

Prayer is the most important practice of a Muslim after accepting Allah as one and the Prophet as His messenger prayer is the link between Allah and His servant. And that is the only way through which a person can talk to Allah, as narrated in the sayings of the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him): - Let he who wants Allah to talk to him read the Qur'an, and he who wants to talk to Allah should pray. Whenever the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) is disturbed, he immediately goes to pray. And his wife (Aisha) said: -

The Prophet use to play with us as if we were of the same age. But when the time of prayer comes, he behaves as if he does not know us, then He will say, let us have some relieve with prayer O Bilal! The Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) says again: - the first thing that the human being will be judged with on the last day is prayer. If his prayer is right, then he will rejoice, if not then he has a very serious situation.

There are so many verses of the Qur'an connected to prayer, and even Allah strictly related victory with prayer, and declared those who do not pray as hypocrites. Someone asked the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) that what do we get when we pray, the prophet answered: - suppose you have a river in front of your house and you wash yourself five times a day will there be any dirt left on your body? The person said: - no. Then the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) said: - so is the prayer five times a day, Allah forgives you the sins between them.

### **WHAT IF A PERSON DOES NOT PRAY ?**

Someone came to the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) and said: - I want to be a Muslim but I don't want to pray. So the companions of the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) said: - Oh! Messenger of Allah, accept him now so that he may pray later. The Prophet said: - no I would not accept Islam without prayer. Prayer is to humiliate yourself before the Creator. You as His slave and servant, and He as your Creator, Sustainer and Master, and the only thing that sent satan out of the mercy of Allah is that, he refused to prostrate. So if a person does not pray, it means he is arrogant like satan, feeling too big to put his forehead down as a respect to Allah, and that is one of the most serious sins.

The Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) says: - The difference between us and them (disbelievers) is prayer. So one who doesn't pray becomes a disbeliever (he is not a complete disbeliever but a big sinner because he does not pray). Someone came and

asked the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him): - which of the deeds is more loved by Allah. Then the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) said: - prayer on the right time, he who leaves prayer then there is no religion for him, and prayer is the pillar of religion. He says again: - prayer is the pillar of religion, he who practice prayer has maintained his religion, and he who leaves prayer has left his religion.

So from the above sayings of the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) we can sense that Islam is prayer, and if a person does not pray his situation is very bad.

### **A PERSON WHO DOES NOT PRAY**

What do we call a person who does not pray but he is a Muslim. These types of people are divided into two categories;

1. The person who does not pray and does not believe that praying is important. This type of person is an unbeliever and he is not a Muslim at all. He has to repent completely if he wants to be a Muslim, and then observe prayer.
2. A person who believes in prayer but does not pray due to laziness. This type of person is a lazy Muslim. So the Muslim community of his close Muslim friends, who know that he doesn't pray, should advice him to pray. But if he refuses to pray and continues not to pray the in this case he will be declared a disbeliever, because no human being is excused from prayer not even the blind or the leper.

It was narrated that a blind man came to the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) and said: - Oh! Messenger of Allah, I am blind and don't have anybody to carry me to the mosque, so allow me to pray at home. Then the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) said: - can you hear the call of prayer? The man said: - yes! Then the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) said: - then you should respond.

This is even a blind man who does not have the power to go to the mosque. What of a sound person who does not pray at all.

The Prophet says: - He who wants to meet Allah tomorrow (Judgment day) then he should keep the five times prayers at the right time.

So dear reader there are so many verses of the Qur'an and sayings of the Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be unto him) that has evidence to this subject. So we have to try to keep prayers as the first priority in our daily activities, because prayer has a very high standard in religion.