

إِنَّ رَبَّكَ وَاسِعُ الْمَغْفِرَةِ

Your Lord is vast in forgiveness

بے شک تمہارا رب بڑی مغفرت والا ہے۔

Khutba Seletion: Hafiz Sajjad

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي يَبْسُطُ يَدَهُ بِاللَّيْلِ لِيَتُوبَ مُسِيءُ اللَّيْلِ، وَيَبْسُطُ يَدَهُ بِالنَّهَارِ لِيَتُوبَ مُسِيءُ النَّهَارِ،

All praises are due to Allah. Who stretches out His forgiveness at night, such that sinners of the day can repent, and Who stretches out His forgiveness in the day, such that wrongdoers of night can repent.

إِنَّ شَهْرَ شَعْبَانَ شَهْرٌ عَظِيمٌ، تُرْفَعُ فِيهِ الْأَعْمَالُ إِلَى اللَّهِ تَعَالَى،

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

«ذَاكَ شَهْرٌ يَعْمَلُ النَّاسُ عَنْهُ بَيْنَ رَجَبٍ وَرَمَضَانَ، وَهُوَ شَهْرٌ تُرْفَعُ فِيهِ الْأَعْمَالُ إِلَى رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ، فَأَحِبُّ أَنْ يُرْفَعَ عَمَلِي وَأَنَا صَائِمٌ»⁽¹⁾.

Indeed, the month of Sha'ban is an immense month. In it, one's actions are raised to Allah.

The Prophet pbuh said:

ذَاكَ شَهْرٌ يَعْمَلُ النَّاسُ عَنْهُ بَيْنَ رَجَبٍ وَرَمَضَانَ، وَهُوَ شَهْرٌ تُرْفَعُ فِيهِ الْأَعْمَالُ إِلَى رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ، فَأَحِبُّ أَنْ يُرْفَعَ عَمَلِي وَأَنَا صَائِمٌ

That is a month to which people do not pay much attention, between Rajab and Ramadan. It is a month in which the deeds

(1) أبو داود : 5212 ، والترمذي : 2727.

are taken up to the Lord of the worlds, and I like that my deeds be taken up when I am fasting. [Ibn Majah]

وَفِيهِ لَيْلَةٌ جَلِيلَةٌ، مُبَارَكَةٌ كَرِيمَةٌ، يَغْفِرُ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ فِيهَا لِجَمِيعِ خَلْقِهِ، مِمَّنْ صَفَتْ قُلُوبُهُمْ، وَسَلِمَتْ صُدُورُهُمْ، وَنَقَتْ سَرَائِرُهُمْ، قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ «يَطْلُعُ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ عَلَى خَلْقِهِ لَيْلَةَ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ، فَيَغْفِرُ لِجَمِيعِ خَلْقِهِ؛ إِلَّا لِلْمُشْرِكِ أَوْ مُشَاحِنٍ»⁽¹⁾. أَيُّ: مُتَخَاصِمٍ، فَمَنْ كَانَ بَيْنَهُ وَبَيْنَ أَحَدٍ خِلَافٌ فَلْيُبَادِرْ إِلَى مُسَامَحَتِهِ؛ لِيُنْفُوزَ بِمَغْفِرَةِ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى،

In it is a blessed and noble night, in which it is hoped that Allah will forgive His creation. This is for those who purify their hearts, and who do not hold rancor against others, and who leave aside their beds [in sincere supplication and worship therein].

For the Prophet (pbuh) said:

يَطْلُعُ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ عَلَى خَلْقِهِ لَيْلَةَ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ، فَيَغْفِرُ لِجَمِيعِ خَلْقِهِ؛ إِلَّا لِلْمُشْرِكِ أَوْ مُشَاحِنٍ
Allah gazes upon His creation on the night of the middle [fifteenth] of Sha'ban and forgives all of His creation except one worshipping other than Allah [a mushrik] or one who harbors hatred against another person. [Ibn Majah]

In other words, someone in a state of dispute with another, should strive to ensure that they forgive the other person. For their forgiveness from Allah is contingent on the degree to which they too can embody the ability to forgive another.

