

Day of Al Furqan, 17th of Ramadan

يَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ التَّقْوَى، وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّنا نَعِيشُ فِي أَيَّامٍ عَظِيمَةٍ مِنْ شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ، هَذَا الشَّهْرِ الَّذِي جَعَلَهُ اللَّهُ مَوْسِمًا لِلإِيمَانِ وَالْمَغْفِرَةِ، وَفِيهِ أَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ الْقُرْآنَ هُدًى لِلنَّاسِ، وَفِيهِ لَيَالٍ هِيَ أَعْظَمُ لَيَالِي الدَّهْرِ

يَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، فِي مِثْلِ هَذِهِ الأَيَّامِ مِنْ رَمَضَانَ، نَتَذَكَّرُ يَوْمًا عَظِيمًا فِي تَارِيخِ الإِسْلَامِ،

يَوْمًا سَمَّاهُ اللَّهُ -يَوْمَ الْفُرْقَانِ، يَوْمًا فَرَّقَ اللَّهُ فِيهِ بَيْنَ الْحَقِّ وَالْبَاطِلِ، وَبَيْنَ النُّورِ وَالظُّلْمَةِ، قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى: ﴿وَمَا أَنْزَلْنَا عَلَى عَبْدِنَا يَوْمَ الْفُرْقَانِ يَوْمَ التَّقَى الْجَمْعَانَ﴾

كَانَ ذَلِكَ يَوْمَ بَدْرٍ، حِينَ خَرَجَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ وَأَصْحَابُهُ وَهُمْ قَلَّةٌ فِي الْعَدَدِ، وَلَكِنَّهُمْ عِظَامٌ فِي الإِيمَانِ... ثَلَاثِمِائَةٍ وَبِضْعَةَ عَشَرَ رَجُلًا، بِلا عُدَّةٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، وَلا جَيْشٍ عَظِيمٍ، وَلا أَسْلِحَةٍ مُتَقَدِّمَةٍ، يُوَاجِهُونَ جَيْشًا قَرِيبًا مِنَ الأَلْفِ مِنَ الْكُفَّارِ، وَلَكِنَّ الْقُلُوبَ كَانَتْ مُتَعَلِّقَةً بِاللَّهِ، وَالْأَرْوَاحُ مُلْتَجِئَةً إِلَى رَبِّهَا، وَقَفَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ فِي لَيْلَةِ بَدْرٍ رَافِعًا يَدَيْهِ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ، يَدْعُو رَبَّهُ بِدُعَاءٍ تَهْتَرُّ لَهُ الْقُلُوبُ، وَيَقُولُ: "اللَّهُمَّ إِنْ تَهْلِكْ هَذِهِ الْعِصَابَةُ لَا تُعْبَدُ فِي الأَرْضِ"....

فَنَزَلَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ... فَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ الْمَلَائِكَةَ، وَثَبَّتَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ، وَكَتَبَ لَهُمُ النَّصْرَ فِي يَوْمٍ لَا يُنْسَى، يَوْمٍ سَجَّلَهُ التَّارِيخُ، وَسَجَّلَهُ الْقُرْآنُ...

يَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ بَدْرًا تُعَلِّمُنَا، أَنَّ النَّصْرَ لَيْسَ بِالْعَدَدِ، وَلا بِالقُوَّةِ الدُّنْيَوِيَّةِ فَقَطْ، وَلَكِنَّهُ بِالصِّدْقِ مَعَ اللَّهِ، وَبِالتَّوَكُّلِ عَلَيْهِ وَهُمَا أَصْلَانِ لِقُوَّةِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ فِي كُلِّ زَمَانٍ وَمَكَانٍ.

وَفي هَذِهِ اللَّيَالِي نَتَذَكَّرُ، أَنَّ أَعْظَمَ مَعْرَكَةٍ فِي حَيَاةِ المُسْلِمِ لَيْسَتْ مَعْرَكَةُ السَّيْفِ، وَلَكِنَّهَا مَعْرَكَةُ الْقَلْبِ، مَعْرَكَةُ الثَّبَاتِ عَلَى طَاعَةِ اللَّهِ...

O servants of Allah, fear Allah as He deserves to be feared.

We are living through the blessed days of Ramadan.

A month Allah made a season of faith and forgiveness.

A month in which the Qur'an was revealed as guidance for mankind.

And within it are the greatest nights of the entire year.

O servants of Allah, in these days of Ramadan we remember a great day in Islamic history.

