab – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated, I heard the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ), say:

Indeed, actions are judged by intentions, and everyone will have what was intended.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#1), and Muslim (#1907).

[2] / [2]: Abu Hurayrah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated, The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

The five daily prayers and *Jumu'ah* to *Jumu'ah* wipe away the sins that occur between them; as long as it is not a major sin.

In another wording found in Muslim,

Ramadhaan to Ramadhaan.

Collected by Muslim (#233).

[3] / [3]: M'adaan Ibn Abee Talhah – may Allah have mercy on him – narrated, I met Thaubaan, the freed slave of the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ), and I asked him to inform me about an act, that by way of it, Allah will admit me into Paradise, or, about the act which is most beloved to Allah, The Most High.

He remained quiet. So, I asked him again, and again, he remained quiet. Then, I asked him again, for a third time, and he said, I asked the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) about that, and he (ﷺ) said:

Prostrate abundantly, sincerely for Allah. Every prostration you make, sincerely for Allah, is a cause for Allah to raise you a degree and to remove a sin from you.

Ma'daan – may Allah have mercy on him – said,

Then, I met Abu ad-Dardaa' – may Allah be pleased with him – and I asked him the same question. He said the same thing as Thaubaan.

Collected by Muslim (#488).

“An Adequate Treasure for the Seeker of the Hereafter”

[4] / [4]: Rabee’ah Ibn K’ab al-Aslamee – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated, I used to aid the Prophet (ﷺ) in the evening. I would bring him water to make *wudhoo*, and I would help him with his needs. So, he (ﷺ) said to me:

Make a request.

I replied, I ask you for your companionship in Paradise. He (ﷺ) said:

Is there something other than that?

I said, That is my request. He (ﷺ) said:

Help me achieve success for your soul by making an abundance of prostration.

Collected by Muslim (#489).

[5] / [5]: Abu Hurayrah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated, The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

Whoever ritually purifies himself, in his home, and walks to one of the Houses of Allah, in order to pray an obligatory prayer, one of his footsteps wipes away a sin, and the other raises him a level.

Collected by Muslim (#666).

[6] / [6]: Abu Hurayrah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that he heard the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) saying:

What do you think if one of you had a river in front of his door, and he took a bath in it five times a day? Would any dirt remain on him?

They said, No dirt would remain on him.

He (ﷺ) said:

That is the example of the five daily prayers. Allah wipes away the sins due to them.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#528) and Muslim (#667).

[7] / [7]: Abu Hurayrah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

Whoever goes to the Masjid, or returns from it, Allah prepares for him pleasures within Paradise, each time he goes, and each time he returns.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#528) and Muslim (#667).

[8] / [8]: Abu Maalik al-Ash’aree – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated, the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

“An Adequate Treasure for the Seeker of the Hereafter”

Ritual purification is half of faith (i.e. half of Prayer).

The statement *al-hamdolillah* (i.e. All praise is due to Allah) fills up the scales. The statements *subhaanAllah* (i.e. Allah is free from any imperfection) and *al-hamdolillah* – combined, or individually – fill that which is in the Heavens and the Earth.

The Prayer is light.

Charity is proof.

Patience is illumination.

The Qur’aan is a proof for you or against you.

Everyone starts out the day a vendor of his [or her] soul, either working towards its salvation, or working towards its ruin.

Collected by Muslim (#223).

Focus: “The Excellence of Praying Promptly”

[9] / [1]: Abdullah Ibn Mas’ood – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated, I asked the Prophet (ﷺ), Which action is most beloved to Allah, the Mighty and Majestic? He (ﷺ) said:

The prayer in its earliest time.

I said, Then what? He (ﷺ) said:

Outstanding behavior towards parents.

I said, Then what? He (ﷺ) said:

Striving in the path of Allah.

He (ﷺ) informed of these things, and had I kept asking, he would have given me more answers.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#527) and Muslim (#85).

Focus: “Prophetic Narrations on the Excellence of the Congregational Prayer”

[10] / [1]: Abu Hurayrah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated, The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

Congregational prayer is better than prayer alone by twenty-five levels.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#648) and Muslim (#649).

[11] / [2]: Abdullah Ibn Umar – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated, The Prophet (ﷺ) said:

Congregational prayer is better than prayer alone by twenty-seven levels.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#645) and Muslim (#650).

Abu Eesaa at-Tirmithees – may Allah have mercy on him – said:

The majority of narrations attributed to the Prophet (ﷺ) on the topic of congregational prayer state twenty-five levels, except for the narration of Ibn Umar – may Allah be pleased with him. In his narration, he said twenty-seven.

