

إن الحمد لله، نحمده ونستعينه ونستغفره، ونعوذ بالله من شرور أنفسنا، و
من سيئات أعمالنا، من يهده الله فلا مضل له، ومن يضلل فلا تجد له ولياً
مرشداً. وأشهد ألا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له، وأشهد أن محمداً عبده
ورسوله، صلى الله عليه وعلى آله وصحبه، ومن تبعهم بإحسان إلى يوم
الدين

Indeed all praise is for Allah, we praise Him and seek His help and forgiveness. We seek refuge with Allah from the evil of ourselves and our deeds; whosoever Allah guides, no one can mislead, and whosoever Allah leaves, he will not find a guide. I bear witness there is no God but Allah alone with no partner, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and His Messenger, may Allah bless him, his family and companions, and those who follow until the Day of return.

- In our lives we cannot escape from the quest of material gains.
- How do we view money, wealth & the comforts of life? Are they goals in life? Or do they bring us closer to achieve the pleasure of Allah? Does acquiring wealth make it easier for us to remember Allah? Or distract us from your main purpose in life?

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تُلْهِكُمْ أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُكُمْ عَنْ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَمَنْ يَفْعَلْ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْخَاسِرُونَ

O you who have believed, let not your wealth and your children divert you from remembrance of Allah. And whoever does that - then those are the losers. (63:9)

Consumerism & materialism has caused man's downfall since the beginning of time. Land, wealth, wives, children, honour, power... We measure happiness in terms of how much money, property, cars that we have, or how high our position is at work/family/community.

“If the son of Adam had a valley full of gold, he would want to have two valleys. Nothing fills his mouth but the dust of the grave, yet Allah will accept whoever repents to him.” (Sahih al-Bukhari)

- It's therefore not surprising you hear siblings fighting over inheritance, & matters reach accusations, fights, breaking of ties & even the courts.
- Materialism cause us to lose our sense of mercy, compassion and *Ihsaan*. The opposite of what Islam calls for.

" إِنِّي فَرَطٌ لَكُمْ، وَأَنَا شَهِيدٌ عَلَيْكُمْ، وَإِنِّي وَاللَّهِ لَأَنْظُرُ إِلَى حَوْضِي الْآنَ، وَإِنِّي أُعْطِيتُ مَفَاتِيحَ خَزَائِنِ الْأَرْضِ — أَوْ مَفَاتِيحَ الْأَرْضِ — وَإِنِّي وَاللَّهِ مَا أَخَافُ عَلَيْكُمْ أَنْ تُشْرِكُوا بَعْدِي، وَلَكِنْ أَخَافُ عَلَيْكُمْ أَنْ تَنَافَسُوا فِيهَا "

One day the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم went out and offered the funeral prayers of the martyrs of Uhud and then went up the pulpit and said, "I will pave the way for you as your predecessor and will be a witness on you. By Allah! I see my Kawthar just now and I have been given the keys of all the treasures of the earth. By Allah! I am not afraid that you will worship others along with Allah after my death, **but I am afraid that you will fight with one another for the worldly things.**" (Bukhari)

- True wealth is nobility and purity of our hearts and our souls.

"O Abu Zhar! Do you regard those who have excess provisions as wealthy? "And you consider those with little provisions as poor? "Verily, wealth or richness is the contentment of the heart, and poverty is the one who has greed in his heart." (Ibn Hibban)

أَلْهَاكُمْ التَّكَاثُرُ حَتَّىٰ زُرْتُمُ الْمَقَابِرَ

Competition in worldly increase diverts you, until you confronted the graves. (102:1-2)

Every time you are granted with extra sustenance and wealth, always say **'Masha Allah, Wala Hawla Wa La Quwwata Illa Billah**

Increase your charity & assistance to those who are weak & need help.

Remember that a gentle heart is a heart that finds joy in helping others and is sensitive towards others' hardships and plight.

خُذْ مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ صَدَقَةً تُطَهِّرُهُمْ وَتُزَكِّيهِمْ بِهَا وَصَلِّ عَلَيْهِمْ إِنَّ صَلَاتَكَ سَكَنٌ لَهُمْ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ

Meaning: "Take from their wealth a charity by which you purify them and cause them to increase, and invoke [Allah 's blessings] upon them. Indeed, your invocations are reassurance for them. And Allah is Hearing and Knowing." (9:103)

- **Reminders:** Rajab = Salah, Sha'ban = Fasting, Ramadan = Qur'an, Dedication, Sacrificing, Striving & Focusing

وَسَارِعُوا إِلَىٰ مَغْفِرَةٍ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَجَنَّةٍ عَرْضُهَا السَّمَاوَاتُ وَالْأَرْضُ أُعِدَّتْ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ

And rush towards the forgiveness from your Lord, and a garden as wide as the heavens and earth, prepared for the righteous (3:133)