



The General Presidency for the Affairs of  
the Grand Holy Mosque and the Prophet's Holy Mosque

Translation of the Two Holy Mosques Khutbahs  
A Joint Project



Al-Imam Muhammad Ibn Saud Islamic University  
College of Languages and Translation

المسجد الحرام

[23/03/1435 – A – Ibn Humaid]

٢٣-٣-١٤٣٥- ابن حميد

## **Life of Faith versus Life of Materialism**

### **Khutbah Topic**

His Eminence Sheikh Saleh Ibn Humaid –May Allah protect him– delivered this Friday’s *khutbah* titled “**Life of Faith versus Life of Materialism**” in which he made a comparison between life in light of faith, work, ethics and values and life in light of materialism, egoism, and selfishness, with separation of religion from people’s lives. The Sheikh explained that life of faith is the ultimate reason behind man’s creation and existence in this world, urging people to learn and develop modern sciences while keeping ethics and values.

### **Part One**

Praise be to Allah to whose glory everything submits and to whose greatness everything succumbs. There is no other deity except Him. He causes things to proceed in accordance with what He has predestined and with His infinite might. I praise Him (*May He be extolled*) and I thank Him as He bestowed his bounty and grace on us, and promised the thankful more of them. I bear witness that there is no other deity worth worshipping except Allah alone with no associate in His Names and Attributes and in His Divinity and Sovereignty. I also bear witness that our Master and Prophet, Muhammad, is the Servant and Messenger of Allah Almighty Who bestowed upon us the favour of sending him to us as the last Prophet and made his Message the last of all Messages. May Allah send his bounteous *Salat* (Graces, Honours, and Mercy), Peace and Blessing upon him, his Companions, family and *tabi’in* (the contemporaries of the Companions of the Prophet [May Allah’s *Salat* and Peace be upon him] after his death), and upon all those who righteously followed in their footsteps, heeded his guidance and adopted his *Sunnah* (tradition).

Now then O people!

I counsel you and myself to abide by *taqwa* (fear) of Allah Almighty. Observe *taqwa* –May Allah have mercy upon you! Happy is the one who is in a good health, feels secure at heart, has enough food for the day, and worships his Lord in peace. Glory will he have achieved he whose wealth is rather in his heart and is content with his earnings. Such a man certainly knows that life in the herein is treacherous and not worth an hour’s worry, so he exploits it in obediently worshipping his Lord. His heart is full of rapture and contentment; his soul is tranquil succumbing to fate and Allah’s decree. He is neither whimsical giving in to his whims nor materialistic



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distressed with worldly affairs. His prudence outweighs his foolhardiness, and his patience surpasses his desire. *﴿Is one who is obedient to Allâh, prostrating himself or standing (in prayer) during the hours of the night, fearing the Hereafter and hoping for the Mercy of his Lord (like one who disbelieves)? Say: "Are those who know equal to those who know not?" It is only men of understanding who will remember (i.e. get a lesson from Allâh's Signs and Verses).﴾* [Al-Zumar: 9]

Fellow Muslims! Allah's wisdom has decreed that man be responsible and accountable in the herein. *﴿And (remember) when your Lord said to the angels: "Verily, I am going to place (mankind) generations after generations on earth." They said: "Will You place therein those who will make mischief therein and shed blood, - while we glorify You with praises and thanks (Exalted be You above all that they associate with You as partners) and sanctify You." He (Allâh) said: "I know that which you do not know."﴾* [Al-Baqarah: 30]

The significance of man lies in the purpose for which he has been created and for which he is living. It has to do with faith, intellect and thought. *﴿And I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me.﴾* [Al-Dhâriyât: 56]. *﴿Have they not travelled through the land, and have they hearts wherewith to understand and ears wherewith to hear? Verily, it is not the eyes that grow blind, but it is the hearts which are in the breasts that grow blind.﴾* [Al-Hajj: 46] *﴿And Allâh has brought you out from the wombs of your mothers while you know nothing. And He gave you hearing, sight, and hearts that you might give thanks (to Allâh).﴾* [Al-Nahl: 78]

Man's humanity cannot be fulfilled and his life may never be set right without faith and good deeds: *﴿Verily! As for those who believe and do righteous deeds, certainly! We shall not suffer to be lost the reward of anyone who does his (righteous) deeds*



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*in the most perfect manner.﴾ [Al-Kahf: 30]. If he neglects that, he will be like ﴿... a donkey that carries huge burdens of books (but understands nothing from them).﴾ [Al-Jumu'ah: 5] or like ﴿... a dog: if you drive him away, he lolls his tongue out, or if you leave him alone, he (still) lolls his tongue out.﴾ [Al-A'rāf: 176]*

A good man is one of faith, morals, values, principles, honor, virtue, dignity, honesty, truthfulness, straightforwardness, and responsibility.