Focus: “Prophetic Narrations on the Excellence of Two Units before Fajr Prayer”

[12] / [1]: S’ad Ibn Hishaam – may Allah have mercy on him – narrated that A’ishah – may Allah be pleased with her – said, The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

The two units of prayer before Fajr are better than this world and all that is in it.

Collected by Muslim (#725).

[13] / [2]: A’ishah – may Allah be pleased with her – narrated:

I did not see the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) race to a voluntary deed quicker than his racing to the two units of prayer before Fajr Prayer.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#1169) and Muslim (#724).

Focus: “Prophetic Narrations on the Excellence of Upholding The Fajr & ‘Asr Prayers”

[14] / [1]: Abu Bakr, the son of Umaarah, the son of Ru’aybah, narrated that his father said, I heard the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) saying:

Anyone who prays before the Sun rises and before the Sun sets will not enter the Fire.

What is meant by this is *Salaatul-Fajr* and *Salaatul-Asr*.

Collected by Muslim (#634).

[15] / [2]: Abu Bakr, the son of Abu Moosaa al-Ash’aree, narrated on his father, that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

Whoever prays, during the cooler hours of the day, will enter Paradise.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#574) and Muslim (#635).

Focus: “Prophetic Narrations on [The Excellence of] Duhaa Prayer”

[16] / [1]: Abu Dardaa – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated,

My beloved (ﷺ) advised me with three things; three things that I should not leave off as long I am alive:

- 1) to fast three days out of each month,
- 2) to pray the *Duhaa* Prayer,
- 3) and not to sleep until I pray the *Witr* Prayer.

Collected by Muslim (#722).

[17] / [2]: Abu Hurayrah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated,

My beloved (ﷺ) advised me with three things:

- 1) to fast three days out of each month,
- 2) to pray two units of prayer for the *Duhaa* Prayer,
- 3) and to pray the *Witr* Prayer before going to sleep.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#1981) and Muslim (#821).

¹ [TN]: The Forenoon Prayer

[18]/ [3]: Abu Tharr – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

Every morning, charity is due on behalf of each of your joints. Every time you say *subhaan* Allah², it is charity; every time you say *al-hamdolillah*³, it is charity; every time you say *laa ilaaha illa Allah*⁴, it is charity; every time you say *Allahu Akbar*⁵, it is charity, commanding with good and prohibiting evil are charity.

And two units of prayer for *Duhaa* Prayer would be sufficient [for charity on behalf all of your joints].

Collected by Muslim (#722).

Focus: “Prophetic Narrations on the Number of Units for the *Duhaa* Prayer⁶”

[19]/ [1]: Mu’aathah narrated that Aishah – may Allah be pleased with her – said,

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) used to pray four units of prayer for *Duhaa*, and he (ﷺ) would increase in units however many Allah willed.

Collected by Muslim (#719).

[20]/ [2]: Abdur-Rahmaan Ibn Abee Laylaa – may Allah have mercy on him – said, No one informed me of seeing the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) pray the *Duhaa* Prayer, except Umm Haanee – may Allah be pleased with her –; she said,

The Prophet (ﷺ) entered her house “The Day of the Conquest of Makkah”, and he (ﷺ) prayed eight units [of *Duhaa* Prayer]. I never saw him pray a lighter prayer than that one. However, he still perfected his bowing (i.e. *rukoo*) and prostration (i.e. *sujood*).

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#1103) and Muslim (#336).

² i.e. Allah is far removed from any imperfection.

³ i.e. All praise is due to Allah.

⁴ i.e. None has the right to be worshipped except Allah.

⁵ i.e. Allah is The Greatest.

⁶ *al-Haafith* al-Munthiree – may Allah have mercy on him – said, The narration mentioning two units has preceded.

Focus: “Praying the *Duhaa* Prayer Late into the Morning and When the Sun is Hot”

[21]/ [1]: al-Qaasim Ibn Ouf ash-Shaybaanee – may Allah have mercy on him – narrated that, Zayd Ibn Arqam – may Allah be pleased with him – saw a group of people praying the *Duhaa* Prayer, so he said, Don’t they know that [*Duhaa*] Prayer at other than this time is better?

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

The Prayer of the Repentant is when the sand is hot.

Collected by Muslim (#748).

Focus: “The Number of Voluntary Units Prayed before, and After, *Zhur* Prayer”

[22]/ [1]: Umm Habeebah – may Allah be pleased with her – narrated: I heard the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) saying:

Whoever upholds four units of prayer before *Zhur* Prayer, and four units after it, Allah will make him [or her] impermissible for the Hellfire.

Collected by at-Tirmitheh (#428). Authenticated by al-Albaanee.

Focus: “The Excellence of Praying Twelve Voluntary Units of Prayer a Day”

[23]/ [1]: Umm Habeebah – may Allah be pleased with her – narrated, I heard the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) saying:

There is not a Muslim servant, who prays twelve voluntary units of prayer each day, except that Allah builds a house for him [or her] in Paradise.

