



Supererogatory Prayers perfect the Obligatory Prayer

The fourth question of Fatwa no. 5727

Q 4: I heard the Hadith Qudsy (Revelation from Allah in the Prophet's words) in which the Messenger (peace be upon him) said that Salah is the first thing for which a person will be held accountable on the Day of Resurrection. If it is complete, it will be alright and if not, the supererogatory Salah will make up for the shortfall in their obligatory Prayers. Likewise, the other acts of worship as said by the Prophet (peace be upon him). Does the supererogatory Salah we perform before and after the obligatory ones make up for deficiency in the obligatory Salah? May Allah reward you generously!

A: Yes, the supererogatory acts such as Salah, Sawm (Fast), Zakah, etc., make up for the deficiency in the obligatory ones. It has been authentically reported by Ahmad, Abu Dawud, Ibn Majah, and Al-Hakim on the authority of Tamim Al-Dary that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, (The first thing for which people will be called to account out of their actions on the Day of Judgment is prayer. If it is perfect, that will be recorded perfect. If it is defective, Allah will say to His angels: See if there are some optional prayers offered by My servant. If there are optional prayers to his credit, compensate the obligatory prayer by the optional prayer for My servant. The servant will be reckoned for Zakah in the same way. Then all the actions will be considered similarly.)

(Part No : 7, Page No: 236)

May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions!

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