

Shaytan commands his driver to sing for him

Shaykh Abdul Salaam Burjis

Shaykh Abdul Salaam Burjis may Allah have mercy upon him said: It has been narrated in the collection of Abdur Razzaq¹ with a good chain of transmission that Ibn Masood may Allah be pleased with him said:

إِذَا رَكِبَ الرَّجُلُ الدَّابَّةَ فَلَمْ يَذْكُرِ اسْمَ اللَّهِ ، رَدِفَهُ الشَّيْطَانُ ، فَقَالَ لَهُ : تَعَنَّ! فَإِنْ لَمْ يُحْسِنْ قَالَ لَهُ : تَمَنَّ

When the person boards his transport and he does not mention the Name of Allah, Shaytan rides behind him. Shaytan says to the person: "Sing!" If the person is not a good singer he says to him: "Wish!"²

When the rider mounts his vehicle without mentioning the Name of Allah; Shaytan accompanies him on his journey. He then distracts him from remembering Allah with singing. If the rider is not a good singer Shaytan shifts him to the second distraction which is wishing. As he wanders about he wishes for various things. Sometimes he wishes for a beautiful spouse. Another time he wishes for a spacious home. Then he wishes for abundant wealth. This is how he kills his time; this is how he squanders his life away. When his end nears and the years of regret come knocking he says:

يَا لَيْتَنِي قَدَّمْتُ لِحَيَاتِي ﴿١١﴾

Alas! Would that I had sent forth (good deeds) for (this) my life!³

لَوْلَا أَخَّرْتَنِي إِلَىٰ أَجَلٍ قَرِيبٍ فَأَصَّدَّقَ وَأَكُن مِّنَ الصَّالِحِينَ ﴿١١﴾ وَلَنْ يُؤَخَّرَ اللَّهُ نَفْسًا إِذَا جَاءَ أَجْلُهَا ۗ وَاللَّهُ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٢﴾

If only You would give me respite for a little while so I would give charity and be among the righteous. But never will Allah delay a soul when its time has come. And Allah is acquainted with what you do.⁴

مجموع مؤلفات وتحقيقات فضيلة الشيخ الدكتور عبد السلام بن برجس، الجزء الثاني، صفحة 33، 32.

Translated by Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee

¹ Translator's note He is the noble scholar Abdur Razzaq as-San'ani. He died 211 after migration

² Narrated from Mansur, from Mujahid, from Abu Ma'mar from ibn Masood

³ Soorah Al-Fajr 89:24

⁴ Soorah Al-Munāfiqūn 63:10-11