



Islamic Religious Council of Singapore

Friday Khutbah

3 May 2019 / 27 Syaaban 1440H

Virtues from the Quran: As-Sabirin

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي رَفَعَ دَرَجَةَ الصَّابِرِينَ عِنْدَ الْمُصِيبَةِ، وَجَزَاهُمْ
بِمَا صَبَرُوا فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ، أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ
لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ لَا نَبِيَّ بَعْدَهُ،
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ
وَالَاهُ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، وَكُونُوا مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ.

Blessed Friday Jemaah,

Let us all increase our taqwa in Allah s.w.t. by fulfilling His commands and abstaining from all His prohibitions. I ask Allah to grant us all health, perseverance and the opportunity to once again meet the blessed month of Ramadan. Amin.

Dear brothers,

In just a few days we will be welcoming the month of Ramadan. Ramadan is also known as the month of the Quran, and in it we are given the opportunity to learn and reflect upon the contents of the Quran. Therefore, the Friday khutbahs throughout this blessed month will highlight the different virtues and values mentioned in the Quran – which I hope we will apply in our daily lives, insya Allah.

My brothers,

There is a verse in the Quran which contains various values and lessons that we can learn from. Allah s.w.t. stated in Surah Ali 'Imran, verse 16-17:

الَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا إِنَّنَا آمَنَّا فَاغْفِرْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا وَقِنَا عَذَابَ
النَّارِ ﴿١٦﴾ الصَّابِرِينَ وَالصَّادِقِينَ وَالْقَانِتِينَ وَالْمُنْفِقِينَ
وَالْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ بِالْأَسْحَارِ ﴿١٧﴾

Meaning: “Those who say, “Our Lord, indeed we have believed, so forgive us our sins and protect us from the punishment of the Fire. The patient, the true, the obedient, those who spend [in the way of Allah], and those who seek forgiveness before dawn.”

This verse tells us several qualities which reflect the traits of a believer. A believer is patient, honest, obedient to the Creator, charitable, and constantly repents to Allah s.w.t.

For today's khutbah, I will give emphasis on the virtue of patience, as well as its meaning and value.

Blessed Jemaah,

If we were to read and reflect upon the contents of the Quran, we would find that the injunction to have patience is repeated many times in the Quran. This is an indication of its importance in the sight of Allah s.w.t.

There are other verses which also illustrate the immense amount of patience displayed by the Messengers in the face of adversity. Take Prophet Nuh a.s. as an example; he spent 950 years trying to convey Allah's message to his family and his people. Prophet Ayyub a.s. was tested by Allah with an illness which had no cure and caused his family to leave him in isolation, yet he persevered and made du'a to Allah s.w.t. until he was finally cured. Prophet Yusuf a.s. was also tested with various calamities, one after another, yet he faced all of them patiently with full faith in Allah s.w.t.

Brothers,

These stories I have shared earlier teach us the true meaning of patience.

Dear brothers,

It is mentioned in the book Madarij As-Salikin, that to gain a complete understanding of patience, three aspects must be observed:

Firstly: Patience in obeying Allah s.w.t.

This refers to perseverance in performing righteous deeds in stages until it becomes second nature to us and we do not feel burdened to do it consistently.

Rasulullah s.a.w. once said: *“And truly, the deed which is most loved by Allah is that which done consistently, however small it may be.”* [Bukhari & Muslim]

My brothers,

The second aspect is patience when facing difficulties in life.

Know that difficulty and tribulations are part and parcel of life on this earth. Allah will test every single one of us. The status of a person is elevated when he faces these tests with patience. Allah s.w.t. tells us in Surah Al-‘Ankabut, verses 1 to 3:

الْم ١ أَحْسِبَ النَّاسَ أَنْ يَتْرَكُوا أَنْ يَقُولُوا ءَامَنَّا وَهُمْ لَا يُفْتَنُونَ ٢
وَلَقَدْ فَتَنَّا الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ فَلَيَعْلَمَنَّ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ صَدَقُوا وَلَيَعْلَمَنَّ
الْكَاذِبِينَ ٣

Meaning: “*Alif Lam Mim. Do the people think that they will be left to say, "We believe" and they will not be tried? But We have certainly tried those before them, and Allah will surely make evident those who are truthful, and He will surely make evident the liars.*”

Here it becomes clear the importance of patience and perseverance in life. Patience will guide a servant to continuously seek strength and assistance from his Creator, and put aside his pride and ego. Patience teaches us to spare no effort and to not give up easily.

Blessed Jemaah,

The third aspect is patience in distancing oneself from Allah’s prohibitions.

Patience is not only needed when facing difficulties and calamities, but it is especially needed in abstaining from Allah’s prohibitions. This is because it is the nature of humans to have desires. At times these desires make him do things which bring pleasure but cause him to forget his responsibilities.

Thus, my brothers, let us all make preparations to welcome the blessed month of Ramadan. Let us nurture in ourselves the patience to obey Allah in doing righteous deeds and leaving behind His prohibitions. This quality can only be achieved if one truly desires and works hard towards it. Rasulullah s.a.w. mentioned: "...And whosoever would be patient, Allah will give him patience, and no one is granted a gift better and more comprehensive than patience".

May Allah s.w.t. grant us patience in obedience and worship, and the reward of patience. May He also grant us taufiq in increasing our good deeds this coming Ramadan. I ask Allah to accept our worship and good deeds insya Allah. Amin ya Rabbal 'Alamin.

بَارِكْ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ
الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ
الْعَلِيمُ، أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ
الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ فَيَا
فَوْزَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ وَيَا نَجَاةَ التَّائِبِينَ.