The human mind alone, my brothers in Allah, is unable to make right decisions and judgments. *﴿And if the truth had been in accordance with their desires, verily, the heavens and the earth, and whosoever is therein would have been corrupted!﴾* [Al-Muminūn: 71]

Man has narrow beneficial tendencies. With his despotic and crooked mentality, he even tries to usurp and pilfer what he can.

With his absolute reason and highhandedness, man is incarnated in a host of phenomena of present-day civilization, rejecting the world of the unseen or the metaphysical world as they call it and accepting nothing but the tangible, i.e. what is perceived by the senses.

Having been considered the maker of his own values, man has taken a methodology and followed a path that led him astray from faith and religion, and from what messengers have brought and away from the books revealed. They even claim that there are no constants regarding justice and freedom; no criteria for ethics and interests. This is lethal relativity par excellence. There are neither constant hostilities nor constant friendships and not even truthful relations. It is the interests of the strongest, the verdicts of the most oppressive, and the whims of the most tyrannical that prevail.

Dear brothers and sisters!

Because of following the reason, or rather the whims, values have been weakened and materialism enhanced to the extent that racism and fanaticism have resurfaced. You would witness a man of science and knowledge harbouring bigotry for his colour and nation despite the material progress that he has achieved. He has even fought against religion and the religious; he has been ensnared by the material and the tangible, achieving therein undeniable success. Yet, he meets with ignominious failure in safeguarding human dignity vis-à-vis those belonging to other races and nations. Such people have globalized wars, conflicts and disputes. The more lethal the aspects of materialism get and the greater the reliance on stark power, the worse and more severe the situation will be. There are now millions of weak and miserable effeminate, naked, sick and helpless people.



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You would see the inventor, the discoverer, or the manufacturer seeking through their inventions, discoveries, and products to serve the wellbeing of mankind with respect to nutrition, clothing, and medicine which would help enhance health and safety conditions. However, such plants, laboratories and factories produce –at a greater, more hideous and flagrant rate– poisonous, lethal gases and weapons of mass destruction threatening the world with chemical, microbial and nuclear warfare. Arms race knows no limits. Allah, the Ever-Exalted, the Ever-Magnificent, said: **﴿They know what is apparent of the worldly life, but they of the hereafter are unaware.﴾** [Al-Rūm: 7], **﴿And a disaster will not cease to strike those who disbelieve because of their (evil) deeds or it (i.e. the disaster) settle close to their homes﴾** [Al-Ra'd: 31]

O fellow Muslims!

Stripping modern sciences from faith and sublime values has plagued this age with barrenness and degradation, and led to a *cul-de-sac*. It is a world where freedom has become open-ended, justice loose, interests with no criteria, and the ends justify the means.

This –I swear by Allah– would not have happened had not there been a separation between science and belief, religion and life, and science and ethics. It is a world where there are neither friendships nor hostilities, but only interests run by the strongest and controlled by the richest. Science is nothing but postulations, theories and phenomena isolated from values. The *coup de grace* comes when they decide that these have nothing to do with religion or life.

O people of reason!

Knowledge without faith lacks insight. Nay, it is but a monster wreaking havoc. Man without faith is also a wild, fierce monster. **﴿And he goes away, he strives throughout the land to cause corruption therein and destroy crops and animals. Allah does not like corruption.﴾** [Al-Baqarah: 205].

Certainly, when science chose this materialistic path, its results led to destructive consequences that horrified all humanity both in practice and theory. Therefore, all human legislations, covenants, and agreements would soon disappear and their defects, gaps, oppression, and partiality would begin to surface.

