

فِي ذَمِّ الْحَسَدِ وَبَيَانِ أَضْرَارِهِ

“THE DISPRAISE OF ENVY AND AN ILLUSTRATION OF ITS
HARMFUL REPERCUSSIONS”

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(May Allâah continuously preserve him)

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INTRODUCTION

The Praise belongs to Allâah Alone the Lord of Creation; He showers His virtue over some of His slaves more so than others.

﴿ وَاللَّهُ ذُو الْفَضْلِ الْعَظِيمِ ۝٢ ﴾

“And Allâah is the Owner of Great Bounty.”

And I bear testimony that none has the right to be worship in reality except for Allâah Alone, whom has no partners; no person can hinder from what He (Allâah) gives nor can anyone give from what He (Allâah) prohibits.

And I bear testimony that Muhammad ﷺ is Allâah’s slave and Messenger the superior of creation when it comes to displaying acts of gratitude to Allâah. May Allâah descend Peace and Salutation upon him, his family, his companions as well as those who cling to his Sunnah until the establishment of the Last Hour.

As for what is to proceed:

O Humanity, fear Allâah the Most High and show gratitude for His Favors bestowed upon you: For Verily it is Allâah Who has preferred you more so than many of the creation.

O Servants of Allâah, Allâah has cautioned you a distasteful characteristic, so rid yourselves of being labeled with this quality; undoubtedly it is the characteristic of **Hasad** (i.e.Envy) in which is one of the most wicked of characteristics.

Indeed the Prophet ﷺ has cautioned from this, as he stated:

“Don’t be envious of one another.”

² Surah Al-Baqarah:105

In another narration he ﷺ stated:

“The disease of prior nations has crept upon you, Envy and Enmity”.³

And on the authority of Abu Hurayrah ؓ that the Prophet ﷺ stated:

“Beware of Envy, for surely it consumes good deeds, similarly as to fire consuming wood or he stated grass”.⁴

Envy is a quality of wickedness, for verily Iblis has been branded with this quality. Thus he envied Adam ؑ when he witnessed Adam surpassing the Angels, the manner in how Allâah created Adam by way of His power and will (i.e. Allâah’s Hand), enjoining upon the Angels to prostrate to Adam, teaching Adam the names of everything, Allowing him to reside in Paradise. For that reason, Iblis did not cease in making efforts to get Adam expelled from Paradise until it occurred.

Envy is the catalyst in which lead one of the sons of Adam ؑ to murdering his brother when Allâah bestowed blessing upon one of the sons accepting his sacrifice. Indeed Allâah narrates their story in the Qur’âan as a precautionary measure (from Envy), as well as illustrating its evil consequences.

Envy is a characteristic of the Jews, just as Allâah mentions in many places throughout His Book, for indeed they displayed acts of envy towards our Prophet ﷺ due to what Allâah had given him by way of prophet hood, lofty status, subsequently they disbelieved in him while simultaneously possessing knowledge and certainty that he ﷺ is the Prophet of Allâah.

Consequently, they have envied this Ummah due to what Allâah has blessed them with of Righteous Guidance and Clear Faith.

Allâah says:

﴿وَدَّ كَثِيرٌ مِّنْ أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ لَوْ يَرُدُّونَكُمْ مِن بَعْدِ إِيمَانِكُمْ كُفَّارًا حَسَدًا مِّنْ عِنْدِ أَنفُسِهِمْ﴾

﴿مِّن بَعْدِ مَا تَبَيَّنَ لَهُمُ الْحَقُّ﴾⁵

³ Noted by Imam Ahmad and at-Tirmidhi.

⁴ Abu Dawud #4903

⁵ Surah Al-Baqarah:109

“Many of the people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians) wish that if they could turn you away as disbelievers after you have believed, out of envy from their own selves, even, after the truth (that Muhammad (peace be upon him) is Allâah’s Messenger) has become manifest unto them”



THE ILL EFFECTS OF ENVY

O' Servants of Allâah:

Envy is defined as loathing the blessing to be given to someone else while hoping for that favor to be removed from that individual, Envy has drastic repercussions upon the person who carries it, among them are the following:

- Opposition towards Allâah's Qada' (settlement of Affairs).
- Feeling uneasy concerning Allâah's allotment being distributed among His slaves.

This is because the envier views the one being envied as not worthy of what Allâah has given the person and that he is more deserving more so than the person.

So from that, the envier has disliked Allâah's wisdom in relation to the fashion in which the affairs are governed.

Thus Allâah the One free of imperfection gives and restricts governed by His Infinite Wisdom and the envier dislikes (i.e. hates) that.

So among the wicked evil effects of Envy is that it breeds Hatred among the people, this is because the envier hates the person (i.e. who is stricken by the evil eye) and this simultaneously violates the rights of brotherhood between the Muslims.

