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Dua' is Worship

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

From an-Nu'maan bin Basheer (رضي الله عنه)¹ from the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)² who said:

'Dua' is worship.' Then he recited:

وَقَالَ رَبُّكُمْ ادْعُونِي أَسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَسْتَكْبِرُونَ عَنْ عِبَادَتِي
سَيَدْخُلُونَ جَهَنَّمَ دَاخِرِينَ

[And your Lord said: 'Invoke Me, (and ask Me for anything) I will respond to your (invocation).
Verily! Those who scorn My worship [i.e. do not invoke Me, and do not believe in My Oneness]
they will surely enter Hell in humiliation!']^{3 4}

Shaykh ul-Islam Ibn Taymeeyah (d.728 A.H.) (رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ)⁵ said:

'Dua' is worship'; worship is built upon the Sunnah and following the Messenger, and not upon desires and innovating. Indeed Allaah is worshipped with what He had legislated, He is not worshipped with desires and innovations. Allaah (تعالى)⁶ said:

أَمْ لَهُمْ شُرَكَاءُ شَرَعُوا لَهُمْ مِّنَ الدِّينِ مَا لَمْ يَأْذَنَ بِهِ اللَّهُ

[Or have they partners with Allaah (false gods), who have instituted for them a religion which
Allaah has not allowed.]⁷

¹ (رضي الله عنه) (rad iyallaahu `anhu) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with him

² (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

³ سورة غافر - Soorah Ghaafir [40:60]

⁴ Collected by Aboo Daawood, Tirmidhee, Ibn Maajah and Albaanee authenticated it in 'Saheeh al-Jamai' no. 3407

⁵ (رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

⁶ (تعالى) Ta'aala (He, The Most High)

⁷ سورة الشورى - Soorah ash-Shooraa [42:21]

Dua' is Worship

Allaah (تعالى) said:

إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُعْتَدِينَ

[He likes not the aggressors.] after His statement:

ادْعُوا رَبَّكُمْ تَضَرُّعًا وَخُفْيَةً

[Invoke your Lord with humility and in secret.]⁸

This is an evidence that whoever does not make Dua' to Allaah with humility and in secret, then he is from the aggressors, whom Allaah does not love.⁹

Al-Mubarakforee (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) said:

'This is worship in reality, which deserves to be called worship; due to the indication that making Dua' is turning to Allaah, and turning away from everything except Him, whereby a person does not have hope or fear except of Allaah (تعالى).¹⁰

⁸ سورة الأعراف – Soorah al-A'raaf [7:55]

⁹ Taken from: 'al-Fatawa al-Misreeyah' 6/210

¹⁰ From Tuhfatul Ahwadeeh 8/246