A day Allah Himself called the Day of Criterion, the day of Al Furqan, the day of Distinction, the 17th of Ramadan...

The day when truth and falsehood were separated.

The day when light and darkness were distinguished.

The day the believers were victorious over their enemies.

Allah says:

“And what We sent down to Our servant on the Day of Criterion, the day the two armies met.”

The army of the believers that was about 300 companions, and the army of the kuffar that were over one thousand soldiers...

That day was the Battle of Badr.

The Prophet ﷺ and his companions went out few in number, but immense in faith.

Just over three hundred believers. Outnumbers 3 to 1...

With little weaponry, hardly any armor, any horses, little to nothing to protect themselves, and no massive army.

Facing nearly a thousand soldiers.

Yet their hearts were attached to Allah. Their bodies and limbs ready to submit to the Prophet Muhammad's commands...

Their souls relied completely upon Allah.

On the night of Badr the Prophet ﷺ stood raising his hands to the sky. He supplicated with a prayer that shakes the heart.

He said: "O Allah, if this small group is destroyed, You will not be worshipped on earth."

Allah responded:

إِذْ تَسْتَغِيثُونَ رَبَّكُمْ فَاسْتَجَابَ لَكُمْ أَنِّي مُمِدُّكُم بِأَلْفٍ مِّنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ مُرَدِّفِينَ ٩

‘Remember’ when you cried out to your Lord for help, He answered, “I will reinforce you with a thousand angels— followed by many others.”

And then the help of Allah descended from the heavens.

Allah sent down the angels to aid the believers in battle.

He strengthened the believers.

He granted them victory on a day never forgotten.

A day recorded in history.

A day preserved in the Qur'an.

O servants of Allah, we learn from the battle of Badr that took place on this exact same day of Ramadan, that true victory does

not come through large numbers and crowds of people, yelling and screaming in the streets, nor through worldly power, technology, and weapons alone.

Rather true victory comes through submitting to Allah completely, depending upon him alone, relying upon Him first and foremost, while having certainty that His aid will come to us if we are sincere in our hearts and actions.. Submitting to Him alone and relying upon him first and foremost are the two foundational sources of strength for the believers in all times and places.

Brothers and sisters in Islam, In these nights of Ramadan we should remember that the greatest battle in a believer's life here in Frederick is not the battle of swords.

Rather, for us it is the battle of the heart. The struggle to remain steadfast in obedience to Allah. The struggle to pray on time. The struggle to not be influenced negatively and immorally by the surroundings and society we live in. Our battle on this 17th day of Ramadan is a battle and fight against one's nafs (soul), and the whisperings of shaytaan and his allies.

May Allah give us strength to be victorious on this 17th day of Ramadan as the companions were during the Battle of Badr. May Allah aid us against all of our enemies, those apparent and inapparent.

الْحُطْبَةُ الثَّانِيَّةُ

يَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، وَنَحْنُ نَقْتَرِبُ مِنَ الْعَشْرِ الْأَوَاخِرِ، فَإِنَّا نَقْتَرِبُ مِنْ أَعْظَمِ لَيَالِي الْعَامِ،
 اللَّيَالِي الَّتِي كَانَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ يَجْتَهِدُ فِيهَا اجْتِهَادًا عَظِيمًا، وَيُوقِظُ أَهْلَهُ،
 وَيُحْيِي اللَّيْلَ بِالْعِبَادَةِ فِيهَا لَيْلَةٌ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ، لَيْلَةٌ تَنْزَلُ فِيهَا الْمَلَائِكَةُ،
 لَيْلَةٌ تُفْتَحُ فِيهَا أَبْوَابُ الرَّحْمَةِ، وَيُغْفَرُ فِيهَا لِمَنْ قَامَهَا إِيمَانًا وَاحْتِسَابًا، فَلَا تَغْفُلُوا
 عَنْهَا... يَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، لَعَلَّ هَذَا آخِرُ رَمَضَانَ فِي حَيَاتِنَا، وَلَعَلَّ هَذِهِ اللَّيَالِي آخِرُ فُرْصِنَا،
 فَأَقْبِلُوا عَلَى اللَّهِ بِقُلُوبٍ خَاشِعَةٍ، وَأَعْيُنٍ بَاكِئَةٍ، وَنُفُوسٍ مُتَوَاضِعَةٍ

O servants of Allah, as we approach the last ten nights,
 we are approaching the greatest nights of the year.

The Prophet ﷺ exerted himself intensely during these nights.

He would wake his family

and revive the nights with worship.

