

Friday: ۲٦- . ٤- ٢ . 19

Corresponding to:

Allah is the Best of Protectors The First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah, the All-Protecting, All-Knowing. Who protects all of His creation and is indeed the Best of Protectors. And I bear witness, with every facet of my being, that there is nothing worthy of absolute love and adoration, except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing second in that One-ness. And I bear witness that our Leader and Master, our Prophet, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), is the perfect example of servanthood unto Allah, and His sent Messenger unto the entire universe.

To Continue: I advise you, dutiful servants of Allah, and myself, to adhere to a heartfelt consciousness (Taqwa) of Allah. For He, the Most Gloriously Transcendent, states: وَاتَّقُوا يَوْمًا تُرْجَعُونَ فِيهِ إِلَى اللَّهِ ثُمَّ

And fear a Day when you will be returned to Allah. Then every soul will be compensated for what it earned, and they will not be treated unjustly.

[Qur'an: ٢:٢٨١]

O Muslims:

وَسِعَ كُرْسِيُّهُ السَّمَوَاتِ :Allah states in His blessed Book

His Kursi extends over the heavens and the earth, and their protection tires Him not. And He is the Most High, the Most Great. [Qur'an: Y:Yoo] So Allah is the Protector of all. Elsewhere He states:

And your Lord, over all things, is Protector.

[Qur'an: \(\frac{5}{2} \) \(\frac{7}{2} \)

Thus Allah protects all of His creation through His Qudrah (Omnipotent Power) and guides them with His Hikmah (Widsom). The protecting of something implies its being guarded, maintained and preserved. So Allah is the best of Protectors, this is what Jacob (peace be upon him) established in the hearts of his sons, so he said to them:

The name "Hafidh" is a Name of Allah, from His most beautiful Names. So nothing is absent from His preservation. He protects the Heavens and the Earth, as

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُمْسِكُ السَّمَواتِ وَالْأَرْضَ أَنْ تَزُولَا He says: إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُمْسِكُ السَّمَواتِ

Indeed, Allah holds the heavens and the earth, lest they cease." [Qur'an: "o:٤١]

In other words He preserves them from being damaged or shifted from the orbits they occupy. This 'protection' does not tire Him, and His guiding them does not lead to fatigue. All of this is easy for Him, effortlessly facilitated for Him (since He is the creator of everything). Hence the believer is someone who is certain that Allah is fully capable of preserving the Heavens and the Earth, for Allah protects His creation in their selves, in their provision and in their deeds. As

أَفَمَنْ هُوَ قَائِمٌ عَلَى كُلِّ نَفْسٍ بِمَا كَسَبَتْ :Allah says

Then is He who is a maintainer of every soul, [knowing] what it has earned, [like any other]?

[Qur'an: \\":\"\"]

So slaves of Allah, this is Allah, this is His manifesting Himself as the Protector. He has deputized His noble Angels as Protectors too, as He says:

And He sends over you guardian-angels [Qur'an: 7:77]

The great companion Abdullah ibn Abbas in his interpretation of this verse states: "These are the angels, protecting human beings through the command of Allah". Testifying to the truth of the statement of Allah:

For each one are successive [angels] before and behind him who protect him by the decree of Allah. [Qur'an: \\":\\"]

O You Who Pray:

Indeed the Muslim is the one who avails of the Protection of Allah and His guidance. He does this through his sincere faith and by his piety, his worship, his devotion, and through other acts of virtue. Through all of this Allah protects him and his children, his family, and his wealth. As one of the Scholars said: "Indeed Allah's special protection is for the believer, protecting his children and grandchildren, protecting all of his family, such that they remain in His protection and welfare (as long as they remain in this world)." One of the Tabi'in (the generation after the Sahaba) once said to his son: "I will increase and beautify my prayer for your sake, in the hope that [through it] He [i.e. Allah] will protect you". He then recited this

وَكَانَ أَبُوهُمَا صَالِحًا verse: وَكَانَ أَبُوهُمَا

And their father had been righteous. [Qur'an: \^:^Y] This noble verse speaks about the protection of Allah for two young orphan boys, protecting and preserving their wealth, as a direct result of the righteousness of their father. In this verse is evidence that a righteous believer is protected in his children as a result of his righteousness. In other words, the Baraka and grace of the parents' sincere worship will envelop and encompass their children too. This is usually manifest

in a moral upbringing of children on upright character, with their having honorable values. In this regard the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) is reported to have said:

