



**Islamic Religious Council of Singapore**  
**Friday Sermon**

**11 February 2022 / 9 Rejab 1443H**

**Patience and Resilience in Facing Challenges**

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي هَدَانَا لِهَذَا وَمَا كُنَّا لِنَهْتَدِيَ لَوْلَا أَنْ هَدَانَا اللَّهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ  
لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ،  
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.  
أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَنَفْسِي بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ،  
فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

**My Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Islam,**

Let us work towards increasing our *taqwa* of Allah (s.w.t.) by obeying all His commands and avoiding all His prohibitions. May all our good deeds allow us to attain His pleasure and reward. Amin.

**Brothers and Sisters,**

Last week, we talked about the virtue of gratitude as exemplified by Prophet Sulaiman (a.s.). Today, let us reflect

upon the virtues of patience and resilience in facing challenges, as demonstrated by Prophet Ayyub (a.s.).

### **Brothers and Sisters,**

Prophet Ayyub (a.s.) was a prophet who was blessed by Allah (s.w.t.) with great wealth and luxuries that never made him arrogant. In fact, he used his wealth to help others, and he showed his gratitude by constantly being in the remembrance of Allah (s.w.t.).

One day, Allah (s.w.t.) tested Prophet Ayyub (a.s.) by taking away his wealth, his children, and he was afflicted with a long-term illness. However, Prophet Ayyub (a.s.) never once blamed Allah (s.w.t.). Instead, he bore these hardships with patience and resilience. This resilience of his was documented in his supplication to Allah (s.w.t.):

❁ وَأَيُّوبُ إِذْ نَادَىٰ رَبَّهُ أَنِّي مَسَّنِيَ الضُّرُّ وَأَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ الرَّاحِمِينَ ﴿٨٣﴾

Which means: *“And (remember) Ayyub when he called to his Lord: ‘(O Lord), indeed hardship has afflicted me, and You are the Most Merciful of the merciful’.”* (Surah al-Anbiya’: 83)

## Brothers and Sisters,

Let us ponder upon the reaction displayed by Prophet Ayyub (a.s.) when he was greatly tested. He did not once blame his Lord for his distress, and he remained patient and resilient even as he lived through his challenges. In fact, he praised Allah (s.w.t.) and confided in Him about his pain and suffering. This is because Prophet Ayyub (a.s.) was certain that the mercy of Allah (s.w.t.) was greater than anything else in the world.

Such were the etiquette and manners displayed by Prophet Ayyub (a.s.). He faced his challenges with patience and resilience. Allah (s.w.t.) then praised him for those virtues, and granted him a great reward, as documented in Surah Sad verse 43:

وَوَهَبْنَا لَهُ أَهْلَهُ وَمِثْلَهُم مَّعَهُمْ رَحْمَةً مِنَّا وَذِكْرَىٰ لِّأُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ ﴿٤٣﴾

Which means: *“And We returned to him (Ayyub) his family, and doubled their number, as a mercy from Us, and as a reminder for those who understand.”*

## Brothers and Sisters,

This story about Prophet Ayyub provides us with several important lessons. These include the fact that no matter how great someone's challenges may be, there will certainly be an

ending and closure. Keep in mind that this life is like the turning of a wheel. Even though at times it may seem like we are stuck at the bottom, there will always be solutions to our challenges and hardships. Thus, it is important for every Muslim to continue to work hard when facing those challenges, and to never give up and quit, as the term “quitting” is not a Muslim’s vocabulary.

Therefore, we should continue to perform good deeds to the best of our abilities, even when being tested. We need to understand that Allah tests us all differently, in proportion to each individual’s limits that have been determined by Him. Certainly, Allah is the Most Just and Most Wise in dispensing His challenges to his servants.

Lastly, let us continue to think well of Allah (s.w.t.) and believe in the wisdom and silver lining behind every challenge we face. Our Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.) said, which means: *“And let not any of you (Muslims) die, except that he is in a state whereby he believes the best of Allah (s.w.t.).”* (Hadith narrated by Imam Muslim)

May Allah (s.w.t.) constantly guide us in finding our way out of every challenge, by granting us patience and resilience throughout our lives. Amin. Ya Rabbal ‘Alamin.

أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَ أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَ لَكُمْ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ

الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

## Second Sermon

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ حَمْدًا كَثِيرًا كَمَا أَمَرَ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ  
وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ  
وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ  
وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ تَعَالَى  
فِيمَا أَمَرَ، وَانْتَهُوا عَمَّا نَهَاكُمْ عَنْهُ وَزَجَرَ.

أَلَا صَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى النَّبِيِّ الْمُصْطَفَى، فَقَدْ أَمَرَنَا اللَّهُ  
بِذَلِكَ حَيْثُ قَالَ فِي كِتَابِهِ الْعَزِيزِ: إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ  
عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا  
تَسْلِيمًا. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى  
آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ.

وَارْضَ اللَّهُمَّ عَنِ الْخُلَفَاءِ الرَّاشِدِينَ الْمَهْدِيِّينَ أَبِي بَكْرٍ  
وَعُمَرَ وَعُثْمَانَ وَعَلِيٍّ، وَعَنْ بَقِيَّةِ الصَّحَابَةِ وَالْقَرَابَةِ  
وَالتَّابِعِينَ، وَتَابِعِي التَّابِعِينَ، وَعَنَّا مَعَهُمْ وَفِيهِمْ بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا  
أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ  
وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ. اللَّهُمَّ ادْفَعْ عَنَّا  
الْبَلَاءَ وَالْوَبَاءَ وَالزَّلَازِلَ وَالْمِحْنَ، مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا وَمَا بَطَنَ،  
عَنْ بَلَدِنَا خَاصَّةً، وَسَائِرِ الْبُلْدَانِ عَامَّةً، يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ.  
رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً، وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً، وَقِنَا عَذَابَ  
النَّارِ.

عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَاءِ ذِي  
الْقُرْبَى، وَيَنْهَى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ، يَعِظُكُمْ

لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ، فَادْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ، وَاشْكُرُوا عَلَى  
نِعْمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ، وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِكُمْ، وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ،  
وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ.