

‘THE VIRTUE OF TWO RAK`AHS OF OPTIONAL PRAYER...’:

From ‘Silsilatul-Ahaadeethis-Saheehah’ (no.1388) of Shaikh Muhammad Naasiruddeen al-Albaanee -rahimahullaah:

“ Ibn Saa`id reported in his additions to ‘az-Zuhd’ [of Ibn al-Mubaarak] (159/1), from ‘al-Kawaakib, 575, no.31: Indian edn.):

‘Muhammad ibn Yazeed, Aboo Hishaam ar-Rifaa`ee, narrated to us: Hafs ibn Ghiyaath narrated to us: from Aboo Maalik, and he is Sa`d ibn Taariq al-Ashja`ee: from Aboo Haazim: from Aboo Hurairah who said:

“Allaah’s Messenger (صلى الله عليه و سلم) passed by a grave in which a person had been newly buried, and he said:

(رَكَعَتَانِ خَفِيفَتَانِ مِمَّا تَحْقِرُونَ وَ تَنْقَلُونَ يَزِيدُهُمَا هَذَا - يُشِيرُ إِلَى قَبْرِهِ - فِي عَمَلِهِ أَحَبُّ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ بَقِيَّةِ دُنْيَاكُمْ)

<< Two light rak`ahs, which you would regard as being something slight, and which you pray as something extra; if he- and he pointed to his grave- were able to add them to his deeds it would be more beloved to him than (having) everything in your world.>>’

*Shaikh al-Albaanee said:

“Ibn Saa`id said: ‘It is a hadeeth with a singular chain which is hasan.’

I say: Its narrators are reliable, all of them are narrators of Muslim, except that this narrator ar-Rifaa`ee has been spoken against by some of them. al-Haafiz said: ‘He is not strong...al-Bukhaaree said: I saw them being united upon his being weak.’

I say: However he is not alone in reporting it, since Aboo Nu`aym reported it in ‘Akhbaar Asbahaan’ (2/225), and likewise at-Tabaraanee in ‘al-Awsat’ (no.907), through two other chains of narration from Hafs ibn Ghiyaath that he narrated it to us.

I say: And this is a chain of narration saheeh to the standard of Muslim, so the hadeeth is Saheeh through this chain, and all praise is for Allaah.

And al-Mundhiree said in ‘at-Targheeb’ (1/146): ‘at-Tabaraanee reported it with a hasan chain’, and al-Haythamee said: ‘Its narrators are reliable’ .”