Indeed Allah will question every shepherd with regards to their flock [and parents are shepherds of their children]. They will be asked: "Did they protect them or did they fail them?" [Ibn Hibban] And if you wish that Allah preserve you in your selves and your property, and your family and possessions, then hand them all over to Allah, because He never betrays a trust. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is reported to have said:

Indeed Allah, whenever entrusted with something shall protect it. [Musnad Ahmad]

Allah protects anyone who protects their limbs from the haram, and utilizes them in that which is pleasing to Him. This was from the parting advice of the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him), when he spoke to Ibn Abbas by saying: يَا غُلَامُ إِنِّي أُعَلِّمُكُ

O young boy! I will instruct you in some matters. Be protective of Allah (i.e. the Commandments of

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Allah), and He will protect you. Safeguard His Rights, He will be ever with you. [Tirmidhi]

The way a person protects himself for his Lord, is by guarding his eyes and ears, controlling his tongue and his heart. Whosoever is able to do this will find that Allah ennobles him with His protection and that He encompasses him with His guidance.

Slaves of Allah: Indeed the speech of the Merciful (Rahman), is the best by which Allah preserves a man (Insan). Singled out from such Divine speech, is the Ayat-ul-Kursi (The verses of the Throne). For it is the greatest of verses in the Qur'an in this regard. Whoever recites it in the evening shall find it continually protects him, and that the Shaytan does not draw near to him until dawn comes. Similarly whoever reads the last two verses from Surah al-Baqarah every night, shall find that Allah protects him thereby from every evil, protecting him from the evil of both jinn and men. The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) is reported to have said:

Whoever recites the last two Verses of Surat Al-Baqarah at night, that will be sufficient for him [as protection]. [Bukhari and Muslim]

So we advise you to persevere in the recitation of these verses and the recitation of the Mu'awidhatayn (Surah al-Falaq and Surah al-Nas). Teach them to your children. Increase and immerse yourself in the dhikr

(remembrance) of your Lord. For know that whenever you remember Him truly, you will be protected thereby from the Shaytan, as the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

The servant [of Allah] does not protect himself from Shaytan except by the remembrance of Allah.

[Tirmidhi]

From such remembrance are the words that a Muslim should utter whenever he leaves his house for his daily affairs:

'In the Name of Allah, I place my trust in Allah, there is no might or power except by Allah' Whoever says this will find it said to him:

'You have been sufficed and protected', and Shaytan will be made distant from him. [Tirmidhi] In this regard we should pay particular attention to the supplication of the best of creation (peace and blessings be upon him), through which they can avail the protection of Allah. For Abdullah ibn Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) narrates that the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) continued to recite in the morning and evenings the words:

اللَّهُمَّ احْفَظْنِي مِنْ بَيْنِ يَدَيَّ، وَمِنْ خَلْفِي، وَعَنْ يَمِينِي، وَعَنْ فَوْقِي شِمَالِي، وَمِنْ فَوْقِي

O Allah, give me protection in front of me and behind me, on my right and my left and above me.

[Bukhari: Adab al-Mufrad]

O Allah, protect us through Your gaze that does not sleep, protect us through Your protection and guide us through Your guidance. And assist us all in the way of piety and obedience. Piety towards Your trustworthy Messenger, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), the ability to be dutiful towards those You have commanded us to be dutiful towards, in accordance with Your words: O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you. [Qur'an: £:09]

May Allah bless me and bless you with the Noble Qur'an and with the Way (Sunnah) of His Noble Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him). I say this, and I seek forgiveness for me and for you, so seek His forgiveness, for He is the All-Forgiving and the All-Merciful.

The Second Khutbah

All praises are for Allah, Lord of all the Worlds. And I bear witness, with every facet of my being, that there is nothing worthy of absolute love and adoration, except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing second in that One-ness. And I bear witness that our Leader

and Master, our Prophet, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon his name), is the perfect example of dutiful servanthood towards Allah, and is His sent Messenger unto the entirety of the created universe. O Allah: We ask you to bestow Your peace, blessings and grace upon him; his family; all of his companions; and whomsoever follows and seeks to emulate him in the best of ways till the Last Day. I advise you, O servants of Allah, and myself, with Taqwa of Allah (glorified be He).

