




LOVE OF ALLAH AND HIS MESSENGER (ﷺ)


All praises are due to Allah. Anything good is from Allah and any mistakes are from ourselves and the shaitan. May Allah forgive us.

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

LOVE OF ALLAH AND HIS MESSENGER (ﷺ)

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AS SITTEER (The Concealer)

- We need concealment in life. Why? In order to be presentable not only for ourselves but for others. The way of being truthful is not by exposing faults.
- Allah is As Sitteer and He conceals His Face from us in this life not because of any faults, glory be to Him, but because we cannot handle it now. But we have faults and need concealment.

- We need concealments in both day-to-day matters and bigger matters. For instance, primer, concealer and foundation are part of our makeup. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) concealed our heads with hair. The baby is concealed in the womb. We even conceal bad breath with chewing gum
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has concealed and surrounded the fire with temptations and paradise with hardship. He concealed the soul with the body. He concealed the hereafter with this duniya.
- Sometimes we try to conceal what we feel but it shows through our body language and actions. Tears are concealed with smiles and sadness with giggles. In the end, we conceal our feelings with the gown of taqwa.

- Companions are also a means for concealment.
- Allah conceals our faults by opening good deeds to help us move on. He brings decrees to take us out from looking at our faults.
- He even conceals what is beautiful from good deeds and intentions. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) conceals His love with His magnificence.
- There are different kinds of concealment. He conceals us so we can attach to Him.

NAME OF ALLAH AS SITTEER IN THE SUNNAH

- This name is not in mentioned in the Qur'an but in the sunnah.

ALLAH IS THE CONCEALER

أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ رَأَى رَجُلًا يَغْتَسِلُ بِالْبُرَازِ
فَصَعِدَ الْمُنْبَرَ فَحَمِدَ اللَّهَ وَأَثْنَى عَلَيْهِ وَقَالَ " إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ حَلِيمٌ
حَيُّ سِتِيرٌ يُحِبُّ الْحَيَاءَ وَالسَّتْرَ فَإِذَا اغْتَسَلَ أَحَدُكُمْ فَلْيَسْتِرْ

The Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) saw a man washing in a public place without a lower garment. So he mounted the pulpit, praised and exalted Allah and said: Allah is characterised by modesty and concealment. So when any of you washes, he should conceal himself.¹

- The manner the Prophet (ﷺ) addressed this matter is also a kind of concealment. He did not publicly expose the man. But spoke from

¹ Sunan Abi Dawud 4012

the pulpit. We learn to not address faults of people in public but in private.

- The concealment of Allah suits His Majesty, not because of faults. We have faults and need concealment.
- His concealment suits His vast mercy, generosity, pardoning and forbearance.
- He even conceals the faults and secrets of people no matter how ugly or disgusting they may be. No matter how great the sins are, He conceals them.
- He is As Sitter Ar Raheem (The Especially Merciful) Who rejoices with the repentance of His slave more than anyone else.
- He forgives sins no matter how great they may be, how intense they may be and pardons sins no matter how many there may be.

SURAH AZ ZUMAR 53

قُلْ يَا عِبَادِيَ الَّذِينَ أَسْرَفُوا عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِهِمْ لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِن رَّحْمَةِ اللَّهِ ۚ
 إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا ۗ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

Say, "O My servants who have transgressed against themselves [by sinning], do not despair of the mercy of Allah . Indeed, Allah forgives all sins. Indeed, it is He who is the Forgiving, the Merciful."

- People see us in goodness because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) conceals us. He brings out beauty and conceals ugliness. He mends what is broken, heals the sick and feeds the hungry.

SURAH ASH SHUARA

77.

إِلَّا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ

except the Lord of the worlds,

78.

الَّذِي خَلَقَنِي فَهُوَ يَهْدِينِ

Who created me, and He [it is who] guides me.

79.

وَالَّذِي هُوَ يُطْعِمُنِي وَيَسْقِينِ

And it is He who feeds me and gives me drink.

80.

وَإِذَا مَرَضْتُ فَمَنْ يَشْفِينِ

And when I am ill, it is He who cures me

81.

وَالَّذِي يُمِيتُنِي ثُمَّ يُحْيِينِ

And who will cause me to die and then bring me to life

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) does not expose people. But they expose themselves.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) warns the one who is proud of the evil he did.

ALLAH SCREENS

يَدْنُو أَحَدَكُمْ مِنْ رَبِّهِ حَتَّى يَضَعَ كَنَفَهُ عَلَيْهِ فَيَقُولُ عَمِلْتَ كَذَا وَكَذَا. فَيَقُولُ نَعَمْ. وَيَقُولُ عَمِلْتَ كَذَا وَكَذَا. فَيَقُولُ نَعَمْ. فَيَقْرُرُهُ ثُمَّ يَقُولُ إِنِّي سَتَرْتُ عَلَيْكَ فِي الدُّنْيَا، فَأَنَا أَغْفِرُهَا لَكَ الْيَوْمَ."

