

**BECAUSE
YOU ARE
Allah:**

A Journey to the Seventh Heaven

Ali Jaber Al-Fayfi

1438/2017

*In the name of Allah, the Most
Gracious, the Most Merciful*

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DEDICATION

*To her who asked me one night, when I
was seven years old:*

"Did you perform the Evening Prayer?"

I said to her – lying – yes!

*She looked at me with suspicion and said:
Say whatever you want because He saw
you!*

I was scared by those words "He saw you".

*They made me get up to perform prayer
despite my false pretence!*

.. To my mother

Because you are Allah,

*... there is no fear, no worry, no
sunset, no night, no twilight.*

... my heart is full of hope.

... my soul is full of glow.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEDICATION	3
Introduction	9
The Eternal	12
<i>In the shadow of Steadfastness</i>	13
<i>And You Forget Him</i>	19
<i>Steadfast to Him</i>	21
<i>The Compass</i>	22
<i>Empty your heart of all other than Him</i>	24
<i>Steps</i>	26
<i>Pride</i>	27
<i>Fact</i>	28
The Guardian	30
<i>Let Your Heart be reassured</i>	31
<i>Roads of Perversity</i>	33
<i>We Forget Allah!</i>	34
<i>Angels of Protection</i>	36
<i>In brackets</i>	38
<i>A Bottle</i>	38
<i>Greater, greater and greater</i>	41
<i>He defends you</i>	42
<i>The valleys of predators</i>	44
<i>I am the poor</i>	46
<i>O' boy</i>	48
<i>Suffocation</i>	49
The Kind	52
<i>Of Hidden Kindness</i>	53
<i>The breeze of Kindness</i>	55
<i>The Rock</i>	57

<i>What is hidden</i>	58
<i>Far-fetched dreams</i>	61
<i>At the last moment</i>	63
<i>No illness from now on</i>	66
<i>He heals you with no cause!</i>	69
<i>You can never tell!</i>	70
<i>Light returned</i>	72
<i>Return to Him</i>	73
<i>An Arranged Appointment</i>	75
<i>Put a point</i>	77
<i>Content</i>	79
<i>Rivers of sins</i>	82
The Advocate	84
<i>Take Him as an Advocate</i>	85
<i>Life is hell without Him</i>	94
<i>Things that threaten you</i>	100
The Appreciative	102
<i>If He gives you, you are overwhelmed</i>	103
<i>A mathematical equation</i>	105
<i>Mention in the Book</i>	106
<i>The weight of an atom</i>	109
<i>Spend ... And I spend on you</i>	112
<i>Do good</i>	113
<i>Keep Silent</i>	Error! Bookmark not defined.
<i>Where to?</i>	116
<i>Lifting up</i>	117
The Mighty	120
<i>Your broken heart, how was it broken?</i>	121
<i>And remedy my breakdowns</i>	123

<i>And remove the impediment from my speech</i>	124
<i>He loves you smiling</i>	125
<i>The handcart</i>	126
<i>83 marks</i>	128
<i>The servant's room</i>	129
<i>The dream and the memory</i>	130
<i>A cup of coffee!</i>	132
<i>Øe of those who prostrate to Allah</i>	134
The Guide	136
<i>Warmth</i>	137
<i>No coincidence!</i>	139
<i>Neither... nor</i>	140
<i>Flash of light</i>	142
<i>A Missing compass</i>	143
<i>And then, He gave (it) guidance</i>	145
<i>Swamp</i>	147
<i>Paper!</i>	147
<i>Lifeline</i>	148
The Forgiving	150
<i>Prison</i>	151
<i>Did you know?</i>	152
<i>Even my great sins?</i>	153
<i>Have you forgotten?</i>	155
<i>Blessed is...</i>	157
<i>Do not despair</i>	159
<i>The greatest will</i>	160
<i>The most beautiful</i>	161
<i>Do not be astonished!</i>	162
<i>Start</i>	164

The Dear	166
<i>O' Allah!</i>	167
<i>For your sake</i>	168
<i>The crawl of ants</i>	169
<i>He sees you now!</i>	171
<i>Smile</i>	173
<i>Glory be to You!</i>	175
<i>You reach Him</i>	176
<i>If they ask you</i>	178
<i>In the ruins</i>	179
<i>Allah</i>	180
Conclusion	182

Introduction

Praise be to Allah and peace and blessings be upon the Messenger of Allah and his companions and those who follow him.

These are words about some of the Holy Names of Allah, written with my weakness about the Almighty, and my powerlessness about the Most Strong, and my ignorance about the All-Knowing.

I made sure to make it understood by the average-educated person, and can be read by the patient on his bed, and by the sad while shedding his tears, and the needy in his sorrow.

I have the certainty that the heart attached to Allah, with its knowledge of Him, its observation, love, fear and hope, as that is the secret of happiness in the Hereafter, is the secret of happiness in this worldly life. And that all those temporary sorrows, devilish promptings, and misery will end completely if the slave of Allah sets his attention compass towards Him who only created him to worship Him.

The door of the Holy Names of Allah is the access to great faith, through which the slave leads to a special holy world that makes him prostrate with

magnificence, and the soul pray with reverence and love.

My aim of writing this book was to lead to Him the Almighty, and to refer to Him with a little of what He has, and remind myself and my brothers that He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing.

I also wanted to tap with these words on those shoulders tired of pains, and rub them on the heads with ache, I wanted to wipe tears off cheeks, and extinguish the flames of ribs.

Without knowing the Holy Names of Allah, we are lost in a desert; our days are ashes in the blaze of that wilderness and caught by the whirlpools of anxiety.

Choose Allah with knowledge, faith, certainty, worship, obedience, and then with amiability, happiness, and bliss.

Or choose forfeiture, loss, suffocation, depression, and psychological pain.

I do not claim in this book any erudition, knowledge, or superiority, but failure and need for forgiveness and transcendence of the Almighty.

If there is any good in this book, I ask Allah to spread it among people, and if that is not the case, then Allah knows all my shortcomings, and I only know some of the amnesty that He has.

I ask Allah for good faith, and forgiveness for the mistakes of my pen and the sins of heart.

May Allah's peace and blessings be upon His messenger Muhammad. And our last prayer is that Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds.

Ali Jaber Al-Fayfi

27/7/1437

The Eternal

"AS-SAMAD"

The whole world cannot cause any harm
to you that Allah did not want.

The whole world cannot prevent any harm
that Allah leads to you.

THE ETERNAL

If weakness has built around you a tight prison you cannot get out of!

If you are besieged by needs, and the distraction of trouble, and you are engulfed in worries, and your soul yearned to escape to the unknown, then you need to hold steadfast to Him.

The Holy Name of Allah "The Eternal" will provide you with everything you need to be strong in this life, and meet your reality with pride, and overcome your obstacles with determination!

Start with the Eternal a new era, then trust that tomorrow will be better than today ... way much better!

In the shadow of Steadfastness

The Holy Name "The Eternal" as you see is of great sublimity, of strong letters, of glorious meaning, of few occurrences, and of a special glory.

It is as if that steadfastness to Almighty is the most manifestation of sincerity in worship. Thus, he who keeps evoking the meaning of sincerity in his worship, earns in his heart the attribute of

submission to His Lord and steadfastness to Him and not to resort but to Him.

Here we get into the world of steadfastness to be inspired by some of the meanings of His Holy Name “The Eternal”:

The Eternal is the one to Whom all creatures steadfast, that is, resort to Him. This is the greatest meaning of this holy name, so we will elaborate on this meaning.

“The Eternal” is the One asked for wishes, sought for help in the calamities, and resorted to in the time of disasters.

It is mentioned in one of the greatest suras (Chapters), and the shortest of them all, in the Noble Qur'an, namely Al-Ikhlās, which weighs one third of the Noble Qur'an:

“Say: He is Allah, the One and Only; Allah, the Eternal” (Holy Qur'an 112: 1-2)

Man needs help and says: *Oh Allah!*

He needs support and says: *Oh Allah!*

He needs protection and says: *Oh Allah!*

He needs guidance and says: *Oh Allah!*

He needs kindness and says: *Oh Allah!*

Waves

He surrounded you with needs to surround yourself with His Holy Names and Attributes, and this is the meaning of steadfastness.

In every moment of your life, you need Him. So, if you do not resort to Him willy, you will have to do it nilly.

If a farmer is late to harvest and his need for the fruit is on the increase and water becomes scarce, he looks at the sky and says: Oh Allah!

If waves hit the passengers on a ship and the idea of death shook the reassurance of life in them, they say: Oh Allah!

If a pilot announces that the wheels are not moving and that he will take a round in the airport until the problem is fixed, the passengers forget all the important figures on board, and remember only the One Who owns everything and grants sanctuary and nothing oppresses Him.

And when your eyes are on the cardiograph, looking at those lines winding and your patient's breath is diminishing, and the pulse is fading, and those lines start to go down, you forget the name

of the nurse; and the face of the doctor evaporates from your head, and you say in hope: Oh Allah be with him!

Ideas of falsehood

An Arab sheikh named Husayn came to the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), whereupon the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) asked him: How many gods do you worship? He answered: "Seven: six on Earth and one in heaven." The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) asked: "Which one do you seek in fear?" He said: "The one in heaven?" The Prophet asked: Which one do you seek for your desires? He said that in heaven. The Prophet (peace be upon him) then said: "leave those on Earth and worship That in heaven". So, Husayn converted to Islam!¹

He was convinced because of the meaning of steadfastness. Because the one whom you seek in the time of fear and desire is the only one who deserves to be worshiped!

Faith is the simplest idea ever. You do not need to read books or philosophy, or to probe and divide. It

1. Narrated by Al-Tirmidhi (3820-12/452)

is a word that you say sincerely, and then leave it to disperse the ideas of falsehood.

The Qur'an summarizes that all "Say: "Allah (sent it down)": Then leave them to plunge in vain discourse and trifling" (Holy Qur'an 6: 6)

The word (Allah) alone is able to silence the biggest lies of life.

In every human being; inside each cell, and around every artery, are things that know Allah well, worship him, and praise him.

If a disbeliever, though he disbelieves, hears the Qur'an, he submits.

Among the famous stories in the Prophet's biography is that the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) recited *sura An-Najm* (Holy Qur'an 53) to the polytheists of Mecca in the Sacred Mosque, and no sooner had he finished than they prostrated, all of them even those who expelled and hurt him and had planned to kill him!

Those things in their cells and arteries exploded in a tremendous faith energy that made them prostrate in submission.

The Planets

He (all praise be to Him) created in the hearts of His worshipers the need for his love!

There is a kind of holy love in the hearts of the worshipers that only get satisfied by bowing to him, and circumambulating His House, and standing before Him, and abandoning sleep for Him, and renouncing worldly pleasures for His sake.

Life, in all its manifestations, whispers to you: The One Whom you are looking for is on His throne hearing you “Allah) Most Gracious is firmly established on the throne (of authority” (Holy Qur'an 20: 20).

A woman meets privily a wicked man who tried to seduce her, but she refuses! He says to her: Only planets can see us. She replies with pride: Where is the one who created them? Where is Allah?!

It is a heart steadfast to Allah, watching Him, sure that He is All-Knowing, the All-Aware, the All-Hearing, and the All-Seeing!

And your steadfastness to Him with your heart is like the steadfastness of the worshiper towards *Kaaba* to pray!

This is how the heart must be, its desires distributed in all directions, but the front direction must be for Allah only.

Put to the right and the left of your heart whatever you want, but in front of it only put pleasing Allah, and His observation, and His love.

And You Forget Him

If you search for something and you do not find it, leave it and get busy with Allah. It is He Who made that thing get missing to make you steadfast and resort to Him, saying: *Oh Allah, let what I lost return to me.* And so he does! He wants you to be busy with Him, not your need. But you are busy with your need, and you forget Him!

Shaykh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyah (may Allah have mercy on him) said some of the most noble words in this sense, so read them attentively with your heart, and then make it close to your pains, your calamities, and your needs:

Allah's slave, when he gets through a disaster, intends to seek his need, and to relieve his suffering, and seek to do so by asking and supplication, even if that is part of worship and obedience.

Then he will first have the intention of getting what he asks for: of sustenance, victory and wellness. Then prayer and supplication open to him the doors of faith in Allah and His knowledge and love, and the joy of His remembrance and prayer, which he gets to love and appreciates more than the thing he desired. This is the mercy of Allah on his slaves, leading them with worldly needs for lofty religious purposes.

At the time of Moses (peace be upon him), the rain stops and the land becomes barren. He and his people go out, and they are thousands of men, women and children. Moses sees an ant that went out to raise its hands to the sky, steadfast to the Lord of clouds. Moses knew that this steadfastness and this humiliation will be followed by rain pouring from the sky. He said to his people: *Return; your need shall be obviated, and they returned at the sound of thunder, and sprinkles of rain!*

In my childhood I used to hear a prayer recited by one of the readers which touches my heart: *Oh Allah, we stopped our mounts at your door. Do not*

expel us from your mercy. This is the true meaning of steadfastness.

Steadfast to Him

You must know that if He did not allow the medicine to have its effect in your body, you would not get well. So, steadfast to Him to cure you.

You should be sure that if He did not turn that reckless car away from you, you would be dead. So, steadfast to Him to protect you.

You have to be sure that if He did not surround you with His protection when you were in the sea, you would be eaten by the fish. So, steadfast to Him to be with you.

And that is why you steadfast to Him for rest, to calm down your pant, because without Him you will run, pant, and tense.

Listen to those who are messed up on a ship, seeing death approaching them, and roaring winds striking them, you will hear them in all their religions praying to Him: *Oh Allah.*

“He it is Who enableth you to traverse through land and sea; so that ye even board ships;- they sail with them with a favourable wind, and they rejoice

thereat; then comes a stormy wind and the waves come to them from all sides, and they think they are being overwhelmed: they cry unto Allah, sincerely offering (their) duty unto Him saying, "If thou dost deliver us from this, we shall truly show our gratitude!" (Holy Qur'an 10: 22).

He made in you the need to say His name, you shall feel entirely secure if you say, *Oh Allah*, if you did not say it by choice, you might be obliged to say it. And if you do not say it faithfully, you will say it coercively. And if you did not say it in prosperity, you will cry it in distress!

The Compass

Why do we wait for a pandemic to be returned? And a calamity to remind us of His name? And a disaster to return to mosque?

Is He not worth being worshipped and resorted to without pandemics, disasters and calamities?

Is all that He granted us including life, health, faith, security and happiness so little that we do not turn our heads to Him unless we face a disaster that makes us forget all our illusions, and have nothing in our minds but Allah only.

Set the compass of your heart towards Him and then travel to him even if you do it creeping on your knees, you will arrive “Whithersoever ye turn, there is the presence of Allah” (Holy Qur'an 2: 115).

If you resort to somebody in the morning, he may close his door at you in the evening.

If he supports you against X, he may not do against Y. If he gives you today, he will turn you down tomorrow. But Allah never does that!

“There is no god but He: Call upon Him” (Holy Qur'an 40: 65).

He grants you night and day, He helps you if you are oppressed, never closes His door, He is generous all the time, the most generous, so all the creatures steadfast to him. If you steadfast to someone else in a need, you will get turned down; certainly you will.

If you ask someone else, he may not answer you, or he may answer you, but he may be late to meet your need, or he may meet it incompletely or he may meet it completely with a dose of humiliation, or he may not humiliate you but you feel degraded.

Empty your heart of all other than Him

One day, I entered the office of a university dean, for a petition about an academic affair of mine. Then, I explained some details to him and he said to me: Do not talk too much!

People do not want you to talk too much! But Allah loves you if you talk a lot in his hands! He loves the worshiper who asks Him tenaciously. So why complain to others and leave Him?

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said to Ibn Abbas: "If you ask, ask Allah".²

As long as there is a need worthy of the request, let it be Allah that you request!

I liked it when Abu Hamed al-Ghazali quoted what a man of knowledge have said about the Greatest Name of Allah: *Empty your heart of all other than Him and then asks Him by any name*; He will answer you.

This is the essence of steadfastness: have Allah in your heart, and then say anything pleasing Him; it will be of divine character, and of divine cast.

2. Narrated by Al-Tirmidhi (2516/-4/667)

Every incident has an end, but His message tells you: You have a God, come to him .

Disease is message to humble yourself to him.

And poverty is telegram to prostrate to Him.

And weakness is a call telling you to ask for strength from the All-Strong.

Life is all screaming in your face: You have a God, steadfast to Him!

In the aforementioned hadeeth of Ibn Abbas, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Keep Allah in your heart, He keeps you safe. Keep Allah in your heart, you find Him by your side,"³ that is in front of you!

Keep Him in your soul, your body and your thoughts, you will have Him protecting, helping and supporting you.

The hearts of the creatures of the Eternal never rest until they put their supply pots at the threshold of His Kingdom.

3. Narrated by Al-Tirmidhi (2516-4/667)

Steps

Look in any direction you like, but have in your heart eyes that only look at His greatness!

