



First khutbah

My brothers and sisters, أن الدنيا دار ممر , the dunya is a life of passing مقر وأن الآخرة دار مقر and the akhira, is where you will settle فإليها جننتم، ولغيرها خلقتهم , for this dunya you have come, but for somewhere else you have been created.

My brothers and sisters if the soul is preoccupied with the life of this dunya, because it is preoccupied, it's nature will become corrupted and it will continue to worsen until the soul, its morals, are completely perverted and ugliness will appear in his path. The Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said in a hadith which has been classified as hasan by al Albani رَجِمَهُ أَلُّ ، he said صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

وَإِنَّ سُوءَ الْخُلُقِ لَيُفْسِدُ الْعَمَلَ كَمَا يُفْسِدُ الْخَلُّ الْعَسَلَ

“Bad manners, corrupts a person's actions just like vinegar corrupts honey”

But the problem is my brother and sisters, if the soul doesn't have manners, if the soul doesn't have good manners, then it doesn't matter what deeds that soul does, all of it will just lead for his deeds to be scattered in the wind and there'll be nothing that is accomplished and there'll be no value left to that soul:

وَقَدِمْنَا إِلَى مَا عَمِلُوا مِنْ عَمَلٍ فَجَعَلْنَاهُ هَبَاءً مَنْثُورًا

As the scholars have said my brothers and sisters:

“What is the meaning of life? What is the meaning of the life of this dunya, if it is not within the circle of good manners?”

My brothers and sisters akhlaaq has never existed except that it elevated a group of people. If morals prevail they prevail and if morals perish they will perish, until eating and drinking just becomes like a normal action which they share with animals. Beasts and livestock eat and drink too, but how Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى has given a specialty to the children of Adam عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام is through manners. Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى has given precedence to Adam عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام and his progeny with eman, an intellect and morals and manners, hence he says سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى:

لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِي أَحْسَنِ تَقْوِيمٍ

“We have certainly created man in the best of stature” at-Tin (The Fig, The Figtree) 95:4

My brother and sisters, bad manners destroys in a day what could take years to build. It brings about enmity. It brings about hatred and it brings about suspicion but good manners my brother and sisters, good manners has always created bonds. Good manners has always created love and with those good manners the hearts and chests are made open. Faces are made pleasant because of them and the tongues are sweet, but the problem is my brother and sisters also, just like our hearts can change, our character can change and because only people are judged because of their akhlaaq. Killing only appeared in the dunya after the bad manner of anger was introduced. Animosity only appeared on the land, after the bad manners of greed and

hatred was introduced. And our Master has spoken the truth:

ظَهَرَ الْفَسَادُ فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ بِمَا كَسَبَتْ أَيْدِي النَّاسِ

“Corruption has appeared throughout the land and sea by [reason of] what the hands of people have earned” ar-Rum (The Romans, The Byzantines) 30:41

My brothers and sisters, your good manners will never cease to bring you ruin. Your good manners will never be a cause of your ruin, rather your good deeds, are your very own goodness and Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى will only accept once you have perfected your akhlaaq. In a hadith which has been collected by imam Ahmed in his Musnad and made saheeh by Albani رَجِمَهُ اللَّهُ, the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said:

إنما بُعِثْتُ لِأَتَمِّمَ مَكَارِمَ الْأَخْلَاقِ

“I have only been sent to complete good morals and conduct”

My brothers and sisters, without akhlaaq, your worship is a proof against you. He said to his wife, A'isha رضي الله عنها our mother, in a hadith which has been collected by Bukhari and Muslim:

أَيُّ عَائِشَتُهُ، إِنَّ شَرَّ النَّاسِ

“Listen A’isha. Surely, the worst of people”

مَنْ تَرَكَهُ النَّاسُ اتَّقَاءَ فُحْشِيهِ

“the people abandon this person [they don’t want anything to do with this person], on account of his obscenities”

My brothers and sisters worship without manners is a burden, but worship with manners is an elevation. He said صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in a hadith which has been collected by Bukhari and Muslim:

