

Remember Death

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In the name of Allah Most Gracious Most Merciful

Death is the most truthful and certain to come

{And indeed We have created man, and We know what his ownself whispers to him. And We are nearer to him than his jugular vein (by Our Knowledge). (16) (Remember!) that the two receivers (recording angels) receive (each human being), one sitting on the right and one on the left (to note his or her actions)[] (17) Not a word does he (or she) utter, but there is a watcher by him ready (to record it).[] (18) And the struggle of death will come in truth: "This is what you have been avoiding!" (19) And the Trumpet will be blown — that will be the Day whereof warning (had been given). (20) And every person will come forth along with an (angel) to drive (him), and an (angel) to bear witness. (21) (It will be said to the sinners): "Indeed you were heedless of this, now We have removed your covering, and sharp is your sight this Day!" (22)} 50:16-22.

Dear faithful brothers, it is the absent and yet present fact. Death is absent but is the most definite to arrive. And it is amongst us at every time. Every now and then we say good bye to a relative or a neighbour or a friend. We hide them away under the earth and we come home as if we have done nothing. The messenger ppbu said: {remember plenty the destroyer of pleasures, death. For whenever any one remembers it in a difficulty of living then it gets eased, and whenever any one remembers it at an ease

then it gets tighter}. This indicates that remembering death is a religious obligation. Death is not associated with a particular age. The young person ought to remember death; the man ought to remember death and the old man ought to remember death because remembering death is worship. Death is the real event which has to happen in every human's life; the strong dies and the weak dies, the rich dies and poor dies, the healthy dies and the sick dies, the aggressor dies and the victim dies. It doesn't matter how long the night is; dawn has to come. Every creature dies and only the Almighty shall remain.

1) Death shatters pleasures.

Death splits between a son and the parent, and between one and the siblings, and between one and his loved ones. Always remember death, and remember that no matter how long you live or shall live in this life, and how much money you have accumulated, and how many palaces you have or will build, and how many high jobs and positions you have achieved, and no matter what you have said or done; you will end up to death. One day people will say about you: He or she has died. Do you know and do you think of this fact? It awaits each and every one of us, after saying many times that someone is dead, is now being said about you. Death is a major issue and people ought to remember it and never forget. The problem with people is that they always see death as a distant event. Death does not need a person's permission to approach him or her. When you wake up some morning one day you may not make it to the evening. And when an evening approaches, for you the following morning may never come. Death comes so sudden and no one knows when death will come to them, or when they will die. One day a plague hit some town and a young man decided to escape it and he left for another town. His father told him to stay with his people and what ever

happens to them will go for him; and that Islam guidance is not to exit from a plague so not to carry it and spread it to others. He insisted to escape death and he left. On the way he took a break a slept under a tree; and a snake bit him and he died. His father said: "Seeking safety he ran away from death but he died. Death seeks the young man no matter where he goes. To you everything becomes lethal when you meet your time of death".

Allah says: **{and spend in charity off what we gave you before death approaches one of you. Then he shall say: God, can you put it off for a short time in order for me to donate for charity and be amongst the good}**. Do good deeds and give in charity before time of death approaches you. Then your life becomes so little and your age shrinks and wish if you shall be given one more day or even a part of a day, just so you would do a prayer, or donate some money, or even given time to praise and glorify Allah, or say: "praise be to Allah, all thanks be to Allah, and no other God but Allah, and Allah is the greatest", but no such a chance. Allah says: **{Allah shall not delay a soul when its time comes, and Allah is an expert with what you do}**. Allah also says: **{and when their time comes they shall not be one hour early or late}** and the word hour here means moment of time rather than hour as in sixty minutes. Allah also says: **{Allah's appointment when it comes it does not get delayed if you just knew}**.

2) Death is a true must for all creations.

Heart becomes rusty just as iron does. Reciting Koran and remembering death is how to clean and the heart and makes it shiny. Remember death for no one escaped it ever. Not even a sent messenger, or a king in his throne. Allah says: **{You are dead and they are dead, and all of you will on the day of**

resurrection arguing before your Lord}. If it is possible for anyone to escape death then Muhammad ppbu would have escaped it. He willingly accepted death because he had done good deeds with Allah. The messenger ppbu while dying said: **{*La Elaha Ella Allah*}** three time. Then he said: **{Death is a struggle, O Allah, help me overcome the struggles of death}**.