فَلْنُغْفِرْ شَهْرَ شَعْبَانَ؛ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالذِّكْرِ، وَتِلَاوَةِ الْقُرْآنِ، وَالْأَخْذِ بِأَسْبَابِ الصَّحَابِ وَالْغُفْرَانِ؛ لِنُغْفَرَ ذُنُوبَنَا، وَتُقْبَلَ أَعْمَالُنَا، وَتُرْفَعَ دَرَجَاتُنَا عِنْدَ رَبِّنَا.

(1) ابن ماجه : 1390 .

So, let us make the most of the month of Sha'ban, through prayer and remembrance, the recitation of the Qur'an, and through taking the means of ourselves being able to forgive others: by letting go of hatred, grudges and rancor from our hearts. It is through this that we can hope that our sins are forgiven, that our deeds may be accepted, and that our ranks may be realized with our Lord.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ يَدْعُو عِبَادَهُ قَائِلًا: (يَا عِبَادِيَ الَّذِينَ أَسْرَفُوا عَلَى أَنْفُسِهِمْ لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِنْ رَحْمَةِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ)⁽¹⁾.

Allah calls upon his dutiful servants by saying:

يَا عِبَادِيَ الَّذِينَ أَسْرَفُوا عَلَى أَنْفُسِهِمْ لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِنْ رَحْمَةِ 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. [Qur'an: 39:53]

وَيَقُولُ تَعَالَى فِي الْحَدِيثِ الْقُدْسِيِّ: «يَا عِبَادِيَ إِنَّكُمْ تَخْطِئُونَ بِاللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ، وَأَنَا أَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا، فَاسْتَغْفِرُونِي أَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ»⁽²⁾. فَمَا أَعْظَمَهُ مِنْ نِدَاءٍ، وَمَا أَوْسَعَهُ مِنْ عَطَاءٍ، قَالَ سُبْحَانَهُ: (إِنَّ رَبَّكَ وَاسِعُ الْمَغْفِرَةِ)⁽³⁾. فَمَا هِيَ أَسْبَابُ الْمَغْفِرَةِ؟

Similarly, Allah says in a Hadith Qudsi (a 'Sacred Narration' that is directly attributed to Allah) that:

يَا عِبَادِيَ إِنَّكُمْ تَخْطِئُونَ بِاللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ، وَأَنَا أَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا، فَاسْتَغْفِرُونِي أَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ

(1) الزمر : 53.

(2) مسلم : 2577.

(3) النجم : 32.

O, My servants, you commit sins by day and by night, and I forgive all sins, so seek forgiveness from Me and I shall forgive you. [Muslim]

So, there is none greater that we can call upon, and none more generous in their bestowal. He, the Highest, says:

إِنَّ رَبَّكَ وَاسِعُ الْمَغْفِرَةِ

Indeed, your Lord is vast in forgiveness. [Qur'an: 53:32]

So, what are the means in availing forgiveness?

إِنَّ الْإِيمَانَ بِاللَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ، وَتَصَدِيقَ رُسُلِهِ: أَوَّلُ أَسْبَابِ الْمَغْفِرَةِ، قَالَ سُبْحَانَهُ: (سَابِقُوا إِلَى مَغْفِرَةٍ مِنْ رَبِّكُمْ وَجَنَّةٍ عَرْضُهَا كَعَرْضِ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ أُعِدَّتْ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرُسُلِهِ ذَلِكَ فَضْلُ اللَّهِ يُؤْتِيهِ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ ذُو الْفَضْلِ الْعَظِيمِ)⁽¹⁾.

Belief and faith in Allah and testifying to the Truth of His Messengers are from the primary means of availing forgiveness. Allah, the Exalted, says:

سَابِقُوا إِلَى مَغْفِرَةٍ مِنْ رَبِّكُمْ وَجَنَّةٍ عَرْضُهَا كَعَرْضِ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ أُعِدَّتْ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرُسُلِهِ ذَلِكَ فَضْلُ اللَّهِ يُؤْتِيهِ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ ذُو الْفَضْلِ الْعَظِيمِ

Race toward forgiveness from your Lord and a Garden whose width is like the width of the heavens and earth, prepared for those who believed in Allah and His messengers. That is the bounty of Allah which He gives to whom He wills, and Allah is the possessor of great bounty. [Qur'an: 57:21]

فَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ يَغْفِرُ لَهُمْ رَبُّهُمْ، وَيُدْخِلُهُمْ وَتَقَرُّبُهُمْ، قَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: «يُؤْتِي الْمُؤْمِنُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ عَرَّوَجَلًا؛ حَتَّى يَضَعَ عَلَيْهِ كَنَفَهُ فَيَقَرُّهُ بِذُنُوبِهِ، فَيَقُولُ: هَلْ تَعْرِفُ؟ فَيَقُولُ: أَيْ رَبِّ أَعْرِفُ. قَالَ: فَإِنِّي قَدْ سَتَرْتُهَا عَلَيْكَ فِي الدُّنْيَا، وَإِنِّي أَغْفِرُهَا لَكَ الْيَوْمَ. فَيُعْطَى صَحِيفَةً حَسَنَاتِهِ»⁽²⁾.

(1) الحديد: 21.

(2) متفق عليه .

So, the believers are those who are forgiven by their Lord. Pardoning them and drawing them closer to Him. The Prophet (peace be upon him) is reported to have said:

يُذْنِي الْمُؤْمِنُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ؛ حَتَّى يَضَعَ عَلَيْهِ كَنَفَهُ فَيَقْرَهُ بِذُنُوبِهِ، فَيَقُولُ: هَلْ تَعْرِفُ؟ فَيَقُولُ: أَيْ رَبِّ أَعْرِفُ. قَالَ: فَإِنِّي قَدْ سَتَرْتُهَا عَلَيْكَ فِي الدُّنْيَا، وَإِنِّي أَغْفِرُهَا لَكَ الْيَوْمَ. فَيُعْطَى صَحِيفَةً حَسَنَاتِهِ

A believer will be brought to his Lord, the Exalted and Glorious, on the Day of Resurrection and He would place upon him His veil (of Light) and make him confess his faults and say: Do you recognize (your faults)? He would say: My Lord, I do recognize (them). He (the Lord) would say: I concealed them for you in the world. And today I forgive them. And he would then be given the Book containing (the account of his) good deeds. [Bukhari and Muslim]

وَمِنْ أَسْبَابِ الْمَغْفِرَةِ؛ فِعْلُ الْخَيْرَاتِ، وَعَمَلُ الصَّالِحَاتِ، قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى: (وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَنُكَفِّرَنَّ عَنْهُمْ سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ وَلَنَجْزِيَنَّهُمْ أَحْسَنَ الَّذِي كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ)⁽¹⁾. قَالَ تَبَارَكَ اسْمُهُ يُجَازِي الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ أَحْسَنَ الْجَزَاءِ، وَيَغْفُو وَيَصْفَحُ عَنْ سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ⁽²⁾، قَالَ سُبْحَانَهُ: (وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَهُمْ مَغْفِرَةٌ وَأَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ)⁽³⁾.

From the means of availing forgiveness is the doing of good, and righteous actions, as Allah says:

وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَنُكَفِّرَنَّ عَنْهُمْ سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ وَلَنَجْزِيَنَّهُمْ أَحْسَنَ الَّذِي كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ

And those who believe and do righteous deeds – We will surely remove from them their misdeeds and will surely reward them according to the best of what they used to do. [Qur'an: 29:7]

(1) العنكبوت : 7.

(2) تفسير ابن كثير : (264/6).

(3) المائدة : 9.

So may Allah, exalted be His name, reward those who believe and do good deeds with the best of rewards, and may He forgive and remove their wrong deeds. Allah, the Most glorious says:

وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ هُمْ مَغْفِرَةٌ وَأَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ

Allah has promised those who believe and do righteous deeds [that] for them there is forgiveness and great reward. [Qur'an: 5:9]

وَإِحْسَانُ الْوُضُوءِ، وَالْمُحَافَظَةُ عَلَى الصَّلَوَاتِ؛ مِنْ أَفْضَلِ الْفُرُبَاتِ، الَّتِي يَمْحُو اللَّهُ تَعَالَى بِهَا الرِّثَالَاتِ، وَيَرْفَعُ بِهَا الدَّرَجَاتِ، قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: «لَا يَتَوَضَّأُ رَجُلٌ فَيُحْسِنُ وُضُوءَهُ، ثُمَّ يُصَلِّي الصَّلَاةَ إِلَّا غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا بَيْنَهُ وَبَيْنَ الصَّلَاةِ الَّتِي تَلِيهَا»⁽¹⁾.

Likewise, is the role for those who perfect their Wudu and guard their prayers, for these devotional acts are from the greatest of means of drawing near to Allah. Through them Allah wipes away sins, and raises their ranks. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

لَا يَتَوَضَّأُ رَجُلٌ فَيُحْسِنُ وُضُوءَهُ، ثُمَّ يُصَلِّي الصَّلَاةَ إِلَّا غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا بَيْنَهُ وَبَيْنَ الصَّلَاةِ الَّتِي تَلِيهَا

Not a person is there who performed ablution, and did it well, then offered prayer, but his sins (which he committed) were not pardoned between the prayer that he offered and the next one.

[Muslim]

وَإِذَا جَلَسَ الْمُصَلِّي فِي مُصَلَّاهُ؛ فَإِنَّ الْمَلَائِكَةَ الْكَرَامَ تَدْعُو لَهُ بِالْمَغْفِرَةِ، قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: «إِنَّ الْمَلَائِكَةَ تُصَلِّي عَلَى أَحَدِكُمْ مَا دَامَ فِي مَجْلِسِهِ، تَقُولُ: اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَهُ، اللَّهُمَّ ارْحَمْهُ»⁽²⁾.

(1) مسلم: 227.

(2) متفق عليه.

Similarly, when a person sits in the Mosque or the place of prayer, then the Angels supplicate forgiveness for him. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

إِنَّ الْمَلَائِكَةَ تُصَلِّي عَلَى أَحَدِكُمْ مَا دَامَ فِي مَجْلِسِهِ، تَقُولُ: اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَهُ، اللَّهُمَّ ارْحَمْهُ

The angels invoke blessings on everyone among you so long as he is in a place of worship with these words: O Allah! pardon him, O Allah, have mercy upon him [Bukhari and Muslim]

وَمَنْ حَرَصَ عَلَى صَلَاةِ الْجُمُعَةِ وَتَمَسَّكَ بِسُنَّتِهَا: غَفَرَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى لَهُ، قَالَ النَّبِيُّ P: « مَنْ تَوَضَّأَ فَأَحْسَنَ الْوُضُوءَ، ثُمَّ أَتَى الْجُمُعَةَ، قَدَنَا وَأَنْصَتَ وَاسْتَمَعَ: غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا بَيْنَهُ وَبَيْنَ الْجُمُعَةِ الْأُخْرَى، وَزِيَادَةُ ثَلَاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ »⁽¹⁾.

Likewise, someone who is avid in attending the Friday prayer and adheres to its various Sunnah, Allah will forgive such a person, for the Prophet said: مَنْ تَوَضَّأَ فَأَحْسَنَ الْوُضُوءَ، ثُمَّ أَتَى الْجُمُعَةَ، قَدَنَا وَأَنْصَتَ وَاسْتَمَعَ: غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا بَيْنَهُ وَبَيْنَ الْجُمُعَةِ الْأُخْرَى، وَزِيَادَةُ ثَلَاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ

Whoever performs ablution and performs ablution well, then comes to Friday (prayer) and sits near (the Imam), and keeps quiet and listens, he will be forgiven for what was between that and the previous Friday (of sins), and three days more.