Would that civilised people know that there is a tight connection, or rather a constant and strong covenant between faith and life, faith and science, and creed and work: **﴿And (remember)**



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*when We took from the Prophets their covenant, and from you (O Muhammad), and from Nuh (Noah), Ibrahim (Abraham), Musa (Moses), and Isa (Jesus) son of Maryam (Mary). We took from them a strong covenant.﴾* [Al-Aḥzāb: 7] *﴿Verily, those who believe and do deeds of righteousness, their Lord will guide them through their Faith.﴾* [Yūnus: 9] *﴿Whoever works righteousness- whether male or female- while he (or she) is a true believer (of Islamic Monotheism) verily, to him We will give a good life (in this world with respect, contentment and lawful provision), and We shall pay them a reward in proportion to the best of what they used to do (i. e. Paradise in the Hereafter).﴾* [Al-Naḥl: 97]

Great values such as: piety, charity, truthfulness, sincerity, faithfulness, respect of human dignity, humbleness, cooperation, self-denial, love of good for people, patience during hardships and ordeals... etc, can never be achieved truly except if fenced in by faith in Allah, *taqwa* vis-à-vis Him, devotion in worshipping Him, and desire and fear of what He has for us in the Herein and in the Hereafter.

O people of reason! O you Muslims!

This becomes even clearer when we investigate the status of one special human institution; how it has come to be nowadays and how it should normally be. It is namely the institution of marriage and its goal. Marriage as it is properly construed is a strong covenant *﴿...while you have gone in unto each other, and they have taken from you a firm and strong covenant.﴾* [Al-Nisā': 21], lineage and relationship by marriage, building a family, a bond and kinsfolk, family members and relatives. Marriage also means intimacy and good companionship, kindness and benevolence, keeping (one's wife) amicably, perseverance and responsibility. Family becomes (in light of all this) a shelter and a school, a warm hug and a loving home providing care.

However, nowadays, and according to what the materialists of this age desire via their materialistic values and their selfish and prejudiced disposition, marriage has become but a dull contract, an insensible relationship, devoid of all family responsibilities. In this kind of marriage, both the husband and the wife are but ghosts that are together in such a cold rapport to the extent that, in many cases, they substituted children for domestic animals!



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As for the family responsibilities, they have been assigned to various associations and foundations; thus care homes increased in number in order to take care of foundlings, the elderly and the handicapped, while *social security* has become exclusively the responsibility of the government or social associations.

In modern families when the parents become too old and helpless to take care of themselves, their children would take them to one of those homes where they would have to spend the rest of their lives, not being able to visit or be visited. Occasionally, their children might drop by to pay them a visit, to give them a rose or (send them) a post card.

In such families, when children reach maturity, they lose all connections with their families and parents; they bear no responsibility nor do they have any consideration for relatives or in-laws. Unfortunately, this aspect of the analogy is not exclusive to one particular region; it is rather almost all encompassing.

Here is another picture or value, if you wish, to be taken as analogy; it is the value or the moral principle of chastity. Does chastity really exist in this modern life? Chastity –may Allah protect you– means selfcontrol and moderation in seeking physical and psychological pleasures in terms of food, drink, earning, communication, and emotions.

The contemporary path is deeply involved in pleasures with endless avidity and unquenchable thirst. Why is this? It is because life for them does not reach beyond the domain of the earth. This is indeed abominable submission to the bottomless world of materialism, not to mention the law: “*the end justifies the means*” which can lead to total chaos and destruction when it shows its ugly teeth!

Thus, you see the image of modern man with empty cups, dry lips, shiny from the outside but dark inside, weary eyesight, feeble faith, and much pessimism. You see eyes that cannot refrain from looking at *Haram* (what Allah has prohibited) and hearts that are not deterred by calamities. All they have of science, art, politics, education, intellect, and heart revolve around materialistic things.

Now, then –may Allah protect you:

Man is being killed without war and tortured without beating; it is now time for the people of intellect and reason to know the signs of true civilization and the whereabouts of the desired development paths and the effects and importance of values.

I seek refuge with Allah from the accursed Satan: ﴿By Al-Asr (the time) (1) Verily, man is in loss (2) Except those who believe (in Islamic Monotheism) and do



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*righteous good deeds, and recommend one another to the truth [i. e. order one another to perform all kinds of good deeds (Al-Maruf) which Allah has ordained, and abstain from all kinds of sins and evil deeds (Al-Munkar) which Allah has forbidden], and recommend one another to patience (for the sufferings, harms, and injuries which one may encounter in Allah's Cause during preaching His religion of Islamic Monotheism or Jihad).» [Al-Asr: 1-3]*

May Allah benefit me and you with the great Qur'ān and with the guidance of Prophet Mohammed [*May Allah's Salat and Peace be upon him!*] I say this and ask Allah to forgive you and me and all the Muslims! So ask Him for forgiveness; He is All-Forgiving, All-Merciful!

