

ALI 096: Themes from Sura al-Jumuah Session Seven

Verse 9 - Questions for Tadabbur

1. What is the significance of the special sanctity attached to the day of Friday? What are the benefits of the special prayer on that day?
2. What is the link between this verse and the verses before it? What would you say is the general theme of Sura al Jumuah?
3. What is Allah referring to when He says: *that is better for you if you knew?*
4. Ponder over the following words in the verse. Compare their usage in the cross reference verses and comment on their significance.

ذُرُوا	فَاسْعَوْ	نُودِيَ
leave	hasten	called

Cross references from other verses

(1) وَإِذَا نَادَيْتُمْ إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ اتَّخَذُوهَا هُزُوءًا وَلَعِبًا ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ قَوْمٌ لَا يَعْقِلُونَ

And when you call to prayer they make it a mockery and a joke; this is because they are a people who do not understand. (5:58)

(2) وَمَثَلُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا كَمَثَلِ الَّذِي يَنْعِقُ بِمَا لَا يَسْمَعُ إِلَّا دُعَاءً وَنِدَاءً صُمٌّ بُكْمٌ عُمْيٌ فَهُمْ لَا يَعْقِلُونَ

And the parable of those who disbelieve is as the parable of one who calls out to that which hears no more than a call and a cry; deaf, dumb (and) blind, so they do not understand (2:171)

(3) وَمَنْ أَرَادَ الْآخِرَةَ وَسَعَىٰ لَهَا سَعْيَهَا وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ فَأُولَٰئِكَ كَانَ سَعْيُهُمْ مَشْكُورًا

And whoever desires the hereafter and strives for it as he ought to strive and he is a believer; (as for) these, their striving shall surely be accepted. (17:19)

(4) وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّن مَّنَعَ مَسَاجِدَ اللَّهِ أَنْ يُذَكَّرَ فِيهَا اسْمُهُ وَسَعَىٰ فِي خَرَابِهَا

And who is more unjust than he who prevents (men) from the masjids of Allah, that His name should be remembered in them, and strives to ruin them? (2:114)

(5) وَزَكَرِيَّا إِذْ نَادَىٰ رَبَّهُ رَبِّ لَا تَذَرْنِي فَرْدًا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الْوَارِثِينَ

And Zakariya, when he cried to his Lord: O my Lord leave me not alone; and Thou art the best of inheritors. (21:89)

(6) وَقَالَ فِرْعَوْنُ ذَرُونِي أَقْتُلْ مُوسَىٰ وَلْيَدْعُ رَبَّهُ إِنِّي أَخَافُ أَنْ يُبَدِّلَ دِينَكُمْ أَوْ أَنْ يُظْهِرَ فِي الْأَرْضِ الْفَسَادَ

And Firon said: Let me alone that I may slay Musa and let him call upon his Lord; surely I fear that he will change your religion or that he will make mischief to appear in the land. (40:26)

Hadith on the importance of Salat al-Jumuah

1. Salat of Jumu`ah is Hajj for the poor; Every Friday there is a Hajj and `Umrah for you-- on Friday to go for the Jumu`ah prayers is Hajj and to wait after al-Jumu`ah for `Asr prayers is `Umrah.

Holy Prophet (s)

2. A Mu'min who goes for salat of Jumu`ah, God will lighten for him the fear of the Day of Judgment, and will instruct that the mu'min be sent to Jannat.

Holy Prophet (s)

3. Whosoever forsakes without any excuse the Friday prayers for three consecutive Fridays, God stamps on his heart the seal of a hypocrisy (nifaq).

Holy Prophet (s)

4. I guarantee that God will send to Jannat six kinds of people-- one of them is the one who goes for the Friday prayers, when he dies he goes to Jannat.

Imam Ali (a)

5. For every step a person takes towards the Friday prayers, God forbids the fire of Hell for him.

Imam as-Sdaiq (a)

