

Para 2.25 to 3.5

Resume Surah al-Baqarah from verse 177 to Surah al-Imran verse 20.

Follow the outward and inward commandments of Allah

هَلَيْسَ الْبِرَّ أَنْ تُوَلُّوا وُجُوهَكُمْ قِبَلَ الْمَشْرِقِ وَالْمَغْرِبِ وَلَكِنَّ الْبِرَّ مَنْ ءَامَنَ بِاللَّهِ
وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَالْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالْكِتَابِ وَالنَّبِيِّينَ وَءَاتَى الْمَالَ عَلَى حُبِّهِ ذَوِي الْقُرْبَى
وَالْيَتَامَى وَالْمَسْكِينِ وَأَبْنَ السَّبِيلِ وَالسَّائِلِينَ وَفِي الرِّقَابِ وَأَقَامَ الصَّلَاةَ وَءَاتَى الزَّكَاةَ
وَالْمُوفُونَ بِعَهْدِهِمْ إِذَا عَاهَدُوا وَالصَّابِرِينَ فِي الْبَأْسَاءِ وَالضَّرَّاءِ وَحِينَ الْبَأْسِ أُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ
صَدَقُوا وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُتَّقُونَ ﴿١٧٧﴾

Righteousness is not merely that you turn your faces towards the East or the West (in the prayer), but true righteousness is of that person who believes in Allah, and the Last Day, and the angels and the books and the Prophets; and who gives away his valued wealth in the love of Allah to the relatives, and the orphans, and the needy, and the travellers; and the beggars, and towards the freeing of slaves; and who establishes the prayer and pays the prescribed charity; and who fulfil their promises when they make them; and who are patient in adversity, and hardship, and struggle. They are the ones who are truthful; and they are the ones who are God-fearing.

In this verse, Allah says true righteousness is not simply facing the prayer direction and performing the apparent actions, rather it lies in following all His commandments and fulfilling the inner objectives.

The objective of fasting is God-fearingness

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ
تَتَّقُونَ ﴿١٨٣﴾

O you who believe! Fasting has been prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may become God-fearing.

We are consoled by knowing we are not the only ones who have been commanded to fast. Similarly, in Ramadan we are comforted knowing that people around us are also experiencing hunger and thirst like us. Also, the greater objective of fasting is to attain God-fearingness.

Excellence of the last two verses of Surah al-Baqarah

The Prophet ﷺ said: “The last two verses of Surah al-Baqarah are such treasures of Allah’s mercy that they hold within them the success of this world and the hereafter.” [Mishkat al-Masabih]

“Learn the last two verses of Surah al-Baqarah, teach them to your spouse and children, for these two verses hold the same value as *salah*, Qur’an and dua.” [Shu’ab al-Iman]

“The last two verses of Surah al-Baqarah have been granted to me from the treasure (of special mercies) that is beneath the divine throne, and this is such an exalted favour that was not given to any other Prophet.” [Musnad Ahmad]

ءَامَنَ الرَّسُولُ بِمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ كُلُّ ءَامِنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلِئَتْهُ وَكُتِبَ لَهُ
وَرُسُلِهِ لَا نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ أَحَدٍ مِّن رُّسُلِهِ وَقَالُوا سَمِعْنَا وَأَطَعْنَا غُفْرَانَكَ رَبَّنَا وَإِلَيْكَ

الْمَصِيرُ ﴿٢٨٥﴾

The (noble) Messenger believes in that (book) which was revealed to Him from His Lord, and the believers (also believe). All of them believe in Allah, and His angels, and His books, and His Messengers; (and further state that) “We do not differentiate between any one of His Messengers.” And they said: “We hear and we obey. We seek Your forgiveness, our Lord! And to You we are to return.”

لَا يُكَلِّفُ اللَّهُ نَفْسًا إِلَّا وُسْعَهَا لَهَا مَا كَسَبَتْ وَعَلَيْهَا مَا اكْتَسَبَتْ رَبَّنَا لَا
تُؤَاخِذْنَا إِنْ نَسِينَا أَوْ أَخْطَأْنَا رَبَّنَا وَلَا تَحْمِلْ عَلَيْنَا إَصْرًا كَمَا حَمَلْتَهُ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِنْ
قَبْلِنَا رَبَّنَا وَلَا تُحَمِّلْنَا مَا لَا طَاقَةَ لَنَا بِهِ وَاعْفُ عَنَّا وَارْحَمْنَا أَنْتَ مَوْلَانَا
فَانصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ ﴿٢٨٥﴾

Allah does not make a person responsible for more than he can bear. Whatever good he has earned, he will reap its benefit, and whatever bad he has committed, he will suffer its harm. “O our Lord! Do not take us to task if we forget or make a mistake. O our Lord! And do not place a heavy burden upon us like what You placed upon those before us. O our Lord! And do not place a burden upon us to bear which we do not have the strength. And pardon us; and forgive us; and have mercy upon us. You are our Master; help us against the unbelieving people.”

When Jibril would recite these words, the Prophet ﷺ would say: “Amin ya Rabba’l-alamin. O Lord of all the worlds! Accept the supplication I have made.” [al-Durr al-Manthur]

Surah Al Imran (Chapter 3: The Family of Imran). Madinan. 200 Verses. Over 3 Paras.

The Prophet ﷺ said: “Recite Surah al-Baqarah and Surah Al Imran (they are chapters of reward and radiance), for they will come on the Day of Judgement as clouds (providing shade over the people) or they will come as flocks of birds and will reason and argue on behalf of those who recited them. And they will not allow the angels of Hell to go near them.” [Sahih Muslim]

Imran was a pious man. He was the father of Sayyidah Maryam and grandfather of Sayyiduna Isa. His wife and the mother of Sayyidah Maryam was called Hunnah.