

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

AL-WADUD

By
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I wish to share with you one more attribute of Allah Almighty, which is

AL-WADUD

'Al-Wadud' is a name of Allah that explains His attribute of great love for His creation. The word 'Al-Wadud' is usually used to describe a deep and continuing love. This differs from the attribute Al-Rahman which refers to mercy and compassion.

Allah's Love for His creation and His Compassion ensure not only that He has placed the means of sustenance for creation within their reach, but that this sustenance goes beyond the body to give solace, peace of mind, tranquillity and serenity for those who seek Him.

Allah guides people to His love and tells us that the path to this begins with repentance, He tells us in Surah Hud verse 90:

وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا رَبَّكُمْ ثُمَّ تُوبُوا إِلَيْهِ إِنَّ رَبِّي رَحِيمٌ وَدُودٌ

“And ask forgiveness of your Lord and then repent to Him. Indeed, my Lord is Most Merciful and Most Loving”

The attribute of 'Al-Wadud' is more clearly exemplified in an incident narrated by Imam Bukhari. This story refers to a prostitute of Bani Israel who chanced upon a thirsty, dying dog. When she saw the dog, she fetched water and gave it to the dog to drink. Prophet Mohammad, sallallaahu 'alaihi wasallam, said concerning this act from this woman that Allah has blessed her and forgiven all her sins due to the mercy that she has shown to the dying dog.

At the same time, we find that this hadith also teaches us that, through Allah's attribute of 'Al-Wadud', a prostitute was forgiven and transformed through a good deed towards an animal. This is a lesson not to despair and feel overwhelmed by the weakness that led you astray, but rather to look for good deeds and perform these with sincerity so that Allah can give you strength to stay clear of wrongdoing.

On account of this story, the Prophet, Sallallaahu 'alaihi wasallam reminds us not to belittle any kind deed or act of charity. Even the natural act of providing for your family will be blessed and rewarded by Allah.





ONE SHOULD NEVER PREFER A PERSONAL LUXURY OVER THE NEEDS OF HIS FAMILY.

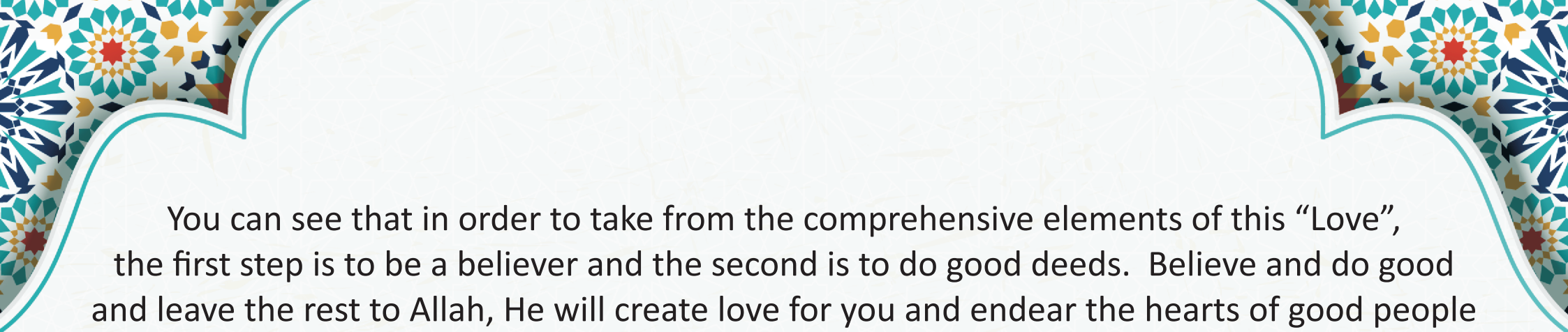
This Hadith of our prophet Muhammad, Sallallahu Alayhi Wassalam, explains to us that spending on our families, which should come naturally to us, is an act that is highly commendable and will earn much blessing from Allah.

Apart from obtaining a reward from Allah, we will also experience tranquility within our hearts as a result of having fulfilled our solemn duty to those who are dependent on us the most. This also helps leave behind the righteous offspring who will pray for us once we leave this world.

To help us reach this special love that I am referring to,
Allah explains to us in Surah Maryam verse 96:

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ سَيَجْعَلُ لَهُمُ الرَّحْمَنُ وُدًّا

“Surely, as for those who believe and do good deeds, Allah,
the Most Gracious will bestow love for them.”



You can see that in order to take from the comprehensive elements of this “Love”, the first step is to be a believer and the second is to do good deeds. Believe and do good and leave the rest to Allah, He will create love for you and endear the hearts of good people to you. To complete the process, we must adorn ourselves with patience and understanding and open our hearts to the sincere believers and pray for guidance for all humanity.

Our role model, prophet Muhammad, Sallallahu Alayhi Wassalam, made Dua for those who hurt him during the Battle of Uhud by saying: “O Allah! Show Your guidance to my people, for verily they do not know.”

‘Al-Wadud’ (The Loving), is one of those attributes of Allah that we can also aspire to adopt. In order for us to do this, we must learn to love goodness for others and keep remembering the hadith of our prophet Muhammad, Sallallahu Alayhi Wassalam, that none of you is a true believer until you love for others what you love for yourself.

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