

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا يَسْخَرُ قَوْمٌ مِّن قَوْمٍ عَسَىٰ أَن يَكُونُوا خَيْرًا مِّنْهُمْ وَلَا
نِسَاءً مِّن نِّسَاءٍ عَسَىٰ أَن يَكُنَّ خَيْرًا مِّنْهُمْ وَلَا تَلْمِزُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَلَا تَنَابَزُوا
بِالْأَلْقَابِ بِغَسِّ الْأَسْمِ الْفُسُوقُ بَعْدَ الْإِيمَانِ وَمَن لَّمْ يَتُبْ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ
الظَّالِمُونَ

قَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: رُبُّ أَشْعَثَ أَغْبَرَ، ذِي طِمْرَيْنِ، تَنْبُو عَنْهُ أَعْيُنُ النَّاسِ، لَوْ
أَقْسَمَ عَلَى اللَّهِ لَأَبْرَهُ

Esteemed Muslims!

The topic of our khutbah today will be about "contempt and looking down upon others."

Our exalted religion, Islam, has declared believers to be brothers and sisters, and has commanded them to keep the bonds of love, respect, and affection between them strong. One of the most dangerous diseases that damages this bond of brotherhood is the disease of holding others in contempt, belittling, and looking down upon them.

Allah the Almighty says in the Holy Qur'an: **"Let not one people ridicule [another] people; perhaps they may be better than them. Nor let women ridicule [other] women; perhaps they may be better than them. And do not insult one another and do not call each other by [offensive] nicknames. Wretched is the name of disobedience after [one's] faith. And whoever does not repent - then it is those who are the wrongdoers."** (Al-Hujurat, 11)

This divine warning is directed at the arrogance and feeling of superiority hidden within the human heart. For to belittle a believer is a great sin in the sight of Allah. If a person holds a brother in contempt, Allah the Exalted will disgrace that person.

Our Master, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: **"It is enough evil for a man to look down upon his Muslim brother."** (Muslim, Birr, 32)

This noble hadith clearly informs us how great an evil it is to belittle a believer. Because a believer is a servant whom Allah the Exalted has valued and honored with faith.

Ibn 'Ajiba al-Hasani (may Allah have mercy on him) said: **"Mockery and contempt are usually based on looking at people's outward appearances. However, what truly makes a person valuable is the genuine**

faith, perfect certainty, and divine knowledge hidden in their heart. These are not seen with the eye. Sometimes a person mocks a servant whom Allah has exalted, or belittles one whom He has valued, based on their outward appearance. Thus, they lose their value in Allah's sight and incur His wrath."

Valuable Muslims!

A person's worth is not measured by their wealth, status, lineage, or outward appearance. True value lies in piety. To belittle a believer because they are poor, ignorant, or dress differently harms the perfection of faith. There are many people with simple outward appearances who hold very high stations in the sight of Allah. Indeed, the Prophet ﷺ said: **"There are many people with disheveled hair and dusty clothes, who are turned away from doors, yet if they were to swear by Allah, He would fulfill their oath."** (Muslim, Birr, 138)

Precious Believers!

Holding a believer in contempt is not only done with words, but can also be done with the heart, through looks, and by behavior. Belittling someone because of their clothing, not valuing them because of their profession, taking their thoughts lightly, or discrediting them by spreading their mistakes – all of these are different manifestations of this great sin. The duty of a believer is not to seek out their brother's faults, but to conceal them; not to belittle, but to value.

I conclude my khutbah with this noble hadith: **"Do not rejoice at a misfortune that befalls your brother, lest Allah have mercy on him and subject you to the same trial."** (At-Tirmidhi, Qiyamah, 54)