**Khutbah on As-Sirat 10-14-2016**

Alhumdulillah, Alhumdulillahi Rabbil A’lamiin.

Brothers and sisters in Islam, Insha Allah, the topic for today’s khutbah is going to be about As-Sirat; The Bridge over the Hellfire.

When the lights went out, how many of us remembered Yawmul Qiyaama?

**Story of Ibn Al Mubarak.**

Al Qasim Ibn Muhammad said; “We used to travel with Ibn Al-Mabarak a lot, and I used to ask myself: “Why is this man (Ibn Al-Mubarak) better than us and famous among people? If he prays, we pray too; if he fasts, we fast too; if he performs Hajj, we perform Hajj too; and if he takes part in Jihad, we take part in Jihad too. But one day, we were on our way to ash-Sham (Syria) and, one night, we stayed in a house. We were having our dinner when suddenly the lamp went out. One of us went outside to look for oil to light the lamp. When he came back with the lamp, I saw the face and beard of Ibn al-Mubarak covered with tears, so I told myself; ‘Because of his fear of Allah, he is better than us; he started thinking about the Day of Judgement as soon as the light went out and the place became dark.”

\*\* Qaalallahu Ta A’la, fi Suratul Maryam, 19:71;

وَإِن مِّنكُمْ إِلاَّ وَارِدُهَا كَانَ عَلَى رَبِّكَ حَتْماً مَّقْضِيّاً - ثُمَّ نُنَجِّى الَّذِينَ اتَّقَواْ وَّنَذَرُ الظَّـلِمِينَ فِيهَا جِثِيّاً

There is not one of you but will pass over it (Hell); this is with your Lord, a decree which must be accomplished.) (72. Then We shall save those who had Taqwa. And We shall leave the wrongdoers in it, Jithiyya

**A Jew Asks About As-Sirat**

\*\* Imam Muslim has related;

أَنَّ ثَوْبَانَ، مَوْلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم حَدَّثَهُ قَالَ

Thauban, the freed slave of the Messenger of Allah (may peace be upon him), said:

كُنْتُ قَائِمًا عِنْدَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم فَجَاءَ حَبْرٌ مِنْ أَحْبَارِ الْيَهُودِ

While I was standing beside the Messenger of Allah (may peace be upon him) one of the rabbis of the Jews came

فَقَالَ السَّلاَمُ عَلَيْكَ يَا مُحَمَّدُ ‏‏

and said: Peace be upon you, O Muhammad.

فَدَفَعْتُهُ دَفْعَةً كَادَ يُصْرَعُ مِنْهَا

I pushed him back with a push that he was going to fall.

فَقَالَ لِمَ تَدْفَعُنِي

Upon this he said: Why do you push me?

فَقُلْتُ أَلاَ تَقُولُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ‏‏

I said: Why don't you say: O Messenger of Allah?

فَقَالَ الْيَهُودِيُّ إِنَّمَا نَدْعُوهُ بِاسْمِهِ الَّذِي سَمَّاهُ بِهِ أَهْلُهُ ‏‏

The Jew said: We call him by the name by which he was named by his family.

فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم ‏"‏ إِنَّ اسْمِي مُحَمَّدٌ الَّذِي سَمَّانِي بِهِ أَهْلِي ‏"‏ ‏‏

The Messenger of Allah (may peace be upon him) said: My name is Muhammad with which I was named by my family.

فَقَالَ الْيَهُودِيُّ جِئْتُ أَسْأَلُكَ ‏

The Jew said: I have come to ask you (something).

فَقَالَ لَهُ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم ‏"‏ أَيَنْفَعُكَ شَىْءٌ إِنْ حَدَّثْتُكَ ‏"‏ ‏‏

The Messenger of Allah (may peace be upon him) said: Should that thing be of any benefit to you, if I tell you that?

قَالَ أَسْمَعُ بِأُذُنَىَّ

He (the Jew) said: I will lend my ears to it.

فَنَكَتَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم بِعُودٍ مَعَهُ ‏.‏ فَقَالَ ‏"‏ سَلْ ‏"‏ ‏‏

The Messenger of Allah (may peace be upon him) drew a line with the help of the stick that he had with him and then said: Ask (whatever you like).

فَقَالَ الْيَهُودِيُّ أَيْنَ يَكُونُ النَّاسُ يَوْمَ تُبَدَّلُ الأَرْضُ غَيْرَ الأَرْضِ وَالسَّمَوَاتُ

Thereupon the Jew said: Where would the human beings be on the Day when the earth would change into another earth and the heavens too (would change into other heavens)?

فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم ‏"‏ هُمْ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ دُونَ الْجِسْرِ ‏"‏ ‏‏

The Messenger of Allah (may peace be upon him) said: They would be in darkness beside the bridge.

**The Bridge**

\*\* Imam Bukhari has related; Narrated Abu Huraira:

فَيُضْرَبُ الصِّرَاطُ بَيْنَ ظَهْرَانَىْ جَهَنَّمَ،

and As-sirat (a bridge) will be laid across Hell

فَأَكُونُ أَوَّلَ مَنْ يَجُوزُ مِنَ الرُّسُلِ بِأُمَّتِهِ،

and I (Muhammad) shall be the first amongst the Apostles to cross it with my followers.

وَلاَ يَتَكَلَّمُ يَوْمَئِذٍ أَحَدٌ إِلاَّ الرُّسُلُ،

Nobody except the Apostles will then be able to speak

وَكَلاَمُ الرُّسُلِ يَوْمَئِذٍ اللَّهُمَّ سَلِّمْ سَلِّمْ‏‏

and they will be saying then, 'O Allah! Save us. O Allah Save us.'

وَفِي جَهَنَّمَ كَلاَلِيبُ مِثْلُ شَوْكِ السَّعْدَانِ،

There will be hooks like the thorns of Sa'dan in Hell.

هَلْ رَأَيْتُمْ شَوْكَ السَّعْدَانِ ‏"‏‏.‏ قَالُوا نَعَمْ‏.‏

Have you seen the thorns of Sa'dan?" The people said, "Yes."

قَالَ ‏"‏ فَإِنَّهَا مِثْلُ شَوْكِ السَّعْدَانِ، غَيْرَ أَنَّهُ لاَ يَعْلَمُ قَدْرَ عِظَمِهَا إِلاَّ اللَّهُ،

He said, "These hooks will be like the thorns of Sa'dan but nobody except Allah knows their greatness in size

تَخْطَفُ النَّاسَ بِأَعْمَالِهِمْ،

and these will entangle the people according to their deeds;

فَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يُوبَقُ بِعَمَلِهِ،

some of them will fall and stay in Hell forever;

وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يُخَرْدَلُ ثُمَّ يَنْجُو،

others will receive punishment (torn into small pieces) and will get out of Hell,

حَتَّى إِذَا أَرَادَ اللَّهُ رَحْمَةَ مَنْ أَرَادَ مِنْ أَهْلِ النَّارِ،

till when Allah intends mercy on whomever He likes amongst the people of Hell,

**How People Will Cross**

\*\* Imam Bukhari has related; Narrated Abu Sa'id Al-Khudri:

Then the bridge will be laid across Hell." We, the companions of the Prophet said, "O Allah's Apostle! What is the bridge?'

He said, "It is a slippery (bridge) on which there are clamps and (Hooks like) a thorny seed that is wide at one side and narrow at the other and has thorns with bent ends. Such a thorny seed is found in Najd and is called As-Sa'dan.

Some of the believers will cross the bridge as quickly as the wink of an eye, some others as quick as lightning, a strong wind, fast horses or she-camels. So some will be safe without any harm; some will be safe after receiving some scratches, and some will fall down into Hell (Fire). The last person will cross by being dragged (over the bridge)."

عَنْ أَبِي سَعِيدٍ الْخُدْرِيِّ،

الْمُؤْمِنُ عَلَيْهَا كَالطَّرْفِ وَكَالْبَرْقِ وَكَالرِّيحِ وَكَأَجَاوِيدِ الْخَيْلِ وَالرِّكَابِ، فَنَاجٍ مُسَلَّمٌ وَنَاجٍ مَخْدُوشٌ وَمَكْدُوسٌ فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ، حَتَّى يَمُرَّ آخِرُهُمْ يُسْحَبُ سَحْبًا،

Some of the believers will cross the bridge as quickly as the wink of an eye, some others as quick as lightning, a strong wind, fast horses or she-camels. So some will be safe without any harm; some will be safe after receiving some scratches, and some will fall down into Hell (Fire). The last person will cross by being dragged (over the bridge)."

**As-Sirat is Thinner Than A Hair…**

\*\* Imam Muslim has related; It is narrated on the authority of Abu Sa'id al-Khudri:

عَنْ أَبِي سَعِيدٍ الْخُدْرِيِّ

قَالَ أَبُو سَعِيدٍ بَلَغَنِي أَنَّ الْجِسْرَ أَدَقُّ مِنَ الشَّعْرَةِ وَأَحَدُّ مِنَ السَّيْفِ ‏

Abu Sa'id said: I have come to know that the bridge would be thinner even than the hair and sharper than the sword;

**The Prophet (pbuh) Will Make Dua for Us**

\*\* Imam Muslim has related; Hudhaifah and Abu Hurairah (May Allah bepleased with them) reported that they heard Messenger of Allah (PBUH) saying,

"Allah will assemble mankind, and the believers will stand till Jannah will be brought near them.

