

شرح رياض الصالحين

COMMENTARY ON THE
Riyâd-us-Sâliheen

Volume Two

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5. THE BOOK OF GREETINGS

٥ - كتاب السلام

CHAPTER 131
EXCELLENCE OF PROMOTING
GREETINGS

١٣١ - باب فضل السلام والأمر
بإفشاءه

Allāh, the Exalted, says:

“O you who believe! Enter not houses other than your own, until you have asked permission and greeted those in them.” (24:27)

“But when you enter the houses, greet one another with a greeting from Allāh (i.e., say: *As-Salāmu* *‘Alaikum* - peace be on you), blessed and good.” (24:61)

“When you are greeted with a greeting, greet in return with what is better than it, or (at least) return it equally.” (4:86)

“Has the story reached you, of the honoured guests [three angels; Jibril (Gabriel) along with another two] of Ibrāhīm (Abraham)? When they came in to him, and said, ‘*Salām* (peace be upon you)!’ He answered: ‘*Salām* (peace be upon you).’” (51:24,25)

845. Abdullāh bin ‘Amr bin Al-‘Ās reported: A man asked the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ: “Which act in Islām is the best?” He ﷺ replied, “To give food, and to greet everyone,

قَالَ اللهُ تَعَالَى: ﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَدْخُلُوا بُيُوتًا غَيْرَ بُيُوتِكُمْ حَتَّى تَسْتَأْذِنُوا وَتَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى أَهْلِهَا﴾ [النور: ٢٧]. وَقَالَ تَعَالَى: ﴿وَإِذَا دَخَلْتُمْ بُيُوتًا فَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى أَنْفُسِكُمْ تَحِيَّةً مِّنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ مُبَرَكََةً طَيِّبَةً﴾ [النور: ٦١]. وَقَالَ تَعَالَى: ﴿وَإِذَا حُيِّيتُمْ بِتَحِيَّةٍ فَحَيُّوا بِأَحْسَنَ مِنْهَا أَوْ رُدُّوهَا﴾ [النساء: ٨٦]. وَقَالَ تَعَالَى: ﴿هَلْ أُنْتُكَ حَدِيثٌ ضَلَّيْتُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ الْمُكْرَمِينَ﴾ إِذْ دَخَلُوا عَلَيْهِ فَقَالُوا سَلَامًا قَالَ سَلَامٌ ﴿[الذاريات: ٢٤، ٢٥].

٨٤٥ - وَعَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ عَمْرٍو بْنِ الْعَاصِ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا أَنَّ رَجُلًا سَأَلَ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ﷺ: أَيُّ الْإِسْلَامِ خَيْرٌ؟ قَالَ: «تُطْعِمُ الطَّعَامَ، وَتَقْرَأُ السَّلَامَ

whether you know or you do not.”
[Al-Bukhârî and Muslim]

Commentary: Feeding poor and destitute is an act of goodness, and so is fulfilling the needs of the indigent. Greeting everybody (saying ‘*As-Salâmu ‘Alaikum*’), whether an acquaintance or a stranger, is a good manner too. Both of these acts generate mutual love and remove hatred and ill will from hearts. All other forms of greetings do not no substitute for Islâmic greeting.

846. Abû Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported: The Prophet ﷺ said, “When Allâh created Âdam عليه السلام, He said to him: ‘Go and greet that company of angels who are sitting there - and then listen to what they are going to say in reply to your greetings because that will be your greeting and your off-spring’s.’ Âdam عليه السلام said to the angels: ‘*As-Salâmu ‘Alaikum* (may you be safe from evil).’ They replied: ‘*As-Salâmu ‘Alaikum wa Rahmatullâh* (may you be safe from evil, and Mercy of Allâh be upon you).’ Thus adding in reply to him: ‘*wa Rahmatullâh* (and Mercy of Allâh)’ to his greeting.” [Al-Bukhârî and Muslim]

Commentary: The Islâmic form of greeting - *As-Salâmu ‘Alaikum* (may you be safe from evil) - has been in existence since the days of Prophet Âdam. According to some *Ahâdith*, it is better to add in response: *wa Rahmatullâhi wa Barakâtuhu* (and the Mercy and Blessings of Allâh).

847. Al-Barâ’ bin ‘Âzib رضي الله عنهما reported: The Messenger of Allâh ﷺ commanded us to do seven things: to visit the sick, to follow the funeral (of a

عَلَى مَنْ عَرَفَتْ وَمَنْ لَمْ تَعْرِفْ» متفق عليه.