Within them is a night better than a thousand months.

A night in which angels descend.

A night when the doors of mercy open.

A night in which sins are forgiven for those who stand in prayer
 with faith. Nights that Allah frees people from the Hellfire.

So do not neglect it.

O servants of Allah, perhaps this Ramadan may be our last.

Perhaps these nights are our final opportunities.

Turn to Allah with humble hearts, with eyes that shed tears,
and with souls full of devotion.

يَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، فِي بَدْرِ رَفَعَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ يَدَيْهِ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ، وَاسْتَعَاثَ بِرَبِّهِ بِقَلْبٍ مُخْلِصٍ
مُضْطَرِّ، فَفَتَحَ اللَّهُ أَبْوَابَ السَّمَاءِ وَأَنْزَلَ الْمَلَائِكَةَ نُصْرَةً لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ، وَكَانَ ذَلِكَ يَوْمَ
الْفُرْقَانِ، وَالْيَوْمِ، وَنَحْنُ نَقْتَرِبُ مِنْ لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ، تَنْزِلُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ مَرَّةً أُخْرَى بِأَمْرِ رَبِّهِمْ،
لَا لِمَعْرَكَةِ السُّيُوفِ، بَلْ لِمَعْرَكَةِ الْقُلُوبِ، فَمَنْ صَدَقَ مَعَ اللَّهِ فِي دُعَائِهِ كَمَا صَدَقَ أَهْلُ
بَدْرِ، فَإِنَّ رَبَّ بَدْرِ هُوَ رَبُّ لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ...

O servants of Allah, on the day of Badr the Prophet ﷺ raised his
hands to the sky, calling upon his Lord with a sincere and
desperate heart.

Allah opened the gates of the heavens, and angels descended
to support the believers.

That was the Day of Criterion, the day of the battle of Badr.

Today, as we approach the Night of Decree,

the angels descend once again by the command of their Lord—
not for the battle of swords, but for the battle of hearts.

Whoever turns to Allah with sincerity in supplication as the
people of Badr did, then the Lord of victorious day of Badr for
the believers is the same Lord of Laylat al-Qadr.

إِذْ تَسْتَغِيثُونَ رَبَّكُمْ فَاسْتَجَابَ لَكُمْ أَنِّي مُمِدُّكُمْ بِالْفِ مِّنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ مُرَدِّفِينَ ٩

‘Remember’ when you cried out to your Lord for help, He answered, “I will reinforce you with a thousand angels— followed by many others.”

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّ فِيْنَا قُلُوبًا أَثْقَلَتْهَا الذُّنُوبُ، وَأَعْيُنًا تَشْتَاقُ أَنْ تَبْكِيَ بَيْنَ يَدَيْكَ،
فَلَا تَجْعَلْنَا نَخْرُجُ مِنْ رَمَضَانَ إِلَّا وَقَدْ عَفَرْتَ لَنَا...

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا لَا نَدْرِي أُنْذِرُكَ رَمَضَانَ بَعْدَ هَذَا أَمْ لَا،
فَاخْتِمْ لَنَا هَذَا الشَّهْرَ بِرَحْمَةٍ وَمَغْفِرَةٍ وَعِثْقٍ مِنَ النَّارِ

اللَّهُمَّ إِنْ كُنَّا قَدْ أَحْسَنَّا فَتَقَبَّلْ مِنَّا،

وَإِنْ كُنَّا قَدْ قَصَّرْنَا فَتَجَاوِزْ عَنَّا،

فَإِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

اللَّهُمَّ بَلِّغْنَا لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ، وَاجْعَلْنَا فِيهَا مِنَ الْمُقْبُولِينَ، وَاعْفِرْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا أَجْمَعِينَ،
وَاصْرِ الْإِسْلَامَ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَصَلِّ اللَّهُمَّ عَلَى نَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ
أَجْمَعِينَ.

O Allah, among us are hearts weighed down by sins,
and eyes longing to weep before You.

Do not allow us to leave Ramadan except that You have forgiven
us.

O Allah, we do not know whether we will reach another Ramadan after this one or not.

So conclude this month for us with mercy, forgiveness, and freedom from the Fire.

O Allah, if we have done good, then accept it from us.

And if we have fallen short, then pardon us.

Indeed You are the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

O Allah allow us to reach Laylat al-Qadr.

Make us among those accepted on that night.

Forgive all our sins.

Grant victory to Islam and the Muslims.

And send peace and blessings upon our Prophet Muhammad.