

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ سَيَجْعَلُ لَهُمُ الرَّحْمَنُ وُدًّا

Indeed those who believe and act righteously, Allah most generous will bestow upon them with love

**MUSLIMS ARE SUPPOSED** to feel connected to Allah and experience His closeness more than anyone else of His creation. Pray 5x, Fasting, Charity, Hajj, Dhikr etc. Allah wants us to be close to Him. Do you? Do you try to maintain or strengthen this relationship – رب العالمين

In our relationship with Allah, who is distant? Allah or us?

وَلَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ وَنَعْلَمُ مَا تُوَسْوِسُ بِهِ نَفْسُهُ وَنَحْنُ أَقْرَبُ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ حَبْلِ الْوَرِيدِ  
وَإِذَا سَأَلَكَ عِبَادِي عَنِّي فَإِنِّي قَرِيبٌ أُجِيبُ دَعْوَةَ الدَّاعِ إِذَا دَعَانِ فَلْيَسْتَجِيبُوا لِي وَلْيُؤْمِنُوا بِي لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْشُدُونَ

Allah is closer to us than our own selves. Present, hearing, Seeing, Knowing

I and the Jinn and the Humans are involved in a great matter (*naba' adheem*). I create them but they worship objects other than me. I shower My bounties on them but they direct their thanks somewhere else. Whereas My blessings keep descending to My servants, their evil-deeds keep rising to me. While I draw close to them with my blessings and bounties they distance themselves from me by their disobedience.

*Raheem, Ghafour, Haleem (Forbearing), Raouf (Compassionate) Afou, Saboor, Tawwab, Wadood, Al-Wali ....*

Allah does not need us, we need him, yet He gives us all opportunities to get closer to Him. So why do we keep distancing ourselves?

**Allah said:** ‘He who comes with a goodness, there are in store for him ten like it. And he who comes with a vice, it is only for that that he is called to account. And he who draws close to Me by a span, I draw close to him by a cubit; and he who draws close to Me by a cubit I draw close to him by the space (covered) by two arms. And he who walks towards Me I rush towards him, and he who meets Me with sins that fill the earth, but not associating anything with Me, I would meet Him with pardon.

**Allah says:** ‘I am with My servant as he remembers Me. And if he remembers Me in himself, I remember him in Myself; and if he remembers Me in an assembly, I remember him in an assembly that is better than his...’

**‘If you do love Allah, then follow me, Allah will love you and forgive you your sins for Allah is Oft-Forgiving Most Merciful’**

**“Obey Allah, and obey the Messenger and render not vain your deeds”**

**“And He gives you of all that you ask for. But if you count the favours of Allah, never will you be able to number them. Verily, man is given up to injustice and ingratitude”**

**Allah has provided us with opportunities and seasons to evaluate our relationship with Him and to work to improve it; and to awaken our souls.**

**Opportunities to free our hearts from the chains of our sins; to truly act on what we say when we proclaim that Allah is the greatest.**

**It is never too late my beloved brothers and sisters. Let us turn to the One whose door is always open.**

**Let us cry in the hands of the One who “extends His hands during the day so that the sinners of the night may repent, and extends His hands during the night so that the sinners of the day may repent.”**

**Let us answer the call of the One who “descends during the last third of each night to the lower heaven, and says: ‘Is there anyone who calls on Me that I may respond to him? Is there anyone who asks Me that I may give unto him? Is there anyone who requests My Forgiveness that I may forgive him?’**