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Fatwa no. 11398

Q: An Imam (the one who leads congregational Prayer) delivered Jumu'ah (Friday) speech on 10/6/1408 A.H. He admonished people and reminded them of Jannah (Paradise) and the blessings Allah (Exalted be He) prepared therein. At the end of his speech, he swore that whoever shaves his beard or lets his garment down will not enter Jannah. We would like you to guide us to the truth in this regard. Is this true or false?

A: Shaving the beard and letting clothes down are prohibited acts. Whoever does so is disobedient to Allah. If such a person dies as persisting in doing so without making Tawbah (repentance to Allah), his case will be up to Allah. He may punish him according to his sins and then admit him to Jannah and He may forgive him out of His Bounty and Generosity. The speaker who swore that a person who shaves his beard and who lets his clothes down will not enter Jannah committed a mistake in his oath and contradicted the view of Ahl-ul-Sunnah wal-Jama`ah (adherents to the Sunnah and the Muslim mainstream) concerning the ruling of a disobedient person if they die without making Tawbah to Allah. We ask Allah to guide him.

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

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