

Crying in the prayer due to worldly tragedies

Question: In most of my prayers I find myself crying in a loud voice. Does this invalidate my prayer or not. I would like an answer surrounding this question.

Shaykh Uthaymeen رحمه الله: Crying in the prayer; if it is due to veneration of Allah the Exalted and fearing Him and reflecting upon affairs of the hereafter and the verses recited in the Noble Quran such as the verses mentioning the promises and the threats; then this does not invalidate the prayer. As for crying resulting from remembering a tragedy which has occurred or the like; then this invalidates the prayer, because this crying is the result of an affair which is not connected to the prayer. The person must try to remedy himself from this crying so he does not jeopardize his prayer to becoming invalid. It's prescribed that there should be no concern in his prayer other than what is connected to the prayer. Thus the person should not reflect upon other matters, because reflecting upon matters not connected to the prayer – while praying; diminishes the prayer a great deal. -End of Shaykh's speech.

Ibn Qadmah رحمه الله said: As for crying, groaning and whining in which two letters (from the recitation) are separated, if the person is overwhelmed (can't control himself) it does not affect his prayer, but if he is not overwhelmed and he is crying for other than fear of Allah, it invalidates his prayer. (Al Mughni 1/394-395)

Translated by Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee