

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الَّذِينَ يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْغَيْبِ وَيُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَمِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنْفِقُونَ

قَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ أَنْ تُؤْمِنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ

وَتُؤْمِنَ بِالْقَدَرِ خَيْرِهِ وَشَرِّهِ

Dear Muslims!

The topic of our khutbah today will be about the worth and value of faith.

The Lord of the Worlds says in the Holy Qur'an: **"Who believe in the unseen, establish prayer, and spend out of what We have provided for them."** (Al-Baqarah, 3)

One day, when Angel Jibreel (peace be upon him) asked the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ about faith, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: **"Faith is to believe in Allah, His angels, His Books, His Messengers, the Last Day, and to believe in the Divine Decree, both the good and the bad thereof."** (Muslim, Birr, 6747)

Dear Congregation!

Faith is a light that shines in the heart of a person.

Allah the Almighty has bestowed upon us a great favor and grace by decreeing that we be born to Muslim parents. This is the greatest blessing we must realize.

However, some people attain this blessing only after long searches, great crises, pains, and tribulations. Yet, we often fail to appreciate the value of this blessing, seeing the treasure within our reach as an ordinary inheritance.

The value of faith is only understood when one faces the danger of losing it. The storms of the modern world place man at the center of his own desires, while shaitan tries to obscure the truth with various deceptions. In such times, submitting to the will of Allah Ta'ala and being able to say **"No, what my Lord has commanded is the truth!"** against the alluring calls of the self and the world has become exceedingly difficult.

Unfortunately, today, many of us have become end-of-time Muslims who do not like to read and research, and who have inherited their faith from their forefathers. As a result, we become weak in protecting our faith and fail to comprehend its value as we should.

Let us not forget that faith cannot take root in the heart through hearsay. Faith is strengthened by sound evidence, authentic knowledge, and sincerity. A faith

not learned from its people and not nourished by the Book and the Sunnah will be swept away in the first storm. For the self always inclines towards desires, and shaitan presents falsehood adorned as truth, clothed in the garment of righteousness.

Therefore, if we wish to protect our faith, we must strengthen it with knowledge, deeds, and by keeping company with righteous people. Faith is like a tree; if its roots are not nourished with knowledge, it withers, and if its branches are not watered with deeds, it bears no fruit.

Otherwise, we may, Allah forbid, be carried away by the inclinations of the commanding self and mistake the adorned words and various trials placed before us for the truth, and be swept away by the wind of falsehood clothed in the garment of truth. Especially in the land of disbelief we live in, we may admire the customs and ways of life of non-Muslims and fall under their influence, unknowingly drifting away from our own identity and faith.

Valuable Brothers!

Faith brings dignity and peace to a person; it illuminates the heart and gives patience and tranquility to the soul. A heart filled with faith meets the temporary troubles of the world with patience. A servant living with faith turns with calmness and hope to the mercy of his Lord even in the face of death.

I conclude my khutbah with a noble verse. The Almighty Lord says in the Holy Qur'an: **"Allah is the Ally of those who believe. He brings them out from darkneses into the light."** (Al-Baqarah, 257)