

Actions which cause the Angels to make Dua for you or Curse you

Friday Sermon by Shaykh Khalid al-dhafiri

The following is a summary translation.

Slaves of Allah: Verily from belief in Allah the Exalted is to believe in the noble Angels and their names, actions and attributes mentioned in the Book and the Sunnah.

آَمَنَ الرَّسُولُ بِمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ ۚ كُلٌّ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ ﴿٢٨٥﴾

The Messenger (Muhammad) believes in what has been sent down to him from his Lord, and (so do) the believers. Each one believes in Allah, His Angels, His Books, and His Messengers.¹

Included in the actions of the Angels which are obligatory to believe in, and that which is proved by the text of the Book and the Sunnah is their supplication, seeking forgiveness, and salutation upon the believers; either in general or because of specific righteous actions.

هُوَ الَّذِي يُصَلِّي عَلَيْكُمْ وَمَلَائِكَتُهُ لِيُخْرِجَكُم مِّنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ ۚ وَكَانَ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ رَحِيمًا ﴿٤٣﴾

He it is Who sends salutations on you, and His angels too, that He may bring you out from darkness into light. And He is Ever Most Merciful to the believers.²

Abul Aliya may Allah have mercy upon him said: “The salutation of Allah is His praising him in the presence of the Angels, while the salutation of the Angels is Dua.

Thus if we believe O slaves of Allah that the Angels supplicate and seek forgiveness for those who perform certain righteous actions, this will cause us to be diligent upon these actions in the hope that the Dua of the Angels will reach us, and thus be a reason for the forgiveness of Allah the Exalted and His mercy upon us. O slaves of Allah from these actions are:

1. Dua for the student of knowledge and the teacher.

It has been narrated from Abu Umamah may Allah be pleased with him the Messenger of Allah peace and blessings be upon him said:

¹ Soorah Al-Baqarah 2:285

² Soorah Al-'Aĥzāb 33:43

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ وَأَهْلَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ حَتَّى النَّمْلَةُ فِي جُحْرِهَا وَحَتَّى الْحُوْتُ لَيُصَلُّونَ عَلَى مُعَلِّمِ النَّاسِ الْخَيْرِ

Verily Allah, His Angels, the inhabitants of the heavens and the earth, even the ant in its hole, even the fish send salutations upon the one who teaches good.³

Thus be diligent upon seeking legislative knowledge and teaching it. Likewise the Angels lower their wings for the student of knowledge being pleased with what he is doing.⁴

2. Likewise the Angels pray for the person waiting for the prayer and the person who sits in the Masjid after the prayer.

Narrated from Abu Huraira may Allah be pleased with him, the Messenger of Allah peace and blessings be upon him said:

الْمَلَائِكَةُ تُصَلِّي عَلَى أَحَدِكُمْ مَا دَامَ فِي مُصَلَّاهُ الَّذِي صَلَّى فِيهِ مَا لَمْ يُحْدِثْ تَقُولُ اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَهُ اللَّهُمَّ ارْحَمْهُ

“The angels pray for one of you so long as he is in his prayer-place where he offered his prayer, so long as he does not break his wudu; they say: ‘O Allah forgive him, O Allah have mercy on him.’”⁵

And in a narration collected by Muslim he said:

لَا يَزَالُ الْعَبْدُ فِي صَلَاةٍ مَا كَانَ فِي مُصَلَّاهُ يَنْتَظِرُ الصَّلَاةَ وَتَقُولُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَهُ اللَّهُمَّ ارْحَمْهُ حَتَّى يَنْصَرِفَ أَوْ يُحْدِثَ

The servant continues to be in prayer as long as he remains in the place he prayed waiting for the next prayer. The Angels say: O Allah forgive him, O Allah have mercy upon him. This continues until he leaves or breaks his wudu.⁶

3. From the actions of the Angels is their Dua for those who are in the first row of the prayer line.

Narrated from al-Bara' ibn Aazib may Allah be pleased with him, he said:

كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَتَخَلَّلُ الصُّفُوفَ مِنْ نَاحِيَةِ إِلَى نَاحِيَةٍ ، يَمْسَحُ مَنَاكِبَنَا وَصُدُورَنَا، وَيَقُولُ : لَا تَخْتَلِفُوا فَتَخْتَلِفَ قُلُوبُكُمْ وَكَانَ يَقُولُ : إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى الصُّفُوفِ الْأُولَى

