

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ الْفَلَقِ . مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ . وَمِنْ شَرِّ غَاسِقٍ إِذَا وَقَبَ .

وَمِنْ شَرِّ النَّفَّاثَاتِ فِي الْعُقَدِ . وَمِنْ شَرِّ حَاسِدٍ إِذَا حَسَدَ

وقال النبي ﷺ: لَا يُؤْمِنُ أَحَدُكُمْ حَتَّى يُحِبَّ لِأَخِيهِ مَا يُحِبُّ لِنَفْسِهِ

Dear Believers

Today's khutbah will focus on the topic of envy.

Envy is to resent someone else's good fortune, whether material or spiritual, and to desire that it be taken away from them and given to oneself. This is a grave sin and one of the most ugly and dangerous of the diseases of the nafs.

Envy should not be confused with admiration, which is to sincerely desire the good qualities and blessings that one sees in a Muslim brother or sister.

Envy is a hidden rebellion against the decree of Allah ﷻ. It is to be angry with Allah ﷻ for giving more or better things to someone else. Yet, it is He who is the owner of all possessions.

In the Quran, Allah ﷻ says, **"Say, 'O Prophet, 'O Allah! Lord over all authorities! You give authority to whoever You please and remove it from who You please; You honour whoever You please and disgrace who You please—all good is in Your Hands. Surely You 'alone' are Most Capable of everything.'"** (Al-Imran 3:26)

An envious person cannot bear to see another person dress well or live comfortably. Worse yet, they rejoice in their misfortunes.

Envy makes a person arrogant. Therefore, they reject the truth and good advice from others and do not want to learn anything from them. Even if they know someone is superior to them, they are arrogant towards them. Imam Ghazali said, **"The root of all evil is three things: envy, hypocrisy, and conceit."**

Stubbornness means refusing to accept the truth and often stems from looking down on others, hatred, or envy. We must accept the truth even if it's from our enemy. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said, **"The most hated person by Allah is one who is stubborn in refusing to accept the truth."** (Bukhari)

My dear brothers,

The causes of envy include enmity, jealousy, arrogance, fear of failure, the desire to be a leader, bad character, feelings of inadequacy, insecurity, fear of success, and lack of empathy.

One of the biggest factors that fuel envy is ingratitude. Allah says in the Quran, **"And if you are grateful, I will surely increase you."** (Ibrahim 14:7) Contentment with what we have, submission to our fate, and gratitude protect our hearts from envy.

Therefore, envy is a veil that prevents us from acknowledging the truth. If that veil descends on the heart, the ability to understand and acknowledge the truth is lost. An envious person is dangerous. They strive to harm the person they envy and are driven to commit many sins such as injustice, backbiting, slander, and lying. Yet, they cannot change the decree of the Lord of the Worlds. All that remains for them is a heavy reckoning and a painful torment.

I will conclude my khutbah with a hadith of the Prophet (peace be upon him): **"Beware of envy, for it devours good deeds just as fire devours wood."** (Abu Dawud)