A man asked Ibn `Umar, "What did you hear Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) saying regarding An-Najwa (secret talk between Allah and His believing worshipper on the Day of Judgment)?" He said, "(The Prophet (ﷺ) said), "One of you will come close to his Lord till He will shelter him in His screen and say: Did you commit such-and-such sin? He will say, 'Yes.' Then Allah will say: Did you commit such and such sin? He will say, 'Yes.' So Allah will make him confess (all his sins) and He will say, 'I screened them (your sins) for you in the world, and today I forgive them for you.'"²

- This includes those who sin and then post pictures exposing themselves. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) concealed them so it is not befitting to expose what He concealed. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) conceals to forgive us. He covers while He knows.

² Sahih al-Bukhari 6070

- If everything was revealed and shown, it would be hard for us to move on. He grants us feelings of regret to return to Him.
- Even if there are faults, He brings blessings smoothly to make us move on.

SURAH ASH SHURA 25

وَهُوَ الَّذِي يَقْبَلُ التَّوْبَةَ عَنْ عِبَادِهِ وَيَعْفُو عَنِ السَّيِّئَاتِ وَيَعْلَمُ مَا تَفْعَلُونَ

And it is He who accepts repentance from his servants and pardons misdeeds, and He knows what you do.

- Ibn Al Qayyim said, He is As Sitteer (The Concealer) - forgiveness accompanies Him.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) loves when His slaves conceal themselves and others.

ALLAH CONCEALS

لَا يَسْتُرُ اللَّهُ عَلَى عَبْدٍ فِي الدُّنْيَا، إِلَّا سَتَرَهُ اللَّهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

The servant (whose fault) Allah conceals in this world, Allah would also conceal (his faults) on the Day of Resurrection.³

- He is Al Hayiy As Sitteer (The Modest One, The Concealer) even though He is the Most Rich. Even if people show their faults, it does not affect Him.
- He brings reasons to make us to repent.
- He opens good deeds to make us be grateful.

EVERYONE IS FORGIVEN EXCEPT THE ONE WHO EXPOSES

كُلُّ أُمَّتِي مُعَاْفَى إِلَّا الْمُجَاهِرِينَ

"All the sins of my followers will be forgiven except those of the Mujahirin (those who commit a sin openly or disclose their sins to the people).⁴

³ Sahih Muslim 2590a

⁴ Sahih al-Bukhari 6069

- Imagine, a person sins in the night and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) conceals him, yet this person goes around and tells others what he did.
- He exposes the concealment of Allah placed on him. It is a greater sin to expose what Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has concealed.
- This shows complete disrespect to the rights of Allah. He concealed the slave and wants good for him but this person disregarded this concealment. He then also becomes a bad example for others to do bad.

SURAH FATIR 8

أَفَمَنْ زُيِّنَ لَهُ سُوءُ عَمَلِهِ فَرَآهُ حَسَنًا فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ يُضِلُّ مَنْ يَشَاءُ
وَيَهْدِي مَنْ يَشَاءُ فَلَا تَذْهَبْ نَفْسُكَ عَلَيْهِمْ حَسْرَاتٍ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ
بِمَا يَصْنَعُونَ

Then is one to whom the evil of his deed has been made attractive so he considers it good

[like one rightly guided]? For indeed, Allah sends astray whom He wills and guides whom He wills. So do not let yourself perish over them in regret. Indeed, Allah is Knowing of what they do.

SUPPLICATION FOR WELLBEING

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ الْعَفْوَ وَالْعَافِيَةَ فِي دِينِي وَدُنْيَايَ وَأَهْلِي وَمَالِي،
اللَّهُمَّ اسْتُرْ عَوْرَاتِي وَآمِنْ رَوْعَاتِي، اللَّهُمَّ احْفَظْنِي مِنْ بَيْنِ يَدَيْ
وَمِنْ خَلْفِي وَعَنْ يَمِينِي وَعَنْ شِمَالِي وَمِنْ فَوْقِي، وَأَعُوذُ بِعَظَمَتِكَ أَنْ
أُغْتَالَ مِنْ تَحْتِي

O Allah, I ask You for well-being in this life and the next. O Allah, I ask You for pardon and well-being in my religious and worldly affairs, and my family and my wealth. O Allah, veil my weaknesses and set at ease my dismay. O Allah, preserve me from the front and from behind and from my right and from my left and from above, and I seek refuge with You lest I be swallowed up by the earth.⁵

⁵ Abu Dawud No# 5074

- Well-being is to have soundness and goodness in the mind, heart and body. It is a safeguard from any decree that can break us, take us to the fire and torment. We seek well-being in our religion, worldly matters, family, wealth and everything.
- We ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to conceal our faults and for safety from our fears.
- Concealment is not limited to physical covering. A person might get into an accident and people take pictures of him. No one likes others to see them in that state. We seek concealment.
- Concealment is also from our inner desires, weaknesses and faults that overpower us. This includes anger, jealousy and arrogance.

