

Observe God in all the Actions you Perform in Life

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.

Today's reminder is about the universal solution for every difficult problem and situation. The universal solution for every difficult problem and situation lies in having faith and consciousness of God (by taking care of your duties to God).

Your and my Creator, God (Glory be to Him, the Most High) says:

“But if you be steadfast and righteous, their **designs will not harm you at all**; surely God encompasses all that they do.” (3: 120)

“And whoever is careful of (his duty to) God, He will make for him a **way out**” (Talaq: 2)

“And whoever is careful of (his duty to) God He will make **easy** for him his affair...and whoever is careful of (his duty to) God, He will remove from him his sins and give him a great reward” (Talaq: 4, 5)

“Had the people of those communities believed and turned righteous, we would have **showered them with blessings** from the heaven and the earth.” (Al- A'raf: 96)

This is God's promise – protection from harm, a way out, ease, blessings - and who is more truthful of His promise and speech than God the Almighty?

God says:

“When God showers people with mercy, **no force can stop it**. And if He withholds it, **no force, other than He, can send it**. He is the Almighty, Most Wise.” (Fatir: 2)

Can anyone withhold what He gives? Can you be given if He withholds it from you? Yes, only that which God (Glory be to Him, the Most High) wills comes into being, and that which He does not can never be.

When the actual meaning and significance **enters the heart of a believer** it should change **every aspect** of the believer's life – spiritually, practically and mentally.

Because the meaning of faith should disconnect you from relying upon (transient) worldly things and it should connect you to relying upon the power of God, the One. (This the way to) connect you to the mercy of the Merciful. And should fill your heart with certainty and confidence (in His promise). These verses open the doors to God and release you from the heaviness (dragging you) to the earth.

God is the possessor of everything and in His hand are the treasures, to Him belongs the dominion, to Him belongs all praise and He is over everything all Powerful. Through your faith, through your confidence in God, your trust in Him, your asking for help from Him alone, your intimacy with Him, the heart feels joy and comfort.

“Indeed the mercy of God is near for those who do good” (Al-A'raf 7: 56)

- The mercy of God: you will find it to be a reality just as Abraham (peace be upon him) felt when he was put into the fire: “We said, “O fire, be cool and safe for Abraham.” [Anbiya: 69]. The fire was a means but God is the Lord of all means. (We all know that the) fire (is something) that burns but God made it not burn.
- The mercy of God: we find it in the story of Joseph (peace be upon him) when he was in the darkness of the well. “So when they took him [out] and agreed to put him into the bottom of the well ... [they tormented him] But We inspired to him, “You will surely inform them [someday] about this affair of theirs while they do not perceive [your identity].” [Yusuf:15]

- The mercy of God: we find it in the story of Jonah when he was in the stage of the three darkness = of the stomach of the whale, of the sea and the darkness of the night. His tongue began praising God and supplicating to Him: "...And he cried out in the midst of his afflictions: There is no god but You, All praise be to You. I have indeed been of the wrongdoers." [Anbiya: 87] until he found with God his escape.

God rescued him, [Joseph and Abraham (peace be upon them)] from the situations that they were in.

O Submitter to God (Muslim) if you realise the reality of this in your heart [as [Jonah, Joseph and Abraham (peace be upon them) did] - you will become as though you are a high mountain – you will not fear anyone except God, you will not desire anything except from God, you will not ask or seek help of anyone except from God:

"If God touches you with a hardship, none can relieve it except He. And when He blesses you, no force can prevent His grace. He bestows it upon whomever He chooses from among His servants. He is the Forgiver, Most Merciful" [Younus: 107]

O Submitters to God – the question is where are we in relation to these meanings? Have we realised the true meaning of 'Ihsan' in our lives. 'Ihsan' is to worship God as though we can see Him. And if we cannot - to know that He sees us (worship has a much greater meaning than just prayer). So do you observe God in all the actions you perform in your life – ask yourself how is your state with God, how is your condition with God, how is your strength of faith, how is your confidence in your Lord, how is your prayer to God, your obedience to God, your nearness to God, your truthfulness to God and how are you with your trusts, how are you in your steadfastness and how are you in your fear of God's punishment, how are you in your hope and in your aspiration for what is with God.

O Submitters to God – we are in need today of renewing these meanings in ourselves and in our hearts in a time that is full of pain and suffering, of shattered minds and crises of all types. We need to revitalise the meaning of faith, correct faith and correct belief and flock to the mercy of God, asking help of Him in everything we do – big or small – and in every matter we undertake, and in times of hardship and in ease, for indeed the mercy of God is near for the doers of good.