## Part Two

Praise be to Allah! Praise be to Allah Who has predetermined the livelihoods and life-spans and has preordained deeds and their consequences. I praise and thank Him (*May He be extolled*), for He is the Bountiful, the Benefactor! I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Him, with no associate. He is the Generous, the High. I also bear witness that our Master and Prophet Muhammad (*May Allah's Salat and Peace be upon him*) is His Servant and Messenger, who has lofty honour and perfect traits. May Allah send His *Salat* (Graces, Honours, Mercy), Peace and Blessings upon him, his generous family, his distinguished and eminent Companions, the *tabi'in* (the contemporaries of the Companions of the Prophet [*May Allah's Salât and Peace be upon him*] after his death) and those who followed them in righteousness as long as the day and night alternate!

Now then, O Muslims!

It is the *Sunnah* of struggle (conflict) between right and wrong, good and evil, justice and injustice. We, Muslims, do not doubt for one second that with its true religion, this *Ummah*, Allah willing, is capable of helping humanity get rid of its misery and providing it with the true and righteous way of life, *«Then if there comes to you guidance from Me, then whoever follows My Guidance he shall neither go astray, nor shall be distressed.»* [Taha: 123] *«You [true believers in Islamic Monotheism and real followers of Prophet Muhammad (May Allah's Salât and Peace be upon him) and his Sunnah are the best of peoples ever raised up for mankind; you enjoin Al-Maruf (i.e. Islamic Monotheism and all that Islam has ordained) and forbid Al-Munkar*



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*(polytheism, disbelief and all that Islam has forbidden), and you believe in Allah.)* [Āl-Imrān: 110]

The road is plain and the way is very clear; it is holding tight to the rope of Allah and adhering to His *Sharia*. Faith is the bond that joins hearts, and true brotherhood is brotherhood in faith.

Religion is not restricted to good morals or a number of values and their glorification. Rather, it is the one that sets them firmly, defines their features, controls their measures, and decides the reward or punishment for them.

You should know –may Allah protect you– that the treasures of Islam are not exhausted and that Islam is ever new and radiant. In fact, the secret that lies behind the endurance of this religion until now, the impossibility of its disappearance, and the power of its resistance is that because it is the Truth from Allah. It is protected by His Grace. It is divine, complete and comprehensive in its faith, legislations, values, and morals. All of those values are lofty ones and strongly coherent which renders them, by the protection and wisdom of Allah an obstacle in the face of anybody trying to criticise, alter, or crush them.

Indeed, it is enough glory, power, and hope for you that your religion is spreading throughout the whole world: strong or weak, north or south despite campaigns of distortion and bias. It is a great dignified religion. Whenever enemies try to harm it, it grows stronger and whenever they leave it, it expands, so thanks are due to Allah!

When Muslims return to their religion, feel proud of their values, and hold tight to their *Sharia*, then they will not only save themselves but they will save the whole humanity that is suffering from this savage wilderness and the ever escalating destruction and devastation.

Our religion is guidance for all people, and our Prophet Muhammad [May Allah's Salat and Peace be upon him] is Allah's Mercy for the Worlds. It is nice when the people of the Truth believe that what they see as conflict of interests is but conflict of values, a conflict between right and wrong, between what this religion has preached and those who desire to extinguish Allah's Light, *but Allah will not allow except that His Light should be perfected even though the Kafirun (disbelievers) hate (it).* [Al-Taubah: 32] Allah will prefer His religion (Islam) over all other religions even though the disbelievers hate it.

