

Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem

Salaat, a Mercy of Allah swt

In the light of Qur'an and Hadith

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The Qur'an, the Hadith, and the statements attributed to the Imams regarding the Salaat emphasize its importance. The Qur'an mentions Salaat over 30 times and states the times of the prayers.

"Guard strictly your prayers, especially the middle prayer; stand before Allah in a devout (frame of mind)" 2: 238

"Successful indeed are the believers", "who are humble in their prayer" S.23: v. 1, 2

"Except those who pray", "those who are constant in their prayer", "and those who keep a guard on their prayer", "those shall be in garden, honored." S. 70: v. 22,23,34,35

Maulana Syed Maqbool Ahmed reported this in his Tafseer (Urdu) of the Qur'an:

Abu Hamza Thamali relates that Imam Jafar AS Sadiq A.S. said that one day Hazarath Ali A.S. asked the people which verse of the Qur'an makes them most hopeful of the Mercy of Allah swt. They mentioned several verses of the Qur'an, but Hazrath Ali said: "I have heard the Prophet (pbuh&p) that the verse of the Qur'an that gives the most hope of the Mercy of Allah swt is this:

"Establish Salaat at the two ends of the day, and in the early part of the night. Verily good deeds remove the sinful deeds. This is a reminder for those who remember Allah."

S. 11 (Hud) v. 114

He (Prophet pbuh&p) continued: "O' Ali, by Him Who appointed me the bringer of good tidings and a Warner, when any of you make Wudu, the sins committed by the hands and feet are washed away. When one turns to Allah in prayer (with body and mind, outwardly and inwardly) and he finishes the prayer, he will be free of sins as if he were delivered from the womb of his mother. If he commits sins again, it (cleansing of sins) will happen with the next prayer. Then he mentioned all the five prayers. Then he said: "O' Ali, these five daily prayers given to my Ummah are like a stream running in front of your houses. If any of you bathe five times a day in it, will there be any dirt left (on you?) By Allah, this is how the five daily prayers wash away the sins of my Ummah and purifies them."

Salaat a Pillar. Prophet Muhammad pbuh&p said: “Prayers are pillar of the religion ...”

The inference from above Hadith is that without a firm pillar, the structure is weak; so is the faith weak without prayers, and it is easier to fall into sin and misguidance

Salaat is a Criterion between a believer and a disbeliever. It is attributed to the Prophet: “The pact between us (believers) and them (disbelievers) is Salaat, whoever abandons it is a disbeliever.”

- ❖ “It (Salaat) is the first act for which the slave will be held accountable on the day of judgment.”
- ❖ It is also been related that the Salaat is the first obligatory act about which the angels Munkir and Nakeer will ask a Muslim after his death.
- ❖ “Praying on time is the deed dearest to Allah.”

Let us be among those who pray (Salaat) regularly, giving it due importance in our lives. May Allah save us from the torment on the day of judgment. Aameen.

(The End)