The Messenger of Allah peace and blessings be upon him used to walk up and down the rows, wiping our shoulders and chests, and he would say, “Do not let your rows be

³ Collected by al-Tirmidhi, 2609; classes as Sahih by al-Albani in Sahih al-Jaami', 1838

⁴ Collected by Jaami' at-Tirmidhi 3536

⁵ Collected by Al-Bukhari 445

⁶ Collected Sahih Muslim 649

divided lest your hearts become divided”, and he used to say, “Allah and the Angels send salutations on the front rows.”⁷

Therefore be diligent O slaves of Allah to pray in these rows. **It is surely a loss that you see a man come to the Masjid and sit waiting for the Iqamah for the prayer at the back of the Masjid with his back against the wall. Thus when the call for prayer is established he is in the back rows. This person has prevented himself for a great deal of good.**

4. Likewise the Angels pray for the one who sends salutations upon the Prophet peace be upon him.

Narrated from Amir ibn Rabeeah may Allah be pleased with him, he said: The Prophet peace be upon him said:

مَا مِنْ مُسْلِمٍ يُصَلِّي عَلَيَّ إِلَّا صَلَّتْ عَلَيْهِ الْمَلَائِكَةُ مَا صَلَّى عَلَيَّ فَلْيُبَلِّغِ الْعَبْدُ مِنْ ذَلِكَ أَوْ لِيُكْتَبْ

There is no Muslim who sends salutations upon me except that the Angels supplicate for him according to how the person supplicates for me; thus let the servant do that a little or a lot. Collected by Ibn Majah

5. The Angels supplicate for those who give charity, asking Allah to compensate those who give charity with better, and to remove the blessings from the wealth of those who withhold charity.

Narrated from Abu Huraira may Allah be pleased with him, he said: The Prophet peace be upon him said:

مَا مِنْ يَوْمٍ يُصْبِحُ الْعِبَادُ فِيهِ إِلَّا مَلَكَانِ يَنْزِلَانِ فَيَقُولُ أَحَدُهُمَا اللَّهُمَّ أَعْطِ مُنْفِقًا خَلْفًا وَيَقُولُ الْآخَرُ اللَّهُمَّ أَعْطِ مُمْسِكًا تَلْفًا

“There is no day on which the people awake except two Angels come down and one of them says, ‘O Allah, give in compensation to the one who spends (in charity),’ and the other says, ‘O Allah, destroy the one who withholds.’”⁸

6. The Angels supplicate for the fasting person who eats the morning breakfast before the fast, and preserves this noble worship.

⁷ Collected by Abu Dawood 664

⁸ Collected by al-Bukhari, 1374; Muslim, 1010.

The Prophet peace be upon him said:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى الْمُتَسَحِّرِينَ

“Verily Allah and His angels send salutations upon those who eat sahoor.”⁹

7. The Angels pray for those who visit the sick, visiting them for the sake of Allah. Thus he purifies his intention when visiting the sick, and seeks the reward from Allah the Exalted. And he does not make his visit just a habitual action and thus deprive himself of a great reward.

Narrated from Ali may Allah be pleased with him, he said: I hear the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him say:

مَنْ أَتَى أَخَاهُ الْمُسْلِمَ عَائِدًا ، مَشَى فِي خِرَافِهِ الْجَنَّةِ (أَي جَنَاهَا وَثَمَارَهَا) حَتَّى يَجْلِسَ ، فَإِذَا جَلَسَ غَمَرَتْهُ الرَّحْمَةُ ، فَإِنْ كَانَ غُدُوهُ صَلَّى عَلَيْهِ سَبْعُونَ أَلْفَ مَلَكٍ حَتَّى يُمِيبَ ، وَإِنْ كَانَ مَسَاءً صَلَّى عَلَيْهِ سَبْعُونَ أَلْفَ مَلَكٍ حَتَّى يُصْبِحَ .

Whoever visit his sick Muslim brother walks in a harvest of paradise (meaning its gardens and fruits) until he sits. When he sits he is enveloped in mercy. If it is morning, seventy thousand Angels will pray for him until evening, and if it is evening, seventy thousand angels will pray for him until morning.

8. If the brother is present with his sick or dying brother and prays for good for him. The Angels say “Ameen” for the Dua of the person who prays for the sick or dying.

