

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

A Short Reminder at a Walimah

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الحمد لله رب العالمين والصلاة والسلام على نبيه ورسوله محمد وعلى آله أما بعد:

In this special occasion, I want to give a short advice to the husband, wife, and all of those who are present about marriage based on the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of the Messenger (ﷺ).

Marriage and having a spouse is from the blessings of Allah. Allah says:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا

O mankind! Be dutiful to your Lord, Who created you from a single person (Adam), and from him (Adam) He created his wife [Hawwa (Eve)] [1:4]

And He says:

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ خَلَقَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا لِتَسْكُنُوا إِلَيْهَا وَجَعَلَ بَيْنَكُمْ مَوَدَّةً وَرَحْمَةً إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ
يَتَفَكَّرُونَ

And among His Signs is this, that He created for you wives from among yourselves, that you may find repose in them, and He has put between you affection and mercy. Verily, in that are indeed signs for a people who reflect [30:21]

And He says:

وَاللَّهُ جَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَزْوَاجِكُمْ بَنِينَ وَحَفَدَةً وَرَزَقَكُمْ مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ

And Allah has made for you wives of your own kind, and has made for you, from your wives, sons and grandsons, and has bestowed on you good provision [16:72]

With that in mind, I wanted to mention some advice that pertains to both spouses.

Both spouses should help one another in the good and obedience to Allah such as seeking knowledge, establishing the prayer, fasting, reciting the Quran etc. An example of that is the Hadith of Abu Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

رَحِمَ اللَّهُ رَجُلًا قَامَ مِنَ اللَّيْلِ فَصَلَّى وَآيَقَظَ امْرَأَتَهُ فَصَلَّتْ فَإِنْ أَبَتْ نَضَحَ فِي وَجْهِهَا الْمَاءَ رَحِمَ اللَّهُ امْرَأَةً قَامَتْ مِنَ اللَّيْلِ فَصَلَّتْ وَآيَقَظَتْ زَوْجَهَا فَإِنْ أَبَى نَضَحَتْ فِي وَجْهِهِ الْمَاءَ

May Allah show mercy to a man who gets up during the night and prays, who wakens his wife and she prays; if she refuses, he sprinkles water on her face. May Allah show mercy to a woman who gets up during the night and prays, who wakens her husband and he prays; if he refuses she sprinkles water on his face [Saheeh Sunan Abi Dawood no. 1450]

As for the wife, she should try her best to help her husband in becoming a better Muslim and drawing near to Allah. The Prophet (ﷺ) described the righteous wife as one who helps her husband in the affairs of the hereafter. It comes in the Hadith of Thawban (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

لِيَتَّخِذَ أَحَدُكُمْ قَلْبًا شَاكِرًا ، وَلِسَانًا ذَاكِرًا ، وَزَوْجَةً مُؤْمِنَةً ، تُعِينُهُ عَلَى أَمْرِ الْآخِرَةِ

Let one of you have a grateful heart, a tongue that remembers Allah, and a pious wife who helps him in the affairs of the hereafter [Saheehah no. 2176]

The same is expected from the husband.

For the husband, it is important that he treat his wife well. Allah tells us in the Noble Quran:

وَعَاشِرُوهُنَّ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ

And live with them honourably [4:19]

It also comes in the Hadith of Abu Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

اسْتَوْصُوا بِالنِّسَاءِ خَيْرًا فَإِنَّهُنَّ خُلِقْنَ مِنْ ضَلَعٍ وَإِنَّ أَعْوَجَ شَيْءٍ فِي الضَّلَعِ أَعْلَاهُ فَإِنْ ذَهَبَتْ تَقِيمُهُ كَسَرَتْهُ وَإِنْ تَرَكَتَهُ لَمْ يَزَلْ أَعْوَجَ فَاسْتَوْصُوا بِالنِّسَاءِ خَيْرًا