[Muslim]

يَا مَنْ تَرَجُّونَ مَغْفِرَةَ اللَّهِ: إِنَّ الْإِنْفَاقَ فِي وُجُوهِ الْخَيْرِ وَالْبِرِّ؛ مِنَ الْأَعْمَالِ الَّتِي يُثِيبُ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهَا الْمُتَفِقِينَ، فَيَغْفِرُ ذُنُوبَهُمْ، وَيُضَاعِفُ ثَوَابَهُمْ، فَهُوَ سُبْحَانَهُ الْفَائِلُ: (إِنْ تُقْرِضُوا اللَّهَ قَرْضًا حَسَنًا يُضَاعِفُهُ لَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ شَكُورٌ حَلِيمٌ)⁽²⁾. فَالْصَّدَقَةُ تَكْفِرُ الْخَطِيئَةَ⁽³⁾ وَتُرِيْلُ الدُّنُوبَ⁽⁴⁾.

O You who seeks the forgiveness of Allah:

(1) مسلم : 857 ، وابن ماجه : 1090 واللفظ له.

(2) التغبين : 17.

(3) فتح الباري : (113/2).

(4) مرقاة المفاتيح شرح مشكاة المصابيح : (218/6).

Indeed, spending of one's wealth with the intent of goodness and virtue, is from the actions that Allah testifies that allows for sins to be forgiven, and increases one's reward with Allah. For He, most Glorified, says:

إِنْ تُقْرِضُوا اللَّهَ قَرْضًا حَسَنًا يُضَاعِفْهُ لَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ شَكُورٌ حَلِيمٌ

If you loan Allah a goodly loan, He will multiply it for you and forgive you. And Allah is Most Appreciative and Forbearing.

[Qur'an: 64:17]

For Charity erases one's wrongdoings and lightens one's account.

وَأَنَّ مِنْ أَسْبَابِ الْمَغْفِرَةِ: الْإِحْسَانَ إِلَى النَّاسِ، فَاللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ يَغْفِرُ لِلْمُحْسِنِينَ فِي مُعَامَلَاتِهِ، السَّهْلَ اللَّيِّنَ فِي أَقْوَالِهِ وَأَفْعَالِهِ، قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: «غَفَرَ اللَّهُ لِرَجُلٍ كَانَ قَبْلَكُمْ، كَانَ سَهْلًا إِذَا بَاعَ، سَهْلًا إِذَا اشْتَرَى، سَهْلًا إِذَا افْتَضَى»⁽¹⁾.

Similarly, from the means of availing forgiveness is showing goodly behavior (Ihsan) to the people. For Allah forgives the person of Ihsan in his dealings with people, one who is easygoing and gentle in his words and deeds. The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) is reported to have said:

غَفَرَ اللَّهُ لِرَجُلٍ كَانَ قَبْلَكُمْ، كَانَ سَهْلًا إِذَا بَاعَ، سَهْلًا إِذَا اشْتَرَى، سَهْلًا إِذَا افْتَضَى

Allah forgave a man who was before you: He was tolerant when selling, tolerant when purchasing, and tolerant when repaying. [Tirmidhi]

وَذَكَرَ اللَّهُ سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى: مِنْ أَسْبَابِ الْمَغْفِرَةِ، قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: «مَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ أَحَدٌ يَقُولُ: لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ، وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ؛ إِلَّا كُفِّرَتْ عَنْهُ خَطَايَاهُ وَلَوْ كَانَتْ مِثْلَ زَبَدِ الْبَحْرِ»⁽²⁾. وَمِنْ

(1) الترمذي: 1320.

(2) الترمذي: 3460.

أَعْظَمُ الْأَذْكَارِ الَّتِي يَنَالُ بِهَا الْإِنْسَانُ الْمَغْفِرَةَ: «لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْحَلِيمُ الْكَرِيمُ، لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ، سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ، الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ»⁽¹⁾.