Narrated from Umm Salamah may Allah be pleased with her she said: The Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said:

إِذَا حَضَرْتُمْ الْمَرِيضَ أَوْ الْمَيِّتَ فَقُولُوا خَيْرًا فَإِنَّ الْمَلَائِكَةَ يُؤْمِنُونَ عَلَى مَا تَقُولُونَ

When you visit the sick or dying person say good things, for surely the Angels say “Ameen” for what you say.¹⁰

9. The Angels likewise say “Ameen” for the person who prays for his brother behind his back.

⁹ Collected by Ahmad 11086 declared Hasan by al-Albani in as-Saheehah (1654)

¹⁰ Collected by Muslim 919

Narrated from Abu Darda may Allah be pleased with him, he said: The Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said:

مَا مِنْ عَبْدٍ مُسْلِمٍ يَدْعُو لِأَخِيهِ بِظَهْرِ الْغَيْبِ إِلَّا قَالَ الْمَلَكُ وَلَكَ بِمِثْلٍ

“There is no Muslim who prays for his brother in his absence except that the Angel says: “And for you the same”.”¹¹

Thus it is upon us O slaves of Allah to be diligent upon these actions and rush to them and other righteous actions so we do not miss the mercy of Allah the Exalted and His mentioning us among the highest gathering. And so we can attain the Dua of the Angels, for surely they are as Allah the Exalted said:

بَلْ عِبَادٌ مُكْرَمُونَ ﴿٢٦﴾ لَا يَسْقُونَهُ بِالْقَوْلِ وَهُمْ بِأَمْرِهِ يَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٢٧﴾

Rather, they are [but] honored servants. They speak not until He has spoken, and they act on His Command.¹²

The Angels who bear the Throne – and they are from the greatest of Angels – pray for the believers and seek forgiveness for them, and they ask Allah to enter the believers into paradise and save them from the Hell-fire and sins. So how great is the mercy they display for the believers! And how great is the Mercy of Allah the Exalted! Allah the Exalted said:

الَّذِينَ يَحْمِلُونَ الْعَرْشَ وَمَنْ حَوْلَهُ يُسَبِّحُونَ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّهِمْ وَيُؤْمِنُونَ بِهِ وَيَسْتَغْفِرُونَ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا رَبَّنَا وَسِعْتَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ رَحْمَةً وَعِلْمًا فَاغْفِرْ لِلَّذِينَ تَابُوا وَاتَّبَعُوا سَبِيلَكَ وَقِهِمْ عَذَابَ الْجَحِيمِ ﴿٧﴾ رَبَّنَا وَأَدْخِلْهُمْ جَنَّاتِ عَدْنٍ الَّتِي وَعَدْتَهُمْ وَمَنْ صَلَحَ مِنْ آبَائِهِمْ وَأَزْوَاجِهِمْ وَذُرِّيَّاتِهِمْ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ ﴿٨﴾ وَقِهِمُ السَّيِّئَاتِ ۚ وَمَنْ تَقِ السَّيِّئَاتِ يَوْمَئِذٍ فَقَدْ رَحِمْتَهُ ۚ وَذَلِكَ هُوَ الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيمُ ﴿٩﴾

Those (Angels) who bear the Throne (of Allah) and those around it glorify the praises of their Lord, and believe in Him, and ask forgiveness for those who believe (saying): "Our Lord! You comprehend all things in mercy and knowledge, so forgive those who repent and follow Your Way, and save them from the torment of the blazing Fire! "Our Lord! And make them enter the 'Adn Paradise (everlasting Gardens) which you have promised them, and to the righteous among their fathers, their wives, and their offspring! Verily, You are the All-Mighty, the All-Wise. "And save them from the sins, and whomsoever You save from the sins that Day, him verily, You have taken into mercy." And that is the supreme success.¹³

¹¹ Collected by Muslim, 2732.

¹² Soorah Al-'Anbyā' 21:26-27

¹³ Soorah Ghāfir 40:7

Second Sermon

Slaves of Allah, just as the Angels pray for those who perform these righteous actions, they likewise supplicate against and curse those who perform some other actions.