O Worshippers:

From the protection of Allah for His servants is that He has clarified for them that which protects their religion and their selves. That which protects their bodies and their wealth, their situations and their homeland. Indeed Allah has promised whoever preserves His commands, who fears Him in secret and in open, that He will enter them into His mercy, and that He will give them the favor in the hereafter of His paradise. As He says:

وَأُزْلِفَتِ الْجَنَّةُ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ غَيْرَ بَعِيدٍ * هَذَا مَا تُوعَدُونَ لِكُلِّ أَوَّابٍ حَفِيظٍ * مَنْ خَشِيَ الرَّحْمَنَ بِالْغَيْبِ وَجَاءَ بِقَلْبٍ مُنِيبٍ * ادْخُلُوهَا بِسَلَامٍ ذَلِكَ يَوْمُ الْخُلُودِ * لَهُمْ مَا يَشَاءُونَ فِيهَا وَلَدَيْنَا مَزِيدٌ

And Paradise will be brought near to the righteous, not far, [It will be said], "This is what you were promised - for every returner [to Allah] and keeper

[of His covenant], Who feared the Most Merciful unseen and came with a heart returning [in repentance]. Enter it in peace. This is the Day of Eternity." They will have whatever they wish therein, and with Us is more. [Qur'an: o:: "\-"o]
So let us draw near to the way of devotion towards Allah. To the way of beautifying our worship and our gratitude. Such that we attain His protection, avail His mercy and attain the endless bliss of His paradise. Let us teach this to our children, our daughters and sons, that they grow up in His protection and guidance, in His aid and His success.

And with this, let us send our peace and blessings upon the one we have been commanded to send our peace and blessings upon, as Allah says: Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace. [Qur'an: \(\gamma

O Allah, we ask You for Your mercy, for true prosperity, for Your redemptive forgiveness and Your pleasure. O Allah, make us from those who are obedient, respectful, those who venerate their parents, honoring their mothers and their fathers, embodying excellent character towards their families and wider societies.

O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and guide him to all that is good. O Allah, we seek Your favour in granting him continued good health and care. O Allah, we also ask You to grant success to the Vice-President, the Crown Prince and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates.

O Allah, we ask You to forgive all of the Muslims, both the men and women, the living and dead. O Allah, bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the other late UAE Sheikhs who have passed on to the mercy of their Lord. O Lord, grant them from your abundant mercy and bless them with Your kindness and satisfaction. O Allah, we ask you to admit them into Paradise, being given bounties therein without being taken to account. O Lord, forgive and show mercy on our parents, relatives and whosoever may have a right upon us.

O Allah, we ask You, from your loving kindness, for the immensity of your forgiveness, for the reward of all righteousness, for the safety and protection from all sin. O Allah, we ask you for the ultimate success in attaining Paradise, and the ultimate respite in being saved from the Fire. O Allah, do not allow us to sin except that You forgive us, nor to have any worry except that you relieve us therein, nor for any debt to come upon us except that You see it compensated, nor for there to be any sick amongst us except that You see them healed. Let there be no dead, except that You have covered them in Your mercy, and let there be no pressing need, amongst any of us, except that You see it met and fulfilled. O most Noble of the Noble, You are capable over all things, and You are the most generous in responding to those who call upon You.

We ask You, O Allah, the Lord of all domains, to continue blessing the UAE with stability, welfare, increase in its bounties, knowledge, civilization, happiness, beauty and tolerance. O Allah, please continue blessing it with safety and security. O Allah, have mercy on the honorable martyrs of our nation and gather them with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favour of the Prophets. O Allah, make the dwelling of the martyrs, their families, parents and relatives with the righteous. Indeed, You are everresponsive to those who call upon You. O Allah, grant to the people of Yemen that which is good, and unite them upon that which is True and Sacred, and provide for them all manners of prosperity, O most Noble of the Noble. O Allah, spread peace and security amongst all the Muslim nations, and the entirety of the world. O our Lord, we ask You for the best of this World, the

best of the Hereafter, that You will protect us from the punishment of the Fire, and that You enter us into Your paradise with the righteous. Indeed You are the Most Generous and Most Forgiving.

O Servants of Allah: Remember Allah, the Majestic, and He will remember you. Thank Him for His blessings and He will increase you therein. And establish the prayer.

So stand up for prayer.