

LETTER SEVENTEEN
CONCERNING GOOD DEEDS

With His Glorious Name ﷺ
Allah, Allah, Allah

Dear respected Ghulām Rabbānī:

As-salāmu °alaykum wa rahmatullāhi wa barakātuhu.

This *faqīr* is well and wishes the same for you. People in this world are often busy accumulating wealth, while others are busy accumulating good deeds. Wealth is temporary and will perish – good deeds and the resulting rewards are eternal. Love of wealth is an unhealthy burden, whereas love for good deeds is healthy. Wealth can buy glasses, but not sight; wealth can buy books, but not knowledge; wealth can buy medicine, but not health. Through wealth one can rule over people’s bodies, but cannot buy the love in their hearts; and wealth can procure physical pleasures, but not spiritual stations. Hence the true scholars [*‘ulamā*] and the spiritual masters [*mashā’ikib*] do not concern themselves with the acquisition of wealth. Instead they focus on performing good deeds. A true spiritual guide [*shaykh*] keeps his eyes on a seeker’s [*murīd*’s] good deeds and not his wealth.

I am hopeful that you are progressing in your remembrance [*dhikr*] and reflection [*murāqabah*] and your adherence to the way [*sunnah*] of the Prophet ﷺ.

*Wager what you will in these games of love, why fear?
The winner cannot imagine his spoils, the loser cannot
imagine defeat.*

Was-salām ma-al-ikrām,

Faqīr Zulfīqār Ahmad Naqshbandī Mujaddidī