

The Graves

All praise is due to Allah (s.w.t) and I bear witness that there is no god worthy of worship save Allah and I bear witness that Muhammad (s.a.w) is His Servant and Messenger.

Brothers and Sisters in Islam!

The grave is the advance home of the Hereafter and in the grave the dead will have a taste of what will be waiting him in the A'akhira (hereafter) whether it is bliss or punishment.

There are two types of sin that causes punishment on the Day of Resurrection. First: regarding the Right of Allah (s.w.t) and second: regarding the right of people and the first matter to be dealt with concerning Allah's (s.w.t) rights will be As-Salat (the five obligatory daily prayers).

Reported by Imams Al-Bukhari and Muslim (r.a) Abu Hurairah (r.a) relates that the Prophet (s.a.w) said: *"The first of man's deeds for which he will be called to account on the Day of Resurrection will be As-Salat (the prayers)." Riyadh 1085.* and the first issue that will be accounted for in respect of people's rights will be bloodmutton i.e. murder and killing.

Reported by Imams Al-Bukhari and Muslim (r.a) Ibn Masud (r.a) said the Prophet (s.a.w) said: *"The first matter concerning which people will be judged on the Day of Resurrection will be of blood (i.e. shedding blood and murder)." Riyadh 1851.* and now if we ask ourselves the question: What is the forefront, the advanced matter without which, Salat is void (not acceptable)? The answer is At-Tahara (complete purity and cleanliness of both body and clothes) and what is the most and what is the most dangerous forefront that creates enmity and causes bloodshed? The answer is An-Naweehrah (calumny or carrying tales)

Allah (s.w.t) condemns such people who practice this evil habit in saying –meaning-: *"A slanderer, going about with calumnies."* 68/11. Ibn Kathir (r.a.) said, *"going about with Namin". This refers to the one who goes around among people instigating discord between them and carrying tales in order to corrupt relations between people when they are good and pleasant.'* Tafsir 10/107

Such a person will be deprived of entry to Al-Jannah (paradise) as reported by Imams Al-Bukhari and Muslim (r.a) Narrated Hudhaifah, Allah's Messenger (s.a.w) said: *"An-Nammam (the person who goes about with calumnies, who carries tales) will not enter Jannah (paradise)." Riyadh 154*

Some Illamah (scholars) made commentary on this Hadith and said: *" A person who thinks that tale bearing is lawful and practices it to create conflict and quarrel among people, despite the fact that he knows that it is unanimously forbidden, will never go into Jannah. A person who considers it unlawful but does it out of sheer human weakness will*

in the first instance go to Hell if Allah does not pardon him for it. He will then be shifted to Jannah after suffering punishment for it.” Riyadh 2/1141

Brothers and Sisters in Islam,

This brings us to the main point of today’s Khutbah and that is to say that the majority of the punishment of the grave, which is the first door to the Hereafter, comes from not protecting oneself from urine being on the clothes or body and from Namimah (carrying tales) as the following Hadith confirms.

Reported by Imams Al-Bukhari and Muslim (r.a) narrated Ibn-Abbas (r.a), The Messenger of Allah (s.a.w) passed by two graves and said: *“Both of them (the persons in these graves) are being tortured and they are not being tortured for a cardinal sin, but indeed they are great sins. One of them used not to save himself from being soiled with his urine and the other one used to go about with calumnies (used to carry tales among people to rouse hostilities and create conflicts amongst them).”* Riyadh 1542.

And as some have said, this is the secret behind these two sins being punished for in the grave because they are the key to the first matters being brought to account in the Hereafter - Salat and bloodmutter. The first is the right of Allah and the second is the right of people.

May Allah (s.w.t) protect us, our parents, our families from the punishment of the grave and the Hereafter.

Aameen