

22241 - What are the “good righteous deeds that last”?

the question

What are the "good righteous deeds that last" that are mentioned in the aayah (interpretation of the meaning):

"But the good righteous deeds that last, are better with your Lord for rewards and better in respect of hope"[al-Kahf 18:46]?

Detailed answer

Al-Shanqeeti (may Allaah be pleased with him) said:

The scholarly opinions concerning the "good righteous deeds that last" all boil down to one thing: they are all actions which are pleasing to Allaah, whether we say that they are the five daily prayers, as was narrated from a group of the salaf, including Ibn 'Abbaas, Sa'eed ibn Jubayr, Abu Maysarah and 'Umar ibn Sharhabeel; or that it means [the phrases], "Subhaan-Allaah wa'l-hamdu Lillaah wa laa ilaaha ill-Allaah, wa Allaahu akbar, wa laa hawla wa laa quwwata illa Billaah il'Ali il-'Azeem (Glory be to Allaah, praise be to Allaah, there is no god but Allaah, Allaah is most great and there is no power and no strength except in Allaah, the Exalted, the Almighty)". This is the view of the majority of scholars. Indication of that was narrated in marfoo' ahaadeeth narrated from Abu Sa'eed al-Khudri, Abu'l-Darda', Abu Hurayrah, al-Nu'maan ibn Basheer and 'Aa'ishah (may Allaah be pleased with them).

This phrase, "the good righteous deeds that will last" is a general phrase which includes the five daily prayers and the five phrases mentioned above (Subhaan-Allaah, etc), as well as other deeds which are pleasing to Allaah, because they will abide and will not fade away or vanish like the adornments of the life of this world, and because they are also done in the manner that pleases Allaah...