Collected by Muslim (#728).

Focus: “Prophetic Narrations on the Night Prayer”

[24]/ [1]: Abu Hurayrah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

The best fast after the month of *Ramadhaan* is to fast the month of Allah, *Muharram*, and the best prayer after the obligatory prayers is The Night Prayer.

Collected by Muslim (#1163).

[25]/ [2]: Abu Hurayrah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

The *Shaytaan* ties three knots on the back of your neck when you sleep. For every knot, its intent is for you to have a long, slumber-some night, and it is said, ‘Sleep well’.

So, if he [or she] wakes up and mentions Allah, one knot is undone. When he [or she] makes *wudhoo*, a second knot is undone. When he [or she] prays, all the knots are undone, thus he [or she] enters into the morning energetic and in a wonderful mood.

Otherwise, he [or she] enters the morning in a foul mood and lethargic.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#1142) and Muslim (#776).

[26]/ [3]: Masrooq – may Allah have mercy on him – said, I said to A’ishah – may Allah be please with her, Which action was most beloved to the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ)? She said,

“That which is consistent”.

I (i.e. Masrooq) said, Which part of the night did he (ﷺ) used to stand [in prayer]? She said,

“When he (ﷺ) heard the roosters.”

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#1132) and Muslim (#741).

[27]/ [4]: Abdullah Ibn Amr – may Allah be pleased with him – said, The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said to me:

O’ Abdullah! Do not be like so-and-so. He used to stand at night in prayer, then he stopped standing for The Night Prayer.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#1152) and Muslim (#1159)

[28]/ [5]: A’ishah – may Allah be pleased with her – narrated,

The Messenger of Allah did increase past eleven units of [night] prayer in *Ramadhaan* or other than *Ramadhaan*.

He (ﷺ) would pray four units. Do not ask about their excellence nor their length.

Then, he (ﷺ) would pray four units. Do not ask about their excellence nor their length.

Then he (ﷺ) would pray three units.

A'ishah – may Allah be pleased with her – said, I said O' Messenger of Allah (ﷺ),

Should there be sleep before *Witr* Prayer? He (ﷺ) replied:

O' A'ishah, my two eyes sleep, but my heart does not sleep⁷.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#1147) and Muslim (#738).

[29]/ [6]: al-Qaasim [Ibn Muhammad] – may Allah have mercy on him – said, I heard Aishah – may Allah be pleased with her – say,

The night prayer of the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) was ten units of prayer; he would make *Witr* by performing one unit, and he (ﷺ) would perform the two units of voluntary prayer for *Fajr*. That totaled thirteen units of prayer⁸.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#1140) and Muslim (#738).

Focus: The Prayer before Carrying-Out a Decision (*Du'aa al-Istikhaarah*)

[30]/ [1]: On the authority of Jaabir – may Allah be pleased with him – he said,

The Prophet (ﷺ) used to teach us *al-Istikhaarah* like he used to teach us a *soorah* from the *Qur'aan*:

When one of you has the intent to perform an action, let him [or her] pray two units of prayer, and then say:

⁷ Al-Allaamah Muhammad Ibn Adam – may Allah have mercy on him – said, Meaning: Sleep does not break my *wudhoo*.

See “Explanation of *Saheeh Muslim*”: vol. 15, pg. 488, *hadeeth* #738.

⁸ Al-Allaamah Muhammad Ibn Adam – may Allah have mercy on him – said,

Witr Prayer and the two voluntary units of *Fajr* have been connected to The Night Prayer, because what is apparent is that he (ﷺ) prayed The *Witr* Prayer at the end of the night, in conjunction with waking up for *Fajr*. Thus, he (ﷺ) would pray the two voluntary units of prayer before *Fajr* immediately after The Night Prayer and *Witr* Prayer...

See “Explanation of *Saheeh Muslim*”: vol. 15, pg. 499, *hadeeth* #738.

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O' Allah, grant me that which is best by way of Your Knowledge and Your Ability. I ask You for Your Tremendous Grace.

Certainly, You can grant me the ability to carry out my task, while I am incapable of carrying it out on my own.

You know the outcome affairs, and I do not – and You know the unseen.

O' Allah, if this affair (mention it specifically) is good for me in my religion, in my worldly affairs, and for my Hereafter, then facilitate it for me.

O' Allah, if this affair (mention it specifically) is evil for me in my religion, in my worldly affairs, and for my Hereafter, then distance it from me, and distance me from it, then, facilitate for me that which is better in its place, and make me happy with it.

Then he [or she] mentions the desired affair.

Collected by al-Bukhaaree (#6382).

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