

Advice for cancer patients and their families

From Shaykh Salih Fawzan

Question: May Allah treat you well and bless you. Umm Abdur Rahman says in her question...my husband O Shaykh is suffering from cancer. He is incapacitated in the home, unable to move, depressed and sad. We have visited several hospitals but he cannot be treated due to the poor condition he has regressed to. I hope you can give him a reminder O Shaykh; that Allah, He is the One who cures and He has power over all things.

Shaykh Fawzan: It is upon this ailing person to be patient and anticipate the reward from Allah and know that which is with Allah is better and longer lasting. Whatever hardships befall the believer in this life is unquestionably better for him. By way of these hardships Allah will forgive him of his sins and elevate him in degrees with Allah the Exalted. Consequently, whatever befalls the Muslim is better for him as the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

عَجَبًا لِأَمْرِ الْمُؤْمِنِ ، إِنَّ أَمْرَ الْمُؤْمِنِ كُلُّهُ خَيْرٌ ، وَلَيْسَ ذَلِكَ لِأَحَدٍ إِلَّا لِلْمُؤْمِنِ إِنْ أَصَابَتْهُ سَرَاءٌ فَشَكَرَ فَكَانَ خَيْرًا ، وَإِنْ أَصَابَتْهُ
ضَرَاءٌ فَصَبَرَ ، كَانَ خَيْرًا

“How wonderful is the affair of the believer, for his affairs are all good, and this applies to no one but the believer. If something good happens to him, he is thankful for it and that is good for him. If something bad happens to him, he bears it with patience and that is good for him.”¹

Thus it is upon him to remain patient and anticipate the reward from Allah the Exalted.

It is upon you – the family – to be kind to him, and deal with him in the best manner, with compassion, and gentleness. Pray for him and make things easy for him. Make him happy with good speech, sitting with him and being sociable with him. Don't become annoyed with him or speak to him in a harsh manner, or deal with him in a harsh manner. Have mercy and compassion.

Translated by Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee

¹ Muslim 2999