This being said, I advise you to send your *salat* and peace on the Mercy and Blessing Allah bestowed on you, your Prophet Muhammad [May Allah's Salat and Peace be upon him], the Messenger of Allah, as Your Lord commanded you to do in His wise Book where He so truthfully and graciously said: *Allâh sends His Salât (Graces, Honours, Blessings, Mercy) on the Prophet*





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(Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم), and also His angels (ask Allâh to bless and forgive him). O you who believe! Send your *Salât*[1] on (ask Allâh to bless) him (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم), and (you should) greet (salute) him with the Islâmic way of greeting (salutation i.e. *As-Salâmu 'Alaikum*). [Al Aḥzāb: 56]

O Allah! Send Your *Salat* (Graces, Honours, Mercy), Peace and Blessing on Your Servant and Messenger, our Master and Prophet, Muhammad [May Allah's Salat and Peace be upon him], the beloved and the Chosen One, on his virtuous and immaculate family and on his wives, the mothers of the believers! O Allah! We seek Your satisfaction with the four Caliphs, Abu Bakr, Omar, Othman, and Ali, the Prophet's Companions, the *tabi'in* and those who followed them in righteousness until the Day of Judgment! O Allah! We seek Your Satisfaction with us as well, as You are Most Forgiving, Most Generous, and Most Beneficent!

O Allah! Grant glory to Islam and Muslims! O Allah! Grant glory to Islam and Muslims! O Allah! Grant glory to Islam and Muslims, and fail polytheism and polytheists! O Allah! Let down tyrants and infidels and all other enemies of Islam!

O Allah! Grant us security in our homelands! O Allah! Grant us security in our homelands, and set right our *Imams* and leaders! O Allah! Entrust our government to those who fear You and seek Your satisfaction, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Grant our *Imam* and Leader a success of Your own! Honour him with Your obedience and make Your word uppermost through him! Make him an asset to Islam and Muslims! Grant him sound health and wellness! Guide him, his deputy, his brothers and his aides to do what You love and what pleases You, and lead them to righteousness and piety!

O Allah! Help Muslim leaders to abide by Your Book and follow the *Sunnah* of Your Prophet, Mohammad [May Allah's Salat and Peace be upon him]! Make them a blessing on Your faithful believers, and unite them on the grounds of Truth, right guidance and the *Sunnah*, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Set right the conditions of Muslims, O Allah! Set right the conditions of Muslims, stop their bloodshed, grant their leadership to the best among them, unite their word on the Truth, the right guidance, and the *Sunnah*! Grant them victory over Your enemy and theirs!

O Allah! Whoever intends to do any evil against us, our religion, our homeland, our *Ummah*, our security, our leaders, our *ulamā* (religious scholars), the righteous and benevolent among us, or our unity and accord, O Allah, make him preoccupied with himself! O Allah! Make him preoccupied with himself! Let his plotting return against him, and make his destruction in his planning, O You, the Lord of the Worlds!



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O Allah! Make for this nation (the nation of Islam) a matter (an affair) of rationality (guidance) where the people of piety are honoured and those of sins are guided, and where virtue is promoted and vice is prevented! Verily, You are the Omniscient!

O Allah the Lord of the believers, the Giver of victory to the oppressed, the Helper of those who seek help, the One of Great Hope! The Protector of the weak! Grant victory to the oppressed and weak everywhere! O Allah! Grant them victory in Syria and Burma! O Allah! Bring an end to their suffering! Grant them speedy relief and draw them closer at heart! O Allah! Grant them an aid, a fighting power and a triumph of your own! O Allah! We beseech You to bestow on them a victory of your own, relief, blessing and perseverance!

O Allah! Defeat the tyrants and oppressors in Syria and those who sympathize and side with them! O Allah! Disperse their gathering, scatter their crowds, and tear them apart!

O Allah! Destroy the usurpers among the Jews! O Allah! Destroy the usurpers and occupiers among the Jews! Destroy them, for You are certainly able to do so! O Allah! Inflict Your wrath – which can never be turned back from the people who are *Mujrimûn* (criminals, polytheists or sinners)– on them! O Allah! We leave them to You (to deal with them) and seek refuge in You from their evils!

*﴿Our Lord! We have wronged ourselves. If You forgive us not, and bestow not upon us Your Mercy, we shall certainly be of the losers.﴾* [Al-Ārāf: 23]

*﴿... Our Lord! Give us in this world that which is good and in the Hereafter that which is good, and save us from the torment of the Fire!﴾* [Al-Baqarah: 201]

Glorified be You, our Lord, the Lord of Honour and Power! You are free from what they attribute unto You! May peace be upon the Messengers! The last of our supplications is all praise be to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds!