



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

[23-12-35 – A – Al-Hudhaifi]

Reflecting on the Worldly Life

His Eminence Sheikh Ali ibn Abdur-Rahman Al-Hudhaifi, may Allah preserve him, delivered the Friday *khutbah* entitled, “Reflecting on the Worldly Life”, in which he talked about the true meaning of the worldly life and man’s brief stay in it, showing that this should prompt every Muslim to take advantage of his time by doing acts of obedience to Allah and avoiding evil deeds. In the course of his stirring sermon, he cited a number of Qur’anic verses and Prophetic *hadiths* to substantiate these ideas.

Part One

Praise be to Allah, the All-Mighty, the Oft-Forgiving. He causes the night to succeed the day and the day to succeed the night and everything with Him is in due proportions. I praise my Lord and thank Him for His favours and His grace. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah alone, Who has no partners, the One, the All-Dominant, and I bear witness that our prophet and master, Muhammad, is His servant and chosen messenger. O Allah! Bestow Your prayers, peace, and blessings upon Your servant and messenger Muhammad and upon his family and righteous Companions.

Now then,

Fear Allah, Exalted be He, and obey Him, for obedience to Allah is the soundest and most upright way. Take provisions for the hereafter and know that the best provision is fear of Allah.

Servants of Allah!

If you think deeply about this transient worldly life, its despicable ornaments, and its ever-changing nature, you will realize its real worth and true meaning. He who trusts it will be deceived, and he who is inclined to it will be doomed. This world is as short as one’s life in it. One’s life starts with a few hours, which are followed by further hours, then days, then months, and then years. Then life comes to an end, and nobody knows about the horrifying matters that await him after his death.

O Man! Are the lives of others after your death an extension of your own life? A man’s life is but a single moment compared with the life of successive generations, and even this present life in its entirety is nothing but a brief enjoyment. Allah, Exalted be He, says:



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﴿... Truly, this life of the world is nothing but a (quick passing) enjoyment, and verily, the Hereafter that is the home that will remain forever.﴾ (Ghafir: 39)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿And put forward to them the example of the life of this world; it is like the water (rain) which We send down from the sky, and the vegetation of the earth mingles with it, and becomes fresh and green. But (later) it becomes dry and broken pieces, which the winds scatter. And Allah is Able to do everything.﴾ (Al-Kahf: 45)

Our Lord informs us about the brevity of people's stay in their graves until the day they are resurrected for judgement. He tells us that this long period will seem to them on the Day of Judgement like an hour. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿And on the Day when He shall gather (resurrect) them together, (it will be) as if they had not stayed (in the life of this world and graves) but an hour of a day. They will recognize each other. ...﴾ (Yunus: 45)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿And on the Day that the Hour will be established, the Mujrimun (criminals, disbelievers, polytheists, sinners) will swear that they stayed not but an hour – thus were they ever deluded [away from the truth (i.e. they used to tell lies and take false oaths, and turn away from the truth) in this life of the world].﴾ (Ar-Rum: 55)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿Therefore be patient (O Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)) as did the Messengers of strong will and be in no haste about them (disbelievers). On the Day when they will see that (torment) with which they are promised (i.e. threatened, it will be) as if they had not stayed more than an hour in a single day. (O mankind! This Qur'an is sufficient as) a clear Message (or proclamation to save yourself from destruction). But shall any be destroyed except the people who are *Al-Fasiqun* (the rebellious



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against Allah's command, disobedient to Allah).﴾ (Al-Ahqaf: 35)

O Man! How long will you then live when it is all like an hour in a single day? And what is your share in this hour? Blessed, then, are those who do good deeds and shun prohibited acts, for that will win them the good pleasure of Allah and the delights of the gardens of Paradise. And wretched are those who follow their lusts and neglect their prayers and all religious obligations, as they will be doomed to the lowest depths of Hellfire.

O You who have been deluded by your good health, and therefore have disobeyed your Lord! O You who have been corrupted by your free time, and therefore have engaged in distractions! O You who have failed to stand the test of your wealth, and therefore have ruined yourself! O You who have followed your evil whims and desires, and therefore have fallen into sin! O you who have been deceived by your youth, and therefore have forgotten about death! O you who have dared to disobey your Lord because you feel that you still have time to live and hopes to fulfil! When death snatches you away, you will wish to return to this world to do deeds other than those you used to do, but in vain!

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Remember the destroyer of pleasures [i.e. death], for it is not remembered amidst many pleasures but it makes them seem little [thus saving one from indulging in pleasures and making one closer to Allah], and it is not remembered amidst few pleasures but it makes them seem many." The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, also said, "Death is sufficient as an admonition."