1. The Angels curse the disbelievers and those who apostate from Islam. Allah the Exalted said:

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَمَاتُوا وَهُمْ كُفَّارٌ أُولَٰئِكَ عَلَيْهِمْ لَعْنَةُ اللَّهِ وَالْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالنَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ ﴿١٦١﴾

Verily, those who disbelieve, and die while they are disbelievers, it is they on whom is the Curse of Allah and of the angels and of mankind, combined.¹⁴

2. The Angels curse those who invent new matters into the religion and the people of Bida and those who aid them against Ahlus Sunnah. The Prophet peace be upon him said:

ومن أحدث حدثا أو آوى محدثا فعليه لعنة الله والملائكة والناس أجمعين

Whoever innovates or gives protection to an innovator, then upon him is the curse of Allah, and the Angels and all of mankind combined.¹⁵

Let the Muslim beware lest this grievous punishment should reach him, and let him be diligent in following the Sunnah and abandoning innovation.

3. The Angels curse those who insult the companions or one from amongst them. As it appears in the Hadith of Ibn Abbas may Allah be pleased with him: The Prophet peace be upon him said:

من سب أصحابي، فعليه لعنة الله والملائكة والناس أجمعين

“Whoever reviles my companions, upon him be the curse of Allaah, the Angels and all the people combined.”¹⁶

Thus preserve the status of the companions.

4. The Angels curse those who point a weapon at their brother whether it is iron, a knife, a weapon **or even a car**; even if they do so is jest. Narrated by Abu Huraira may Allah be pleased with him, the Prophet peace be upon him said:

¹⁴ Soorah Al-Baqarah 2:161

¹⁵ Collected by Sunan an-Nasa'i 4734

¹⁶ Declared Hasan by al-Albani in Silsilat al-Ahaadeeth al-Saheehah (2340).

مَنْ أَشَارَ إِلَى أَخِيهِ بِحَدِيدَةٍ فَإِنَّ الْمَلَائِكَةَ تَلْعَنُهُ حَتَّى يَدَعَهُ وَإِنْ كَانَ أَخَاهُ لِأَبِيهِ وَأُمِّهِ

Whoever points a weapon at his brother, then surely the Angels curse him until he stops; even if it is his brother from his mother^{17,18}

And in another narration he said:

لَا يُشِيرُ أَحَدُكُمْ إِلَى أَخِيهِ بِالسَّلَاحِ فَإِنَّهُ لَا يَدْرِي أَحَدُكُمْ لَعَلَّ الشَّيْطَانَ يَنْزِعُ فِي يَدِهِ فَيَقَعُ فِي حُفْرَةٍ مِنَ النَّارِ

Let none of you point a weapon at his brother, because none of you knows; maybe Shaytan will take control of his hand, and thus the person will land in a pit in the Hell-fire.¹⁹

And how many accidents and killings have we heard of due to the people neglecting this Hadith!

5. The Angels curse those who ascribe themselves to other than their fathers. It has been narrated from Ibn Abbas may Allah be pleased with him, the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said:

من انتسب إلى غير أبيه أو تولى غير مواليه فعليه لعنة الله والملائكة والناس أجمعين

Whoever ascribes himself to other than his father, or claims to be a slave to other than his real owner, then upon him is the curse of Allah, and the Angels, and all of mankind combined.

6. The Angels curse the woman who abandons the bed of her husband and this causes his anger. It has been narrated by Abu Huraira may Allah be pleased with him, the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said:

إِذَا دَعَا الرَّجُلُ امْرَأَتَهُ إِلَى فِرَاشِهِ فَأَبَتْ فَبَاتَ غَضَبَانَ عَلَيْهِمَا لَعَنَتُهَا الْمَلَائِكَةُ حَتَّى تُصْبِحَ

“If a man calls his wife to his bed and refuses, and he goes to sleep angry with her, the Angels will curse her until morning.”²⁰

¹⁷ Translator’s note: Imam An Nawawi said: His statement “even if it is his brother from his mother” is to make this prohibition extremely clear that it applies to everyone, whether you care about the person you point the weapon at, or if you don’t care about them; whether you are joking or playing, because frightening the Muslim is Haram under all circumstances. (Explanation of Sahih Muslim 16/170)

¹⁸ Collected by Sahih Muslim 2616

¹⁹ Collected by Sahih Bukhari 7072

²⁰ Collected by Bukhari 32370 and Muslim 1436

Thus O slaves of Allah beware of these actions and hold firm to the Book and the Sunnah and stay far away from that which incurs the Anger of Allah the Exalted and you will be from the successful.

Translated by Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee