

THE FIRST FRIDAY SERMON

(On Friday the 22nd. September, 622 C. E. the Holy Prophet (p. b. o. h.) offered the Friday prayer with one hundred and twenty Muslims and delivered the First Sermon in which he dealt with the Message of Allaah at length.)

"All Praises are for Allaah; Him only I praise. I ask for His Help. I beseech His Forgiveness. I need His Guidance. I believe in Him; I do not disobey Him; and I bear enmity with His disobedient; to Him I bear witness that there is no god but Allaah, Who is One and only and none is His partner; and I witness that Muhammad is his true servant and messenger, whom He has sent with Guidance, Light and Admonitions at the time, when the advent of messengers had been suspended for a period and knowledge was limited, people had digressed, the end of the age was approaching, and doomsday is near and death is at hand. Now whosoever obeys Allaah and the Messenger will achieve the goal; and whosoever disobeys them will be lost; and whoever shows negligence would fall to maximum ignorance.

"I bequeath you to fear from Allaah because the best advice that one Muslim can offer to the other Muslim is to invite him to make preparation for the hereafter, and advise him for piety. Thus you should fear that from which Allaah has ordered you to fear and abstain; because there is neither better advice nor a better remembrance than this; and piety is the real helper for betterment in the hereafter for one person who doeth good deeds for fear of Allaah.

"And one who will straighten his relations both internal and external with Allaah, and will desire Allaah's consent only, these things will bring honour to him in this world and a treasure and good collection in the hereafter. When man will be in desperate need of good deeds done by him and whatever will be besides this, he would desire, Had I been away from them. Allaah make you to fear Him and He is very kind to his servants.'

"Likewise, he who kept his word of Islam and fulfilled his promise (for good deeds) without any deviation because Allaah Himself says that neither His Word changes (to forgive him) nor He tyrannises His servants unless they commit sins.

"Fear Allaah in this world and the hereafter and fear in seclusion as well in company of others because one who fears Allaah, Allaah relieves him from vices and increases his recompense; and one who feared achieved the great success. In fact, piety saves man from Allaah's wrath, torment and annoyance. Surely, piety enlightens the faces, secures the consent of Allaah, and raises the ranks. You take your share and never trespass in matters of Allaah. He has taught you the Book and shown you His Way so that you could recognise the true people and the liars.

"You should also oblige (others) as Allaah has obliged you. Bear enmity with the enemies of Allaah; wage war for the sake of Allaah to its full right. He has selected you and named you 'Muslim'so that he who dies must be with reason and purpose and who remains alive must be with an argument and an aim. There is no power except Allaah. You should remember Allaah very much and collect something for the day after because one who keeps his relation with Allaah straight, Allaah is enough for him in his matters with others. This is so because He gives decisions for everybody; and nobody will pronounce a decision in His case. He is the Master of people and no one is His Master. Allaah alone is the Greatest of all and except Allaah no one has power or strength."

(This Sermon, which is clear and self-explanatory, deals with a variety of subjects - spirituality, faith, piety, ethics, mutual dealings, etc. In each of these subjects, he has conveyed perfect principles for guidance for which humanity is groping today.)