

Give Advice

In the name of Allah most Gracious most Merciful.

Thanks be to Allah Lord of the worlds. May peace and prayers be upon the best of all messengers.

A universal rule from the sunna soliciting the right and deterring the wrong. This week I will talk about Advice and its controls. We will look at the hadeeth narrated by Tameem ben Ose who said the prophet said: "Religion is advice" we asked: "Advice to who prophet of Allah?" He said: "To Allah honored and exalted, and to his book and to the messenger and Muslim Imams and the general Muslim". This hadeeth is considered by many scholars to be one of the bases of Islam. One scholar Mhmd ben Aslum said "this hadeeth is one quarter of the religion". It is one of the hadeeths from which we take our enlightenment and understandings.

The narrator of the hadeeth Tameem ben Ose Addary "تميم بن أوس الدّاري" was a Christian before he voluntary became a Muslim. The one who led him to Islam is the one-eyed False Messiah who was meant by Allah to be temptation to all man kind.

Tameem him self reported that the prophet said: "Religion is Advice". Which is that the entire religion can be summed up into an advice. Advice is repeated many times in both the Quran and in the prophets hadeeths. Some times Allah gives an advice to the general Muslim ommah and sometimes an advice is given specifically to the Muslim Imams. Some times Allah orders the Muslim rulers to give advice to the general Muslim population. All Muslims have a right upon the individual like your self. That is that you will advice them to what you know to be good. The prophet said: "The Muslim has six rights upon another Muslim." One of them he said "and if he asks you for advice is to advice him". The prophet was also reported saying: "three things a Muslim's heart will not hold treason and animosities against: perfecting work purely for Allah, giving advice to Muslim leaders and must remain a member of the group or society, for his call will include him as being a member of the group or society".

If one sticks to those three; one's heart will be good. The word advice in Arabic also means purity. Never be two-faced with anything you do. Even a worship act to Allah, if was meant to impress or influence some one

then it is not pure for Allah. If one has an ulterior motive to pray, or fast or pretend to be humble to Allah then his/her heart contains one of those characters.

The second point is providing advice to the Muslim leaders by writing to them or letting them know, soliciting right and deterring from wrong. Leaders here refer to a leader in a family, or a group or a country. Withholding an advice may lead to lack of action by the leaders and problems not being corrected.

The third is continuing being with the jamaa or the group or the society. An isolated individual Satan will find him/her easier to penetrate his/her heart and fill it with animosity towards the society. When something good comes to them, he wishes it didn't. Why? Because he/she no longer considers him self as one of them. If one considers himself one of the society, then he will like good to befall on to them in all matters. "His call will include him as a result"

Jareer ben Abdul-Allah said: "I made my pledge the prophet to do prayers, give charity and advising all Muslims". Advising any Muslim one meets in all matters of worldly life or other matters. The problem is in those who refuse advice especially in religious matter.

What is advice? One scholar Khattabi in a book of his: Advice is a statement or sentence with the intention of good for which it is given.

When given to Allah, it means advising to consider his oneness, to worship him, do his commandments, loving who he loves, supporting who supports him, disliking whom he dislikes, and hating all wrong acts towards Allah anywhere on earth.

Mhmed Nasr Maroozi said that Advice is classed as either an obligatory (which means one Must give) or Nafl or voluntary advice. The obligatory advice is to advice in matters concerning performing commands of Allah or deterring from what Allah forbids.

The voluntary advice is giving advice for matters of some interest to you. Not necessarily of what Allah has ordered but within the acceptable boundaries of Allah. But, if self motivated advice conflicts with a matter

that Allah loves then one would give priority to what Allah loves and the love for Allah to the love for one's self.

Advice to angles is to believe in them. When Allah says: "Allah brought (or sent) down his book . . .", the word "Sent" increaser our belief in Allah who did the sending. Belief in angels who were the medium who brought down the book, belief in what was brought down – the book, the Quran – and belief in the one who was brought down upon, the messenger."

Remember that all obligations upon a Muslim are preconditioned by the ability to do them. If one is unable to do some act may be due to sickness then they are pardoned for not doing so. But the obligation of giving advice is never lifted. For Allah says in surat Towbah: {There is no blame on those who are weak or ill or who find no resources to spend If they are sincere and true to Allah and his messenger. No ground can there be against the good-doers. And Allah is oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful. Nor is there blame on those who came to you to be provided with mounts, and when you said "I can find no mount for you" they turned back, while their eyes overflowing with tears of grief that they could not find anything to spend for Jihad}

This is a group of poor Muslims who did not have the mean to go out for Jihad, but yet they are sincere meaning with their advice. For that shows that providing the advice is not limited to the scholars but everyone is required to provide advice to Allah and the messenger.

Some times to provide an honest advice may involve talked bad of someone, which normally is not allowed in Islam. But providing advice in matters like marriage, one may talk of the bad characters of someone. For this is an advice to Allah and the messenger. One woman came to the messenger asking his advice when three men proposed to her. He told he that one of them is known for wife beating and advice against him, the other he said is a waster, who can keep no money, Mary the third one with goodness.