

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Virtues of Seeking Knowledge

(Compiled by Abu Muhammad Yahya)

In every age, the Ummah of Islam has been elevated by one means above all others: **the sincere pursuit of knowledge**. It is through knowledge that the hearts are purified, the paths to Allah become illuminated, and the darkness of misguidance is dispelled. It is no surprise, then, that the Qur'an and the Sunnah are filled with the praises of knowledge and its seekers, and that the scholars have been held in the highest regard by Allah and His creation.



1. A Path to Paradise

The Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم said: **"Whoever treads a path seeking knowledge, Allah will make the path to Paradise easy for him."** (Sahih Muslim)

This hadith is glad tidings for every Muslim who buys a book, travels to a lesson, listens to a class, or simply takes time to understand the Deen. Whether the path is physical or metaphorical, **Allah makes the path to Jannah easy** for those who seek His knowledge sincerely.

2. The Angels Surround the People of Knowledge

The Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم informed us that:

"When the people gather in the Houses of Allah to recite His Book and study it together, tranquility descends upon them, the angels surround them, mercy covers them, and Allah mentions them to those with Him."

This tremendous reward is not limited to scholars. It is **for every Muslim who attends a study circle, a dars, a Qur'an class**, and gathers for the sake of Allah to learn His Religion. Imagine being mentioned by Allah Himself in the highest gathering, simply for seeking knowledge.

3. Allah Wants Good for the Student of Knowledge

The Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم said: **"Whoever Allah wants good for, He gives him understanding of the Religion."** (Sahih al-Bukhari and Muslim)

This hadith defines the true sign of Allah's favor. Wealth, status, and success are not always indicators of Allah's love. **But when Allah grants someone deep understanding of Tawheed, Fiqh, Hadith, Tafsir, and the Sunnah**—this is a clear sign that Allah wants good for them.

4. The Best of You

"The best of you is the one who learns the Qur'an and teaches it." (Narrated by 'Uthman ibn 'Affan, Sahih al-Bukhari)

This hadith beautifully combines two great deeds: **learning and teaching**. The believer who seeks to understand the Qur'an and convey it to others is considered the **best** in the sight of Allah. And this includes learning Arabic, Tafsir, Tajweed, and the sciences connected to it.

5. The Inheritance of the Prophets

Abu Darda رضي الله عنه reported:

"The scholars are the inheritors of the Prophets. The Prophets did not leave behind gold or silver, but they left behind knowledge. Whoever takes hold of it has taken a great portion." (Abu Dawood, authentic)

The inheritance of the Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم is not money, property, or worldly gain. It is **Islamic knowledge: the Qur'an, the Sunnah, and the understanding of the Salaf**. Whoever devotes themselves to this path has taken from the noblest of legacies.

6. The Protection of Knowledge

Allah سبحانه وتعالى said:

"Verily, We have sent down the Reminder, and surely We will guard it." (Surah al-Hijr 15:9)

This preservation applies not only to the Qur'an but also to its explanation: **the Sunnah of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم and the correct understanding of the righteous predecessors**. This is the inheritance protected by Allah for the Ummah, accessible to every sincere seeker.

7. The Scholars are the Most God-Fearing

Allah says:

"Indeed, those who fear Allah the most among His servants are the scholars." (Surah Fatir 35:28)

Ibn al-Qayyim رحمه الله said in Miftah Dar as-Sa'adah: "The scholars are the best of people after the Prophets and Messengers."

Because they have **clarity, insight, and deep understanding** of who Allah is, what He loves and hates, and how to worship Him, they possess the most **khashyah**—awe and fear of Allah.

8. All Creation Seeks Forgiveness for the Scholar

The Prophet ﷺ said: "Everything in the heavens and the earth seeks forgiveness for the scholar, even the fish in the sea."

While the regular Muslim may only be remembered by his family or community, the **Scholar is remembered and honored by all creation**—because he carries the knowledge that guides creation to its Lord.

9. The Angels Lower Their Wings

In another authentic narration, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: "The Angels lower their wings for the seeker of knowledge, being pleased with what he is doing."

This honor is not restricted to the scholar or advanced student. **Every person who seeks to learn the Religion of Allah sincerely**—even if attending one weekly class—is honored by the purest of Allah's creation.

10. The Prophetic Way is Upon Knowledge

Allah said:

"Say: This is my way; I call to Allah upon sure knowledge (baseerah)..." (Surah Yusuf 12:108)

Calling to Allah without knowledge is **not the Prophetic way**. Whether in da'wah, correction, or leadership, **every step must be upon clarity, insight, and knowledge**—as was the way of the Messenger ﷺ.

Conclusion: The Time to Seek Knowledge is Now

We live in a time of confusion, misguidance, and numerous false callers. The **only safeguard** for the heart and soul is **authentic knowledge** grounded in the Qur'an, Sunnah, and the understanding of the Salaf.

Let us be from those who:

- Attend Salafi study circles regularly,
- Be from those who learn and teach the Qur'an,
- Study the books of Hadith, Fiqh, Tafsir,
- And honor the inheritors of the Prophets: our scholars.

May Allah preserve our scholars and guide us to the light of knowledge, and make us among those whom He wants good for. Ameen.