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VIRTUES OF AL AQSA & THE BLESSED LAND OF SHAAM

1

The Second House of Allah on Earth

Abu Zarr ؓ narrates: I asked, “O Messenger of Allah, “Which was the first Masjid built on earth?” He replied, “Al-Masjid Al-Haraam in Makkah. ” I then asked, “Which was built next?” He said, “Al-Masjid Al-Aqsa in Jerusalem.” I asked, “What was the period of construction between these two Masjids?” He replied, “40 years.” (Sahih Bukhari)



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2

Performing Salaah in Masjid Al-Aqsa

Rasulullah ﷺ said, “The reward of one Salaah in Al-Masjid Al-Haraam (Makkah) is equivalent to 100 000 Salaah. Salaah in my Masjid (Madinah) is equivalent to 1 000 Salaah & Salaah in Al-Masjid Al-Aqsa is equivalent to 500 Salaah.”

[Shu’abul Imaan]



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3

First Qiblah in Islam

Bara'a ﷺ narrates: “We performed Salaah with
Rasulullah ﷺ facing Bayt al-Maqdis (Jerusalem)
for sixteen or seventeen months. Then Allah
ordered him to turn towards the Ka’bah
(Makkah).” [Sahih Bukhari]



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4

Visiting Masjid Al-Aqsa

Rasulullah ﷺ said, "A person should not undertake a special journey to visit any other place (anticipating great reward) except the following three Masaajid: The sacred Masjid of Makkah, this Masjid of mine (in Madinah) and Masjid Al-Aqsa (in Jerusalem)."

[Sahih Muslim]



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Donating towards Masjid Al-Aqsa

Maymunah ﷺ narrates that she said: **“O Messenger of Allah, inform us about visiting Bayt al-Maqdis.”**
Rasulullah ﷺ said: **‘Go and perform Salaah there. (All the cities at that time were affected by war). But if you cannot visit there and pray, then send some oil to be used in the lamps.’”** (Abu Dawood)



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The 3 Duas of Sulaymaan ﷺ

Rasulullah ﷺ said, “When Sulaymaan ﷺ finished the building of Baitul-Maqdis, He asked Allah Taa’la for three things:

- 1) Passing verdicts that were in accordance with the verdicts of Allah Ta’ala.
- 2) A kingdom that no one after him would have.
- 3) None should come to this Masjid (Al-Aqsa) intending to pray there, except that he would emerge free of sin as the day his mother bore him.” [Sunan Nasai]



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7

**A group who will
remain on truth**

Rasulullah ﷺ said, “A group of my Ummah will remain on truth, they will vanquish their enemy and those who disagree with them will not be able to harm them until Allah commands.” The Sahaba ﷺ asked, “Where are these people?” Rasulallah ﷺ replied, “In and around Baytul Maqdis (Jerusalem).” [Musnad Ahmad]



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The Blessed Land

Zaid ibn Thabit  narrates: **“We were with the Messenger of Allah**  **composing transcripts of the Qur’an on parchments. He said, “Blessed is the land of Shaam.” We asked: “Why is that so, O Messenger of Allah?” He said, “Because the Angels of Allah have spread their wings over it.” [Sunan Tirmidhi]**



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The Chosen Land

Rasulullah ﷺ said, “The chosen land of Allah is Shaam. He has therein His chosen creation and servants. Most definitely, a large group from my Ummah (from there) will enter Paradise without having to give reckoning or experiencing any punishment.” [Al Mu’jam Al Kabeer]



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10

The Jewel of all the lands

Abdullah ibn Hawalah  reports that he said: **“O Messenger of Allah, choose for me a place where I should reside.”** Nabi  said three times, **“Go to Shaam.”** When Nabi  noticed Ibn Hawalah’s hesitancy towards it, he said, **‘Do you know what Allah says about Shaam?’** Allah said, **‘O Shaam! You are the jewel of My lands and I shall inhabit you with the chosen ones from among My servants.’”** [Tabarani]



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11

The Sanctuary of Baytul Maqdis

Zul Asabi ﷺ reports that he asked: **“O Messenger of Allah, where do you instruct us to go if we are tested with tribulations after your passing away?”**

Nabi ﷺ replied, **“Go to Baytul Maqdis. Perhaps you will have offspring who will go to that masjid (Al Aqsa) day and night.”** [Musnad Ahmad]



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12

A Place of Revelation

**Rasulullah ﷺ said, “Prophethood (Wahi)
descended upon me in three places:**

- 1) Makkah
- 2) Madinah
- 3) Shaam.”

[Mustadrak]



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13

I'tikaaf in Al Aqsa

Rasulullah ﷺ said, “The most superior I'tikaf is in the three Masaajid: Al-Masjid Al-Haram (in Makkah), the Masjid of the Prophet (in Madinah) and the Masjid of Baytul Maqdis (in Jerusalem).” [Bayhaqi]



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14

Safety in Shaam

**Rasulullah ﷺ said, “When Fitnah
(great tribulations at the end
of time) befalls, safety will be
in Shaam.” [Al Mujam Al Kabeer]**



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15

Nabi ﷺ performed Salaah
in Masjid Al Aqsa

Rasulullah ﷺ said, “I was brought the Buraq, a tall white beast larger than a donkey but smaller than a mule. I mounted it until I arrived at Bayt Al-Maqdis. I tied it to the ring to which the Prophets tied it before (i.e. the Western Wall). I entered Masjid Al-Aqsa and prayed two rak’ah Salaah.”

[Sahih Muslim]



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The great events before Qiyamah

Abdullah ibn Hawalah  reports that the Messenger of Allah put his hand on my head and said, “Tbn Hawalah!

If you see that the Caliphate has taken abode in the Holy Land (of Shaam), then earthquakes, chaos and great events are at hand. The Last Hour on that day will be closer to people than my hand is to your head.”

[Abu Dawud]



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The command to go to Shaam

Rasulullah ﷺ said, “A huge fire will emerge from Hadramawt (Yemen) before the Day of Qiyaamah which will cause a great movement of people.” The Companions asked, “O Messenger of Allah, what do you command us to do at that time?” He replied, “You must go to Shaam.” [Sunan Tirmidhi]



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18

The Qualities of the people of Shaam

Rasulullah ﷺ said, “A group from my Ummah will remain upon the truth. Those who desert them or oppose them will not be able to harm them, they will prevail over others until Qiyamah comes.”
(Mu'adh ibn Jabal ؓ said, “They are the people of Shaam.)” [Musnad Ahmad]



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The migrations close to Qiyaamah

**Rasulullah ﷺ said, “(Close to the end of times)
there will be migration upon migration. The best
of the inhabitants upon the earth will reside
where Prophet Ebrahim ؑ migrated (around
Baytul Maqdis).” [Mustadrak]**



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The conquest of Baytul Maqdis

Shaddad ibn Aws ؓ reports that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ asked him, “What is wrong with you Shaddad?” Shaddad ؓ replied, “The world is becoming constricted upon me.” The Messenger ﷺ said, “Do not worry, Shaam and Baytul Maqdis will be conquered and you and your sons will be Imaams there, if Allah wills.” [Tabaraani]



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