

You must utilise wealth like you utilise the bathroom

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The Faqeeh of the Era

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Translated by Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Explained by Shaykh al-Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)¹

Unquestionably every time the people increase in luxury and every time things open up for the people evil opens upon them. Surely luxury is that which destroys man. This is because when man looks at the luxury and the comfort of his body he becomes heedless concerning the comfort of his heart. And the most important thing to him becomes comforting this body; this body whose end result will be worms and decay. This is the calamity. This is what has deceived the people today. You are almost not able to find one person except that he says; "What about our castles, what about our cars, what about our beds, what about our food?" Even those who read knowledge and study knowledge; some of them only study in order to receive a salary or position which will allow him to reach the worldly pleasures; not because man was created for a great purpose. And the world along with its pleasure is only a means. We ask Allaah to make us and you from those who use it as a means.

Shaykhul Islaam ibn Taymeeyah (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) said:

'The person must utilise wealth just as he utilises a donkey for riding, and just as he utilises the bathroom to defecate.'

Look; they know wealth, they know its value. Don't make wealth your greatest importance. Ride wealth, because if you do not ride wealth, wealth will ride you. And the most important thing to you will be this worldly life. For this reason we say; each time the Duniya is opened up for the people they begin to look towards it, and surely they lose from the next life in accordance to how they profit in this life.

The Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)² said:

"By Allaah, it is not poverty that I fear for you."

This means he did not fear for you poverty, because the Duniya will open up.

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

² (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

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“But they only thing I fear for you is that the Duniya will be opened for you, and you will compete for it, as those before you competed for it, and you will be destroyed as they were destroyed.”³

And the Messenger (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) spoke the truth. This is what destroys the people today; competing for the Duniya. It is as though they were created for it, not that it was created for them. Thus they are distracted by what was created for them, away from what they were created for. And this is backwards. We ask Allaah for safety and security.

³ Saheeh al-Bukhaaree 4015