

114586 - If someone has a wet dream but does not find any maniyy [semen], he does not have to do ghusl

the question

When I wake up from sleep straight after having a wet dream, I am certain that nothing came out of me, whether maniyy or madhiyy, but because of a great deal of waswaas [whispers from the Shaytaan; persistent intrusive thoughts], I examine the urethral sphincter, as if I can find something small inside it, and I squeeze the penis but nothing comes out, and I think it most likely that this is not maniyy. I experience this confusion regarding dreams only, as a result of your fatwa which says that everything that comes after a wet dream is usually maniyy. This is something that makes a person confused. Please advise me, may Allah reward you.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

If someone thinks that he had a wet dream, then he wakes up and does not find any wetness, he does not have to do ghusl, because of the report narrated by al-Bukhaari (130) and Muslim (313) from Umm Salamah, who said: Umm Sulaym came to the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) and said: O Messenger of Allah, Allah is not too shy to tell the truth. Does a woman have to do ghusl if she has an erotic dream? The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) said: "Yes, if she sees water (discharge of fluid)."

Ibn Qudaamah (may Allah have mercy on him) said in al-Mughni (1/130): If he thinks that he had a wet dream, but he did not find any maniyy, then he does not have to do ghusl. Ibn al-Mundhir said: All the scholars from whom I acquired knowledge are unanimously agreed on this... If he wakes up and sees maniyy, but does not remember having a wet dream, then he must do ghusl. We do not

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know of any difference of opinion concerning that either. Something similar to that was narrated from 'Umar and 'Uthmaan, and that was stated by Ibn 'Abbaas, 'Ataa', Sa'eed ibn Jubayr, ash-Sha'bi, an-Nakha'i, al-Hasan, Mujaahid, Qataadah, Maalik, ash-Shaafa'i, and Ishaaq, because what appears to be the case is that it was emitted during a wet dream, and he forgot. End quote.

If you do not find any maniyyah on your body or clothes, then you do not have to inspect the urethral sphincter; rather this is something that will provoke and strengthen waswasah [persistent intrusive thoughts].

Allah, may He be glorified and exalted, has not enjoined you to undertake this examination, whether after sleeping, or following urination. The teachings of Islam do not impose such difficulty on people. Allah, may He be exalted, says (interpretation of the meaning):

“and [Allah] has not placed upon you in the religion any difficulty”

[al-Hajj 22:78].

This cannot be understood from our fatwa.

Our advice is to stop doing that, and not pay any attention to the waswasah; you should remember Allah a great deal and obey Him, because this is the best remedy for waswasah. May Allah grant us and you well-being.

And Allah knows best.