- Also to conceal our inner, desires overpower us, weaknesses and faults overpower us
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) told us to beware of shaithan who wants to expose us.

SURAH AL A'RAF 27

يَا بَنِي آدَمَ لَا يَفْتِنَنَّكُمُ الشَّيْطَانُ كَمَا أَخْرَجَ أَبَوَيْكُم مِّنَ الْجَنَّةِ يَنْزِعُ عَنْهُمَا لِبَاسَهُمَا لِيُرِيَهُمَا سَوْآتِهِمَا إِنَّهُ يَرَاكُمْ هُوَ وَقَبِيلُهُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا تَرَوْنَهُمْ إِنَّا جَعَلْنَا الشَّيَاطِينَ أَوْلِيَاءَ لِلَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ

O children of Adam, let not Satan tempt you as he removed your parents from Paradise, stripping them of their clothing to show them their private parts. Indeed, he sees you, he and his tribe, from where you do not see them. Indeed, We have made the devils allies to those who do not believe.

- The objective of shaithan is to make the people remove their clothes and expose themselves to each other. This becomes a trigger for the weaknesses of each other. They

show their bad side leading to separation, barriers and distance between them.

- Knowing Allah As Sittier teaches us to filter what we do and say.
- We do not look at the faults of others and follow what they do.
- We do not know how looking at faults and mocking at others can become a means for the faith to not enter the hearts.
- Concealing, giving excuses and thinking good are reasons for faith to enter the heart. May Everyone is weak no matter how much they know. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make us compassionate to each other.

ALLAH CONCEALS

وَمَنْ سَتَرَ مُسْلِمًا، سَتَرَهُ اللَّهُ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ

“Whoever covers (the sin of) a Muslim, Allah will cover him (his sin) in this world and in the Hereafter.”⁶

- The Day of Judgement is the Day the secrets come out. They do not come out in a nice way on that Day but as a calamity. This is why we conceal in this life, so that we will be concealed in the hereafter.
- It is not from the quality of a Muslim to expose his brother, follow his faults and catch his mistakes.
- A person may have been on misguidance but then he becomes guided. It is important to conceal what he did when he was on misguidance and not expose him.

SURAH AN NOOR 19

⁶ Sunan Ibn Majah 2544

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَ أَنْ تَشِيعَ الْفَاحِشَةُ فِي الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا
لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ وَأَنْتُمْ لَا
تَعْلَمُونَ

Indeed, those who like that immorality should be spread [or publicized] among those who have believed will have a painful punishment in this world and the Hereafter. And Allah knows and you do not know.

- It is from the wicked quality of the hypocrite to want immorality to spread and become exposed.
- When a person conceals himself, he is sound.
- It is from the mercy of Allah to grant us good deeds to go on.

SURAH AAL IMRAAN 147

رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا وَإِسْرَافَنَا فِي أَمْرِنَا وَثَبِّتْ أَقْدَامَنَا وَانصُرْنَا عَلَى
الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ

"Our Lord, forgive us our sins and the excess [committed] in our affairs and plant firmly our feet and give us victory over the disbelieving people."

SUPPLICATION ASKING ALLAH TO CONCEAL US

اللهم استر عوراتنا، وآمن روعاتنا، اللهم احفظنا من بين أيدينا،
ومن خلفنا، وعن أيماننا، وعن شمائلنا، ومن فوقنا، ونعوذ
بعظمتك أن نُغْتال من تحتنا

O Allah, veil my weaknesses and set at ease my dismay. O Allah, preserve me from the front and from behind and from my right and from my left and from above, and I seek refuge with You lest I be swallowed up by the earth.⁷

SUPPLICATION ASKING ALLAH TO CONCEAL US

اللهم استرنا فوق الأرض وتحت الأرض ويوم العرض

O Allah, conceal us above the earth, under the earth and the Day of being Displayed (Last Day)

⁷ Abu Dawud No# 5074

SUPPLICATION TO BE ADORNED WITH FAITH

اللَّهُمَّ زَيِّنَا بِزِينَةِ الْإِيمَانِ وَاجْعَلْنَا هُدَاةً مُهْتَدِينَ

O Allah, beautify us with the adornment of faith and make us of those who guide and are rightly guided.⁸

- We do not only want to be concealed but to be adorned and faith is the best adornment.

SURAH AZ ZUKHRUF 18

أَوْمَنْ يُدَشِّأُ فِي الْجَلِيَّةِ وَهُوَ فِي الْخِصَامِ غَيْرُ مُبِينٍ

So is one brought up in ornaments while being during conflict unevident [attributed to Allah]?

- The more we adorn ourselves, the more it covers our mistakes.

MAY ALLAH CONCEAL US. AMEEN.

⁸ An-Nasa'i No# 1305, 1306

REFERENCES

1. تفسیر الشیخ السعدی - TAFSEER SHEIKH AS SA'ADY

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