

September 15, 2006 Sermon:

GOD's Commands are a Sacred Duty

I seek refuge in ALLAH from satan the rejected.
In the name of ALLAH, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

All of the commands listed and mentioned in the Quran, supercede all previous scriptures and commands. Why does God ask us to fast in Ramadan? It is one of the commands, and all the commands are mandatory for all believers. They have to be carried out as a "sacred duty."

33:38 (Part of Vs.) **GOD's command is a sacred duty.**

Revealed: The Allah letters are 8, my name letters are 9, **the diff. is 1** – The commands from ALLAH are now clarified through the "ultimate revelations" and all believers and followers of the Scripture are commanded to uphold them. The marking of such an important verse through the "Revelation of 1" confirms the message. Note another verse on the same subject:

12:21 (Part of Vs.) **GOD's command is always done.**

Revealed: The Allah letters are 9, and my letters are 8, **the diff. is 1** – This reflects on the Absoluteness of ALLAH, whose commands are always done, whether the people realize it or not; whether the people like it or not. God's scheming is formidable – His commands are issued and explained through His messengers. The sincere believers eagerly wait to carry them out.

You are requested to read the sermons of October 7 and 14, 2005 on the same subject; this is in addition to those sermons. Let me recite the verses on fasting again for you:

2:183 O you who believe, fasting is decreed for you, as it was decreed for those before you, **that you may attain salvation.**

2:184 Specific days (are designated for fasting); if one is ill or traveling, an equal number of other days may be substituted. Those who can fast, but with great difficulty, may substitute feeding one poor person for each day of breaking the fast. If one volunteers, it is better. But fasting is the best for you, if you only knew.

2:185 Ramadan is the month during which the Quran was revealed, providing guidance for the people, clear teachings, and the statute book. **Those of you who witness this month shall fast therein.** Those who are ill or traveling may substitute the same number of other days. God wishes for you convenience, not hardship, that you may fulfill your obligations, and to glorify God for guiding you, and to express your appreciation.

2:187 Permitted for you is sexual intercourse with your wives during the nights of fasting. They are the keepers of your secrets, and you are the keepers of their secrets. God knew that you used to betray your souls, and He has redeemed you, and has pardoned you. Henceforth, you may have intercourse with them, seeking what God has permitted for you. You may eat and drink until the white thread of light becomes distinguishable from the dark thread of night at dawn. Then, you shall fast until sunset. Sexual intercourse is prohibited if you retreat to the masjid.

These are God’s laws; you shall not transgress them. God thus clarifies His revelations for the people, that they may attain salvation.

The laws of God come with a firm stamp and seal, to warn the distorters and the corruptors. They are highlighted above in verse 2:187, being the end of the command.

2:187 (Part of Verse) These are God’s laws; you shall not transgress them.

GV of Allah letters is $133 = 7 \times 19$ or $133 = 19 \times 7$

(Part of Verse) God thus clarifies His revelations for the people, that they may attain salvation.

GV of Allah letters is $228 = 19 \times 12$ GV of my letters is $608 = 19 \times 32$;

*** This portion of the verse is also marked with **19 letters of my name**, glory be to my Lord.

Both Parts Combined: The GV of Allah letters is $133 + 228 = 361 = 19 \times 19$

2:187 (Part of Verse) These are God’s laws; you shall not transgress them.

2:187 (Part of Verse) God thus clarifies His revelations.

Revealed: my name letters are 9 and 8, **the diff. is 1**

Both Parts Combined: The Allah letters are 16, and my letters are 17, **the diff. is 1**

Part of Verse: God thus clarifies His revelations.

Part of Verse: That they may attain salvation.

Revealed: The Allah letters are 7 and 6, **the diff. is 1**

Revealed: my name letters are 8 + 11, **the sum is 19.**

The first verse - **2:183**, and the last verse – **2:187**, end the same way by reminding the believers, that they can attain salvation by upholding God’s commands; one of them is by “fasting.” But the only condition of upholding the commands according to God is: “that there should be no change made to them, either in the script or by interpretation,” except as authorized by God through His messengers. The subject matter given in these 4 verses is important, and should be read carefully to fully understand them. But I will try to make it easy for you to understand, by God’s leave. To get to this point, you have to first shun all human traditions and conjecture of all kinds.