As The Prophet ﷺ said:

“Do not be envious of one another, nor raise the prices among (of commodities) among yourselves in order to monopolize (the sale of goods), do not have hatred towards one another, nor abandon one another, and do not enter upon a sale contract while your brother is still in one (trying to outbid the seller)”.⁶

Among the inflictions caused by Envy are the following:

- That it propels the person (who has envy) to making efforts to removing that blessing by any means even murder, just like Allâah narrates the story of the two sons of Adam ﷺ:

⁶ Muslim #2564.

﴿ وَأَتْلُ عَلَيْهِمْ نَبَأَ ابْنَيْ آدَمَ بِالْحَقِّ إِذْ قَرَّبَا قُرْبَانًا فَتُقْبِلَ مِنْ أَحَدِهِمَا وَلَمْ يُتَقَبَلْ مِنْ

الْآخِرِ قَالَ لَاقْتُلُنكَ ^ط قَالَ إِنَّمَا يَتَقَبَّلُ اللَّهُ مِنَ الْمُتَّقِينَ ﴿٧﴾

“And (O Muhammad (peace be upon him)) recite to them (the Jews) the story of the two sons of Adam (Hâbil (Abel) and Qâbil (Cain)) in truth; when each offered a sacrifice (to Allâah), it was accepted from the one but not from the other. The latter said to the former: "I will surely kill you." The former said: "Verily, Allâah accepts only from those who are Al-Muttaqûn (the pious - see V.2:2).”

Eventually he committed the crime (of murder) and fell upon him the sin and utter loss in the Worldly Life and the Hereafter, in addition to him assuming the burden (sin) of everyone who sheds blood resulting in murder; because he was first to introduce (i.e.the crime of murder). So the catalyst of that hurled him towards murder was Envy.

- That it hinders the person from accepting the truth especially coming from the one he has envy. It drives the envier to remain on Falsehood that itself is his own ruin, similarly to what Iblis had obtained (destruction) when he envied Adam, eventually driving him to rebel against the command of Allâah, preventing him from prostrating before Adam. So the instrument that expelled him out of Paradise, being accursed, and being deprived of Allâah’s mercy was Envy.
- Envy causes the person who has this to fall into the sin of backbiting and tale carrying in which are two shameful characteristics as well as Major Sins.
- It pushes the envier to commit (sins) pertaining to what Allâah and His Messenger has deemed impermissible concerning the rights of a Muslim in buying and selling he tries to take customers (from his brother) or tries to raise the price of a commodity while all along he doesn’t want to sell it. He also addresses in his talk or attempts to separate the person (who holds the responsible of completing a task) from fulfilling his goal or he tries to sway him away from that. He also tries to divert the person’s attention from that task at hand or tries to weaken the person’s self confidence and so on from the things that harm the individual (being envied) from completing his objective; all of these things (actions) are driven by Envy.

⁷ Surah Al-Maidah:27

- The person who has envy is that it diminishes his good rewards as well as his righteous deeds (in which is the main portion of his wealth). Just like what the Prophet ﷺ stated:

“Beware of Envy, for surely it consumes good deeds, similarly as to fire consuming wood or he stated grass”.

- Envy makes the person who has (Envy) endlessly be in a state of grief and stress whenever he witnesses the bounty of Allâah descend upon this person while the envier does not want this to take place, though he is not able to prevent it from happening. So he remains within a state of grief and stress. Similarly, to the way fire consumes wood (Envy) consumes good deeds, even if there is nothing present to consume.
- From the repercussions of Envy upon a society is that it causes the society to become shaken and split. For this reason the Prophet ﷺ said:

“The disease of prior nations has crept upon you, Envy and Enmity”.



WOE TO THE ENVIER

O' Slaves of Allâah:

Whoever discovers within himself anything from Envy, then it is a must that he races towards eliminating it (i.e. Envy) in respect to keeping this in mind of the repercussions of Envy has his religion and worldly life, Envy does not harm the one being envied, additionally you must keep in mind that the affairs (i.e. Religious and Universal) are in Allâah's control:

“No person can hinder from what He (Allâah) gives, nor can anyone give from what He (Allâah) prohibits.”



CONCLUSION

It is a responsibility placed upon you (servants of Allâah) to ask Allâah to show favor on you, as Allâah says:

﴿ وَلَا تَتَمَنَّوْا مَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بِهِ بَعْضَكُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ لِّلرِّجَالِ نَصِيبٌ مِّمَّا كَسَبُوا^ط
وَلِلنِّسَاءِ نَصِيبٌ مِّمَّا كَسَبْنَ^ع وَسَأَلُوا اللَّهَ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ^ط إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا



“And wish not for the things in which Allâah has made some of you to excel others. For men there is reward for what they have earned, (and likewise) for women there is reward for what they have earned, and ask Allâah of His Bounty. Surely, Allâah is Ever All-Knower of everything.”

May Allâah bless me as well as you all with this Tremendous Qur’āan.



⁸ Surah An-Nisaa:32