

Knowing Allah

First Khutbah

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ , نَحْمَدُهُ , وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ , وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا , مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ , وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ , وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

Verily, all praise is for Allah. We praise Him, we seek His assistance and we ask for His forgiveness. And we seek refuge in Him from the evils of our selves. Whoever Allah guides, none can misguide. Whoever He misguides, none can guide. And I bear witness that there is no deity other than Allah and I bear witness that Mohammad is His servant and messenger.

(يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ) [آل

عمران:102]

Al Imran(3) 102 : O you who believe! Fear Allah as He should be feared, and die not except in a state of Islam.

Oh Believers:

All praise is due to Allah the owner of majesty, beauty and perfection. Far removed from having equals, resemblance or likeness. We glorify Him with much praise. And we thank Him immensely. His is the One without partners. The Lord of the worlds. The Creator of all of the creation. He gathers the first and last for reckoning and recompense on the Day of Resurrection. There is no escape from Him except to Him. There is no salvation

Khutbah.info

from Him except through Him. And He is over all things capable. And of everything knowledgeable. The Prophet ﷺ was the most knowledgeable of all creation about Allah. And most conscious of Him. Allah sent him ﷺ so that he acquaints us with Allah the Exalted. And guide us to Him. And teach us what is due to Him.

So be conscious of Allah the Exalted and obey Him and get to know Him, Glory be to Him, all your life. For His signs leading to Him are spread throughout His creation. And indeed His names, attributes and actions are recorded in His revelation. So whoever lets his mind ponder about the creation perceives something about the mightiness of the Creator, glory be to Him.

And whomsoever regularly recites and reflects on the Quran, his heart fills with the knowledge of his Lord the Exalted.

إِنَّ فِي خَلْقِ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ لآيَاتٍ لِأُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ
* الَّذِينَ يَذْكُرُونَ اللَّهَ قِيَامًا وَقُعُودًا وَعَلَىٰ جُنُوبِهِمْ وَيَتَفَكَّرُونَ فِي خَلْقِ
السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ رَبَّنَا مَا خَلَقْتَ هَذَا بَاطِلًا سُبْحَانَكَ فَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ

آلِ عِمْرَانَ: 190-191

Al Imran (3) 190-191: (190) Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and the earth and the alternation of the night and the day are signs for those of understanding (191) Who remember Allah while standing or sitting or [lying] on their sides and give thought to the creation of the heavens and the earth, [saying], "Our Lord, You did not create this aimlessly; exalted are You

[above such a thing]; then protect us from the punishment of the Fire.

So He - Glory be to Him - stated that they remember Him in all their conditions. And thinking about His creation. And the Quran is the best of remembrance.

Oh people: The most superior knowledge is knowing Allah the Exalted. It is supreme over everything from every aspect as Allah said:

سَبِّحْ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ الْأَعْلَى الْأَعْلَى 1

Al Alaa (87) 1: **Glorify the name of your Lord, the Most High**

So knowing Him is the highest knowledge and seeking His pleasure is the highest aim. And loving Him is the best love. So the highest knowledge for the Muslims is knowing Allah the Exalted. The one Who is supreme over all besides Him in every aspect. And knowing Him is the highest knowledge from every aspect . And knowing Him is the foundation of every knowledge.

And Allah the Exalted commanded knowing about Him in many verses. And He the Exalted taught us who He is. There are many verses in this regard:

فَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ الْبَقَرَةَ: 209

Al Baqarah (2) 209: **then know that Allah is Exalted in Might and Wise.**

فَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ الْمَائِدَةِ: 34

Al Maedah (5) 34: **And know that Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.**

فَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ مَوْلَاكُمْ نِعَمَ الْمَوْلَىٰ وَنِعَمَ النَّصِيرِ الْأَنْفَالِ: 40

Al Anfal (8) 40: **But if they turn away - then know that Allah is your protector. Excellent is the protector, and excellent is the helper.**

فَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا أُنزِلَ بِعِلْمِ اللَّهِ وَأَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ فَهَلْ أَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ هُودٍ: 14

Hud (11) 14: **then know that it [the Quran] was revealed with the knowledge of Allah and that there is no deity except Him.**

Then, would you [not] be Muslims?

اعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ شَدِيدُ الْعِقَابِ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ الْمَائِدَةِ: 98

Al Maedah (5) 98: **Know that Allah is severe in penalty and that Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.**

اعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ يُحْيِي الْأَرْضَ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا قَدْ بَيَّنَّا لَكُمْ الْآيَاتِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ الْحَدِيدِ: 17

Al Hadid (57) 17: **Know that Allah gives life to the earth after its lifelessness. We have made clear to you the signs; perhaps you will understand.**

ذَلِكَ لِتَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَعْلَمُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ الْمَائِدَةِ: 97

Al Maedah (5) 97: That is so you may know that Allah knows what is in the heavens and what is in the earth and that Allah is Knowing of all things.

اللَّهُ الَّذِي خَلَقَ سَبْعَ سَمَاوَاتٍ وَمِنَ الْأَرْضِ مِثْلَهُنَّ يَتَنَزَّلُ الْأَمْرُ بَيْنَهُنَّ لِتَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ قَدْ أَحَاطَ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عِلْمًا الطَّلَاقِ: 12

At Talaq (65) 12: It is Allah who has created seven heavens and of the earth, the like of them. [His] command descends among them so you may know that Allah is over all things competent and that Allah has encompassed all things in knowledge.

And Ayat Al Kursi (Quran 2:255) is the best verse in the Book of Allah the Exalted. And it is only the best verse because it is the verse that describes Allah the most.

اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ لَا تَأْخُذُهُ سِنَّةٌ وَلَا نَوْمٌ لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَشْفَعُ عِنْدَهُ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِهِ يَعْلَمُ مَا بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَمَا خَلْفَهُمْ وَلَا يُحِيطُونَ بِشَيْءٍ مِنْ عِلْمِهِ إِلَّا بِمَا شَاءَ وَسِعَ كُرْسِيُّهُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَلَا يَئُودُهُ حِفْظُهُمَا وَهُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ الْبَقَرَةِ: 255

Khutbah.info

Al Baqarah (2) 255: Allah - there is no deity except Him, the Ever-Living, the Self-Sustaining. Neither drowsiness overtakes Him nor sleep. To Him belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on the earth. Who is it that can intercede with Him except by His permission? He knows what is [presently] before them and what will be after them, and they encompass not a thing of His knowledge except for what He wills. His Kursī extends over the heavens and the earth, and their preservation tires Him not. And He is the Most High, the Most Great.

Al Fatihah is the best Surah in the Book of Allah the Exalted and its first half describes Allah.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ * الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ * الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ * مَالِكِ يَوْمِ
الدِّينِ (الْفَاتِحَةِ: 1 - 4)

Al Fatihah (1) 1-4: (1) In the name of Allah, the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful. (2) [All] praise is [due] to Allah, Lord of the worlds - (3) The Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful, (4) Sovereign of the Day of Recompense.

Surah As-Samad is equivalent to one-third of the Quran because it is a Surah that describes Allah the Exalted:

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ * اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ * لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ * وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ
الإِخْلَاصِ

Al Ikhlas (112) 1-4: (1) Say, "He is Allah, [who is] One,(2) Allah, the Eternal Refuge.(3) He neither begets nor is born, (4) Nor is there to Him any equivalent."

And in the world there is no greater pleasure than the pleasure of knowing Allah the Exalted and Remembrance of Him and worshipping Him. And for this reason the Prophet ﷺ used to say:

حُبَّ إِلَيَّ مِنْ دُنْيَاكُمْ النَّسَاءُ وَالطِّيبُ، وَجُعِلَتْ قُرَّةُ عَيْنِي فِي الصَّلَاةِ“
(النسائي:3939)

In this world, women and perfume have been made dear to me, and the comfort of my eyes was established in prayer.

And He did not say three were made dear to me. For the dear to Him in the worldly life is two. And the comfort of his eyes was established in the prayer. Thus, it is greater than the other two and it was not included as from the worldly life. And the pleasure that will remain after death and benefit in the afterlife is the pleasure of knowing Allah the Exalted and performing deeds for His sake.

