

## Hadīth Seventeen

# The most coveted action to iblīs is to separate loved one's from one another

And they followed [instead] what the devils had recited during the reign of Sulaimān. It was not Sulaimān who disbelieved, but the devils disbelieved, teaching people magic and that which was revealed to the two angels at Babylon, Hārūt and Mārūt. But the two angels do not teach anyone unless they say: We are a trial, so do not disbelieve [by practicing magic]. And [yet] they learn from them that by which they cause separation between a man and his wife. But they do not harm anyone through it except by permission of Allāh. And the people learn what harms them and does not benefit them. But the Children of Israel certainly knew that whoever purchased the magic would not have in the Hereafter any share. And wretched is that for which they sold themselves, if they only knew.

وَاتَّبَعُوا مَا تَتْلُو الشَّيَاطِينُ عَلَىٰ مُلْكِ سُلَيْمَانَ ۗ وَمَا كَفَرَ سُلَيْمَانُ وَلَٰكِنَّ الشَّيَاطِينَ كَفَرُوا يُعَلِّمُونَ النَّاسَ السِّحْرَ ۗ وَمَا أُنزِلَ عَلَى الْمَلَكَيْنِ بِبَابِلَ هَارُوتَ وَمَارُوتَ ۗ وَمَا يُعَلِّمَانِ مِنْ أَحَدٍ حَتَّىٰ يَقُولَا إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ فِتْنَةٌ فَلَا تَكْفُرْ ۗ فَيَتَعَلَّمُونَ مِنْهُمَا مَا يُفَرِّقُونَ بِهِ بَيْنَ الْمَرْءِ وَزَوْجِهِ ۗ وَمَا هُم بِضَارِّينَ بِهِ مِنْ أَحَدٍ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِ اللَّهِ ۗ وَيَتَعَلَّمُونَ مَا يَضُرُّهُمْ وَلَا يَنْفَعُهُمْ ۗ وَلَقَدْ عَلَّمُوا لَمَنِ اشْتَرَاهُ مَا لَهُ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنْ خَلَاقٍ ۗ وَلَبِئْسَ مَا شَرَوْا بِهِ أَنفُسَهُمْ ۗ لَوْ كَانُوا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿١٠٢﴾

iblīs places his throne upon water; he then sends detachments (for creating dissension); the nearer to him in rank are those who are most notorious in creating dissension. One of them comes and says: I did such and such. And he says: You have done nothing. Then one amongst them comes and says: I did not leave so and so until I separated him from his wife. iblīs goes near him and says: How excellent are you!

إِنَّ إِبْلِيسَ يَضَعُ عَرْشَهُ عَلَى الْمَاءِ ثُمَّ يَبْعَثُ سَرَايَاهُ فَأَدْنَاهُمْ مِنْهُ مَنْزِلَةً أَعْظَمُهُمْ فِتْنَةً يَجِيءُ أَحَدُهُمْ فَيَقُولُ فَعَلْتُ كَذَا وَكَذَا فَيَقُولُ مَا صَنَعْتَ شَيْئًا قَالَ ثُمَّ يَجِيءُ أَحَدُهُمْ فَيَقُولُ مَا تَرَكْتُهُ حَتَّى فَرَّقْتُ بَيْنَهُ وَبَيْنَ امْرَأَتِهِ قَالَ فَيُدْنِيهِ مِنْهُ وَيَقُولُ نِعْمَ أَنْتَ

Recorded in Muslim.

### Points of benefit:

1. iblīs (curses be upon him) and his army of slaves — their ultimate plan is to destroy us Human Beings; they are working daily to execute that plan.
2. He sends his army out daily, accounts them daily, and grants them more authority and power daily.
3. They have status, ranks and power according to how much and how many human beings they destroy.

4. Destroying a Muslim family especially by with divorce is one of the most satisfying deeds to iblīs. He makes that very clear and his followers know that very well. He also reminds his followers of that daily.
5. They are relentless and do not give up in destroying a family, especially to get a separation or a divorce.
6. They compete with one another to destroy us.
7. This narration shows the degree of strength they possess—from wiswas (whispers) to full possession—so much so that one of them said: I did not leave him until I separated him from his wife!
8. Allāh describing it as fitnah shows the level of their envy, mercilessness and ruthlessness.
9. The separation does not necessarily mean actual shar'ī (legislated) divorce. That is why the word فَرَّقَ was used and not طَلَّقَ.
10. This ḥadīth clearly and explicitly cautions Muslim judges when issuing a divorce especially when there exists a severe case of siḥr and jinn-possession.
11. Muslim judges ought to seek assistance on severe cases of siḥr and jinn-possession from expert Rāqīs and mental health doctors before issuing a verdict of divorce. That is because a person who is severely possessed or mentally ill may utter divorce dozens of times within a single hour, or in the case of a woman seek khul'a (divorce initiated by the woman) often.
12. The word فَرَّقَ implies that the husband and wife did not want to separate but were pulled away from each other with force.
13. The exact same word and its meanings are mentioned in the Qurān (2:102; يُفَرِّقُونَ).
14. The devils define envy, merciless and ruthlessness.
15. The whole point of the Messenger (ﷺ) informing us about the devils is so that we don't seek separation, don't utter the words of divorce and we take our utmost means to mitigate and work out our genuine problems and differences.
16. This information communicated to us about the unseen, unheard and unwitnessed realm is so that Muslim judges are cautious when issuing divorce or khul'a. They are responsible for learning the real root reason/issue/cause for the divorce rather than simply looking at the words and statements of the divorce itself. If the real root issues are true and genuine and it does in average couple lead to divorce (like adultery or no love) then even if no divorce is uttered the actual divorce may take place in the near future through mutual consent. However, if there are no genuine reasons for divorce and they often utter the words of divorce or often seek khul'a or they have no serious reason for the divorce then there is surely a concern of the devils playing a ruthless part in all this.

17. Most families are kept together by the permission and assistance of Allāh. iblīs confirms this by saying: You have done nothing.
18. The believers are capable of fighting these devils. In fact, they are stronger and powerful than them since the vast majority of the Muslims do not divorce.