٨٤٦- وَعَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ ﷺ قَالَ: «لَمَّا خَلَقَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى آدَمَ ﷺ قَالَ: اذْهَبْ فَسَلِّمْ عَلَى أَوْلِيكَ - نَفَرٍ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ جُلُوسٍ - فَاسْتَمِعْ مَا يُحْيُونَكَ، فَإِنَّهَا تَحْيَتُكَ وَتَحْيَةُ ذُرِّيَّتِكَ. فَقَالَ: السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ، فَقَالُوا: السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ، فَزَادُوهُ: وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ» متفق عليه.

٨٤٧- وَعَنْ أَبِي عُمَارَةَ الْبَرَاءِ بْنِ عَازِبٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا قَالَ: أَمَرَنَا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ بِسَبْعٍ: بِعِيَادَةِ

dead believer), to invoke the Mercy of Allâh upon one who sneezes (i.e., by saying to him: *Yarhamuk-Allâh*), to support the weak, to help the oppressed, to promote the greeting of ‘*As-Salâmu ‘Alaikum*’, and to help those who swear to do something to keep their oaths. [Al-Bukhârî and Muslim]

Commentary: Muslims have obligations towards one another. The fulfillment of this social responsibility creates among them mutual love, a sense of cohesion and feelings of respect for one another.

848. Abû Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported: The Messenger of Allâh ﷺ said, “By Him in Whose Hand is my life! You will not enter *Jannah* until you believe, and you will not believe until you love one another. Shall I inform you of something which, if you do, you will love one another? Promote greetings amongst yourselves.” [Muslim]

Commentary: *Imân* is a prerequisite for entry to *Jannah*. Whereas mutual love among Muslims is complementary to it, and this quality can only be attained by giving a social character to the Islâmic form of greeting, that is to say, ‘*As-Salâmu ‘Alaikum*.’

849. ‘Abdullâh bin Salâm رضي الله عنه reported: I heard the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ saying, “O people, exchange greetings of peace (i.e., say: *As-Salâmu ‘Alaikum* to one another), feed people, strengthen the ties of kinship, and be in prayer when others are asleep, you will enter *Jannah* in peace.” [At-Tirmidhî]

الْمَرِيضِ، وَاتِّبَاعِ الْجَنَائِزِ، وَتَشْمِيتِ الْعَاطِسِ، وَنَصْرِ الضَّعِيفِ، وَعَوْنِ الْمَظْلُومِ، وَإِفْشَاءِ السَّلَامِ، وَإِزْوَارِ الْمُقْسِمِ. متفق عليه. هَذَا لَفْظُ إِحْدَى رَوَايَاتِ الْبُخَارِيِّ.

٨٤٨- وَعَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: «لَا تَدْخُلُوا الْجَنَّةَ حَتَّى تُؤْمِنُوا، وَلَا تُؤْمِنُوا حَتَّى تَحَابُّوا، أَوْ لَا أَذْلكُمْ عَلَى شَيْءٍ إِذَا فَعَلْتُمُوهُ تَحَابَبْتُمْ؟ أَفْشُوا السَّلَامَ بَيْنَكُمْ» رَوَاهُ مُسْلِمٌ.

٨٤٩- وَعَنْ أَبِي يُوسُفَ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ سَلَامٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: سَمِعْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ﷺ يَقُولُ: «يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ! أَفْشُوا السَّلَامَ، وَأَطْعِمُوا الطَّعَامَ، وَصَلُّوا الْأَرْحَامَ، وَصَلُّوا النَّاسَ نِيَامًا، تَدْخُلُوا الْجَنَّةَ بِسَلَامٍ» رَوَاهُ التِّرْمِذِيُّ وَقَالَ: حَدِيثٌ حَسَنٌ صَحِيحٌ.

Commentary: All these habits and practices are indispensable to a believer because each one of them leads to *Jannah* with the first people to enter it without being punished in Hell first.

850. At-Tufail bin Ubayy bin Ka'b رضي الله عنه reported: I used to visit 'Abdullāh bin 'Umar رضي الله عنهما in the morning and accompany him to the market. 'Abdullāh offered greetings of peace to every one he met on the way, be they sellers of petty goods, traders or poor people. One day when I came to him, he asked me to accompany him to the market. I said to him: "What is the point of your going to the market when you do not sell, nor ask about articles, nor offer a price for them, nor sit down with any company of people. Let us sit down here and talk." He replied: "O Abū Batn (belly)! (Tufail had a large belly), we go to the market to greet everyone we meet." [Mālik]