Ending Parts of Command: **2:183** “That you may attain salvation.” (La’ala’kum Tattaqoon)

2:187 “That they may attain salvation.” (La’ala’hum Yattaqoon)

Proven Salvation: The Allah letters are 2 and 3, **the diff. is 1**

my name letters are 6 and 7, **the diff. is 1**

These proofs establish the fact and confirm the truth – that the messenger is an essential part of the System of God, in translating and interpreting the verses and the commands for you. This is the sole reason that God has created and inspired the “**Revelation of 1**” with my name letters in all important, essential, and relevant verses and words. The above words are the essence of this command and have therefore been clarified, through the “Revelation of 1.” The main reason for fasting and for observing all commands of God is to be redeemed by Him in the Hereafter, so that our souls may attain salvation - by being spared the retribution of Hell. It has

now been proven that:

*** The command for fasting is for the believers (O you who believe, 2:183)

*** The leader and guiding teacher of the believers is the messenger.

*** The Test from God takes place under the “one congregation” whose charge is given to a messenger. The ones in this congregation are called the believers.

*** The messenger witnesses the month of Ramadan, and the believers witness along with him.

*** The messenger announces the start and finish of the month of Ramadan.

*** Those who are ill can fast an equal number of other days, beside the month of Ramadan.

*** Those who are traveling and are not present in the messenger’s congregation, can also fast an equal number of other days, beside the month of Ramadan.

*** Those who have difficulty in fasting (as the days may be too long, or for health reasons) can feed one poor person for each day of missing the fast.

*** God has wished convenience for the people, and not hardship.

*** The purpose of fasting and for carrying out the commands, is to fulfill your obligations under the Covenants; and to glorify God for guiding you to be believers; and finally to express your appreciation for having guided you.

The command to fast is for those who witness this month (**2:185**), and these are **the believers (227)**, as we shall find out. The GV of the words “**to witness – Shahedaa**” is **309**, and for “**the month – Al-Shahar**” is **536**; the difference between them is **227**. This represents the value of “**the believers – Al-Muhmineen,**” for whom the laws of God are designed, and they are the ones who believe in upholding the laws of God.

God does not command you to witness the moon. If the sky is covered by clouds, or the hills block your view, you could not witness the moon anyway. Therefore, God has purposely left out witnessing the moon. **Instead, you are supposed to witness the month.** The 9th month is Ramadan, being one of the 12 calendar months. To witness a particular month, like Ramadan, means you have to witness the remaining months as they roll by, to know and realize that this specific month has arrived. A believer has to stay aware and conscious of each day of their life, and be observant and appreciative of God’s signs in the skies, on earth, and around you. To prepare for the Hereafter means that you have to prepare each day of your life, and not just a few days of your choosing. Just like you are conscious of the months from January through December; similarly, **you should be conscious and aware of the Islamic Calendar months.** If you are unaware of God’s system of 12 calendar months, then you could not be aware of Ramadan either, nor could you witness it.

Another way to witness Ramadan is by observing the command of God – by fasting during this month. If you cannot fast, then you have to fast later, or feed the poor as stated in the verses. To enlighten you about Ramadan, and how to witness this month, I am going to recite some verses on the moon, as well as the sun, which have been created for a specific purpose.

2:189 (Part of Verse) They ask you about the phases of the moon! Say, “**They provide a timing device for the people,** and determine the time of Hajj.”

6:96 (Part of Verse) **And He rendered the sun and the moon to serve as calculation devices.** Such is the design of the Almighty, the Omniscient.

10:5 He is the One who rendered the sun radiant, and the moon a light, **and He designed its phases that you may learn to count the years and to calculate.** God did not create all this, except for a specific purpose. He explains the revelations for people who know.

14:33 He has committed **the sun and the moon in your service, continuously.** He has committed the night and the day to serve you.

These heavenly bodies created by God have a specific purpose - to provide a continuous system for the humans to calculate, determine the time of night and day, determine the beginning and ending of the months of the year, and to calculate the years. As the sun and the moon never deviate and stay in their orbits, they are continuous in providing the service to the humans. The knowledge has been given to the humans to calculate the months and the years ahead of time as well. Most of our information comes through the newspapers, T.V, computers, and other media, which belong to the disbelieving people; therefore, there is nothing wrong in verifying the information by observing the phases of the moon, and sighting the moon each month to see the change of the months as they progress. **The original source** of all calendar months and the timing system is based on God's creations of sun and the moon, the night and the day. It is however, difficult to sight the moon all the time because of the bright lights in the cities we live in, the terrain of the land, the obstruction caused by the trees, hills, the mountains, or it may be because of weather conditions. Though most of the information published is reliable, being based on scientific techniques – the believers still have to verify the information and not follow it blindly. All efforts made by the believers to verify the information, pleases God as you are fulfilling the Quranic command of **17:36**.

To remind the believers of the Islamic calendar months, I am going to list them for you.

