

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُ الْصَّلَاةِ وَالسَّلَامِ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْعَبْدِ وَرَبِّ الْأَدَمِ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيُرْضِي إِنَّمَا يُصْلِلُ عَلَيْهِ

Allah Almighty, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,

The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah Almighty, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon
His Beloved Messenger – *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* – his family & his
companions – *may Allah be pleased with them all*

Trials and Tests for the Servants of Allah

Hadrat Sayyiduna Mohammed bin Ahmed Mufeed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates that he heard Hadrat Sayyiduna Junaid Baghadi - *may Allah be pleased with him* – declare:

I was sleeping next to my master, Hadrat Sayyiduna Sirri Saqti - *may Allah be pleased with him*, when he woke me and said, “O Junaid! I dreamt that I was standing in front of the Divine Creator and He said to me, ‘O Sirri! When I created mankind, everyone declared their immense love for Me. However, when I created the world, ninety nine percent ran away from Me. There only remained ten percent. When I created Jannah, ninety percent of this ten percent ran away from Me. Only ten percent was left. Then when I created trial and tribulation, only ten percent remained of this ten percent and the balance of the ninety nine percent ran away from Me.

‘I then asked the balance of those who remained behind, ‘You people did not want the world, neither did you ask for Jannah and nor did you run away from trial and error. What is it that you want?’

‘They replied, ‘Our wish is only for You. If you place all the trial and tribulation upon us, we will never ever leave You and the love for You.’

‘I then declared to them, ‘I will place such trial and test upon you which even the mountains would not have the strength to cope with. Will you display patience in those times?’

They replied, ‘Why not! O our Lord! You have the power to bestow test and trial on a person and You may test us as You wish.’ O Sirri! These are My real servants and my true beloved.”

Trial and test and the beloved servants of Allah Almighty

There is no doubt that Allah Almighty in His infinite Mercy has certainly destined trial and tribulation for his special servants. He has sometimes made their bodies subservient to Him and has captured their hearts. They will continue to live in this manner until they finally meet their Creator.

Among these beloved servants was Hadrat Sayyiduna Ebrahim Khawwas - *may Allah be pleased with him*. He used to sometimes visit me in the evening. However, when I used to present some food to him for Iftaar, he used to only drink water. After Esha, he used to spend the entire night in Ibadah until the moment of Sehri. I used to hear his Du'a which was, “O Allah! If You decide to punish me, then I am someone who will continue to love You and if You favour me, then too I will continue to love You.”

He used to then weep a lot and fall unconscious. When I asked him, “O Utbah! How did you spend the night?”

He used to reply, “O Ebrahim! Very soon we are to be presented in His Divine Court and this has broken every bone in my body with fear and anxiety.”

He used to again fall unconscious and used to implore, “O my Lord! What is Your Divine Intention about that person who claims to love You, will You punish him or will You allow him to suffer from the pangs of separation from You.”

Suddenly a voice could be heard declaring, “Certainly not! That person who is a true lover of Allah Almighty and whom Allah Almighty has chosen, no punishment will be given to him.” (Ar Rouad)

These are those special servants of Allah Almighty who do not worship because they need Jannah and who do not worship Him because they fear the Fire of Hell. They worship Him sincerely believing that He is their Divine Creator and as sincere servants and slaves, they worship Him in all conditions whether they are facing trial and calamity or not. We make Du'a that the Allah Almighty gives the strength to all true Muslims to worship Allah Almighty in this manner. Ameen.