

Dear reader,

## Opportunities for Goodwill

“Seize the opportunities for goodwill for they pass away like the passing clouds,” says Amir Al Mu’mineen Ali (Peace be upon him). Bountiful are the blessings and great are the precious opportunities Allah Al Mighty bestows on his servants who are loyal in their faith and look forward to receive statuses close to Allah Al Mighty. They are opportunities for goodwill and true Godly blessings. None can comprehend their importance and criticality whether in achieving the true sublimity and perfection of man in this life or in determining his fate when he stands before Allah Al Mighty in the Hereafter except he who realizes their significance, experiences their influence, and gets ready for the great rewards that Allah Al Mighty prepared for those who take the initiative to seize them. Imam Ali says: “Seize the opportunity before it turns into an agony”.

Though the opportunities of goodwill in all its forms and fields are available at all times for those who wish to supply themselves with, Allah Al Mighty, for his extremely comprehensive mercy, has elected specific times such as Fridays, the religious holidays, and whole months – the Holy Months of Rajab, Shaaban, and Ramadan – and put them ahead other months and days for their supreme status. Allah Al Mighty had encouraged us to spend these days and nights in various and diversified deeds of goodwill that bring us closer to Him. He generously doubled the rewards of those who work industriously in them. He presented Prophet Mohammad and his Household (Peace be upon them) as clear practical samples which must be followed to benefit absolutely from these months, days, hours, and the special Islamic occasions that come during these months. In these sacred months, we are invited to exert every effort possible to follow these examples as they perform these rescuing deeds and track their steps to reach the content of Allah Al Mighty and to cultivate and perfect ourselves. Allah Al Mighty says: {And take a provision for the journey, but the best provision is piety} (al- Baqarah 2: Verse 197). Imam Hassan (Peace be upon him) also says: “The believer gets supplied, while the disbeliever enjoys”.

Still we are always in need for the support of Allah Al Mighty to have a degree of purity of the spirit and the mind and a degree of wisdom and patience. We are in a dire need for that in these difficult circumstances we are passing through. Our countries and nations are afflicted with kinds of ordeals and seditions that cause wherever they hit more and more destruction, atrocities, and horrible catastrophes. Still, all of these tragedies have not sufficed the criminal tack of the owners of the derailed Takfiri intellect.

Before this painful status, we can’t but appreciate and bless the wise and courageous stances and orientations taken by the wise religious authorities to address as much as possible these hard challenges; their calls are answered with much zeal by the owners of goodwill and faithful souls.

Noor al Islam