

In The Name of Allaah, The Most Merciful, The Bestower of Mercy.

Al-Haarith Al-Ash'ari [may Allaah be pleased with him] narrated that Allaah's Messenger [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him] said, "Allah commanded Yahya bin Zakariya to implement five commands and to order the Children of Israel to implement them, but Yahya was slow in carrying out these commands. Isa said to Yahya, 'You were ordered to implement five commands and to order the Children of Israel to implement them. So either order, or I will do it.' Yahya said, 'My brother! I fear that if you do it before me, I will be punished or the earth will be shaken under my feet.' Hence, Yahya bin Zakariya called the Children of Israel to Bayt Al-Maqdis (Jerusalem), until they filled the Masjid. He sat on the balcony, thanked Allah and praised him and then said, 'Allah ordered me to implement five commandments and that I should order you to adhere to them.

The first is that you worship Allah alone and not associate any with Him. The example of this command is the example of a man who bought a servant from his money with paper or gold. The servant started to work for the master, but was paying the profits to another person. Who among you would like his servant to do that Allah created you and sustains you. Therefore, worship Him alone and do not associate anything with Him.

I also command you to pray, for Allah directs His Face towards His servant's face, as long as the servant does not turn away. So when you pray, do not turn your heads to and fro.

I also command you to fast. The example of it is the example of a man in a group of men and he has some musk wrapped in a piece of cloth, and consequently, all of the group smells the scent of the wrapped musk. Verily, the odor of the mouth of a fasting person is better before Allah than the scent of musk.

I also command you to give charity. The example of this is the example of a man who was captured by the enemy. They tied his hands to his neck and brought him forth to cut off his neck. He said to them, 'Can I pay a ransom for myself' He kept ransoming himself with small and large amounts until he liberated himself.

I also command you to always remember Allah. The example of this deed is that of a man who the enemy is tirelessly pursuing. He takes refuge in a fortified fort. When the servant remembers Allah, he will be resorting to the best refuge from Satan.... (1)

Regarding the statement: **"I also command you to give charity. The example of this is the example of a man who was captured by the enemy. They tied his hands to his neck and brought him forth to**

cut off his neck. He said to them, 'Can I pay a ransom for myself' He kept ransoming himself with small and large amounts until he liberated himself". Imaam Abdul Azeez Bin Baaz [may Allaah have mercy upon him] said, "Charity has an amazing effect in repelling various types of afflictions, even from a sinful person or an oppressor, rather even from a disbeliever, because indeed Allaah [The Exalted] repels - by way of Charity - from him various types of afflictions. This is an affair that is well-known to the people. (2)

The Messenger [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him] said, **"Treat your sick by giving Sadaqah"**. (3) AbuBakr Al-Khubaaziy [may Allaah have mercy upon him] said, "I had a very dangerous illness, so a neighbour of mine saw me and said, 'Act upon the statement of Allaah's Messenger [sallal laahu alayhi wasallam], 'Treat your sick by giving Sadaqah'. It was summertime, so I bought many watermelons and gathered a group of poor people and children. They ate and then supplicated for me to be cured. By Allaah! I did not reach the next morning except that Allaah granted me wellbeing". (4)

[Ref 1: Refer to full hadeeth in Sunan Tirmidhee Number 2863. Declared authentic by Imaam Al-Albaanee in Saheeh Al-Jaami 1724]

[Ref 2: An Excerpt from Sharh Al-Waabilus Sayyib. page 37. Publisher: Daar al-Istiqamah. 1st Edition 1428AH (Year 2007)]

[Ref 3: Hadeeth declared Hasan by Imaam Albaani [rahimahullaah] in Saheeh Al-Jaami As-Sagheer Wa Ziyaadah 3358]

[Ref 4: Siyar A'laam An-Nubulaa 18/44]