

Selected Friday Sermons Compiled by Sh. Muhammad Jumu'an:

SPEECH NO.5

TOPIC: MERCY AND COMPASSION

INTRODUCTION:

All praise is due to Allah –The Almighty, The All Gracious. We praise Him, we seek His Guidance and ask for His Forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allah from the evil of our own souls and bad deeds. Whoever Allah guides, none can lead him astray and whoever Allah leaves astray, no one can guide him to the straight path besides Allah. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah alone without any associates and I bear witness that Muhammad is the slave and messenger of Allah. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him and all his family members and companions. Amen.

O you who have believed! Fear Allah as he should be feared and do not die except as Muslims (in the state of full submission to Him).

O mankind! Fear your Lord who created you from one soul and created from it its mate and dispersed from both of them many men and women. And fear Allah through whom you ask one another, and the wombs. Indeed, Allah is ever, over you, an Observer.

O you who believe! Fear Allah and speak in a straight forward manner. He will amend your deeds and forgive you your sins. And whoever obeys Allah and His messenger has indeed attained the greatest success.

Part 1 of the speech:

Dear Muslims!

A great characteristic and a wonderful attribute that Allah has sent down and made to exist between his slaves and creation and recommended it to His beloved prophet and his followers. Allah –The Almighty loves those who possess this attribute and praises His servants that possess this great attribute of Mercy and Compassion. It is indeed a gift from Allah which He bestows upon whom He wants among His slaves. Whenever Allah-The All Glorious wants goodness for His slave, He plants mercy into his heart. In the Holy Qurán, Allah says: “It is He who

sent down tranquillity into the hearts of the believers that they would increase in faith along with their present faith.” (Qurán: Chapter 48 verse no.4)

The share of each slave of Allah of this Mercy is to the extent of their guidance so the most perfect of the believers in faith are those who are most merciful and compassionate to others and also most helpful and kind to others.

The heart that is filled with mercy and compassion is a good sign of happy destiny for the servant of Allah and a cause for this individual to attain the mercy of Allah.

The prophet (Peace be upon him) said: “Allah bestows His Mercy on the merciful among His slaves. Show mercy to those on the earth, and the Most Merciful will show mercy to you.”

O slaves of Allah!

When the heart is devoid of mercy and compassion, this leads to harshness and hard heartedness in one’s heart and soul. Allah –The Most Glorious, has rebuked some people in the past for possessing this harshness of heart. He said in the Holy Qurán regarding the children of Israel: “ Then your hearts became hardened after that being like stones or even harder than that.” (Qurán: Chapter 2 verse no. 74).

The Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) said: “ Mercy is not retrieved from any one’s heart except those who are evil doers or destined for punishment.”

And he who doesn’t show mercy to the creation, Allah will not show mercy to him. The Prophet (Peace be upon him) said: “Allah will not be merciful to those who are not merciful to mankind.” Related by Imam Al-Bukhari.

The mercy and the compassion of the believers towards one another makes them feel like one body or one soul. The Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) said: “You will see that the example of the believers’ mercy and compassion towards each other is like one single body. If any part of the body is afflicted with sickness, the rest of the body will writhe with agony and fever.

Our beloved Prophet Muhammad was the most merciful person to the creation of Allah. When some people requested him to pray to Allah against the polytheists in Arabia he replied: “I was not sent to curse people but as a mercy to the whole creation.” Allah- The All Glorious says in the holy Qurán: “We have not sent you except as a mercy to the worlds.” (Qur’an: Chapter 21 verse107).

Dear Muslims! The law of Allah (Sharia) encompasses by its mercy and justice the enemy and the friend. The reward for each will be according to their deeds. So whoever hopes to attain the mercy of Allah, then let him show mercy to the people. This is what the Prophet (Peace be upon him) also confirmed and said: "Allah does not bestow His Mercy except on the merciful among His slaves." Related by Imam Al-Bukhari.

May Allah-The Almighty continue to bless us with the teachings of the Holy Qurán and enlighten us with its wonderful verses, knowledge, wisdom and beautiful exhortations. I say this and seek Allah's forgiveness for all of us and for all the Muslims from our sins so ask for His forgiveness for He is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Part 2 of the speech:

All praise is due to Allah for His generosity and All thanks is due to Allah for His guidance and countless blessings. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah alone and I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him and all his family members and all his companions.

Dear Muslims! The hearts become cleansed from pride and arrogance when they are adorned with mercy and compassion. There are many ways to attain the mercy of Allah some of which are namely;

- ❖ To be kind and dutiful to one's parents.
- ❖ To keep the ties of kinship with relatives.
- ❖ Giving money to the poor, needy, orphans, widows etc... in charity.
- ❖ Visiting the sick
- ❖ Reciting the holy Qurán
- ❖ Making a lot of Dhikr (remembrance, supplications)

All the above things soften the heart and purify the soul and tame it. Most importantly the slave of Allah will attain Allah's mercy and His good pleasure.

Allah –The Most Glorious has commanded you to send salutations of peace and blessings upon His prophet as mentioned in the Holy Qurán:

“Allah and His Angels send salutations of peace on the prophet. O you who believe send salutations of peace and blessings on the prophet”

O Allah! Exalt the mention of Muhammad and the family of Muhammad as you exalted the mention of Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim. You are the Praised and Most Glorious. O Allah! Bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad as you have blessed Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim. You are Praised and Most Glorious.