

4 April 2011

Purification of the Heart (12)
I Love my prayers.

- Insha Allah today, we will continue to learn about the characteristics of the believing hearts which are mentioned in Surat (23) V (1-11).
- As it is clear that: Al-Salat (Prayer) was mentioned twice, regarding:
 - (1) having sincerity in Prayer.
 - (2) To pray all the prayers and at their fixed time.
- Over the previous three classes, we already learnt about "sincerity in prayers as a characteristic of the believing heart."
- Insha Allah, today, we will learn about the
"Importance of performing the prayers → at their
fixed times"
We will start to learn about this characteristic from the verses of the Holy Quran

- We must always remember that: Salat (Prayer) is the second pillar of Islam. It is a great divine duty, which ~~its negligence~~, means disobedience of Allah and deprivation of His Mercy.

← Surely what deprivation can be more than the isolation from Allah and His Mercy, and what pleasure can be more than being close and linked to Him The Allmighty, The Lord of the heavens and the earth.

- So we must realize the great importance of
praying all the prayers at their
fixed times.

Q. What are the reasons that can ^{remind} the believing heart? _{regarding the duty of prayers.}

A. We will learn from the verses of the Quran, very effective reasons to remind your heart regarding Prayers.

Q Why Performing Prayers at their fixed times ?

A Because.

to have paradise
as final dest.

- (A) It is a command from Allah (B) It is the characteristic of the believing heart. (C) to avoid Allah's Punishment

In details

- (A) It is Allah's command to perform prayers, (includes praying) and this command at its fixed times :-
- ✓ (1) Surat 29 V(45) → 1) Surat 6 V92.
 - ✓ (2) Surat 11 V(114) ←
 - 3) Surat 17 V(78)

This is Allah's command regarding performing of the prayers. Prayers strengthen the believers spirit and sustain his heart and will to fulfill difficult duties. They also establish a bond between the hearts of afflicted believers and their merciful Lord, who is near and who responds to prayers, ^{also} help to overcome loneliness and isolation in the face of

a powerful, corrupted society.

The verse here mentioned the two ends of the day, meaning

the morning and the evening and some watches of the night. These times cover all the obligatory prayers, without specifying their number. The number and the exact timing

are specified by the traditions of the Prophet (S.A.W)

To know the importance of praying, we must know that
It was the supplication of Prophet Ibrahim to Allah

→ Surah
The All Mighty to help him and his offsprings
to perform Prayers (in Surat 14 - V40)

Prophet Ibrahim is appealing to Allah for help
to attend to his prayers, and to enable him ^{and his offspring} to perform
these at all times.

A proof of the importance of this divine
duty regarding the believing heart
and its link with the Lord of
the heavens and the earth.

Regarding Performing the Prayers at fixed times:

we will recite from the verses of the Quran:

A) . Surat (4) - V(103).

Allah is informing that: prayer is a time related duty
i.e it must be performed at the appointed ^{time} for it.

All the scholars encourage attending to prayer early
in the time range allowed for them.

B) . Surat(2) - V(238).

This is a clear instruction to Muslims to attend regularly
to the five daily prayers, offering them in the proper
manner, in the correct form and at their appointed
times, with special attention to →

The middle Prayer, Asr, which falls during the
mid-afternoon, when people take a short
rest and may easily miss it.

B. The second factor (reason) for the muslim to perform prayers in their fixed times is to avoid the Allah's punishment which is mentioned in the Quran regarding this divine duty :-

1. Surat 19 - V (54 → 59)

Allah is informing that the Hell-fire is the punishment for those who do not perform the prayers.

2. Surat (107) - V (1 → 7).

These verses of the Quran contain Allah's invocation and a threat of destruction to those who offer prayers but are careless about them. This includes those who a) delay their prayers and pray it completely outside of its time. b) delay their prayer ^{until} the end of its time. c) not fulfilling its pillars and conditions i.e in a hurry to finish it so they don't have sincerity or tranquility during their prayer.

d) and also those who perform it ^{only} for showing off and so they never have the sincere intention of obedience of Allah

There is also a warning for the worse of all of those people i.e. those who don't perform prayers basically.

We must realize that the this warning and threat of destruction means that there will be a great punishment from Allah to all those mushiks.

3). Surat 74 - V(38) → (43)

V(38) 1- All people - every single one of them, are responsible for themselves, choosing their own positions, going ahead or lagging behind, achieving an honourable status or bringing humiliation upon themselves.

, Allah has shown all people the way that lead to Him, so that they can take the way

with open eye.

→ This is the declaration of the individual responsibility, from which an exception is made in the case of the believers, who are referred to here as "the ones on the right hand". This exception is due to Allah's Grace, for He blessed their good deeds and multiplied them, so the paradise will be their reward and final destination. ^{xii} Those winners will

Those winners will ask those who will be brought to the scorching fire about the reasons for this great punishment?

→ The first and most important reason is related to "ignoring, not performing the prayers".

This highlights the great importance of prayer in the Islamic faith, presenting it as a symbol and proof of faith. Denying it, puts the person in the rank of unbelievers.

Q So, the next question is "what is the nature of this scorching fire so that we can always remember to be away from it?"

A. The answer is in Surat (74) - V (27 → 30) -

- It is too great to be imagined
- It shows itself before mankind, striking fear into those who are destined to suffer its torment.
- It is guarded by 19 of the guardians of the Hell, who are magnificent in their appearance and harsh in their character.
- It swallows the skin - flesh - nerves and bones i.e. everything, obliterating whoever and whatsoever is cast into it, leaving no trace.

This scorching fire was also mentioned in
Surat (54) - V (48-47) - 1.

c) Performing prayers is the ^{basic} characteristic of the believing hearts as mentioned in verses of the Quran

Surat 2
V. (1-5)

Surat (9)
V (71)

Surat 23
V 1-11

d) Performing prayers is the way to paradise
it is a basic requirement for having the paradise as final destination

Surat 10 - V (19 - 35).

It is the permanence and stability regarding prayers as it is the Link (bond) with Allah

The All mighty
Salat

In conclusion: Praying at the fixed times is an indication

of the True faith and the Love of Allah's meeting and the obedience of His Commands. So Prove your faith !!! and what you deserve as final destination

M. Sahy
I Love my Prayers
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