

Bismillahir Rahmaanir Raheem

The Month of Ramadan

The Blessed Month of Glory

Sheikh Sadooq relates from an authentic source that Imam Reza (AS) related through his ancestors that Ali bin Abu Talib (AS) related that, one day the Messenger of Allah (SAW) delivered the following sermon to people:

“O people, the month of Allah (the month of Ramadan) has come bringing His Mercies and Blessings. This is the month that is the best of all months in the estimation of Allah. Its days are the best among the days. Its nights are the best among the nights. Its hours are the best among the hours. This is the month in which you have been invited by Allah (to Fast and pray). You have been given an opportunity in this month to receive honors from Allah, the Merciful.

In this month if you Fast as ordained, then every breath of yours earns the reward of *Tasbih* (praise of Allah). Your sleep earns the reward of worshipping Allah. Your good deeds are rewarded multiplied more than any other times and your *Dua* are accepted. Therefore, you must invoke your Lord in earnest with your hearts that are free from sin and evil, and pray that Allah may bless you to Fast and recite the Qur’an in this month.

Verily, if a person in this month does not receive the Mercy and Benevolence of Allah, he is very unfortunate. While fasting, remember the hunger and the thirst on the Day of Judgment. Give alms to the poor and needy. Pay respect to your elders. Have sympathy for your youngsters and be kind to your relatives. Guard your tongue against unworthy speech; your eyes from (seeing) forbidden and your ears from (hearing) forbidden.

Be kind to orphans, so that when your children become orphans, they also will be treated with kindness. Invoke that Allah may forgive your sins. Raise your hands at the time of Salaat, for it is the best time for invoking His Mercy, for invoking mercy at such times is answered by Allah. When you call upon Him, He responds and your *Dua* is accepted.

O people, you have made your conscience the slave of your desires. Make it free by invoking Allah for forgiveness. Your back is breaking under the heavy load of your sins. Therefore, prostrate before Him for long periods to make your load lighter.

Do understand fully well that Allah has promised in the name of His Majesty and Honor, that He will not take to task such people who observe Fast and perform Salaat in this month. Perform *Sajdahs* (Prostrations), that He will guard their bodies against the fire of Hell on the Day of Judgment.

O people, if any one among you arranges for breaking of the Fast of a believer, then Allah will give him the reward as if he set free a slave, and He will forgive minor sins.

The companions submitted: 'But everybody among us does not have means to do so.'

The holy Prophet (SAW) replied: 'Keep yourselves safe from the fire of Hell by inviting a believer for *Iftar*, though it may consist of only half a date, or simply with water, if you do not have anything else.'

O people, any one in this month who cultivates good manners, he will be able to walk across the (bridge of) *Siraat* on the Day of Judgment, even though the feet may be shaking.'

Anyone in this month who makes the work of his servant lighter, Allah will make easy his accounting on the Day of Judgment.

Anyone who avoids annoying others in this month, Allah will keep him safe from His Wrath on the Day of Judgment.

Anyone who treats an orphan with kindness in this month, Allah will look at him with kindness on the Day of Judgment.

Anyone who treats his relatives nicely in this month, Allah will bestow His Mercy on him on the Day of Judgment, while if he mistreats relatives, then Allah will keep him away from His Mercy.

Whoever offers Sunnah (recommended) prayers in this month, Allah will save him from Hellfire.

In this month for performing each Wajib Salaat, angels will write the rewards of 70 such Salaat.

Whoever sends many peace and blessings on me, Allah will make the scales of (good) deeds heavy on the Day of Judgment, while the scales of others will be light.

Whoever recites one verse of the Qur'an in this month, he will be rewarded as if he recited complete Qur'an.

O people, the gates of paradise remain open in this month, so pray that the gates may never be closed upon you. The gates of Hell are closed in this month, so pray that these gates may never be opened.

Adapted from: <http://imamreza.net>

Presented by Syed Akhtar