They will then go to Adam (PBUH) and say, `O our father, ask (Allah (SWT), that Jannah may be opened for us, but he will reply: `There was nothing that put you out of Jannah except your father's sin. I am not the one to do that, go to my son Ibrahim (Abraham), the beloved man of Allah.'

Then Ibrahim (PBUH) when approached, will say: `I am not the one to do that, for I was only a friend; and that is not a lofty status but ask Musa (Moses) to whom Allah spoke.'

They will then go to Musa (PBUH) but he will say: `I am not the one to do that; go to `Isa (Jesus), Allah's Word and spirit.' `Isa (PBUH) will say: `I am not the one to do that.'

So they will come to me; and I will stand and be given permission.

Amanah (Trusts) and Ties of relationship will be sent forth and will stand on the sides of the Sirat (that is, the bridge set over Hell-fire) **right** and **left**, and the first of you will pass like lightning.''

I said (that is Abu Hurairah (May Allah be pleased with him)" :I ransom you with my father and mother, what is like the movement of lightning?''

The Messenger of Allah replied, "Have you not seen how the lightning goes and returns in the twinkling of an eye?

Next (group will pass) like the passing of the breeze,

next like the passing of a bird,

and the next with the speed of a running man, **according to the quality of their deeds.**

(During all this time) your Prophet (PBUH) will remain standing on the bridge saying: `**O my Rubb, keep (them) safe, keep (them) safe,'**

till men's deeds are so weak that a man comes who will be able only to crawl.

On both sides of the bridge pronged flesh hooks, placed under command will be hung and will seize those about whom they receive command,

some people being lacerated and escaping and others being thrown violently into Hell.'

' Abu Hurairah added: By Him in Whose Hand Abu Hurairah's soul is, the pit of Jahannam (Hell) is seventy years in depth.

**[Muslim].**

**Aqullukawlihatha, wa astaghfirullaha li wa lakum.**

Alhumdulillahi Rabbil Alamiin, was salaatu was salaamu ala Muhammad, wa ala alihi, was as-habihi, wa man tabiahum bi ihsan ila yawmidiin, amabad.

\*\* Qaalallahu Ta A’la, fi Suratul Hadid, 57:12,

يَوْمَ تَرَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَـتِ يَسْعَى نُورُهُم بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَبِأَيْمَـنِهِم بُشْرَاكُمُ الْيَوْمَ جَنَّـتٌ تَجْرِى مِن تَحْتِهَا الاٌّنْهَـرُ خَـلِدِينَ فِيهَا ذَلِكَ هُوَ الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيمُ

On the Day you shall see the believing men and the believing women -- their light running forward before them and in their right hands. Glad tidings for you this Day! Gardens under which rivers flow (Paradise), to dwell therein forever! Truly, this is the great success!)

As reported from `Abdullah bin Mas`ud:

يَسْعَى نُورُهُم بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ

(their light running forward before them), he said, "They will pass over the Sirat according to their deeds.

Some of them will have a light as **large as a mountain**,

some **as a date tree**,

some **as big as a man in the standing position**.

The least among them has **a light as big as his index finger**, it is lit at times and extinguished at other times.'' Ibn Abi Hatim and Ibn Jarir collected this Hadith.

Ad-Dahhak commented on the Ayah, "Everyone will be given a light on the Day of Resurrection. When they arrive at the Sirat, the light of the hypocrites will be extinguished. When the believers see this, they will be concerned that their light also will be extinguished, just as the light of the hypocrites was. This is when the believers will invoke Allah, `O our Lord! Perfect our light for us.''' Allah's statement,

وَبِأَيْمَـنِهِم

(and in their right hands.) Ad-Dahhak said: "Their Books of Records.'' As Allah said:

فَمَنْ أُوتِىَ كِتَـبَهُ بِيَمِينِهِ

(So whosoever is given his record in his right hand.) (71:17)

\*\* Qaalalahu Ta A’la, fi Suratul Al Imran, 3:31;

قُلْ إِن كُنتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِى يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ

*Say (O Muhammad to mankind): "If you (really) love Allah, then follow me (i.e. Muhammad), Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful*

**The Results of Our Preparations**

\*\* Qaalallahu Ta A’la, fi Suratul Baqarah (2:148)

فَاسْتَبِقُواْ الْخَيْرَتِ

“So hasten towards all that is good.”