Speak of all you want, but have in your heart a tongue that only speaks to remember Him!

Listen to all, but have in your heart a hearing that only understands his words!

Walk to wherever you want, but dig into your heart a path that leads to the throne of the King!

Steadfast to Him with your heart, your soul, your thoughts, your body, your will, your dreams and your fantasies.

If you hold a pen, ask: *Does what I will write in this paper please the Almighty?*

If you are about to say something, ask: *Will I say something that pleases Him?*

If you take a position, ask: *Does my position please Him or not?*

Have an alarm on top of your heart saying with every tick: *What does Allah want? What does Allah want? What does Allah want?*

Steadfast to Him all the time; when you wake up in the middle of the night, remember him. Your dreams are black if you do not remember Him, your mind is desolate without having His name in your thoughts, your dreams are marshes, but when you remember the Ever-Living, they become rivers and trees with singing birds.

Pride

If you train your soul to steadfast to Him, then with time it will be ashamed to ask for the worldly needs, because that is not the aim of creating you.

While he was circumambulating *Kaaba*, the Caliph said to Ibn [son of] 'Umar *Ask me for anything, Ibn 'Umar*. Ibn 'Umar looked at the Caliph with the pride of those who steadfast to Allah: *For this world or the Hereafter?* The Caliph said: *The Hereafter is for Allah, but ask for the affairs of this world*. Then Ibn 'Umar said: *I did not ask for the world from the One Who owns it. How come I ask the one who does not!*

Steadfastness to Allah turns you into a great man who does not care about the landowners.

This world does not lure those who steadfast to Allah.

A prince said to Ibn Taymiyyah, we heard that you seek after our Kingdom!

Ibn Taymiyyah raised his head with pride and said, *I swear by Allah, your kingdom is not equal to two pence for me.*

How can a man praying to Allah all night be humiliated for a piece of earthenware on day?

Fact

The moment you steadfast for your own need is the very moment that your need becomes at your right hand!

There is no crossing for any desire except on the path of Allah; there is no need except in the arena of Allah; there is no possibility of something happening but by the permission of Allah. He alone has all power.

A cell cannot move, nor can an atom exist, a droplet cannot evaporate, a tree leaf cannot fall except by His permission and command.

The whole world cannot cause any harm to you that Allah did not want.

The whole world cannot prevent any harm that Allah leads to you.

So direct your face to Him, and rest your back to Him, and trust in Him for all your affairs.

He is the Eternal Who begets not, nor is He begotten. And there is none like unto Him.

O'Allah, make our hearts steadfast to You, and make us not ask others, nor seek refuge in one of Your creatures, Oh Allah.

The Guardian

"AL-HAFEEZ"

We do remember the usefulness of anti-slip,
the benefit of speed brakes,
the benefit of the protective balloon,
and the benefit of seat belt.
BUT we forget Allah!

THE GUARDIAN

If you feel that your life is in danger, or that a disease is threatening your health, or your child is away from you, and you fear he may go astray or have bad company, or that the money you have collected has come close to wasting and spoiling, know that you need to bear in mind that among the Holy Names of your Almighty Lord is the name of "The Guardian" and that the time has come to think about it and reflect on it.

He is the only One Who saves your life, your health, your children, your possessions, and everything in this life!

Let Your Heart be reassured

Shaykh al-Sa'di (may Allah have mercy on him) said: *The Guardian is the One Who saves what He created, has knowledge of all that He created, saves those devoted to Him from committing small and great sins, and has mercy on them in movement and stasis.*

He has the utmost care, and gives the utmost care, and the maximum reassurance will be with you when you are with Him.

It is Him Who saves His slaves, so we always say: *O' Allah, saves us from between our hands, from our backs, from our rights, from our lefts, and from above us, and seek refuge in Your greatness that we may be assassinated from beneath us.* We ask for Allah's protection for our six sides. We ask Him for a nimbus of protection to save us from all sides, and no one can do that but Him only!

He saves our hearing and our sight, so we pray to Him in the morning and evening saying: *O' Allah save our hearing, O' Allah save our sight.*

You would lose the capacity to understand this world if you lost your hearing and your sight, you would live in a black isolation, and the silence of the world would stifle you!

"Say: "Think ye, if Allah took away your hearing and your sight, and sealed up your hearts, who - a god other than Allah - could restore them to you?" See how We explain the signs by various (symbols); yet they turn aside". (Holy Qur'an 6: 46)

It is the Guardian Who saves your hearing, by which you hear what is forbidden. If He wills, you will be deprived of it immediately.

It is He Who saves your sight, by which you look at what is forbidden. If He wills, you will be deprived of it immediately.

It is He Who saves your religion, so you whisper to Him in prostration saying: *O' You Who topples hearts and sights fixe my heart on your religion.*

Roads of Perversity

If He did not fix your heart on His religion, you would fall prey to suspicions, and be led astray by whims!

Scholars who spent their lives on books became disbelievers because He did not will to save their faith. And some of them became heretic. But you with little knowledge still prostrate to Him? He the Guardian saved your faith!

A scholar named Abdullah al-Qasimi wrote a book in which he defends the religion of Allah entitled *The Conflict between Islam and Paganism*. It was said then that that book was his lead to paradise. He was praised on the platform of the Sacred Mosque, but years later the fingers of perversity played with his heart and suspicions woven around his ideas webs of doubt! All of a sudden, axioms became hypotheses, and facts became opinions.

Behind these suspicions and among the stacks of delusion, he held his pen and composed a book attacking Islam, entitling it *These are the shackles*. In this book, he attacks Islam by saying that the religion of Allah is nothing but shackles and restrictions! We seek refuge with Allah from abandonment!

The Guardian is the One Who saves your faith, not that collection of ideas you have in your head! Do not be distracted by your knowledge, nor by your memorization of the Book of Allah, nor by your memorization of anything from the *Sunnah* of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). You would go astray if Allah did not save your faith.

This is Balaam bin Baoraa Whom Allah gave His Greatest Name, so that he can call Him at any time and Allah answers him. But that Great Name did not prevent him from going astray; he became among those who perished.

We Forget Allah!

He saves our lives, so we deposit our beloved ones to Him when we leave them and say: I deposit you to Him Who never loses His deposits! It is

impossible to lose the deposits on which Allah has bestowed His protection and care.

Behind every accident a man has escaped is the Guardian Who protected him; hence we call to mind the usefulness of anti-slip, the value of speed brakes, the benefit of the protective balloon, and the need for the seat belt, but we still forget Allah!

If roaring waves slapped a ship, and passengers' hearts reached their throats, who can save the ship from being swallowed by the ocean?

I saw a video recording of a ship convulsed by waves. The scene of the passengers raging violently was heart-breaking. They could do nothing, not even thinking. The only thing that was possible for them was try to cling to anything. Then, the camera moved out, the ship appeared as small as a straw in the middle of the roaring waves!

The captain of a plane announces that there is a malfunction in the plane, and those who were each soaked in their own thoughts turned to Allah and proclaimed repentance. They forgot their hopes, dreams, worries, and stupidity. Death was all that their minds can conceive!

Who repaired the malfunction with His ability, so that the plane could land safely and those who were turned by fear into ghosts could get off?

Once I was on board of a plane on which was severely bruised. At that very moment, I accurately knew the magnitude of the plane, and how it was on air floating over a vast and extended desert. I felt something beyond fear. Only then I realised how I had been unaware of the horrifying image of this moving object on air with the power of Allah!

*While on the sea, we supplicate Him to
safeguard our cruising ship;
Once on the shore, we disobey.
Happily and safely we travel by air;
The plane fails not because our guard
is Allah.*

Angels of Protection

The Almighty says: “For each (such person) there are (angels) in succession, before and behind him: They guard him by command of Allah” (Holy Qur'an 13: 11).

For you, the Almighty Guardian ordered four angels to surround and guard you by His command of all that He did not predestine for you.

How come He not be the Guardian and He ordered this number of angels to protect you from any shot He did not will to penetrate your body, and any stone He did not will to end your life, not even a mosquito He did not will to hurt your skin!

I watched with astonishment the video that displays the incident of the failed assassination attempt on Sheikh Ayed al-Qarni in the Philippines, and how the offender shot six bullets on the chest of the Shaikh from a distance of one-meter. There was no barrier between the shots and the sheikh. The assassin appeared to be professional and there was no resistance from the Sheikh or any of his companions; ultimately, the Sheikh came out of that sinful attempt intact and well! I compare that to how one shot from a long distance killed President John F. Kennedy though his car was moving, surrounded by guards and soldiers!

Then, the Sheikh declared that he had remembered Allah, and fortified himself with supplications! This incident is not only an integrated lesson, but rather a book of several volumes on the meaning of the Holy Name "the Guardian"!

In brackets

Do you know that He keeps you safe at every moment? But rather in every moment He saves you hundreds of times!!

How?

At this very moment you are reading (in brackets), He saved your heart from stopping, your arteries from clogging, your brain from insanity, your kidney from failure, your nerves from damage, your head from headaches, your stomach from ulcers, your bowels from colitis, your limbs from paralysis, your eyes from blindness, your hearing from deafness, your tongue from muteness. All this and even more He saved at this moment, and then this protection continues the next moment, and so on.

So, how many "praise be to Allah" (*alhamdulillah*) should we say every moment?

A Bottle

If you stop your car in a dark place and fear the hands of the thieves, deposit it with the Guardian; it will not be touched.

If you go out of your house and fear for your children, say: *I entrust you to Allah Who never loses His deposits. You will return - Allah willing - and they are in the best case, because He is the Guardian!*

If you are forced to leave something valuable in a public or insecure place, set your heart to Him and say, *O' Allah, save it*; then trust that the eye of Allah will guard it until you return."

Four friends went on an excursion to a place sixty kilometres away from Tabuk, called Nima Rit and then landed at nine o'clock in the morning, walking on their feet to a place called Alsheq! This is a great rift in the crust of the earth. Going there was an adventure, rather a fatal risk!

Their love for adventure made them go down. They reached the bottom in about half an hour and stuck there near sunset trying to climb up to the surface! They clung to rocks, glided with smooth bends, and the rocky layers crushed under their feet. Then, they crossed narrow spaces that could only accommodate their toes!

They were tired; their legs cracked. They were totally exhausted; their thirst was great. In short, they saw death!

They were sure that no one but Allah would save them. One of them (with the testimony of the rest) said that he called Allah repeatedly as he was so thirsty that he wanted to die. Surprisingly, in a place where he could not be reached, he found a bottle of clean spring water. He did not rejoice in the water he shared with his companions, but in Allah Who was with him at that moment. He knew that Allah Who granted them that bottle of water would save them from that deadly journey.

He no longer thinks of that bottle of water as a symbol of the escape from death, but as a symbol of the preservation of the Almighty Guardian.

In the end and before sunset, they reached the surface with their faces black, their clothes worn-out, and blood tearing from their legs, but their faith in Allah was as great as those mountains that surrounded them!

*Some eyes do sleep, others do not:
Pondering upon what may be or may
not be
A Lord who sufficed your yesterday*

Will not fail to do tomorrow.

Greater, greater and greater

With every creature, the Holy Name “the Guardian” has a story. He does not create to abandon His creatures. He provides them with weapons to withstand the surprises of life. He gives each creature its own sword to fight in the battle of life. He saves some animals with their ability to run fast like deer and rabbits; some of them are kept by horns, which are jabbed into those predators who come close to them like the rhinoceros and the buffalo. He saves some of them by the enormity of their bodies, so they crush enemies with their heavy weight like the elephant and bear. And some of them are given a weapon, which saves them by electrically shocking those who touch them like jellyfish!

Some organisms are saved by venoms in their bodies like snakes and scorpions! Chameleon is saved by its ability to change its skin colouration when needed! Others are saved by their ability to fly, by elusiveness, or climbing.

These are only a few examples of His protection; what we still have not known about His protection is greater and greater and greater!

He defends you

Allah's protection is also represented in the fact the He defends the believers: "Verily Allah will defend (from ill) those who believe" (Holy Qur'an 22: 38).

Reflect on this: He not only protects them from the evil, but does defend them! This is a hint of the ferocity of what they will encounter and the diversity of its forms. But Allah knows best what enemies intend to do, so He keeps them away from His loved ones.

In the sacred hadeeth: "He Who opposes those devoted to Me is warned by a war from Me".⁴ Imagine: a war between an enemy of the message, and truth and religion, and Allah!

Who wins? Who is defeated? But Who is disappointed?

Verily He is the Guardian of His true believers, He saves them with special care: with His love, His care, and His mercy.

4. Narrated by al-Bukhari (6502-8/105)

The polytheists of Quraysh gathered around a cave where two men were hiding: Muhammad (peace be upon him) and Abu Bakr as-Siddiq (may Allah be pleased with him). The financial temptations were pushing the polytheists to kill them, let aside their hatred, and the desire to get the honour of getting the most important figure of that time. Fear crept into the heart of Abu Bakr, but his great companion looked at him and said: “What do you think of two, and Allah is the third of them”?

O’ Abu Bakr, do you think we are only two? No, we are three! At that moment, the fears dispersed, the trembling disappeared, and the confusion dissolved.

*If the Guardian watches over you,
Then slumber in peace, nothing to
worry about.*

Here are the young cave-dwellers resort to Him and ask Him guidance, so He directed them to a cave without a door, a cave open to humans, birds and predators, but He wants to save them by throwing one of His soldiers to them, it is the soldier of terror! No sooner does anyone approach the cave, than he is horrified and lost his desire to move forward: “... if thou hadst come up on to them, thou

wouldst have certainly turned back from them in flight, and wouldst certainly have been filled with terror of them” (Holy Qur'an 18: 18).

If you or I want to throw something, we throw a pen, a book, or a rock, but the Almighty throws what is more important, greater, and extraordinary. The Almighty says: “I will instil terror into the hearts of the Unbelievers” (Holy Qur'an 8: 12).

For the sake of His slaves and those devoted to Him, He throws terror in the hearts of the disbelievers, so that their limbs shiver in fear of those devoted to Allah.

The valleys of predators

The Almighty protects you with angels. Whoever reads *Al-Kursy* verse (Holy Qur'an 2: 255) before he sleeps, Allah entrusts an angel to stay by him and protect him from what Allah did not predestine for him.

What shall you be afraid of if Allah is with you?

This name makes you want to tower with confidence in the Ever-living Who never dies. You walk in the dark, crossing the valleys of predators,

sweeping the crocodile swamps, because the Guardian surrounds you with a nimbus of preservation that makes all these things trivial toys.

Sure, this does not contradict with the fact that you must put two and two together. He ordered us to do so, and our lead, peace and blessings be upon him, stuck to that in his migration, and all his days and forays. But that remains of its limited importance, and Allah, the All-Knowing, the Powerful, the Guardian should always be in your heart.

He who reads the story of Sheikh Abdul Rahman al-Sumait, may Allah have mercy on him, in his journey to Africa to call and spread the true religion, knows how he passed through the marshes and desolate valleys in the jungles of the Black Continent. He was hungry, thirsty and sick, yet nothing evil happened to him, but remained for twenty-five years in his favourite way which he chose. Then, he died in Kuwait on bed! He who reads the story of Al-Sumait knows the true meaning of the Holy Name the Guardian.

In this context, there is a story which we do not verify its accuracy, but it is no strange to the righteous worshipers of Allah. It is said that Saeed

bin Jubair was captured by two soldiers of Al-Hajjaj, and while they are on their way, it rained which made them enter a hermitage. However, Saeed refused to enter it, rejecting to enter a place where Allah is misguidedly worshiped. So, they left him down and ascended the silo. Surprisingly, a lion approached Saeed; they warned him from the top to run away, but he did not move and remained in a world of remembrance. The lion got closer till it reached Saeed body. It looked as if it was whispering to Saeed; then went off the man. The two soldiers were watching fearfully and the hermit was watching with another eye and said: This is one of those who are devoted to Allah!

*Take all your worldly affairs and leave
my heart care free,
I am in great wealth, though you think
I am in misery.*

Who made the lion stop at the last minute, it's the Guardian!

I am the poor

I watched in a horrible clip on YouTube someone walking on a rail. The problem was that a train was coming with its ultimate speed, but it was in that man's destiny to be on the other side in time; that

was his destiny. Suddenly his foot stuck between the bars of the rail. He uselessly tried to pull it; the train was coming closer with great speed, his voice roared with the horror of death. The man was almost dead before death reached him! But when it was only few meters, Allah permitted the rail to let that man go to the other side in a flash that was about to end his life tragically!

Trust your weakness, trust your poor opinion, trust your poverty, then make your heart hanging on Allah, and repeat:

*I am the pauper to the Lord of the
World;
I am the poor in all my grades.*

Prophet Lot, peace be upon him, was attacked by his people in his house, they wanted to wrench the door of the house and get his guests; they were angels. What a shame if the people of yours hurt your guests. He said with all weakness: “Would that I had power to suppress you or that I could betake myself to some powerful support”) (Holy Qur'an 11: 80).