٨٥٠- وَعَنِ الطُّفَيْلِ بْنِ أَبِي بْنِ كَعْبٍ أَنَّهُ كَانَ يَأْتِي عَبْدَ اللَّهِ بْنَ عُمَرَ، فَيَعْدُو مَعَهُ إِلَى السُّوقِ، قَالَ: فَإِذَا عَدَوْنَا إِلَى السُّوقِ، لَمْ يَمُرَّ عَبْدَ اللَّهِ عَلَى سَقَاطٍ وَلَا صَاحِبِ بَيْعَةٍ، وَلَا مُسْكِينٍ، وَلَا أَحَدٍ إِلَّا سَلَّمَ عَلَيْهِ، قَالَ الطُّفَيْلُ: فَجِئْتُ عَبْدَ اللَّهِ بْنَ عُمَرَ يَوْمًا، فَاسْتَبَعَنِي إِلَى السُّوقِ، فَقُلْتُ لَهُ: مَا تَصْنَعُ بِالسُّوقِ، وَأَنْتَ لَا تَقِفُ عَلَى الْبَيْعِ، وَلَا تَسْأَلُ عَنِ السَّلْعِ، وَلَا تَسُومُ بِهَا، وَلَا تَجْلِسُ فِي مَجَالِسِ السُّوقِ؟ وَأَقُولُ: اجْلِسْ بِنَا هَاهُنَا نَتَحَدَّثُ، فَقَالَ: يَا أَبَا بَطْنٍ! - وَكَانَ الطُّفَيْلُ ذَا بَطْنٍ - إِنَّمَا نَعْدُو مِنْ أَجْلِ السَّلَامِ، فَسَلِّمْ عَلَى مَنْ لَقَيْنَاهُ. رَوَاهُ مَالِكٌ فِي الْمَوْطَأِ بِإِسْنَادٍ صَحِيحٍ.

Commentary: This *Hadīth* highlights 'Abdullāh bin 'Umar's passion for promoting *Salām* which is a practice of *Sunnah*. Secondly, we can call a person by his epithetic name provided he is not offended by it.

CHAPTER 132 WORDS TO BE USED FOR OFFERING GREETINGS

It is recommended for the one offering greetings to say: '*As-Salāmu Alaikum wa Rahmatullāhi wa Barakātu-hu.*' The reply is '*Wa 'Alaikum us-Salāmu wa Rahmatullāhi wa Barakātu-hu.*'

851. 'Imrān bin Husain رضي الله عنهما reported: A man came to the Prophet ﷺ and said: "*As-Salāmu 'Alaikum* (may you be safe from evil). Messenger of Allāh ﷺ responded to his greeting and the man sat down. The Prophet ﷺ said, "Ten (meaning the man had earned the merit of ten good acts)." Another one came and said: "*As-Salāmu 'Alaikum wa Rahmatullāh* (may you be safe from evil, and Mercy of Allāh be upon you)." Messenger of Allāh ﷺ responded to his greeting and the man sat down. Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said, "Twenty." A third one came and said: "*As-Salāmu 'Alaikum wa Rahmatullāhi wa Barakātu-hu* (may you be safe from evil, and the Mercy of Allāh and His Blessings be upon you)." Messenger of Allāh ﷺ responded to his greeting and the man sat down. Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said, "Thirty." [Abū Dāwūd and At-Tirmidhī]

١٣٢- بَابُ كَيْفَةِ السَّلَامِ

يُسْتَحَبُّ أَنْ يَقُولَ الْمُتَبَدِّئُ بِالسَّلَامِ: «السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ» فَيَأْتِي بِصُمَيْرِ الْجَمْعِ، وَإِنْ كَانَ الْمُسَلَّمُ عَلَيْهِ وَاحِدًا، وَيَقُولُ الْمُجِيبُ: «وَعَلَيْكُمْ السَّلَامُ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ» فَيَأْتِي بِوَاحِدٍ الْعَطْفِ فِي قَوْلِهِ: وَعَلَيْكُمْ.

٨٥١- عَنْ عِمْرَانَ بْنِ الْحُصَيْنِ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا قَالَ: جَاءَ رَجُلٌ إِلَى النَّبِيِّ ﷺ فَقَالَ: السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ، فَرَدَّ عَلَيْهِ ثُمَّ جَلَسَ، فَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: «عَشْرٌ» ثُمَّ جَاءَ آخَرُ، فَقَالَ: السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ، فَرَدَّ عَلَيْهِ فَجَلَسَ، فَقَالَ: «عِشْرُونَ» ثُمَّ جَاءَ آخَرُ، فَقَالَ: السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ، فَرَدَّ عَلَيْهِ فَجَلَسَ، فَقَالَ: «ثَلَاثُونَ» رَوَاهُ أَبُو دَاوُدَ وَالتِّرْمِذِيُّ وَقَالَ: حَدِيثٌ حَسَنٌ.