

Last Day 31 - The reckoning of the Muslim's deeds

Based on the works of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan (حفظه الله)

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

QUESTION: Do the Muslims get taken to account in the Hereafter for their actions?

ANSWER:

People on the Day of Resurrection will differ in how they are taken to account for their actions.

The believers, the Muslims, those who accepted Islam with true faith, will have their good deeds placed on one scale of the Balance of deeds and the bad deeds on the other, and depending on which outweighs the other they will be sent to the appropriate destination – be that Paradise (if the good deeds outweighed the bad deeds) or the Fire (if the other way around).

And the first thing that the believers will be called to account for is the Prayers that they offered (or chose not to offer) in their lifetimes.

This is mentioned in a hadeeth where Muhammad (may peace and perfect security be upon him) said:

The first thing that the servant will be taken to account for on the Day of Resurrection is the Prayer.

Allaah, the Most High, will say to His angels: **“Look to the prayer of My servant, is it complete or is it deficient?”** So if it is complete, then it will be written for him as complete. And if it there is something lacking from it, Allaah will say: **“Look to see – has My servant any non obligatory prayers?”** So if he has (prayed) voluntary prayers then He will say: **“Complete the obligatory prayer for My servant from his voluntary prayer.”** Then his (other) actions will be considered like this.

The Muslims will vary from each other in how difficult their reckoning is. Indeed some Muslims will enter Paradise without any reckoning as mentioned in a well known hadeeth when Muhammad (may perfect peace and security be upon him) mentioned that 70,000 people will enter Paradise without any reckoning of their deeds nor any punishment:

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“They are those who do not seek ruqyaa (incantations to be performed over them) nor do they ask others to cauterise them with fire, nor do they see bad omens in the birds or similar things, and they make tawakkul (reliance) on Allaah.”

Other Muslims will have their deeds reckoned but it will be an easy reckoning. Other Muslims will have a difficult reckoning due to the sins that they have committed.

And some Muslims will enter the Hellfire due to the sins that they have committed outweighing the good deeds that they have done.

So it is important to note from this that unlike many – if not all – other religions, followers of Islam do not have a “golden ticket” that guarantees them Paradise in the Hereafter. A Muslim has to work to achieve this prize, performing good deeds, seeking forgiveness from Allaah and from other people that he has wronged, asking for Allaah’s Mercy, but most importantly, fulfilling Tawheed and not falling into shirk.