

## FRIDAY SPEECH SUMMARY Dec 26, 2008

**Speaker:** Imam Mohamad Mwafak Algalaieni, PhD.

**Question:** Can we intercede with our good deeds to ask Allah for favors?

**The Answer is:** Yes, it is permitted to intercede with our good deeds to ask Allah for favors.

**Proof:** The story of the three men locked in a cave.

Ibin Omar (may Allah be pleased with him) said, the Prophet (peace be upon him) said. Three men from previous nations took off on a journey. During their journey they encountered heavy rain so they took shelter in a cave. When they got ready to continue their journey, they found that a big rock had shifted and sealed shut the only exit from the cave. They knew they couldn't move the rock so they decided to ask Allah for help.

The first man said, "Oh Allah - I have old parents and I've always provided milk for them before my own family. One day I was late coming back so when I got home my parents were asleep. I hated to wake them to feed them and I hated to feed my family before my parents had some. So I waited until the next morning when they woke up and had some milk first, even though my kids were crying from hunger. Oh Allah if I did this for your sake only, I'm asking you now to move the rock and let us out of this cave." The rock shifted open a little but not enough for any of them to get out.

The second man said, "Oh Allah, I have a cousin that I loved her more than anyone else could love a women. I asked her to sleep with me but she refused. After a few years, she had a financial hardship, so she offered herself to me if I'd agree to give her one hundred and twenty gold Dinars. I agreed, but just when I was about to sleep with her she told me to fear Allah and not to do this unless she is legally rightful for me. So I did not touch her and gave her the money and left, even though she is the most beloved person to my heart. Oh Allah, if I did this for your sake only, I'm asking you now to move the rock and let us out of this cave." The rock shifted open a little more but not enough for any of them to get out.

The third person said, "Oh Allah, one day I hired laborers and when they completed their work I paid them their wages except for one who left before collecting his wages. So, I invested it for him. Years later he came back and said, Oh servant of Allah give me my wages. I said, all you see from camels, cows, and sheep is yours from your wages. He said, oh servant of Allah, don't joke with me. I told him that I was not joking, so he took the entire livestock and did not leave anything behind. Oh Allah, if I did this for your sake only I'm asking you now to move the rock and let us out of this cave." The rock shifted to open completely and they got out of the cave. Narrated by Bukari & Muslim.

Oh servants of Allah, when we reflect on this great story we can see that those three men remembered and feared Allah during the prosperous times, Allah helped them during their time of hardship. Allah said "And whoever keeps his duty to Allah, Allah will appoint a way out for him" 65:2. "And provides for him from sources he has not expected" 65:3. "And whoever keeps his duty to Allah; he will make his course easy for him" 65:4.