

33663 - Can we say, “Praise be to Allaah besides Whom no one can be praised for that which is disliked”?

the question

Is it Sunnah to make du’aa’ if we are afflicted by calamity and say, “Praise be to Allaah besides Whom no one can be praised for that which is disliked”? I hear this du’aa’ a great deal, but I do not know whether it was proven to be from the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) or not.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allaah.

This du’aa’ was not narrated from the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him). What was narrated from the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) is that which was narrated by Ibn Maajah (3803) from ‘Aa’ishah who said: “When the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) saw something that he liked, he would say, ‘Al-hamdu Lillaah alladhi bi ni’matihi tatimm ul-saalihaat (Praise by to Allaah by Whose blessing good things happen).’ And if he saw something that he disliked he would say, ‘Al-hamdu Lillaahi ‘ala kulli haal (praise be to Allaah in all circumstances).’” Classed as hasan by al-Albaani in Saheeh Ibn Maajah.

Shaykh Ibn ‘Uthaymeen (may Allaah have mercy on him) said in Tafseer Juz’ ‘Amma (p. 127):

With regard to what some people say. “Praise be to Allaah besides Whom no one can be praised for that which is disliked”, this is contrary to that which is taught in the Sunnah. Rather you should say what the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “Al-hamdu Lillaahi ‘ali kulli haal (praise be to Allaah in all circumstances).” If you say, “Praise be to Allaah besides Whom no one can be praised for that which is disliked”, then you are in fact announcing that you dislike

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what Allaah has decreed for you, and this is not appropriate. Rather what you should do is to bear with patience that which Allaah has decreed for you, whether you like it or not, because the One Who has decreed it is Allaah, may He be glorified. He is your Lord and you are His slave; He is your Owner and you belong to Him. If Allaah is the One Who has decreed for you something that you dislike, then do not panic, rather you must be patient and not get angry, whether you keep that in your heart or you express it in your words and physical actions. Be patient and put up with it, because circumstances change and nothing in this world lasts forever. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “Know that victory comes with patience, and that ease comes with difficulties, and that with hardship there is relief.” Classed as saheeh by al-Albaani in Tahqeeq al-Sunnah li Ibn Abi ‘Aasim, 315.

Allaah is to be praised in all circumstances, at times of both ease and hardship, because if He decrees a time of ease, it is a test and a trial. Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

“and We shall make a trial of you with evil and with good”

[al-Anbiya’ 21:35]

If something bad happens to you, then bear it with patience, for that is also a test and a trial from Allaah, to see whether you will be patient or not. If you are patient and seek reward from Allaah, then Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

“Only those who are patient shall receive their reward in full, without reckoning”

[al-Zumar 39:10].