And I advise you to take care of the women, for they are created from a rib and the most crooked portion of the rib is its upper part; if you try to straighten it, it will break, and if you leave it, it will remain crooked, so I urge you to take care of the women." [Reported by Bukhari and Muslim]

Shaikh Ibn ul-'Uthaymeen rahimahullah said in explanation of this Hadith:

“It is not possible, no matter what the case is, to find a woman who is free from defects one hundred percent or who is favorable to the husband one hundred percent. However, as the Prophet (ﷺ) indicated, he benefits from her upon what she has of crookedness...” [Sharh Riyaadh as-Saliheen (3/117-118)]

And so we learn that a woman is not perfect and that she has flaws, the same way a man is not perfect and he has flaws too. He should not focus on her flaws, but look to the good in her and benefit from it. It comes in the version of the Hadith as reported by Muslim [no. 1467]:

فَإِنْ اسْتَمْتَعْتَ بِهَا اسْتَمْتَعْتَ بِهَا وَبِهَا عَوَجٌ

So if you wish to benefit by her, benefit by her while crookedness remains in her

It is inevitable that there will be some differences and arguments between the spouses. However, it should not lead the husband to hate his wife. A believing man should not hate a believing woman as comes in the Hadith of Abu Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

لَا يَفْرَكُ مُؤْمِنٌ مُؤْمِنَةً إِنْ كَرِهَ مِنْهَا خُلُقًا رَضِيَ مِنْهَا آخَرَ

A believing man should not hate a believing woman; if he dislikes one of her characteristics, he will be pleased with another [Muslim no. 1468]

Shaikh Ibn ul-'Uthaymeen rahimahullah said: **"If she treats you bad, for example, in the way she replies to you once, however she was good to you a lot, or she treated you bad one night, however she was good to you other nights or she was bad in dealing with children once, however she was good [with them] a lot [other times], then if your wife treats you bad do not look at the bad treatment at the present moment, but look at the past and the future. Judge with justice..."** [Sharh Riyaadh as-Saliheen (3/123)]

The husband should be fair in dealing with his wife and likewise the wife with her husband. She should not overlook the good he does towards her on account of one incident where he fell short.

Both spouses should give each other their rights and always remember to treat one another with respect and honor. If they differ in anything, they should return it to the Quran and Sunnah. Allah said:

فَإِنْ تَنَازَعْتُمْ فِي شَيْءٍ فَرُدُّوهُ إِلَى اللَّهِ وَالرَّسُولِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ ذَلِكَ خَيْرٌ وَأَحْسَنُ تَأْوِيلًا

(And) if you differ in anything amongst yourselves, refer it to Allah and His Messenger, if you believe in Allah and in the Last Day. That is better and more suitable for final determination[4:59]

And He said:

وَمَا اخْتَلَفْتُمْ فِيهِ مِنْ شَيْءٍ فَحُكْمُهُ إِلَى اللَّهِ

And in whatsoever you differ, the decision thereof is with Allah (He is the ruling Judge) [42:10]

By returning to the Book and the Sunnah, they can live a harmonious Islamic life.

Also, we advise that the husband and wife treat one another with mercy and leniency because if Allah wants good for a people of a household, He puts leniency among them. It comes in the Hadith of Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her):

فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ إِذَا أَرَادَ بِأَهْلِ بَيْتٍ خَيْرًا أَدْخَلَ عَلَيْهِمُ الرَّفْقَ

For verily, if Allah wants good for a people of a household, He enters leniency upon him [Saheeh Targheeb no. 2669]

We ask Allah to bless our brother's marriage and we congratulate him in the manner the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) taught us:

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لَكَ، وَبَارَكَ عَلَيْكَ، وَجَمَعَ بَيْنَكُمَا فِي خَيْرٍ

"May Allah bless for you (your spouse) and bless you, and may He unite both of you in goodness."

وَأَخِرُ دَعْوَانَا أَنْ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

***** End of Speech *****