And in the Hadith of Abbas bin Al Muttaleb (may Allah be pleased with Him) he heard the Messenger of Allah ﷺ say:

ذَاقَ طَعْمَ الْإِيمَانِ مَنْ رَضِيَ بِاللَّهِ رَبًّا، وَبِالْإِسْلَامِ دِينًا، وَبِمُحَمَّدٍ رَسُولًا
(رَوَاهُ مُسْلِمٌ)

Whoever is pleased with Allah as (his) Lord, and Islam as (his) religion, and Muhammad as (his) Prophet, then he has tasted the sweetness of faith. [Muslim 34]

And in the Hadith narrated by Anas bin Malik (may Allah be pleased with him) the Prophet ﷺ said:

ثَلَاثٌ مَنْ كُنَّ فِيهِ وَجَدَ حَلَاوَةَ الْإِيمَانِ: مَنْ كَانَ اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِ مِمَّا سِوَاهُمَا، وَمَنْ أَحَبَّ عَبْدًا لَا يُحِبُّهُ إِلَّا لِلَّهِ - عَزَّ وَجَلَّ -، وَمَنْ يَكْرَهُ أَنْ يَعُودَ فِي الْكُفْرِ، بَعْدَ إِذْ أَنْقَذَهُ اللَّهُ مِنْهُ، كَمَا يَكْرَهُ أَنْ يُلْقَى فِي النَّارِ الْبَخَارِي: 16
مسلم: 43

If someone has three qualities he will taste the sweetness of faith: he to whom Allah and His messenger are dearer than all else; he who loves a person and does not love him except for Allah's sake; and he who abhors returning to disbelief after Allah rescued him from it as much as he abhors being cast into the fire. [Bukhari 16, Muslim 16]

And the Prophet ﷺ to 'Adee bin Hatem (عَدِيَّ بْنِ حَاتِمٍ) (may Allah be pleased with him) when he was inviting him to Islam

مَا يُفْرِكُ أَنْ تَقُولَ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ. فَهَلْ تَعْلَمُ مِنْ إِلَهٍ سِوَى اللَّهِ؟ قَالَ: قُلْتُ: لَا.
قَالَ: ثُمَّ تَكَلَّمَ سَاعَةً ثُمَّ قَالَ: إِنَّمَا تَفِرُّ أَنْ تَقُولَ: اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، وَتَعْلَمُ شَيْئًا أَكْبَرَ
مِنَ اللَّهِ؟ قَالَ: قُلْتُ: لَا” ثُمَّ أَسْلَمَ عَدِيٌّ عَلَيَّ عَلَىٰ إِثْرِ ذَلِكَ.

Why do you avoid saying La Ilaha Illallah? Do you know of another god other than Him?" He said: No. He said: "Then he talked for some time, and then said: 'You evade saying Allahu Akbar because you know that there is something greater than Allah?' He said: 'No.' Then 3adee embraced Islam after that.

[at Titmithi 2953]

أَقُولُ مَا تَسْمَعُونَ وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ
الرَّحِيمُ

I say what you have heard and I seek forgiveness from Allah for me and you from every sin. So seek forgives from Him, Verily He is Oft-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Second Khutbah

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ , وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ , وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ
لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

All praise is to Allah, and peace and blessings upon the Messenger of Allah, and I bear witness that there is no deity other than Allah and I bear witness that Mohammad is His slave and messenger.

Oh people:

Knowing Allah is the ultimate knowledge. And worshipping Him is the most honorable aim. And reaching Him is the ultimate goal. Rather this is the essence of the Prophetic message and the cream of Divine message.

It is incumbent on those of the faith to increase their knowledge of Allah the Exalted and that is by thinking about His creation and looking at His signs.

سَنُرِيهِمْ آيَاتِنَا فِي الْأَفَاقِ وَفِي أَنفُسِهِمْ حَتَّىٰ يَتَبَيَّنَ لَهُمْ أَنَّهُ الْحَقُّ ۖ فَصَّلَتْ: 53

Fusilat (41) 53: We will show them Our signs in the horizons and within themselves until it becomes clear to them that it is the truth. But is it not sufficient concerning your Lord that He is, over all things, a Witness?

