

HADĪTH OF THE WEEK – WEEK TWENTY-SEVEN

On the authority of Mu‘ādh, the son of Jabal, may Allāh be pleased with him, who said:

I said, “O Messenger of Allāh, tell me of an act which will take me into the Orchard and will keep me away from the Fire.” He said, **“You have asked me about a great matter. Yet it is easy for him for whom Allāh makes it easy: worship Allāh without associating any partners with Him, establish the prayer, pay the zakāh; fast in Ramaḍān, and make the pilgrimage to the House.”** Then he said, **“Shall I not guide you towards the doors of what is good? Fasting is a shield. Charity distinguishes sin as water extinguishes fire and the praying of a man in the depths of the night.”** Then he recited: **“[Those] who forsake their beds, to invoke their Lord in fear and hope, and they spend (charity in Allah’s cause) out of what We have bestowed on them. No person knows what is kept hidden for them of joy as a reward for what they used to do. [32: 16-17]”** Then he said, **“Shall I not inform you of the head of the matter, its pillar, and its peak?”** I said, “Yes, O Messenger of Allāh.” He said, **“The head of the matter is ‘Islām, its pillar is the prayer, and its peak is jihād.”** Then he said, **“Shall I not tell you of the foundation of all of that?”** I said, “Yes, O Messenger of Allāh.” So he took hold of his tongue and said, **“Restrain this.”** I said, “O Prophet of Allāh, will we be taken to account for what we say with it?” He said, **“May your mother be bereaved of you, O Mu‘ādh! Is there anything that throws people into the Fire upon their faces—or he said: on their noses—except the harvests of their tongues?”**

It was related by at-Tirmidhiyy, who said it was a good and sound ḥadīth.