Likewise, the remembrance of Allah is from the greatest means of forgiveness, for the Messenger of Allah said: **لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ، وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ؛ إِلَّا كُفِّرَتْ عَنْهُ خَطَايَاهُ وَلَوْ كَانَتْ مِثْلَ زَبَدِ الْبَحْرِ**

There is not anyone upon the earth who says: ‘None has the right to be worshipped but Allah, and Allah is the Greatest, and there is no might nor power except by Allah, (Lā ilāha illallāh, wa Allāhu akbar, wa lā ḥawla wa lā quwwata illā billāh) except that his sins shall be pardoned, even if they were like the foam of the sea. [Tirmidhi]

And from the greatest of remembrance one can make of Allah that he can hope to attain forgiveness of Allah is: **لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْحَلِيمُ**

الْكَرِيمُ، لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ، سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ، الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

None has the right to be worshipped but Allah, the Forbearing, the Most Kind. Glory be to Allah, Lord of the magnificent Throne; praise be to Allah, the Lord of all the worlds.

[Tirmidhi]

وَمَنْ أَكْثَرَ مِنْ اسْتِغْفَارِ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى؛ قَالَ جَلَّ جَلَالُهُ: (وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ)⁽²⁾. وَقَالَ سُبْحَانَهُ: (وَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ سُوءًا أَوْ يَظْلِمْ نَفْسَهُ ثُمَّ يَسْتَغْفِرِ اللَّهَ يَجِدِ اللَّهَ غَفُورًا رَحِيمًا)⁽³⁾. وَبَشَّرَنَا النَّبِيُّ ﷺ بِأَنَّ: «مَنْ قَالَ: أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ؛ غُفِرَ لَهُ»⁽⁴⁾.

So whoever increases in asking forgiveness from Allah, will attain forgiveness from Him. As He says:

وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ

(1) الترمذي : 3504 ، وأحمد : 1363 .

(2) البقرة : 199.

(3) النساء : 110.

(4) أبو داود : 1517 ، والترمذي : 3397.

And ask forgiveness of Allah . Indeed, Allah is Forgiving and Merciful. [Qur'an: 2:199]

Elsewhere He says: وَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ سُوءًا أَوْ يَظْلِمْ نَفْسَهُ ثُمَّ يَسْتَغْفِرِ اللَّهَ يَجِدِ اللَّهَ غَفُورًا رَحِيمًا

And whoever does a wrong or wrongs himself but then seeks forgiveness of Allah will find Allah Forgiving and Merciful.

[Qur'an: 4:110]

Our Prophet gave us the glad tidings that:

مَنْ قَالَ: أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ؛ غُفِرَ لَهُ

If anyone says: "I ask forgiveness of Allah than Whom there is no deity, the Living, the eternal, and I turn to Him in repentance," he will be forgiven. [Abu Dawud]

فَاكْتَبُوا مِنَ الدُّعَاءِ وَالِاسْتِغْفَارِ، بِاللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ، لِأَنْفُسِكُمْ وَلِوَالِدَيْنِ، فَإِنَّ الْإِسْتِغْفَارَ لَهُمَا مِنْ هَدْيِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ، قَالَ نَبِيُّ اللَّهِ إِبْرَاهِيمُ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ: (رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِوَالِدَيَّ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَوْمَ يَقُومُ الْحِسَابُ)⁽¹⁾.

So ask much forgiveness from your Lord in the night and day, for yourself, and for your parents. For to specifically seek for them is from the guidance of the Prophets (peace be upon them all), as the Prophet Ibrahim (peace be upon him) said:

رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِوَالِدَيَّ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَوْمَ يَقُومُ الْحِسَابُ

Our Lord, forgive me and my parents and the believers the Day the account is established. Qur'an: 14:41]

وَإِنَّ الدُّعَاءَ وَالِاسْتِغْفَارَ، يَتَلَقَّاهُ الْأَبْوَانُ بِالْفَرَحِ وَالِاسْتِبْشَارِ، قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: «إِنَّ الرَّجُلَ لَتَرْفَعُ دَرَجَتَهُ فِي الْجَنَّةِ، فَيَقُولُ: أَنَّى هَذَا؟ فَيُقَالُ: بِاسْتِغْفَارٍ وَلَدِكَ لَكَ»⁽²⁾. فَاسْتَغْفِرُوا لِمَنْ سَبَقَكُمْ إِلَى دَارِ الْبَقَاءِ، مِنْ أَهْلِكُمْ وَأَرْحَامِكُمْ، وَمَنْ أَحْسَنَ إِلَيْكُمْ، فَفِي ذَلِكَ نَفْعٌ لَهُمْ وَلَكُمْ.