And likewise by frequently reading His noble Book. For His words are unlike the words of humans. And it increases knowing Him. And His names, attributes and actions are spread throughout His Noble Book.

And likewise by performing plenty of good deeds. For it is from the Iman (faith). With an abundance of righteous deeds the heart becomes tranquil through knowing Allah the Exalted and nearness to Him. And the Iman and its increasing is a gift from Allah the Exalted. His deserving servants are those who accept it and move towards it. And are joyous of it and grateful for it. And denied are those who reject it and whose chests are constrained by it. And turn away from it and deny it.

إِنَّا هَدَيْنَاهُ السَّبِيلَ إِمَّا شَاكِرًا وَإِمَّا كَفُورًا (الْإِنْسَانِ: 3)

Al Insan (76) 3: Indeed, We guided him to the way, be he grateful or be he ungrateful.

هَذَا وَصَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى نَبِيِّكُمْ كَمَا أَمَرَكُمْ بِذَلِكَ رَبُّكُمْ , فَقَالَ

I conclude with this and send prayers of blessings and peace upon your Prophet as your Lord commanded:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا

Al Ahzaab (33) 56: Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace.

اللَّهُمَّ اهْدِنَا فِيمَنْ هَدَيْتَ وَعَافِنَا فِيمَنْ عَافَيْتَ وَتَوَلَّنَا فِيمَنْ تَوَلَّيْتَ وَبَارِكْ لَنَا فِيمَا
أَعْطَيْتَ وَقِنَا شَرَّ مَا قَضَيْتَ إِنَّكَ تَقْضِي وَلَا يُقْضَى عَلَيْكَ وَإِنَّهُ لَا يَذُلُّ مَنْ وَالَيْتَ
تَبَارَكْتَ رَبَّنَا وَتَعَالَيْتَ

O Allah, guide us with those whom You have guided, grant us well-being among those You have granted well-being, be an ally to us along with those whom You are an ally to, and bless what You have bestowed upon us, and save us from the evil of what You have decreed. For verily You decree and none can decree over You. He whom You support can never be humiliated. Glory is to You, our Lord, You are Blessed and Exalted.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ مِنَ الْخَيْرِ كُلِّهِ عَاجِلِهِ وَآجِلِهِ مَا عَلِمْنَا مِنْهُ وَمَا لَمْ نَعْلَمْ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ
مِنَ الشَّرِّ كُلِّهِ عَاجِلِهِ وَآجِلِهِ مَا عَلِمْنَا مِنْهُ وَمَا لَمْ نَعْلَمْ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ خَيْرِ مَا

سَأَلْتُكَ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا عَاذَ بِهِ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ
الْجَنَّةَ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ
عَمَلٍ وَنَسْأَلُكَ أَنْ تَجْعَلَ كُلَّ قَضَاءٍ قَضَيْتَهُ لَنَا خَيْرًا

O Allah, We ask You for all that is good, in this world and in the Hereafter, what we know and what we do not know. O Allah, we seek refuge with You from all evil, in this world and in the Hereafter, what we know and what we do not know. O Allah, we ask You for the good that Your servant and Prophet has asked You for, and we seek refuge with You from the evil from which Your servant and Prophet sought refuge. O Allah, we ask You for Paradise and for that which brings one closer to it, in word and deed, and we seek refuge in You from Hell and from that which brings one closer to it, in word and deed. And we ask You to make every decree that You decree concerning us good

عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ
وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ، يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ

Servants of Allah. Indeed, Allah orders justice and good conduct and giving to relatives and forbids immorality and bad conduct and oppression. He admonishes you that perhaps you will be reminded.

أذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لَهُ يَزِدْكُمْ وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا لَهُ يَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاتَّقُواهُ يَجْعَلَ
لَكُمْ مِنْ أَمْرِكُمْ مَخْرَجًا ، وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ

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Remember Allah, the Great - He will remember you. Thank Him for His favors - He will increase you therein. And seek forgiveness from Him - He will forgive you. And be conscious of Him - He will provide you a way out of difficult matters. And, establish the prayer.