Our Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "May Allah have mercy on Lot, he was really betaking himself to a powerful support."⁵

*Hold fast to the rope of Allah
It is the pillar that will never betray you*

O' boy

Allah also saves you with your enemies! How can this be true?

It is said that a burglar got into a house and wanted to steal the money in one of the rooms where there were a baby and his parents. The burglar infiltrated the room and carried the baby to another room. The baby cried out. The parents woke up wondering what had taken their child out and searched him all over the house. The burglar seized that opportunity and entered the parents' room to steal, suddenly, the ceiling of the room collapsed and the burglar was buried inside that room!

What made the burglar come to save that family from dying under the rubble with a trick that went against himself! It is the Guardian who keeps his slaves, Who saves them even with their enemies!

5. Narrated by al-Bukhari (3372-4/147) and Muslim (151-1/133)

And one of the greatest reasons that bring the preservation of the Almighty Guardian is to safeguard the commandments of Allah.

Repeat and reflect on this hadeeth: “O’ boy, I am teaching you those words: safeguard the commandments of Allah, so that He saves you. Safeguard the commandments of Allah, so that you find Him by your side. Be with Allah in distress, He will be with you in prosperity”.⁶

Safeguard the commandments of Allah, Allah will protect you.

Safeguard the commandments of Allah by doing what ordered you to do

Safeguard the commandments of Allah by avoiding what He forbade

Suffocation

This is all for this section, so get over your fears and sorrows. Allah will save you from them, as He saved Zun-nun bin Mattah [Jonah, son of Amittai]. No

6. Narrated by al-Tirmidhi in the book of *Sifat Alqiama Wal Raqayiq Wal War’a* (2516) and said “it is a good and sound hadeeth, authenticated by al-Albaani in the book of *At-tawasul* (35)

worry or sorrow was equal to that of Zun-nun, Yunus (peace be upon him). He was in three-fold darkness: the darkness of the sea, the darkness of night, and the darkness inside the whale. What a miserable life that he would run forever inside the whale!

Darkness, distress, and suffocation...

But he faced all his sorrows with only one word: "There is no god but thou: glory to thee: I was indeed wrong"! (Holy Qur'an 21: 87).

These weak letters, piercing the darkness of the whale, the darkness of the sea, and the darkness of night, ascended to heaven. It is said that the angels heard them. *They said: O' Lord, it is a known voice from an unknown place!*

Then came relief along with amnesty and protection, and the whale spit him out into to the shore, where the Guardian bestowed him a tree of pumpkin.

In this life, we all are like Zun-nun, we have to withstand the sorrows of life, and only Allah can save us from it: "There is no god but You, Glory be to You, I am one of the oppressors."

O' Allah, save us with Your protection, and surround us with Your care, and make us safe from between our hands, and from our backs, and from our rights, and from our lefts, and from above us, and from below us, so that we are safe from that which we fear and beware.

The Kind

"AL-LATEEF"

If the Kind willed to dispel evil away
from you, He will not make it come
to you in the first place, or
He may allow it to come
but no harm to befall you out of it!

THE KIND

Do you have far-fetched security, with lots of obstacles to reach?

Did doctors tell you that there is no hope of healing your relative?

Do you feel desperate because what you can do will not bring you what you wish?

So come with me to know the Holy Name of Allah "the Kind". If reflect on it you will find out that there is nothing impossible in this life, and that Allah is capable of everything, and that your impossible dreams will be possible if knock the door of the Kind!

Of Hidden Kindness

Linguistically speaking, "*Kind* means: righteous to His slaves, beneficent to His creatures by delivering benefits to them kindly," and saying "May Allah be kind to you" means "May Allah grant you what you wish kindly".

Kindness is originally based on taking a hidden path to an accurate destination.

It is only He Who knows the minute things and what is hidden in souls Who grants you His grace kindly.

The Almighty Allah "is beneficent to His slaves in concealment while they do not anticipate it, and grants them the reasons for their survival while they do not anticipate them"

He is Kind in concealment; accurate in His generosity and grace, in His guarding and guidance, and in His predestination and His orders.

Despite His great ability, His great knowledge, and His surveillance of His creatures, He is kind to His slaves with guidance, dignity and beneficence. His grace does come unexpectedly but preceded by good omen. He prepares your heart to receive it. Then, when grace comes to you, the reasons for it are well-established that it appears as if it were pure gain of the slave while the truth is it is sheer grace from the Bountiful.

With his kindness come great predestinations that even great, imaginative minds cannot expect. He makes them happen, every thread of that predestination is held by His kindness. So, while you are not anticipating it - with miracles – it comes

to you! You do not know how that could happen, because you are sure that you do not have the power to make it happen. Thus, you look at the sky and say: "Gracious is Allah to His servants" (Holy Qur'an 26: 19).

The breeze of Kindness

If the Kind wills to help you with something for no reason, He is the greatest reason.

If the Kind wills to bestow upon you, He makes those from whom you do not seek good the cause of the greatest gifts you get!

If the Kind wills to prevent you from evil, He makes you not see evil, or takes evil away from your path, or make you both meet and turn away, uneviled!

If the Kind wills to protect you from disobedience, He makes you hate it, or makes it difficult to get, or makes you afraid of it, or makes you set forward to it, and then He causes something to distract you from it!

The worshipers of Allah observe those kindnesses, and see them with their own eyes, as if everything that happens to them has some kindness that they alone can recognize.

When the Kind wanted prophet Yusuf [Joseph] (peace be upon him) to come out of prison, He did not destroy the walls of the prison. He did not order an angel to end the lives of the oppressors. He did not permit a thunderbolt to remove the iron lock. But rather He made the king have a dream which was a hidden, kind cause to free Yusuf from prison and its handcuffs!

When the Kind wanted to restore Moses peace be upon him to his mother, He did not cause a war to be waged by the rebels of the children of Israel against the tyranny of Pharaoh, after which the oppressed return to their previous status, but He made the milk of wet nurses unpalatable to Moses! By this hidden order, Moses returned to his mother after her heart had become empty!

When the Kind wanted to get our Prophet peace be upon him with those who followed out of the suffering inflicted by Bani Hashim, He did not send a storm to shake the injustice of the Quraishis, He just sent a maggot to eat the edges of the document of injustice; it was only an insect!!

*To others, I have not extended a hand,
None but You grants dew;*

*And Your door is never shut afore me
So, how can I be turned down!
And Your support is always with me
And Your kindness, protects me
against my foes.*

He is the Kind, with the least of things He leads the greatest predestinations. His will is over everything, but his slaves are unaware that something is happening!

The Rock

While you are asleep, He loves you to pray in his hands, so he sends a calm wind to tremble your window, or a child to pass by your room and make noise, or you need to drink a little water. So, you wake up and look at the clock. Minutes later, you are performing prayer without knowing that He awoke you!

You are driving your car across the mountains. Suddenly, you think you have to pull over to check something in the drawer (your ID-card or your wallet) and seconds later you see a huge rock falling from the top of the mountain. If you did not stop, it would crush your car! So, you go on your journey safely, not knowing that it is He who saved you!

You plan to disobey him, go out at night, the details of the plan are tight, suddenly a car passes from afar, and you realize that someone is watching you. So, that passing car will pounce on the idea of your disobedience. You change your mind and get back home, not knowing that He prevented you with His kindness from disobeying Him.

*Great is Allah's concealed kindness
that even the smart cannot recognize,
And many are the times you feel sad in
the morning,
You get pleased in the evening.*

*If you feel down one day, trust in the
Supreme One.*

What is hidden

The Kind must be knowledgeable, how can he bestow upon you and guide you kindly if He does not know where this kindness is needed then?

It must be that He is also a creator because the perfection of kindness requires in some cases creating what does not exist; hence are the Holy Names and attributes of Allah overlapping. Each of these Names requires the others; the Almighty says: "Should He not know - He that created? and He is the One that understands the finest mysteries

(and) is well-acquainted (with them” (Holy Qur'an 67: 14).

How should He not know, while is so knowledgeable that He hid his precise, impressive grants. How come that this Lord, who grants, guide, and protect insidiously, not know all this kindness He causes! Praise be to Him.

Shaykh al-Sa'di said: "He is the Kind who knows all that is hidden,

And here is a vision of the greatest visions of mankind seen by Yusuf, peace be upon him, in a state indicates it is impossible to achieve! Yusuf said in the Qur'an: "I did see eleven stars and the sun and the moon: I saw them prostrate themselves to me" (Holy Qur'an 12: 4).

The interpretation of the vision was that his father, his mother and his eleven brothers will bow to him in honor and reverence! All indicators say that this is impossible; his father is an aging, great prophet; it not normal for an old man to bow to a young one, and a prophet is not like an ordinary man, and a father is not like a son!

His brothers hate him; how will they bow to him? They hated him so much that they planned to kill

him by throwing him into a well. These indications say that it is impossible!

Then things changed: first thrown in a well, then a commodity to be sold and bought, then became a slave in the palace of the King of Egypt! This slavery also confirms that this vision is impossible to fulfil!

Then he moved from being a servant in a palace to a slave in prison! So, it got way more difficult for his dream to come true.

But the Almighty Kind leads things the way He wills: gets him out of prison, makes him in a high position, then predestines drought to sweep the country; finally, his brothers come to him in need. Things change as predestined by the Kind to fulfil that old vision. Yusuf was astonished by the prostration of his parents and brothers, and said “O my father! this is the fulfilment of my vision of old! Allah hath made it come true ...”! (Holy Qur'an 12: 100.

Otherwise, if it were not for the will of his Lord, it would not have been fulfilled.

“... He was indeed good to me when He took me out of prison and brought you (all here) out of the desert, (even) after Satan had sown enmity

between me and my brothers” (Holy Qur'an 12: 100).

This is a brief description of His kindness that dominated the scene, then Yusuf concluded by saying: “Verily my Lord understandeth best the mysteries of all that He planneth to do” (Holy Qur'an 12: 100).

Verily, He is the Kind. If He wants something, He prepares its causes with all the kindness and insidiousness so much so that the impossible becomes possible! Because Allah is the Kind and well-acquainted.

Far-fetched dreams

If you see the earth dried up, clouds gather over it, and thunder crashed overhead, then it rained causing the earth to shake so that it became all green, do not say that such is normal, and reflect on this: “Seest thou not that Allah sends down rain from the sky, and forthwith the earth becomes clothed with green? for Allah is He Who understands the finest mysteries, and is well-acquainted (with them)” (Holy Qur'an 22: 63).

No matter how far-fetched your dreams are, the Kind will make them come true: “O my son!” (said

Luqman), "If there be (but) the weight of a mustard-seed and it were (hidden) in a rock, or (anywhere) in the heavens or on earth, Allah will bring it forth: for Allah understands the finest mysteries, (and) is well-acquainted" (Holy Qur'an 31: 16). So do not despair Allah is Kind in what He wills.

Look at a mustard seed! You could hardly see it if you are not staring at it: look at its size for your mouth, then for the size of a room, for example, then a house, then compare it to the size of your neighbourhood, then to your city, then to your country, then to your continent, then to the Earth, then to the vast heavens. If Allah wants it, it will come "Allah is He Who understands the finest mysteries, and is well-acquainted" (Holy Qur'an 22: 63).

He Who is well-acquainted and able to bring that mustard seed from the labyrinths of this great universe, can lead you to your destiny. Surely, He can.

A friend of mine arrived on a difficult journey from Tabuk to the Jordan borders. Next day morning, he would have lectures at Mu'tah University that he must attend. At the borders, after driving for 100

kilometres, he remembered that he forgot his passport at home! He decided to return and not travel that week.

The next day, he read in a newspaper that some university students – who were from different nationalities - had staged riots at the University of Mu'tah resulting in some injuries.

The Kind made him forget his passport, so he does not see the blood, or be taken to hospital that day, or even be exposed to fear that may push him to abandon his study in which he had come a long way!

Look forward to His kindnesses. No doubt, they are many. In every predestination, there is kindness, and at every moment, you are surrounded by His kindness.

At the last moment

Ask yourself when you enter a room at the moment when your child almost fell off the bed: Why did you enter at that very moment?

Also ask yourself when you enter the kitchen to drink some water. To your surprise, you hear a hissing sound coming and smoke rising from the

socket of the refrigerator, so you unplug it while the fire was at its beginning: What made you enter at this very moment? Why not five minutes later?

Even if such incidents did not happen to you, it is certain that you came through similar cases, just unleash your memory, and you will remember the shades of kindness overwhelming your life.

After this quiet journey with this great name, whose meaning was briefly discussed, I leave it to you to dig in other books to uncover more and more the hidden meanings of this Holy Name.

After this journey, does not He deserve to be loved? To contemplate His gifts? To remember, observe, ask, and fear Him? To live with this name days, calling Him, and waiting for His kindnesses, yearning to see His hidden guidance and grants?

Say in reverence:

O' You of hidden kindness dispel our fears.

O' Allah, the Kind, be kind with us, and guide us kindly, so that we straighten ourselves, and guide our hearts, and beautify our lives.

The Healer

"AL-SHAFI"

He Heals you with a cause,
the weakest cause,
the extraordinary cause,
and what is not considered a cause,
And He heals you with no cause!

THE HEALER

Have you been afflicted with aches? Do you suffer from pain? Do you feel that life is gray?

Did you hate visiting the doctors, became tired of walking in the corridors of hospitals, and mixed up the names of clinics, the dates of the reviews, and the faces of the patients?

So what if I share with you something that will clean your soul of its impurities and burdens?

It is the Holy Name of Allah "the Healer".

Allow your exhausted self to take a breath, to read about this merciful name. After reading this section, you will find out how badly you need Him and how far away from Him you are.

No illness from now on

"The Healer" is one of His Holy Names, for which we are grateful. He is the only One Who can heal the bodies of His slaves. This is a name that reveals its meaning, and its appearance reflects its hidden secrets.

Healing is related to disease as disease in human life is of a frequent occurrence, causing a variety of

pains, in various forms; almost found in every body. He who is cured of an eye disease suffers from headache; when relieved of headache, he suffers from his joints roughness, and when he is relieved of that pain, he suffers from fever. And when the fever goes away, his colon inflammation goes high, then he has toothache, and so on so forth. His days are full of pains.

Even if he is all healthy, he may have a brother withering, or his mother crying, or his son moaning, or his beloved one suffering from pain.

Life is full of diseases, sorrows, and sighs, so Allah has called Himself the Healer, so that your sufferings prostrate in the sanctuary of His mercy, and relieve your pains at the threshold of His power.

Disease is a major scandal plagued by human arrogance, a sudden withering in which man loses his prosperity, a setback to the vitality of that easy-to-panic and stingy creature.

Allah has predestined that this body should be temporarily extinguished until man is convinced of his weakness and that he is powerless.

Allah has decreed disease to man so that he remembers something similar to disease, death! Just as disease is the end of vitality, death is the end of life.

Your fate is death. Everything in you indicates that: your sleep, sickness, and aging. You are more dead than alive, but delusion makes us think that we are immortal. That's why disease cries out to our bodies, it's to be gone!

And while that exhausted body lies on the bed of sickness, seen by those who come and leave, carrying on their heads the crowns of health and wellness; while this happens, it awakens the memories of earth, and the smell of death is all over him, whether he is feeling it or not.

Your soul when you are sick is in closed meetings with the dead, and the beginnings of the inner collapse blow out your eyes and lips and the trembling of your cold limbs.

Here is the life within you waving and saying goodbye to your visitors.

And when the disease takes its full range, and you are about to leave this world, the Almighty permits the disease to leave your body, and health to fill

your body, then your cheeks are red again, and your missed smile is back.

He heals you with no cause!

Because He is the Healer: He heals you with a cause the weakest cause the extraordinary cause what is not considered a cause and He heals you with no cause! Heals with herbs, heals with single, compound medicines, heals with food, and heals with water.

One of the strangest things I read was that a child with tuberculosis and other diseases claimed that his death was imminent and that his father was allowed to take him to the countryside to enjoy the last days with the rustling countryside and the landscape of the fields. While he was walking with a piece of sale cake, an old man saw him and asked: *Do you want life, son?*

He nodded his acceptance. The old man said: *How can you get life while you are eating junk food?*

You have to eat healthy food like meat, vegetables and all that Allah created in nature and still has the heat of soil and the impact of life on it!

The child says that the advice of that man fell on his heart, so he started to eat only healthy food, the food that carries within it the vitality of pulsating life, meat of all kinds, vegetables in all forms, fresh bread coming from the field and the ripe fruit. Then, I got better and my father took me to the hospital. After diagnoses and analyses, doctors dropped their jaws in astonishment. The disease no longer exists! This story is told by the same child as he grew up and became one of the most famous food therapists in the world, Gaylord Hauser in his book *Food Makes Miracles*.

Yes, the doctors sentenced him to death, but the King of kings did not judge him so!

Yes, doctors wanted to end his life in the countryside, but Allah did not want that!

Yes, the doctors failed to treat him, but Allah failed not and will not ever!

You can never tell!

Who deposited the secrets of healing in vegetables, meat and other stuff accessible even to the poorest man of the world? It is the Almighty Allah.

You might have a disease, but you do not know, and you eat the food cures you, but you do not know, you get sick and cured, but you did not know that at all!

The Almighty may put his healing in water, and we all know "*Zamzam* water is for what it is drunk for"⁷ which is "feeding the hungry and curing the ill."⁸ Many are the patients who after drinking this blessed water got better, Allah willing.

There are a large number of *hadiths* about prophetic medicines; some of them collected by Ibn al-Qayyim in his book *Prophetic Medicine*.

Some medicines include but not limited to: cow's milk and margarine, cassia, black seed, and praying at night, which are all documented in sound prophetic traditions.

He also heals with patience, with prayer, with charity, with asking for forgiveness, with repentance, with satisfaction, and with nothing!

7. Narrated by Ibn Majah (3178-9 / 311)

8. Narrated by al-Tabarani in *Almiejam Alssaghir* (295-1 / 186)

Light returned

A man entered the religious affairs library at King Abdul Aziz Hospital in Tabuk, full of fear. At that moment, we missed his bright smile. We asked him what is wrong with him. He told us that his son is in the upper floor; he had an accident and lost his sight.

Oh, we were so sorry, how can the heart of this father bear this?

He said kindly: I would like one of you to come up with me and exorcize my son, then Allah may heal him.

A friend of mine immediately got up and went with him. An hour later, my friend came back and told me he exorcized him and then talked to the father, asked him to be patient, and told him: "Heal your patients with charitable works".⁹ He said, "The father took five hundred riyals out of his pocket and asked me to give alms for his son may get well".

Two days later, the father entered with his chin up and asked my friend to accompany him. My friend

9. Narrated by al-Tabarani in *Almiejam Alkabir* (10196-10 / 128)

came back about half an hour later and said, "Good news, he could see some of the bulb light of the room!" Then, he told me that the father gave him a thousand riyals to give alms. That day was the end of the week. On Saturday, my friend told me that the father came and took him to his son's room, and I could not believe it when he told me that his child had become like his old age! He restored his eyesight, and he saw life again.

Who healed him? Who predestined life to his eyes?
Who brought that light back to his eyes?

"Verily, when He intends a thing, His Command is, "be", and it is!" (Holy Qur'an 36: 82)

The Almighty ordered his sight to return, then the sight returned!

Return to Him

Allah only wants to you to go back to Him, to feel your way to him. So, do return to him with satisfaction, with prostration, with repentance, by asking forgiveness, with charity, and with confession.

Knock on His door, and then looked forward to a cure.

There is no hospital in this world that can heal you if Allah does not want it to.

There is no doctor in the world who can diagnose your illness, unless Allah wants him to.

One of the wealthy suffers from renal failure. His children travel with him to Egypt for a kidney transplant. The children made a deal with the parents of a young girl on the amount of one hundred thousand Saudi riyals for her kidney. In the morning, everyone was in the hospital. Before the surgery, the man asked to meet the girl who decided to sell her kidney to him. She came to him in shyness. He asked her: "What made you sell your kidney to an elder like me"?

She said: "Need! My family is poor, my brothers are at university, I have to do something to help them"!

It was like a slap! Awoke him from a coma, with which he forgot the congestion of rotten blood in his body, he wondered in himself: *Is it possible that anybody sheds part of his body, a part of his life, to eat, to live?*

Immediately, he called on his sons; when they came, he ordered them to get him back to Saudi Arabia; he has changed his mind.

He told them that the amount of one hundred riyals is a charity from him to the girl! After his sons' resistance and anger, they succumbed to their father's wish. After returning to Saudi Arabia, he goes to the hospital as usual for kidney wash. In a regular check-up, the doctors surprisingly found that his kidney is functioning normally.

The King's ability to heal does not require a surgeon's scalpel. He is the King who looks from His kingdom, healing the sick, pleasing the sad, returning the departures, and healing the wounded.

An Arranged Appointment

Allah gets you ill to make you return to Him. If you return to Him, you get better.

He gets you ill to be modest. If you be modest, you get better.

He gets you ill to sympathize with others. If you sympathize with others, you get better.

He gets you ill to test your patience. If you are patient enough, you get better.

The only Healer; to whom you can come without an appointment, without a card qualifying you for

treatment, with having to come at least 15 minutes ahead of the appointment is Allah!

Just say: *O' Allah*, then the greatest divine hospital opens its doors. This is the hospital of mercy, ability, kindness and healing.

A friend of mine says that he heard the child's bones crushing under the tires of his car. He stopped the car and carried the child to a hospital. His heart was pounding. The father and grandfather of the child came over. My friend was horrified: he never imagined that he would kill a child in his life!

The sound of crushing bones echoed in his ears!

The grandfather of the child came to him and calmed him down and told him that what Allah decrees would be, and they are ready to embrace it.

The grandfather led them in Evening prayer in the hospital mosque and recited, "give glad tidings to those who patiently persevere" (Holy Qur'an 2: 155). My friend cried bitterly. After the prayer, the doctors came out and told the father and grandfather that there is little hope that the child will survive because his skull is terribly crashed!

My friend was shocked, lost his strength to get back home. He missed his job for a whole week. He was in a real shock.

There was no medicine for that poor child greater than the faith of his grandfather, the calls of his mother, and his father's trust in Allah.

After less than a week, I myself visited that handsome child. Surprisingly, he was laughing, playing, standing, and talking with us. Allah speaks the truth and the doctors not, Allah, Who remedies fractured bones, speaks the truth “What Allah out of his Mercy doth bestow on mankind there is none can withhold” (Holy Qur'an 35: 2).

Who is capable of remedying these crashed bones? And restoring the smile? And reviving spirit in a body to which the gates of the cemetery were opened?

Allah alone is capable of that!

Put a point

Here is the father of prophets, Ibrahim [Abraham], peace be upon him, who came to his Lord with a heart clean of any polytheism. He said it. The believer understands the lesson and does not

resort except to the Ever-living Who dies not: “And when I am ill, it is He Who cures me” (Holy Qur'an 26: 80).

Put a point here, you will not need others to heal you, and will not benefit from any one if He does not want you to!

Smallpox attacked the body of Ayyoub [Job], peace be upon him, his family scattered, so was his property. The most optimistic people lost hope in his recovery, yet he was patient! Diseases afflicted his body, but he remained patient. And after the years of affliction, he recited a lively prayer, a prayer filled with certainty: “Truly distress has seized me, but Thou art the Most Merciful of those that are merciful” (Holy Qur'an 21: 83).

So the doors of heaven opened with mercy.

And the high orders descended from above the seventh heaven for the sake of that sorrowful man.

Within an hour, all years of pain were gone, and came those of healing!

Why go to others? Why resort to others?

Why trust all those dead who move around you and forget the Ever-living Who dies not?

Who fooled you and convinced you that healing might come from another way?

How could life laugh at you that fast, so you forgot the One Who got you out of your mother's womb without a doctor, and made your food in her breast, and taught you while you do not know how to stick your lips on her breast to suck your food? Have you forgotten the One Who created mercy in the heart of that human being to embrace you? And take care of you?

Have you forgotten Him that fast?

Or, you thought you could do without Him?

Here is Allah reminding you with disease of your first days. With disease, He says to you: back to me, as I created you from nothing, I alone can heal you!

Content

Medicine may be closer to you than you think!

Here is Ayyoub, peace be upon him, is ordered to strike the ground with his feet "here is (water) wherein to wash, cool and refreshing, and (water) to drink" (Holy Qur'an 38: 42).

The medicine was near him, he was only lacking the will of Allah so that the reasons for healing are complete, when Allah permitted it, Ayyoub knew the place of medicine, so the medicine cured him with His permission.

You do not need to book a ticket to Washington, Paris or Beijing, your medicine by Allah's Will is very close, just book your heart a trip to the city of satisfaction and content:

*Your medicine is within you, though
you do not feel it;
And your medicine is from you, but you
do not perceive it.*

If you are satisfied with Allah, Allah makes you contented.

Disease is one of the harshest tests of satisfaction. If your answers to this test are satisfactory, the result is satisfactory.

Some may ask: *How can I be satisfied with disease and its pain? How can I accept something I hate?*

Imam Ibn al-Qayyim answers this question by saying: "There is no contradiction in that, because the patient gets satisfied with it by resorting to the One he loves and dislikes it because of its pain, just

like the distasteful medicine which he knows is his cure, so he both likes and dislikes at the same time.”

Amidst your sighs, say what prophet advised his nation to say: "I have accepted Allah my Lord, Islam my religion, and Muhammad my prophet".¹⁰

Say it in your heart, make your heart submit to its meaning, wash your heart with it. Because being satisfied with Allah leads to Allah’s satisfaction. If you are satisfied with Him, He makes you satisfied as well!

Make your heart breathe satisfaction; make it enjoy the satisfaction, and then watch your body, you will see the signs of healing all over it, Allah willing.

Put your hands together and recite His name in your supplication and then wipe on your body, the Almighty will return those things that were about to leave!

10. Narrated by Muslim (386-1/290)

Disease is the beginning of a new era in which you know your Lord through the Holy Name 'the Healer'.

Rivers of sins

You have become sick so many times in your life... right? Who healed you? Is not it Allah? Why do you think this disease itself cannot be healed? This is a feeling that deserves punishment. Your illness may be a punishment for that evil thinking. Clean your heart first, and then resort to the Healer to cure you.

All those patients in hospitals are waiting for permission from the Almighty Healer to recover.

There is no sigh He hears not; there is no pain He knows not its place, and there is no exhalation He sees not its flames in the heart.

Once His will is fulfilled, and you discharged through your sighs the rivers of sins, the Almighty orders your health to return so that you walk on land free of sins!

For he is the Merciful, He heals you

For he is the All-knowing, He heals you

For he is the Oft-Forbearing, He heals you

For he is the Powerful, He heals you

For he is Allah, He heals you

With Him, you will delete the numbers and names of doctors!

With Him, you will forget the sites of hospitals!

With him, you will cancel your clinic appointments!

Build a new hospital in you room: a prayer rug, and make a date with prostration.

Have in your heart only one name: The Healer!

O' Allah, the Healer, heal and have mercy on every weak spirit, every exhausted body, and every tired heart. Verily, you hear supplication.

The Advocate

"AL-WAKEEL"

With Allah, your dreams will come true,

Your aspirations become reality,

Your wishes will be guided to you,

Your desires will all be met with.

THE ADVOCATE

Do you feel so weak that the world with its details is bigger than you, and that you are a feather blown by the wind of the bustling life?

Do you feel like a bird whose wings were cut so it became powerless, needing help?

Do you have things to worry about, and you want to deposit them to someone who do not lose deposits whether these things are sons, money, health or life?

So, get into the lights of the Holy Name of Allah "the Advocate".

Start by recognizing this glorious name, snorkelling in the depths of its meanings, relieving yourself of weakness, anxiety, and distraction to make it fade under the shadow of the "the Advocate".

Take Him as an Advocate

The Advocate is the one whom you should trust exclusively, never resort but to Him, never trust but Him, and never hang your hopes but on him.

Forget any action that you trust in Allah for, because if you trust in Allah, then you have trusted

in completing this work the One Who has all things, in the heavens and on earth.

The Almighty says of Himself: “Lord of the East and the West: there is no god but He: take Him therefore for (thy) Disposer of Affairs” (Holy Qur'an 73: 9).

The Lord of the East and the West command you to take Him as an advocate. What is after this comfort, pride, and assurance of success?

He just wants you to say in your heart: You are my advocate, O' Allah!

Is there a wealthy man on earth to tell you not to seek help from him?

And never trust but him? And not to resort but to him? This rich man does not exist at all, because it is beyond human power to protect you from all things, and to prevent everything from hurting you and help you in everything.

Allah alone says that, does it, and can do it! Trust is heart assurance that makes you walk under an umbrella that protects from concerns, intrigues, and the worrisome winds of the world.

Only he who is deprived of this cannot appreciate that umbrella and does not try to walk under it.

The greatest king and the best of lords, the Almighty Allah, orders you to take him as an advocate, to put your needs before Him to satisfy them, to resort to Him to protect you from the arrows of treachery, to trust in Him in all your affairs to cater them the best way. The question now is: What are you waiting for? What is it that makes you not accept this credit? Who gave you more than these benefits?

We are horribly so appalled by the dust!

Read:

“And put thy trust on the Exalted in Might, the Merciful, Who seeth thee standing forth (in prayer), And thy movements among those who prostrate themselves” (Holy Qur'an 26: 217-19).

What is the great thing, the great sorrow, and the great matter that will be difficult to the Lord of Glory?

He is the Lord of Glory itself, every glory, so how can your concerns withstand the will of the Lord of glory, pride and greatness?

An Annual plan

The greatest thing you trust in Allah for is your worship, by giving up and disowning all that around you and saying with your heart before your tongue: "Thee do we worship, and Thine aid we seek" (Holy Qur'an 1: 5).

So you seek help, trust, and seek strength from Him to worship Him.

It is impossible that Allah commands you to worship Him and have all trust in Him and He lets you down. How do you ask for His help to worship Him with His great love for this worship and then He does not help you? Just repeat often the noble prophetic words:

"Oh Allah, help me to remember you, thank you, and well worship you".¹¹

Have I said often?

So I apologize, not only often, but make it within your daily schedule, your annual plan, and among the goals of your life!

11. Narrated by Abu Daud in his *Sunnan* (1524-1/561); An Nasa'I in his *Sunnan* (1303-3/53)

Because if He does not help you in that, there is no power that will help you..

Because if He does not help you in that, you will not do anything..

Because if He does not help you in that, you will lose this worldly life and the Hereafter!

Ibn al-Qayyim says:

Shaykh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyah, may Allah have mercy on him, said: "The best of du'aa' is seeking help to satisfy Him, and that is best found in Al-Faatiha [chapter 1 of the Holy Qur'an].

He also says: "Heart may be attacked by two severe diseases. If the slave does not cure them, they will spoil it: hypocrisy and arrogance. The cure for hypocrisy is (Thee do we worship) and the cure for arrogance (Thine aid we seek).

I used to hear Shaykh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyyah, may Allah have mercy on him, say: "(Thee do we worship) protects from hypocrisy! And (Thine aid we seek) protects from arrogance."

Even that prayer which you have just performed, if Allah had not helped you to perform it, you would not have been able to.

Humble yourself to Him

He is merciful, just bring down your needs at his door, just make your heart humble under His throne. Even if you do not call Him, the merciful Allah likes you humbling yourself, and then trust that He will satisfy your needs, heal you, and draw a smile on your face.

With Allah, your dreams will come true

Your aspirations become reality

Your wishes will be guided to you

Your desires will be satisfied

“And put thy trust on the Exalted in Might, the Merciful, Who seeth thee standing forth (in prayer)” (Holy Qur'an 26: 217-18).

He, for whom you stand to perform prayer, for whom you dust your forehead, to whom you bow, deserves to hang your needs on Him, to entrust Him to heal you, to be your refuge from your fears, and to ask Him to help you achieve your dreams:

*With your hands cling on to the rope of
Allah,
It is the exclusive pillar that will never
betray you*

A good woman whose son decided to pursue his studies abroad, heard about how *some of* those who go there get corrupted and dissolute. However, she was powerless, many things forced her to accept it, so she knew that Allah is able to safeguard her son. She devoted some of her prayers to call Allah to protect him. Having finished his studies, the son returned home and became one of the people of mosque, praying at night, enjoining that which is good and forbidding that which is abominable. He gained values he had not had before! How can we imagine that the Almighty will leave the son to corruption, while his mother pleads with Him to save her son, saying: *O' Lord, I trust you, so do not let me down in my son!*

Smiling tears!

If one of the worldly kings said to you, *Entrust me to retrieve your right from the oppressor, only entrust me, will you doubt that your right will not be back to you?* You only need the signature of one of the king's viceroys to make the oppressor pay back your right trembling, so what if the order comes from the king himself, and what if it is not a signature, but the whole task?

Now let alone that king and his assistants, and reflect on this:

“And put thy trust in Him Who lives and dies not”
(Holy Qur'an 25: 58).

Images of all your needs popped in your mind, right? Fear no longer exists, nor does hesitation, nor contingencies!

Allah will turn all your problems into solutions, all your pain to wellness, all your dreams to reality, and all your tears to smiles.

If you die, the Ever-living Who dies not, will restore your right to your children after you, do not get caught up in the moment of your grief and the drowning of your senses with your children after you. The Ever-living Who dies not will be with them, make them happy, and make their lives even better than it is when you are with them because He is the Ever-living Who dies not.

Oxygen of life

Even if no one oppresses you, trust in Him!
Trust is not only a refuge of injustice of oppressors and help in doing a specific task!

Trust is the oxygen of your life. Can you live without oxygen?

Trust in Allah for your health. Trust in Him for your heartbeats, the movement of your organs, the flow of your blood in your arteries, and the circulation of food inside your body.

If Allah did not allow your eyelids to close, your eyes would burn dry!

If Allah did not allow your tongue to taste, life will be miserably tasteless!

If Allah did not allow your skin to feel, you would have no feelings!

Trust in Him for guiding your children.

How many times have you and I heard about children, who were raised in mosques, but turned out to be atheists!

Some got corrupted, although their parents took much care of them!

And some went astray, although they were surrounded by their mature brothers!

Allah alone knows the place of guidance in the heart of your son, call Him to fill it with faith. Trust in Him, say to Him submissively: O' Lord, this is my

son, and you are my Lord and his Lord, so guide him to You and help me raise him.

O' Lord, I cannot command him to pray unless You help me do so.

And he would not be able to pray unless You help him.

So, help us remember, thank, and well worship you.

Life is hell without Him

Trust in Him to make your life happy; life is hell without Allah!

They say: Praise your wife, tell her about the details until her heart is tamed, smile to her, and gently treat her. With all this, you will earn both her heart and love!

Yes, all this is true, but before, after, and during that, say: *O' Lord, make my spouse a pious one.*

Ask Him for help, trust in Him, and call Him saying: All my smiles to my wife are useless if you do not will it.

Call Him submissively, *Her heart is in your hand, not in mine, so bind us and make us better, O' Lord, for each other.*

Allah wants you to recognize that you are weak, of limited strength, of modest means, and that He alone is mighty and powerful. If you do that, you have three quarters of trust. If you do that, all the things around you will dramatically improve, believe me.

Let us imagine that you are a man without needs, without dreams, without worries and without disease. You need to trust in Him to love you. Do not you want Him to love you? “For Allah loves those who put their trust (in Him)” (Holy Qur'an 3: 159). The meaning of that Allah loves you is so great that a slave with the slightest sensations cannot pass on it without his heart pounding in passion and desire. Allah, the only One, loves you. This is a very sufficient reason to seek trust in the Almighty, to trust in Him, and to love this name, which refers to this great attribute.

Allah suffices me

Some people come to discourage you, to convey to you something of the ugly reality, to shake your inner certainty, to play on your feelings, to tell you to be afraid, to change your attitude, or to abandon your principles. At that moment, wash your heart with faith and say: *Allah suffices me and He is the*

best disposer of affairs, then no harm will touch you! Read carefully:

“Men said to them: "A great army is gathering against you": And frightened them: But it (only) increased their Faith: They said: "For us Allah sufficeth, and He is the best disposer of affairs." And they returned with Grace and bounty from Allah: no harm ever touched them” (Holy Qur'an 3: 173).

Undoubtedly, no harm will touch you, not even touch, which you think you will not survive some of it, will not harm you. Ulcers will not touch your skin; regret will not touch your heart. Allah willing!

Read with your heart: “And put thy trust in Allah, and enough is Allah as a disposer of affairs” (Holy Qur'an 33: 3).

If you trust in Allah, do not think that the question is that you did not find anyone else to trust in him. Never, you trust in the best disposer of affairs that any creature can trust in.

Some say: *We have nothing but Du'aa [prayers].*

Well! Is there a greater power than that which is with you?

Du'aa is one of the manifestations of trust. *Du'aa* is heart assurance before it is uttered words that Allah is capable of everything; that is trust in its clearest form!

Say to anyone, who says: someone only has Allah: Allah suffices, and what is missing if the King of kings and the Lord of the East and the West is with him?

*Take all your world and leave my heart
free*

*I am in great wealth, though you think
I feel lonely.*

A compelling reason

Do you know why it is sufficient to trust in Allah? There is a very compelling reason, it is the fact that He is the Almighty Who owns the heavens and the earth: “Yea, unto Allah belong all things in the heavens and on earth, and enough is Allah to carry through all affairs” (Holy Qur'an 4: 132).

Is not that which are you afraid of on this earth? So it belongs to Allah, and Allah the Almighty is the One Who controls it?

Is not this disease, which attacked you and cannot be cured, is from Allah? It is the Almighty alone Who can command it to leave your body!

Are not these sorrows, worries, burdens, concerns, and sadness on this earth?

Then, trust in the One Who owns this earth and all that on it, so that He removes with one word from Him all your sorrows, worries, burdens, concerns, and sadness.

Because He is the Creator of all things, He is capable of doing anything, so we trust in Him: “Allah is the Creator of all things, and He is the Guardian and Disposer of all affairs” (Holy Qur'an 39: 62).

Reflect on this: Allah suffices us and He is the best disposer of affairs.

That means: we have nothing but Allah, then He is the best disposer of affairs. There is no better or more worthy disposer of affairs than Him.

Beware

Be careful not to trust but in Him, beware to take refuge in anything else. You will suffer from distress and weakness, you will be distracted by evil whispers, and your heart will indulge in this life. The Almighty says: “Take not other than Me as Disposer of (your) affairs” (Holy Qur'an 17: 2).

It is forbidden to look for others, while He exists, to rely on others while He is the Ever-living, to resort to others, while He is the Giver.

Because He is the All-hearing, the All-knowing, He hears everything that goes on in secret, and He knows everything that is woven in the dark. How can you trust in others, while others cannot hear or know that? "... and trust in Allah: for He is One that heareth and knoweth (all things)" (Holy Qur'an 8: 61).

This oppressor, who oppresses you, is a creature of this Lord Who protects you! So trust in Him to prevent his harm, and say with all pride: "I put my trust in Allah, My Lord and your Lord! There is not a moving creature, but He hath grasp of its forelock. Verily, it is my Lord that is on a straight Path" (Holy Qur'an 11: 56).

Even the devil with his soldiers, followers, and the strength that Allah has given him for whispering, intimidating, and even incarnation and the like, cannot reach those who trust in Allah (No authority has he over those who believe and put their trust in their Lord) (Holy Qur'an 16: 99). So what about your boss, neighbour, prince, or minister?

Remember: “And if any one puts his trust in Allah, sufficient is (Allah) for him” (Holy Qur'an 65: 3).

You will never need anyone if you trust in Him and ask Him to help you in all your affairs.

He suffices and protects you.

If you do not receive the care of Allah from all sides, you perish!

Life is a farm full of diseases, concerns, ghosts, plans and plots. Without Allah's care, these snakes will swallow you!

I do not mean to scare you; this is a fact!

Say: O' Allah, I entrusted you.

Have you said it in your heart? Then, smile; all those snakes are away!

Things that threaten you

If you leave your house, what awaiting you outside is:

A painful accident, a wind that makes ill, a hole to fall in, a bad person to curse you, a jealous person to envy you, a restarted servant to make tired, or a cheating salesman to make you lose. But say when

you leave what your noble prophet commanded you to say: "In the name of Allah, I trust in Allah. I take refuge in You lest I should stray or be led astray, or slip or be tripped, or oppress or be oppressed, or behave foolishly or be treated foolishly".¹² Now you may set out breathing in success and protection, Allah willing. All these fears will no longer exist.

If you go to bed, resort to Him and entrust Him with a desire and awe for Him.

Every moment, remember that your Lord commanded you to trust in Him, when you need Him. Do not waste this opportunity, this gift, and this grace.

O' Allah, make us trust in You, and seek refuge in You, overwhelm us with your faith, and make this faith clean us of being attached to all that is other than you.

12. Narrated by Abu Daud in his *Sunnan* (96 4/486).

The Appreciative

"AL-SHAKOUR"

With the generosity of Allah, arithmetic
changes!

For His generosity is not subject to
mathematical equations,
but to the divine grace!

THE APPRECIATIVE

Surely, you have already done someone a good turn and then he denied it? Completely forgotten you! It was not reflected on his face! Still frowning as he used to be!

No doubt, it is not a happy experience!

Life is full of those who do not know: *Thank you!*

Nor are they good at saying: *May Allah bless you.*
The smile is something alien to their culture!

Dismiss these people away, life is shorter than to be wasted blaming them or thinking about their ingratitude! And go to "the Appreciative", to revive the flowers of your heart broken by the ungrateful.

Live with the Appreciative, reflect on this glorious name, and wipe the wrinkles of this weary life with the meanings of this Holy Name.

If He gives you, you are overwhelmed

The Almighty thanks His slave for the good deed he does. The phrase "good deed" has no limits, it is so broad that it almost covers all that between the heavens and the earth!

He commands you to do this good deed, by which your life and hereafter become good, and if you do it, then the Almighty is the one who deserves to thank for guiding you to it, and facilitating it for you. But it is His generosity that thanks you!

Is there any generosity like this?

How does He thank you?

This question needs ages to be answered.

Just as Allah Himself is beyond the power of sight, His names and attributes are beyond what the minds can comprehend.

Nevertheless, by way of reflection, let us think of and be blessed with this great name in our lives.

His thanks include:

Forgiving sins and screening defects

Paying back good deeds and increasing rewards.

Bestowing health, wellness, offspring, money, and peaceful life

Granting you good name and reputation.

Answering your calls, making you feel close to Him, and entertaining you.

Healing you from diseases that killed others.

Lifting up your marbles that could destroy the souls of others.

Leading you to the right, while lots went astray.

Fixing you on truth, while the hearts of those who are smarter, more knowledgeable, and older than you shook and turned away!

A mathematical equation

Read and imagine:

“The parable of those who spend their substance in the way of Allah is that of a grain of corn: it groweth seven ears, and each ear Hath a hundred grains.) Is that all? No: (Allah giveth manifold increase to whom He pleaseth” (Holy Qur'an 2: 261). Praise be to Allah!

A grain in good deed turns by His grace and generosity into seven hundred grains in reward.

How come: 1 is equal to 700?

You do a good deed that is worth a similar one, but Allah rewards you seven hundred multiples, and increases to whom He pleases!

With the generosity of Allah, arithmetic changes!
For His generosity is not subject to mathematical equations, but to the divine grace!

Praise be to Allah! If He gives you, you are surprised, and if He grants you, you are astonished. Whoever of us that did not receive grants from Him? We are in every moment of our lives, but on every spur of the moment receiving uncountable gifts and grants!

Mention in the Book

All prophets did good deeds and struggled to convey His words, so He thanked them by mentioning them, making them role models, and immortalizing their stories in His Book, as well as protecting them from ill words and thoughts, so that it is not allowed to anyone to underestimate their statuses, among His other graces.

For mentioning them in His Book an advantage I always feel!

A slave of Allah created by his ability, was nothing, and then He says about him:

“Mention in the Book (the story of) Abraham: He was a man of Truth, a prophet” (Holy Qur'an 19: 41).

“Also mention in the Book (the story of) Moses: for he was specially chosen, and he was a messenger (and) a prophet” (Holy Qur'an 19: 51).

“Also mention in the Book (the story of) Isma'il: He was (strictly) true to what he promised” (Holy Qur'an 19: 54).

“Also mention in the Book the case of Idris” (Holy Qur'an 19: 56).

Pause here please and reflect on “Truly We found him full of patience and constancy” (Holy Qur'an 38: 44). Resume now: “How excellent in Our service”! The Great King says about one of His slaves: “How excellent in Our service”!

O' Allah, How great your generosity is!

Now look at His generosity with our Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) to see how He granted him His mercy “Is it they who would portion out the Mercy of thy Lord?” (Holy Qur'an 43: 32) made him His messenger “Allah knoweth best where (and how) to carry out His mission”

(Holy Qur'an 6: 124), was with him in all the stages of his life “And Allah will defend thee from men (who mean mischief)” (Holy Qur'an 5: 67), and adorned him with the best manners “And thou (standest) on an exalted standard of character” (Holy Qur'an 68: 4).

And He paired his name with His in *adhaan* [the call for prayer] and in the two attestations; poet Hassan said:

*Allah paired the name of the Prophet
with His Glorious name—*

*This is what the muezzin says in the
adhaan;*

*The Prophet's name is generated from
His Name:*

*Allah is the Glory; Muhammad
glorified.*

The prophet's companions, who sacrificed their lives and their money to defend the faith, were thanked by making speaking ill of them a sign of hypocrisy; Allah was pleased with them, and increased the reward of their deeds and made all of them of honourable records, and made them the best of people, and said about them: “Allah's Good Pleasure was on the Believers when they swore Fealty to thee under the Tree” (Holy Qur'an 48: 18),

and said: (But to all has Allah promised a goodly (reward).) (Holy Qur'an 57: 10).

Hadiths about their virtues are well-known and countless. That is how Allah thanked them for their sacrifice and support.

The weight of an atom

As a generous man thanks anyone who does him a good turn, the Almighty thanks in a way seemly to His generosity and glory. His reward is so different; His reward is the greatest ever. He rewards you for every good deed no matter how small it is, provided that it is pure. Thus, he does not only thank the great deeds, but also those as small as a corn grain “And anyone who has done an atom's weight of evil, shall see it” (Holy Qur'an 99: 7). He granted a woman paradise for half a piece of dates, and a prostitute for watering a dog, and a sinful man who ordered his children to cremate his body fearing Allah's punishment, so he entered paradise for his fear, a fourth man who had but one good deed in his life which was giving alms to one of his friends, and a man who killed a hundred people, but he made atonement for his sins.

The Almighty's reward is instant for those who give alms. He grants them His blessing and graces, as the Prophet (peace be upon him) says, "Allah

accepts the charity of his slaves in His right hand and raises it as one of you raises his colts".¹³ Such is His reward for His slave's piety!

A resident of the Eastern Province [in Saudi Arabia] told me ten years ago when we were standing at a famous mall about the story of that shopping center. He said: The owner of this mall was a regular public servant who used to save some of his and his wife's salary so that they could buy a house. When they were about to save the needed sum, the man donated it for building a mosque after hearing an agitator saying: "whoever builds a mosque for Allah's sake, even if it is so small, Allah will build for him a house in Paradise".¹⁴ Those words touched the man's heart, so he went that night to his wife and told her his intention to donate all his savings for a mosque. Surprisingly, his wife also wanted to donate all her savings and participate in the project of building a mosque!

You can imagine how he overnight changed his plan after years of hard work! And the change was for

13. Narrated by al-Bukhari (1410-2/108) and Muslim (1014-2/702)

14. Narrated by Ibn Majah (787-2/498)

Allah's sake and stems from a heart devoted to Allah and the Hereafter!

My friend added: "After the mosque was built, they started saving again and perhaps the idea of trade has popped on the mind of the husband, so they opened a small shop. Surprisingly, customers came to that shop from everywhere and money poured on him. Thus, the man expanded his shop and soon, he opened many branches that he now has, in the region, thirteen branches." This was ten years ago, Glory be to Allah the Appreciative with whom trade is always profitable.

I met a man who told me that his name is so and so Rahili. I asked to him joking, "Are you the owner of the famous Rahili stations in the city of Jeddah?"

He said: "No, it is one my relatives"!

Then he said, I would tell you the story of that man. When young, he used to give charity to the poor. He used to subsist the orphans, and he was charitable to some of his family, and then Allah rewarded him, so he had this station and other successful businesses. Such is the reward of the Appreciative.

Spend ... And I spend on you

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Money never lessens because of charity".¹⁵ We must deeply believe in this. As the Holy hadith goes: "O' my slave, spend, and I will spend on you".¹⁶ So, if you put one riyal in a poor's hand, Allah will reward you much more in health, satisfaction and grace.

A poor university student heard, as he was going to Friday prayer, a man near the charitable fund urging people and saying: "O' my slave, spend, and I will spend on." He searched his pocket, and all he had in it was five riyals, he took them out and put them in the charitable fund. He had the voice of certainty in his heart saying: O' my Lord, I did spend, while I am poor, so spend on me, you are the Rich! In that evening, he visited his brother who told him (without knowing what happened) that he had extra money in his account, which he does not need all, reluctantly, he took only two thousand... Allah spent on him!

15. Narrated by Al-Tirmidhi (2495-9/111)

16. Narrated by al-Bukhari (4684-6/73) and Muslim (933-2/690)

Long ago, I read a real story in a magazine: that a beggar knocked on an author's door in the morning, so she gave him the last 100 riyals she had; but her spirit was whispering: *O' Allah, make this ten multiples, ten multiples to me*. That day she went into the kitchen and made a breakfast for her and her husband. The husband woke up and sat at the table. While he was eating breakfast, he remembered and said: There is an envelope for you on that table I picked up yesterday from the post office. The wife looked at the envelope. Surprisingly, it was a bank cheque for an article she had written for a newspaper: A thousand riyals!

Do good

Beware to be attached to worldly rewards. So much of the reward Allah saves you is the most you need in the Hereafter.

Lord's rewards are best represented by that for dutifulness to parents, such as peaceful living and success in all affairs. As if success in life is confined to the dutiful. You can go over those whom you know of the successful, you will find them having dutifulness in common.

The Almighty says: "do good" (Holy Qur'an 22: 77).

No matter how small this good is, the Appreciative thanks it “Then shall anyone who has done an atom's weight of good, see it!” (Holy Qur'an 99: 7).

Even though the atom is hardly visible, if you do good deeds of its weight, you will be rewarded for it on the Day of Resurrection.

When you are careful to turn off the light of your car at a traffic sign so as not to bother those on the opposite street. They may not know your intention of so doing, rather they do not even notice your behaviour, but beware that you think that the Appreciative will not reward you. How? It does not matter; it is possible that a disease would have taken your eyesight away, or an accident that would have damaged your car, or a problem you would have fallen in. Allah prevented that all as a reward for that good deed.

Being careful to gently open the door at night so as not to disturb the sleepers.

Holding the door of the mosque open for an elderly to enter

Avoiding running over a straying animal like a cat

Your smile at a child

Doing the mess in a room of your house

Your prayer for someone dead, because you are sure that no relative is praying for him

Closing a faucet that was leaking

Lifting a twig lying on the road

All this is good.

Keep silent

The best of good is when you read a few pages of the Noble Qur'an and notice some good deed that Allah urges you to do, so you get determined to do. You are doing the greatest thing you can ever do. You are doing the thing that Qur'an came to call for.

But if you ask me about the greatest good you can do, it is to submit to Allah. To live as a Muslim, and worship Allah submissively, and treat people as a true Muslim, and look and speak and feel as a true Muslim, and then die as a true Muslim!

Imam Ahmad was asked: Does the one, who dies on Islam and Sunnah, dies on good? He answered: Shut up, but he dies on the whole good!

Allah says “And whatever good ye send forth for your souls before you, ye shall find it with Allah” (Holy Qur'an 2: 110):

Whatever good you send forth for yourself, you will find that the Appreciative has saved and increased on the Day of Resurrection: “And whatever good ye send forth for your souls ye shall find it in Allah's Presence, yea, better and greater, in Reward” (Holy Qur'an 73: 20).

“Of the good that they do, nothing will be rejected of them” (Holy Qur'an 3: 115).

There is a weak hadith with good meaning: "good deeds prevent bad death".¹⁷

Therefore, believing that He is appreciative and that the whole good is from Him makes the slave trust in his Lord.

Where to?

A Bedouin was told: You will die! He said: Then where to? It was said: To Allah! He said: How can I

17. Narrated by al-Tabarani in *Almiejam Alkabir* (8014-8/261)

hate to go to the One from whom I have always seen good?

His heart was filled with a great feeling of trust and hope in Allah, which the Holy Quran emphasises: “And ye have no good thing but is from Allah” (Holy Qur'an 16: 53).

No thing? Yes, nothing, not even your health, money, comfort, success and satisfaction “And great is the Grace of Allah unto thee” (Holy Qur'an 4: 113).

You worship Him for sixty or seventy years, most of which without discretion or asleep or doing permissible things, yet He rewards you with paradise to live there immortally!

If the Almighty gives for nothing, then what if there is something? What if you distinguish yourself by doing good deeds to satisfy Him, then you may not think that He will not reward and thank you.

Lifting up

Three men were driven by rain into a cave. In the morning, they found that a great rock closed up the door, so they could not go out. They sought Allah for help with their good deeds. He rewarded them

be rescuing them and removing that great rock, and no sooner had the third finished his call than the rock burst out and they walked out!

Since his first speech in the cradle, Prophet Jesus (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) devoted himself for the path of Allah, so the people of Israel used to fight against him. So Allah rewarded him by lifting him up out of the pit of concern, intrigue and anxiety, and made him live in heavens with angels and the chosen of His slaves.

With Allah, you are in ever-lasting profit.

Allah is the One Who is able to lift you up out of what you are suffering from. You should bear in mind that you have so many concerns and sorrows that nothing can rescue you from except the word (lift up), do good, so Allah lift them up, as was the praise of Yunus the cause for lifting him up out of the belly of the whale.

You trade with the most generous, the most appreciative, and the most graceful.

There is no possibility of losing in the market of Allah, so be with Him and then wait for His grace and reward. He will not leave you, be assured, you will not prostrate to Allah without being rewarded.

O' Allah help us thank you for your blessings and make us remember You, and make us thankful for every grace and guide us to do good deeds for which You reward us generously, You are the Most Graceful, the Appreciative.

The Mighty

"AL-JABBAR"

Whenever a dream burns out,
Allah gives you a more beautiful one
And whenever a memory fades away in your
heart,
Allah gives you a better one!

THE MIGHTY

Are you worn-out by circumstances? Tired of calamities? Breathless because of crises?

Has poverty changed your look? Have diseases made your fields barren? Has orphanhood made you look shrunk? Do you feel surrounded by humiliating looks?

Your flagging spirit, your broken heart, and your weak breath needs someone to remedy their weakness and humiliation. Why do not you get to know the Holy Name "the Mighty" to remedy with its meaning all your weaknesses? And bandage with its shadows your wounds? And calm down with its breeze the storms of your flagging spirit?

Your broken heart, how was it broken?

Among the meanings of the name of "the Mighty" is: The One Who remedies the bodies and the hearts of His slaves.

Living in the care of Allah provides us with the ointments of health, the dressings of happiness, painkillers, and the antidepressants.

The Almighty knows that the bodies, hearts and souls of His slaves will be broken somehow, leaving

scars on their foreheads, and effects on their souls, so He promised to remedy that all with His mercy, and called Himself “the Mighty”, to teach His slaves that He is able to remedy them so that they resort to Him. The breakdowns of life are numerous:

An accident in which the bones break, an insult that breaks the soul, poverty that makes souls bend, illness that depletes power, an obstacle that besieges ambition, a phobia that stifles your instantaneousness, hatred that revolts with your feelings, circumstances that make you humble.

As much as these breakdowns, the doors of heaven are open with the dressings of mercy and kindness!

Many are the orphans who feel down by their arrogant peers, and had it not been for the mercy of the Mighty, they would have felt down forever.

And many are the weak slapped by the powerful, and had it not been for the mercy of the Mighty, they would have been humbled forever.

And many are the poor humiliated by a word said by the wealthy, and had it not been for the mercy of the Mighty, that word would have been a stigma for the rest of their lives.

Remedying the broken-hearted, helping the weak, and raising the small, and bring the late forward, healing with His mercy the wounds of the souls.

We know some people who have suffered from the severity of their fathers, yet they have grown up to be very merciful!

They suffered from the mockery of their peers, yet they became successful! They suffered from anaemia, tuberculosis, and allergies, yet they became strong and healthy!

Where are those terrible feelings and where are the effects of those diseases? They were healed; they went away after the bandages of mercy. The Mighty made them disappear.

And remedy my breakdowns

We are allowed to say between the two prostrations while performing our prayers: "O' Allah, forgive me, have mercy with me, help me, grant me, and remedy my breakdowns".¹⁸

18. Narrated by Al-Tirmidhi (284-2/76) and Narrated by Ibn Majah (898-1/290)

(Remedy my breakdowns)! It is as if we are breaking down in the day so many times that we need Allah to remedy us so much!

About eighteen years ago, my only niece died between her mother's hands. She cried in suffocation so badly that I could hear her in the next room. It was the last cry! I came to my sister before dawn. She was so sad, shedding tears, so I advised her to say this supplication: "O' Allah, reward me for my calamity, and compensate me with what is better than it".¹⁹ She uttered that supplication with a trembling and depressive voice. Her words were raised to the One Who remedies the broken hearts of His slaves. So, Allah later compensated her with sons and daughters. May Allah make them obedient to her and well behaved.

If your soul is inflamed, if your dreams are burnt, if the structure of your soul is broken, say: O' Allah.

And remove the impediment from my speech

Last year, I met a student suffering from stuttering, I grabbed and advised him to call Allah whenever he prostrates: "And remove the impediment from

19. Narrated by Muslim (918-2/631)

my speech. So they may understand what I say)”
(Holy Qur'an 20: 27).

I met him this year, he could speak fluently, I asked him - I forgot my advice - about the reason for that change, he said: *Duaa* you advised me to say in prostration.

He is the Mighty; there is no sorrow He cannot remove; there is no disease He cannot cure; and no scourge he cannot put an end to.

Pain piles in the heart of the slave that he thinks it cannot be cured, then the Mighty remedies that heart, and after months that slave forgets all his pain and grief. He remedies hearts, bones and souls and wipes tears.

If you are bruised by concerns, and overwhelmed by calamities, do not cry for long. Direct your praying rug towards *Quibla* and your prayer will eliminate those concerns and the calamities in moments, Allah willing!

He loves you smiling

After the *Maghrib* [sunset] prayer, he sat and asked for forgiveness from Allah. His pocket was empty except for a few riyals that do not make anything in

front of the vast needs of life. You can easily tell that he is so poor and broken-hearted, but the Mighty saw him from the highest heavens. And before he went to bed that night, Allah relieved his poverty with what he did not expect or imagine!

He loves you to be smiling, so He leads every nice thing to you to help you smile, and make that smile expel the effects of distress from your face.

If you see someone broken help him, be the one who is used by Allah to remedy the broken-hearted, do not sleep while your neighbour is hungry, do not laugh and while your brother is crying, do not enjoy the warmth of your house while there are nearby people, of whom you know, shivering.

The handcart

A friend of mine says: I saw an old woman pushing a handcart full of goods near the Sacred Mosque. Her skin aged; he resembled her to his mother, so he cried bitterly. He took out everything in his pocket and put it in her hand. He was so sorry for her.

He says: I did not think that I was charitable with her, or that the Appreciative would thank me. I was

only curing myself from what that sight had on me,
and I did not succeed!

Before that month was over, he received the
largest deposit ever in his bank account!

Allah would never let you remedy the weak
without thanking you. He is the Appreciative.

Be the window through which the air reaches the
souls that have been suffocated by the smoke of
tough life, be the upper hand in charitable works.

The Prophet, peace be upon him, visited the sick
Jew, his neighbor.

Caliph Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him,
cleaned the house of a blind woman and cooked
food for her!

Abdullah bin Mubarak died, and the poor lost the
charities that he used to put at their doors before
dawn, so they knew after his death that it was him
who did that!

One of the opponents of Ibn Taymiyyah died, and
people came to give him glad tidings, but he got
angry and went directly to his family and his
children, and said to them: I am like your father,
shall you need anything, do let me know.

They were preoccupied with the great task, the task of remedying the broken hearts, Allah used them for that great honour.

83 marks

A friend of mine, when he was a student at Umm al-Qura University in Mecca, told me that on his way to the university he met with someone going to perform *Umrah*. The man asked him about a police station. My friend told him that he was in a hurry and that he was about to miss a lecture. The next week was the test date. Yet, he gave him a ride. In the car, the man told him that he had lost his wallet, mobile, passport, and all that proves his identity three days ago. He could not eat, sleep in hotel or communicate with anyone. The man said to my friend: "I am so tired - and at this very word, he burst into tears – "for the past three days, I have been begging and sleeping on streets" ... He was broken-hearted!

My friend consoled him and reminded him of Allah. He said to him: Allah did not make you lose these things in the Sacred Mosque to humble yourself to others. Just pray and prostrate to Him and ask Him for help; definitely, He will grant you what you need. Then He gave him eighty-three riyals; that

was all he found in his pocket. The man got off with a shy smile.

Two weeks later, the results of that course examination were issued, in which he did not answer any question because of its difficulty. He thought he would fail because he deserved zero! Surprisingly, he got eighty-three out of hundred! The number of riyals he gave to that man became the exact number of marks he got in that examination!

Yes, such things, whenever you try to deny their existence, appear clearer and clearer. The more you decide not to hear, the more deafening they scream.

Allah rewarded him for helping that heart-broken man.

The servant's room

If people knock at the doors of the kings, then knock at the door of the greatest King.

If they stand humiliated in the courtyard of a prince, stand in the courtyard of Allah.

If they move from hospital to hospital, then at perform a prayer during the night and say: *O' Allah!*

With Him is the key of relief, healing has a huge safe, do you know where that safe is? It is with Allah! “And there is not a thing but its (sources and) treasures (inexhaustible) are with Us” (Holy Qur'an 15: 21).

Happiness security, comfort, and satisfaction are all in that safe. Would you then leave the One Who has everything with His hand for a slave who has no benefit, no harm, no death, no life, no resurrection even for his own self?

How funny it is that a visitor of a king in this world prefers talking to the servant to talking to the king!

We do what is more funny than this when we leave calling the King of the world and the Hereafter and asking for what we want and go on a therapeutic trip to Washington or England and come back after months with disappointment and loss!

This is not meant to abandon treatment, but it is about attachment to the creature, and forgetting the Creator.

The dream and the memory

Live for days with the Mighty, pass its majestic meaning over your wounds, make it sooth the

suffering of your soul, awaken the joy of yourself, make with your reflections a sun of life that eliminates the vacuum that you lived in.

The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) comes down from the town of Taif with a great deal of sadness and sorrow, after being hurled by schmucks. The King of kings, King of the World and the Hereafter, sees him and sees his heart filled with groans, so He sends Angel Gabriel accompanied by the Angel of mountains to him to pull down the tremendous mountains over the head of those bad people!

The angel of the mountains looks at the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) while he is in his grief, which made him walk in Taif, so sad that he did not wake up except with horns of foxes, and says: Allah has commanded me to obey you, O' Muhammad, I can smash them between those two mountains, if you want me to do so.²⁰

If He wills to remedy your broken heart, He will destroy an entire city for you!

20. See full story in al-Bukhari (3231-4/115) and Muslim (1795-3/1420)

But Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) refuses that and forgives them.

When the scorching flames of mockery burnt Noah's heart, he looked up at the sky and called his Lord: "I am one overcome: do Thou then help (me)" (Holy Qur'an 54: 10). The King opened the doors of the heavens with pouring water and drowned the earth for Noah.

None but Allah can remedy the souls like this.

Some people think that their tasks are to destroy you, ridicule you, humiliating you in front of your friends! Had it not been for the mercy of the Might, their plots would have made you live in misery.

They enter your eyes to steal your most beautiful dreams ... and sneak into your heart to wipe out your finest memories! Whenever a dream is extinguished, Allah creates for you a more beautiful one, and whenever a memory fades away in your heart Allah gives you a better one.

A cup of coffee!

The Mighty has provided our lives with remedies, dressers and medicines. We know some of them, and we are ignorant of the majority of them which

He has created and deposited in the universe for you, to make you smile and live a dignified life, so that you get busy worshipping Him.

Our wounds heal when we take the medicine that cures them, when we eat healthy food, and when we drink pure water.

Our souls are relieved when we see the smile on the faces of others, and when we feel their hands patting on our shoulders, when we hear kind words.

We overcome all obstacles when we encounter a heart that beats in love with us, a hand that extends to help us, and a cup of coffee that we drink with those we love.

There are things that heal inside us when we look at the beautiful nature, hear the watercress, and stare at a bird feeding its chicks.

Prayer drives despair out of our souls; “Glory be to Allah”, it creates joy that we find its taste on our tongues, “Glory be to Allah my Lord” makes our souls fly around the Throne.

Parents’ prayers for us are the warm the coldness of life; visiting a friend is a great pleasure in this

hustling life; and neighbours asking about you give colours to your grey life.

Orange juice forces you to smile, a piece of candy forces you to enjoy its delicious taste, and a hot bath relieves your fatigue.

Life is full of remedies, and our Lord wants us to be happy, to smile, to lead a beautiful life.

Be of those who prostrate to Allah

What slows you down to move towards Allah?

What makes you late to join the penitents, who recite His words in the middle of night?

The look of the foetus in the womb of his mother is very close to the shape of someone prostrating to Allah!

So be in your life of those who prostrate as you were in your mother's womb, Allah blesses you and make your narrowest places the most pleasurable ones and surround you with His mercy.

Prostrate with your heart, even if you raise your head.

Say with your heartbeats: *Glory be to my Lord, even if you are smiling.*

Whisper with your arteries: O' the Mighty, remedy my broken heart, and then watch the miracle while it is reforming your spirit!

O' Allah, remedy our broken hearts, souls, and bodies; You have power over all things!

The Guide

"AL-HADI"

He does not guide you because you are the
son of so and so,

but because He wills to guide you:

“Allah guides whom He wills to a way that is
straight” (Holy Qur'an 24: 46).

THE GUIDE

Are you hopelessly confused? Do you feel that your mind is unable to tell you what is true and what is false? Have you been offered two jobs and you are puzzled which one to choose? Have you been comparing two girls not knowing which one to marry? Are you tired of the path of dissoluteness and wish that Allah led you to the path of guidance? If so, then you are ready for the beginning of a new era with the Holy Name "the Guide".

You need to know this great name, to be guided by the Almighty Guide to clear up your confusion, and to lead you to the straight path!

Warmth

Etymologically the word "guidance" indicates shift, as if guidance is a shift from the wrong to the right, from perversity to righteousness, and from wandering to the straight path.

He guides you, so He shifts your path from perversity to guidance and from misguidance to the straight path.

And as He guides you, so He guides to you!

He leads your life needs to you: He brings water to the land you inhabit, and deliver food to the place where you live, and provides your lungs with air.

He guides all His creation in various ways in accordance with their conditions:

The blind are guided to walk on the road, the deaf are guided to understand what is being said, and the disabled are guided to reach their goals.

He guides a child by keeping him away from what hurts him.

He guides animals with instincts, so they know what benefits them and what hurts them, and they know the risks and how to defend themselves.

He guides those lost in deserts.

And guides the reader to the location of information.

And leads the researcher to the invention.

And guides the diligent to the answer of a question.

And guides the preacher to the best way of delivering his message.

And guides the father to the best way of rearing and bring up his child.

No coincidence!

He guides you with what you think is a coincidence: with a verse you hear in a prayer, with a dream you have, with a piece of advice, with a word in a book, with meditation, with an unconscious thought, with circumstances that drive you to the right, with fear, with love, and with death!

Listening to the Qur'an is the origin of the guidance, and it is one of the greatest causes of guidance that Allah has made to guide His slaves. He has embedded in it all the causes of guidance. Allah says "Verily this Qur'an doth guide to that which is most right (or stable)" (Holy Qur'an 17: 9). Thus, it is impossible for anyone who knows the Qur'an and does what is mention in it to go astray.

The story of Omar bin al-Khattab's conversion to Islam is well-known: he came to his sister seeing red, but when he read the first verse of *sura Taha* in a leaflet that was with her, he submitted to the Faith. May Allah be pleased with Omar bin al-Khattab.

How did he feel? What kind of certainty did have in his heart at that moment? Many are the verses of

guidance mentioned in the Qura'n that we paid no heed to, and many are instructions that we ignored.

Neither... nor

One form of guidance is represented by having a dream in which you see yourself cured of a disease, warned from evil, or guided. It is said that someone was sick and saw in a dream that his treatment was in "neither...no". He went to a Sheikh and told him about the dream. The Sheikh said, "I do not know, but I read the Qur'an every two days. So, give me some time, I may find something that expounds your dream. Two days later, he told the man that his treatment is in olive oil; the Almighty says: "Lit from a blessed Tree, an Olive, neither of the east nor of the west, whose oil is well-nigh luminous" (Holy Qur'an 24: 35).

By the same token, it is a form of guidance to seek healing by doing good deeds that resemble the condition of disease!

A man came to a scholar complaining of ascites, a disease that causes the fluid to accumulate in the human body and may lead to death. He advised

him to dig for public usage a well and set it as endowment. He did so and recovered.

The scholar saw a similarity between the accumulation of fluids in the body and the retention of water in the ground. He thought that digging a well is similar to the condition of the disease.

A colleague of mine told me that he ran over his two-year-old nephew while he was driving his car in a hurry to the mosque. Her father rushed to the hospital while death was looming in his daughter's eyes. Doctors told him that her death was imminent eighty percent!

One of the girl's relatives advised my colleague to quickly sacrifice a sheep and give its meat as charity with the intention of healing! So, he did what his cousin advised him to do. Before dawn, the girl was out of the ICU!

Allah guided the cousin to the resemblance between the meat of the sheep, and the flesh of the girl. So, Allah healed her despite the expectations of doctors!

Guidance might be with a piece of advice: It is said that a righteous man ran into a singer with a nice

voice and said, "How beautiful your voice is if only you used it to recite the Noble Quran!" the singer repented immediately.

And guidance with advice is wider and clearer than that.

You may be guided by meditation, too. The best example of this is the story of Abraham, peace be upon him, when he saw a planet at night, and the story is well-known. His meditations and reflections on the verses of the universe were the cause of his guidance and certainty.

Flash of light

He sees those who went astray, so He sends them from high heavens a flash of light that shows them the right path.

He does not guide you because you are the son of so-and-so, but because He wants to guide you!

"Allah guides whom He wills to a way that is straight" (Holy Qur'an 24: 46). So, fix your heart to receive that will.

He may guide you, and then you do not do the duty of that guidance by thanking Him and working in accordance with it. Thus, He deprives you of it, as

was the case with the man whom Allah gave His verses “... but he passed them by: so Satan followed him up, and he went astray” (Holy Qur'an 7: 175).

And He may guide you, and then you do the duty of that guidance by thanking Him and working in accordance with it. Thus, He grants more guidance. As Allah guided the young men of the Cave and made them believers; and then guided them to make them steadfast to their faith; and then guided them by showing them the path of salvation; and then guided them by preparing for them what rescues them, by drawing a veil over their ears, for a number of years in the Cave. Allah said of them: “... they were youths who believed in their Lord, and We advanced them in guidance” (Holy Qur'an 18: 11).

A Missing compass

In the middle of the dark desert, you do not know where to go, and this means inevitable death because you do not have any food or a vehicle, but suddenly you get an urgent feeling that pushes you to a certain direction, you have no knowledge of astrology, and your compass is missing. Your friends are ahead of you. You go that direction, after the desert dunes have messed you up.

Suddenly, you see a flash of light; your friends are over there. At the last point of life, they were eagerly waiting for you!

Now tell me how you feel? What made that light come to you at that moment? Why did it come? How could it be so accurate?

Allah was at that moment seeing the terror in your heart. He was hearing your heart pounding, He knew that you saw death represented by thirst in yourself, so He let an internal flash to ignite and show you the road, and arrive safely.

It is not about this very experience, you may not have had the same one, but you, or someone you know, have undoubtedly experienced something similar. Now the most important question that arises is: Who threw guidance in that flagging spirit, needing a glimmer? It is the Almighty Guide.

*If the Guardian watches over you,
Then slumber in peace, nothing to
worry about.*

While the waves are shaking your ship, He orders the wind to head north at that hour, because the island of salvation in the south will tear the sails of your ship.

Ibn Taymiyyah comes out from houses and the words in his head are crowded about the explanation of a verse about which he has read dozens of interpretations, but he is not convinced, so he rolls his face in the dust and weeps saying: "O' You Who taught David teach me and help me understand as You helped Salomon". Then, his mind is clear with the light of the Lord's guidance!

*If man is not aided by Allah,
His work is hard, his efforts futile.*

And then, He gave (it) guidance

His guidance is not limited to human beings, rather He guides all His creation. Allah says: "Our Lord is He Who gave to each (created) thing its form and nature, and further, gave (it) guidance". (Holy Qur'an 20: 50).

Sheikh Mohammed Rateb al-Nabulsi gave an example of such guidance by saying:

Salmon moves from the Atlantic coasts to the estuaries of America, lay their eggs there and return. Months later, the small fish go out and head straight to where their mothers are, hundreds of kilometres away, without

getting lost. He showed them the road.

Someone saw a hedgehog eating a dead snake; after every bite, it would rush to a nearby plant and eat from its leaves. The man was amazed and wanted to know the secret of that plant, so he uprooted it. When the hedgehog came and did not find it, it died right away!

Who guided this hedgehog to that plant with anti-toxin properties? It is the Almighty Guide.

When a wolf attacks a deer, all that the deer could do is to lower its head and dig its horn into the neck of the wolf. Who taught it that there is a sharp knife on its head! Who taught it that it would be safe by so doing! It is the Almighty Guide.

In my childhood, I saw our cat and its new-born kittens crawling blindly, and then they push their heads into their mother's belly in search of the nipples to suckle milk. Who guided those inexperienced creatures to this deed so that they can survive? It is the Almighty Guide.

Swamp

His greatest guidance is represented by leading His creation back to Him, and accepting repentance from those who committed sins

A man goes out at night to commit a sin. He is determined to do it. But in the crucial moment, Allah commands guidance to reach his heart before he gets into the swamp of sins. So, he lost his determination and felt that something pushes him in a different direction: towards the mosque. So, he turns a new page with the light of Allah's guidance.

Paper!

If He wants to guide you, He makes a sheet of paper lying on the ground bring you back to Him!

It is said that a man was staggering drunkenly before he saw a paper lying on the ground, on which was written the Name of Allah, so he picked it up and took it home where he cleaned it up, perfumed it, and kissed it. Then he slept and heard, *You picked up My Name. And I shall honour yours.* When he woke up, his heart was filled up with guidance. He became a righteous man with good reputation after he was a hopeless man with no goal in this life!

If He wants to guide you, you will hear a voice saying to you: *Fear Allah, and your heart will wake up!*

One of the three men who were besieged in the cave, in the famous prophetic story, long prepared to rape his cousin, who was forced by need to ask him for help. So he wanted to extort her, but moments before he does what he longed for, she pled him saying: *Fear Allah*. That "Fear Allah" uprooted every lust in his heart!

Lifeline

Although you sank yourself into oblivion, He reminds you of Himself. When you are about to commit a sin, He awakes you. When you are in the middle of the swamp, He purifies you. When you are drowning, He sends you a lifeline.

He guides you with love that engulfs your heart, or with fear that will shake your stability, or a disease that will humiliate your pride, or need that will humble you, or a poverty that burdens your back, or void that torments your spirit.

He brings you back to the path of the light, making you one of the people of the mosque after you used to look at it from afar. He teaches your hands how

to carry the Qur'an after a long time of abandonment.

You get out of your house heading for a mosque and suddenly you change your way and go to another mosque; after the prayer, you hear a word delivered by one of the preachers that changes something in you! He changes your style or even your way.

An attentive slave spots on the guidance of the Almighty Guide and knows that the universe is under His control, and that Allah may guide him with anything in it, and may mislead him with anything in it!

Allah only misleads those who close their hearts to His guidance and the religion of truth.

So: loss in this life is in not receiving guidance from Him.

Being away from the right path is way worse than being lost in a desert.

O' Allah, give us guidance that takes us out of the desert of loss, leads us to you, and enables us to enter Your paradise.

The Forgiving

"AL-GHAFOUR"

Sins will spoil your life,
conquer your spirit, make water impotable,
food unpalatable, nights dismal, and days
boring

THE FORGIVING

If you are tired of your sins, and if you feel that their evil has overwhelmed your life, and if darkness has extinguished in your eyes the joy of your days and nights; and if you are no longer enjoying your prayers, supplications and worship, then you should know that the time has come to enter the world of forgiveness; reflecting on its meanings in the Holy Name of Allah "the Forgiving".

You now need to understand the meaning of forgiveness, and that your Lord is the forgiving and the Great Forgiver, and that you really need forgiveness in all the stages of your life.

Prison

Sins hurt the soul perhaps more than diseases can hurt the body; your spirit moans under the burden of disobedience. The body might relish the sin, but the soul moans with pain and plead to Allah!

Imagine that you are imprisoned in tiny cell, how severe is the suffocation you will feel?

Sins make your soul suffer in such a prison! They surround you "and are girt round by their sins" (Holy Qur'an 2: 81) and make your spirit choke.

Even if there were no paradise or hell, sins alone are hell and painful torment!

But once we know that among the names of the Almighty are the names “the Forgiving”, “the Great Forgiver” and “the Pardoner”, and that among His attributes is the attribute of wiping out sins, the walls of that narrow prison begin to crack.

Did you know?

Say: *I ask Allah for forgiveness.*

Do not only utter it, reflect on it: *I ask Allah for forgiveness.*

Is there anything more beautiful than this? If you say it with your heart, all evil whispers, fears and sorrows would vanish.

Did you know that every illness, sorrow, sadness and pain that befall you is the result of your sins?

Read: “Whatever misfortune happens to you, is because on the things your hands have wrought, and for many (of them) He grants forgiveness” (Holy Qur'an 42: 30).

Backbiting, lying, cheating, envy, contempt, disobedience, looking at what is not allowed

(*haram*) and delaying duties have all caused us a great deal of pain, and sorrow.

We humble ourselves looking for someone who lends us some money, and perhaps that need for money is caused by the sins we have committed. If we truthfully say: *I ask Allah for forgiveness*, we will not need to humble to the creation of Allah!

We look for an exorcist to tell him about the sorrows we are suffering from, the fear that surrounds our lives, and the psychological changes we are coming through. Perhaps that all happened to us because of the sins we have committed. If we say: *I ask Allah for forgiveness* with a truly repentant heart, we will not need an exorcist!

Even my great sins?

The attribute of forgiveness was not that clear to me until I read the following lines in the Prophet's biography:

Omar ibn al-Khattab used to force Muslims to leave their religion, to hold the whip with his strong hand and hit the back of his Muslim maid and never stops until he is tired!

Muslims then believed that Omar's donkey would convert to Islam but Omar would not, because of his hostility to Islam and hatred of this religion. But later Allah opened the doors of repentance to him, so he became: Omar *Al-Farouk*, i.e. the just and fair!

Allah forgave all the pain he inflicted on his servants and maids.

Khalid bin al-Walid went up the mountain of the archers in the Battle of Uhud and killed Abdullah bin Jubair and his companions who were on that mountain. Khalid defeated the Islamic Army led by the Prophet, peace be upon him, and wounded the Prophet.

He inflicted all that pain on the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) that the prophet said: "The wrath of Allah is on those who hurt His Messenger".²¹ But Allah says: "Not for thee, (but for Allah), is the decision: Whether He turn in mercy to them, or punish them; for they are indeed wrong-doers" (Holy Qur'an 3: 128). Khalid was among those who repented! He converted to Islam, so Allah forgave his sins. And after he

21. Narrated by Ahmad in *Musnad* (2609-4/369)

defeated Muslims, he became the "Sword of Allah"! Allah forgave him for all the blood he shed and the pain he inflicted on the Prophet!

A man came to the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), broken-hearted because of the sins he had committed. He said: "If a man committed all sins, would his repentance be accepted"? The Messenger of mercy said: "Have you converted to Islam"? He said: "I bear witness that there is no god but Allah alone, and that you are the Messenger of Allah". Prophet said: "Sure, do good deeds and leave bad deeds, Allah makes them all good"! He pleaded: "even my great sins and follies"? Prophet said: "even all that!"²²

Have you forgotten?

Why do you think your sins are the greatest things in existence? Have you forgotten that He is the Forgiving and the Loving One?

Have you forgotten that He rejoices in your repentance?

22. Narrated by al-Tabarani in *Almiejam Alkabir* (7235-7/314)

Prophet's companions saw a frightened woman in captivity looking for her son. When she saw him, she cuddled him with love, longing and fear. The companions marvelled at this great love and this joy. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Allah rejoices in His slave's repentance more than this woman does for her son's return".²³

What are you waiting for? Say now, *I ask Allah for forgiveness.*

Say it with your heart, soul, and tongue. Say: I ask Allah for forgiveness even if your sins are so great that you think you cannot repent. Be sure that Allah will forgive you because He is the Forgiving, the Loving One.

Abu Sufyan bin Harb, Safwan bin Umayeh, Akrama ibn Abi Jahl, Amr ibn al-Aas and many others, whose sins included: polytheism, fighting against the true religion, killing the Prophet's Companions, were all immersed in Allah's merciful forgiveness and became companions of the Prophets! Do you know what the word "Companions" means?

23. Narrated by Muslim in *Sahih* (2477 4/3 21)

"Companions" means the best of the humans after the prophets!

Look at what forgiveness did with Akrama, Safwan, and the others?

It turned them from killers of the Companions to honourable companions!

The sense of sins surrounding you makes your soul moan, your thoughts turn black, and your words very tense. But if you say: *I ask Allah for forgiveness, all that moaning, darkness, and tension would vanish.*

Blessed is...

Allah forgives for saying: *I ask Allah for forgiveness.*

And forgive for repentance "Unless they repent thereafter and mend (their conduct); for Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful" (Holy Qur'an 24: 5).

And forgive for good deeds: "those things, that are good remove those that are evil" (Holy Qur'an 11: 114).

And forgive for scourge: "The scourge of the believer in himself, his offspring and his money

clears his sins so much so that he meets his lord with no sin".²⁴

Do you know what you should overdo in this life? Never be tired of repeating it? It is asking for forgiveness! Your Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Blessed is he who finds in his record a lot of asking for forgiveness".²⁵

You will eternally rejoice in the great numbers of asking for forgiveness in your record. You will scream at the top of your voice "Ah here! Read ye my Record" (Holy Qur'an 69: 19).

On the Day of Resurrection, you will see your friends and show them your record full of asking for forgiveness and say: Look, Allah accepted my calls and forgave me!

Therefore, it is allowed to ask for forgiveness not only after committing a sin but also after obedience!

Do not you say after prayer: I ask Allah for forgiveness three times? Even your obedience has

24. Narrated by Al-Tirmidhi in the *sunan* (2399-4/206)

25. Narrated by Ibn Majah (3818-2/1254)

some deficiency for which you should ask for forgiveness.

Do not despair

Allah called Himself the Forgiving because without His forgiveness, you will burn, suffer from sorrows, experience suffocation, and shed tears.

If you think that your sin is so great, and that the sheikh whom you asked about your sin has not yet imagined the black details of that great sin, and that he did not answer your question, then listen to your Lord, who knows every sin His slaves will commit from the time of Adam until the time of the doomsday. He knows the details of those sins, "Say: "O my Servants who have transgressed against their souls! Despair not of the Mercy of Allah: for Allah forgives all sins: for He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful" (Holy Qur'an 39: 53).

Have the whispers vanished yet? He Who said that verily knows when He revealed the Noble Quran that you will commit that sin at that time, yet He said: "Allah forgives all sins". There is no doubt that your sin is included in those which Allah is capable to forgive.

The most important thing is to quit that sin before saying *I ask Allah for forgiveness*: "But if they cease,

Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful” (Holy Qur'an 2: 192).

How come you say: forgive my sin while you keep committing it?

How come you re-commit that sin after it was cleared off your record? Quit it so that you truthfully say and mean: I ask Allah for forgiveness, then it can be accepted.

The greatest will

The Almighty's will predestined many things for you:

Your existence, your health, your sanity. But do you know what is greater than all of that? It is granting you forgiveness!

“To Allah belongeth all that is in the heavens and on earth. He forgiveth whom He pleaseth and punisheth whom He pleaseth; but Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful” (Holy Qur'an 3: 129).

What a great will it is that will you eligible to enter Paradise with mercy of the Almighty!

Those who are forgiven may suffer from the same diseases as others do, but diseases never steal their smiles.

Those who are forgiven may be afflicted by financial straits like others do, but such straits do not lower their heads.

Those who are forgiven may shed tears, but they never despair of the Allah's mercy.

Now, let diseases, straits and sorrows aside:

Those who are forgiven sleep at night in reassurance, because the strangest expectation is that they die? What if they die? They are without sins that make death a terrible ghost!

Read and reflect on this:

“If any one does evil or wrongs his own soul but afterwards seeks Allah's forgiveness, he will find Allah Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful” (Holy Qur'an 4: 110). Are you not eager to find Allah Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful? So ask Him for forgiveness!

The most beautiful

The Forgiving knew that sins will spoil your life, oppress your soul, and make water im potable, food

unpalatable, nights dismal, days boring, relatives unbearable, friends suspicious, life details illusory, sleep restless, and solitude lamentable. So Allah says: “Why turn they not to Allah, and seek His forgiveness”? (Holy Qur'an 5: 74). Is not this the most beautiful thing for them? Have not they got bored of sorrows? Do not they long for the smile that comes out of the heart? So why not ask Allah for forgiveness?

Do not be astonished!

The Forgiving always forgives; He forgives generously, and forgives what people do not forgive, and forgive with astonishment!

He always forgives:

He forgives what is between one prayer and another, between one *'Umrah* and another, between one *Ramadaan* and another, and between one pilgrimage and another if major sins are avoided.

So the whole life of a slave is full of forgiveness and amnesty.

Imagine: you perform the dawn prayer, then go to your work and commit some sins then perform

ablution for the prayer of noon. Once you finish, all your sins are forgiven. And that is your case one prayer after another! What would we have done if our Lord had not been the forgiving?

He forgives generously: He forgives all sins by fasting one day a year!

And forgives all sins if you say: Praise and Glory be to Allah a hundred times! In two minutes, seventy years' sins will be forgiven! Is there generosity like this?

He forgives what people do not forgive:

He forgives the sins of a prostitute whose life is full of sins and transgression, for giving water to a thirsty dog to drink!

And He forgives astonishingly:

That is what happened to those who fought in the Battle of Badr. Allah saw them and said to them: *Do whatever you want I have forgiven you!*

All the sins that they have done or will do are forgiven!

Among those who attended the Battle of Badr was Haritha bin Suraqa, a young man who there as an

assistant not a fighter. He was watching the battle from afar. When he went to the rivulet to drink, he got an arrow and died. So, when the Prophet returned to Al-Madinah, he was welcomed by Haritha's mother, who said "O messenger of Allah, would you tell me what happened to Haritha, my son. If he is in Paradise, I shall be patient. Otherwise, I shall weep for losing him. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: Paradise is of different ranks; Your son is in the highest one".²⁶

Ibn Katheer said: This is a hint about the virtue of the people of Badr, as this young man who was not involved in fighting, but was watching from afar. Yet he is in the highest point of paradise, so what do you think of those who were fighting.

Start

Start a new era with the name 'the Forgiving'. Rejoice as He forgives the sins. Rush to ask for forgiveness by obeying His orders and avoiding what He forbids. "Say: "If ye do love Allah, Follow me: Allah will love you and forgive you your sins:

26. Narrated by al-Bukhari (9 28 4/2)

For Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful” (Holy Qur'an 3: 31).

O' Allah, forgive all our sins, small and great, the first and the last, and make us among those who find in their records lots of asking for forgiveness.

The Near "AL-QAREEB"

A friend of mine once asked me when he
visited me

in my room on the university campus:
would you write me a word on this paper to
read on my way back!

So, I wrote this: *He sees you now.*

Later, he told me that he was shocked!

THE NEAR

Do you feel lonely? Did a close friend let you down? Do you feel that there is a distance between you and your most cherished people, and that they no longer understand you as before? Is your soul longing for a lover to open up to?

Now, why do not you forget about that beloved one, and that friend to go to the One Who never turns down anyone who comes to Him?

Allah, who is nearer to you than your jugular vein, with Whom your life will become happier. He Who has a great name, immaculately beautiful, crowned with splendour; it is the Holy Name "the Near". Let us get to know the meanings of this name to feel how near to us He is and enjoy calling Him in the dismal nights.

O' Allah!

As He wants you to know that He is on the Throne, he wants you to be sure that He is nearer to you than your jugular vein.

He hears all your words, sees all your actions, and nothing hides from Him.

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) once entered the mosque, while his noble companions were praying to their Lord with loud voices. He said to them: "Lower your voices, for whom you are calling is not deaf or absent; you are calling the All-Hearing, the Near".²⁷

As soon as the slave finishes praying, the answer is looming, because He is so near.

A man, whose riding animal was missing, was wandering looking for it before Ibrahim bin Adham asked him about his problem. The man said: my riding animal is missing. Ibrahim stopped and said, "O' Allah, I will not take a step until you return the riding animal to this man". Surprisingly, it appeared at the corner of the road.

For your sake

A friend of mine told me that he entered a mosque while his ears were still wet because of ablution. He went to the first line of prayers and stood next to the air conditioner, which made the cold air enter his ears. An hour later, his ears started aching, but he did not complain and only said in his heart: *O'*

27. Narrated by al-Bukhari (4205-5/133) and Muslim (4 2704-4/2076)

Allah, that was for you. All of a sudden, his pain was relieved. How near is He that He knows what you are saying in yourself?

When you prostrate you are closest to Him, saying *Glory be to Allah the Almighty*, because heavens open to your words, and the Lord hears you! Do not think that He is far away, or that there is anything that can hide from Him.

The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) comes out in the middle of the night and goes to knock on the door of Ubai Ibn Ka'b, so Ubai comes out. The Messenger of Allah tells him that Allah commanded him to recite *surah Fatihah* for him. Ubai asks: did He mention my name. The messenger says: yes. Ubai burst into tears!²⁸

The crawl of ants

He is near to all His creation, seeing and protecting them. How could He be the Eternal Guardian if He were not near to them?

How could He be a Lord, if He were not near?

28. The story is cited in al-Bukhari (4960-6/175) and Muslim (799-1/550)

He is near in knowledge, hearing, and sight, not in self because He is exalted of such nearness.

His nearness is represented in that He descends in the last third of night to the first heaven and says: "Is there a mendicant, so that I suffice him, is there a caller, so that I answer him, is there anyone asking for forgiveness, so that I forgive him"

He is so near that He can hear the crawl of a black ant on a flint, in the dark night.

The Almighty says: "Not a leaf doth fall but with His knowledge" (Holy Qur'an 6: 59).

Could you imagine the number of leaves on trees, scattered in the fall? He knows them all know: their number, forms, types and everything related to them!

A woman comes to argue about her husband, and Aisha, may Allah be pleased with her, was standing at the end of the house. She says that she could hear some of what was going on, and after that argument, Gabriel descended to Muhammad, peace be upon him that "Allah has indeed heard (and accepted) the statement of the woman who pleads with thee concerning her husband and carries her complaint (in prayer) to Allah: and Allah

(always) hears the arguments between both sides among you: for Allah hears and sees (all things)” (Holy Qur'an 58: 1).

What an amazing nearness, and great knowledge?

He sees you now!

Extend your hand now; He sees it! You must believe it! A friend of mine once asked me when he visited me in my room on the university campus: would you write me a word on this paper to read on my way back. So, I wrote this: He sees you now. Later, he told me that he was shocked!

His nearness scares you, you must be afraid of it.

His nearness amuses you, you must be amused by it.

His nearness warms you, you must be warmed by it.

His nearness makes you courageous and proud like heroes.

Listen to Him as He calms Moses, peace be upon him, down when he announced his fear to go to Pharaoh: “Fear not: for I am with you: I hear and

see (everything)” (Holy Qur'an 20: 46). This is enough, being with them is the greatest protection.

For He is with them, they must not be afraid of Pharaoh, they must be brave and mighty heroes.

It is well-established in the books of doctrine that Allah' company has two meanings: a special meaning for those who are devoted to Him, which is a company of love, support, and a common meaning for all His creation, which is a company of knowledge, hearing, and sight.

He was with Moses and Aaron in a special company necessitating victory and success, so how come they be afraid while Allah promised to support them.

And whoever does what Moses and Aaron did in terms of enjoining what is good and forbidding that which is abominable based on knowledge and guidance will have this special company according to the faith in their heart and according to their obedience to the order of their Lord. Therefore, everyone, who enjoins what is good and forbids that which is abominable, with his strength, courage, steadfastness, and success, makes you

believe that he has got that special company which protects and supports him.

Smile

Among the verses that can be mentioned in this regard is: "Who seeth thee standing forth (in prayer), And thy movements among those who prostrate themselves" (Holy Qur'an 26: 219).

How delighted will you be when you say: Allah is the greatest in prayer worshiper after you know that He sees you? He sees all His creation: those who are performing prayer and those who are not. Thus, this indicates that seeing you in prayers come under the special meaning of company: the company of love, acceptance, and forgiveness.

Similar is the hadeeth that is narrated in al-Bukhaari. The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Allah rejoices most in listening to His messenger reciting the Noble Qur'an with his beautiful voice".²⁹

Ibn Katheer says: "That means Allah rejoices most in listening to His messengers reciting His word as they recite it in reverence. Thus, Allah listens to all

29. Narrated by al-Bukhari (7482-9/141) and Muslim (792-1/545).

His slaves: good and bad. Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her) said: "Glory be to Allah, Who hears all voices." But His listening to his faithful worshipers is greater, as Allah says "In whatever business thou mayest be, and whatever portion thou mayest be reciting from the Qur'an,- and whatever deed ye (mankind) may be doing,- We are witnesses thereof when ye are deeply engrossed therein" (Holy Qur'an 10: 61).

If you are gripped by fears, then smile and remember His nearness to you.

All things that you fear are not nearer to you than Him!

And if your sorrows are great, be optimistic and disperse them with the fact that He is nearer to you than the jugular vein.

Some of the preachers said that a man was traveling across the desert. To his surprise, a highwayman carrying his sword stopped him. He wanted to kill him. The man said to him: Take my money. He said: No, I want to kill you and then take your money. So the man asked him to pray before he dies. He repeated in his prayer "Who listens to the (soul) distressed when it calls on Him" (Holy

Qur'an 27: 62). No sooner had he finished his prayer than a knight he did not know where he came from headed off that highwayman with a blow with his sword!

Glory be to You!

He is near; just call Him, and the doors of heaven open to your voice.

Yunus, peace be upon him, in the belly of the whale calls "There is no god but thou: glory to thee: I was indeed wrong!" (Holy Qur'an 21: 87). That weak voice from the three-folded darkness penetrated the sky, and the angels heard it, so they said to Allah: "A voice known, from an unknown place!"

Allah says in the Holy hadith: "Whoever remembers Me in himself, I remember him in Myself, and whoever remembers Me among people, I remember him among a better gathering".³⁰ Because He is near, just say: *O' Allah, the reply will be by mentioning your name!*

30. Narrated by al-Bukhari (7405-9/121) and Muslim (2675-4/2061).

How honourable it is that the Lord of lords at this moment mentions your name! He says: my slave son of so-and-so has remembered Me!

The whole world is trivial in comparison to this moment.

His nearness grows with repentance and obedience as in the Holy hadith: "If My slave gets one span of the hand closer to Me, I get one cubit nearer, and if He gets one cubit closer to Me, I get one meter nearer".³¹ Every attempt to get closer to Him with obedience is rewarded by approaching you with acceptance, blessings, and grants.

You reach Him

His nearness means that He shows you in everything around you something that reminds you of Him:

You see His wisdom in the accurate way He designed His creatures.

You see His ability in raising the skies without any pillars.

31. Narrated by al-Bukhari (7405-9/121) and Muslim (2675-4/2061)

You see His mercy in the fall of rain and growth of trees.

You see His greatness in the tremendousness of the mountains.

You see His torment in volcanoes, earthquakes and disasters.

The Almighty says: "Soon will We show them our Signs in the (furthest) regions (of the earth), and in their own souls, until it becomes manifest to them that this is the Truth" (Holy Qur'an 41: 53).

If you see something in your eyes, your sight will remind you of the All-Seeing.

If you hear a whisper in the night, your hearing will remind you of the All-Hearing.

If you get to know something, then that will remind you of the All-Knowing.

In the whole shebang there is a sign indicating that He is the One and Only

Once I was with a group of young men, talking to them about reflecting on Allah's creation. One of them said: "If you reflect on His creation, you are bound to reach Him!" I was astonished; I felt that

young man understands these meanings more than I do, and that I should listen to him more than he listens to me!

Allah is so close that all you need to reach Him is to remember Him, to feel His nearness to you, to feel that He sees you, and then say: *O' Allah*.

If they ask you...

“When My servants ask thee concerning Me, I am indeed close (to them)” (Holy Qur'an 2: 186).

If anyone asks about Allah, you will first say that He is close to him! Souls by nature refuse to worship a distant lord. It is quite important that a person who wants to know Allah should know that his He is "near". That is how the Almighty taught you to tell people about Him.

This nearness, in addition to the fact that it makes you love and fear Him, makes you habituated to asking Him for forgiveness. On the one hand, being near means that He deserves to be asked for forgiveness because He sees all your transgressions and folly. On the other hand, being near makes your asking for forgiveness acceptable because He hears you repenting and asking for His forgiveness. He is the Near and ready to answer. The Almighty

says: “then ask forgiveness of Him, and turn to Him (in repentance): for my Lord is (always) near, ready to answer” (Holy Qur'an 11: 61).

When you close the door to disobey Him, He allows oxygen to enter from under that door so that you stay alive! Does not He deserve to be loved?

His slaves must seek to get nearer to Him: “Those whom they call upon do desire (for themselves) means of access to their Lord, - even those who are nearest” (Holy Qur'an 17: 57). It is a race and competition, in which slaves do their best not only to be near but to the nearest.

In the ruins

Amidst the adversities being experienced by the [Islamic] nation, and in the ruins of deadly wars that break the hearts of believers, these believers need three levels of knowledge related to the name of the Near:

The first: It requires faithful and certain knowledge of His nearness that relieves the believers of the burden calling for from human beings. The Lord is near and All-Knowing. In the Qur'an there is a verse which says clearly: “It is He Who hears all things, and is (ever) near” (Holy Qur'an 34: 50).

The second: Among the flames of oppression, witnessing diaspora destruction, and death, believers want mercy; they look for it, wishing mercy to end the torments of their oppressed and betrayed brothers! So, they stop at this verse: “the Mercy of Allah is (always) near to those who do good” (Holy Qur'an 7: 56). Beneficence is of various forms and ranks; with more good deeds slaves get nearer to Allah. And Allah shall get them out of misery to satisfaction and contentedness.

The third: All these adversities, sighs, and prolonged days require is patience: “Verily, the help of Allah is (always) near!” (Holy Qur'an 2: 214). As they believe He is near and that His mercy is near, all we have to do is remain patient, waiting for Allah’s help.

Allah

*O’ Allah, my eyes are filled with tears
my heart with awe
So, have mercy on me for my sobbing.
O’ Allah, my heart is replete with love
So, have mercy on me for my love
O’ Allah, my words are filled with
eagerness
So, have mercy on me for my lines.*

After this tour with the Holy Name of Allah “the Near”, I ask Allah to make us remember His nearness and work according to the meanings of this name and ask Him alone for mercy and help from.

Oh, You are so near to those who call You, make us closest to your mercy and guidance so that our souls are relieved; do grant us Paradise.

Conclusion

Now,

You knew a little about some of His Holy Names.

You still need to know more about them and about the other Holy Names.

And make them shine your life, guide your heart, so that you have happiness in this world and the Hereafter.

I hope that if this book relieves you of pain, draws a smile on your face, and make you a better man in whatever way. Do not forget to pray for me, the writer, and my assistants, and our parents and all the Muslims. Finally, peace and blessings be upon our master prophet Muhammad.

Ali Jaber Al-Fayfi