Don’t request Dua in exchange for charity

بِسْمِ اللَّـهِ الرَّحْمَـٰنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Many times when a Muslim does a favor for another Muslim the one receiving the favor will thank them, so they will reply by saying, "Do not thank me just make Dua for me." The Scholars have explained that this is not correct.

Shaykh Fawzan said in his book “*Highlights of the religious verdicts of Shaykh-ul Islam Ibn Taymiyyah in the creed”* that Shaykh-ul Islam Ibn Taymiyyah, may Allah have mercy upon him, said:

“And from the manners of the one who gives to others or spends upon others is that they should not seek a favor based on what they have given, nor should they seek a reward from the creation based upon what they have given. And from the rewards is to request Dua.”

Allah says about those He has commended:

إِنَّمَا نُطْعِمُكُمْ لِوَجْهِ اللَّـهِ لَا نُرِيدُ مِنكُمْ جَزَاءً وَلَا شُكُورًا ﴿٩﴾

‘We only feed you seeking the Face of Allah; we do not want from you any reward or any thanks.’ (Al-Insan, 76:9)

And Dua is a reward, as comes in the Hadith:

مَن صَنَعَ إِليكُم مَعرُوفًا فَكَافِئُوه ، فَإِن لَم تَجِدُوا مَا تُكَافِئُوا بِهِ فَادعُوا لَهُ حَتَّى تَرَوا أَنَّكُم قَد كَافَأتُمُوهُ

‘Whoever does a favor for you then return the favor to them; and if you are not able to find anything to return the favor with; then supplicate for them until you believe that your supplication has reciprocated him.’
(Narrated by Abu Dawood (1672); classed as authentic by al-Albani.)

And Aisha, may Allah be pleased with her, when she would send out charity, she would say to the one delivering the charity for her, "listen to the supplication that they make for us, so that you can make the same supplication for them that they made for us and therefore our reward can remain with Allah."

Some of the pious predecessors would say; if a beggar says to you: "may Allah bless you," then say to them, "and may Allah bless you as well."

Therefore, whoever does well to the creation, whether they are from the Prophets, or righteous people, or a king or a rich person; then this good must be done sincerely for the Face of Allah – only seeking the Face of Allah. And they should not request from the creation any reward, or supplication or anything else; not from a Prophet nor from a righteous man because Allah has commanded His slaves – all of them – to worship Him making the worship sincerely for Him alone.

Translated by Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee