

Woe to every unjust husband

Translated by Rasheed Barbee

Article taken and slightly adapted from: mtws.posthaven.com
[Summary translation taken from www.ibnothaymeen.com]

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

وَيْلٌ لِلْمُطَفِّفِينَ (١) الَّذِينَ إِذَا اكْتَالُوا عَلَى النَّاسِ يَسْتَوْفُونَ (٢) وَإِذَا كَالُوهُمْ أَوْ وَزَنُوهُمْ يُخْسِرُونَ (٣) أَلَا يَبْظُنُّ
أُولَئِكَ أَنَّهُمْ مَبْعُوثُونَ (٤) لِيَوْمٍ عَظِيمٍ (٥) يَوْمَ يَقُومُ النَّاسُ لِرَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ (٦)

Allaah says what can be translated as

- 1 Woe to al-Mutaffifoon (those who give less in measure and weight)
- 2 Those who when they have to receive by measure from men demand full measure
- 3 And when they have to give by measure or weight to men give less than due
- 4 Do they not think that they will be resurrected (for reckoning)
- 5 On a great day
- 6 The day when (all) mankind will stand before the Lord of the Alameen (all that exists)

Shaykh Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ)¹ said concerning the explanation of Chapter al-Mutaffifeen

[Woe] The word woe is repeated in the Qur'aan many times and according to what is most correct it is a statement of threat by which Allaah threatens those whom oppose His command or indulge in what He has prohibited them from. And the prohibition is mentioned in the sentence following the threat. Therefore in this case Allaah (سبحانه)² says woe be to al-Mutaffifoon

So who are these al-Mutaffifoon?

These al-Mutaffifoon are explained in the next verse.

He said **[Those who when they have to receive by measure from men demand full measure]. [And when they have to give by measure or weight to men they give less than what is due].**

¹ (رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² (سبحانه) (Subhanahu) The Exalted

Woe to every unjust husband

[Those who when they have to receive by measure from men demand full measure]

Meaning when they buy from the people that which is weighed they demand from the people their rights in full without any deficiency

[And when they have to give by measure or weight to men they give less than what is due]

But if they are weighing or they are the ones selling the weighed meat or selling something which is measured they give a weight that is deficient

[They give less than what is due]

Therefore they demand their rights in full and they are deficient in giving others their rights

So they combined two affairs they combine greed and stinginess

Greed in demanding his rights in full without any leniency or forgiveness and stinginess because he does not give the full weight that is incumbent upon him

This example that Allaah (سبحانه) mentions concerning the weigh and measure is just an example therefore it also applies to everything which is similar to this.

Therefore everyone who demands their rights in full when they are due to receive rights but they don't give full rights when the rights are due from them then they are included in these noble verses.

An example of this is the husband who wants from his wife that she gives him all of his rights in full and he is not lenient in any of his rights. But when it is time to give his wife her rights then he is lackadaisical and he does not give her that which is due her.

And there are so many complaints from the women about this type of husband. And with Allaah refuge is sought.

To the extent that many of the husbands want from their wives that they give them all of their rights but they don't give their wives all of their rights and possibility the husbands will fall short in giving their wives most of the basic rights such as spending on them and living with them in kindness and other than that.

Verily oppressing another person is more severe than a person oppressing himself concerning the rights of Allaah because the person oppressing himself concerning the rights of Allaah is beneath the will of Allaah if it is a sin other than shirk. If Allaah wants to He will forgive the person and if He wants to He will punish the person.

But in regards to the rights of the people there has to be compensation given. And for this reason the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)³ said (to his companions) **'Who do you consider to be**

³ (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

Woe to every unjust husband

the bankrupt person?’ They said the one from us who does not have any currency or any possessions.

He (the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)) said **‘Verily the bankrupt person from my nation is the one who will come on the Day of Judgment with good deeds the size of a mountain (meaning a lot of good deeds). So he will come with these good deeds but he has oppressed this person and he abused this person and he hit this person and he took the wealth from this person. Therefore this person he oppressed will take from his good deeds and that person will take from his good deeds and this person will take from his good deeds and if his good deeds run out before he repays that which he owes then he will be given the sins of those he wronged and their sins will be flung on top of him and then he will be flung into the fire.’**⁴

So my advice to those who are lackadaisical or negligent concerning the rights of their spouses is that they fear Allaah (عزوجل)⁵ because the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) him advised with this during the biggest gathering that the Islaamic world witnessed during the lifetime of the Messenger of Allaah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) on the day of Arafat during the farewell pilgrimage.

He (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said **‘Fear Allaah concerning the women because verily you took them as a trust from Allaah and you have been permitted to have intimate relationships with them by the word of Allaah.’**

Also you will find that some of the parents desire for their children to give them all of their rights in a perfect manner. So they want for their children to honour them and give them their rights and to give them money and to give physical help and everything type of honour possible but he is neglectful concerning his children and he does not give his children their rights. We say that this person is al-Mutaf (those who give less in measure and weight).

That father who wants for his children to honour him to the maximum all the while he is neglectful concerning their rights we say to him you are al-Mutaf (those who give less in measure and weight).

We say to him remember the statement of Allaah (سبحانه) (what can be translated as)

- 1 Woe to al-Mutaffifoon (those who give less in measure and weight)
- 2 Those who when they have to receive by measure from men demand full measure
- 3 And when they have to give by measure or weight to men give less than due

[Taken from Shaykh Uthaymeen’s (رَجْمَةُ اللهِ) tafseer of soorah al-Mutaffifeen (chapter 83)]

⁴ Saheeh Muslim

⁵ (عزوجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Glorified and Exalted be He