(1) إبراهيم : 41 .

(2) ابن ماجه : 3660 ، وأحمد : 10890 .

Indeed such supplication and asking for forgiveness shall eventually meet the parents with something of joy and glad tidings, as the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) said: **إِنَّ الرَّجُلَ لَتَرْفَعُ دَرَجَتُهُ فِي الْجَنَّةِ، فَيَقُولُ: أَيْ هَذَا؟ فَيَقَالُ: بِاسْتِغْفَارِ وَلَدِكَ لَكَ**

A man will be raised in status in Paradise and will say: 'Where did this come from?' And it will be said: 'From your son's praying for forgiveness for you.' [Ibn Majah]

So seek forgiveness for your parents and your family that preceded you in meeting their Lord, from your relatives, and whosoever did any goodness to you. For in that is benefit not only for them, but for you too.

هَذَا وَصَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى خَيْرِ الْبَشَرِ، وَأَطِيعُوا رَبَّكُمْ فِيمَا أَمَرَ، فَقَدْ قَالَ سُبْحَانَهُ: (إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا)⁽¹⁾. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَنَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ. وَارْضَ اللَّهُمَّ عَنِ الْخُلَفَاءِ الرَّاشِدِينَ: أَبِي بَكْرٍ وَعُمَرَ وَعُثْمَانَ وَعَلِيٍّ، وَعَنْ سَائِرِ الصَّحَابَةِ الْأَكْرَمِينَ.

And with this, let us send our peace and blessings upon the one we have been commanded to send our peace and blessings upon, as Allah says: Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace. [Qur'an: 33:56]. So, O Allah, bestow Your peace, blessings and grace upon our Master, our Prophet and upon his family and all of his companions. And may Allah be pleased with the Righteous Caliphs: Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, Ali; and the noble companions of the Prophet, the Sahaba, may Allah be pleased with all of them.

(1) الأحزاب : 56 .

اللَّهُمَّ رَحِمَتَكَ نَرْجُو، وَإِيَّاكَ نَدْعُو، فَأَدِمْ عَلَيْنَا فَضْلَكَ، وَأَسْبِغْ عَلَيْنَا نِعَمَكَ، وَتَقَبَّلْ صَلَوَاتِنَا، وَضَاعِفْ حَسَنَاتِنَا، وَتَجَاوِزْ عَنْ سَيِّئَاتِنَا، وَارْفَعْ دَرَجَاتِنَا، يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ. اللَّهُمَّ اسْقِنَا الْغَيْثَ وَلَا تَجْعَلْنَا مِنَ الْقَانِطِينَ، اللَّهُمَّ اسْقِنَا مِنْ بَرَكَاتِ السَّمَاءِ، وَأَنْبِثْ لَنَا مِنْ بَرَكَاتِ الْأَرْضِ. رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً، وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً، وَفِي عَذَابِ النَّارِ، وَأَدْخِلْنَا الْجَنَّةَ مَعَ الْأَبْرَارِ، يَا عَزِيزُ يَا عَفَّارُ. اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لَنَا مَا قَدَّمْنَا وَمَا أَخَّرْنَا، وَمَا أَسْرَرْنَا وَمَا أَعْلَنَّا، وَوَقَّفْنَا جَمِيعًا لِبَطَاعَتِكَ، وَطَاعَةِ رَسُولِكَ مُحَمَّدٍ ﷺ، وَطَاعَةِ مَنْ أَمَرْتَنَا بِطَاعَتِهِ عَمَلًا بِقَوْلِكَ: (يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِي الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ)⁽¹⁾.

نَفْعِي اللَّهَ وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِالْفُرَّانِ الْعَظِيمِ،
وَبِسُنَّةِ نَبِيِّهِ الْكَرِيمِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.
أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ،
فَأَسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.