

Class 10

'Dispelling Shaytaan'

Seeking Refuge with Allah

Allah has instructed us to seek refuge with Allah from the Shaytan and his evils in the Qur'aan, *"And if an evil whisper comes to you from Shaytan, then seek refuge with Allah."* [Soorah al-A'raf (7): 200] "

And say, *'My Lord! I seek refuge with You from the whisperings (suggestions) of the Shayateen. And I seek refuge with You, My Lord! lest they may attend (or come near) me.'* [Soorah al-Mu'minun (23): 97-98]

Imam Ibn Katheer writes, 'Isti'adhah (seeking refuge) means, 'I seek refuge with Allah from the cursed Shaytan so that he is prevented from affecting my religious or worldly affairs, or hindering me from adhering to what I was commanded, or luring me into what I was prohibited from.'

Indeed, only Allah is able to prevent the evil of Shaytan from touching the son of Adam. This is why Allah allowed us to be lenient and kind with the human devil (i.e., an evil doer), so that his soft nature might cause him to refrain from the evil he is indulging in.

However, Allah required us to seek refuge with Him from the evil of Shaytan because he neither accepts bribe nor does kindness affect him because he is pure evil. Thus, only He, Who created Shaytan, is able to stop his evil." [See, Tafseer Ibn Katheer]. Islam teaches us to seek refuge with Allah in certain situations and dispel Shaytaan.

Dispel Shaytaan

Dispelling Shaytan anytime during Night & Day

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, *"Whoever says in the morning,*

﴿لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ.
لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَهُوَ الْحَمْدُ
وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ﴾

"None has the right to be worshiped except Allah alone. He has no partners. To Him belongs the Dominion, to Him belongs all praise and He is over all things Omnipotent."

...has indeed gained the reward of freeing ten slaves from the children of Isma'eel and ten of his sins are wiped away and he is raised ten degrees and he has found a safe retreat from the Shaytan until evening. Similarly, if he says in the evening, he will be protected until the morning." [Saheeh Ibn Majah]

Dispelling Shaytaan from the House

Abu Hurayrah reports that Allah's Messenger ﷺ said, *"Do not turn your houses into graves. Indeed, Shaytan flees from a house in which Soorah al-Baqarah is recited."* [Saheeh Muslim]

Jabir (May Allah be pleased with him) reported: I heard Messenger of Allah ﷺ saying, *"If a person mentions the Name of Allah upon entering his house or eating, Satan says, addressing his followers: 'You will find no where to spend the night and no dinner.' But if he enters without mentioning the Name of Allah, Satan says (to his followers); 'You have found (a place) to spend the night in, and if he does not mention the Name of Allah at the time of eating, Satan says: 'You have found (a place) to spend the night in as well as food.'"* [Muslim].

Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, *"Lock your doors and mention the name of Allah, for the Shaytan cannot open a locked door. Seal your water skins and mention the name of Allah. Cover your vessels and mention the name of Allah, even if you lay something across the top of it, and extinguish your lamps."* [Saheeh Muslim (3/1594, no. 2012)]

Dispelling Shaytaan at the time of Anger

Sulayman ibn Sard said, "I was sitting with Allah's Messenger and two men were abusing each other. The face of one of them became red (out of anger) and his veins had become inflated. Allah's Messenger ﷺ said, *"I know a word which, if he was to say, his anger would leave him. If he said (the below) his anger would leave him."* [Agreed upon]

﴿أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ﴾

"I seek refuge in Allah from Shaytan - the Accursed,"

Dispelling Shaytaan before Food & Drink

One should drink whilst sitting because Shaytan drinks with a person, who drinks standing up. It is narrated from Abu Hurayrah that the Prophet saw a man drinking standing up. He said to him, "Hah!" The man asked, "What's the matter?" He said, "Would you like it if a cat drank with you?" He said, "No." He said, *"Someone worse than that was drinking with you, the Shaytan."* [As-Saheehah (1/175)]

"When you are about to eat, you should say (the below),

﴿بِسْمِ اللَّهِ﴾

'In the Name of Allah (I begin)'

...and if you forget to say it before starting, Then you should say when you remember (should say the below)

﴿بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ اَوَّلُهُ وَاٰخِرُهُ﴾

'In the Name of Allah in it's beginning and the end.'

