

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
 أَلَمْ أَحْسِبِ النَّاسَ أَنْ يُتْرَكُوا أَنْ يَقُولُوا آمَنَّا وَهُمْ لَا يُفْتَنُونَ. وَلَقَدْ فَتَنَّا الَّذِينَ
 مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ فَلَيَعْلَمَنَّ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ صَدَقُوا وَلَيَعْلَمَنَّ الْكَاذِبِينَ
 وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: عَجَبًا لِأَمْرِ الْمُؤْمِنِ، إِنَّ أَمْرَهُ كُلَّهُ خَيْرٌ، وَلَيْسَ ذَاكَ لِأَحَدٍ إِلَّا
 لِلْمُؤْمِنِ، إِنْ أَصَابَتْهُ سَرَاءٌ شَكَرَ، فَكَانَ خَيْرًا لَهُ، وَإِنْ أَصَابَتْهُ صَرَاءٌ صَبَرَ، فَكَانَ خَيْرًا
 لَهُ»

Honorable Muslims,

The subject of today's khutbah will be the wisdoms behind trials. For calamities, when met with patience, are gates of mercy that purify the soul, strengthen faith, and draw the servant closer to his Lord.

Allah ﷻ says in the Quran: ***“I swear by Myself, We will surely test you with something of fear and hunger, and a loss of wealth, lives, and fruits. But give good tidings to the patient.”*** (Surah Al-Baqarah, 155)

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: ***“When Allah intends good for someone, He afflicts him with hardship.”*** (Bukhari) In another hadith, he said: ***“The affairs of a believer are truly amazing. There is good for him in every situation. This is only true for the believer. If he is given a blessing, he is grateful, and that is good for him; if he is struck by a trial, he is patient, and that is also good for him.”*** (Muslim, Zuhd 64)

Dear Brothers,

Our Lord tested His prophets with the hardest of trials. Prophet Adam (peace be upon him) was tested with the forbidden tree in paradise, Prophet Noah (Nuh peace be upon him) with the rejection and mockery of his people, Prophet Abraham (Ibrahim peace be upon him) was thrown into the fire and asked to sacrifice his son, Prophet Lot (Lut peace be upon him) with his people's corruption, Prophet Jacob (Ya'qoob peace be upon him) with separation from his son, Prophet Joseph (Yusuf peace be upon him) with prison and slander, Prophet Moses (Musa peace be upon him) with Pharaoh's tyranny and the desires of the Children of Israel, Prophet Job (Ayyub peace be upon him) with illness and poverty, Prophet Jesus (Isa peace be upon him) with the slander, insults, and various torments of the Children of Israel, and our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ with hunger, boycott, migration, and battles. All of our beloved Prophets are guides and leaders for humanity; they stand at the highest level of patience, steadfastness, and submission. Each one of them, by living the true essence of servitude at its peak, has become a role model for all of us.

Dear Believers!

Attributes like faith, sincerity, good intentions, patience, submission, and loyalty, as well as the hidden qualities and states of our souls, only emerge and reveal themselves through trials. The believer should face every trial with patience, knowledge, and etiquette, while waiting at the door of Truth.

In the Quran, our Lord, the Glorious and Mighty, says: ***“Do people think that they will be left to say, ‘We believe,’ and they will not be tested? We certainly tested those who were before them, and Allah will surely make clear those who are truthful and He will surely make clear the liars.”*** (Surah Al-Ankabut, 2)

Allah ﷻ reveals our patience, loyalty, and the hidden states of our souls through trials. As long as the servant remains on the right path, they will continue to be tested. Let us not forget that we, too, will be tested through many trials and sifted through the tests of truth. In this way, pure gold will be separated from impure, and coal will be revealed as coal when it enters the fire, though it was once thought to be a diamond.

Especially those who carry the banner of religion and are involved in service and worship will face even greater trials. Our Lord, through these tests, reveals the state of our souls and introduces us to the world. The possible future deviations of the soul and betrayals are prevented by the trials we face today. Therefore, those who seek to shoulder the divine mission must know that they will be tested many times and sifted through the trials of truth.

I conclude my khutbah with this verse from the Quran: ***“Or do you think that you will enter Paradise while such trials as came to those who passed before you have not come to you? They were touched by poverty and hardship, and they were shaken until even the Messenger and those who believed with him said, ‘When is the help of Allah?’ Indeed, the help of Allah is near.”*** (Surah Al-Baqarah, 214)