1 st month	Muharram	2 nd month	Safar
3 rd month	Rabi 1	4 th month	Rabi 2
5 th month	Jumada 1	6 th month	Jumada 2
7 th month	Rajab	8 th month	Shabaan
9 th month	Ramadan	10 th month	Shawwal
11 th month	Zulkadah	12 th month	Zulhijjah

When it comes to witnessing - if everyone is allowed to witness on their own while there is a living messenger among you; and the believers come out with different opinions, the command cannot flow smoothly. This will create chaos and the system cannot work. Moreover, the religion breaks up into various sects, which is forbidden in the Quran. The words used by God in the verses are carefully designed to interlink them with the other verses in order to bring out a clear meaning. For example, the words – “for guiding you,” in 2:185 will link up to being a believer who follows the entire Quran without exceptions. The words – “O you who believe,” in 2:183 clearly link up and connect you to the believers who follow God's messengers. Similarly, I am going to show you the linkage of the word – “witness,” as verse 2:185 says: **“Those of you who witness this month shall fast therein.”** Let us find out the definition of the “**witness**” and of the “**witnesses.**”

85:3 The witness and the witnessed.

Revealed: The Allah letters are 3, and my letters are 4, the difference is 1 – this reveals the truth that I am appointed as a witness over the believers in my life, glory be to God.

33:45 O prophet, we have sent you as a witness, a bearer of good news, as well as a warner.

48:8 We have sent you (the messenger) as a witness, a bearer of good news, and a warner.

48:9 That you people may believe in God and His messenger, and reverence Him (God) and observe Him (God), and glorify Him (God) day and night.

Based on verse **48:9**, your belief in God is conditioned upon your belief in His messenger. By following this system, you can then show your reverence in His Absolute Authority, observe His laws and glorify Him day and night. This is a condition that is not waived for anyone, **and is the basis of Islam**. Here are some of the proofs.

48:8 We have sent you (the messenger) **as a witness**, a bearer of good news, and a warner.

Proof: The Allah letters are 8, and my name initials are 7, **the diff. is 1**

48:9 That you people may believe in God and His messenger.

Proof: The Allah letters are 8, and my name initials are 7, **the diff. is 1**

Proof: The **GV of my name letters are 296**, which is clearly the value of “messenger – rasool.”

The GV of Allah letters without taking the GV of the word “Allah” in the above verse, is marked to be **precisely 66** in the words: **(Lay’tu’maynoo** (Billah) **Wa Rasoolayhee)**

48:9 Part 1: That you people may believe in God and His messenger.

Part 2: And reverence Him, and observe Him, and glorify Him day and night.

Revealed: The Allah letters are 8 and 7, **the diff. is 1**

By taking both verses together, as they are linked to each other, the proof of God is as follows:

48:8-9 The **Allah letters** are 8 + 15, the sum is **23**, **my name letters** are 10 + 27, the sum is **37**, the difference between them is **14**, providing **Proof of the Seven Pairs**, confirming what I have stated, glory be to my Lord.

2:143 We thus made you an impartial community **that you (the believers) may serve as witnesses among the people, and the messenger serves as a witness among you.**

Revealed: The Allah letters are marked to be **19** – Praise be to Him.

22:78 You shall strive in the cause of God as you should strive for His cause. He has chosen you and has placed no hardship on you in practicing your religion – the religion of your father Abraham. He is the one who named you “muslims” originally. **Thus, the messenger shall serve as a witness among you, and you shall serve as witnesses among the people.** Therefore, you shall observe the Salat and give the Zakat, and hold fast to God; He is your Lord, the best Lord and the best Supporter.

Revealed: The Allah letters in this verse are marked to be **precisely 66** – be He glorified.

Note, that both verses 2:143 and 22:78 explain and mention “**the messenger to be the witness over his people**” and both verses are profoundly marked with **the Proofs of 19 and 66** – these numbers represent “**One – Waahed**” and “**Allah – God.**”

It is now proven that in the presence of a living messenger, the believers should not act on their own; rather they should follow the messenger’s directives in all affairs of the religion. The messenger will act as a witness over them on the Day of Judgment, when called upon by God. In the absence of a messenger, the believers should follow the teachings of the messenger under whose congregation they were in, until God sends them another messenger. To fast during Ramadan, they should witness all the months, and then witness the Ramadan by observing the fast or the substitute for the fast, as commanded in the Quran.