Do not leave food for Shaytaan

Jabir said, "I heard the Prophet ﷺ say, *"The Shaytan is present with one of you in everything that he does, even when he is eating. So if he drops a piece of food, let him remove any dirt that may be on it, then eat it, and not leave it for the Shaytan. And when he has finished eating, let him lick his fingers, for he does not know in which part of his food the blessing is."* [Saheeh Muslim]

Dispelling Shaytaan before going to Bed

The Prophet ﷺ said, *"When you are about to sleep recite ayat alkursi (Soorah 2: 255) till the end of the verse for there will remain over you a protection from Allah and no Shaytan will draw near to you until morning."* [Saheeh al-Bukharee]

Dispelling Shaytaan upon having a Nightmare

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ informed us, *"Dreams are of three kinds; glad tidings from the Most Merciful, those which come from ones own self, and frightening (dreams) from Shaytan."* [Saheeh ibn Majah (1/340, no.3154)]

So, *"If anyone of you has a dream that he likes, then it is from Allah, so let him praise Allah for it and tell others about it. If he has something other than that, which he dislikes, that is from Shaytan, so let him seek refuge with Allah from its evil and not mention it to anyone, for it will not harm him."*

[Saheeh al-Bukharee]

Abu Salamah said, "I used to see in my dream which would make me concerned until I heard Abu Qatadah say, "I used to have dreams which would make me ill until I heard Allah's Messenger ﷺ say, *"The righteous dream is from Allah. If one of you sees what he loves then let him not inform anyone about it except one whom he loves.*

And if he sees what he dislikes, let him not inform anyone about it. Let him spit (drily) on his left three times and let him seek refuge in Allah from Shaytan, the accursed from the evil of what he saw and it will not harm him." [See, Saheeh Muslim (4/1772)]

Dispelling Shaytaan when approaching one's wife

Ibn Abbas reports that the Prophet ﷺ said, *"If one of you says, when approaching his wife (for intercourse), [the below dua] ...then if it is decreed that they should have a child as a result of that, the Shaytan will never be able to harm it (i.e. the offspring)." [Agreed upon]*

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ أَلْهَمَّ جَنَّاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ
وَ جَنَّاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ مَا رَزَقْتَنَا

“In the Name of Allah. O Allah! Make us distant from Shaytan and make Shaytan distant from what you bestow upon us.”

Dispelling Shaytaan before entering the washroom

Zayd ibn Arqam narrated that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, *“These places are inhabited by devils, so when any one of you enters the washroom, let him say, (the below dua) [Saheeh Sunan Abu Dawood (1/4, no.4)]*

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ الْخُبُثِ وَالْخَبَائِثِ

“O Allah I seek refuge with you from the male and female devils.”

Dispelling Shaytaan before entering the Mosque

Abdullah ibn Umar said, “When the Prophet ﷺ used to enter the mosque he would say, (the below) He then said, *“When (a man) says this, Shaytan says, ‘He has been protected from me for the whole day.’” [Saheeh Abu Dawood]*

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ الْعَظِيمِ وَبِوَجْهِهِ الْكَرِيمِ
وَسُلْطَانِهِ الْقَدِيمِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

“I seek refuge with Allah the Mighty, with His Noble Face and with His Eternal Authority from Shaytan, the Accursed.”

Dispelling Shaytaan during Prayer

Uthman ibn Abil-Aas came to the Prophet and said, “The Shaytan comes between me and my prayer and recitation of the Qur’aan, and he is confusing me.” The Messenger ﷺ said, *“that is a devil called Khinzab. If you notice that, then seek refuge with Allah from him, and spit drily to your left three times.”* (Uthman ibn abil-Aas) said, “I did that, and Allah took him away from me.” [Saheeh Muslim]

Straighten your rows and do not let the Shaytan come in the middle

Shaytan enters into the gaps in the rows and creates enmity between Muslims. The Prophet ﷺ said, *“Stand close together, close the gaps and line up your shoulders, because, by Him who has my soul in His Hands, I see the Shaytan coming into the gaps between the rows, like a missile.”* [Abu Dawood]

Know, that straightening of the rows is done by joining shoulder to shoulder and ankle to ankle as is known from Nu'man bin Basheer who said, *“The Prophet turned around to the people and said, ‘Straighten your rows (3 times) and Allah will bring together your ranks or (else) Allah will put differences into your hearts.’ He said, ‘I then saw a man putting his shoulder next to the shoulder of his companion, his knee to the knee of his companion and his ankle to his ankle.”* [Abu Dawood]

Dispelling Shaytaan before Reciting the Quran

So when you want to recite the Qur’aan, seek refuge with Allah from Shaytan, the outcast (the cursed one).” [Soorah an-Nahl (16): 98]

Imam Ibnul-Qayyim (rahimahullah) explained the reason for seeking refuge with Allah from Shaytan before recitation in Igaathat al-Lahfaan (1/109).

Among the reasons he mentioned are:

“1. The Qur’aan is a healing for what is in the heart; it takes away the insinuating whispers, desires and corrupt wishes that the Shaytan instills in them.

It is the antidote to what Shaytan enjoins, therefore we are instructed to expel the cause of the disease from the heart and cleanse the heart of it so that the heart will be prepared to accept the remedy and thus the remedy will be more effective.