Brothers and sisters, Allah has advised us to **hasten** towards all that is good, and we should pay attention to what He has told us. Allah has told us to **hasten**, to **hurry**, to move **quickly** towards all that is good. He didn’t tell us to take our time, or to put off doing good, until it’s convenient for us. Allah didn’t tell us to do good when we have **time**, or after we’ve accomplished our worldly goals. We should hasten towards doing good deeds, because none of us know when our time in this world is going to be done.

**What Saves From Punishment of As-Sirat**

\*\* Abu Dawud has related; Narrated Mu'adh ibn Anas:

عَنْ سَهْلِ بْنِ مُعَاذِ بْنِ أَنَسٍ الْجُهَنِيِّ،

عَنْ أَبِيهِ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صلى الله عليه وسلم قَالَ ‏"‏ مَنْ حَمَى مُؤْمِنًا مِنْ مُنَافِقٍ ‏"‏ ‏.‏ أُرَاهُ قَالَ ‏"‏

Anas (ra) said; The Prophet (ﷺ) said: If anyone guards a believer from a hypocrite,

بَعَثَ اللَّهُ مَلَكًا يَحْمِي لَحْمَهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ مِنْ نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ

Allah will send an angel who will guard his flesh on the Day of Resurrection from the fire of Jahannam.

وَمَنْ رَمَى مُسْلِمًا بِشَىْءٍ يُرِيدُ شَيْنَهُ بِهِ حَبَسَهُ اللَّهُ عَلَى جِسْرِ جَهَنَّمَ حَتَّى يَخْرُجَ مِمَّا قَالَ

But if anyone attacks a Muslim saying something by which he wishes to disgrace him, he will be restrained by Allah on the bridge over Jahannam till he is acquitted of what he said. Hasan.

**Get Full Light on Yawmul Qiyyaama**

\*\* [Jami` at-Tirmidhi](http://sunnah.com/tirmidhi) » [The Book on Salat](http://sunnah.com/tirmidhi/2) “ Buraidah Al-Aslami narrated that : the Prophet said: "Give glad tiding to those who walk to the ***Masajid*** in the dark; of a complete light on the Day of Resurrection." (Sahih)

عَنْ بُرَيْدَةَ الأَسْلَمِيِّ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صلى الله عليه وسلم قَالَ ‏

**"‏ بَشِّرِ الْمَشَّائِينَ فِي الظُّلَمِ إِلَى الْمَسَاجِدِ بِالنُّورِ التَّامِّ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ ‏"‏ ‏.**

Brothers and sisters, Allah has promised to give **light** to the believers who go the masjid to worship Him in the darkness. And we’re all going to need this light on Yawmul Qiyaama, so why not work for it now, while we can? This is from the reward that Allah reserves for those to leave the **comfort** of their homes to come to worship Him in the Masjid.

\*\* Qaalalahu Ta A’la, fi Suratul Al Imran, 3:133

وَسَارِعُواْ إِلَى مَغْفِرَةٍ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَجَنَّةٍ عَرْضُهَا السَّمَـوَتُ وَالاٌّرْضُ أُعِدَّتْ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ

*133. And march forth in the way (which leads to) forgiveness from your Lord, and for Paradise as wide as the heavens and the earth, prepared for the Muttaqin (the pious).)*

رَبَّنَا تَقَبَّلْ مِنَّآ إِنَّكَ أَنتَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ

رَبَّنَآ ءَاتِنَا فِى الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الاٌّخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ

رَبَّنَا لاَ تُزِغْ قُلُوبَنَا بَعْدَ إِذْ هَدَيْتَنَا وَهَبْ لَنَا مِن لَّدُنكَ رَحْمَةً إِنَّكَ أَنتَ الْوَهَّابُ

**Allahuma’ Eghfir Lil’ Muslimeena wal Muslimat, Wal Moumineena wal Mouminaat, Al-Ahya’ee minhum wal amwat, Innaka samee’un mujibul dawat**

**Inna Llaha wal malaikatahu yassalluna ala nabi, Ya ayuhaladhina amanu, sallu alaihi wa sallimu taslima.**

**Allahumma salli ala Muhammad, wa ala alli Muhammad, kama sallaita ala Ibrahima, wa ala ali Ibrahima**

**Allhuma barak ala Muhammad, wa ala ali Muhammad, kama barakta ala Ibrahima, wa ala ali Ibrahima, fil alamina innaka hamidun majid**