

**In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful.**

**Love Allah (SWT) and He will love you**

**By Qazi Fazlullah**

To recognize Allah (SWT), to be in touch with Him, to establish a close connection with Him, is a natural instinct Mankind has for receiving pleasure and satisfaction, both in this life and in the hereafter. Therefore every human being is striving hard in the way they think fit for the said purpose. Although most people are misled in this regard and misconceiving the worship of Allah (SWT)'s creations considering them to be the shadows of Allah (SWT) or Allah in the real sense. Some consider the objects of their worship to reflect certain attributes and qualities of Allah (SWT). Some people believe that Allah has delegated His powers to certain creatures, so to worship and please them is actually pleasing Allah (SWT). So we can see that the love of Allah (SWT) is something instinctive for human beings. For establishing a connection with Allah (SWT) we can categorize all approaches into two broad categories.

1. *Self-created concepts like that of the non-revealed religions, or revealed but subsequently distorted religions.* In these religions the concept of God is not very different than the creations of Allah (SWT). In fact they either attempt to bring down Allah (SWT) and transform Him in the shape of a specific creation or elevate some deity to the status of God. Some people think of Allah (SWT) as a combination of various things and some have even attempted to divide Him into various parts. Some have considered Him as an entity having material structure, a king like all other kings, who has delegated His powers to certain creatures, which are to be worshipped. While others believe that Allah (SWT) penetrates Himself into various material bodies. Although all these beliefs are wrong, but one thing remains in common, that all of them

believed and had the fundamental concept of God and somehow tried to attach themselves to Him in one-way or another.

2. *Revealed Religion.* There is only one revealed religion and that is Islam. All Prophets believed and brought this religion and they gave one and the same message as stated in the Holy Quran that they said, “Do worship Allah as there is no ilah (one deserving to be worshipped) but Allah”. In the Holy Quran it is said, “And we have not sent any Prophet but revealed to Him that there is no ilah (to be worshipped) but Me so do worship Me”. Human beings are created to recognize Allah (SWT), as said in the Holy Quran “and We have not created Jinn and the Human being but to worship (recognize) Me” Suratul Zariat, verse 56. To give a clear concept in this regard Allah (SWT) has mentioned certain attributes and qualities that He can be known by. These attributes of Allah (SWT), His Highest Names, perhaps can be summarized by saying that He has the positives attributes of being the Creator, The Lord, The Compeller, The Controller and Ruler of all the Universes, having no defect and no need for any partner or associate. For reference in the Holy Quran please see Suratul Ikhlas, the last three Ayat of Suratul Hashar, the verse of The Throne in Suratul Baqara, and the Verse of Light in Suratul Nur. Although Allah (SWT) has said that He is All Hearing and All Seeing, however one should not compare Him to the hearing and seeing organs of Humans or animals. He has used these as similes to help humans comprehend and therefore He said “There is nothing (no one) like Him”. Now let us see why everyone is striving hard to be in touch with Him. The reason is that every living entity when it comes to existence starts its struggle to survive. Human beings harbor an inherent desire to have a perpetual and ever lasting existence. Humans do recognize their own

mortality and therefore they try to establish a link with an entity that is infinite and ever lasting, and such an entity is God. Hence the human desire is to get in touch with and to establish a connection with God. So the question is what is the proper way to attain this connection? Fortunately, Allah (SWT) shows this way through His Messengers and Revelations. When we look into the Holy Quran, sometimes Allah (SWT) warns us about the dire consequences, while sometimes He orders us not to give up hope, and remain hopeful about His Mercy. Therefore Rasulullah (SAS) said that Eiman is in between fear and hope. The Holy Quran says in many verses "Fear Allah", but also says "Don't give up hope of the mercy of Allah; verily disbelievers are the ones who give up hope." Now the question is how does one develop the Love of Allah (SWT)? This is simply understood, since in our own experience if we tell someone to do something and this person abides, then we develop a fondness for this person for his obedience and loyalty. And in turn the person who abides usually does so out of loyalty, sincerity, and or love. So for Humans the Love of Allah (SWT) is shown by their sincerity, obedience and loyalty to Him. The Holy Prophet (SAS) said "Deen means sincerity". The Companions (RAA) asked, "To whom"? He said. "To Allah, His Messengers, to the leaders of the Muslims and to the Muslims in general." No one can escape Allah (SWT), therefore we must all try to be in touch with Him, even if we have committed sins. "Flee to Allah, verily I am a plain Warner to you from Him", Holy Quran 51:50. The verse means to flee from His torment to His Mercy, or it means that one cannot flee from Him so flee towards Him. This can be made clear with a simple example of a child that does something wrong which really enrages its mother. The mother starts spanking the child. Instinctively the child realizes that there is no

escaping the beating, so it draws closer to its mother, desperately clinging to her body. By this behavior the child is actually sending a message to the mother that although I have been naughty, but I have no escape, no one else to turn to. When the mother sees this she immediately softens, and not only does she spare him, but also hugs him tightly, dries his tears and tries to make him happy. If someone tries to love Allah (SWT), Allah loves him too. In a Hadith Qudsi it is said. "One who comes near me a span, I come forward to him a yard (arms-length), and one who comes forward a yard I come forward to him a fathom (two arms length), and one who comes forward a fathom I come towards him in a speedy walk." Every human being wants to be liked by Allah (SWT) and by people as well. Allah (SWT) has shown us the way and said in the Quran, "O Believers! Fear Allah and be with the truthful people". By doing so one would be liked by both the Creator and His creations. Once a delegation came to Rasulullah (SAS) and said that we love Allah, but how will we get it? Meaning that how will our love for Allah (SWT) be accepted? Allah (SWT) said in the Holy Quran, "Say to them if you love Allah, then follow me, He will make you beloved and He will love you and forgive your sins". This verse means that you will get more than what you have tried for and that He will love you or it means if you follow me to get Allah's love then He will put your love in the hearts and minds of the people. As Allah (SWT) says in the Holy Quran "Those who believed and practiced good deeds, soon Allah (SWT) will favor them with "Wud", which means that people will love them. In a Hadith it is said that when Allah loves someone He says to Angel Jabreel, I love such person so you also love him. Angel Jibreel says I love him too. Angel Jabreel comes to the angels in every sky and tells them that Allah loves such person; I love him, so you may all love

him as well, and they say we love him as well. Then there are angels who visit the earth at different times and they inspire the love of this person in the hearts of the people and the people start loving him for the sake of Allah. In another Hadith Qudsi it is said that when a Muslim goes close to Allah because of his commitment, Allah becomes his eyes, seeing through them, his ears, hearing through them, his hands, catching through and his feet going through. The Hadith means that Allah (SWT) gives this man spiritual powers, which enable him to do things ordinary people may not be able to do. Let us all start loving Allah in the true sense by following His commandments and by following the Sunnah of His Prophet (SAS). May Allah empower us to do so. Ameen.