

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْعَالَمِينَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيُرِضِّي بَنْ يُصْلِي عَلَيْهِ

Allah *azza wajal*, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,

The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah *azza wajal*, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon

His Beloved Messenger *Sallal Laahu 'Alayhi Wasallam*

The Company of the Pious

It is reported that Hadrat Hasan bin Saleh *Radi Allahu 'Anhu* was always in the habit of staying awake at night in Ibadah with his female servant. However, one day, in a time of great need, he sold this female slave.

When she went to the house of the new owners, as per her normal behaviour, after the Esha Salaah, she started to perform her nightly Ibadah. She also saw that the people of this house were sleeping and she asked them to stay awake and busy themselves in Ibadah. Though she called them, they replied that would read their Salaah in the morning. This continued for a few days.

When she saw the behaviour of new owners, she immediately went back to Hadrat Hasan bin Saleh *Radi Allahu 'Anhu* and complained. She informed him, "You have sold me to a family who sleeps the entire night. I am afraid that perchance, looking at the

laziness of these people, I might also be affected.” When he heard this, he felt sorry for her and bought her back from these people. (Tambeehul Mughtareen, 158)

Lesson

When a person continues to think of the Hereafter, then they are unaffected by the troubles and calamities which come to them. When they think of the immense Divine Blessing which is in store in the Hereafter, they are prepared to sacrifice their comfort and their sleep. This has always been the behaviour of the pious Muslims of the past.

When we look at our state today, it is extremely tragic. We have the wish to enter Jannah, we fear what will happen in the grave, we are uncomfortable with the disgrace and embarrassment which might occur on the plains of Mahshar, and we are afraid of the flames of Hell. In spite of these things, we are not prepared at all in doing good and noble deeds or actions. We do not worry about Salaah. We do not worry about fasting. Our hearts have no interest in giving any Zakah. We are not prepared to help those who are poor and destitute and we are not concerned at all about the sins we commit on a daily basis.

If only we could remember the example of the above mentioned pious female slave. Besides the Tahajjud Salaah, if only we could be punctual in performing the five daily Salaah, it would be a great start in our lives.

There is no doubt that bad company certainly affects a person. When a person sits with a person who does not read his Salaah, he also becomes like this person. When a person sits in the company of someone who always speaks ill of others, his own tongue becomes contaminated by this behaviour. When he sits with a person who is more concerned about fashion, then the world becomes more important to him.

This pious female was so pious that even though these new owners were not people who missed their daily Salaah, yet she felt that she would be badly affected by them because they were not staying awake at night to perform Ibadah!