O you who are heedless, neglectful and disobedient! Is it not time for you to turn to your Lord in repentance? Is it not time to wake up from your deep sleep and respond to the call of Allah? Will you not draw lessons from the previous generations and deserted dwellings? Will you not draw lessons from those who left all their grandeur and glory and have now become history?

There are lessons and morals to be drawn from the coming and passing of years. You will continue to leave a day behind and welcome another until your appointed time is over and your hopes come to an end. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿And that man can have nothing but what he does (good or bad). And that his deeds will be seen. Then he will be recompensed with a full and the best recompense. And that to your Lord (Allah) is the End (Return of everything).﴾ (An-Najm: 39-42)



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Therefore, strive to enter Paradise, the eternal abode whose bliss will never end, decrease, or perish, and about which Allah says:

﴿"Enter you therein in peace and security; this is a Day of eternal life!" There they will have all that they desire, and We have more.﴾ (Qaf: 34-35)

And strive to escape Hellfire, whose torment of its dwellers will never abate, by obeying Allah's certain command and avoiding his great wrath. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿... Then as for those who disbelieve, garments of fire will be cut out for them, boiling water will be poured down over their heads. With it will melt (or vanish away) what is within their bellies, as well as (their) skins. And for them are hooked rods of iron (to punish them). Every time they seek to get away therefrom, from anguish, they will be driven back therein, and (it will be) said to them: "Taste the torment of burning!"﴾ (Al-Hajj: 19-22)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿... and send (good deeds, or ask Allah to bestow upon you pious offspring) for your own selves beforehand. And fear Allah, and know that you are to meet Him (in the Hereafter), and give good tidings to the believers (O Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)).﴾ (Al-Baqarah: 223)

May Allah bless you and me with the Great Qur'an and make us benefit from its verses and wise words and benefit from the guidance and right sayings of the Imam of all Messengers. I have said what you have heard and I ask forgiveness of Allah for myself, for you, and for all Muslims for any sin we have committed. Ask Allah for forgiveness. He is the Oft-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.



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Part Two

Praise be to Allah, Who knows the secret and that which is yet more hidden. He takes charge of every soul and knows all that it has earned, and takes account of all deeds and will recompense for them with the fullest recompense. I praise my Lord and thank Him. I turn to Him in repentance and ask Him for forgiveness. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah alone, Who has no partners. To Him belong the Most Beautiful Names. I also bear witness that our prophet and master, Muhammad, is His servant and chosen messenger. O Allah! Bestow Your prayers, peace, and blessings upon Your servant and messenger Muhammad and upon his family and Companions, who are known for their forbearance and piety.

Now then,

Fear Allah as He should be feared, and grasp the trustworthy handhold of Islam.

Servants of Allah!

Allah has opened for you the doors to His mercy by commanding you to do good deeds and to refrain from vice. Therefore, do not close the door to Allah's mercy against yourselves by defying Him through the commission of sins. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿... and My Mercy embraces all things. That (My Mercy) I shall ordain for those who are pious, and give *Zakat*, and those who believe in Our signs.﴾ (Al-A'raf: 156)

Benefit from the time when you are healthy, O servant of Allah, for a day that passes never comes back again. Fill your days with as many good deeds as you can, and do not stain your Record with evil deeds. Abdullah ibn Abbas, may Allah be pleased with him and his father, narrated that the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "There are two blessings in which many people incur loss: health and free time." Abdullah ibn Umar, may Allah be pleased with him and his father, narrated that the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Be in this world as though you were a stranger or a wayfarer." Abdullah ibn Umar, may Allah be pleased with him and his father, often said, "In the morning do not expect to live until the evening, and in the evening do not expect to live until the morning. Take advantage of your health before times of sickness, and take advantage of your life before your death."

Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿Allah sends His *Salat* (Graces, Honours, Blessings, Mercy) on the Prophet (Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)) and also His angels (ask Allah to bless and forgive him). O you who believe! Send your *Salat* on (ask Allah to



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bless) him (Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)), and (you should) greet (salute) him with the Islamic way of greeting (salutation i.e. *As-Salamu 'Alaikum*).» (Al-Ahzab: 56)

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "If a person asks Allah to send blessings upon me once, Allah will send blessings upon him ten times over." Therefore, ask Allah to bestow His peace and blessings upon the master of those who preceded us and those who are yet to come, and the Imam of Messengers.

