

# The Rank of Prayers in Islam

## 1. The Special Rank of Prayers

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ (ص): أَوَّلُ مَا افْتَرَضَ اللَّهُ عَلَى أُمَّتِي الصَّلَوَاتُ الْخَمْسُ وَأَوَّلُ مَا يُرْفَعُ مِنْ أَعْمَالِهِمُ الصَّلَوَاتُ الْخَمْسُ وَأَوَّلُ مَا يُسْأَلُونَ عَنْهُ الصَّلَوَاتُ الْخَمْسُ.

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him and his progeny) said: “The first thing that Allah made obligatory upon my Ummah was the five prayers; and the first thing from their acts of worship that shall be taken up will be the five prayers; and the first thing that they will be questioned about will be the five prayers.”

Kanzul `Ummal, Volume 7, Tradition 18859

## 2. The Pillar of Religion

عَنْ أَبِي جَعْفَرٍ (ع) قَالَ: بُنِيَ الْإِسْلَامُ عَلَى خَمْسٍ عَلَى الصَّلَاةِ وَالزَّكَاةِ وَالصَّوْمِ وَالْحَجِّ وَالْوَلَايَةِ.

Imam Al-Baqir (peace be upon him) has said: “Islam has been founded and established on five things: Prayers, Zakat, Hajj, Sawm (Fasting) and Wilayah.”

Biharul Anwar, Volume 82, Page 234

## 3. The Parable of Prayers

عَنْ أَبِي جَعْفَرٍ (ع) قَالَ: الصَّلَاةُ عَمُودُ الدِّينِ مِثْلُهَا كَمِثْلِ عَمُودِ الْفُسْطَاطِ إِذَا ثَبَتَ الْعَمُودُ ثَبَتَ الْأَوْتَادُ وَالْأَطْنَابُ وَإِذَا مَالَ الْعَمُودُ وَانْكَسَرَ لَمْ يَنْبُتْ وَتَدُّ وَلا طَنْبُ.

Imam Al-Baqir (peace be upon him) has said: “The prayer is the pillar of religion and its parable is that of the prop of a tent – when the prop remains upright, the pegs and ropes remain straight and upright, but when the prop bends or breaks neither the pegs nor ropes remain straight.”

Biharul Anwar, Volume 82, Page 218

## 4. A Means of Salvation

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ (ص): خَمْسُ صَلَوَاتٍ مَن حَافِظٌ عَلَيْهِنَّ كَانَتْ لَهُ نُورًا وَ بُرْهَانًا وَ نَجَاةً يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ.

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him and his progeny) said: “One who adheres to the five (daily) prayers diligently, they shall be a means of illumination and salvation for him on the Day of Judgment.”

Kanzul `Ummal, Volume 7, Tradition 18862

## 5. Illumination of the Heart

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ (ص): صَلَاةُ الرَّجُلِ نُورٌ فِي قَلْبِهِ فَمَنْ شَاءَ مِنْكُمْ فَلْيُنَوِّرْ قَلْبَهُ.

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him and his progeny) has said: “The prayer of a person is (in reality) a light in his heart, so whoever desires, can illuminate his heart (by means of prayers).”

Kanzul `Ummal, Volume7, Tradition 18973

## 6. A Measure of Acceptance of Deeds

قَالَ الصَّادِقُ (ع): أَوَّلُ مَا يُحَاسَبُ بِهِ الْعَبْدُ الصَّلَاةُ فَإِنْ قُبِلَتْ قُبِلَ سَائِرُ عَمَلِهِ وَإِذَا رُدَّتْ رُدَّ عَلَيْهِ سَائِرُ عَمَلِهِ.

Imam As-Sadiq (peace be upon him) has said: “The first thing for which a person shall be subjected to reckoning is prayers. If they are accepted, all his other deeds shall (also) be accepted. But if rejected, all his other deeds shall (also) be rejected.”

Wasa'ilush Shi'a, Volume 3, Page 22

## 7. The Conduct of the Prophets

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ (ص): أَلصَّلَاةُ مِنْ شَرَائِعِ الدِّينِ وَ فِيهَا مَرْضَاةُ الرَّبِّ عَزَّ وَ جَلَّ وَ هِيَ مِنْهَاجُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him and his progeny) said: “The prayer is one of the (primary) dictates of religion, in it lies the pleasure of the Lord, the Mighty and the Glorious, and it is the conduct of the Prophets.”

Biharul Anwar, Volume 82, Page 231

## 8. The Standard of Islam

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ (ص): عَلِمَ الْإِسْلَامُ الصَّلَاةَ فَمَنْ فَرَّغَ لَهَا قَلْبَهُ وَحَافِظَ عَلَيْهَا بِحَدِّهَا وَوَقْتِهَا وَسُنَنِهَا فَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ.

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him and his progeny) said: “The prayer is the standard of Islam. Whosoever loves prayers, and observes their limits, timings and methods, is a true believer.”

Kanzul `Ummal, Volume 7, Tradition 18870

## 9. The Benefits of Prayers

قَالَ الصَّادِقُ (ع): إِنَّ مَلَكَ الْمَوْتِ يَدْفَعُ الشَّيْطَانَ عَنِ الْمُحَافِظِ عَلَى الصَّلَاةِ وَيُلْقِنُهُ شَهَادَةَ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَأَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ فِي تِلْكَ الْحَالَةِ الْعَظِيمَةِ.

Imam As-Sadiq (peace be upon him) has said: “Surely the Angel of Death repels Satan from the proximity of one who had adhered to and guarded his prayers, and makes him speak out the testimony of ‘There is no God except Allah and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah’ during that terrifying and frightening state (of death).”

Wasa'ilush Shi'a, Volume 3, Page 19

## 10. Prayers and Children

عَنِ الْبَاقِرِ (ع) قَالَ: إِنَّا نَأْمُرُ صِبْيَانَنَا بِالصَّلَاةِ إِذَا كَانُوا بَنِي خَمْسِ سِنِينَ فَمُرُوا صِبْيَانَكُمْ بِالصَّلَاةِ إِذَا كَانُوا بَنِي سَبْعِ سِنِينَ.

Imam Muhammad Al-Baqir (peace be upon him) advised: “We command our children to offer prayers when they are five years old, so you too order your children to offer prayers (but only) when they are seven years of age.”

Wasa'ilush Shi'a, Volume 3, Page 12

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