

# Being Parsimonious And Extravagant

## الإسراف والتقتير

***Being balanced in spending is something Allah SWT loves in his ibaad/servants. If we're spending according to the need only, and not overspending, that's called frugal or wisely spending habits.***

A person with greediness and too much demands can end up being extravagant. And a person with the fear of losing out on his savings can make him be parsimonious. Both characteristics are not good in islam as well as in our society. Allah SWT praises his true servants in surah al-furqan who spend wisely.

Allah says **وَالَّذِينَ إِذَا أَنْفَقُوا لَمْ يُسْرِفُوا وَلَمْ يَقْتُرُوا وَكَانَ بَيْنَ ذَلِكَ قَوَامًا** And [they are] those who, when they spend, do so not excessively or sparingly but are ever, between that, [justly] moderate. Al-Furqan 25:67

By the words “and they are those” Allah SWT meant His true servants. So we understood it's praiseworthy to be balanced in our spending. On the other hand those who overspend, Allah SWT doesn't like them. Allah mentions in surah al-isra that He doesn't like overspenders or extravagant people. Allah says in ayah 26-27 of al-isra **And give the relative his right, and [also] the poor and the traveler, and do not spend wastefully. (26) Indeed, the wasteful are brothers of the devils, and ever has Satan been to his Lord ungrateful.(27)**

So it's clear that Allah SWT does not like wasteful or extravagant people. We have to keep ourselves away from what causes Allah's anger. There are many hadiths regarding this matter.

حَدَّثَنَا عَبْدُ اللَّهِ بْنُ يُوسُفَ، قَالَ: أَخْبَرَنَا مَالِكٌ، عَنْ سُهَيْلِ بْنِ أَبِي صَالِحٍ، عَنْ أَبِيهِ، عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ: إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَرْضَى لَكُمْ ثَلَاثًا، وَيَسْخَطُ لَكُمْ ثَلَاثًا، يَرْضَى لَكُمْ: أَنْ تَعْبُدُوهُ وَلَا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا، وَأَنْ تَعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا، وَأَنْ تَتَصَحَّحُوا مِنْ وَلَاءِ اللَّهِ أَمْرَكُمْ، وَيَكْرَهُ لَكُمْ: قِيلَ وَقَالَ، وَكَثْرَةُ السُّؤَالِ، وَإِضَاعَةُ الْمَالِ.

Abu Hurayra radhiyallahu anhu reported that the Messenger of Allah, (ﷺ), said, "Allah is pleased with you about three things and He is angry with you

about three things. He is pleased that you worship Him, not associating anything with Him, that you all take hold of the rope of Allah and that you give good counsel to those that Allah has put in authority over you. He dislikes you engaging in chitchat, asking a lot of questions and squandering wealth." ( Imam Al Bukhari rahimahullah collected this in his Al-Adab Ul-Mufrad).

In this narration by the word “**squandering wealth**”, it meant overspending. Anyone who wants to stay cherished by Allah's countless bounties, must stay vigilant on overspending. Being balanced in spending is a very good habit to be a wealthy person too, let alone all these discussions. Once we make the living money, we should take care of needy people as well. When we donate money, it keeps us away from being greedy and parsimonious. High demand in life can lead someone to be greedy for money. Once a person is greedy he/she loses control over himself/herself. To stay balanced on spending we should always look at those people who have less possessions than us. This look will help us be grateful to Allah and be happy with our own lives. Let's look at this hadith

حَدَّثَنَا أَحْمَدُ بْنُ يُونُسَ، حَدَّثَنَا أَبُو بَكْرِ، حَدَّثَنَا أَبُو حَاصِبٍ، عَنْ أَبِي صَالِحٍ، عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " لَيْسَ الْغِنَى عَنْ كَثْرَةِ الْعَرَضِ، وَلَكِنَّ الْغِنَى عَنِ النَّفْسِ ". Narrated Abu Huraira: The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Wealth is not in having many possessions, but rather (true) wealth is feeling sufficiency in the soul." (Sahih Al Bukhari)

So we understand being wealthy does not mean to have lots of money, but it means to have a grateful heart. We can find many examples from our surroundings where we can see people are seeking peace even after being super rich. Those people are live examples for us to understand that peace does not come with money nor with having many possessions. Imagine! If you have millions of pounds or dollars in your bank account and you're diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. And doctors are hopeless about your treatment. Will your money help you? No, of course not. So ultimately we figured out peace does not belong to possessions or money. So no point in being greedy for something which can not help me in all matters. Rather we should listen to the one who created us and everything. He has the best plans for us. Allah SWT instructs us to be more focused on building our everlasting destination and dwelling in al-jannah. If we think this dunya is a rest house in the journey of the hereafter, then we won't be that greedy and super busy to earn dunya. Thus we will be frugal and wise people.