The purpose of fasting is dual – **it comes as a command and an act of worship**. It is one of the 5 essential beliefs and rites decreed by God. They are: Shahadah – Salat – Zakat – Seyaam – Hajj. **The second purpose of fasting is also given - to atone for your sins**. When you break your Covenant with God, a crime and a sin is committed. To erase this sin from your record, you have to atone for it, in the manner prescribed by God. Here are examples from some verses:

2:196 You shall observe the complete rites of Hajj and Umrah for God. If you are prevented, you shall send an offering, and do not resume cutting your hair until your offering has reached its destination. If you are ill, or suffering a head injury (and you must cut your hair), **you shall expiate by fasting**, or giving to charity, or some other form of worship. During the normal Hajj, if you break the state of Ihraam (sanctity) between Umrah and Hajj, you shall expiate by offering an animal sacrifice. **If you cannot afford it, you shall fast three days during Hajj and seven when you return home – this completes ten** – provided you do not live at the Sacred Masjid. You shall observe God, and know that God is strict in enforcing retribution.

4:92 No believer shall kill another believer, unless it is an accident. If one kills a believer by accident, he shall atone by freeing a believing slave, and paying a compensation to the victim’s family, unless they forfeit such a compensation as a charity. If the victim belonged to people who are at war with you, though he was a believer, you shall atone by freeing a believing slave. If he belonged to people with whom you have signed a peace treaty, you shall pay the compensation in addition to freeing a believing slave. If you cannot find a slave to free, **you shall atone by fasting two consecutive months, in order to be redeemed by God**. God is Knower, Most Wise.

5:95 O you who believe, do not kill any game during pilgrimage. Anyone who kills any game on purpose, his fine shall be a number of livestock animals that is equivalent to the game animals he killed. The judgment shall be set by two equitable people among you. They shall make sure that the offerings reach the Kabah. **Otherwise, he may expiate by feeding poor people, or by an equivalent fast to atone for his offense**. God has pardoned past offenses. But if anyone returns to such an offense, God will avenge it. God is Almighty, Avenger.

5:89 God does not hold you responsible for the mere utterance of oaths. He holds you responsible for your actual intentions. **If you violate an oath**, you shall atone by feeding ten poor people from the same food you offer to your own family, or clothing them, or by freeing a

slave. **If you cannot afford this, then you shall fast three days. This is an atonement for violating the oaths that you swore to keep. You shall fulfill your oaths.** God thus explains His revelations to you, that you may be appreciative.

This verse clarifies the reason for the punishments given to the believers so that they can atone for their sins, which they incur by violating their oaths with God. By taking the first part, which tells us that actual intentions matter rather than hollow utterances, and compare it with the last part, which tells us the reason why God has decreed these punishments, the “revelation of 1” is apparent, to prove the seriousness of God’s commands.

5:89 (Beginning of Verse) God does not hold you responsible for the mere utterance of oaths. He holds you responsible for your actual intentions.

5:89 (Ending of Verse) This is an atonement for violating the oaths that you swore to keep. You shall fulfill your oaths. God thus explains His revelations to you, that you may appreciate.

Revealed: The Aleefs (Absoluteness) are 9 and 8, **the diff. is 1**

Revealed: my name letters are 29 and 30, **the diff. is 1**

Revealed: The “ending part of the verse” is also marked with **Allah letters 19** – proving the reason for the atonement, which you incur by violating your oaths.

Note that the verses on fasting and the verses on atonement of sins end the same way:

2:187 God thus clarifies His revelations for the people, that they may attain salvation.

5:89 God thus explains His revelations to you, that you may be appreciative.

If you show reverence for God by appreciating His commands and carry them out sincerely and dutifully, then you can attain salvation. But if you disregard His commands and think they are not important; He then warns you with His attributes of Almighty and Avenger in 5:95.

Based on the lunar calendar, I hereby witness the month of Ramadan to start in North America on September 23, 2006 and will end on October 22, 2006 – Praise and glory be to God. The believers can now witness the month along with me, and carry out the command of fasting on these dates, while glorifying God. Those who cannot fast for whatever reason, and have no intention to fast later, should feed the poor as stated in the Quran. Maintain good hygiene during this month, as always, and watch out for your utterances. Righteous utterances are a must for the believers.

Those who live away from the messenger can look up the calendar for their cities and countries, and ask God for forgiveness. They can start fasting when the lunar calendar reveals the beginning of the month of Ramadan in their cities. If you happen to see the crescent moon for verification purposes, feel free to do so. But do not make your fasting conditioned on sighting of the moon. The moon may not be visible at all times, but the timing of the months is firm and fixed.

Peace be upon the messengers.

PRAISE BE TO ALLAH, LORD OF THE UNIVERSE.