When the messenger (PPBU) died, Omar as if he was objecting to this idea said: “whoever says Muhammad is dead I will chop his head off”. But Abu-Bakr said: “whoever was worshipping Muhammad; let them know that Muhammad has died. And whoever is worshipping Allah, let them know that Allah is for ever alive, never dies”. Abo-Baker also recited: **{And Muhammad is just a messenger like all those messengers before him. Is it that if he dies or gets killed then you would switch backward or retract? And this whoever retracts will harm Allah absolutely nothing. And Allah will reward those who are patient}**”. Allah says: **{Each and every soul will taste death; then you shall be returned to Us}**. Allah also says: **{Each and every soul will taste death; and We test you with the bad and with the good as temptation and then you shall be returned to Us}**. Allah says: **{Each and every soul will taste death; then you shall be given your entitlements on the day of resurrection. This who is shoved off hell fire and is entered into paradise then he would have won}**. Indeed, that is the winner, not the one whose balance in millions or billions, or who built the palaces and got the highest positions and highest scale in this worldly life.

When Prophet Noah was dying, he was asked: How do you see life after this long age? He said: “I see it as if I entered into a house with two doors. I entered through one and went out through the other”. When Abu-Baker was dying; his daughter

came to see him. She was overwhelmed with his situation and she recited a poem. He said to her, the poet has lied, and Allah says the truth. And he quoted this verse from the Koran: **{And the struggle of death will come in truth: "This is what you have been avoiding!"}**. This is Khalifa Abd-Al-Malik at his death bed cried and recited the verse: **{And all that they used to earn will do nothing for them}** 15:84. Then he said: “I wish if I worked in a laundry”. One of the scholars (Saeed Ebn Moseeb) commented on that by saying: “Thanks to Allah that made them flee to us at time of death rather than us fleeing to them. That is because they only wake up and become alert at this time of death. People are in a state of forgetfulness or absentmindedness and just as they are about to die they wake up and become alert”. Slaves of Allah, the smart and astute one is the one who prepares for this hour and not get fooled and deceived by youth and health.

3) Good deeds one builds what is after death.

Death ends everyone then comes the reconvening and judgment. Look at those who have moved on and how much they left of gardens, plants and lovely housing, which all has been given as inheritance to others. Neither the heavens nor the earth cried over them and their death was not to be postponed. In fact in the case of some, people were relieved by their death from aggression and wrong they used to commit. They earned the curse of Allah, and the curse of the people and angels. The one who the people cry over when he dies is the one who was good to the people, and the one people remember his good deeds and good words, and good morals, and good behaviour, and the good trace and aftermath on earth. One can live a long time after one dies if he or she leaves a good history and memories. Get a higher status for your self after death by doing the good deeds and by abstaining from sins. The

messenger ppbu says: {when man dies his deeds ceases except for three: an on going donation, or a useful science, or a piet son who makes a prayer (Duaa) for him}.

Haroon Al-Rasheed one of the greatest kings of this life he used to challenge clouds in the sky. He say a cloud once over Baghdad and said to the cloud: “Hey, cloud, go east or go west and drop your rain where eve you wish. The income off the plants you water will come to me, either in a Muslim land as a charity (*Zakah*), or over a non-Muslim land as a tax”. When he got sick at the end of his life and the doctors did a urine test, he gave his urine sample with many other samples so they would not know which was his. The doctors identified the owner of one sample to be in his last days. And that was his. He recited poems to the meaning:

Doctors’ knowledge is only good as long as death is not due to the individual.

But as time of death approaches then doctors become confused and medicines betray And so it was, and that great mighty king was finished. No money, no authority, no army and no guards will be useful. Would those rulers and kings and those rich and those snobby people that without a shadow of doubt death is coming. Dear brothers we have to keep death right in front of our eyes, and to remember this mighty fact in our minds all the time so we would not be included with the forgetful and absentminded.