So this healing remedy comes to a heart which has been cleansed of the harmful things that were crowding it, and thus it is effective.

2. The Qur’aan is essential to the guidance, knowledge and goodness of the heart, just as water is essential to the growth of plants. The Shaytan is fire which burns the plants, one after another. The more he feels that the seeds of goodness are growing in the heart, the more he strives to corrupt it and burn it. So we are commanded to seek refuge with Allah from Shaytan lest he destroys that which has been achieved through reading the Qur’aan.

The difference between this reason and the previous one is that in the first case refuge is sought in order to gain the benefits of reading the Qur’aan and in the second case it is so that these benefits may be maintained and protected...”

Dispelling Shaytaan before leaving the House

Anas reports that Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said, *“Whoever says when he leaves his house (the below dua), It is said to him, “You have been sufficed, you have been protected and you have been guided.” Then one of the devils turns to another and says, “How can you get to a man who has been sufficed, protected and guided.”* [Abu Dawood, at-Tirmidhee (hasan saheeh)].

﴿بِسْمِ اللَّهِ، تَوَكَّلْتُ عَلَى اللَّهِ
وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ﴾

“In the Name of Allah, I place my trust upon Allah, There is no power, nor movement except by Allah.”

Not having Doubts

Abu Hurayrah reports that Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said, *“The strong believer is more loved by Allah than the weak believer, but in both there is good. Be zealous for what will benefit you. Seek help from Allah, the Mighty and Majestic and do not become incapacitated. If something afflicts you, do not say, ‘if only I had done such and such,’ but say (the below), Indeed saying ‘if’ opens up the doorway of Shaytan’s handiwork.”* [Saheeh Muslim]

﴿قَدَّرَ اللَّهُ وَمَا شَاءَ فَعَلَ﴾

‘Allah has decreed (this) and He does whatever He wills.’

Dispelling Shaytaan from your Children

a) Place your children under Allah's protection

Ibn Abbas related that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ used to commend al-Hasan and al-Hussain to Allah’s protection, saying (the below Dua), *And he said, “Your father used to place Isma’eel and Ishaq under Allah’s protection by using these words.”* [See, Saheeh al-Bukharee (4/119) and Mishkaat al-Masaabih (1/488, no. 1535)]

﴿أَعِيذُكُمْ كَمَا بِكَلِمَاتِ اللَّهِ التَّامَّةِ
مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْطَانٍ وَهَامَّةٍ
وَمِنْ كُلِّ عَيْنٍ لَامَّةٍ﴾

“I commend you two to the protection of Allah’s Perfect Words from every devil, vermin and every evil eye.”

b) Keep your children inside when nightfalls for the Shayateen spread out at that time

Jabir ibn Abdullah said, “The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, *“When night falls (or when the evening comes) keep your children inside, for the Shayateen spread out at this time. Then when one hour of the night has passed, allow them to go out again...”* [Agreed upon]

Muwwadhhatayn (Last two Surahs) are the best to Seek Refuge with Allah

Abu Sa'eed said, *"Allah's Messenger used to seek refuge from the jinn and from the effects of the (evil) of men until the M'uwadhhatayn were revealed. When they were revealed, he clung to them and abandoned what was besides them."* [(saheeh) an-Nisae and Ibn Majah]

Narrated Aisha (radhi allahu anha), *"When the Prophet went to bed every night, he would cup his palms together and blow in them after reciting the last three chapters of the Qur'aan (Soorah al-Ikhlās, Soorah al-Falaq and Soorah al-Nas) and then wipe over his entire body as much as possible with his hands, beginning with his head and face and front part of his body. He used to do this three times."* [Saheeh al-Bukharee]

Why doesn't Shaytaan go away when one seeks Refuge with Allah from him?

If seeking refuge is done by one who is pious and fears Allah then it is like fire, which burns the Shaytan, but if it is done by one who is confused and weak in faith then it will not have a strong impact on the enemy.

Abul-Faraj ibn al-Jawzi (rahimahullah) said, "Know that the likeness of Iblees with one who is pious is like a man who is sitting with food and meat in front of him, and a dog comes near him. He tells it, 'Get away!' and it goes.

Then it comes to another man who is weak in faith and every time he tries to shoo the dog away, it does not go. The former is like a pious man whom the Shaytan approaches, and his dhikr is enough to banish him; the latter is like the one who is weak in faith; the Shaytan does not leave him because of his weakness of faith. We seek refuge with Allah from the Shaytan." [Talbees Iblees, p.48]

Thus, a Muslim who wants to save himself from the Shaytan and his tricks has to work on strengthening his faith and seek the protection of Allah, his Lord and turn to Him, as there is no power and no strength except with Allah."

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