

The Prayer of Treasures

A meditation to cultivate resolve and steadfastness

You can see it in us and all around us: a crisis of resolve. Our actions and thoughts are far too often accompanied by indecision, hesitation, and a lack of ability to commit.

This crisis manifests partly in the poor time management that plagues our lives, and in our feeling that true life is happening elsewhere - either in some unattainable future or in someone else's existence - but not in our own current moment. This often means that for us, time is to be endured and survived, rather than truly appreciated, enjoyed and invested in thriving.

The cause of this crisis is our lack of understanding of our ultimate purpose. One who knows his destination is able to travel with firm and confident steps.

The Prophet, (may the peace and blessings of God continue to nourish his essence and our connection to him, and may this be so for his Family and Companions), as a Complete and Perfect Spiritual Guide sent to respond to all human needs and provide direction out of every dead-end, addressed this crisis of resolve in one of his prayers to God, known as the Prayer of Treasures (dua al kunooz). The Prophet taught this prayer to his Companion, the noble Shaddad ben Aws (may God be pleased with him), telling him:

"If people all race to store up gold and silver as an insurance against hard times ahead, my advice to you is to do the following: invest yourself in these words of prayer which are all that will be able to truly protect you in your times of spiritual need."

دُعَاءُ الثَّبَات

عن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم من حديث شداد بن أوس رضي الله عنه، قال: قال لي رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم: يا شداد بن أوس، إذا كنَز الناسُ الذهبَ والفضة، فاكنِزوا انتم هؤلاء الكلماتِ:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ الثَّبَاتَ فِي الْأَمْرِ ، وَالْعَزِيمَةَ عَلَى الرُّشْدِ ، وَأَسْأَلُكَ مُوجِبَاتِ رَحْمَتِكَ ، وعَزَائِمَ مَغْفِرَتِكَ ، وَأَسْأَلُكَ مُوجِبَاتِ رَحْمَتِكَ ، وَحُسْنَ عِبَادَتِكَ ، وَأَسْأَلُكَ شُكْرَ نِعْمَتِكَ ، وَحُسْنَ عِبَادَتِكَ ، وَأَسْأَلُكَ لِسَانًا صَادِقًا ، وَقَلْبًا سَلِيمًا ، وخُلُقًا مُسْتَقِيمًا ، وَأَسْأَلُكَ لِسَانًا صَادِقًا ، وَقَلْبًا سَلِيمًا ، وخُلُقًا مُسْتَقِيمًا ، وَأَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا تَعْلَمُ ، وَأَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا تَعْلَمُ ، وَأَعُودُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا تَعْلَمُ ، وَأَعُودُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا تَعْلَمُ ، وَأَعُودُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا تَعْلَمُ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ عَلَامُ الْغُيُوبِ

www.rhodainstitute.org



Dear Lord,

You Who is closer to me than my own self and Who sees perfectly the secrets of my heart.

When You show me something of truth, allow me to firmly put down roots in it, so I can never be shaken from it or lose hold.

When You show me that goodness is found in a particular matter, grant me determination in that matter, so that I never let go of such opportunities and gifts You send to me.

O Divine, O Lord, make me deep of root and firm of foot in all that concerns the Truth, and grant me decisiveness with incisiveness.

O Lord, Closer to me than my own self, allow me to be firmly rooted in the reality of my faith and to be resolute in response to the beautiful blessed opportunities You present me.

Guide me to good actions that You have made by Your grace worthy of Your love and acceptance; and guide me to prayers that, by Your promise, will guarantee me Your pardon and mercy.

I ask You to make me thankful and grateful for Your blessings.

And I ask You, O Lord, for beauty and truth in the way I seek You,

always and in everything.

I ask You for a heart that is healthy, a tongue that speaks truth, and moral integrity that is constant and completely upright.

I ask You for goodness in matters which You know of, and I do not, such as my future and my wellbeing - in the aspects of these that I have never even considered and am not aware of.

And I ask Your refuge from all evil in such areas.

I ask Your forgiveness in all matters and aspects of me, that You know and I do not, and am not even aware of...

I ask that Your forgiveness cover all that You know of me.

For indeed, it is You Who sees the unseen, views the hidden, knows all that is unknowable to any but You.

-Translated by Shaykh Hamdi Ben Aissa & Anse Shehnaz Karim

www.rhodainstitute.org