O Allah! Bestow Your peace upon Muhammad and his family, as You bestowed Your peace upon Ibrahim and his family, You are All-Praiseworthy, All-Glorious. O Allah! Bestow Your blessings upon Muhammad and his family, as You bestowed Your blessings upon Ibrahim and his family, You are All-Praiseworthy, All-Glorious. O Allah! Bestow Your bountiful peace and blessings upon Muhammad and his family.

O Allah! Be pleased with all the Companions. O Allah! Be pleased with the Rightly-Guided Caliphs and Imams, Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, and Ali, along with all Your Prophet's Companions, with the *Tabi'un* (the contemporaries of the Companions after the Prophet's death), and with those who follow them in righteousness until the Day of Judgement. O Allah! Be pleased with us together with them, by Your grace, generosity, and mercy, O Most Merciful of all the merciful!

O Allah! Grant power and glory to Islam and Muslims and subdue disbelief and the disbelievers, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Grant victory to Your religion, Your Book, and the *Sunnah* of Your prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him.

O Allah! Make the light of Islam reign supreme everywhere, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Make the power and glory of Islam reign supreme everywhere, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Purify our hearts from hypocrisy and our deeds from showing off. O Allah! Forgive us the sins that we have committed and the sins that we may commit in the future; forgive us the sins that we have committed in secret and the sins that we have committed in public; and forgive us what You know better than we do. You are the Expediter and the Delayer! There is no god but You!

O Allah! Make all our affairs end in goodness and save us from disgrace in this world and from torment in the hereafter.



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O Allah! We seek refuge in You from ill fate, from abject misery, from hard affliction, and from the malicious rejoicing of our enemies. O Allah! We seek refuge in You from the malicious rejoicing of Your slaves, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Protect us and our offspring from Satan, his soldiers, and his devils, and from the devils of jinn and mankind, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Protect Muslims from Satan, his devils, and his offspring, O Lord of the Worlds! You are Powerful over all things!

O Allah! Guide our youth. O Allah! Guide our youth and all Muslim youth. O Allah! Guide our youth and all Muslim youth, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Protect us and protect all Muslims from deluding trials. O Allah! Protect us and protect all Muslims from deluding innovations in religion, O Lord of the Worlds! You are Powerful over all things!

O Allah! Make us among those who follow and adhere to the Sunnah of Your Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him.

O Allah, our Lord! Let not our hearts deviate (from the truth) after You have guided us, and grant us mercy from You. Truly, You are the Bestower.

O Allah! Help the debtors in paying off their debts. O Allah! Cure our sick and the sick among all Muslims. O Allah! Cure our sick and the sick among all Muslims. O Allah! Bring together the hearts of Muslims, reconcile them, and guide them to the ways of peace, by Your mercy, O Most Merciful of all the merciful!

O Allah! Guide the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to what You love and accept. O Allah! Lead him to Your guidance, make all his deeds pleasing to You, and help him do all that is good, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Guide his two Deputies to what You love and accept. O Allah! Guide them to all that is good for Islam and Muslims, O Lord of the Worlds! You are Powerful over all things!

O Allah! 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.

O Allah! We seek refuge in You from the evil within ourselves and from our wrong deeds. O Allah! We seek refuge in You from the evil of all evil-doers. O Allah! We seek refuge in You from the evil of all evil-doers.

O Allah! Save us from rise in prices, plagues, usury, adultery, fornication, earthquakes, trials, and evil tribulations, apparent and hidden, by Your mercy, O Most Merciful of all the merciful!

Servants of Allah!



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﴿Verily, Allah enjoins *Al-'Adl* (i.e. justice and worshipping none but Allah Alone – Islamic Monotheism) and *Al-Ihsan* [i.e. to be patient in performing your duties to Allah, totally for Allah's sake and in accordance with the *Sunnah* (legal ways) of the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) in a perfect manner], and giving (help) to kith and kin (i.e. all that Allah has ordered you to give them, e.g. wealth, visiting, looking after them, or any other kind of help): and forbids *Al-Fahsha'* (i.e. all evil deeds, e.g. illegal sexual acts, disobedience of parents, polytheism, to tell lies, to give false witness, to kill a life without right), and *Al-Munkar* (i.e. all that is prohibited by Islamic law: polytheism of every kind, disbelief and every kind of evil deeds), and *Al-Baghy* (i.e. all kinds of oppression), He admonishes you, that you may take heed.) And fulfil the Covenant of Allah (*Bai'ah*: pledge for Islam) when you have covenanted, and break not the oaths after you have confirmed them – and indeed you have appointed Allah your surety. Verily! Allah knows what you do.﴾ (An-Nahl: 90-91)