

Friday Sermon

Du'a

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ -

أَمَّا بَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ ه بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ه الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ه
مَلِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ ه إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ ه إِهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ ه صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْنَا غَيْرِ
الْمَغضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ ه

قُلْ مَا يَعْجَبُكُمْ رَبِّي لَوْلَا دُعَاؤُكُمْ

Say, 'But for your prayer to Him my Lord would not care for you. [25:78]

Meaning of this verse is that O Prophet^{SA}! Tell these people that if you do not pray (Du'a) to Allah, he will not care for of you. This verse shows the importance of Du'a, all believers should always be praying to Allah regardless of where they are and what they are doing. There are a lot of prayers throughout the Holy Quran which God Almighty has taught the believers.

The life of the Holy Prophet^{SA} is the true example for all believers to follow. The Holy Prophet^{SA} would stay up most of the night and offer 11 Nawafil including Vitr. In these Nawafil he would always pray to Allah. His prayers were always about Astaghfar, prayers for companions, prayers for non-Muslims etc. Holy Prophet^{SA} also taught his companions to always keep praying and pray as much as you want and ask for as much as you can from Allah. The more you ask the more you get from Allah. In one Hadith, Holy Prophet^{SA} mentioned,

"Allah is very Modest, Honorable and Generous, when human raise his both hands (in prayer), He (Allah) is shy to return those prayer as empty and unsuccessful." [Timazi Kitab Al-Dawaat]

Hadrat Masih Ma'ud^{AS} has shed a lot of light on what Du'a is, what the etiquettes of Du'a are, timings, conditions and how to pray. He has given us the key on how to do successful prayers and see the results of the prayers. Hadrat Masih Ma'ud^{AS} as one place said that,

"You can only recognize and find Allah with Du'a." (Alhakam Vol. 9, 10 July 1905)

Hadrat Masih Ma'ud^{AS} said that to find Allah to recognize and experience his Attributes Du'a is the biggest source to see how those Holy Attributes will come to help you if you keep on praying. In another place Hadrat Masih Ma'ud^{AS} explains the concept of Du'a in comparison to real life scenario, he mentions;

“Allah Says in Holy Qur’an, “you call out me and implore from me, and I will call out for you and give you an answer and will remember you, and if you say that I call out to Him and He doesn’t respond. Then look you are standing and calling out on someone who is very far and then on top of that your ears can not hear very clearly, then if that person responds back to you, then because of your deafness it will become a barrier for you. The more the curtains in between and barriers are removed the more you will listen.”
 (Al-Hakam 10/17 November 1904 Page. 6-7)

وَإِذَا سَأَلَكَ عِبَادِي عَنِّي فَإِنِّي قَرِيبٌ أُجِيبُ دَعْوَةَ الدَّاعِ إِذَا دَعَانِ فَلْيَسْتَجِيبُوا لِي وَلْيُؤْمِنُوا بِي لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْشُدُونَ

“And when My servants ask thee about Me, say: ‘I am near. I answer the prayer of the supplicant when he prays to Me. So they should hearken to Me and believe in Me, that they may follow the right way.” [2:187]

Huzur^{AS} mentioned in a tafseer of this verse of the Holy Quran that, Allah, The Almighty always replies. The problem is, if one can hear him or not, and for that we have to make ourselves close to Allah. So that we can hear what he is replying and what he wants us to do with more clarity. In another place Huzur^{AS} mentioned that,

“Du’a comes from Allah and goes back to him. Because of Dua Allah comes so close to you, as you are to yourself. The first result of Du’a is that it makes a holy change in that person.” (Lecture Sialkote, Pg 27)

May Allah help us bring that holy change among us so that we can have a better and clear link with Allah and show to people that look this is what we need for successful and accepted prayers. Amin!

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ تَحْمَدُهُ وَ نَسْتَعِينُهُ وَ نَسْتَغْفِرُهُ وَ نُؤْمِنُ بِهِ وَ نَتَوَكَّلُ عَلَيْهِ - وَ نَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا
 وَ مِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا مِنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَ مَنْ يُضِلَّهُ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ - وَ نَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا
 اللَّهُ وَ حْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَ نَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَ رَسُولُهُ - عِبَادَ اللَّهِ - رَحِمَكُمُ اللَّهُ أَنْ اللَّهُ يَا مُر
 بِالْعَدْلِ وَ الْإِحْسَانِ وَ ائْتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى وَ يَتَّهِى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَ الْمُنْكَرِ وَ الْبَغْيِ - يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ
 تَذَكَّرُونَ - أَذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَادْعُوهُ يُسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ وَ لَذِكْرِ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ -