



Tawakkul
(Trusting) in Allah

Tawakkul (Trusting) in Allâh

All praises and thanks are due to Allâh, the Omnipotent, Most Powerful, and I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allâh Alone without partners, Whom we worship and invoke for help. I bear witness that Muhammad is Allâh's slave and Messenger, the best Prophet and the Leader of all those who fear Allâh. O Allâh! Grant Your best blessings and mercy on Muhammad, his progeny, his Companions and all those who followed them with excellence until the Day of Judgment.

O people! Fear Allâh and adhere by His Rope, this Qur'ân, and rely on Him for all of your affairs. Allâh said:

﴿ وَعَلَى اللَّهِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلِ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ ﴾

“And in Allâh let the believers put their trust.” (58:10)

﴿ فَأَعْبُدْهُ وَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَيْهِ ﴾

“So worship Him and put your trust in Him.” (11:123)

﴿ وَأَعْتَصِمُوا بِاللَّهِ هُوَ مَوْلَاكُمْ فَنِعْمَ الْمَوْلَىٰ وَنِعْمَ النَّصِيرُ ﴾

“And hold fast to Allâh [i.e., have confidence in Allâh, and depend upon Him in all your affairs]. He is your *Maula*? (Patron, Lord), what an Excellent *Maulâ* (Patron, Lord) and what an Excellent Helper!” (22:78)

﴿ وَمَا تَوْفِيقِي إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ تَوَكَّلْتُ وَإِلَيْهِ أُنِيبُ ﴾

“And my guidance cannot come except from Allâh, in Him I trust and unto Him I repent.” (11:88)

And:

﴿ إِنَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ ﴾

“You (Alone) we worship, and You (Alone) we ask for help (for each and everything).” (1:5)

Further, Allâh's Messenger ﷺ said:

قَالَ ﷺ: «إِذَا سَأَلْتَ فَاسْأَلِ اللَّهَ وَإِذَا اسْتَعَنْتَ فَاسْتَعِنْ بِاللَّهِ» .

“When you ask, ask Allâh, and when you seek help, seek it from Allâh.”

Therefore, *Tawakkul* (Trust) and *Isti'anah* (Seeking Help) are two of the greatest obligations and implications of *Imân* (Faith). They are also among the best good deeds that draw one closer to the Most Beneficent. Surely, all matters occur and are led to success by Allâh's help Alone and the slave has no choice or recourse, except by trusting and relying on Him. Certainly, whatever Allâh wills occurs and whatever He does not will never occurs. The slaves cannot change their condition from one stage to another, except by Allâh's Will. The slaves have no power or strength to worship Allâh except through His help, nor can they resist evil and sin except when Allâh grants them immunity. All types and parts of sustenance and provisions can be earned and perfected by trusting in Allâh Alone, just as the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ said:

قَالَ ﷺ: «لَوْ تَوَكَّلْتُمْ عَلَى اللَّهِ حَقَّ تَوَكُّلِهِ لَرَزَقَكُمْ كَمَا يَرْزُقُ الطَّيْرَ: تَعْدُو حِمَاصًا وَتَرْوِحُ بِطَانًا» .

“If you truly trust in Allâh as you should trust in Him, He will provide you with sustenance, just as He does to birds: they go out in the morning with empty stomachs and come back in the evening with full stomachs.”

The Messenger of Allâh ﷺ described those who trust in Allâh as having two qualities: they seek means and ways of earning their livelihood and have great trust in He Who has full control of all means and ways of provision. Those who possess only one or none of these qualities will acquire failure and utter loss. In contrast, those who seek the legal and lawful ways of earning their sustenance, trust in Allâh and appreciate His bounties whenever they earn them, all the while observing patience during times of hardship and distress, will acquire success and win what they need and covet. How can those who

acknowledge that they are in need of their Lord in all conditions and situations, not trust in Him? How can those who acknowledge that they are helpless and feeble without the help of their Lord, ever stop seeking His help or invoking Him for relief? How can those who are certain that ownership of all affairs rests in Allâh's Hands, not ask Him for their various needs? How can those who have knowledge of Allâh's Richness and Most Generous Essence, refrain from seeking His Kindness in all of their matters? How can those who are certain of Allâh's Mercy, that He is more merciful with His slaves than the mother with her own child, not trust His Judgment? How can those who know that Allâh is Most Wise in all decisions, not feel assured and pleased with all that He decides and destines for them?

O slave of Allâh, who seeks the ways and means of goodness, you will only earn all that is good and righteous by trusting in Allâh and relying on Him for every need. O you who strives hard against his own self to resist the lures of sin and disobedience, know that you will repel sin only through your trust and reliance on He Who has perfect knowledge of the Unseen. Surely, he who relies on Allâh, He will suffice for him. He who asks Allâh for help and adheres to His obedience, He will correct the affairs of his life and religion for him. As for he who likes himself and lets his heart abandon the Lord, the Most Honored, he will only acquire failure and lose this life and the Hereafter.

How many are they, who seem weak and unable to earn their benefit, but are in fact strong on account of their trust and reliance on Allâh, and so Allâh helps them acquire their needs? How many are they, who seem strong and rely on this fact alone, but their strength deceived and departed them when they most needed it? Surely, the help and success that Allâh grants is the only reserve and resource of supply for the faithful believers. There is no success, or happiness, except by worshipping Allâh, seeking His help and trusting in Him. Verily, Allâh is the only deity worthy of worship and how excellent He is as a Helper:

“Our Lord! In You (Alone) we put our trust, and to You (Alone) we turn in repentance, and to You (Alone) is (our) final Return.” (60:4)

And:

﴿وَكَايْنٍ مِّنْ دَابَّةٍ لَّا تَحْمِلُ رِزْقَهَا ۗ اللَّهُ يَرْزُقُهَا وَإِيَّاكُمْ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ﴾

“And so many a moving (living) creature carries not its own provision! Allâh provides for it and for you. And He is the All-Hearer, the All-Knower.” (29:60)

May Allâh direct us all to the blessings of the Glorious Qur’ân and benefit us all in whatever is in it of the *Âyat* and Wise *Dhikr*. I say this and ask Allâh the Great, the Most Honored for forgiveness for me, you and all Muslims for every sin, so invoke Him for forgiveness, for He is the Most Forgiving, Most Merciful.¹

¹ *Al-Fawakih Ash-Shahiyyah*, by Shaikh Abdur-Rahman Al-Sa‘di, p. 21