



Had they entered it, they would never have come out of it until the Day of Judgment. Obedience is only in what is right

'Ali (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: The Prophet (ﷺ) sent out a detachment and appointed a man from the Ansār as their leader, instructing them to obey him. He became angry and said: Did not the Prophet (ﷺ) command you to obey me? They replied: Yes. He said: Then gather some firewood for me. So they gathered it. He then said: Light a fire, and they did. Then he said: Enter it. They were about to do so, but some held back the others, saying: We fled to the Prophet (ﷺ) to escape from the Fire. They remained like that until the fire went out and his anger subsided. When the Prophet (ﷺ) was informed of this, he said: "Had they entered it, they would never have come out of it until the Day of Judgment. Obedience is only in what is right."

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by Bukhari & Muslim]

The Prophet (ﷺ) sent out an army and appointed a man from the Ansār as their leader, instructing them to obey him. The leader became angry with them and said: Did not the Prophet (ﷺ) command you to obey me? They said: Yes. He said: Then I command you to gather firewood, light a fire, and enter it. So they gathered the firewood and lit the fire, but when they were about to enter it, they began looking at one another. And they said: We only followed the Prophet (ﷺ) to escape from the Fire—so should we enter it? While they were in this state, the flames of the fire went out, and the leader's anger subsided. When the Prophet (ﷺ) was informed of this, he said: Had they obeyed him and entered the fire they had kindled, they would have been tormented therein and would not have come out of it until the existence of this world. There is no obedience to a created being in disobedience to the Creator; obedience is only required in what is right, not in sin.

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