

7 Rajab 1437H / 15 April 2016

Increasing Good Deeds In The Month of Rajab

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ

هُوَ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَى
الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ ﴿٣٣﴾

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ،
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ،
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَىٰ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ
وَعَلَىٰ آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ
أَمَّا بَعْدُ فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ
أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِنِّي بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدٌ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ
قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَىٰ فِي كِتَابِهِ الْعَزِيزِ :

يَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولَى الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ فَإِن
نَنزَعْنَمُ فِي شَيْءٍ فَرُدُّوهُ إِلَى اللَّهِ وَالرَّسُولِ إِن كُنتُمْ تُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ
الْآخِرِ ذَلِكَ خَيْرٌ وَأَحْسَنُ تَأْوِيلًا ﴿٥٩﴾

- Which means:
- **“O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you. And if you disagree over anything, refer it to Allah and the Messenger, if you should believe in Allah and the Last Day. That is the best [way] and best in result.”**

- Dear brothers,
- Let us be taqwa to Allah and increase our faith in Him, hopefully we will obtain success in this world and in the Hereafter, because Allah only looks upon his slaves who fear Him by doing His Commands and avoiding His Prohibitions.

- Dear brothers in Islam,
- Today, we are already in the month of Rajab, the seventh month in the Islamic calendar.

- The month of Rajab is one of the As-hurul Hurum, the months where the Arabs were prohibited from engaging in war during Rasulullah SAW's time.

- These months have been mentioned in the Holy Quran in surah At-Taubah verse 36 which means:

- **“Indeed, the number of months with Allah is twelve [lunar] months in the register of Allah [from] the day He created the heavens and the earth; of these, four are sacred.”**

- **“That is the correct religion, so do not wrong yourselves during them. And fight against the disbelievers collectively as they fight against you collectively. And know that Allah is with the righteous [who fear Him].”**

- The Haraam months stated in the verse is the month of Zulqaedah, Zulhijjah, Rajab, and Muharam. Allah commands us to not do any wrongdoings in these months.

- The scholars have discussed the meaning of this through the verse which means:
- **“Do not wrong yourselves during them (Haram months).”**

- Imam Syaukani in his Tafsir Fath al-Qadir states that the meaning in the verse is war and anything that involves cruelty and wrongdoing.

- Therefore, we can see that these months are exclusive to shape our souls and to cleanse it from any wrongdoings, hatred, jealousy and others, that can affect our morals.

- This aim becomes much more important, since the month of Rajab will be followed by the month of Shaaban before we step into the month of Ramadhan.

- Allah has commanded that we stop ourselves from any hostility, hatred, jealousy and fighting during the month of Rajab, as if it is a sign to obtain inner peace before Ramadhan.

- With inner peace, Insya Allah we can focus in increasing our ibadah in the month of Shaaban and reach its peak during Ramadhan.

- We also know that in mending our relationship with Allah, we also need to mend our relationship with fellow humans.

- We need to free ourselves from anger and hate so that it will be open towards Allah's blessings and mercy in the month of Ramadhan.

- Dear brothers in Islam,
- In our determination to share the benefits in the month of Rajab, we must be careful in receiving and spreading any information that we obtained, by ensuring its truth.

- These days, there are groups that questions the practices in the month of Rejab.

- Renowned scholars such as Imam Ibnu Hajar al- Asqalani has stated that there are practices that are encouraged such as increasing our repenting and fasting.

- Rasulullah SAW was approached by one of his companions who asked him for permission to increase his fasting.

- Rasulullah said which means:
- *“Fast for a couple of days from the Haraam months and leave a couple of days.”* (Narrated Abu Daud)

- In reviewing this practice, Imam Ibnu Hajar al- Asqalani says that if there is a basis of a practice in the Quran and Hadith, there is no wrong in practicing it, and the practice is not prohibited.

- Increasing our fasting and repenting in the month of Rajab is encouraged, because there is a basis of the practice in our religion.

- As Allah has said in Surah Nuh verse 10 for every believer to constantly repent :
- **“And said, 'Ask forgiveness of your Lord. Indeed, He is ever a Perpetual Forgiver.”**

- Not only that, Rasulullah SAW also encouraged us to increase our deeds, through doing good and good morals.
- He said : “*Every good deed is a Sadaqah.*” (Narrated by Al-Bukhari)

- Subhanallah! Beautiful tarbiyah by Rasulullah saw in fostering good values in a Muslim. Every good deed is pivotal in improving our morals, because by increasing our morals, our faith will increase too.

- Dear brothers in Islam,
- Let us not forget the prohibition of committing wrongdoings in the Haraam months.

- Let us not be too eager in reminding others about the conflicting practices in the month Rajab until they are uninspired to do good deeds in this month, and also ultimately resulting in disunity and confusion among Muslims.

- Dear brothers in Islam,
- Take this chance, to mend our relationships with our family, relatives or friends.

- Take heed from the month of Rajab to control our anger and learn to forgive others.

- If we had cut off any relationships with someone, take the first step to mend the broken relationship.

- We do not want our actions in Allah cutting off our relationship with Him. Always remember Rasulullah SAW's warning:
- **“One who severs relationships will not enter Heaven.”**

- Hopefully by mending our relationships, Allah will strengthen His relationship with us, Insya Allah.

- Let us ponder verse 277 in Surah Al-Baqarah :

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ وَأَقَامُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَءَاتَوْا
الزَّكَاةَ لَهُمْ أَجْرُهُمْ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ وَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ
يَحْزَنُونَ



- **“Indeed, those who believe and do righteous deeds and establish prayer and give zakah will have their reward with their Lord, and there will be no fear concerning them, nor will they grieve.”**