

MANNERS TO FOLLOW REGARDING DREAMS

Abu Huraira reported Allah's Messenger (peace be upon him) as saying:



When the time draws near (when the Resurrection is near) a believer's dream can hardly be false.



And the truest vision will be of one who is himself the most truthful in speech



for the vision of a Muslim is the forty-fifth part of Prophecy



and dreams are of three types: one good dream which is a sort of good tidings from Allah.



the evil dream which causes pain is from the Satan.



and the third one is a suggestion of one's own mind.



so if any one of you sees a dream which he does not like he should stand up and offer prayer and he should not relate it to people.'(1)

From the Qur'an

The Narrator

'Abd al-Raḥmān ibn Şakhr al-Dawsī al-Azdī of Yemen was better known by his appellation, Abu Hurayrah. This is what is best known about his name and his father's name. He embraced Islam in the year in which the Battle of Khaybar took place, i.e., Year 7 of the Hijri calendar. He remained close to the Prophet, eager to learn, and he accompanied the Prophet wherever he went. He was one of the best memorizers among the Prophet's companions and the one who narrated the largest number of hadiths. Al-Bukhari mentioned that more than eight hundred companions of the Prophet or those who belonged to the tābi'īn generation narrated hadiths from him. 'Umar ibn al-Khattāb appointed him as Governor of Bahrain. Later he returned to Madinah and devoted his time to narrating the Prophet's hadiths and educating people about their faith. He died in year 58 AH, 678 CE.

Summary

As the Day of Judgment draws near, the authenticity of the visions seen by Muslims increases. The more truthful a person's speech is, the more truthful their visions become. Righteous visions are one of the characteristics of prophethood. Visions can be categorized into three types: glad tidings from Allah, distress caused by Satan, and the reflection of one's own thoughts. If someone sees something in their dream that they dislike, they should perform ablution and pray for what they desire, without disclosing it to anyone, as it will not harm them.



¹ Related by Muslim (2263).

Message and Meaning



The Prophet (peace be upon him) informed us that as the Day of Judgment approaches, the visions of Muslims become more truthful, to the point where they are almost never false. A truthful vision holds great significance, as it is a remnant of prophethood. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said during his illness before his passing: "O people, there are no more glad tidings of prophethood except for righteous visions seen by a Muslim, or on behalf of a Muslim."



The most truthful in speech at that time will be the most truthful in visions. The sincere believer who seeks truthfulness in their speech will be blessed in this life and the hereafter. Just as they are truthful in their wakefulness, their dreams will also be truthful. This contrasts with the liar and the sinful, whose dreams are often a mixture and confusion.



Righteous visions are one of the characteristics of prophethood. Just as Allah, bestowed the Prophet (peace be upon him) with forty-five characteristics, righteous visions are one of them. The Prophet (peace be upon him) spent six months before receiving revelation, during which he would see visions that would come true like the breaking of dawn.



The Prophet (peace be upon him) then informed us that dreams can be categorized into three types. It can be a righteous vision that brings glad tidings and good from Allah, or it can be a vision that reveals some unseen news, which is a fruit of prophethood.



It can also be a dream from Satan, which causes distress and sadness to the person, such as nightmares, apparitions, and the like.



Or it can reflect one's own thoughts and desires, where a person sees in their dream what they hope to achieve in their wakefulness. For example, someone desiring wealth may dream that they have acquired wealth, and so on.



The Prophet (peace be upon him) then advised that if a Muslim experiences dreams or visions that sadden them, they should stand up, perform ablution, and pray to Allah as they wish. They should not disclose these dreams to anyone, as they will not harm them.

Implementation



The truthful visions are from the believers, and sometimes even disbelievers and sinners may see visions that accurately depict their meanings. However, the most truthful in visions are the believers who strive for truthfulness in their speech.



It is incumbent upon the believer to seek truthfulness in all aspects of their life, in both words and actions. When their life is upright, they will receive glad tidings in this world and the Hereafter.



Strive to embody one of the characteristics of the prophets, and when you embody truthfulness, you will be granted the characteristic of righteous visions.



Righteous visions are glad tidings from Allah, and the Prophet (peace be upon him) explained that Allah's saying, "For them are glad tidings in the worldly life" refers to righteous visions seen by a Muslim or on behalf of a Muslim.



The righteousness of a vision does not only mean it brings good news. It may also contain some unpleasant news, such as death, illness, or calamity that befalls oneself or one's family. The righteousness of a vision refers to its validity for interpretation.



If a Muslim sees a vision, they should seek the interpretation from knowledgeable individuals known for their piety and goodwill towards others. They should not disclose the vision to someone who dislikes or is an enemy.



Those who have the ability to interpret dreams may sit with people and interpret their visions, just as the Prophet (peace be upon him) used to do after the Fajr prayer. He would ask his companions, "Did anyone among you see a dream tonight?"



Beware of relying solely on your visions and becoming complacent in your actions. Instead, strive in acts of obedience and rejoice in the glad tidings that Allah has granted you.



Dreams that involve nightmares, horrors, and the like, and do not possess the characteristics of true visions, should not be interpreted. They are from Satan, who intends to weaken a person's faith and fill them with sadness and distress.



It is natural for a hungry person to dream of delicious food, a poor person to dream of wealth and treasures, and a student to dream of the outcome of their exams. All of these dreams are a result of the inner thoughts that occupy the mind in wakefulness.



If a Muslim sees something unpleasant in their dream, it is recommended for them to wake up and perform ablution, seek refuge in Allah, and not disclose the dream to anyone.



Among the etiquettes of the Prophet (peace be upon him) when he saw something disturbing in his dream was to seek refuge in Allah and to spit three times to his left side. He would also turn his body to the other side. He said, "If any one of you sees a dream that he dislikes, let him spit on his left side three times and seek refuge in Allah from the evil of Satan. Then, let him turn to the other side from which he was lying."