إِنَّ مِنْ خِيَارِكُمْ أَحْسَنَكُمْ أَخْلَاقًا

“Certainly the best of you, the best of you in manners, the best of you in deeds, the best of you in statements, these amongst us, are those people who are accepted because of their akhlaaq”

Hence when A’isha رضي الله عنها was asked, “how the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was? How was he in the house - what did you observe from him?” She combines in her answer the very point that we are delivering here, كان خلقه القرآن, his morals and his manners and his etiquettes. The way he used to behave and the way he used to talk. His facial expressions and his body language. The way he used to worship and

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the way he used to treat the creation, was the Qur'an. Meaning, she said رضي الله عنها there is no teaching that is found in the Qur'an except that he had it صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. There is nothing that the Qur'an tells our hearts to have except that he had it صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. There is nothing that the Qur'an tells us to have on our tongues except that he had it صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. There is nothing in the Qur'an in practice except that he was on top of it himself صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

My brother and sisters, we have been warned against the dunya. We have been warned against the dunya, not because of its greenery and its beauty, but because of the wreckage that moral decline creates and the Day of Judgement will only commence my brothers and sisters until there is no decline left and these are the worst of people without any akhlaaq. Until then Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى reminds the Believers to wait patiently. Wait patiently until the matter of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى comes about, but this waiting has to be done with the best of manners. Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى says:

وَمَا خَلَقْنَا السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا إِلَّا بِالْحَقِّ وَإِنَّ السَّاعَةَ لَأْتِيَةٌ فَاصْفَحِ الصَّفْحَ الْجَمِيلِ

“And We have not created the heavens and earth and that between them except in truth. And indeed, the Hour is coming; so forgive with gracious forgiveness” al-Hijr (The Rock, Stoneland, Rock City) 15:85

Second khutbah

My brothers and sisters, from the very beginning akhlaaq was connected to worship. From the very beginning akhlaaq was connected to ibadah and akhlaaq was even connected to Prophethood. Imam Bukhari رَحِمَهُ اللهُ in his saheeh reports to us, that when revelation began, the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ ran home and he was worried for himself. He thought something bad had happened, but in actual fact this was the beginning of Prophethood. So our Mother Umm al-Mumimeen Khadeejah bint Khuwaylid صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said in consoling him, she said something which is so profound about him and how akhlaaq is connected not only to ibada but to Prophethood. She said:

كَلَّا وَاللَّهِ،

“Never by Allah”

مَا يُخْزِيكَ اللهُ أَبَدًا؛

“Allah will never disgrace you, this is not something which is bad, Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى will never disgrace you”, and then she says a list of manners in describing the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ even before Prophethood:

إِنَّكَ لَتَصِلُ الرَّجْمَ

“you uphold the ties of kinship”

وَتَصَدِّقُ الْحَدِيثَ

“and you speak the truth”

وَتَحْمِلُ الْكَلَّ

“and you help the unable”

وَتَقْرِي الضَّيْفَ

“and you honour the guest”

وَتُعِينُ عَلَى نَوَائِبِ الْحَقِّ،

“And you uphold justice wherever it is needed”

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Akhlaaq, after akhlaaq, connected to worship and Prophethood, hence Ibn Taymiyyah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ he says in commentary my brothers and sisters, listen to this with your soul:

وَقَدْ عَلِمَ مِنْ سُنَّةِ اللَّهِ

“It is well known from the tradition of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى”

أَنَّ مَنْ جَبَلَهُ عَلَى الْأَخْلَاقِ الْمَحْمُودَةِ

“Whoever Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى facilitates for him praiseworthy manners”

وَنَزَّهَهُ عَنِ الْأَخْلَاقِ الْمَذْمُومَةِ

“Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى helps this person to remove anything which is unpraiseworthy from his behaviorisms”

فَأِنَّهُ لَا يُخْزِيهِ

“such people will never be disgraced by Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى”

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My brothers and sisters, preserve yourselves with good manners because there is no curtain between you and Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** acceptance and rejection has been made synonymous with your akhlaaq and as the scholars say, “no one will be fed up with a person, with his generosity which comes from the throne of his heart”.

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“One who guides to something good has a reward similar to that of its doer”- Saheeh Muslim vol.3, no.4665.