22326 - He is tired after work and does not want to pray in congregation

the question

What is the ruling on a person who comes home from work tired and has something to eat, then he waits for the adhaan for ‘Asr and prays at home on his own, and does not go to perform the prayer with the congregation, then he goes to sleep?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Shaykh ‘Abd al-‘Azeez ibn Baaz (may Allah have mercy on him) was asked a similar question and he replied:

What you mention is not a valid shar’i excuse for you to delay praying with the congregation. Rather what you must do is hasten to pray with your Muslim brothers in the houses of Allah (the mosques), then rest and eat after that, because Allah has made it obligatory for you to pray on time with your Muslim brothers in congregation. What you mention is not a legitimate shar’i excuse to delay it. Rather that is a trick of the Shaytaan and of the (human) self which is inclined towards evil; it is a sign of weak faith and a lack of fear of Allah. So beware of your whims and desires and your shaytaan (devil), and your (human) self which is inclined towards evil; if you do that the consequences will be good and you will attain salvation and happiness in this world and in the Hereafter. May Allah protect you from the evil of your own self and help you to avoid the traps of the Shaytaan.