

## The best of you is the one who learns the Qur'an and teaches it<sup>1</sup>

Ibn Rajab al-Hanbali رحمه الله said: "The meaning of 'the best of you' is the best in status and reward before Allah. It is those who engage sincerely in learning the Qur'an, memorizing it, understanding its meanings, and teaching it to others. This noble pursuit is one of the highest acts of worship because the



Qur'an is the Speech of Allah and the greatest source of guidance."2

Ibn al-Qayyim رحمه الله said: "The best among the Muslims are those who occupy themselves with the Qur'an: learning it, reflecting on it, implementing its rulings, and teaching it. The excellence of this is due to the Qur'an being the source of light and guidance, and those who convey it to others become inheritors of the Prophets."

Shaykh Ibn Baz رحمه الله said: "This hadith clarifies the high status of the one who dedicates himself to the Qur'an, both in learning and teaching. Such a person is foremost in reward and virtue. It encourages Muslims to engage

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Narrated by 'Uthman ibn 'Affan رضى الله عنه, Sahih al-Bukhari 5027

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Jami' al-'Ulum wa al-Hikam, vol. 2, p. 392

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> I'lam al-Muwaqqi'in, vol. 1, p. 226

actively with the Qur'an, not merely passively hearing it, but making it a means of knowledge and dawah."<sup>4</sup>

Shaykh al-Albani رحمه الله said: "This hadith is authentic and highlights the importance of the Qur'an in the life of a Muslim. The superiority mentioned refers to the position in the sight of Allah for those who learn the Qur'an deeply and then teach it sincerely to others."

Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal رحمه الله said: "The excellence of a person is by his connection to the Book of Allah. Those who engage with the Qur'an — learning and teaching it — are the best of people."

Ibn al-Jawzi رحمه الله said: "Engagement with the Qur'an, whether by learning or teaching, is a sign of the sincere believer. The best of people are those who make the Qur'an their companion and guide others to it."

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Salih al-'Uthaymeen رحمه الله said: "The hadith indicates that the highest virtue among the people is for the one who is engaged with the Qur'an, both learning and teaching it, because this brings benefit to oneself and others."

Ibn al-Mundhir حصه الله said: "Those who memorize and teach the Qur'an hold the highest ranks among the righteous, for they preserve and spread Allah's Book."9

Shaykh Saalih al-Fawzan رحمه الله said: "The best people in this Ummah are those who learn the Qur'an and then teach it to others. This is because they carry the light of guidance and spread it among the people."

Ibn Taymiyyah رحمه الله said: "The excellence of the one who learns and teaches the Qur'an is due to his close connection to the Book of Allah and his effort in spreading the guidance contained within it." <sup>10</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Majmu' al-Fatawa, 9/271

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Silsilat al-Ahadith as-Sahihah, no. 3370

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Reported in Al-Musnad, vol. 1, p. 170

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Talbis Iblis, p. 214

<sup>8</sup> Sharh Rivadh as-Salihin, vol. 1, p. 229

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Al-Targhib wa al-Tarhib, hadith 4226

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Maimu' al-Fatawa, 22/412